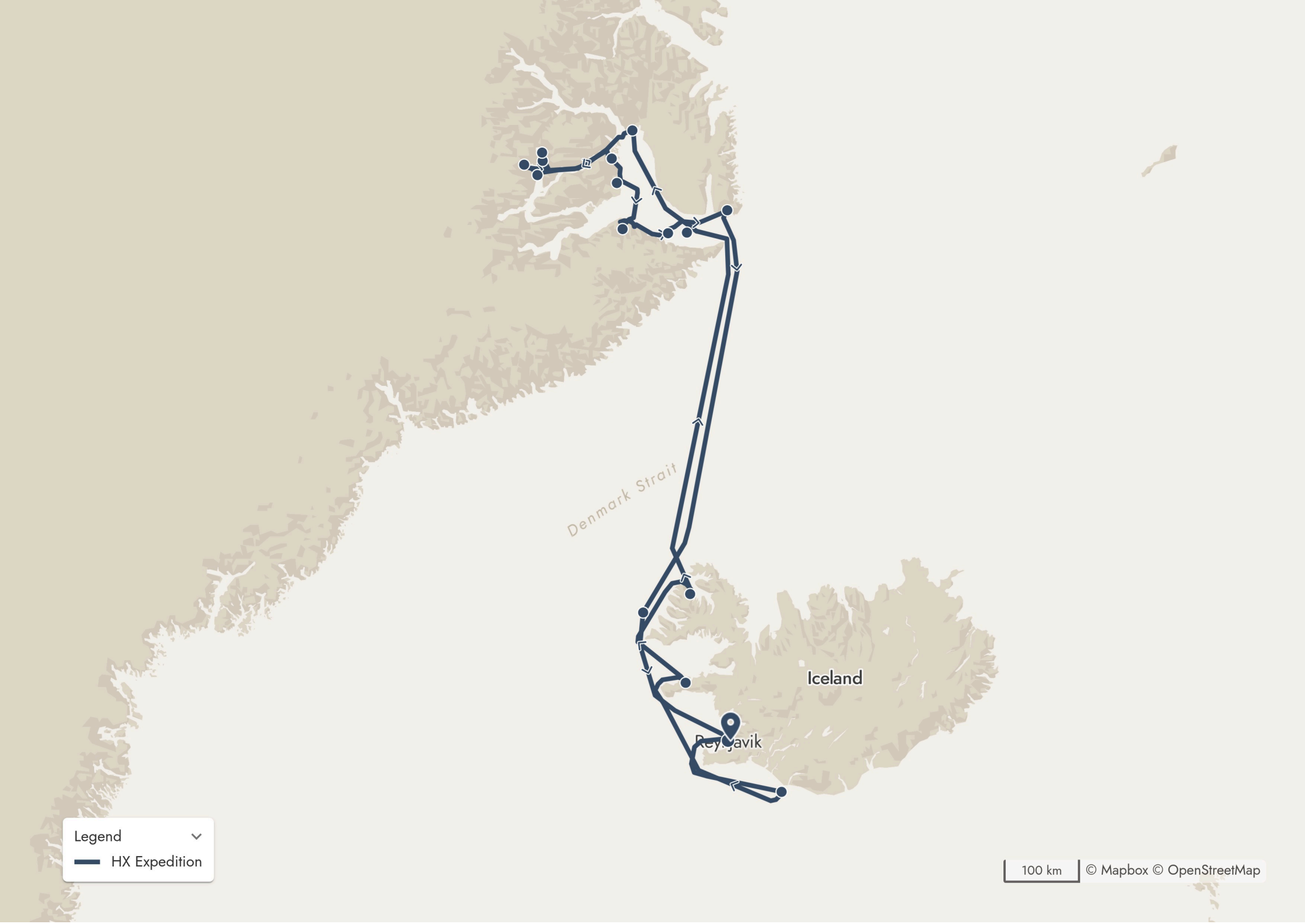




The Ultimate Fjord and National Park Expedition

MS Spitsbergen, 9 – 21 September 2026



Denmark Strait

Iceland

Reykjavik

Legend

— HX Expedition

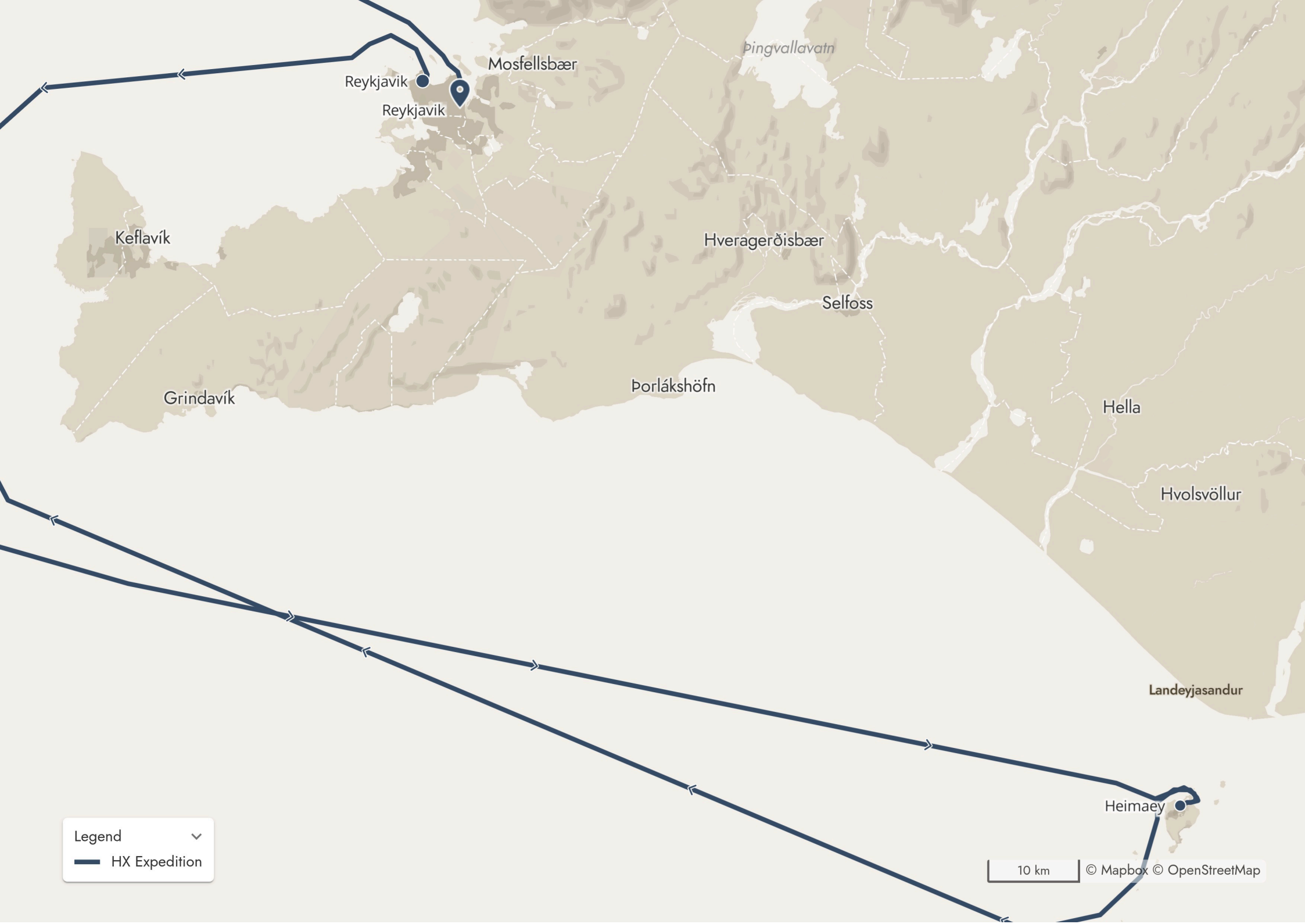
100 km © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 1 – Embarkation in Reykjavik

MS Spitsbergen began a new expedition in Reykjavik, Iceland's capital and gateway to the North Atlantic. Throughout the day, guests arrived on board and settled into their cabins while the crew prepared the vessel for the voyage ahead. Some guests explored the city before embarkation. As departure approached, guests became acquainted with their home for the coming days, exploring the ship's facilities and meeting fellow travellers. Before sailing, the crew conducted the mandatory safety drill. Later, guests gathered in the Explorer Lounge to meet the Expedition Leader and the Hotel

Manager. The Expedition Leader shared practical information regarding daily life on board and expedition operations. Due to weather conditions expected farther north, an adjustment to the planned itinerary was introduced. Rather than heading directly across the Denmark Strait, MS Spitsbergen would first make its way to Heimaey, in Iceland's Vestmannaeyjar archipelago, offering a sheltered start along Iceland's southern coast. With preparations complete and a revised course set, MS Spitsbergen departed Reykjavik and headed south toward its first destination.



