

# In the ice of the Arctic, from Greenland to Svalbard

From **28/05/2026**  
to **13/06/2026**

Ship: **Le Commandant Charcot**

From **Reykjavík**  
to **Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen**



Transfer + Flight Longyearbyen/Paris

To sail to the lands beyond the Arctic Circle is to push the boundaries of exploration in the wake of those who made discovering the polar regions their life's mission. With humility, you will set a course for the **north-east of Greenland**, inaccessible to traditional ships in this late spring, before cruising to **Svalbard** and its untouched landscapes. Aboard **Le Commandant Charcot**, a marvel of technology, you will be amazed by the opportunities for guided exploration in these **remote parts**. You will progress through one of the hardest to reach areas in the Far North.

On your journey, the **Ammassalik, Blosseville** and **Ittoqqortoormiit regions** reveal mythical places associated with the history of the discovery of the Arctic – places where the names Paul-Emile Victor, Jules de Blosseville and Jean-Baptiste Charcot still resound.

To the **north-east of Greenland**, you will sail through the drifting ice floes of the North Pole and continue your exploration in the heart of immaculate scenery. The sea ice reveals itself in all its forms. Marvel at the subtle light changes on the ice.

Your route then leads eastward, towards **Svalbard**. As you progress through this polar landscape, **Nordaustlandet (North East Land)** will display Europe's largest ice cap and some of its most majestic fjords. You will cross the frozen expanses of the **Hinlopen Strait**, where the contours of the glaciers shape the horizon, and you will get up close to monumental basalt cliffs. In the **Sørøst-Svalbard Nature Reserve**, classed as an Important Bird Area, the ice-cloaked arid spaces are also home to cetaceans and Svalbard reindeer.

Whether from the exterior decks of your ship, during an outing in an inflatable dinghy or a kayak, or during a hike near blue-tinged icebergs, you will have multiples opportunities to get to know this wild and stunning world a little better.

In extreme conditions, at the end of spring when ice dots the barren landscapes, these remote parts reveal themselves to travellers. Despite the harsh climate and environment, the wildlife thrives here, offering the humble and patient observer the most wonderful of rewards.

**[Find out more about the world of \*Le Commandant Charcot\* here!](#)**

*We are privileged guests in these extreme lands where we are at the mercy of weather and ice conditions. Our navigation, mainly in the fjords, will be determined by the type of ice we come across; as the fast ice must be preserved, we will take this factor into account from day to day in our itineraries. The sailing programme, outings, activities and observation of fauna cannot be guaranteed and are subject to weather and ice conditions. The experiences are unique and vary from day to day and for each departure. The Captain and the Expedition Leader will make every effort to ensure that your experience is as rich as possible, while respecting safety instructions and regulations imposed by the AECO.*



The information in this document is valid as of 19/05/2026

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## YOUR STOPOVERS :

### REYKJAVÍK

Embarkation 28/05/2026 from 16:00 to 17:00

Departure 28/05/2026 at 22:00

Iceland's capital stretches along the edge of a vast bay in the west of the country. **Perlan**, the "Pearl of Reykjavík", a museum located on 'Oskjuhlíð hill, offers a panoramic view of the lush, green landscapes. A little further, one can easily spot the signpost showing the way to the evangelical **Hallgrímskirkja** church, and to the historical centre where one can stroll along the Skólavörðustígur and the Laugavegur, two lively streets with charming small shops. For some relaxation just outside of the city, visitors have the opportunity to visit the Reykjanes peninsula and its famous thermal lagoons of the **Blue Lagoon**.

### AT SEA ABOARD LE COMMANDANT CHARCOT

Arrival 29/05/2026

Departure 29/05/2026

Spend exceptional moments sailing aboard *Le Commandant Charcot*, the world's first luxury polar exploration vessel and the first PC2-class polar cruise ship capable of sailing into the very heart of the ice, on seas and oceans which the frozen conditions render inaccessible to ordinary ships. *Le Commandant Charcot* is fitted with oceanographic and scientific equipment selected by a committee of experts. Take advantage of the on-board lectures and opportunities for discussion with these specialists to learn more about the poles. Participate in furthering scientific research with PONANT and let us discover together what these fascinating destinations have yet to reveal to us.

### AMMASSALIK REGION

Arrival 30/05/2026

Departure 30/05/2026

Still almost unknown just a century ago, the east coast of Greenland remains the most authentic and majestic region. Here, the **alpine mountains** merge intimately with the sea, while the **fjords** are adorned with high snow-capped peaks and drifting icebergs. Follow in the wake of Captain **Jean-Baptiste Charcot's** famous ship, the *Pourquoi Pas?*, which set off with its crew to discover **Ammassalik**, a small island of primitive and wild beauty where the Inuit people chose to live. The name of this island is a reference to the capelin, a small flamboyant silver coloured fish, whose presence in the thousands announces to inhabitants the return of spring. A surprising discovery in a spectacular setting.

## BLOSSEVILLE COAST

Arrival 31/05/2026

Departure 31/05/2026

Aboard your ship, follow in the footsteps of Jules Poret de Blosseville, a French explorer and sailor. In 1833, aboard *La Lilloise*, he set off to discover this **isolated and unexplored part of eastern Greenland** and gave French names to various sites on the coast. The adventure probably has an unfortunate outcome, since the crew was never found. This uninhabited territory, which now bears his name, lies to the south of Scoresby Sund. Surrounded by ice, icebergs and pieces of pack ice, **Blosseville Coast** is one of these wild and hard-to-reach places that very few people are lucky enough to explore.

