

SPECIAL  
OFFER - SAVE  
**£500**  
PER PERSON

# IN THE REALM OF THE POLAR BEAR

AN EXPEDITION EXPLORING THE  
SVALBARD ARCHIPELAGO ABOARD THE  
HANSEATIC NATURE

1<sup>ST</sup> TO 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2027



NOBLE CALEDONIA



Few places remain in the world where you can be assured that nature in its purest form will provide highlight after unexpected highlight. The region beyond Norway's North Cape is without doubt such a wilderness. The Svalbard Archipelago and the island of Spitsbergen especially, is an astonishing place of glacial landscapes and endless horizons with lingering twilight located just 600 miles from the North Pole. Exotic and remote this archipelago lies almost as far north as there is land on our globe. For this exciting expedition to Svalbard, we are delighted to be working with our associates at Hapag-Lloyd Cruises who have made some cabins available to us aboard their five-star vessel, the Hanseatic Nature.

During the voyage we will spend eight days exploring Spitsbergen's magnificent fjords, spectacular and vast glaciers, a tundra landscape miraculously dotted with wildflowers and sheer cliffs as well as some historic sites of early explorers. Despite such stunning scenery, for many the most striking aspect of our expedition will be the extraordinary abundance of wildlife we hope to encounter including large colonies of walrus on beaches and passing ice floes, the amazing seabird cliffs of the offshore islands, Arctic foxes and of course the elusive polar bear of which there are somewhere between 3000 and 4000 in the region.

With the luxurious Hanseatic Nature as our moving base, and in the company of just 199 fellow passengers, we will visit remote seabird islands and the fleet of Zodiacs will allow forays ashore to otherwise inaccessible places. Although the Captain sets sail with a planned schedule, in order to achieve the most with the time, flexibility is crucial and changes to the itinerary will be made following a local reconnaissance, a change in the weather, ice conditions or wildlife sightings. The onboard expedition team know the region well and their knowledge will contribute much to your understanding with daily briefings and a series of lectures. There will also be ample time to relax on board while cruising when you can pass the time on deck looking for wildlife or simply enjoy the onboard facilities.





Svalbard reindeer



Magdalena Fjord, Spitsbergen



Monacobreen glacier



Thick billed murres

## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Germany.** Fly by scheduled flight. Arrive this afternoon and transfer to a hotel for an overnight stay. *Please note that the departure airport for the charter flight to Longyearbyen is still to be confirmed and our destination in Germany will be confirmed closer to departure.*

**Day 2 Germany to Longyearbyen.** After breakfast in the hotel, return to the airport for our specially chartered flight to Longyearbyen. On arrival, transfer to the Hanseatic Nature and embark. Sail this evening.

**Days 3 to 10 Circumnavigation of Spitsbergen.** There are few places that quite measure up to Spitsbergen with its wild, raw island beauty and home to a fascinating animal world. In this kingdom of polar bears, the Hanseatic Nature moves flexibly and safely thanks to its ice class for passenger ships (PC6) and we will spend eight days exploring the spectacular fjords, coasts and islands. The goal in sight will be a circumnavigation but the exact schedule and route will be shaped by the weather and ice conditions we encounter. As we make our way along deserted coasts like the great pioneers before us one of the many highlights in south Spitsbergen is Hornsund, a picture-perfect fjord where countless mighty glaciers cascade from soaring mountaintops into icy inlets. Some 50 whaling stations were registered in Spitsbergen and this site is one of the oldest and comes from a time when whaling was still operated from the shore. We will find the remains of historical whaling operations, including wooden boats, cabins and thousands of whale bones—a scene from the distant past, literally frozen in time. Human habitation along our route can be found at Ny Alesund, a former mining town and airship base that is now home to an international community of Arctic researchers. This is one of the world's most northerly settlements and we will find a museum, gift shop and post office. In addition, Svalbard reindeer roam through the town and Arctic terns nest along the roads.

An impressive Arctic landscape of steep mountains surrounds the Smeerenburgfjord and as your expedition ship approaches you will be able to see some fantastic glacier views and when ashore you might see the timid Arctic fox. In the Liefdefjord, we pass the majestic Monacobreen glacier with its blocks of ice that keep falling into the fjord from the five kilometre wide front. Witness this awe-inspiring spectacle from deck or from a Zodiac. The glacier was named in honour of Prince Albert I of Monaco, who explored

the area in 1906 and 1907 with Gunnar Isachsen. If the conditions allow, we will venture forth into the waters of northeast Spitsbergen, where you can experience the true expedition feeling. We will take the ship as close as safely possible to the jumbled and constantly shifting ice floes in the hope of observing polar bears hunting in their preferred habitat. At only around 1,000 kilometres from the North Pole, every extra kilometre may be increasingly difficult to negotiate and our ability to complete a circumnavigation will depend on if the ice grants us a passage through the eye of the needle in the Hinlopen Strait.

