



## **SVALBARD**

#### Norway

High in the northern latitudes, Svalbard is an Arctic wilderness that few will ever experience - especially on skis or snowboard. April and May is the ideal time for ski touring as the sea ice breaks up to allow access, the long nights give way to the midnight sun, the snow remains well preserved with fresh snowfalls still likely.

With several comfortable, ice rated vessels available to navigate this pristine and largely untouched region, there is no better way to admire the incredible Arctic wildlife and leave fresh tracks on the mountain face that rises above the dark waters of the Arctic Ocean.

KEY FACTS

> Season APRIL / MAY

Terrain ALPINE, GLACIATED

Base height 0 METRES

Highest peak 1,713M (NEWTONTOPPEN)

Average number of runs per day

Average run length 900 VERTICAL METRES

Group size 4 - 12

International / domestic flights **OSLO & LONGYEARBYEN** 







#### PURE UNTOUCHED TERRAIN

Due to its remote location within the Arctic Circle and the harsh conditions that prevail for most of the year, much of Svalbard's terrain remains unexplored and rarely accessed.

### SUMMIT TO SEA SKIING

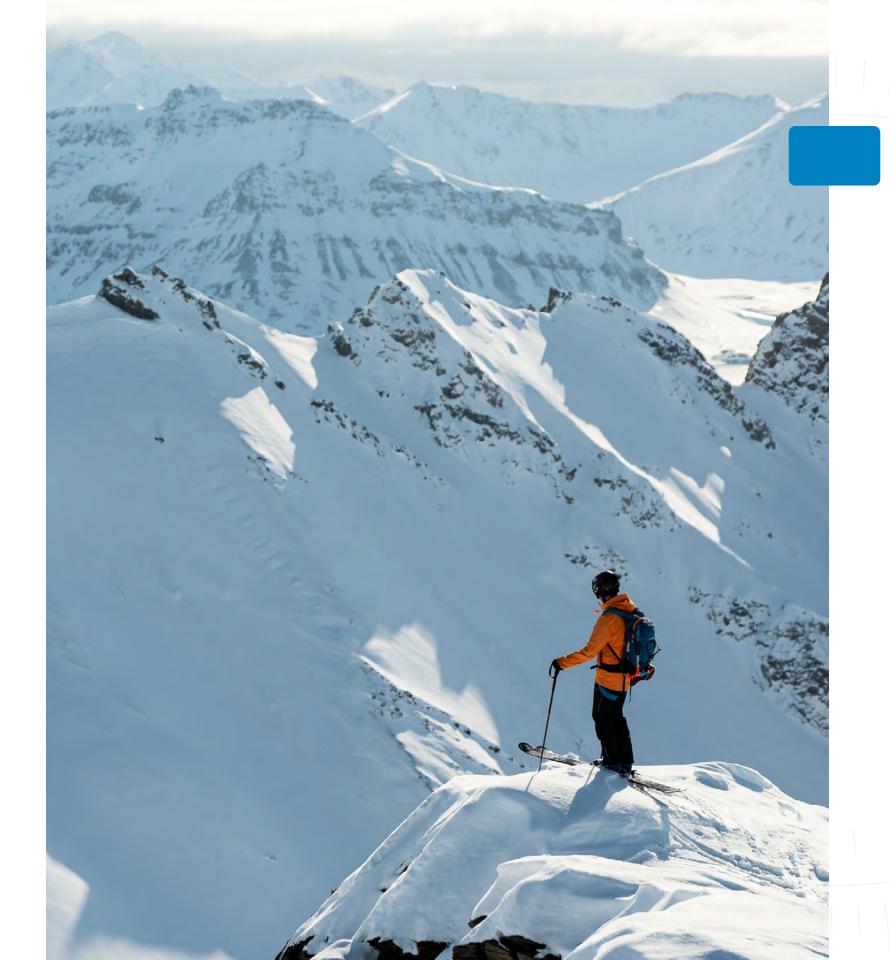
Ski touring in Svalbard starts right at sea level, with most peaks topping out around 1,000 metres — meaning altitude isn't a challenge and elevation gain is more easily earned than in many other mountain regions. The reward: breathtaking views of glaciated peaks rising straight up from the Artic Ocean, and long, scenic descents right down to the shoreline.

