

EXPLORE!



The Northwest Passage - M/S Fram

ARCTIC, CANADA, DENMARK, GREENLAND - TRIP CODE FRNW

POLAR

Why book this trip?

Experience the raw and daunting beauty of the terrain that some of history's greatest explorers had to overcome. Even today, few ships have the capability of navigating this sea passage that cuts through the remote Arctic regions of North America - on this voyage of discovery, we will do just that!



INCLUDED MEALS	TRIP STAFF	TRANSPORT	ACCOMMODATION	TRIP PACE:
Breakfast: 20 Lunch: 19 Dinner: 18	Expedition Crew Naturalist(s)	M/S Fram Zodiac	18 nights premium boat 1 nights hotel	Relaxed

Itinerary

Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

DAY 1 - Edmonton

Edmonton is the capital city of the province of Alberta, located on the North Saskatchewan river. The city provides a wide range of cultural, sporting and tourist attractions and it is here that your expedition begins, with an overnight stay to explore the city. Stroll through the Fort Edmonton Park, Canada's largest living history museum, discover the West Edmonton Mall, the largest mall in North America and enjoy the longest stretch of urban parkland in North America, the Edmonton's river valley.



ACCOMMODATION:
Hotel in Edmonton (or similar)



Grade: Hotel



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED : NONE

DAY 2 - Edmonton to Cambridge Bay, Victoria Island

An early morning transfer will take you to the airport for your flight to Cambridge Bay. The community of Cambridge Bay is located on the southeast coast of Victoria Island. In Inuinnaqtun it is called Iqaluktuuttiaq, meaning a good fishing place. The hamlet is located close to the Ekalluk River, which is famous for giant char. It is rich in archaeological history and blessed with abundant fish, seals, geese, muskoxen and caribou. Archaeological sites found all over this enormous island, prove that indigenous peoples have continuously been living in this part of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago for the last four thousand years. Roald Amundsen visited Cambridge Bay in 1905, in 1918 he traversed the same route

back from west to east in his new ship called the Maud. The Hudson Bay Company purchased this vessel as a fur trading supply ship, arriving in Cambridge Bay in 1921. The Maud was used for many years before it sank in the harbour. Its exposed hull has been a landmark here for 80 years and a conservation project is currently underway to re-float the vessel and return her to Norway. Wildlife abounds in this area with caribou, muskoxen and seals. It is from here that the M Fram will take you into the Northwest Passage.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 3 - The Northwest Passage

We aim to head into the heart of the Northwest Passage. Since the late 15th century, the search for this fabled seaway through the Canadian Arctic was a holy grail for hardy adventurers. The first recorded voyage was led by John Cabot in 1497. The most famous journey here was James Cook's failed attempt in 1776, and of course the ill-fated Franklin expedition of 1845. The first to conquer the Passage by ship was Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen on an expedition that lasted from 1903 to 1906.

Ice conditions vary, so each voyage here is quite unique. Subject to favourable conditions, we hope to explore Gjoa Haven, historical Beechy Island, Scenic radstock Bay and picturesque Pond Inlet, amongst other landing sites.

Gjoa Haven is a popular destination for those who are intrigued by Arctic history. The name honours the Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen, who wintered here on the Gjoa Expedition. He called the place 'the finest little harbour in the World.' Amundsen and his men spent two years at Gjoa Haven, as they busily engaged in collecting scientific data. Hunting caribou and exploring the surrounding area, varied their work routines. When Amundsen arrived, there was no European settlement here. But he was in contact with the local Inuit and he learned a lot from them about survival and travel in these polar regions. The local Inuit people, the Netsilik Inuit, are direct descendants of the ancient Thule people and they have lived in the area for over a thousand years. The John Ross expedition of 1829-1833 had previously visited this region and the ill-fated John Franklin expedition of 1845 perished nearby, so Gjoa Haven is often visited by Arctic history buffs. Today the settlement is known for its vibrant arts and crafts scene, famous for their carvings of shamanistic faces and here, you will also find the talented work of local seamstresses who produce beautiful articles of Inuit clothing. It is also home to excellent cultural venues including the Heritage Centre, the Hamlet Centre and the Northwest Passage Territorial Trail. In the warm months when the tundra is covered with flowers and the sea is open, numerous arctic birds nest nearby, including loons, geese, ducks, terns, jaegers, plovers, snow buntings and snowy owls. A handsome herd of muskoxen lives on the island and there are some caribou too. When we arrive, we will be warmly welcomed to 'the finest little harbour in the world.'





ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)



Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 4 - The Northwest Passage

Enjoy navigating through the 180 km long and 50-65 km wide James Ross Strait. It is named after British polar explorer James Clark Ross, and Roald Amundsen sailed here on the Gjoa Expedition. The strait runs between King William Island and the Boothia Peninsula and based on the conditions of the day, we will either conduct landings for hikes or use the Polar Circle boats for cruising.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)



Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 5 - The Northwest Passage

When we arrive in Coningham Bay, we will launch our Polarcircle boats and explore the bay. We hope for wildlife sightings, as this shallow, broad bay is a known hotspot for belugas and polar bears. The Bellot Strait is a narrow passage serving as the transit from Prince Regent Inlet to Peel Sound and Franklin Strait. To the south of the channel, you will find the Boothia Peninsula - the northernmost point in mainland North America. The Strait, approximately 2 km wide, has fierce currents that can reach up to 15 km per hour. There may be the added navigational challenge of ice in these waters. As a result, a careful assessment of the conditions is required and our transit will be timed so that we avoid the strongest currents. The sturdy MS Fram was built as an expedition vessel with an ice-rated hull to deal with these ice conditions, both the ship and the captain are experienced in sailing through treacherous seas and the captain will ensure that the crossing is made in a safe and timely manner. We will continue looking out for wildlife - remember to keep eyes peeled as the more people spotting for wildlife, the greater the chance of seeing a polar bear, who are often seen roaming in this area. This strait is where the waters of the Pacific and the Atlantic oceans meet and having crossed the passage, we will be leaving the Pacific Ocean and entering into the Atlantic Ocean.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 6 - The Northwest Passage

At the end of the channel is historic Fort Ross, a trading post established by the Hudson Bay Company in 1937. There are still two small huts ashore that are maintained by the Canadian Coast Guard, occasionally used by the local Inuit for shelter during hunting trips.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 7 - The Northwest Passage

Today, we hope to stop at Beechy Island - a place closely linked to the exploration history of the Northwest Passage. The most famous voyage, one surrounded in mystery, is the British expedition led by Sir John Franklin. Two ships sailed into the passage in 1845, but neither the ships nor any of the 129 crewmembers were ever seen again. It is known that the Franklin Expedition over-wintered on Beechy Island in 1845-1846. Three graves on the shore, plus another from one of the search parties, is proof of the unfortunate outcome for the expedition members. As you go ashore, you will see the graves and the remains of Northumberland House, built by the rescuers searching for Franklin and his men. The desolate location of the graves and the ruins of Northumberland House, create a haunting reminder of the incredible challenges faced by explorers in this powerful wilderness. Our next stop Radstock Bay, is dominated by the striking landmark Caswell Tower - a prominence of sedimentary rock, rising from the sea. The shoreline around Caswall Tower is a good location for short walks, leading to a pre-historic Inuit dwelling site. The tower features a challenging hike to the summit, offering great views over the surrounding area. At the top, you will also find a small station used seasonally for polar bear research.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 8 - The Northwest Passage

Devon Island is the largest uninhabited island on Earth. On the south coast of Devon Island lies Dundas Harbour, an abandoned settlement with an old Royal Canadian Mounted Police camp and several archaeological sites. Go ashore to see the ruins of some of these buildings, along with an impressive Thule site. The Thule people were the ancestors of the Inuit. Further west is Croker's Bay, a large fjord with two tidewater glaciers at the head of the bay. The area is rich in wildlife and as with any expedition in the Arctic, the search for natural encounters is part of the experience. We may see several seal species such as walrus, beluga or even narwhal. Polar bears are frequently seen in the area and the tundra around the shore supports small populations of Arctic hare and musk ox. This is a perfect place for small boat excursions to see marine wildlife and glaciers up close.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 9 - The Northwest Passage