The captain and officers will constantly look for impressive scenes such as the cliffs of Alkefjellet; the “bird mountain” is inhabited by thousands of birds from numerous species, including thick-billed murres, kittiwakes, glaucous gulls, Arctic terns and eider ducks. The Zodiacs will also take you ashore in Palanderbukta on the island of Nordaustlandet, most of which is covered by ice caps. On a hike through the sparse tundra, keep an eye out for Svalbard poppies and purple saxifrage. Herds of walrus like to lie on the flat ledges in Torellneset. The mighty bulls are a formidable and memorable sight from a respectful distance – they can weigh over 1,000 kilogrammes and grow to 3.5 metres in length. Weather and ice permitting, we will pass through the narrow Freeman Sound. Keep your eyes peeled: whales seek out protected biotopes off Spitsbergen and will happily follow ships that are passing the archipelago from time to time. On Barents Island, you may be able to spot reindeer in their flourishing natural habitat. The island is also an important area for polar bears, which bring their cubs into the world here. With a little luck and from a safe distance, you will be able to observe these animals from the ship.

**Day 11 At Sea.** Enjoy a relaxing day at sea as we sail towards Tromsø.

**Day 12 Tromsø to Germany.** Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for our specially chartered flight to Germany. On arrival, transfer to a hotel for an overnight stay. *Please note that the arrival airport for the charter flight from Tromsø is still to be confirmed and our destination in Germany will be confirmed closer to departure.*

**Day 13 Germany to London.** Check out this morning and return to the airport for your scheduled flight to London.



Spitsbergen



Arctic flowers



Arctic fox



Humpback whale



Nordautlandet Island



Walrus

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

**SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £500 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY**

Cat	Cabin Description	Deck	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
1	Outside cabin	4,5&6	£9295	£8795
2	Panoramic cabin	4&5	£9295	£8795
3	French balcony cabin	6	£10795	£10295
4	Balcony cabin	5	£11495	£10995
5	French balcony cabin	7	£10995	£10495
6	Balcony cabin	6&7	£11995	£11495
7	Balcony cabin	6	£12495	£11995
8	Balcony cabin	7	£13495	£12995
9	Junior suite with balcony	6&7	On Request	On Request
10	Grand suite with veranda	6&7	On Request	On Request
4	Balcony Cabin for sole use	5	£14995	£14495

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel between London & Germany • Specially chartered air travel between Germany and Longyearbyen & Tromsø and Germany • Two nights hotel accommodation in Germany with breakfast • 10 nights aboard the Hanseatic Nature on a full board basis • Mini-bar with soft drinks in your cabin restocked each day • Zodiac excursions • Expedition team including onboard lectures • Gratuities • Transfers • Landing fees • Port taxes • Airport taxes.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance.

**NB.** Flight schedules are yet to be released at the time of going to print and the itinerary may change on their release. Itinerary subject to change based on weather and ice conditions.

**Please note** that all bookings (including those made by Commodore Club members) are subject to a 20% deposit and that the balance payment will be due 150 days before the date of departure. Please also note that between 149 and 70 days before the date of departure, cancellation charges shall be 40% of the total holiday price payable.

# HANSEATIC NATURE



Lido Restaurant



Balcony Cabin



Ocean Academy

Operated by our German associates, Hapag-Lloyd Cruises, the Hanseatic Nature is a five-star expedition ship launched in 2021. With a maximum of just 230 passengers, (199 passengers in Antarctica and Spitsbergen), this unique vessel offers plenty of open deck space including a walkway to the bow of the ship for wildlife sightings and incredible views. There is a qualified expedition team of naturalists who will accompany you ashore and provide informative talks in the comfort of the well-designed HanseAtrium, and a crew of 175 offering the most exquisite and attentive service on board.

## Your Cabin/Suite

There are a total of 120 cabins and suites, all of which feature a comfortable sleeping area with separable beds, a heated wall in the bathroom, a rain shower, TV, a coffee machine and a mini bar with soft drinks refilled daily. They are also equipped with binoculars and Nordic walking poles and 24-hour cabin service is available. The Outside Cabins, Panoramic Cabins and French Balcony Cabins all measure between 21 to 23 square metres and the Balcony Cabins measure 27 square metres including the balcony. The Junior Suites are approximately 42 square metres including the balcony and offer panoramic views, a comfortable living and sleeping area and a separate dining area. They also benefit from the addition of a bathroom with two sinks, a steam sauna and butler service. The Grand Suites are approximately 71 square metres including a private veranda with space heaters. They feature a sleeping area with panoramic views and a comfortable living area as well as a separate dining area. Additional facilities include a bathroom with two sinks, free standing bath, rain shower, steam sauna, balcony access and butler service.

