

# Reef & Rainforest



## **High Arctic Wildlife Adventure**

**Set Departure**

**02 – 11 June 2012**

**With Naturalist Expedition Leader & Inuit Guides**



## High Arctic Wildlife Adventure

Imagine yourself under the vast and silent skies of the high Arctic with the warm glow of the evening 24-hour sun bathing passing icebergs in a warm glow as narwhal whales pass by your comfortable safari style ice camp almost within arms reach. Kayak amongst floating ice bits, watch whales, observe polar bears eye to eye amongst the jumbled pack ice that they favour as their natural habitat.

With Inuit guides, abundance of animals and jaw-dropping panoramas at every turn, this Arctic adventure captures the ultimate essence of getting up close and personal with all it has to offer.



Nestled between the majestic mountains of north Baffin Island and Bylot Island in Nunuvut,

Canada - SIRMILIK NATIONAL PARK ("the place of glaciers"), experiences abundant wildlife that congregates along the ice floe edge that only a few have seen. The spring floe edge is a fascinating eco-system where wildlife thrives. During this time in spring, wildlife gathers at the floe-edge and there exists the chance to see pods of narwhal resting only metres from the edge - their misty breath sparkling in the 24-hour sun. In addition you'll have a good chance of seeing polar bears, a variety of species of seal (e.g. harp, ring & bearded seal), an incredible variety of sea birds including thick billed Murre, Kittiwake, Guillemot, Ivory Gull, along with many other species of gull. Bowhead whales also frequent this area and there is a small possibility of walrus and beluga at this time of year.

A senior Inuit guide will explain the traditional ways of Inuit life as you embark on a journey of discovery of the arctic, the abundant wildlife and its beauty. Hiking on the land, gazing up at thousands of birds at the nearby bird cliffs, and drinking glacier melt-water on day excursions are just a few of the activities that you can participate in. For the more adventurous, snorkelling is available should you wish to attempt to swim with the narwhal (dry suit etc provided to keep you comfortable!). These curious and inquisitive whales often approach snorkellers, swimming to within 3 metres underneath, while on their backs - take a quick look - almost saying 'hello' before circling below and away. It is a moment of joy and exhilaration none shall soon forget.

The primary focus will be on polar bear, narwhal and other wildlife sightings. There will also be the possibility of snorkelling, kayaking (no experience required), hiking on Bylot Island and visiting its bird cliffs (with 20,000+ birds), places of historical interest such as an old whaling station, shipwreck remains, Inuit tent rings, as well as flowering spring flora. There will be time to relax at the high-end safari-style tented base camp on the sea ice, enjoying the fabulous cuisine and watching Arctic life unfold around you.



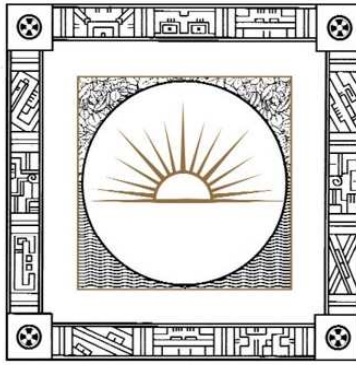
# HIGH ARCTIC WILDLIFE ADVENTURE

SET DEPARTURE – JUNE 2012

WITH NATURALIST EXPEDITION LEADER & INUIT GUIDES

## ITINERARY IN BRIEF

- 02 Jun Depart **LONDON**. Arrive **OTTAWA**. Transfer to the hotel. At leisure. O/n ALBERT AT BAY, RO.
- 03 Jun Transfer to the airport. Fly to **IQALUIT** by jet. Continue by ATR twin prop plane to **POND INLET**. Transfer to the hotel and welcome by Expedition leader and team. O/n SAUNIQ HOTEL, FI.
- 04 Jun After breakfast, depart on a beautiful journey to the ice floe edge of **BYLOT ISLAND** by snowmobile and traditional Inuit qamutik. Stops en-route such as abandoned whaling stations, hanging glaciers, historic grave sites. O/n ARCTIC SAFARI-STYLE ECO-CAMP, FI.
- 05 Jun Daily sorties at the floe edge for narwhal, polar bear and other Arctic wildlife. Each day's activities are flexible depending on sightings and conditions. Other activities can also include snorkelling, kayaking, hiking, visiting bird colonies and glacier hikes. O/n ARCTIC SAFARI-STYLE ECO-CAMP, FI.
- 06 Jun Daily sorties at the floe edge for narwhal, polar bear and other Arctic wildlife. Perhaps snorkel with the mystical narwhal if the opportunity presents itself! O/n ARCTIC SAFARI-STYLE ECO-CAMP, FI.
- 07 Jun Daily sorties at the floe edge for narwhal, polar bear and other Arctic wildlife. Perhaps visit a nearby 20,000+ bird colony. O/n ARCTIC SAFARI-STYLE ECO-CAMP, FI.
- 08 Jun Daily sorties at the floe edge for narwhal, polar bear and other Arctic wildlife. Perhaps enjoy kayaking amongst the icy fragments at the floe edge. O/n ARCTIC SAFARI-STYLE ECO-CAMP, FI.
- 09 Jun Today, journey back to **POND INLET** by snowmobile/qamutiq. Stops of interest may include a 100m waterfall for a glacier-meltwater cup of tea! Evening to explore Pond Inlet village, the Nattinnak Visitor's Centre. O/n SAUNIQ HOTEL, FI.
- 10 Jun After an early breakfast, transfer to the Pond Inlet airport. Fly to **IQALUIT**. Change planes and continue to **OTTAWA**. Check in for the late evening flight to LONDON.
- 11 Jun Arrive **LONDON**.