In the morning, we will head further south and cruise the spectacular Arctic landscape of Eclipse Sound, before we arrive in Pond Inlet. Explorer Sir John Ross named Pond Inlet in 1818 for John Pond, a renowned British astronomer. Today this picturesque hamlet, also called Mittimatalik in Inuktitut, is a traditional Inuit community, located on the northern tip of Baffin Island, near the eastern entrance to the Northwest Passage. Pond Inlet is surrounded by mountain ranges, with several dozen glaciers, scenic fjords and inlets, ice caves and drifting icebergs. As we arrive, we sail through a pretty channel flanked by the peaks and glaciers of Baffin and Bylot Islands. At these latitudes the sea is frozen for most of the year, only opening up in July for a short late-summer season. This is where the search for high Arctic wildlife such as polar bears, can begin. Pond Inlet is also a great place to see large pods of narwhal. Pond Inlet has a small visitor centre and the cultural performance by the local community will be a highlight.



ACCOMMODATION:

M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 10 - The Northwest Passage

We cross the Davis Strait, a northern arm of the Labrador Sea. Named after the English explorer John Davis, who led three expeditions to the area between 1585 and 1587. He was looking for a route through the Northwest Passage and discovered the Hudson Strait. Davis was the first to draw attention to the seal and whale-hunting possibilities in this region, and to show that the Newfoundland cod fisheries extended this far north.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 11 - At Sea - crossing the Davis Strait

Enjoy informative lectures on the early exploration of this area as we continue across the Davis Strait.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 12 - Ilulissat, Greenland

The meaning of Ilulissat is icebergs and the Ilulissat Ice fjord was inscribed to the UNESCO's list of World

Heritage Sites in 2004. The floating icebergs form impressive sculptures against the Arctic backdrop with colours varying, depending on the light cast by the Midnight Sun. Hear the icebergs' soundtrack of crackling and rumbling, as the sounds echo from one end of Ilulissat to the other. Our shore excursions include hikes, an historic town walk and a boat tour to the ice fjord.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 13 - Sisimiut

En route to Sisimiut, we encourage you to go out on deck. The waters close to the settlement are frequented by several species of marine wildlife, including humpback and fin whales. Minke whales can also be encountered along the west coast of Greenland. If you are lucky, you may also see large numbers of seals, the most common being the harp seal. Sisimiut is the second largest community in Greenland and is situated 40 km north of the Arctic Circle. Here you'll find fishing trawlers, a shipyard and a busy fish processing factory. We recommend a visit to the arts and crafts workshop close to the pier. Watch the local craftsmen at work, as they create traditional jewellery. Here you will have the opportunity to purchase some of their handicrafts and local souvenirs.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 14 - Nuuk

Nuuk is the political and social centre of Greenland and is the oldest town in the nation, founded in 1728. It has a beautiful setting at the mouth of one of the most spectacular fjord systems in the world. This is a place where old and new traditions meet, from picturesque old buildings to the modern architecture of Greenland. You will have a full day here and plenty of time to explore.





ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)



Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED : BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

DAY 15 - Kvanefjord

Kvanefjord is a 48 km long fjord on the west coast of Greenland. We will spend much of the day exploring this incredible terrain.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)



Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED : NONE

DAY 16 - The Labrador Sea

We leave Greenland and head for the open sea. We will cross the southern part of the Labrador Sea, this time sailing towards Newfoundland and Labrador in Canada.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)



Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 17 - Red Bay

Red Bay on the coast of Labrador, is a classic outpost of Atlantic Canada and a coastal community with a

population of less than 200 people. In 2013, Red Bay Basque Whaling Station was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You will have a few hours here to wander around this former whaling town and learn more about its interesting history.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 18 - Corner Brook

Corner Brook is located on the west coast of the island of Newfoundland and has approximately 20,000 inhabitants. The area was first surveyed by Captain James Cook in 1767. Explore the charming town centre or enjoy its many walking trails among vibrant autumn leaves.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER

DAY 19 - At Sea - the Gulf of St Lawrence

Enjoy a relaxing day at sea with a re-cap of your voyage, led by the Expedition team.



ACCOMMODATION:
M/S Fram (or similar)

Grade: Premium Boat



DAY 20 - Halifax

You will disembark in Halifax after breakfast. Enjoy a stroll up to the Citadel-crowned hill, overlooking the historic provincial capital. Halifax today is both hip and historic and it's well worth factoring in an extra day or two here, before you head home.



