



ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Canada

Northwest Passage

30th July to 15th August 2023 (17 days)



Polar Bear by James Wakelin

Winding your way through the icy channels of the legendary Northwest Passage is history brought to life. On this compelling 17-day journey aboard our game-changing new vessel Ultramarine, passengers retrace the steps of the intrepid Franklin Expedition, which left the shores of England in 1845 in search of the last unexplored section of the Northwest Passage—only to become permanently icebound. Its discovery more than a century and a half later was a much-celebrated moment in polar history.

On Ultramarine, guests benefit from two twin-engine helicopters that will provide spectacular aerial views of the Arctic landscape, the most extensive portfolio of adventure options in the industry, more outdoor wildlife viewing spaces than any other expedition ship its size, and 20 quick-launching Zodiacs to get you closer to ancient glaciers, dramatic fjords and towering icebergs. Explore colorful Greenlandic villages, and shop for traditional Inuit handicrafts. Hike the endless

Arctic backdrop and marvel at the vast, colorful tundra. Keep your eyes peeled for the elusive and majestic creatures that make their home in this wilderness, such as whales, walrus, muskoxen and polar bears. Come aboard Ultramarine, follow in the footsteps of Franklin’s legendary Arctic voyage, and return home with memories to last a lifetime.

THE TOUR AT A GLANCE...

THE ITINERARY

Day 1	Arrive in Toronto, Canada
Day 2	Fly to Kangerlussuaq, Greenland
Days 3 & 4	Exploring West Greenland
Day 5	At sea
Days 6 to 15	Exploring Canada’s High Arctic
Day 16	Disembark at Resolute, Canada & fly to Toronto
Day 17	Final departure

ROUTE MAP



THE TOUR IN DETAIL...

Day 1. Arrive in Toronto, Canada.

Your Arctic expedition begins in Toronto. Explore this vibrant city on your own before spending the night enjoying the comfort and amenities of your designated hotel.

Day 2. Fly to Kangerlussuaq, Greenland.

After breakfast, board your charter flight to Kangerlussuaq, a small community nestled deep inside a 118 mile (190 km) long fjord. Enjoy your first Zodiac ride as you're transferred from shore to ship. Out on deck, take in your new surroundings before you set sail on your Arctic adventure.



Walrus by James Wakelin

Days 3 & 4. Exploring West Greenland. Locals call Maniitsoq the Venice of Greenland, as it's situated in an archipelago intersected by natural canals. Soaring, snow-capped mountains surround the small, rocky town, whose name means "the uneven place." Playful Humpback Whales spend summer in the waters around here. The Greenlandic capital of Nuuk is a haven for history and culture lovers. See for yourself the unique and thriving culture of contemporary Greenland that mingles the ancient with the modern in surprising and wonderful ways. Stroll down to the waterfront to see the Hans Egede Church and Hans Egede statue, named for the missionary who established the settlement in 1728. Marvel at the famous remains of 500-year-old fully dressed mummies, discovered under a rock outcrop in 1972 by two brothers out hunting, at the Greenland National Museum. The Nuuk Art Museum and Katuaq Culture Centre are also worth visiting.