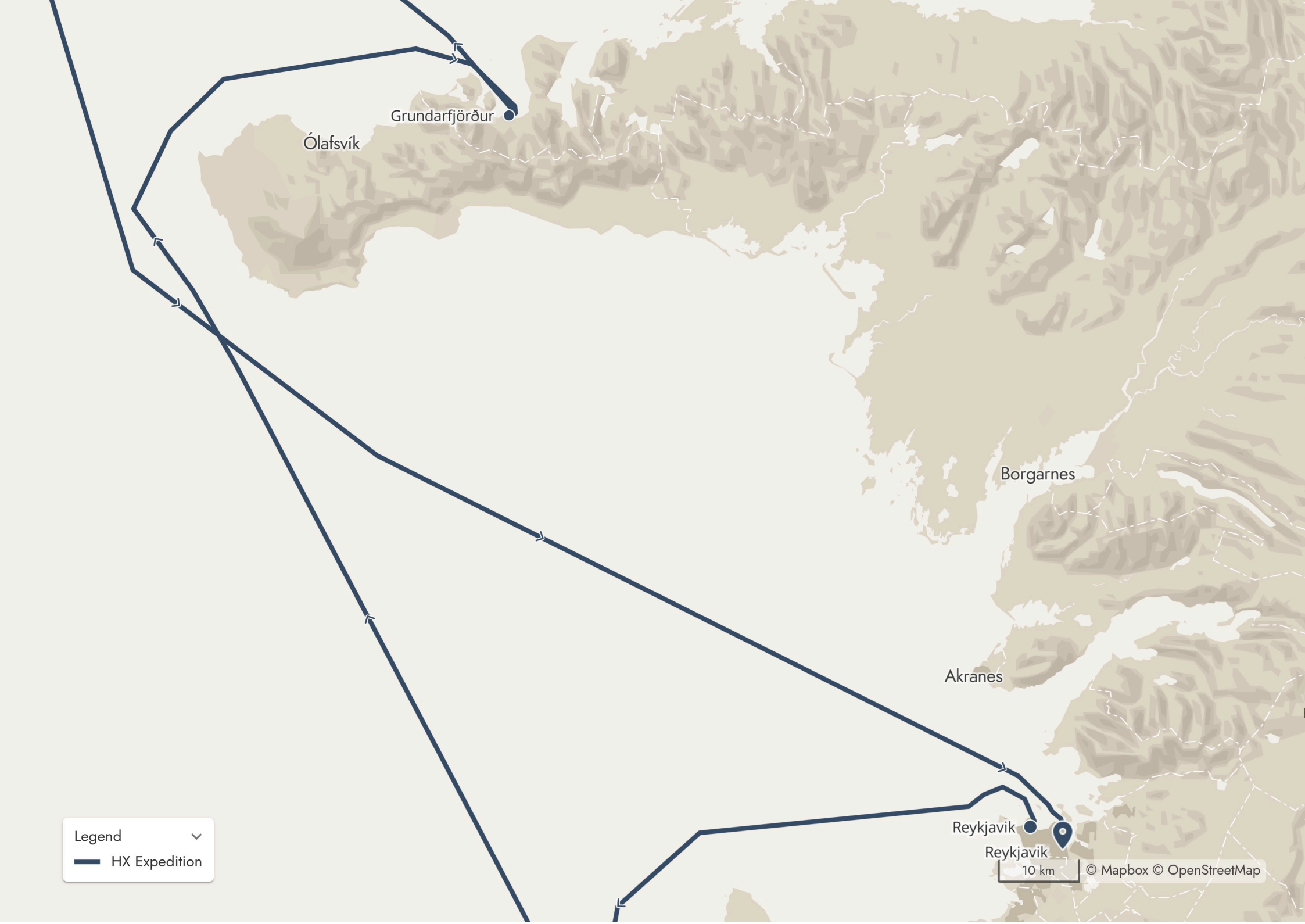


Day 2 – Heimaey

Following a night of rough seas and foggy conditions, MS Spitsbergen made its way into the harbour of Heimaey, the largest island of the Vestmannaeyjar archipelago. The approach was challenging, but the sheltered waters of the port provided a welcome arrival at this fascinating community. After docking, guests went ashore to explore the town with local guides, learning about the island's history, culture, and unique relationship with the surrounding volcanic landscape. During the afternoon, a number of guests opted for a hike to Eldfell, the volcano created during the 1973 eruption that

forever changed the island. By the time MS Spitsbergen departed, the weather had transformed completely. The fog had cleared, the skies opened, and guests gathered on the outer decks as the ship exited the harbour. Continuing around the island, the vessel passed the famous Elephant Rock and sailed by Surtsey, the volcanic island that emerged from the sea during an eruption in the 1960s. Later, guests gathered for the Captain's Welcome, marking the official start of the voyage.





