

Fjords & Spitsbergen

From **19/05/2023**
to **30/05/2023**

Ship: **LE BOREAL**

From **Bergen**
to **Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen**



TRANSFER + FLIGHT LONGYEARBYEN/PARIS

PONANT invites you to on an exceptional experience discovering Norway and the immensity of **the polar universe**. Aboard *Le Boréal*, set sail for a 12-day cruise to the remote lands of the Norwegian fjords and Spitsbergen.

From **Bergen**, famous for its Hanseatic wharf which still carries a few traces of the rich historic past of the city founded by the Vikings, you will set sail for **Olden**. From this small and charming village, located a few kilometres from Jostedalsglaci National Park, which is home to one of the last ice caps in Europe, you will have the opportunity to admire the **magnificent Briksdal glacier**.

Your ship will then sail towards the **Geiranger Fjord**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Even further north, you will reach the **Lofoten Islands**. This archipelago has landscapes of **surreal beauty** alternating between sea, mountain slopes and fine sand beaches.

Le Boréal will sail into the magical landscape of **Trollfjorden**, which legends says is guarded by trolls, before calling at **Tromsø**.

You will also sail by **Bear Island**, halfway between the North Cape of Norway and the South Cape of Spitsbergen. You will see **many sea birds**, such as guillemots or Atlantic puffins, which have found refuge in the vast cliffs of the south of the island.

Even further north, you will reach **Spitsbergen**, the main island of the **Svalbard** archipelago. In the land at the end of the world, millennial glaciers, steely mountains and spectacular fjords form the backdrop for whales, arctic foxes, walrus and also the kings of their realm, polar bears.

Your cruise will end in **Longyearbyen**.



The information in this document is valid as of 27/01/2022

Fjords & Spitsbergen

YOUR STOPOVERS :

BERGEN

Embarkation 19/05/2023 from 16:00 to 17:00

Departure 19/05/2023 at 18:30

Located at the end of **Byfjord, Bergen** was the capital of Norway in the 12th and 13th Centuries and has preserved some very beautiful monuments from the time when it was home to royalty. Wandering through Bergen's streets means going back in time, in search of the hidden treasures that have been listed as **World Heritage Sites by UNESCO**. A veritable openair museum, Bergen is home to a thriving artistic community of painters, potters, jewellers. The Bergen cable car offers you a splendid panorama over the port and the surrounding fjords. Do not miss the visit to the old quarter with its narrow streets, a testimony of the power of the hanseatic League that controlled trade in Northern Europe at the end of the Middle Ages.

OLDEN

Arrival 20/05/2023 midday

Departure 20/05/2023 late afternoon

With its two wooden churches, one red and the other white, plus its breathtaking view of the mouth of the river Oldeelva, **Olden** looks just like a picture post card. Located a few kilometres from the Jostedalsgreen park, home to one of the last **glacier polar icecaps**, this little village is a definite must for exploring the blue languages of the **Briksdal** or Kjennalen **glaciers**. Make sure you find some time to visit the Norwegian Glacier Museum. Absolutely amazing. Another gem is lake Lovatn and its turquoise waters inviting you to quiet contemplation.

GEIRANGER

Arrival 21/05/2023 midday

Departure 21/05/2023 early evening

A must-see stopover in Norway, located halfway between Bergen and Trondheim, **Geiranger** offers the stunning beauty of a natural decor, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site. The splendour of the sheer cliffs, dark rock and crystalline water are the stars of the show here. The sides of the fjord offer many possibilities for hiking: the **Eagle's Road** takes you up to a steep stretch offering a gorgeous panoramic view. A visit to **Geiranger** village will immerse you in the rhythm of life in the little local community.

AT SEA

Arrival 22/05/2023

Departure 22/05/2023

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of

relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

LEKNES, LOFOTEN

Arrival 23/05/2023 early afternoon

Departure 23/05/2023 evening

Way beyond the Arctic Circle, **Lofoten Islands** are truly considered to be in "another world". A jewel of nature in its most pristine state, this archipelago with its jagged coastline offers you majestic settings of high alpine summits, sandy beaches, green prairies and fjords of a deep blue, where countless bird colonies make their nests. Whether you visit Å, or Nusjford, listed by UNESCO, enjoy authentic and memorable moments.

SAILING IN TROLLFJORDEN

Arrival 24/05/2023

Departure 24/05/2023

According to legend, trolls were the guardians of this 2-km long fjord accessible via the Raftsund Strait, between the Vesterålen Archipelago and the Lofoten Islands. Dominated on both sides by **vertical rock faces** that stand up to 1,000 metres high in parts, **Trollfjorden** welcomes you in a **magical atmosphere** which its narrowness helps to create. During this unforgettable journey, you will indeed have the impression that you're grazing the surrounding mountains and that you'll never see the end of this marine cul-de-sac. After a delicate U-turn, your ship will finally head back in the opposite direction: this will perhaps be the opportunity to observe, for want of trolls, **seals** and **eagles**, which are often present in this site, unique on earth.

TROMSO

Arrival 25/05/2023 early morning

Departure 25/05/2023 midday

In the north of the Arctic circle you'll discover **Tromsø**, a secluded town located in the county of Troms. Norwegians call it the "Paris of the north". You'll soon see why when you discover its extensive neoclassical architectural heritage. A stunning example is the **Arctic cathedral**, a major monument whose stylistic purity echoes the outline of the mountains surrounding the town.

SAILING BY BJORNOYA (BEAR ISLAND)

Arrival 26/05/2023

Departure 26/05/2023

Halfway between Norway and Spitsbergen, you will sail not far from the coastlines of **Bjørnøya**, the southernmost island of Svalbard. From your ship, observe this isolated piece of land discovered in 1596 by the Dutch navigator

Willem Barents, then looking for the Northwest Passage. Following a tough fight between a polar bear and the members of the expedition, he dubbed the place **Bear Island**. Regularly covered by a thick layer of fog, Bjørnøya shelters a meteorological station built in 1923, which is still in operation. Declared a **nature reserve** in 2002, the island is above all home to an **enormous colony of sea birds**: skuas, guillemots, puffins, Tridactyl gulls, petrels, gulls and little auks all coexist here.

AT SEA

Arrival 27/05/2023

Departure 27/05/2023

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

HORNSUND

Arrival 28/05/2023 early morning

Departure 28/05/2023 late afternoon

Nestling between **millennial glaciers** and carved mountains, and considered to be “the crown of Arctic Norway”, Spitsbergen is a place that never sees the night. Your ship will take you closer to this fascinating archipelago and, more particularly, the **Hornsund fjord**. Considered to be **Svalbard's southernmost fjord**, it is especially reputed to be its most stunning: at the end of its vast bay, 8 great glaciers slowly make their way down to the sea before giving way to the many icebergs elegantly drifting along its cold and mysterious waters.

BELLSUND, SPITSBERGEN

Arrival 29/05/2023 early morning

Departure 29/05/2023 late afternoon

You will head to the **Bellsund fjord** to follow in the footsteps of the first explorers who came from the Norwegian coast, or those of the many fur traders seeking game and trophies. Boasting an astonishingly rich wildlife, the arms of the fjord separate to form two lush valleys. Give free rein to your imagination in the heart of this majestic natural environment where time seems to stand still.

LONGYEARBYEN, SPITSBERGEN

Arrival 30/05/2023 early morning

Disembarkation 30/05/2023 at 07:00

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.