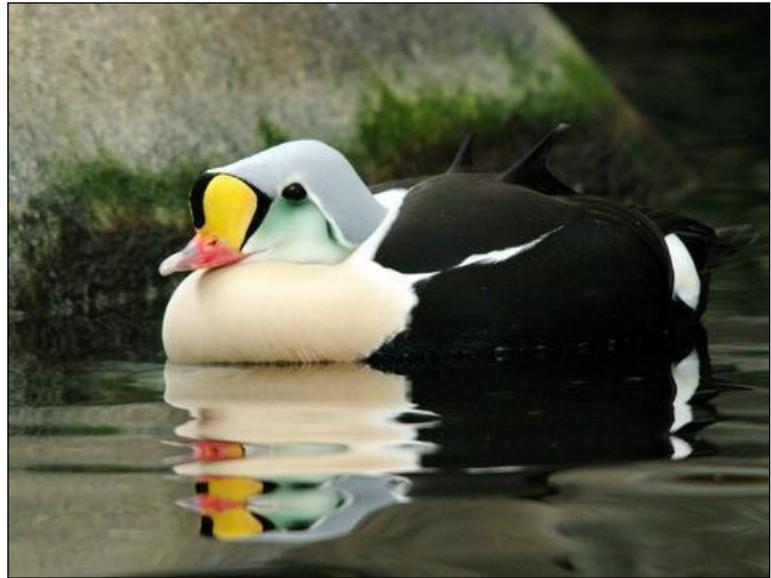
Thick-billed Murre by Alasdair Hunter

Day 5. At sea. Say goodbye to Greenland's shores as you traverse the Davis Strait in pursuit of the Canadian Arctic. Presentations by on-board experts will prepare you for the adventures that lie ahead.

Days 6 to 15. Exploring Canada's High Arctic. Visit towering fjords, historical sites and Inuit communities as you follow in the footsteps of famous explorers from long ago in the Canadian High Arctic. The picturesque Inuit hamlet of Pangnirtung is nestled beneath the jagged peaks of Mount Duval. An artist's hub, Pang is renowned for its traditional Inuit arts and crafts, especially lithographs and intricate tapestries. At the Uqqurmiut Centre for Arts & Crafts, watch craftspeople in the tapestry studio if they're working and pick up a limited-edition print. A must for visitors, a colorful Pang hat will keep you warm during the remainder of your Arctic voyage. You might visit nearby Kekerten, an uninhabited island that was a major whaling destination



in the 1800s. At the southern tip of the Cumberland Sound, Cape Mercy was named by British explorer John Davis (yes, he of the Davis Strait), who sailed through it in 1585. This is the site of an old Distant Early Warning Line installation, dating back to the Cold War. These and many other stations were set up to detect Soviet bombers. It's an ideal spot to go ashore for a hike.



King Eider by Alasdair Hunter

As icebergs travel down the Davis Strait, they're naturally trapped at Qikiqtarjuaq (formerly known as Broughton Island). The icy waters here are also home to Ring and Harp Seals. A hike up to the hilltop

inuksuk rewards with spectacular views of the community. Inuksuks are stone figures or cairns that traditionally call attention to the location for navigation, abundant harvesting or spiritual significance. Cruising further north along the mountainous east shore of Baffin Island, we'll approach Isabella Bay, an important summer and fall feeding area for the largest concentration of Bowhead Whales in Canada. Bowheads are a truly remarkable arctic leviathan that research has revealed may live more than 200 years of age - the oldest mammal. At the northern tip of Baffin Island, near the eastern entrance to the Northwest Passage, is the Inuit hamlet of Pond Inlet, surrounded by scenic mountains, fjords, glaciers and icebergs. Many in the community still follow a nomadic lifestyle and hunt for their food.

At the top of Baffin Island sits Lancaster Sound, a true arctic oasis. Known by the Inuit and their predecessors for thousands of years, this channel and the surrounding lands are extremely rich in wildlife and history, both indigenous and European. The area around Lancaster Sound affords several hiking opportunities. At Dundas Harbour, on Devon Island, you'll visit an abandoned beachside outpost of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. At nearby Croker Bay, cruise in a Zodiac (at a safe distance) along the face of an actively calving glacier. Your Expedition Team will also keep its eyes peeled for Walrus that are known to visit the bay.



Arctic Fox by Alasdair Hunter

Farther west, some of the best ancient Thule remains in the Arctic are at Radstock Bay, beside the soaring Caswell Towers. At the western end of Devon Island, the windswept Beechey Island is steeped in history. Named after famed British explorer Frederick William Beechey, it's a Canadian National Historic Site. You'll visit the small marked graves of three crew members who died



during Sir John Franklin’s tragic 1845–46 expedition. Over 150 years later, Roald Amundsen landed here in 1903, during the first successful voyage by ship through the Northwest Passage.