Grundarfjörður

Ólafsvík

Borgarnes

Akranes

Reykjavík

Reykjavík

10 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Legend

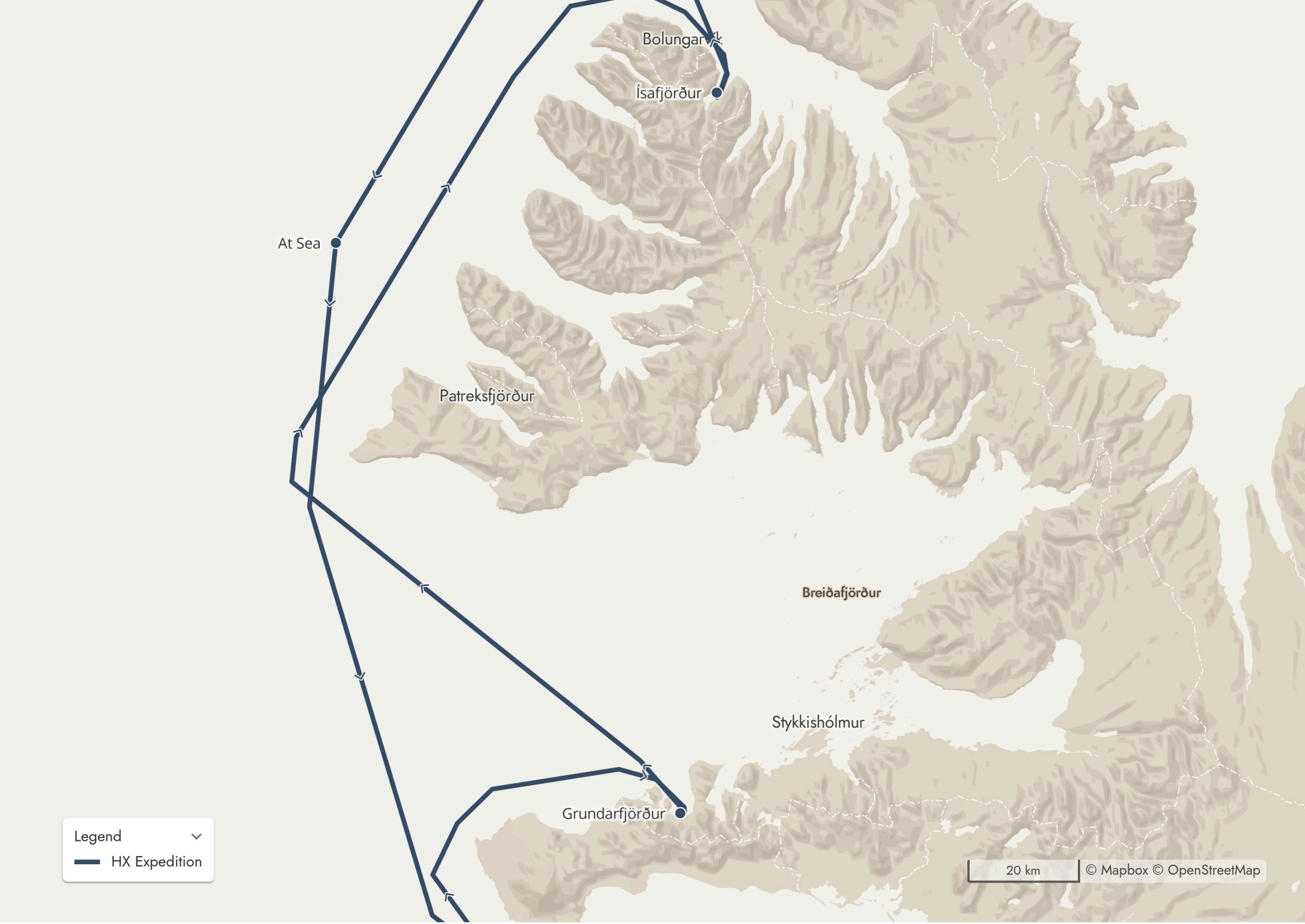
HX Expedition

Day 3 – Grundarfjörður & Snæfellsnes

Around midday, MS Spitsbergen arrived in Grundarfjörður, nestled beneath the mountains of the Snæfellsnes Peninsula. Conditions were favourable as guests disembarked to explore one of Iceland's most scenic regions. The majority of guests joined the 'Highlights of Snæfellsnes' excursion, travelling across the peninsula to discover some of its varied landscapes, coastal scenery, and geological features. Others chose a more active option, setting out on a hike toward the distinctive Kirkjufell, whose shape has made it one of Iceland's most recognisable mountains. Meanwhile, some guests

preferred to explore independently around Grundarfjörður. Many made their way to the waterfalls located opposite Kirkjufell, taking time to enjoy the views of the mountain reflected in the surrounding landscape and to photograph one of Iceland's most famous scenes. After an afternoon ashore, guests returned on board and MS Spitsbergen resumed its voyage. As the ship departed Grundarfjörður, the mountains and coastline of Snæfellsnes gradually receded into the distance while the expedition continued northward along Iceland's coast.





Bolungarvík

Ísafjörður