MEALS PROVIDED : BREAKFAST

Trip information

Country information

Arctic

Canada

Climate

May-Sep is the best time to visit, when the weather is usually warm, dry and pleasant. Temperatures can be a little cooler on the coast and in the mountains; rain can be expected at any time. Early in the season, there can be snow in some areas which may limit walking possibilities.

Time difference to GMT	Plugs	Religion	Language
-7	2 Pin Flat	Roman Catholic, Protestant	English and French

Denmark

Climate

Due to Denmark's location in the middle of several seas, the weather is mild and the climate temperate year-round. Additionally, Denmark's day and night temperatures don't fluctuate that much. Summer time is from May to August with the temperatures often reaching the low 20°C. May is a lovely month to go as spring is at its height. Winter is from December to March with periods of frost and darker days with average temperatures of 0°C.

Time difference to GMT	Plugs	Religion	Language
+1	3 pin Round	Evangelical Lutheran	Danish

Budgeting and packing

Optional activities

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations. Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

Whilst landings are included in the cost of your trip as per the outline itinerary, there are many optional excursions available on your voyage that can be pre-booked with the ship operator directly. These will be charged at an additional fee, depending on the excursion, and we recommend booking these in advance to ensure availability. Please speak to a member of our Polar team who will advise you on the booking process.

Clothing

Pack comfortable, casual clothing for all activities. Wind and waterproof outer layers are essential, and a jacket is provided in the cost of the cruise. Beware of tight clothing that leaves no room for trapped air, which is an excellent insulator. Wool, silk and some of the new synthetic fibres, like polar fleece, retain heat better than cotton.

Parkas

A wind and waterproof jacket is provided as part of the cost of your holiday.

Gloves

Keeping your hands warm and dry can be a challenge. Thin polypropylene gloves can be worn underneath warm outergloves. This allows you some protection from the cold when removing your gloves to operate your camera etc. We strongly recommend that you bring more than one pair of gloves, in case one gets wet (or lost).

Hat/Cap

Warm, woollen hat/cap to protect your ears, as well as a scarf, neck gaiter or other face protection, such as a balaclava.

Trousers

Water-resistant trousers of coated nylon or, even better, Gore-Tex® are essential for your comfort. They can be worn over your regular clothes to keep you warm and dry. We suggest that you purchase trousers a few sizes larger than you normally wear as you will be wearing them over other clothing. Gore-Tex® or similar fabrics are excellent for keeping out wind and water without trapping excess heat. Rain gear and Gore-Tex® products can be found in any outdoor sport clothing store. In addition to your waterproof trousers, warm ski pants are suggested if you have them. Warm trousers such as jeans, corduroys etc are also good.

Socks

Warm wool socks worn over a thin pair of silk, polypropylene socks should provide enough warmth and insulation for your feet. Bring several pairs of socks, since you will inevitably get your feet wet.

Outer Clothing

Woollen, knit or cotton sweaters/tops, polar fleece tops (medium weight), several cotton turtlenecks and T-shirts for layering on and off the ship.

Underclothing

Thermal underwear is highly recommended as it will keep you warm without adding bulk. Most polar travellers prefer a lightweight version.

Footwear

Waterproof boots are available on-board, free of charge. Ensure that you take good walking boots with you and comfortable trainers or grip-type shoes, for relaxing on the ship and for when out on deck.

Luggage

20kg

Luggage: On tour

One main piece of baggage and daypack. Remember you are expected to carry your own luggage so don't overload yourself.

Equipment

Sunglasses and sun cream

Personal toiletries

A refillable water bottle

Books/reading material

Camera and memory cards (and something to protect the camera when out in the elements)

Seasickness remedy

Walking poles

Tipping

Local crew

Tipping is collected at the end of the voyage and is divided among the crew. Tipping is a very personal matter and the amount you wish to give is at your discretion, but as a generally guideline, we suggest US\$12 per person per day.

Arctic

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Foreign Exchange

Canada

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Lunch price	Dinner price	Beer price	Water price
£13.00	£20.00	£3.00	£1.10

Foreign Exchange

Local currency

Canadian Dollars.

Recommended Currency For Exchange

Bring your money in Canadian Dollars or US Dollars cash which can be used almost everywhere, although local stores are not keen to change anything over \$50.

Where To Exchange

Banks or 'Forex' offices in main towns/cities. Your tour leader will advise you on arrival.

