

Greenland Odyssey

Aboard *Sylvia Earle* | 7 – 21 July 2024





Greenland Odyssey

7 – 21 July 2024

Reykjavík

DAY 1 | Sunday 7 July 2024

Latitude:

64°09.54' N

Longitude:

021°56.0' W

Course:

198°

Speed:

Alongside

Wind Speed:

WWN 11 knots

Barometer:

1008 hPa

Air Temp:

18°C

Today we all set out from Reykjavík aboard buses on the classic Icelandic Golden Circle tour.

The famous 'great geyser', thermal pools, the Gullfoss waterfall and the Thingvellir National Park were some of the wonderful stops and highlights of this great tour.

Early in the afternoon, we arrived then the old harbour of Reykjavík and there she was waiting for us: the magnificent *Sylvia Earle*.

Before we could go on board, a mobile unit of Icelandic customs officer were awaiting us – including a lot of Expedition Team

members, who welcomed us and led the way.

We embarked the ship at the port and were greeted by many friendly faces, who guided us upstairs to check in at reception before the ship's crew helped us navigate the decks to our cabins – our home away from home for the next 14 days. We then enjoyed some delicious refreshments together in the Tektite Bar before Howard, our Expedition Leader, called us into the lecture theatre to welcome us aboard.



At Sea

DAY 2 | Monday 8 July 2024

Latitude:
63°31'218"N
Longitude:
029°10.76'W

Course:
253.7°
Speed:
13.4 knots

Wind Speed:
S 29.3 knots
Barometer:
1010 hPa

Air Temp:
10°C

The great explorers Shackleton, Franklin, Amundsen, and all the rest, spent years preparing their quests. Today's day at sea was the single day on which Expeditioners of the Greenland Odyssey prepped for the adventures to come. But first, we must mention pirates. Early rising Expeditioners who looked to sea from the observation deck were rewarded with views of *stercorarius parasiticus*, alias arctic skua, alias parasitic jaeger, piratical marauder, chaser down of innocent ocean travellers, but luckily for voyagers on the *Sylvia Earle*, *S. parasiticus* is more intent on plundering fish from other seabirds than attacking sleek expedition ships.

Firearms Manager Stephen led off with a polar bear briefing (to be clear, the briefing was for Expeditioners, not for bears). Polar bears, large and white, should be easy to see, but Stephen underlined how this is not always so by challenging his audience to a game of Spot the Bear, showing slides with bears pretending to be ice floes, white rocks, or lumps of snow. Polar bears are iconic and dramatic, but also dangerous and unpredictable. All off-ship operations in polar bear territory are intently focused on keeping both bears and people safe. Closely adhering to instructions given by E-Team members is key to this objective.







At Sea

DAY 3 | Tuesday 9 July 2024

Latitude:

63°05.7'N

Longitude:

40°16.4'W

Course:

227,2°

Speed:

12,5 knots

Wind Speed:

12,5 knots

Barometer:

1010 hPa

Air Temp:

8°C

Our night of a mercifully benign transit across Denmark Strait from Iceland ends with Howard on the PA giving us the message that we have whales in the vicinity. Several fin whales mark their presence by powerful jets of vapour from the blowholes, and glimpses of their characteristic small but arched dorsal fin.

Fiona's lecture 'Photography 101' gave away trade secrets on taking better photographs, and knitters in Bettina's craft group started creating their Greenlandic wrist-warmers. Professor Auk (aka David) gave a timely introduction to seabirds of the arctic, and keen birders kept busy on deck identifying the proliferation of species.

After lunch we could see for the first time the alluring mountains that line the southeast coast of Greenland. Zodiacs and kayaks were on the water, and with a nice warm sun beaming down, we set out on our first outing among the sea ice. A kind, rolling swell and windless conditions made for ideal cruising and paddling conditions, allowing us to get up close to the imaginative shapes and intense colours of the ice. Just as we were due to call 'Time' and head back to the ship, the 'Day of Whales' continued to deliver – the half-dozen large whales were at first identified as fins, but on closer inspection proved to be the rather rarer sei whale, a baleen whale and the third largest animal on the planet.







Pack Ice | South Greenland

DAY 4 | Wednesday 10 July 2024

Latitude:

60°18.34'N

Longitude:

041°36.9'W

Course:

207°

Speed:

13.1 knots

Wind Speed:

SW 13 knots

Barometer:

1005 hPa

Air Temp:

4°C

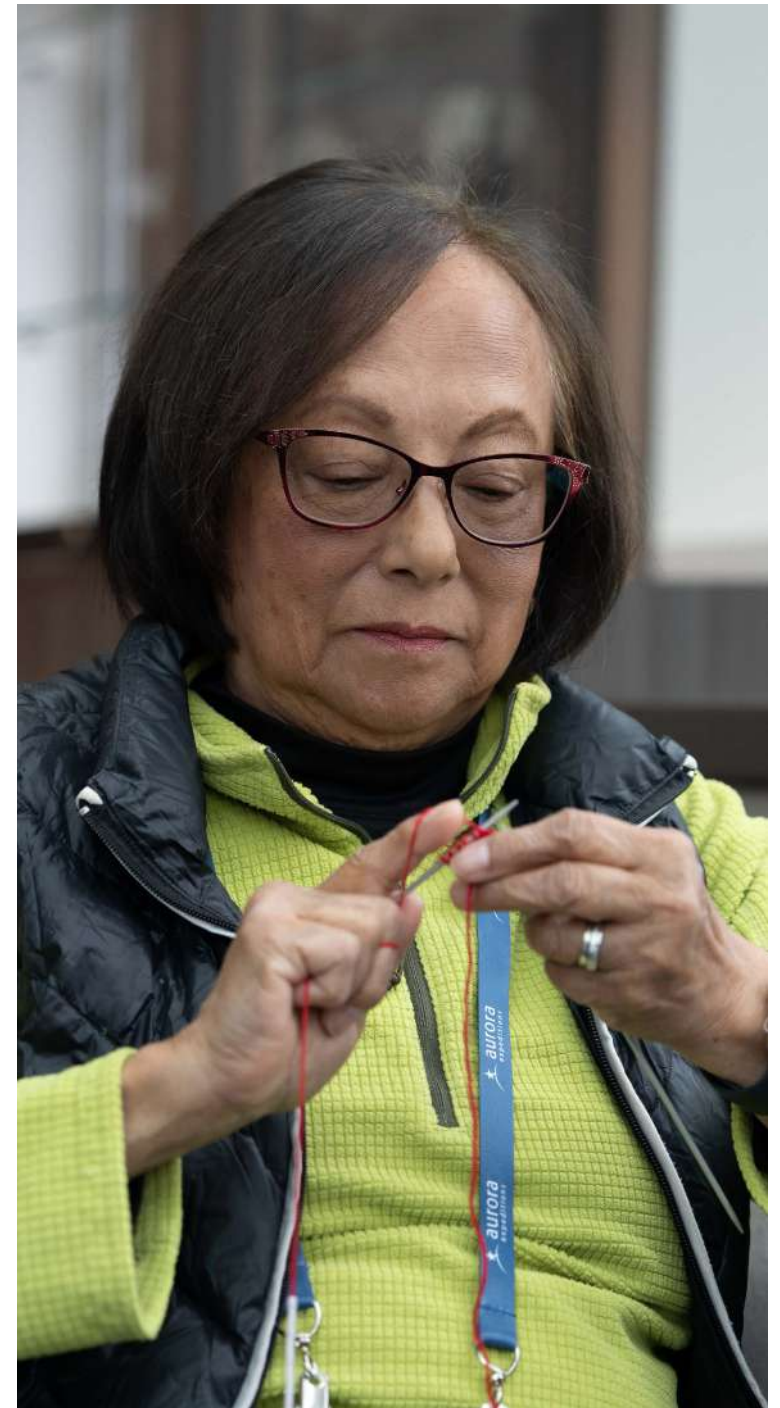
Heidi gave a presentation on the four marine mammals we have already encountered and others we hope to see. Like many of us, some of the whales come north to these rich feeding grounds to put on weight before returning to warmer latitudes for the winter. The seals, walrus and polar bears, however, remain in the arctic year-round, relying on a layer of fat for warmth.