Patreksfjörður

Breiðafjörður

Stykkishólmur

Grundarfjörður

At Sea

Legend

— HX Expedition

20 km

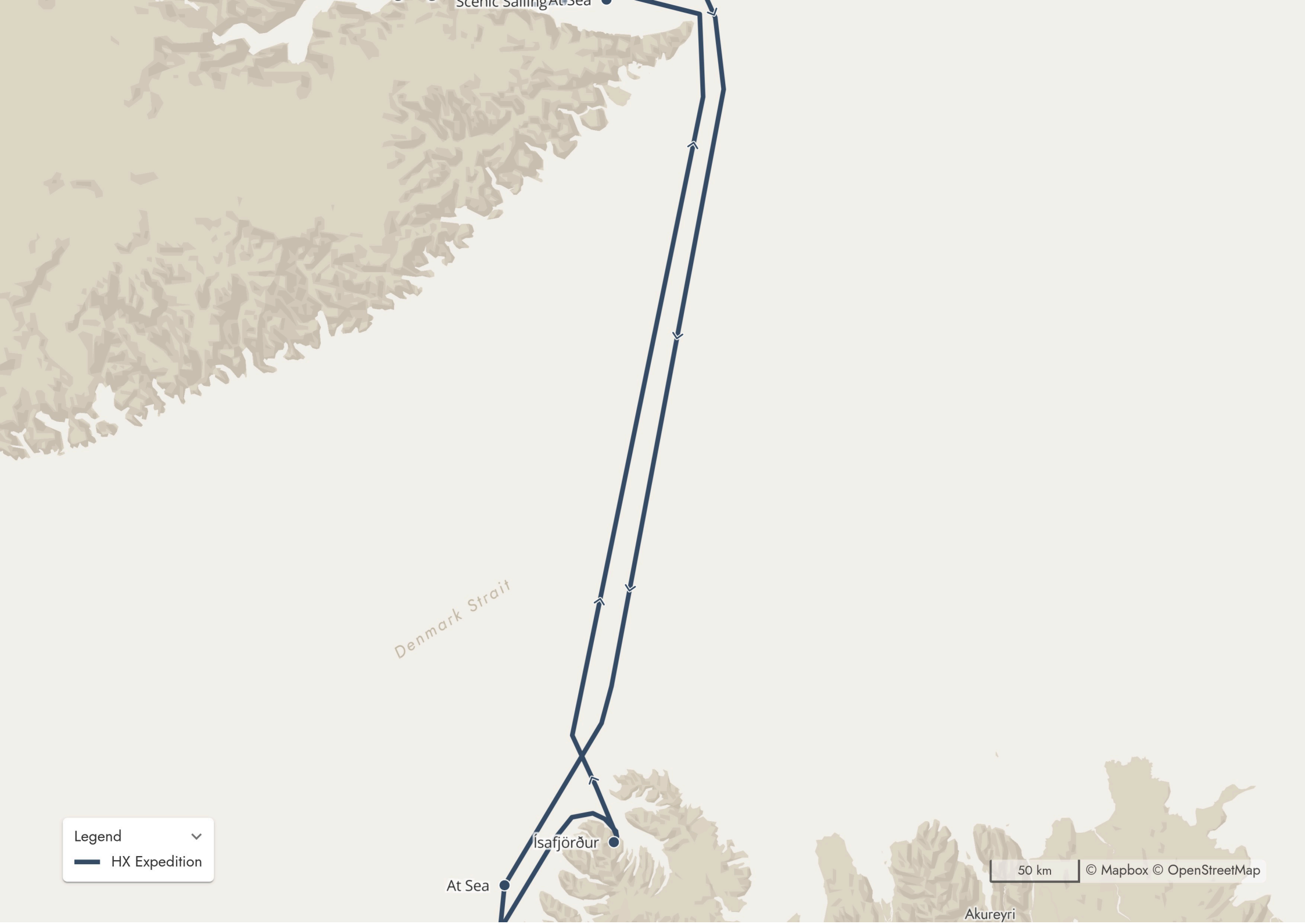
© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 4 – Ísafjörður

MS Spitsbergen arrived early in the morning at Ísafjörður, the largest town in Iceland's Westfjords. Surrounded by steep mountains and sheltered waters, the harbour provided a calm setting after the vessel's journey along Iceland's coast. Most guests chose to join an excursion to the Dynjandi waterfall, one of the region's best-known natural landmarks. The journey through the Westfjords landscape offered views of deep fjords, rugged mountains, and remote settlements before reaching the cascade. Spreading across a broad cliff face, Dynjandi is often considered the jewel of the Westfjords

and showcased the distinctive character of this part of Iceland. A smaller number of guests remained in Ísafjörður, exploring the town independently and enjoying the atmosphere of this historic fishing community. After lunch, all guests returned on board and MS Spitsbergen departed Ísafjörður. Having waited along Iceland's coast for an improvement in weather, the vessel finally began the crossing towards Greenland. As the Westfjords disappeared over the horizon, attention turned westward toward the next stage of the expedition across the Denmark Strait.