Sailing down the east coast of Somerset Island, you may be fortunate enough to spot Beluga Whales and if you’re very fortunate, Narwhals, as they feed near to breeding Grey Plover, King Eider and White-rumped Sandpiper. You’ll also have time to explore Fort Ross, where the Hudson’s Bay Company established a now-abandoned trading post in 1937. At the midpoint of the Bellot Strait, the narrow channel that separates Somerset Island from mainland North America, you’ll reach the northernmost area of the continental landmass, Zenith Point.

Day 16. Disembark at Resolute, Canada & fly to Toronto. After disembarking in Resolute, you’ll be transferred to your charter flight to Toronto, where you’ll spend the night at your included hotel.



Black Guillemot by Jonathan Rossouw

Day 17. Final departure. Today, make your way to the airport to catch your homeward flights, or spend the day exploring this fascinating city.

POSSIBLE EXCURSIONS...

When traveling in extremely remote regions, your Expedition Team must consider the sea, ice and weather to guide the route and itinerary details. The following sites are a sample of what you may experience on your expedition, whether by ship, Zodiac cruise, or shore landing.



Ringed Seal by Forrest Rowland

KANGERLUSSUAQ

Kangerlussuaq sits at the head of a 118-mile (190 km) long fjord. The tiny town has Greenland’s largest airport and a unique history. Although Inuit and their predecessors occupied or visited the area, Kangerlussuaq’s modern incarnation dates back to the U.S. occupation of Greenland as an air force base beginning in World War II.

NUUK

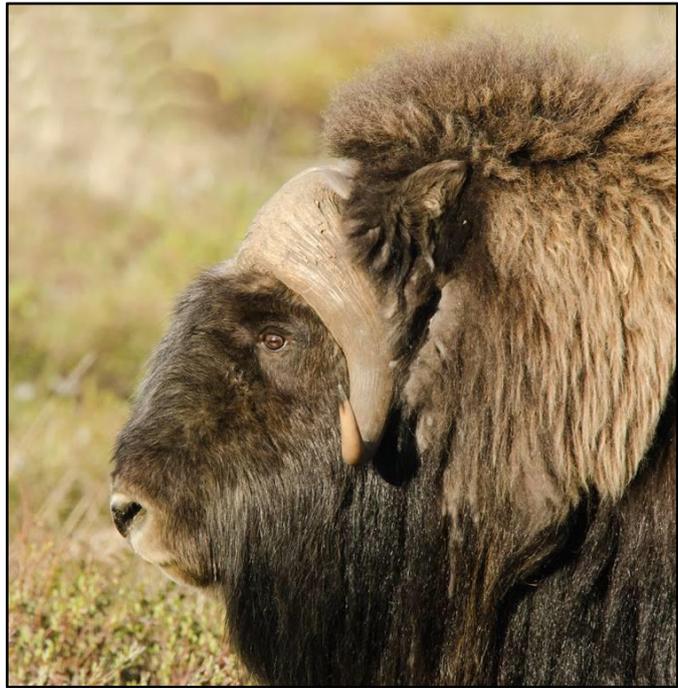
Nuuk is the epicenter of Greenland’s fascinating emerging culture. At population 15,000, the world’s smallest capital city is a wonderful and curious mix of the traditional and the new. Possible Excursions A particular highlight is the Greenland National Museum, which offers an insight into social change affecting the country from the 1950s onwards. Other exhibits include some of the world’s oldest rocks (approx. 3.8



billion years found close to Nuuk), and the Qilakitsoq exhibit displaying the mummified remains of 15th century Inuit women and a six-month old child. The Katuaq Culture Centre and Nuuk Art Museum are also worth exploring.

ARCTIC BAY

This picturesque and remote community maintains strong ties to the land and sea, as its Inuit inhabitants have lived as nomadic hunters in this region for almost 5,000 years. The protective high hills and sheltered shores of this hamlet make for an ideal nesting habitat for various Arctic birds, including Thick-billed Murres, kittiwakes, Ivory and Ross’s Gulls. Seals, Narwhals and Bowhead Whales call the waters here home.