The knitters continued fabrication of their traditional Greenlandic wrist-warmers in the ship's forward atrium, while in the Citizen Science lab Heidi set up several microscopes to examine the phytoplankton collected during our Zodiac cruise.

Not finding ice suitable for a landing and with strong winds forecast off the cape in a couple of days, the decision was made to move on. The latest ice charts also showed that it was not possible for us to cut the corner through Prins Christian Sund, so we headed for sea to skirt the ice edge around the Greenland's southernmost Cap Farvel/Ummannaarsuk.

Our historian, Ben, gave an insightful tale of Nansen, focusing on his epic sled crossing of Greenland. The privations of one pipe a week and a shared sleeping bag for three men were examples of how he kept the weight down to make the trip. A hardy soul and revered polar explorer.





At Sea | Nanortalik

DAY 5 | Thursday 11 July 2024

Latitude:
59°38.9'N
Longitude:
45°44.84'W

Course:
66.5°
Speed:
3,7 knots

Wind Speed:
WNW 15,7 knots
Barometer:
1000 hPa

Air Temp:
1°C

At 9:30am, Elo gave us an inspiring talk about her solo kayaking adventure along the southern coast of Greenland that ended in Nanortalik, the very place we were approaching.

Lunch was served early as we were impatient to get the Zodiacs in the water and go ashore as soon as possible. By 1:30pm, the first guests finally set foot in Greenland. The sun shone brightly on the village while we could still see the fog bank over the sea just a few miles away. Some decided to join the guided tour while others preferred to explore on their own. Children, dogs, and curious locals came to greet or see who had arrived. The village was a postcard

scene of colourful houses around the bay, filled with intensely blue icebergs and surrounded by stunning mountain views.

We visited various parts of the museum, learning about the history, flora and fauna, kayaks, and the hardships faced by the resilient inhabitants of Nanortalik throughout history. Upon returning to the ship, we had our usual recap; today's topics were plants, rocks, and whales.







Tasermiut Fjord

DAY 6 | Friday 12 July 2024

Latitude:
60°33.026'N
Longitude:
44°28.23'W

Course:
251°
Speed:
At anchor

Wind Speed:
SE 1.1 knots
Barometer:
1000 hPa

Air Temp:
7°C

Tasermiut Fjord, often referred to as the 'Arctic Patagonia', stretches approximately 70 kilometres and is a paradise for hikers and kayakers.

Today, we had several options: a long or medium hike through the rugged terrain, or beachcombing along the fjord's edge, discovering interesting finds with the help of our naturalist, Heidi.

One plant that caught Heidi's attention was the Labrador tea plant, thriving in Greenland's tundra with its aromatic, leathery leaves covered in fine hairs and clusters of delicate flowers. Traditionally used by indigenous peoples, its leaves make a fragrant tea valued for its medicinal properties.

We also came across an arctic fox den. The entrances were

surrounded by scattered feathers and mussel shells, clear evidence of recent feeding activity. Though we didn't see any foxes, this confirmed their presence, hinting at their elusive and resourceful nature in this harsh environment.

After lunch we had the choice of a hike or beachcombing. Hikers scaled the heights of Tasermiut Fjord's epic landscape, navigating steep granite cliffs and rugged trails through arctic willow and dwarf birch. While the towering cliffs had us looking up, the colourful wildflowers made us look down. Some hikers were also treated to a view of a Lapland longspur, a small arctic bird known for its melodic song.











Sandhavn | Herjolfsnæs

DAY 7 | Saturday 13 July 2024

Latitude:
59°38.14' N
Longitude:
44°47.98' W

Course:
43,8°
Speed:
1.9 knots

Wind Speed:
WNW 18,6 knots
Barometer:
1000 hPa

Air Temp:
2°C

The morning included a Zodiac cruise around Sandhavn: there were icebergs and pieces of floe grounded in the shallow waters, with sunlight shining on the impressive mountains surrounding us.

This is the original 'Atlantic Harbour' used by the Norse during their occupation of southern Greenland in the 10th century. The Viking longboats would have gained shelter in this safe harbour after a long and stormy crossing from North America or Iceland. We explored the shoreline by Zodiac and then headed east along the coast for about 3.5 kms, where the scout party was ashore waiting for us at Herjolfsnæs. This site was the southern and eastern-most homestead

of the Eastern Settlement of Erik-the-Red's Norse colony. Within this archaeological site the church remains were still very much visible in the landscape, with the building depressions and large rock walls being grown over with tundra vegetation. The relatively lush vegetation was likely the reason for the more modern remains of later sheep farming in the last century. There were roseroot and polar cress flowering among thick grasses that would all have been fodder for livestock. Everyone had a chance to explore this site and discover the remains of an Inuit grave and the outline of the longhouse, which would have been home to several families.