Scenic Sailing At Sea

Denmark Strait

Ísafjörður

At Sea

Akureyri

Legend

HX Expedition

Day 5 – At Sea (Denmark Strait)

MS Spitsbergen spent the day crossing the Denmark Strait, making steady progress toward Greenland. Guests enjoyed a full onboard programme designed to prepare for the next phase of the expedition. Throughout the day, the Expedition Team presented a variety of lectures and briefings. An important milestone was the mandatory AECO briefing, during which guests received information about responsible travel practices and environmental guidelines that apply when visiting the Arctic regions of Greenland. One of the highlights of the day was the Arctic Circle Crossing Ceremony. As the ship

crossed this important latitude, guests gathered on board to take part in the traditional baptism, a lighthearted event that has long been associated with voyages into Arctic waters. Between activities, many guests spent time on deck watching the sea and scanning the horizon. Toward the end of the day, the first distant views of Greenland's coastline appeared from the ship. After some days along the coast of Iceland and a crossing of the Denmark Strait, the world's largest island finally emerged ahead.





Sydkapp

Bjorne Islands

Legend

— HX Expedition

3 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 6 - Sydkapp

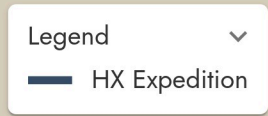
The Greenland chapter of the expedition began early as MS Spitsbergen arrived off Sydkapp in Hall Bredning, deep within the Scoresby Sund fjord system. Under clear skies and calm conditions, expedition boats were launched for a morning cruise among the enormous icebergs that fill these waters. Guests navigated through stranded ice, admiring the shapes, textures, and shades of blue carved by wind, waves, and time. The still conditions and excellent visibility provided ideal opportunities to appreciate the scale of this icy landscape.

After lunch, MS Spitsbergen conducted the first landing of the voyage in Greenland. Guests came ashore at Sydkapp and divided into

several walking groups, ranging from leisurely explorations close to the landing site to more demanding hikes farther into the surrounding terrain. Across the tundra, the Expedition Team introduced the history of the area, including the remains of former Thule settlements that testify to centuries of human presence in this remote region.

This landing also brought the first musk ox sighting of the expedition. Observing one of these Arctic animals roaming the landscape added another highlight to a day that combined Greenlandic culture, history, wildlife, and some of the characteristic iceberg scenery in Scoresby Sund.





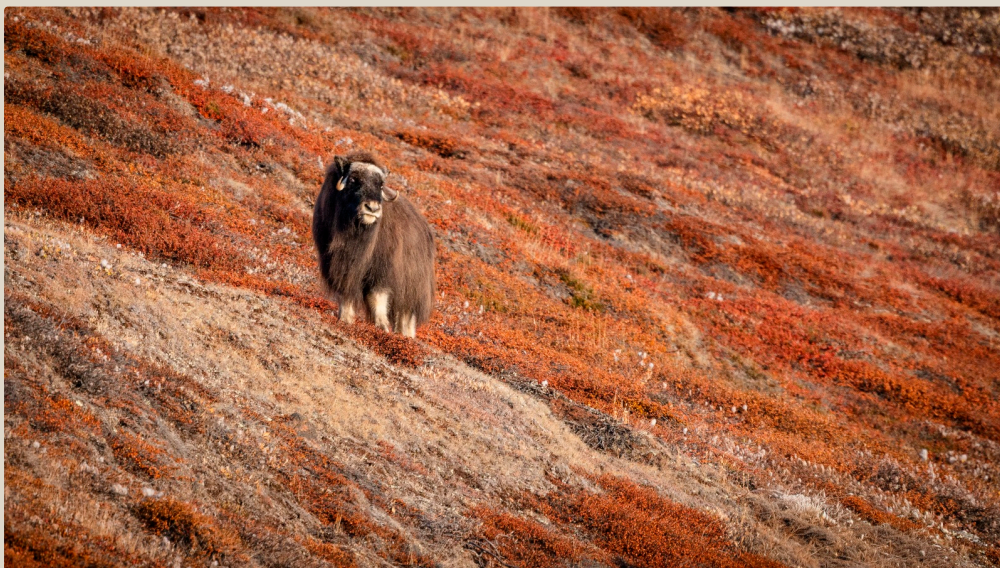
3 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 7 — Rødepynt (AM)

MS Spitsbergen arrived at Rødepynt during a beautiful morning in Scoresby Sund. Clear skies, calm waters, and an absence of wind created ideal conditions for a landing in this scenic area. Large icebergs were scattered throughout the fjord around the landing site. The landing allowed guests to explore at their own pace within the designated zone. The contrast between the reddish slopes of Rødepynt and the brilliant whites and blues of the icebergs floating nearby created a landscape that invited frequent stops to take in the

view. A highlight of the morning was the sighting of a group of musk oxen moving along the coastline. Their presence provided excellent opportunities for observation from a respectful distance. The calm conditions also made it possible for some guests to enjoy a polar plunge directly from the beach. With the icebergs of Scoresby Sund as a backdrop, the brave participants took a refreshing dip in the Arctic waters before returning on board. After lunch, MS Spitsbergen continued deeper into the fjord towards Harefjord.