#### **ARCTIC SAFARI**

In addition to its distinctive ski terrain, Svalbard offers an abundance of Arctic wildlife. Sightings of whales, walruses, seals, and a variety of bird species are common—and with some luck, you may catch a glimpse of the mighty polar bear.

## UNBEATABLE VARIETY AND FLEXIBILITY

From steep couloirs and exposed ridgelines to wide open faces and glacial terrain, Svalbard offers an impressive variety of terrain. Paired with the mobility of an ice-rated vessel to chase optimal weather and snow, the possibilities for adventure are nearly limitless.



# **THE EXPERIENCE**

The best time for ski touring in Svalbard is between mid-April and late May.

The mountain guides, ship's captain and polar guide work together to plan and adapt the itinerary according to current weather, snow, and sea ice conditions. Locations range from Svalbard's southern tip to the north coast, with ship passages undertaken whenever guests are not out skiing.

Our team of internationally certified (IFMGA) guides has led numerous successful expeditions to Svalbard. With a maximum of 12 guests and at least two guides per trip, we often have the mountains to ourselves.

Ski tours vary from gentle, low-angle outings to more demanding routes involving technical climbs and more challenging descents. Groups are matched by ability, fitness and expectations so everyone can enjoy the adventure safely and at a comfortable pace.

When not skiing our vessels provide excellent opportunities to observe wildlife while underway and at anchor - your polar guide will bring the natural environment to life.

Watch the highlights of our 2024 Svalbard trip here.

### **SKI TOURING / SPLIT-BOARDING ABILITY**

Given Svalbard's remote location and the potential presence of polar bears along the shoreline, prior ski touring or split-boarding experience and a good level of fitness are essential.

At a minimum, participants should be comfortable with:

- Fitting and removing skins.
- Making kick turns on steeper slopes.
- Climbing for several hours at a steady pace.
- Descending in varied snow conditions with control.

Experience of using ski and boot crampons and ice axes is an advantage, but not essential.

## **TYPICAL ITINERARY & PRICING**

#### Guide price: €10,000-12,000 per berth (12 in total)

Trips typically involve 1 night ashore in Longyearbyen with six to nine nights on board. All trips are tailored according to guest requirements meaning that dates and prices are "on request". Prices vary depending on choice of vessel and other variables.

### **EXAMPLE ITINERARY**

- Day 1: Arrival. Evening flight to Oslo, overnight stay in the city.
- Journey North. **Day 2:** Fly from Oslo to Longyearbyen. Spend the afternoon and evening exploring the town.
- Pre-Embarkation Adventure. Day 3: Optional morning activities such as ski touring, snowmobiling, or fat-biking. Embark in the afternoon and begin the first sea passage.
- Day 4 6: Ski Touring & Exploration. Full days of ski touring with passages between locations, exploring the remote Arctic terrain.
- Final Ski & Return. Day 7: Final day of ski touring. Return to port and spend the last night on board the vessel.
- **Day 8:** Departure. Disembark in Longyearbyen and fly back to Oslo, with onward connection to your international destination.

### **INCLUDED IN THE PRICE**

- 1 night pre-charter B&B hotel accommodation (twin / double occupancy) in Longyearbyen.
- 6 nights' full board accommodation (shared cabin) on a choice of expedition vessels.
- Guiding in two groups of 6 with internationally certified (IFMGA) ski guide(s).
- Fuel is allocated to cover the anticipated cruising distance. If conditions allow for extended travel beyond the original itinerary, any additional fuel costs will be discussed with and approved by guests before proceeding.
- Transfers between Svalbard airport and Longyearbyen and to / from expedition vessel.