Musk Ox by Forrest Rowland

BEECHEY ISLAND

Named after Frederick William Beechey, an explorer with the Royal Navy, this is one of Canada’s most important Arctic sites and has been deemed a Canadian National Historic Site. During the Franklin expedition of 1845–46, two of Franklin’s ships, HMS Erebus and HMS Terror, anchored here with perilous results. Three of Franklin’s crew died here and are buried at marked gravesites.

BELLOT STRAIT

The 1.2 mile (2 km) wide Bellot Strait separates Somerset Island from the Boothia Peninsula. During the transit, you sail past the northernmost point of mainland North America.

CAPE MERCY

In June 1585, British explorer John Davis (he of the Davis Strait) embarked on the first of three voyages to search for the legendary Northwest Passage. In August 1585, he reached this area at the northern entrance to the Cumberland Sound and named it Cape of God’s Mercy. Now known as Cape Mercy, it’s the site of a dramatic glacial fjord.



Caribou by Forrest Rowland

CROKER BAY

A nearby glacier actively calves off chunks of ice, creating a birthing place for icebergs at Croker Bay. The bay was a popular stop during the 1800s, when a path to the Pacific (the Northwest Passage) was at the forefront of Arctic exploration.



FORT ROSS

In 1937, the Hudson’s Bay Company established a trading post, named Fort Ross, on the southern coast of Somerset Island. Due to the harsh conditions and isolation of the post, it was closed in 1948. The store and manager’s house still stand.



Icebergs by Julie Wilkerson

PANGNIRTUNG

When the Hudson’s Bay Company built a trading post in Pangnirtung in 1926, local Inuit families moved to the tiny settlement. A Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment was established two years later. A hospital opened in 1929, but it wasn’t until 1962 that most of the Inuit who lived on Cumberland Sound relocated to Pang. The community has become internationally renowned for the tapestries and prints by local artists.

POND INLET

Europeans have been visiting the area that came to be known as Pond Inlet since the 1600s. The first visitors arrived seeking the Northwest Passage. In the 1800s, whalers brought wood and barter goods to the community. These visitors were latecomers, as the indigenous peoples had been living in the region for thousands of years.

PRINCE LEOPOLD ISLAND

Impressive vertical cliffs surround part of this small island. This creates an ideal environment for seabirds, and they nest here in vast numbers - more than 300,000 strong! Thick-billed Murres, Black Guillemots and Northern Fulmars are most commonly seen here.



Willow Ptarmigan by Forrest Rowland

QIKIQTARJUAQ

Known until 1998 as Broughton Island, Qikiqtarjuaq sits at the foot of the Baffin Mountains, the highest range east of the Rocky Mountains. From the cape, multitudes of icebergs can be seen coming down Davis Strait, and the rich arctic waters are home to numbers of seals and whales.

RESOLUTE

One of Canada’s most northern settlements, Resolute was formed by forceful relocation of Inuit from northern Quebec by



the Canadian government in 1953, during the Cold War. Today, it's also a jumping off point for much high Arctic research. It has everything from a grocery store and cable TV to a school and a couple of hotels. About 200 people live in Resolute throughout the year, where hunting and logistical support to research, mining and tourism contribute to the community's economy

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS:

Tour dates, cabin prices, single supplement rates, relevant flight costs and spaces available for this cruise are displayed on our website. Please note that cabins have variable prices depending on type and size. Please see under IMPORTANT INFORMATION below.

You are welcome to contact the Rockjumper office for further information and specifics on the cabins variations and booking conditions for this tour.

Please note: The cruise costs are subject to major foreign exchange fluctuations and unforeseen increases in tour related costs (especially the price of fuel) and may have to be adjusted as a result. You will be notified by email if fuel surcharges or other price adjustments need to be implemented. Furthermore, we may be forced to change or alter the itinerary due to unforeseen circumstances, but please be aware that we will attempt to stick as close to the original program as possible.

Please note: these prices do NOT include the Mandatory Transfer Package or Optional Adventure Package – Sea Kayaking.