Day 7 – Harefjord (PM)

During the afternoon, MS Spitsbergen repositioned to another location within Scoresby Sund for a combined small boat cruise and landing operation. Under continued excellent weather conditions, guests first boarded the expedition boats and cruised along the face of an active glacier. From the water, the glacier revealed its scale, with ice cliffs rising directly from the fjord. Following the cruise, the Expedition Team brought guests ashore for a perimeter landing at the foot of the glacier. A short walk led to an elevated viewpoint overlooking the glacier and its lateral moraine, offering a different

perspective on the forces that have shaped this landscape over thousands of years. For those seeking a more active afternoon, a hiking group ventured farther into the terrain, following the lateral moraine toward the nearby mountain slopes. Along the route, the hikers enjoyed views across the glacier, fjord, and surrounding peaks. The combination of glacier views from both sea level and higher ground made for a rewarding afternoon in the heart of Scoresby Sund.





Terassepynt

Agassip
Kangertiva

Rype Næs

Legend

— HX Expedition

1 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 8 — Rype Næs (AM)

MS Spitsbergen spent the day exploring the beautiful landscapes of Rypefjord, one of the many branches of the vast Scoresby Sund system. During the morning, guests came ashore at Rype Næs and enjoyed a landing surrounded by the rugged scenery of East Greenland. From the landing site, panoramic views opened across the fjord, with mountains, glaciers, and icebergs providing a spectacular backdrop. While many guests remained within the landing area to explore and enjoy the scenery at their own pace, a group set out on an extended hike led by the Expedition Team. The

route followed the coastline and higher ground between Rype Næs and Terassepynt, offering a full morning immersed in the Greenlandic wilderness. Throughout the morning, hikers gradually made their way south through the landscape, enjoying sweeping views over the fjord and the surrounding mountains. Meanwhile, MS Spitsbergen remained in Rypefjord, with the remainder of the day's activities continuing in Terassepynt during the afternoon, where the hiking group would eventually reunite with the rest of the guests.



Day 8 — Terassepynt (PM)

During the afternoon, MS Spitsbergen repositioned to Terassepynt, where guests came ashore to continue exploring the landscapes of Rypefjord. Under favourable conditions, a series of guided walks of varying lengths and activity levels allowed guests to experience the area in different ways, accompanied by members of the Expedition Team. The distinctive terrain of Terassepynt offered excellent views across the fjord, with mountains and scattered icebergs providing a backdrop throughout the afternoon. Guests spread out across the landscape, appreciating the colours, geology, and wide-open spaces

that characterise this part of East Greenland. The extended hiking group that had departed in the morning completed their route here after spending the day traversing the terrain. Wildlife once again made an appearance during the landing. Several musk oxen were spotted in the surrounding area, providing another opportunity to observe these Arctic animals against the vast Greenlandic landscape. With panoramic views, varied walking opportunities, and continued wildlife encounters, Terassepynt provided a fitting conclusion to a full day exploring the remarkable scenery of Rypefjord.





Bjørne Islands

Bjørne Øer

Kaasekajik

Charcot Havn

Milne Land

Scoresby
Sound

Legend

— HX Expedition

5 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 9 – Bjørne Øer (AM)

During the night, MS Spitsbergen sailed northeast towards the area known as Bjørne Øer, or the Bear Islands. By morning, the weather had taken on a distinctly Arctic character. Low clouds and rain contrasted with the clear skies of previous days, revealing a different side of East Greenland. Guests boarded the expedition boats for a small boat cruise among the islands and icebergs that make this area so well known. Surrounded by towering blocks of ice of every shape and size, the boats weaved their way through a landscape that

seemed to change around every corner. The subdued light and occasional rain enhanced the colours of the ice, bringing out subtle shades of blue and white against the dark water and rocky shores. The conditions encouraged a more intimate experience of Scoresby Sund. With fewer distant views and more focus on the immediate surroundings, guests were able to appreciate the details of the icebergs and the atmosphere of this vast fjord system.