Qalerallit

DAY 8 | Sunday 14 July 2024

Latitude:
60°25.4' N
Longitude:
47°11.161' W

Course:
17.2°
Speed:
2 knots

Wind Speed:
28 knots W
Barometer:
1000 hPa

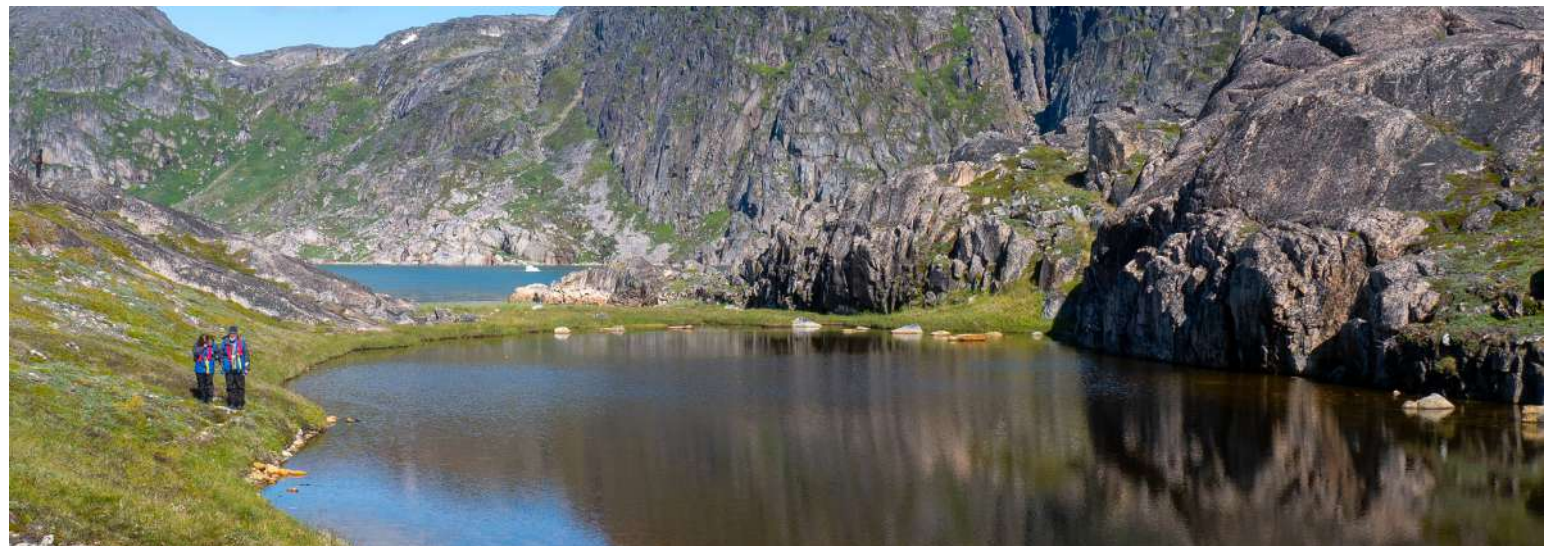
Air Temp:
0°C

Instead of heading towards our initially planned destination, we decided on an impromptu Zodiac cruise along the glacier and kittiwake cliffs. The Zodiacs were swiftly lowered into the water, their engines humming softly against the backdrop of the ice-strewn sea. As we glided through the icy waters, the glacier loomed large and magnificent, its cerulean-blue hues contrasting sharply with the surrounding whites and greys. Kittiwakes soared above us, their calls echoing in the crisp air, while the cliffs provided a dramatic, towering stage for their aerial ballet.

The Zodiac cruise was nothing short of spectacular. The glacier's icy

labyrinth revealed hidden caves and ice formations that sparkled like diamonds in the subdued light. The cliffs, alive with the activity of nesting kittiwakes, offered a glimpse into the thriving avian community of the arctic.

After the cruise, we made a landing at a historical Inuit site, brimming with artefacts and stories from a time long past. Walking among the remnants of ancient dwellings, we could almost hear the whispers of history carried by the arctic wind. The site was a treasure trove of cultural heritage, offering insights into the ingenuity and survival skills of the Inuit people who thrived in this harsh environment.



At Sea | Qeqertarsuatsiaat

DAY 9 | Monday 15 July 2024

Latitude:
62°33.054'N
Longitude:
50°47.264'W

Wind Speed:
12 knots NW
Barometer:
1008 hPa

Course:
344°
Speed:
10.5 knots

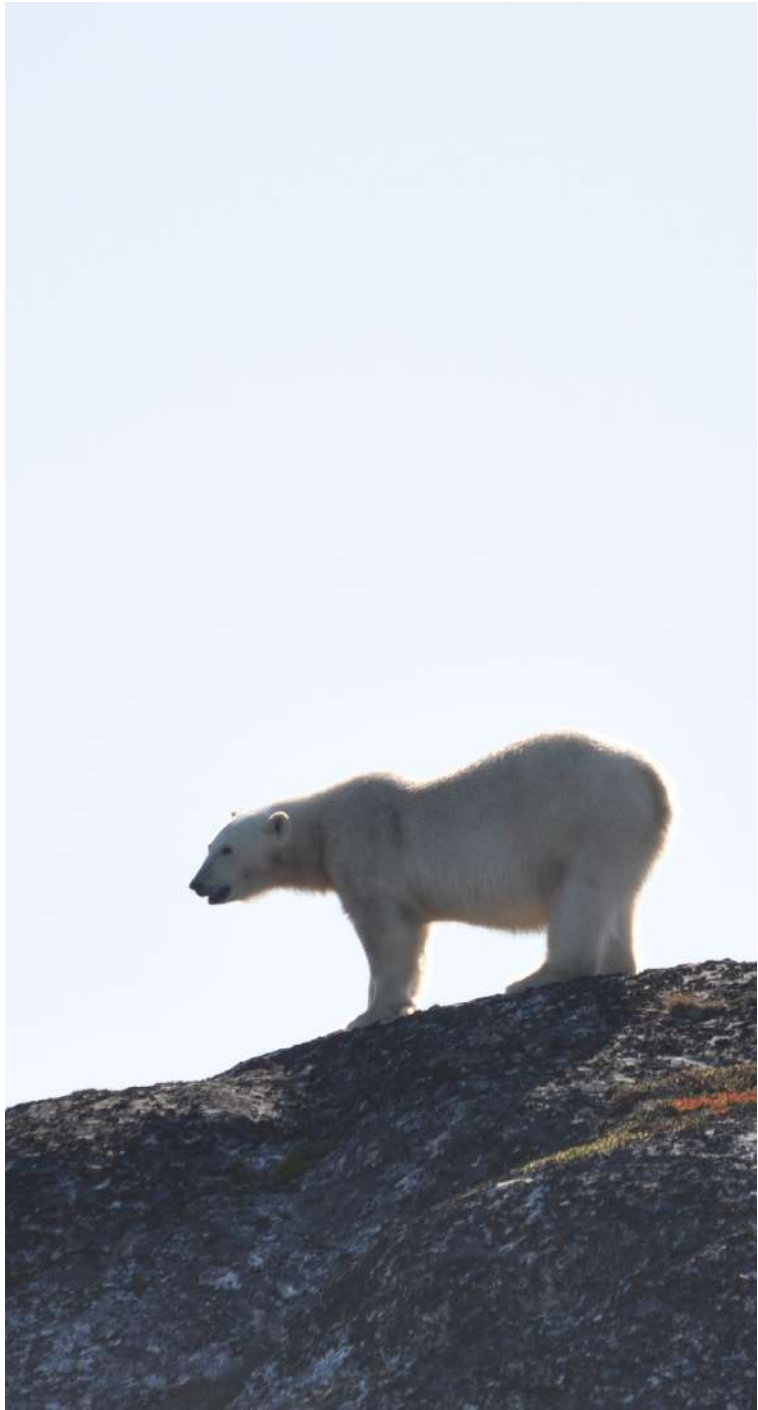
Air Temp:
2°C

As we sailed into coastal waters, the fog disappeared, and by the time we came to 'anchor' (Dynamic Positioning or DP) off Qeqertarsuatsiaat (pronounced Ke-ker-tar-su-at-si-at) the sun was blazing down. Although this charming village is visited every fortnight by a resupply cargo ship, it is rarely visited by tourist vessels (we were the first in 20 years or so). The locals made us feel very welcome, as we visited the lovely church, perused craft wares at a senior citizens' centre and were gifted yellow dandelions by the local girls. The importance of hunting in this community is very evident, from the rifles in boats at the town marina to a pile of fresh-looking antlers outside houses. After a lovely couple of hours enjoying this mellow place, we were back on the ship and cruising to reposition

for a late afternoon Zodiac outing. A reasonable passage through a couple of broad channels brought us to a small archipelago abutting the sea. Here we wended our way along the maze of channels that threaded their way through the islands and 'skerries', beautifully shaped by the passage of glaciers aeons and aeons past. Kayakers also made the most of this wonderful place. The waters here were so clear and glassy we could see into the underwater kelp gardens, lit up by the gently declining sun.