This includes:

- Leadership throughout your voyage by our experienced Expedition Leaders, including shore landings and other activities;
- All Zodiac transfers and cruising as per the daily program;
- All shore landings as per the daily program;
- Shipboard accommodation with daily housekeeping;
- All meals, snacks, soft drinks and juices on board throughout your voyage (Please inform us of any dietary requirements as far in advance as possible);
- Unfortunately, the ships' galleys cannot prepare kosher meals;
- Select beer and wine during dinner; and coffee, tea and cocoa available around the clock.
- Formal and informal presentations by our Expedition Team and guest speakers as scheduled;
- A photographic journal documenting the expedition;
- A pair of waterproof expedition boots on loan for landings and Zodiac cruising excursions;
- An official Quark Expeditions® parka to keep;
- Hair dryer and bathrobes in every cabin;
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program;
- All luggage handling aboard the ship;
- Emergency Evacuation insurance for all passengers to a maximum benefit of USD \$500,000 per person;
- Greenland voyages cruise passenger tax.

The tour fee does not include:

- **Mandatory Transfer Package***
- International airfare;
- Arrival and departure transfers in Toronto;
- Passport and visa expenses;



- Canadian eTA required for non-Canadian or U.S. visa-exempt passengers;
- Government arrival and departure taxes not mentioned above;
- Meals ashore unless otherwise specified;
- Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance - strongly recommended;
- Excess-baggage fees on international and domestic flights;
- Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac cruising, or any other gear not mentioned;
- Laundry, bar and other personal charges unless specified;
- Phone and Internet charges (connectivity may vary by location);
- Voluntary gratuity at the end of the voyage for shipboard staff and crew;
- Additional overnight accommodation;
- Adventure Options not listed in Included Activities.

***MANDATORY TRANSFER PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- One night's pre-expedition hotel accommodation in Toronto;
 - Group transfer from the Toronto hotel to the airport on Day 2;
 - Charter flight from Toronto to Kangerlussuaq;
 - Group transfer from the Kangerlussuaq airport to the ship on embarkation day;
 - Group transfer from the ship to the Resolute airport on disembarkation day;
 - Charter flight from Resolute to Toronto;
 - Group transfer from Toronto airport to hotel;
 - One night's post-expedition hotel accommodation in Toronto;
- PACKAGE PRICE: \$2,895 USD;**

INCLUDED ACTIVITIES:

FLIGHTSEEING - While polar landscapes are spectacular from the sea, they're even more stunning from the air, a view you can enjoy while seated in one of the two twin-engine helicopters stationed on Ultramarine. Typically, in groups of fewer than 10, you will experience an unforgettable aerial tour of the Arctic during a 10- to 15-minute flightseeing excursion that's included in the cost of the voyage. Additional helicopter activities may also be available for purchase on board. Please note: all helicopter operations are weather, and logistics-dependent

ZODIAC CRUISING - Zodiacs are the workhorses of polar expeditions, taking you to places the ships can't access, allowing you to reach remote shorelines, explore shallow inlets and search for unique wildlife. Expedition staff make stepping in and out of them safe and comfortable, and your Zodiac drivers will provide active interpretation, making the landscape come even more alive.

HIKING - Led by experienced staff, exploring in foot is the best way to appreciate the polar landscapes. Our guides are able to accommodate a range of skill levels to suit every passenger.

PRESENTATIONS - Daily chats with on-board experts - our guides, scientists and other special guests—let guests rub shoulders with historians, ornithologists, biologists, geologists and more.

POLAR PLUNGE

This rite of passage, experienced just once per expedition, sees you safely jumping into icy ocean waters under the watchful eye of our staff—and just about every single camera lens on board!

PHOTOGRAPHY - Documenting your voyage so you can take the memories home is a rewarding



experience. Our photography guides will help you learn skills to capture the beauty of the Polar Regions.

OTHER EQUIPMENT ON BOARD - Walking poles are provided at each landing for your convenience. As there are limited number of poles available, please bring your own if you require them on every landing.

ADVENTURE OPTIONS:

SEA KAYAKING - Imagine gliding across the surface of a bay in the presence of icebergs and glaciers. Our Sea Kayaking adventures are a great way to feel at one with the sea. A small group of kayakers will plan to go out multiple times per voyage instead of shore landings. The number of kayaking opportunities are weather dependent and will only be conducted during calm conditions.