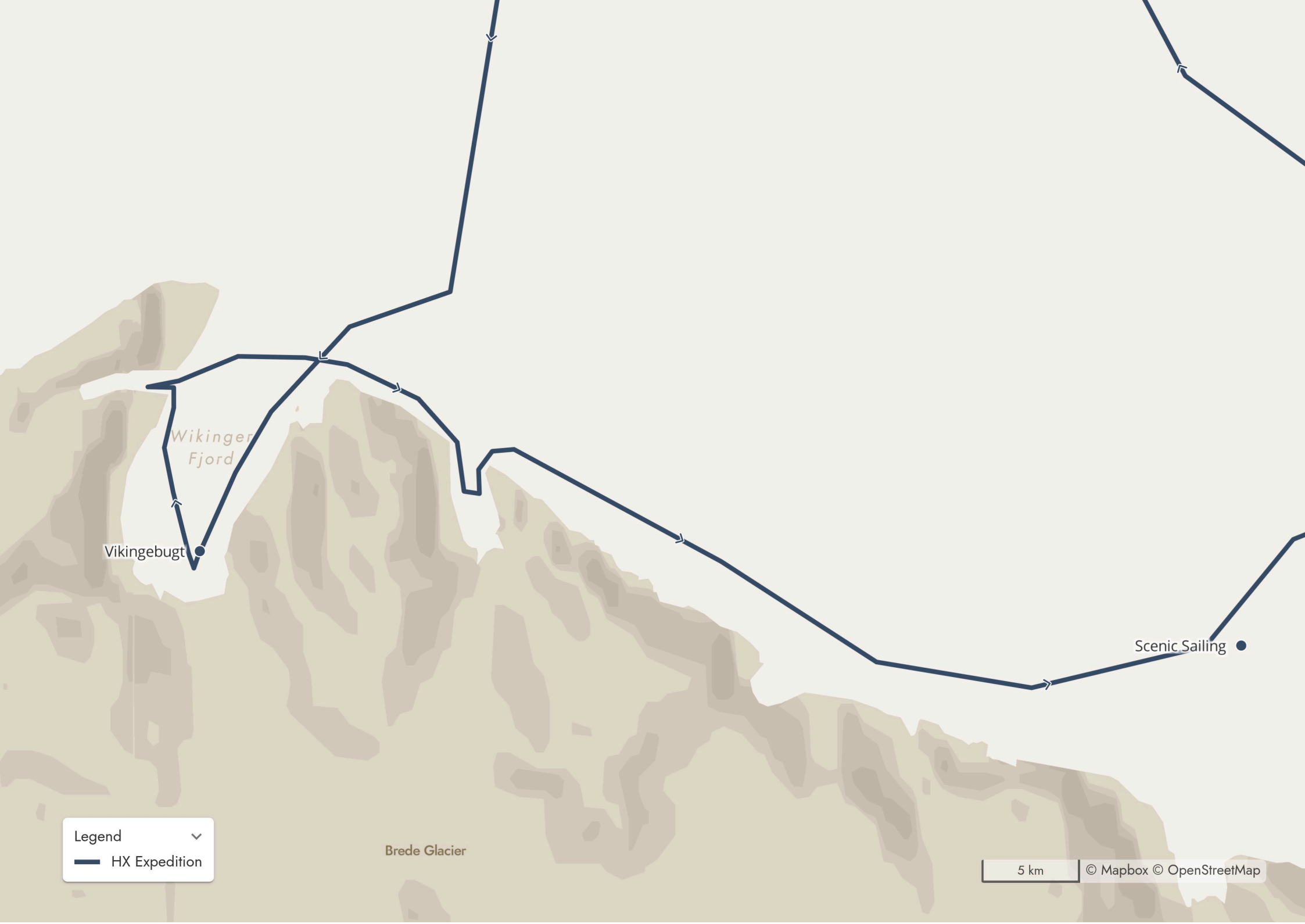


Day 9 – Charcot Havn (PM)

During the afternoon, MS Spitsbergen continued southward to Charcot Havn, situated along the eastern coast of Milne Land, the largest island within the Scoresby Sund system. Low clouds and intermittent rain remained with the expedition, maintaining the atmospheric conditions that had accompanied the morning's activities. Most guests landed on the southern shore of the bay and joined guided walks led by the Expedition Team. The route offered excellent views across the water toward the Charcot Glacier, whose ice-filled valley dominates the head of the fjord. Despite the subdued

weather, the glacier stood out clearly against the surrounding mountains, providing a dramatic focal point throughout the afternoon. Meanwhile, a smaller group of guests embarked on an extended hike from the northern side of the bay. Their route led them closer to the glacier, rewarding their efforts with views of the ice front and the surrounding landscape of Milne Land. The combination of rugged terrain, glacial scenery, and changing Arctic weather provided a fitting continuation of the day's exploration within Scoresby Sund.





Legend



 HX Expedition

Brede Glacier

5 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 10 – Vikingebugt (AM)

MS Spitsbergen arrived in Vikingebugt during the morning to an Arctic scene of low clouds, fog, and falling snow. The weather added a dramatic atmosphere to the landscape as guests boarded the expedition boats to explore the bay and its glacier from the water. Cruising among the ice and along the glacier front, guests experienced the fjord in ever-changing conditions. The glacier appeared and disappeared through the mist, revealing different details as the fog drifted across the bay. During the excursion, the expedition boats visited the much-appreciated 'bar boat', allowing

guests to enjoy a warm drink while surrounded by East Greenland's scenery. As the morning progressed, visibility gradually improved and the glacier became more visible. Following the operation, the adventure continued back on board. Taking advantage of the opportunity, a number of guests participated in another polar plunge from the ship's expedition launch, exchanging the snowy surroundings for a brief immersion in the freezing waters of Scoresby Sund before warming up again on board.

