

Saturday, 23 August Copenhagen**(B)**

After breakfast we will set off on our city tour to visit the 17th century Rosenberg Palace to see the Danish crown jewels. We will stroll along Copenhagen's pedestrian promenade to Stroget Square and explore Nyhavn and the colourful schooners that line the quay. A visit to the famous Tivoli Gardens is included in our tour and we will see the fairy tale figure 'The Little Mermaid'. The statue from 1913 was originally a gift to the city. The story of 'The Little Mermaid' is a Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale about the unhappy mermaid who wishes she could go on shore. After returning to the hotel the rest of the day is at your leisure.

**Sunday, 24th August Copenhagen****(B L D)**

We shall check out this morning before our tour takes us to Frederiksborg Castle, the largest Renaissance palace in Scandinavia where we can see many priceless treasures. We then travel onto North Sealand. There is no other area in Denmark where royal castles and palaces have been built so close together. Any self-respecting Danish monarch had to build a castle. It was evidence of royal power, honour and wealth. The castles were used as royal residences and official state venues, for wedding receptions, and occasionally, as secret love nests. We shall



also see the world-famous Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, charming villages, lakes, forests, and lovely village churches. On our return to Copenhagen we shall transfer to the HILTON COPENHAGEN AIRPORT HOTEL for one night. There will be time to relax before dinner and meet up with our other fellow travellers.

Monday, 25th August Embarkation Day in Kangerlussuaq (B L D)

This morning we will transfer to the airport for our early charter flight to Kangerlussuaq, Greenland. Upon landing in Kangerlussuaq, we will be transferred to the port and then take our first Zodiac ride out to the SEA EXPLORER, which will be anchored off shore.

**Tuesday 26th August to Saturday 30th August West Greenland (B L D)**

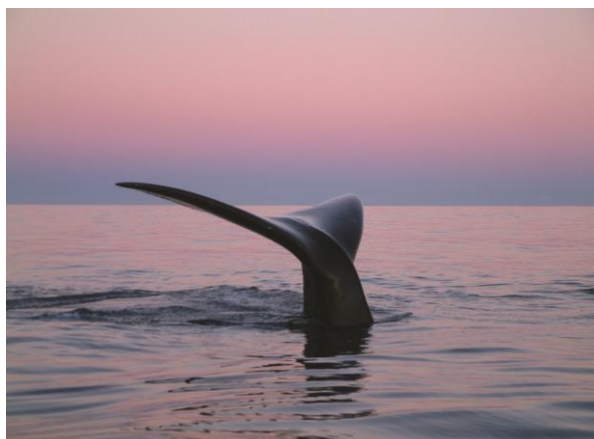
Ancient archaeological sites, massive fjords and plenty of Zodiac excursions and tundra hikes await you in Greenland. Sisimiut has a small fishing village-feel to it with a great harbor for walking around and taking photos with a perfect mountainous backdrop. The town has a number of interesting buildings to explore, including some dating back to colonial times.

Get in touch with local customs here by enjoying a kayaking demonstration. Kayaks have traditionally been used for whale hunting and are still a crucial form of transport here after thousands of years. The only way between towns in Greenland is by sea or air as most settlements are on small islands.



The third largest town in Greenland is Ilulissat, which happens to be a UNESCO World Heritage Site. You'll undoubtedly be impressed by the massive Sermeq Kujaaq fjord here, one of the fastest moving in the world. Ilulissat is a big dog-sledding town in winter, and the 6,000 sled dogs here outnumber the people. In Ilulissat, you'll experience spectacular zodiac cruising and hiking for all fitness levels.

Heading further north into the Upernavik Archipelago, keep your eyes out for whales and seals, which are numerous in these waters. A couple of places we like to take you here are Upernavik and Kullorsuaq. At Upernavik there is an interesting museum (the oldest in Greenland) and a Viking rune stone was discovered nearby, making this the most northern discovery of any Viking artefacts in the world! Over at Kullorsuaq, you'll find that things are very traditional. This small settlement sustains itself on fishing, whaling and sealing.



From Kullorsuaq, your journey north will take a day or more. Enjoy a day at sea, spotting seabirds and cetaceans, or you can spend your time taking in lectures by the Expedition Team or chatting with fellow shipmates.

Dundas and Qaanaaq are your next landings along the north western edge of Greenland. A great glacier and archaeological site dating back to 1916 are found at Dundas. It is also a perfect place for you to head out on a hike, taking in the sights, sounds and colours of the Arctic summer. Qaanaaq is one of the world's most northern settlements. You can enjoy the colourful buildings here, which present a great contrast to the surrounding landscape. A visit to the local museum is a wonderful way for you to gain a deeper appreciation for what it takes to live this far north.



Sunday, 31st August Cobourg Island (B L D)

You'll leave Greenland today as we sail over to Canada and visit Cobourg Island. This is an uninhabited island off the coast of Ellesmere Island and the waters here are home to bowhead, beluga and narwhal whales as well as seal and walrus. Polar bears may also be seen here!

Large cliffs present you with a thrilling Zodiac cruising excursion, as the island has been deemed an important bird area. Possible sightings include thick-billed murre, northern fulmars, black-legged kittiwakes, black guillemots and glaucous gulls.