# HIGH ARCTIC WILDLIFE ADVENTURE

Bylot Island Floe Edge, accessed from Pond Inlet  
Nunavut, Arctic Canada

**SET DEPARTURE – JUNE 2012**

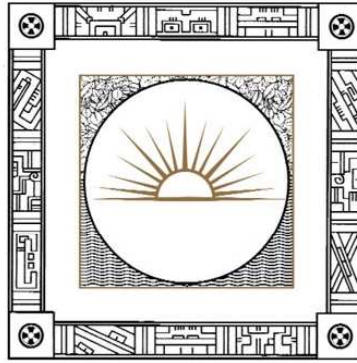
**WITH NATURALIST EXPEDITION LEADER  
& INUIT GUIDES**

This itinerary is perfect for both first-time visitors and experienced Arctic travellers. Suitable for those who enjoy viewing and photographing wildlife, birds, and spectacular scenery, and for those who seek to experience the wide expanse, seemingly endless 'big sky' vistas, silence and quietude of the Arctic in a relaxed, laid-back and authentic format that is free of the constraints associated with larger groups or cruises.

The comfortable base camp accommodation, with cots, warm sleeping bags and fully equipped kitchen with tables and chairs, will allow even a first time 'camper' to enjoy the experience of sleeping under the midnight sun in the comfort of a double insulated walled tent. The sleeping tents provided are specially made to ensure warmth and sturdiness in the most challenging of weather conditions. Often times you will waken to the calming sounds of a pod of narwhal swimming only metres away.



Limited to ten participants, the program leaves participants free to linger and look or, within limits set by the judgment of your guides, alter plans at will. Join this small and exclusive group to discover the fragile beauty and warmth of the Arctic's floe edge wonders.



# HIGH ARCTIC WILDLIFE ADVENTURE

## DETAILED ITINERARY

- 02 Jun Depart LONDON and fly to OTTAWA. Transfer to the hotel. Evening at leisure. O/n ALBERT AT BAY, RO.
- 03 Jun Early transfer to the airport. Fly to IQALUIT by jet. Continue by ATR twin prop plane to POND INLET in the high Arctic. Met on arrival and transfer to the hotel.

During dinner, your expedition leader and lead Inuit guide will give a briefing and check gear that you need. The evening will be yours to relax, enjoy and explore POND INLET and the not too distant mountains of Bylot Island under the midnight sun. You will have a chance to make any last-minute purchases at the local store. O/n SAUNIQ HOTEL, FI. Newly built in 2009, the Sauniq hotel has the most up to date and modern rooms in Pond Inlet, featuring c. 20 guest rooms with double occupancy. Each room features cable flat-screen TV and private bathroom. Complimentary internet access is provided. The dining room features home style meals and often features local area delicacies. Expedition debriefs will occur in the comfortable sitting room.

- 04 Jun After breakfast, you will meet your guides on the beach (yes - there are sand beaches in the Arctic as well!) in preparation for your departure to BYLOT ISLAND's south-eastern floe-edge. You will be travelling Inuit-style by qamutiq and snowmobile across the sea ice. (Contd.../)



## (2).../ HIGH ARCTIC WILDLIFE ADVENTURE

(Contd.../) Your route of approximately 90km will include tea-stops at historic grave sites, hanging glaciers, and abandoned whaling stations, and hunting cabins. The final destination will be the ice floe edge where a base camp will be set up just back from the ice edge (conditions permitting). Depending on snow and ice conditions, how much time we stop for breaks for pictures, the journey to the floe edge can be anywhere from 3-6 hours. It is an incredibly picturesque journey and we take our time to allow you to see all the new sights at a relaxed pace to enjoy being 'out on the land' as the Inuit like to call it. O/n ARCTIC SAFARI-STYLE ECO-CAMP, FI. Custom designed and spacious, sleeping tents are the best one can find in the Arctic and Antarctica for warmth, space and being able to withstand any weather the Arctic can see (further details below).