## ITTOQQORTOORMIIT REGION

Arrival 01/06/2026

Departure 01/06/2026

On the East coast of Greenland, in the **Ittoqqortoormiit region**, you will have the rare opportunity of immersing yourself in the heart of isolated scenery and exploring the beauty of its landscapes. The high alpine mountains stand out in the sky, revealing dark rock edges. The region is home to the longest fjord system in the world, **Scoresby Sound**. On the edge of the fjord, the eponymous village is considered one of the most remote inhabited places in the world. The colourful houses, so typical of Greenland, dot the landscape with small red, yellow and blue patches that stand out against the surrounding arid landscape. Immersing yourself in this region will allow you to discover the ancestral way of life of the last hunters of the polar region. This will be a veritable deep-dive into the lives of the Arctic's inhabitants.

## EXPLORATION OF NORTH-EAST GREENLAND

Arrival 02/06/2026

Departure 05/06/2026

Set sail for **North-East Greenland** to immerse yourself further and up higher in the Arctic region to explore the unexpected riches of the sea ice, where traditional ships cannot travel at this time of the year. As the light shifts and the moods of the sky change, the different states of the ice and the infinite diversity of its textures create an exceptionally stunning tableau. With patience and humility, you will sail amid the pearl-white floating cathedrals and the ice carried by the Transpolar Drift. En route, icebergs have their journey halted by ice and pressure ridges reveal their sharp edges. In the midst of this icy vastness, beauty is found in the detail and the magic of the moment. In the realm of polar bears, **Le Commandant Charcot** is a reassuring cocoon built for polar exploration and offers you wonderful opportunities to observe these lords of the ice when you happen upon them. You may even get the chance to admire the moving sight of a mother and her cub travelling across the immaculate icy expanse.

## AT SEA ABOARD LE COMMANDANT CHARCOT

Arrival 06/06/2026

Departure 07/06/2026

Spend exceptional moments sailing aboard *Le Commandant Charcot*, the world's first luxury polar exploration vessel and the first PC2-class polar cruise ship capable of sailing into the very heart of the ice, on seas and oceans which the

frozen conditions render inaccessible to ordinary ships. *Le Commandant Charcot* is fitted with oceanographic and scientific equipment selected by a committee of experts. Take advantage of the on-board lectures and opportunities for discussion with these specialists to learn more about the poles. Participate in furthering scientific research with PONANT and let us discover together what these fascinating destinations have yet to reveal to us.

## NORDAUST-SVALBARD NATURE RESERVE

Arrival 08/06/2026

Departure 09/06/2026

The Nordaust-Svalbard Nature Reserve has been protecting the northernmost and coldest part of the archipelago, **Nordaustlandet** (North East Land), since 1973. This vast **polar desert** covered by two ice caps is the second largest island in the Svalbard archipelago. Protected by the Gulf Stream, the fjords and cliffs in the west and north are home to large **colonies of birds and walruses**. The landscapes in the colder east and south are dominated by imposing glaciers that calve **majestic icebergs** in the vast **Hinlopen Strait**. Large colonies of **thick-billed murre**s have taken up residence on the sheer cliffs\*. You may even get the chance to see a **bear** or an **Arctic fox** roaming in the vicinity.

*\*depending on nesting and migration period*

## SAILING IN THE HINLOPEN STRAIT

Arrival 10/06/2026

Departure 10/06/2026

Sailing in the **Hinlopen Strait**, in the heart of the Arctic Ocean, between the Norwegian islands of **Spitsbergen** and **Nordaustlandet** promises an unforgettable experience. This territory of the **Nordaust-Svalbard Nature Reserve** offers breathtaking panoramas, with magnificent basalt formations and the ice cap stretching as far as the eye can see, diving into the sea. The shore line cut by the fjords moving inland composes a magical landscape in which icebergs float here and there, the result of the calving of the surrounding glaciers. This place, today a popular spot to observe the seabirds nesting in the enormous cliffs, polar bears and walruses, was once intrinsically linked to the history of the whalers who frequented the region from the 17th century. Indeed, it was one of them, **Thijmen Jacobsz Hinlopen**, then director of a Dutch whaling company, who gave the strait its name. Later on, Russian trappers, European explorers, scientists and even mountaineers roamed this region, as hostile as it is sublime.

## SORAUST SVALBARD NATURE RESERVE

Arrival 11/06/2026

Departure 11/06/2026

The Søraust-Svalbard Nature Reserve is the **second largest protected area in Norway**. Established in 1973, this nature conservation area stretching over more than 21,000 km<sup>2</sup> will offer you stunning panoramas including coastal landscapes, rocky islets, mountain plateaux, vast tundra plains, and ice floes. With a little luck, you will be able to observe a wide variety of seabirds, given the site is listed as an **Important Bird Area**, as well as **cetaceans**, **Svalbard reindeer**, or even **Arctic foxes**. Among other things, **Edgeoya Island** is renowned for providing shelter to a number of **polar bears** during the breeding season.

## AT SEA ABOARD LE COMMANDANT CHARCOT

Arrival 12/06/2026

Departure 12/06/2026

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## LONGYEARBYEN, SPITSBERGEN

Arrival 13/06/2026 early morning

Disembarkation 13/06/2026 at 08:00

**Longyearbyen** is the capital of the Norwegian **Svalbard** archipelago, located on **Svalbard's** main island, and is the northernmost territorial capital on the planet. With winter temperatures dropping to below 40°C, the landscapes of this mining town are simply breathtaking. The glaciers, the mountains stretching as far as the eye can see and the untouched nature, make you feel like you're in completely unexplored territory.