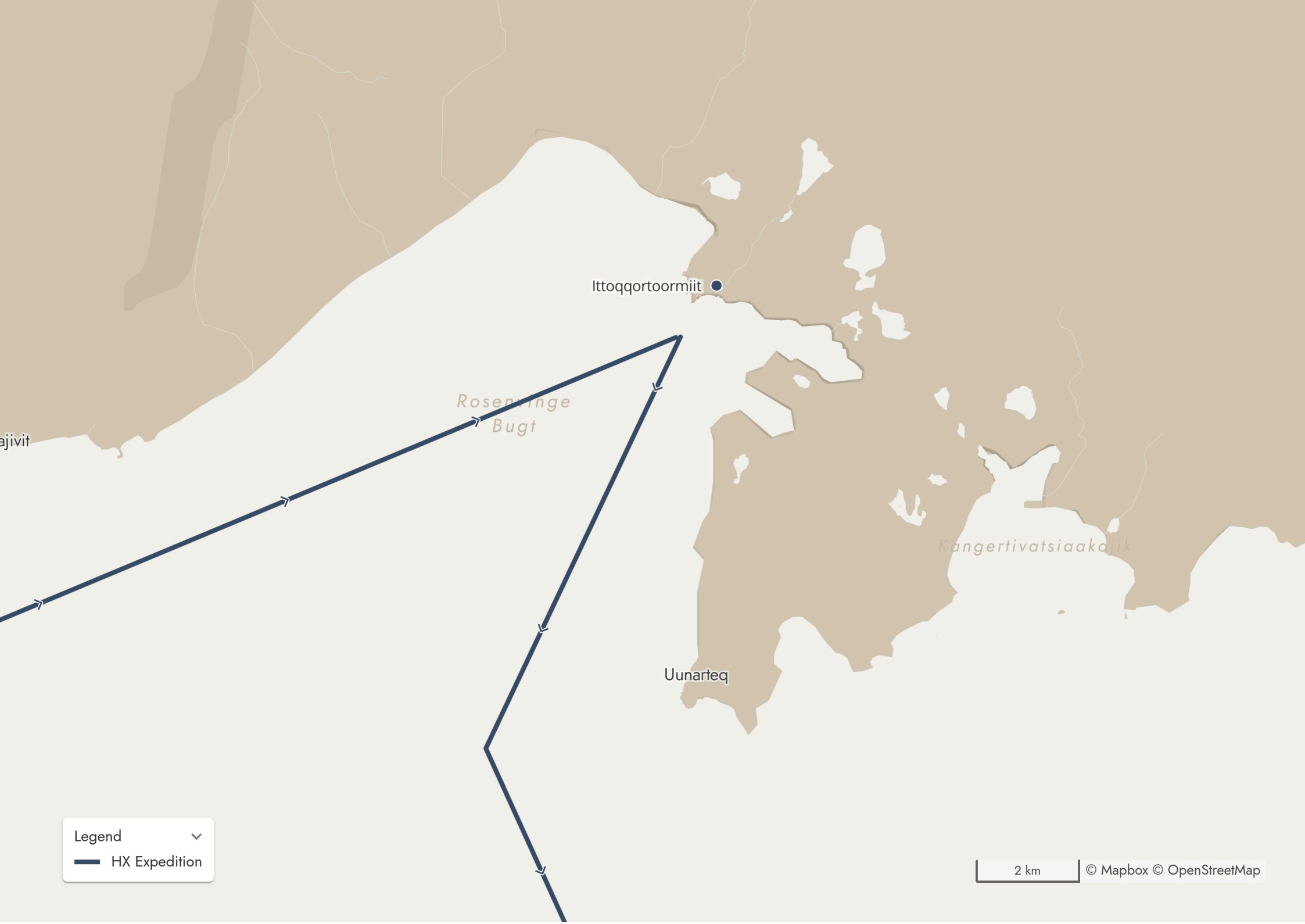


Day 10 – Scenic Sailing (PM)

Shortly after departing Vikingebugt, MS Spitsbergen encountered one of the voyage's most memorable wildlife sightings. In a nearby fjord, a female polar bear and her cub were spotted resting. The vessel maintained a respectful distance while guests gathered on deck to observe the pair or at the bar with the help of the ship's GSS camera system. The bears appeared relaxed and undisturbed, allowing for prolonged views of this Arctic scene in a manner that

prioritised the animals' welfare and natural behaviour. Later in the day, MS Spitsbergen resumed its navigation along the coast of Scoresby Sund, sailing southward through the fjord system. The remainder of the afternoon was spent enjoying the scenery and the onboard programme as the vessel steadily made its way toward Ittoqqortoormiit, the remote Greenlandic settlement scheduled to be visited the following morning.





Ittoqqortoormiit

Roseninge
Bugt

Uunarteq

Kangertivatsiaakajik

Legend

HX Expedition

Day 11 – Ittoqqortoormiit

Early in the morning, MS Spitsbergen arrived off Ittoqqortoormiit, one of Greenland's most remote communities. Once the landing site had been prepared, guests went ashore to explore the settlement and experience daily life in this isolated Arctic outpost. Throughout the visit, guests enjoyed a variety of activities organised by the local community. Many shared a traditional 'kaffemik' with local residents, while others visited the church, observed the launch of the community's weather balloon, or spent time with the settlement's sled dogs. The colourful houses scattered across the hillside and the

surrounding mountains provided a remarkable setting for the visit. Whether exploring independently or taking part in the organised activities, guests gained a unique insight into life in a place where the Arctic environment continues to shape everyday routines. After lunch, MS Spitsbergen began the voyage back toward Iceland. As the coast of East Greenland slowly receded into the distance, the ship left behind the fjords and mountains of Scoresby Sund and set course across the Denmark Strait.





Legend

HX Expedition

Denmark Strait

Ísafjörður
At Sea

Grundarfjörður

Reykjavik

Iceland

50 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 12 – At Sea

MS Spitsbergen spent the day crossing the Denmark Strait on its return journey to Iceland. With no landings planned, guests enjoyed a full onboard programme while the ship made steady progress eastward. Throughout the day, guests attended lectures, workshops, and science activities led by the Expedition Team and Science Team. One of the highlights was the Science Recap, revisiting many of the wildlife sightings, landscapes, and observations recorded during the expedition in East Greenland. During the afternoon, the first distant views of Iceland's coastline began to emerge, marking a clear

transition from the wilderness of Greenland back toward Iceland. Before dinner, guests gathered for the Captain's Farewell, celebrating the experiences shared aboard MS Spitsbergen. In the evening, the Expedition Team presented a special interpretation of the Greenlandic myth of Sedna, bringing one of the Arctic's most enduring legends to life. Afterwards, guests came together for the screening of the voyage video created by the onboard photographer, revisiting many of the landscapes, wildlife encounters, and moments experienced throughout the expedition.

Day 13 – Arrival in Reykjavik

During the early morning, MS Spitsbergen arrived in Reykjavik, bringing its expedition through Iceland and East Greenland to an end. After days spent exploring remote fjords, glacier-filled bays, and Arctic communities, the vessel returned to Iceland's capital where the

journey had begun. Guests gradually departed the ship and continued to their onward destinations. Some planned to spend additional time in Reykjavik, while others began their journey home directly from the harbour. Throughout the morning, farewells were

exchanged between guests, crew members, and the Expedition Team. The ship slowly emptied as the last luggage was collected and the final guests stepped ashore. With the expedition now complete, MS

Spitsbergen remained alongside in Reykjavik, concluding a remarkable chapter of exploration across the North Atlantic and East Greenland.





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