Prior kayaking experience is recommended for you to feel comfortable on the water, and the capability to do a wet exit is strongly encouraged.

For all paid activities pre-booking is required. We recommend booking early as spaces fill quickly. Please see your pre-departure book for a list of provided gear for each Adventure Option.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

a) Due to constantly fluctuating exchange rates, we now quote our tours in 4 currencies. The tour price is however fixed only in the currency printed in bold, and the actual cost in the other currencies listed will be adjusted according to prevailing exchange rates at the time of final invoicing (usually 4 months before the tour).

b) Please also note that a Rockjumper leader may not accompany the expedition unless a minimum of 12 participants are signed up through Rockjumper. In the case that a Rockjumper leader is not on board, the professional expedition staff will take care of all participants signed up through Rockjumper.

c) Furthermore, these costs are subject to unforeseen increases in tour related costs (especially fuel) and may have to be adjusted as a result. You will be notified by email if fuel surcharges or other price adjustments need to be implemented.

d) Lastly, we may be forced to change or alter the itinerary and / or the designated Rockjumper leader/s at short or no notice due to unforeseen circumstances; please be aware that we will attempt to adhere as close to the original program as possible.

Important Reminder

Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy—and excitement—of expedition travel. When traveling in extremely remote regions, your Expedition Team must allow the sea, the ice and the weather to guide route and itinerary details. This itinerary is a tentative outline of what you'll experience on this voyage; please be aware that no specific itinerary can be guaranteed. By the same token, wildlife encounters as described are expected but not guaranteed. Your Expedition Team will use their considerable experience to seek out wildlife in known habitats, but the presence of any particular species of bird or marine wildlife is not a guarantee.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DETAILS:

Arriving in Toronto

You may arrive in Toronto at any time during Day 1 of the itinerary and make your own way to the included hotel, near the airport. On arrival at the hotel, you will receive a welcome letter



outlining the departure information for the following day's flight. An agent representing Quark Expeditions will be available in the lobby of the hotel this evening to answer any questions about the charter flight(s) scheduled for the following morning.

Kangerlussuaq and embarkation

Your flight to the Arctic is expected to depart from Toronto to Kangerlussuaq on Day 2 of the itinerary in the morning. The scheduled flight time will be communicated in your welcome letter, and you will be transferred from your hotel to check in at the airport. Upon arrival in Kangerlussuaq, you will be transferred to the ship by Zodiac.

There is a strict luggage limit of 44 lbs (20 kg) checked luggage and 11 lbs (5 kg) cabin baggage on the flights between Toronto and Resolute. Should you have additional luggage, it can be stored at the hotel in Toronto. There is NO option to pay for additional luggage.

Disembarkation in Resolute

Your ship is scheduled to arrive in Resolute between 7am and 8am local time. After breakfast, and once the ship has anchored, you will have time to bid farewell to your Expedition Team and shipmates before taking one last Zodiac ride to shore. After disembarkation, you will be transferred to the airport for the return charter flight to Toronto.

Departing from Toronto

Upon arrival in Toronto, there will be a group transfer to your included post-expedition hotel. After breakfast the following morning, you may make your way to the airport to connect with your homeward flight, or stay longer if you have booked additional accommodation.

Hotel Accommodations

Your included accommodation begins on Day 1 of your itinerary, and the specific hotel(s) will be indicated in your final voyage confirmation. If you are arriving prior to Day 1 of your expedition or are staying after the disembarkation day and would like help booking a pre- or post-stay, please contact your Polar Travel Adviser or travel professional for hotel options. As accommodation space is limited, you are encouraged to request any extra nights as early as possible.

Arrival and Departure Transfers

Arrival and departure transfers in Toronto are not included.

FLIGHTS:

Toronto Pearson International Airport, Canada (IATA: YYZ), is the main port of entry and exit for international flights for this tour and is well serviced by most international airlines. **Please DO NOT book any flights until you have consulted the Rockjumper office for confirmation on the status of the tour.**