#### NOT INCLUDED THE PRICE

- International / domestic flights.
- Insurance specialist insurance required.
- Additional hotel nights.
- Activities in Longyearbyen.
- Pre / post-charter excursions in Longyearbyen.
- Skiing / snowboarding equipment and avalanche and glacier safety kit.
- Alcoholic drinks on charter vessel.
- Gratuities.
- Anything else not mentioned.



# **VESSEL OPTIONS**

Selecting the right vessel is key to the success of your trip. Factors such as cruising speed, comfort, cabin configuration, onboard amenities, crew numbers and expertise, as well as the vessel's ice classification are all important points to take into consideration.

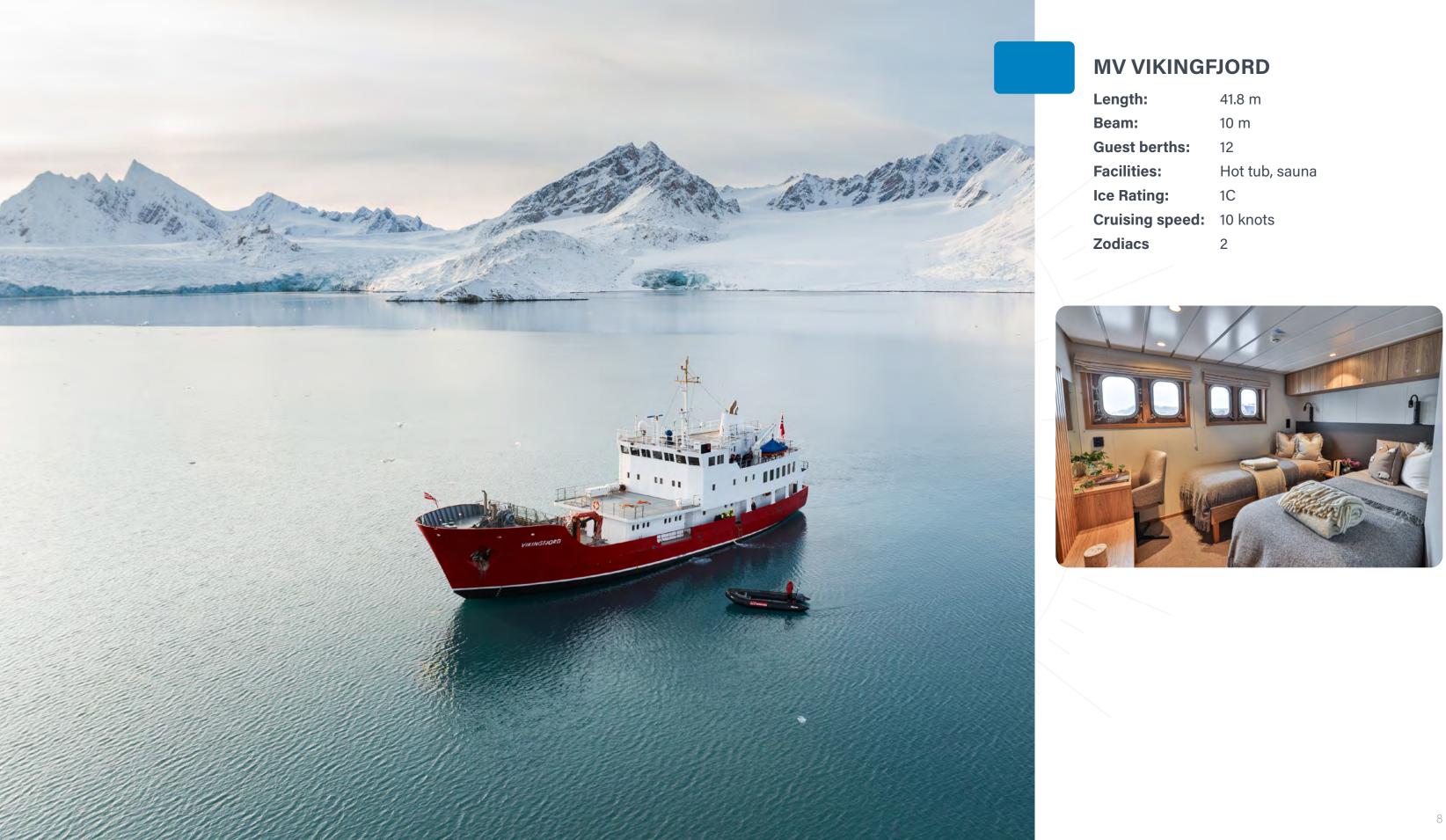
We will take the time to understand your preferences and needs, and recommend suitable vessels that are available and well-positioned for your itinerary.