05 Jun Your ice floe edge base camp will enable you to enjoy the warm spring weather and engage in a variety of activities both on land and at the floe-edge. Wake up mornings to the smell of fresh coffee and the sounds of narwhal resting just off the ice edge. From camp and the floe-edge you can expect to see icebergs, and 'bergy-bits', and drifting pack ice with playful seals poking their heads up out of the water and looking directly at you. Plenty of time will be provided for unhurried observation and photography.

On the floe-edge, the likelihood is high that you will see narwhals, bowhead whales, polar bears on the prowl for seals sunning themselves, and possibly walrus and beluga whales. The majority of migratory birds are in abundance. Pure white ivory gulls, gaudy king eider ducks, low flying northern fulmars, thick-billed murrets, Kittiwakes, and greater snow geese (kanguq) are just a bird species to be seen. Ice conditions permitting, there will be a visit to the bird colony with 20,000 plus birds nesting not far away. (Contd.../)

(3).../ HIGH ARCTIC WILDLIFE ADVENTURE



(Contd.../) On the land, you will have the opportunity to track land mammals with your camera, see ancient Thule culture sites, see traditional tent rings and learn the history of the area. Bylot Island's uplands are home to Arctic foxes and hares, weasels, collared lemmings, snowy owls, rough-legged hawks, and gyrfalcons. O/n ARCTIC SAFARI-STYLE ECO-CAMP, FI.

06 Jun Daily wildlife-viewing sorties at the flow edge for narwhal, polar bear, seals various birds and other wildlife. Flexible itinerary depending on sightings and conditions, with the benefit of the navigation and tracking skills of your Inuit guides – skills which have sustained the Inuit in this icy environment for thousands of years.



Perhaps snorkel with narwhal if the opportunity presents itself, visit a nearby bird colony or paddle amongst the 'bergy bits' by kayak with time to appreciate the beauty and peace of your Arctic surroundings.

07 Jun Day of wildlife-viewing activities. O/n ARCTIC SAFARI-STYLE ECO-CAMP, FI.

08 Jun Day of wildlife-viewing activities. O/n ARCTIC SAFARI-STYLE ECO-CAMP, FI.



#### (4).../ HIGH ARCTIC WILDLIFE ADVENTURE

09 Jun After breakfast, we will break camp and reload the qamutiks for your return journey to Pond Inlet. We will stop at a 100-metre stepped waterfall for tea made with the ice-cold glacier water from the falls. Once again you will cross about 90km of sea ice by snowmobile, lead by your Inuit guides. In



In the evening, you will be free to explore the village of POND INLET. The Nattinnak Visitors Centre, located on the bluff, houses an excellent exhibit of the region's natural history including a full size narwhal with a tusk hanging from the ceiling. The Co-op store (which typically has a selection of carvings and other crafts) and the Northern store (historically known as "The Bay," derived from the famous Hudson's Bay Company stores) are worth visiting. You may also have the opportunity to buy carvings directly from local artists. O/n SAUNIQ HOTEL, FI.

10 Jun After an early breakfast, transfer to the POND INLET AIRPORT for your flight to IQALUIT. On arrival in Iqaluit, change planes and continue on to OTTAWA. On arrival, check in for the late evening flight to LONDON.

11 Jun Arrive LONDON.

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Minimum group size is 6, maximum 10 plus the expedition leader/guides.

#### **HIGH ARCTIC WILDLIFE ADVENTURE**

<i>Departure Dates from London</i>	<i>Adult Price</i>	<i>Single Supplement</i>
02 June 2012	£8,445	£2,125

Please call 01803 866965 if you have any queries, would like to secure your place on the tour, and/or if you would like to extend the tour.

NB: If you would prefer your flights to depart from a regional airport in the UK or any other airport please let us know as we will be pleased to look into the options for you.

# HIGH ARCTIC WILDLIFE ADVENTURE

## INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS:

### Included

- International, domestic and charter flights (London to Pond Inlet return)
- All accommodation Ottawa/Pond Inlet and camping, including bedding.
- The services of a highly qualified Inuit Guides & Expedition Leader from arrival at Pond Inlet to departure at Pond Inlet
- All transportation to/from and at floe edge including snowmobiles/qamutiqs for duration of trip
- All excursions/activities as stated in the itinerary
- All meals, tea/coffee/hot chocolate and juices from arrival at Pond Inlet to departure at Pond Inlet (please note Pond Inlet is a dry community)
- Kayaking and snorkeling equipment (dry suits etc)
- Hotel transfers in Pond Inlet
- Charging stations for batteries
- Protection through ATOL (4088)

### Not Included

- Personal expenses
- Travel, medical, evacuation, repatriation and baggage insurance (please check your policy covers the Arctic)
- Additional costs associated with weather/flight delays and/or layovers including flight changes, additional hotels and meals.
- Other meals (i.e. in Ottawa), other drinks, tips, entry visa.