Just as we were thinking about heading back to the ship, that elusive and much-admired icon of the arctic, the polar bear, emerged from the shadows on one of the skerries. It ambled smoothly across the undulating ground, slid into the water and swam into the distance.





Nuuk

DAY 10 | Tuesday 16 July 2024

Latitude:
79° 02.8'N
Longitude:
010° 22.5'E

Course:
174°
Speed:
10.4 knots

Wind Speed:
17 knots S
Barometer:
1023 hPa

Air Temp:
2°C

The day began with a soft fog and the clanging of our final approach to the harbourside in Nuuk, a bustling metropolis of 17,600 people and the capital of Greenland.

The weather could be described as 'atmospheric' for now, but our local guides shed light on some of the things we may have been wondering about. For example, where the 'ghetto' of Nuuk is located, and how to cross-country ski to a funeral (should you so desire). And plenty of interesting local insights about life in this unique town on the edge of such impressive natural grandeur.

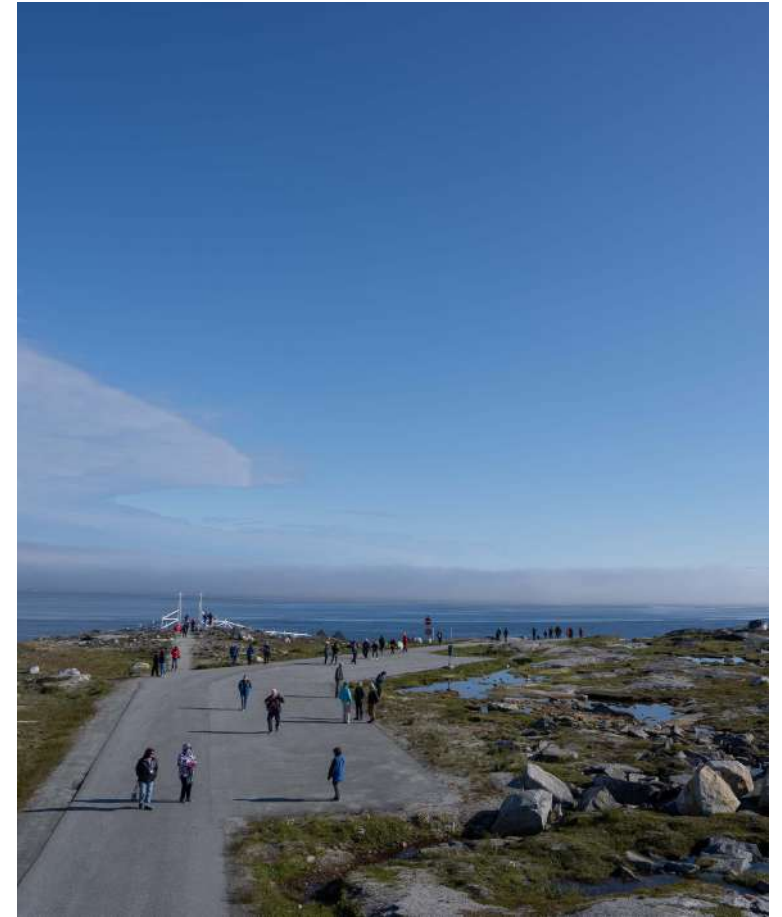
Our destination for the rest of the morning was the Nuuk National Museum, a renowned collection of objects, artefacts, and information about Greenland's history and culture. Many of us flocked to see the

artful construction of the traditional kayaks, a design so like the shape of our modern plastic boats. Reflecting on the risk involved with navigating Greenland's often stormy coastline, as well as successfully hunting some very large and dangerous prey, gave us great respect for the skill and power of Greenland's inhabitants.

We were also privileged to observe the collection of mummies, a sobering reminder of the hardships of life in this great nature, and a fascinating insight into the ritual and routine surrounding death in historical Greenland.

After the museum, most of us headed into town for some free time wandering and exploring at our leisure.





Uummannaarsuk | At Sea

DAY 11 | Wednesday 17 July 2024

Latitude:
66°36.08' N
Longitude:
053°58.514' W

Course:
021.3°
Speed:
11.9 knots

Wind Speed:
SSW 4.1 knots
Barometer:
1017 hPa

Air Temp:
6°C

We set out to cruise around in the Zodiacs to explore a small archipelago and group of islets named Uummannaarsuk.

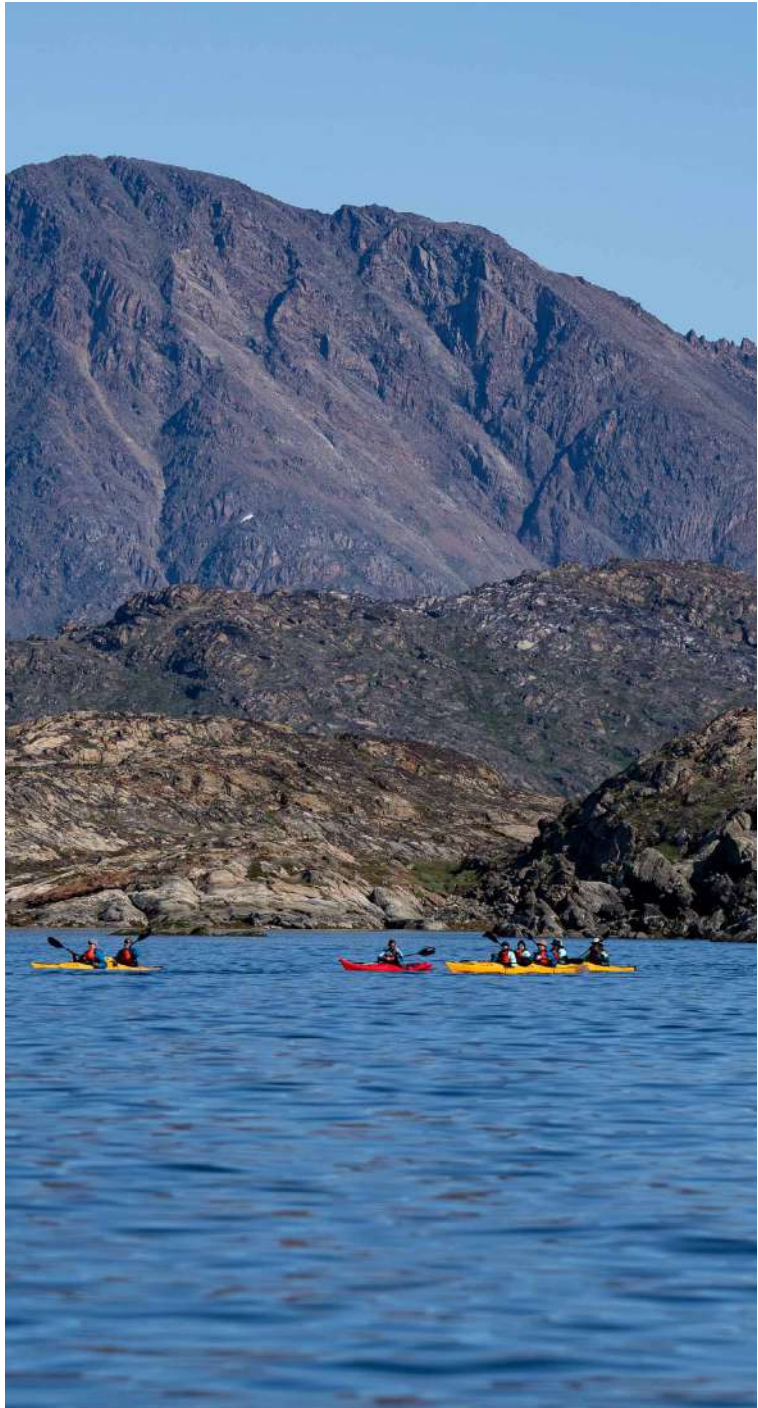
These low-lying domes are indicative of the ancient Precambrian rocks that form the broader geology of Greenland. They are a complex mix of gneisses and granites formed over 2.5 billion years ago. The striking reddish-brown coloured rock is composed of the mineral eudialyte, another igneous rock, while the gneisses are metamorphic.