## **MV SJOVEIEN**

Length:	40.7 m
Beam:	8 m
Guest berths:	10 – 12
Facilities:	Hot tub
Ice Rating:	1C
Cruising speed:	10 knots
Zodiacs	2







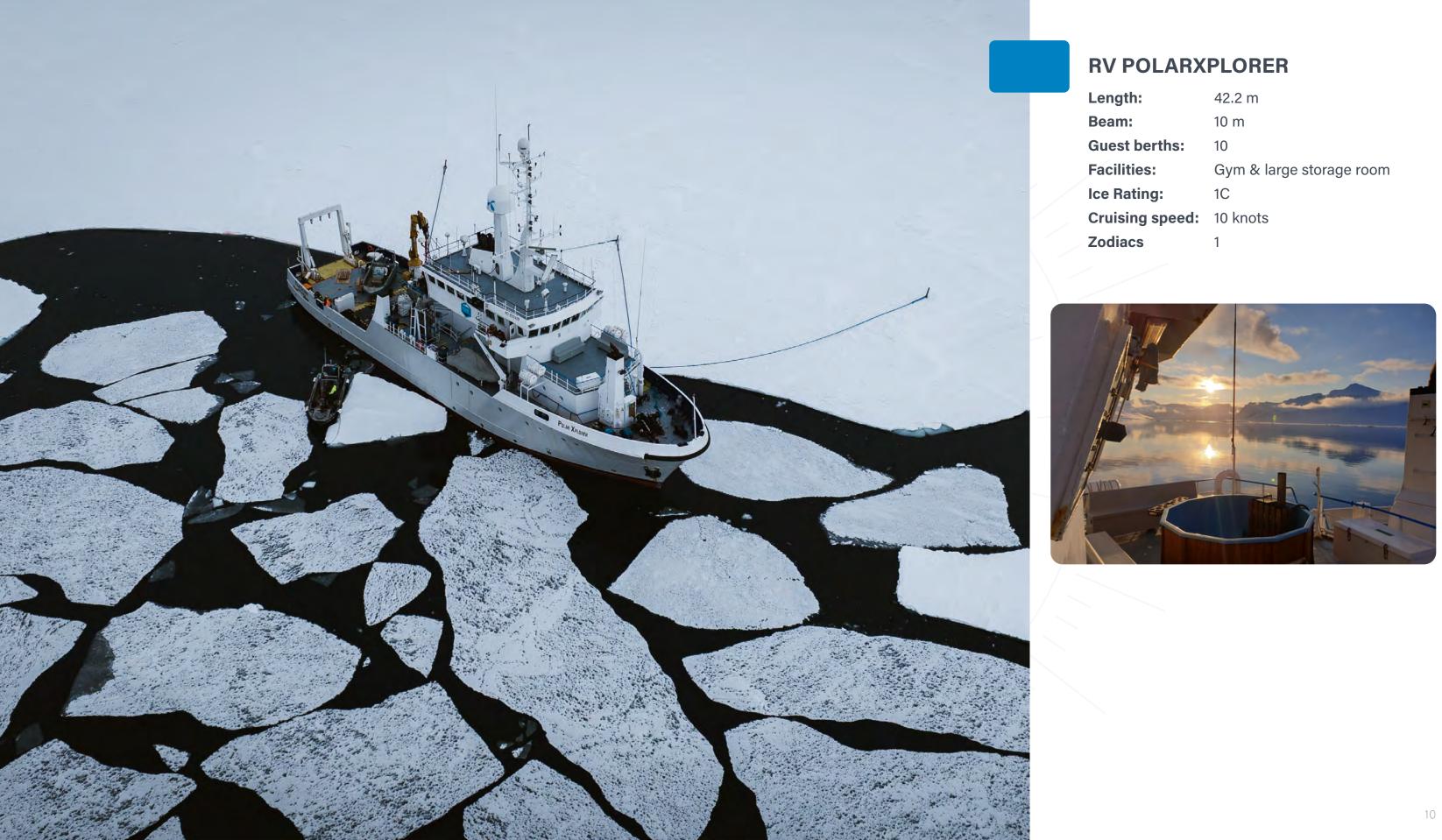
Length:	41.8 m
Beam:	10 m
Guest berths:	12
Facilities:	Hot tub, sauna
Ice Rating:	1C
Cruising speed:	10 knots
Zodiacs	2