ATM Availability

There are ATMs in the towns.

Credit Card Acceptance

Widely accepted just about everywhere.

Denmark

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Lunch price	Dinner price	Beer price	Water price
£9.00 - 14.00	£16.00 - 25.00	£1.80 - 5.00	£1.70 - 3.00

Foreign Exchange

Local currency

Danish Kroner.

Recommended Currency For Exchange

GBP or EUR

Where To Exchange

The tour leader will advise. We recommend that you take mixture Danish Kroner and Credit Cards with you.

ATM Availability

ATM's are widely available usually located outside banks, supermarkets and shopping centres. Most cash machines are available in different major European languages. It is free to withdraw money if you are using a cash machine from your own bank, though you may have to pay a transaction fee if you withdraw cash from a different bank.

Credit Card Acceptance

MasterCard or Visa cards accepted except in some supermarkets and small shops. American Express and Diners Club are also accepted, though not as widely as the previous two. With credit card payments made in Denmark you should expect to pay an extra charge.

Travellers Cheques

We do not recommend that you use travellers cheques as they can be difficult to exchange.

Greenland

Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

Foreign Exchange

Transport, Accommodation & Meals

Transport Information

M/S Fram, Zodiac

Ship description

The MS Fram is a comfortable vessel for your polar exploration with modern amenities such as a fitness room, Jacuzzi and sauna. The ample indoor and outdoor public spaces are designed to ensure you enjoy the passing scenery and wildlife sightings; each table in the restaurant has scenic views and the observation lounge has panoramic windows. There's also a selection of shore excursions to choose from, allowing you to experience as much of the polar wilderness as possible.

Cabins

Prices are based on the use of inside, category one cabins on decks 3, 5 and 6. Category one cabins are based on twin share, with one bed and one sofa bed. They are comfortable with a private toilet and shower, fridge and TV. The MS Fram has a number of different cabin categories, many of which are outside facing, with two beds (apart from superior cabins and suites, which have double beds). Some

cabins have portholes and others, larger windows and sitting areas. All cabins are twin share, but we can also offer single occupancy at a supplement, if you are travelling alone. Call us for details on the cabin choice to fit your requirements.

Essential Information

FCO Advice

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice [click here](#).

For more information from Explore about travel advice, [click here](#)

Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

Price Guarantee

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. [Booking Conditions](#)

Visa and Passport Information

Entry visas NOT required by UK, AUS, NZ, USA, CAN Citizens. Other nationalities should consult the relevant consulate.

All visa information is subject to change. You should confirm all visa related issues with the relevant Embassy prior to departure.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See www.travcour.com to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of a full passport, with the correct validity for your chosen destination.

Booking conditions

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our Essential Information and [Booking Conditions](#).

Transfers

[Find out more about Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions before you book.](#)

Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

Joining Tour Abroad

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The complimentary transfers will be arranged from the Explore designated airport or train station to your trips joining point, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. Generally the airport or station that Explore have selected will be the one that is closest to the town or city where the trip starts, or the one nearest to the joining point. It will be either an airport or train station but not both.

The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Polar, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers.

If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer [click here](#)

Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. The cost of many of our Polar Voyages will exceed the capped amount covered by standard insurance premiums and you will be required to pay an additional premium to cover the full value of your trip. Please ensure that you are covered for the full amount of your holiday cost, as insufficient cover could invalidate a claim under the policy. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

Flight information

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. Read more about them [here](#).

Flight Information

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport. On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

Arctic

Canada

Vaccinations

Nothing compulsory, but we recommend protection against tetanus, typhoid, infectious hepatitis and polio. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at Explore Travel Health and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.

Denmark

Vaccinations

Nothing compulsory though we recommend protection against tetanus. Tick-borne encephalitis is recommended by some medical sources if travelling in certain areas of Europe, at specific times of the year. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at Explore Travel Health and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.

Greenland

Polar information



FRNW_2018

Ship information

The MS Fram is a comfortable vessel for your polar exploration with modern amenities such as a fitness room, Jacuzzi and sauna. The ample indoor and outdoor public spaces are designed to ensure you enjoy the passing scenery and wildlife sightings; each table in the restaurant has scenic views and the observation lounge has panoramic windows. There's also a selection of shore excursions to choose from, allowing you to experience as much of the polar wilderness as possible.