The sunshine, warmth, calm seas and stunning surroundings made for exceptional Zodiac cruising and kayaking. Fi took a special Zodiac cruise for the photographers, while Heidi set out with a Citizen Science group to collect some samples from the water.

The rest of our day would include a number of presentations in the lecture theatre and some culinary endeavours. Right after lunch, Heidi broke out the microscope and hooked it up to a screen so we could observe a few different species of amphipods, before releasing them back to the sea.

Then we all gathered to hear our guest lecturer, Nivi. This was a special treat as she was one of our tour guides from Nuuk. She spoke to us in a very informal and relaxed way, as she showed us how a *qulliq* oil lamp worked, and as she stoked it throughout the talk, she told us more about Greenlanders' indigenous life and about her desire to promote sustainability, following Inuit ways of living and respect for nature.





Ilulissat

DAY 12 | Thursday 18 July 2024

Latitude:

69°17.8'N

Longitude:

051°12.4'S

Course:

147,9°

Speed:

5.3 knots

Wind Speed:

SW 1 knots

Barometer:

1019 hPa

Air Temp:

13°C

Our mission was to navigate through the ice and reach the picturesque town of Ilulissat, where a day of exciting experiences awaited us. A remote and beautiful town nestled on the edge of the Arctic Circle and the UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Ilulissat Icefjord.

The sight was awe-inspiring as we sailed amid these majestic giants, feeling humbled by their grandeur. The icebergs seemed to have a personality of their own, each one telling a unique story of its journey from the glaciers to the open sea. As we ventured deeper into the icy expanse, the icebergs became more intricate and mesmerising. Shades of blue danced upon their surfaces, reflecting the ethereal beauty of the arctic landscape.

Many of us set out to explore the museum and boardwalk that led to the UNESCO World Heritage Site and museum. The museum was a treasure trove of knowledge, showcasing the history, culture, and ecological significance of the region. The wooden pathway meandered through a pristine wilderness, offering panoramic views of the icebergs floating in the fjord, their grandeur juxtaposed against the rugged cliffs that framed the landscape.

As the clear, glassy waters mirrored the azure sky, seven intrepid kayakers navigated their way through the frozen wonderland towards the massive icebergs. Weaving through the icy labyrinth, they marvelled at the towering formations that glistened in the sunlight.





Disko Island

DAY 13 | Friday 19 July 2024

Latitude:
69°14.8'N
Longitude:
53°34.08'W

Course:
45.3°
Speed:
4,9 knots

Wind Speed:
E 8,7 knots
Barometer:
1018 hPa

Air Temp:
12°C

As we stepped off the Zodiac this morning in the charming town of Qeqertarsuaq, located at the southern tip of Greenland's Disko Island, we were immediately struck by the picturesque scene before us. The sky was a brilliant blue, dotted with fluffy white clouds, and the calm sea mirrored the serene landscape. The colourful houses gave the town a vibrant, welcoming feel, though the lack of people out and about suggested many were still enjoying a leisurely morning.

Our group split up to explore the area – some opted for long hikes to see the waterfalls, others chose more moderate treks, and a few simply wandered the town. Massive icebergs of all shapes and sizes floated peacefully in the water, casting mesmerising reflections.

The afternoon brought an exhilarating Zodiac cruise, where we navigated between breathtaking geological formations along the shoreline. Columns of hexagonal basalt rock took on the shapes of gorillas, elephants, and polar bears, while cascading waterfalls flowed over the textured cliffs. At one spot, Stephen and a few guests hopped out of the Zodiac to stand under the cool, refreshing spray of a waterfall.

The cruise culminated in the most thrilling activity of the day: the polar plunge. Brave souls, including several members of the Expedition Team, enthusiastically jumped into the frigid waters, experimenting with all sorts of creative entry techniques. The shrieks and laughter echoed across the bay as everyone celebrated this unforgettable day.





Sismiut

DAY 14 | Saturday 20 July 2024

Latitude:
67°12.112'N
Longitude:
53°34.104'W

Wind Speed:
12.1knots
Barometer:
1015 hPa

Course:
59.3°
Speed:
3,5 knots

Air Temp:
8°C

In the land of ice and snow,
Where the wild waves crash and flow,
There lies a coastland, vast and grand,
Greenland, where beauty knows no end.

Immaqa, a word so deep,
A secret whispered by the steep,
It holds the essence of this land,
A truth revealed as we took a stand.

We ventured along the rugged coast,
Battling fog, our spirits engrossed,
With every step, a tale unfurled,
Of a land that captivated the world.

The fog embraced us, mysterious and cold,
Yet within its grasp, stories were told,
Of ancient myths and legends untold,
As we sailed through waters, brave and bold.

And there, amidst the misty haze,
We were rewarded with a breathtaking gaze,
The fjords appeared, like nature's art,
Etched in stone, a masterpiece from the start.