## **RV KINFISH**

Length:	37.2 m
Beam:	7 m
Guest berths:	10 – 12
Facilities:	Survey lounge & mudroom
Ice Rating:	1C
Cruising speed:	9 knots
Zodiacs	2







Length:	42.2 m
Beam:	10 m
Guest berths:	10
Facilities:	Gym & large storage room
Ice Rating:	1C
Cruising speed:	10 knots
Zodiacs	1

# **ABOUT LONGYEARBYEN & SVALBARD**

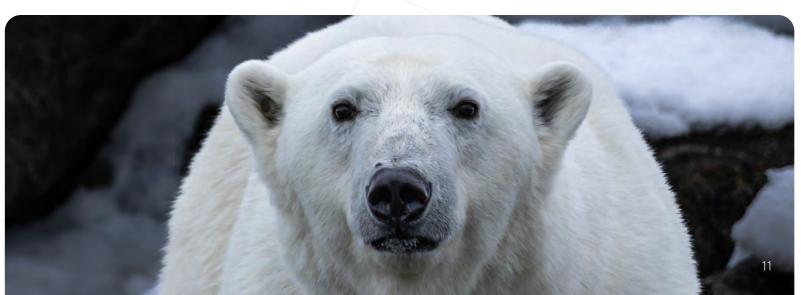
Longyearbyen, the world's northernmost settlement, is a remarkable outpost with a rich heritage in polar exploration, Arctic research, and mining. Located at 78° North in the Svalbard archipelago, it offers front-row seats to extraordinary natural events such as the midnight sun, polar night, and the Northern Lights. Home to around 2,400 residents involved in research, conservation, mining, and defence; the town also welcomes a growing number of visitors. Longyearbyen offers a good range of amenities, including hotels, shops, bars, restaurants, two museums, and its own brewery. Snowmobiles and huskies are just as numerous as people, with snowmobiling and dog sledding being popular ways to explore the Arctic landscape.

Svalbard's diverse wildlife is a major draw for visitors, with regular sightings of whales, walruses, Arctic foxes and reindeer. Although polar bears outnumber people, they are more elusive — there is nonetheless an ever-present potential for sightings (and need for caution) outside the main settlements.

In late spring, when the sea ice retreats and snow still reaches the coastline, vessel-based travel offers unmatched access to Svalbard's remote and untouched landscapes. Combined with a stable maritime snowpack and the magic of the midnight sun, this makes for exceptional ski touring conditions and a truly unique Arctic experience.







## WATCH THE HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR 2024 SVALBARD TRIP