Monday, 1st to Wednesday 3rd September Lancaster Sound (B L D)



Exploring the Canadian High Arctic, you'll have numerous hiking and birding opportunities. The first of which usually takes place at Dundas Harbour on Devon Island. Your beach hike here will be high-lighted by visiting the remains of a Royal Canadian Mounted Police post dating back to 1924. This area has been settled for thousands of years by the Palae-Eskimo, Thule and, now, Inuit.



Don't be surprised if your Canadian history walk is interrupted by walrus, which are sometimes hauled out on the beach nearby.

Croker Bay is another spot where you'll be able to get out and stretch your legs. It is home to many archaeological sites and was a popular stopping off point during the quest to discover the Northwest Passage in the 1800's. You may see a number of icebergs floating around in this area, after having calved off of a nearby glacier.

You'll also visit Prince Leopold Island, exploring by Zodiac as the impressive cliffs are home to more than 500,000 birds. If you missed spotting any of the species at Cobourg Island, you'll have a good chance of catching them here.

The Canadian National Historic Site of Beechey Island is the most significant place you'll visit pertaining to exploration of the Canadian Arctic. A small grave site exists, with markers for men who died during Sir John Franklin's expedition in 1845-46. Roald Amundsen also stopped here in 1903, on his successful voyage to the Northwest Passage.

Your final day of exploration in the Lancaster Sound will include a mix of history and wildlife. At Radstock Bay there is an ancient Thule site, including some very well-preserved subterranean homes. It's an interesting place to visit and see how this pre-Inuit culture lived. This is also a good place for observing polar bears.



Thursday, 4th September Disembarkation Day in Resolute (B)

Named after the HMS Resolute, one of the ships sent to try to find Franklin's ships the HMS Erebus and HMS Terror. This is where you'll say goodbye to the SEA EXPLORER and be transferred to the airport for your flight to Toronto, where you'll have one last night to reminisce with your new friends about your Arctic adventure.

Friday, 5th September Toronto – Niagara Falls - Toronto (B)

Today we will experience the majesty of one of the world's great natural wonders. After breakfast we will check out of our hotel and travel through the lush wine-growing region between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario before arriving at Niagara Falls. Here we will enjoy a panoramic view of the falls before boarding the Maid of the Mist for an exhilarating boat ride to the base of spectacular Horseshoe Falls. There's time for shopping and picture taking on the Canadian side of the falls. We shall next visit a family-owned and operated winery for a



tasting of their award-winning wines, including their famous ice wine, a specialty of the region, made from grapes that have been frozen while still on the vine. The result: a refreshingly sweet dessert wine.

On our return to Toronto we will check into the SHERATON CENTRE HOTEL for two nights. Dinner tonight will be at your own leisure.

Saturday, 6th September Toronto (B D)

We shall start the day with an orientation tour of cosmopolitan, multi-cultural Toronto, viewing Casa Loma, the massive castle residence built by a Toronto financier during the early 20th century; sprawling Queens Park; the lively entertainment district; stately University Avenue and the Provincial Parliament Buildings. The remainder of the day will be yours to explore this exciting city on your own or perhaps embark on an optional excursion to the top of the iconic CN Tower, before we all get together and celebrate our fabulous journey with our Farewell Dinner.

**Sunday, 7th September Toronto - Melbourne (B)**

There will be time this morning to grab those last minute souvenirs before our late afternoon flight to Los Angeles with American Airlines to connect to our Qantas flight to Melbourne.

Tuesday, 9th September Melbourne

We arrive back in Melbourne early in the morning and transfer to Gippsland.

YOUR TOUR ESCORT

Jacquey Turner is a highly experienced travel agent and tour escort with more than 28 years' industry experience.

Jacquey's attention to detail and personal care ensure that everyone travelling in her group will have a most enjoyable holiday experience.



INCLUSIONS

- Coach transfers between Melbourne Airport and West Gippsland
- Melbourne to Copenhagen economy airfare and taxes with Singapore Airlines
- Toronto to Melbourne economy airfare and taxes with Air Canada and Air New Zealand
- All airport arrival and departure transfers
- Hotel accommodation in twin or double bedded rooms with private facilities
- Luxury air-conditioned coach travel with reclining seats and rest rooms
- 13 day tour on Sea Explorer, including port charges
- All shore landings as per daily program
- Formal & informal presentations by noted naturalists and experienced Expedition Leader
- Complimentary waterproof parka
- Pair of waterproof expedition boots on loan for shore landings
- Coffee, tea, cocoa, snacks and a selection of alcohol and non-alcoholic beverages in addition to breakfast, lunch and dinner on the Sea Explorer
- Photographic Journal on DVD documenting the voyage
- Emergency Evacuation Insurance for all passengers on the Sea Explorer to a maximum benefit of US\$100,000 per person
- Meals as per itinerary **43 meals - 17 Breakfasts (B), 11 Lunches (L), 13 Dinners (D)**
- Sightseeing and entrance fees as per itinerary
- All luggage handling (one suitcase per person)
- **Tipping** of the coach drivers and restaurant staff at included meals
- **Tipping** of cruise staff and local guides and drivers