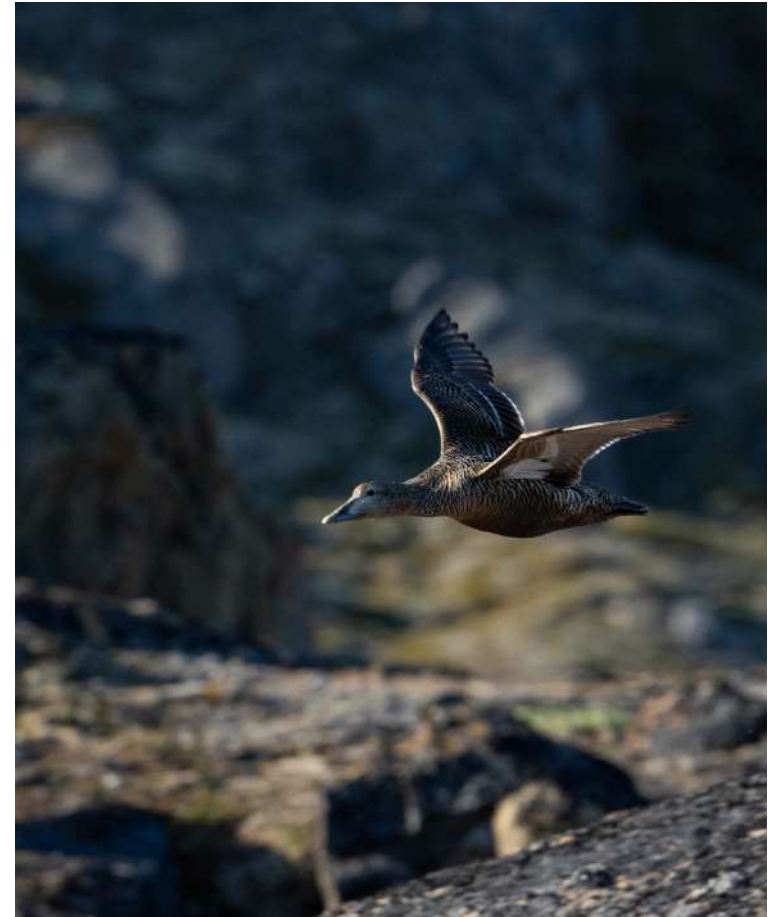
Massive icebergs, majestic and proud,
Floated like dreams on waters so loud,
Glistening in the midnight sun's glow,
A sight that made our hearts overflow.

Inuit communities, resilient and strong,
Living in harmony, where they belong,
Their traditions woven within the land,
Guiding their steps, hand in hand.

Immaqa, the real meaning we sought,
Unveiled in the faces that time forgot,
A connection to the earth, deep and true,
A bond that we felt, me and you.

The coastland of Greenland, a paradise untamed,
Where nature reigns, forever unclaimed,
A journey of discovery, we embarked,
Leaving footprints on the coastland's arc.

Oh, Greenland, your wonders astound,
Your beauty, in every sight, we found,
Immaqa, a word that holds the key



Kangerlussuaq

DAY 15 | Sunday 21 July 2024

Here we are at the end of our adventure! Thank you for joining us on this magnificent Greenland Odyssey and we hope to see you again on the high seas someday.



BBQ





Polar Plunge







Kayaking Log

with Kayak Guides: Elo Berrier, Liz MacNeil, Wes McNeil

09 July 2024, PM – East Greenland
Sea Ice 4.5km

Welcome to Greenland! What a beautiful afternoon for our first paddle in the sea ice! After getting ourselves ready to go and excited to paddle, we launched from the Zodiacs and made our way into the sea ice. Navigating through the ice and riding the swell, we were overcome with a sense of awe. Little auks and guillemots gracefully flew overhead as we gazed upon the icy wonder. The silence was broken only by the sounds of our paddles gliding through the water and a whale's exhale. Scanning the horizon, we saw a pod of sei whales emerging from the icy depths below, marking the fourth whale species of the day. After some photos and smiles, we made our way back to the ship. Our shakedown paddle was all shakin' off and we were excited for our kayak adventures to come!

12 July 2024, AM – Tasermiut Glacier

We had anchored overnight at the head of Tasermiut Fjord. In early morning the cloud ceiling was very low, but just as we started to kayak, the clouds lifted and the sun began to shine through, revealing the 1,400- to 2,000-metre peaks that surrounded us, and the glacier wall that lay ahead. We paddled a route along the glacier face working with the current. We were able to get closer than usual to the face, as this one had receded quite a bit and was now sloping down onto bedrock. We still had to keep an eye out for snow slides and rockfall. As we explored the head of the fjord, the ship pulled anchor and headed away from us to a landing further down the fjord. Now we were committed, but it was easy since the weather was so clear and the fjord that lay ahead was stunning, like being in the middle of Yosemite Valley but on water. We paddled quite a distance, then decided to do our own little landing at the mouth of



Number of Kayakers: 18
Total Paddle Outings: 10
Total Distance Paddled:
63.2 km

Kayakers:
Mike
Sariya
Jim
Sandy
Devon
Angie
Steve

Lesley
Pat
George
Kathleen
Paul
Stewart
Kaare
Alan

Caralyn
Charlie
Roger

a small valley. We stayed near shore since we could not scout the entire area for polar bears. In the time we were there the wind started picking up and the temperature dropped. We gathered in the Zodiacs and did a long Zodiac back to the ship for lunch.

12 July 2024, PM – Tasermiut Fjord – Qoorormiut Kangilliit 6 km

For our afternoon outing the wind had picked up, so we took the Zodiac south in the fjord to paddle a downwind run back to the north, towards one of the most impressive sanctuaries of glacial vertical rock towers of 2,000 metres tall. We paddled along easily with the wind at our backs. A good thing too, as the temperature dropped quite a bit, and it was quite bearable running with the wind. We passed by where most of the hikers had landed, went into a small bay then swung around to head towards the landing, where the drainage from the mountain sanctuary emerged, revealing a beautiful cascading waterfall. We then proceeded to do a small hike of our own, to get closer to the peaks

and ponder the views of the fjord from up high.

13 July 2024, AM – Transit Sandhavn to Herjolfsnæs Ruins 7.8 km

After an attempt to find shelter in the fjords of Prins Christian Sund, we made our way towards the Viking/Norse ruins and settlements of Sandhavn and Herjolfsnæs. It was a transit from one to the other with a tailwind at our backs. Loading the Zodiacs, we made our way into a protected bay as the islands began to emerge from the fog. Starting out a bit sporty, we made our way around the islands and even had a short portage. Back in our kayaks, we realized the tailwind blew us faster than we expected and we made it to the small archipelago of Herjolfsnæs, which is home to old Norse ruins. With time to spare, we paddled around some glacial ice, taking in the scenery of the waterfall and fjord. Back in the Zodiac, we made our way to shore to explore the old Norse ruins... what a magical place to call home!

15 July, 2024 PM – Ikiarutilik Archipelago 7.2 km

Following our visit to Qeqertarsuaq the ship transited a short distance to the Ikiarutilik Archipelago. We took the Zodiacs into a protected cove, out of the wind, to launch. Here we paddled through a number of low-lying islands and islets. We passed some Inuit rock cairns along the way. We made some great progress on our paddle and were about to make a longer crossing to another set of islands when we received radio coms that a polar bear had been spotted. This meant that we had to get out of the water. We then got in our Zodiacs in time to go see the polar bear from a distance. We watched as the polar bear moved away from us and swam to another island and moved out of sight.

17 July 2024, PM – Uummannaarsuk 5.3 km

What a beautiful day in the neighbourhood! In total expedition mode, we found a really cool group of islands to explore. The sun was shining and the water was super glassy

and clear. Paddling around the islands we noticed that there were lion's mane and cone jellyfish and lots of ctenophores swimming around... super cool! We naturally split into two groups as we navigated our way through the archipelago, exploring the coastline, rock hopping, and finding cool channels to through. Laughs and smiles were on the faces of all as we loaded onto the Zodiacs and made our way back to the ship.