## Your Space

The vessel has three spacious restaurants, two bars, a library, Sun Deck with swimming pool and pool bar, fitness room, hair salon and a small boutique. There is also a hospital on the lower deck and it is in the HanseAtrium that the expedition team will hold lectures and briefings. The vessel has been designed taking inspiration from nature to reflect the expeditionary theme of the voyages and to provide interplay between the interiors and the world outside. Exciting vistas are guaranteed in the Observation Lounge thanks to the 180-degree panoramic view which can be enjoyed while relaxing with an aperitif at the bar and listening to the music. Another design highlight are the two extendable glass balconies on the Sun Deck from which passing wildlife can be viewed on the ocean surfaces. The Ocean Academy houses a study wall, reading chairs and even microscopes to study the smallest wonders of the world. Guests will have the opportunity to visit the bridge whenever the local regulations and conditions allow, by prior arrangement with the officer on duty.



Pool Deck



Outside Cabin



HanseAtrium Bar

## Your Dining

Highly trained chefs will surprise you every day with their skill and attention to detail. Diverse and classic delicacies will be available at every meal, whether you are enjoying a quick breakfast or a relaxed evening meal. There is a choice of three spacious open-seating restaurants including the Hanseatic Restaurant with its relaxed atmosphere, the Lido Restaurant offering both indoor and outdoor seating, and the 44-seat Speciality Restaurant where you will be taken on a culinary voyage of French fine dining. The Hanseatic Restaurant and Speciality Restaurant are à la carte whereas the Lido Restaurant offers a buffet-style service. Spend your days and evenings however you wish thanks to flexible mealtimes, a free choice of seating and attentive 24-hour cabin service.

## Life On Board

With your every need attended to, there is nothing to do but relax and enjoy the experience aboard the Hanseatic Nature. After a Zodiac excursion, you will be welcomed back on board with hot drinks and snacks, drinks will be handed to you as you stand on deck viewing magnificent icebergs and the crew will think of everything and enhance your cruise in every way possible. Highly qualified, knowledgeable experts will accompany you throughout the cruise; discovering unknown territory and seeing amazing wildlife will be a lot more rewarding with an expert by your side. Whether a naturalist or ornithologist, their passion and enthusiasm will be conveyed through talks on board and during excursions. The onboard fleet of 17 Zodiac landing craft enables guests to reach every spectacular sight, no matter how remote and, due to their manoeuvrability, these inflatable craft allow us to truly immerse ourselves in nature.

## For your Comfort, Safety & Security

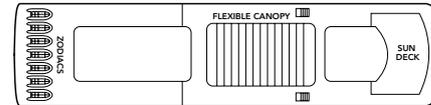
During construction of the Hanseatic Nature, the focus was on making her suitable for all ice conditions and she has been fitted with cutting-edge equipment and environmental technology. The vessel holds the highest ice class for a passenger ship – PC 6, and with a shallow draught, powerful engine and robust propellers, this is a sturdy ship with excellent manoeuvrability. All of these features allow access to remote islands and coastlines and make for one of the finest expedition vessels.



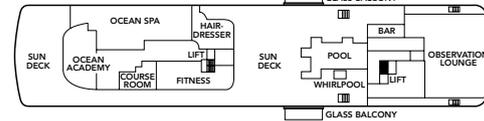
During this voyage you will be visiting out of the way destinations and will be accompanied by an expedition team. Landings and excursions will be made by Zodiac landing craft. This cruise will appeal to the more adventurous and those who enjoy the natural world.

## HANSEATIC NATURE DECK PLAN

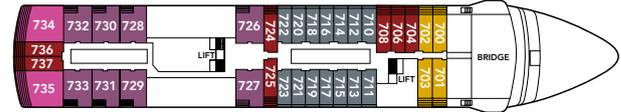
### DECK 9



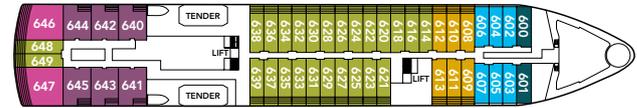
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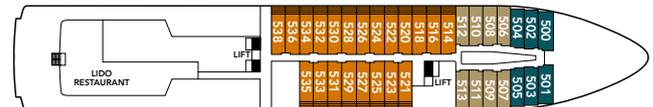
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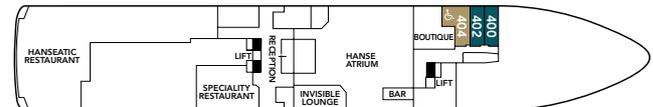
### DECK 6



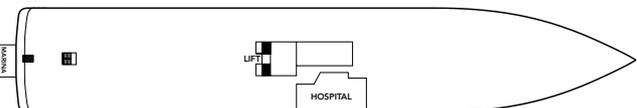
### DECK 5



### DECK 4



### DECK 3



- CATEGORY 1
- CATEGORY 2
- CATEGORY 3
- CATEGORY 4
- CATEGORY 5
- CATEGORY 6
- CATEGORY 7
- CATEGORY 8
- CATEGORY 9
- CATEGORY 10



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