18 July 2024, PM – Ilulissat Icefjord 6.9 km

Following our visit to Ilulissat and the Icefjord Museum, we were excited to get out on the water to get an opportunity to experience paddling around in the large icebergs of Kangia Glacier. We took a Zodiac out to the edge of the icefjord and paddled in and around the largest icebergs yet. A number of them were 30 to 40 metres tall, and some had small waterfalls coming off them. The sizes and forms were impressive. Many of them were completely grounded, with undercut shelves indicating the tidal



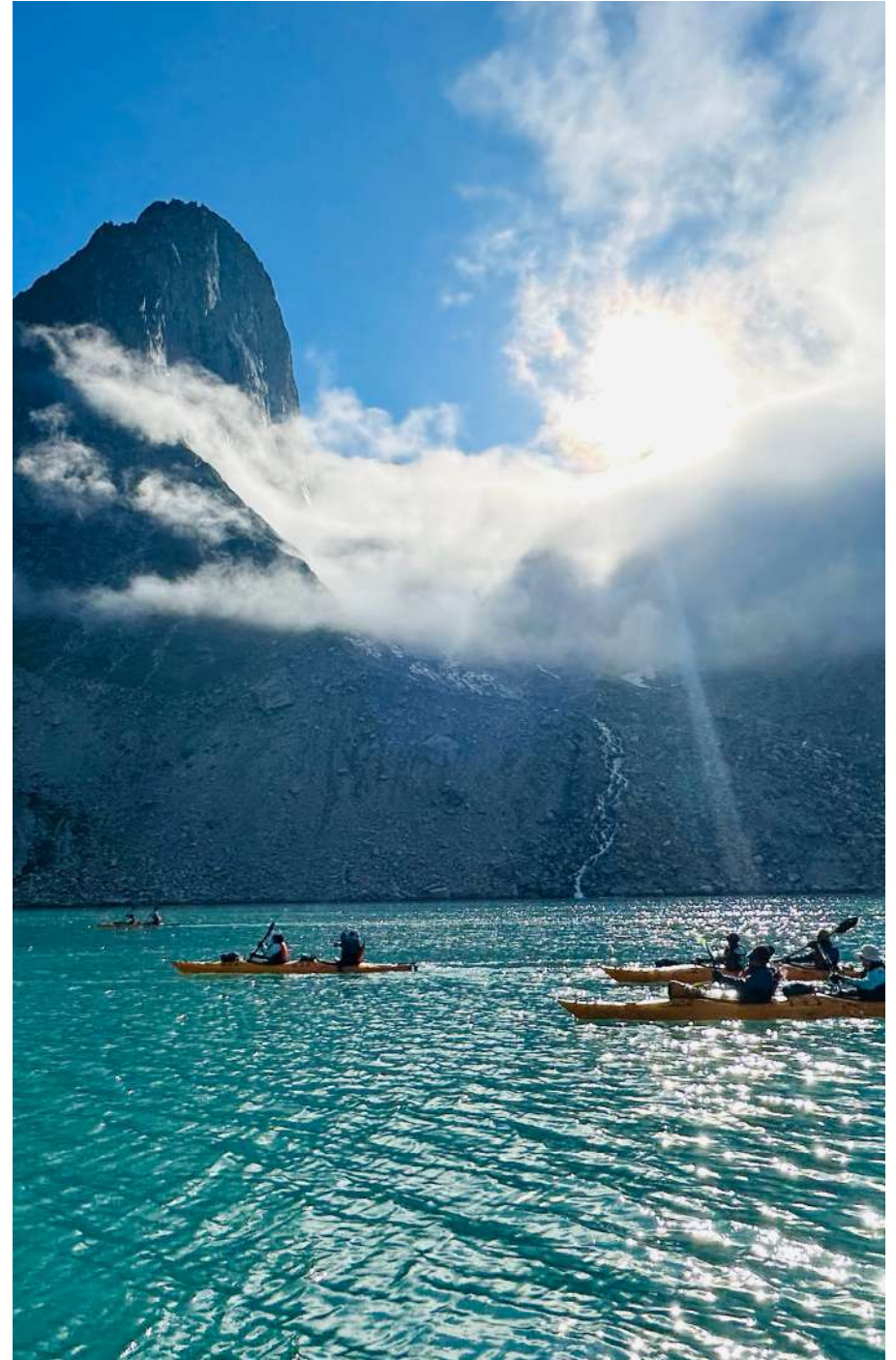
changes and how much the icebergs were melting. This was such a pretty paddle and we made sure to take a few moments of silence to appreciate our surroundings.

19 July 2024, AM – Qeqertarsuaq 6.5 km

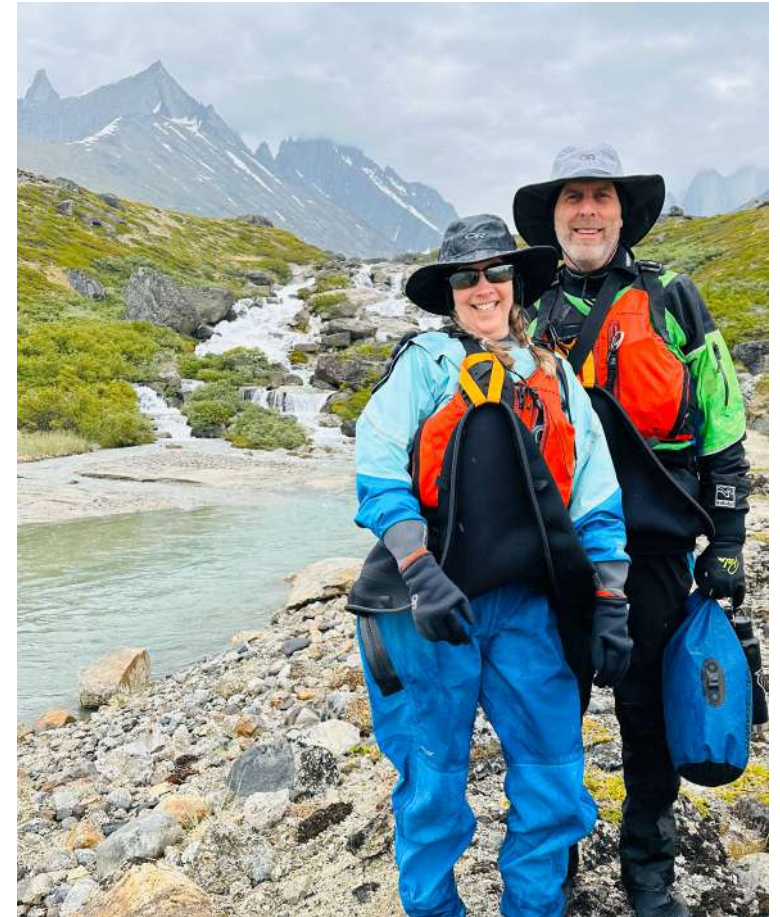
This was another beautiful sunny morning. It is always difficult to decide what to do when there are so many options. The smaller group who did not go to visit the town of Qeqertarsuaq, went for a nice relaxing paddle around the northern shore of Lyngmark Bugt (Bay). It was yet another Greenland spectacle with a very rocky and basaltic landscape, surrounded by greenery and clear cold waterfalls. The Tallest ridgeline was actually lava laid down, layer by layer, over a 3,000-year period some 50 million years ago. We frolicked in one small bay and filled up water bottles with fresh water. It was warm enough that Elo decided to do a roll for good measure. We continued north and rounded into another deep bay that was cluttered with very large icebergs. We then took our Zodiac to do a quick town visit and loop walk around the small neighbourhood.

19 July 2024, PM – Kuannit 6.8 km

Following Lunch, we sailed northeast around the corner to be dropped off by the *Sylvia Earle*. The ship would then transit to the southwest. We then paddled the length of this wild shoreline to the get back to the ship. To our seaward there where large icebergs here and there, and to our shore side a magical wonderland of columnar basalt cliffs, bent in all directions. There were arches of columnar basalt, eyebrow shapes, sunburst shapes, pillars and stacks, all surrounded or capped by green mosses and sedges. Multiple small curtains of water and small waterfalls were also scattered up and down this cliff line. We spent our time cruising through arches, finding tiny channels to pass through, and it was so warm that we played in the waterfalls, letting the water drench our heads. As the cliffs got lower and we got closer to the town, we veered off towards the ship and paddled through our last big icebergs. This was to be our last kayak outing for this expedition, and what an epic, fulfilling end it was.











Bird & Mammal Sightings

Bird Species	July													
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Red-throated Diver								●	●					
Great Northern Diver					●									
Northern Fulmar	●	●	●	●	●		●				●	●	●	
Sooty Shearwater			●											
Great Shearwater			●											
Common Eider					●	●	●	●	●		●			●
Long-tailed Duck									●					
Harlequin Duck									●					
Mallard										●			●	
Ringed Plover						●								
Red-necked Phalarope													●	●
Arctic Skua			●						●				●	
Long-tailed Skua			●											
Pomarine Skua			●											
Glaucous Gull	●				●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Great Black-backed Gull	●				●					●	●	●		●
Lesser Black-backed Gull					●	●	●			●				
Herring Gull									●					
Iceland Gull									●	●		●		

Bird Species	July													
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Kittiwake	●		●	●			●	●	●		●			
Ivory Gull										●				
Arctic Tern	●													
Brünnich's Guillemot			●	●										
Black Guillemot					●	●	●	●			●		●	●
Little Auk			●				●							
Snow Bunting					●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Northern Wheatear					●	●	●	●						
Lapland Longspur					●	●	●					●		
Common Raven					●	●			●	●		●	●	●
White-tailed Eagle									●	●				
Peregrine Falcon								●						

Mammal Species	July													
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Reindeer								●						●
Arctic Hare														●
Polar Bear									●					
Ringed Seal			●		●									
Bearded Seal							●							
Harp Seal								●			●			
Hooded Seal					●		●							
Minke Whale											●			
Humpback Whale			●								●			
Sei Whale			●											
Fin Whale			●											
Long-finned Pilot Whale			●											
Sperm Whale								●						

Map

Greenland Odyssey

07 – 21 July 2024





Our Expeditioners

Petina Alexander	Kaare Hansen	Jessica Metcalf	Pat Shopher	Jim Wright
Devendra Billimoria	Michael Harrington	Linda Milano	Jerry Sloan	Frank Yang
Julius Craynock III	Kathleen Hart	Todd Milano	Susan Soloyanis	Daniel Yang
Robert Croll	Charles Hartjen	Susan Mitchell	Sally Stratman	
Jamie Davidson	Ruth Hartjen	Roger Mitchell	Wendy Strickland	
Robert Della-Sala	Paul Hart	Janet Molan	Val Swaine	
Richard De Lhorbe	Mary Heugh	Stephe Molan	Alan Taylor	
Katherine Dixon	Wyn Hyzer	Steve Ollerearnshaw	Caralyn Taylor	
Mike Edwards	John Hyzer	Greta Ollerearnshaw	Henry Tennant	
Sariya Edwards	Louise Inward	Barbara Ollhoff	Stewart Thomson	
Katy Ellis	Cindy Jensen	Jeanette Ondercin	Sharon Varnum	
Mei-mei Engel	Hermana Kramp	Stephen Ondercin	Robert Varnum	
Cathy Evans	Lesley Kernaghan	Ash O'Neill	Vivien Winship	
Judy Gray	John Kolodziej	John O'Reilly	Martin Winship	
Sheila Gregson	Bonnie Lane	Charmian Perston	Steven Wolf	
Edward Gregson	John Lawson	John Perston	Sheila Wolf	
Suman Gupta	Julia Lawson	Angie Pinto	George Wong	
Amit Gupta	Jennifer Marshall	Debra Schneider	Linda Wright	
Ginette Handfield	Eva-Maria Metcalf	Rick Schneider Sr	Sandy Wright	

Expedition Team

Expedition Leader: Howard Whelan

Assistant Expedition Leader: Ashley Perrin

Onboard Expedition Manager: Barbara Ostwalt

Onboard Expedition Assistant: Reza Rusooly

Photography Guide: Fiona Wardle

Firearms Manager: Stephen Anstee

Geologist/Glaciologist: Heather Chrystie

Naturalist/Citizen Science: Heidi Krajewski

Naturalist: David Cairns

Regional Expert: Bettina Ovggaard

First Responder/Medic: Jane Morris

Zodiac Manager: Ryan Kaempfe

Historian: Ben Maddison

Lead Kayak Guide: Elo Berrier

Senior Kayak Guide: Liz Macneil

Senior Kayak Guide: Wes McNeil

Expedition Guide: Chen Zhongyuan

Expedition Guide: Skye Marr-Whelan

Expedition Guide: Adrian Castellote Tena

Senior Officers & Heads of Department

Master: Jorge Ferdinez

Chief Officer: Andrey Gilevskiy

Third Officer: Bryan Salem

Safety Officer: Andrus Pruul

Bosun: Ferdy Diaz Roque

Ship Doctor: Gloria Gonzalez

Chief Engineer: Srdan Jakovic

1st Engineer: Peter Alyenkov

IT Officer: Rene Reyes

Hotel Director: Balvant Singh

F&B Service Manager: Narendra Seeram

Head Bartender: Juan Carlos Gonzalez

Chief Purser: Jonalyn Galve

Executive Chef: Ronwaldo Reyes

Sous Chef: Alexander Mungcal

Hotel Controller: Alfredo Jr. Laquian

Receptionist: Kutsi Vazquez

Receptionist: Angeli Perona

Head Stateroom Attendant: Alexander Bartolome

Able Seaman: Rosendo Cruz

Able Seaman: Rajiv Rauinyar

Able Seaman: Anthony Brosas

Able Seaman: Muhammad Karier

Able Seaman: Lexter Fradiquela

Able Seaman: Eduardo Aloyan

Photography thanks to:

Fiona Wardle





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