### Optional Clothing Package

We recommend that anyone travelling to the arctic dresses in layers. Of particular importance is the insulating outer layer. Normal ski jackets and trousers are not suitable for the changing arctic climate. With the benefit over a decade of experience, our partners in the Arctic are able to offer a top-of-the-line tried and tested clothing package that will enhance your arctic experience and allow you to enjoy your expedition in comfort no matter what Mother Nature brings. We realise that good quality, arctic-worthy equipment is expensive to purchase all at once and may not be necessary for a one-time arctic adventure.

### Head to Toe Package for Arctic Spring

- Canada Goose Waterproof Insulated Parka Jacket
- Outdoor Research Waterproof Shell Trousers
- Baffin Waterproof Insulated Boots
- Outdoor Research Windproof Hat & Neck-warmer
- Windproof Gloves & Glove Liners
- Outdoor Research Waterproof Insulated Mitts

Rental Cost: £290 per person from 03 June – 10 June 2012.

# HIGH ARCTIC WILDLIFE ADVENTURE

## TRIP NOTES

### **IS THIS TRIP FOR YOU?**

This trip is perfect for anyone looking for a relaxed adventure. The arctic is already far off the beaten track and we will take you far from any usual tourist route. You do not have to have previous Arctic experience, but you do need to have an adventurous spirit. Relatively speaking, very few people have been to the high Arctic - you can become among the first to explore this amazing region. Having a laid back, open-minded and patient demeanour is important.

### **Spirit of Adventure Required**

The trip is not intended to tick off a certain number of specific sights in the time available. The 'way of the north' or of the Inuit people is to take things as they come, to relax, enjoy the moment – be it a sunny or foggy day – to appreciate where you are in the moment, and fall into the laid-back lifestyle of the Arctic people. It is assumed that participants have the spirit within themselves to enjoy the unique solitude of the Arctic and the free time provided. If this outlook is not with you, it is suggested that participation would be a mistake and we can assist in finding an alternative Arctic trip such as a polar cruise which offers a more structured itinerary and offers a more 'observer' role versus in actively participating in an adventure of discovery. Of course, good health is fundamental to travel into any remote region, and all participants will be required to obtain medical and evacuation travel insurance. With that, and flexibility of attitude as an equally important prerequisite, age should not be considered as a deterrent.

### **What Level of Difficulty**

The land-based expeditions are somewhat active but not too strenuous. Activities may include kayaking and snorkelling, and hiking on gently sloping terrain. You may participate or observe as you wish.

### **What to Expect**

This expedition is designed around viewing Arctic wildlife, and the appreciation of rarely-seen animals in their natural environment. However, there is more to this stunning vista of ice, land, and sea than the wildlife that inhabits it. For centuries, these creatures have shared this wilderness with the Inuit people. We encourage our trip participants to understand and be sensitive to the cultural and historical ways of the Inuit, including their traditional subsistence hunting lifestyle. You may see evidence of hunting, including dead animals, as you wander through the gateway communities. Examples include the stretching of seal-skin boots or gloves, Inuit husky dog teams being fed Arctic Char or seal meat. While out on the expedition we may also come across an Inuit hunting party returning from a hunt. If you are open to the experience, these sights can provide a window into cultural traditions that stretch back for generations, existing in harmony with the wild Arctic. As part of the Inuit cultural experience you may wish to enjoy some local 'country food' such as seal, caribou or Arctic Char. You may observe how an Inuit hunts the local wildlife that feeds their subsistence lifestyle traditions that dates back thousands of years. They will show you how to stalk wildlife for viewing and photography which use the same techniques as a hunter does to obtain their game.

## **Wildlife Sightings/Conditions**

The intent of this trip is to introduce you to the Arctic at the best time of year – as spring transitions to summer - when the abundant wildlife can be seen in its most raw and natural setting. The Arctic has many variables that can influence any travel plans. Being relaxed, patient and flexible are important attitudes to have in the Arctic, where it should be expected that even the best-laid plans sometimes need to change. Plans may be changed for any one of a variety of reasons, and this itinerary is for general reference only. The weather, snow, and sea ice conditions invariably play a role in every Arctic adventure (e.g. a blizzard or fog could force you to spend a day or two in one place (igloo, tent or outpost hut) as the difficult travel conditions pass through, or weak or moving sea ice could prevent travel to the floe-edge. Arctic wildlife is widely dispersed in the Baffin Region. The prevalence of Arctic wildlife, such as narwhal or polar bears, at any given time, is dependent upon the weather, the presence of pack ice, the abundance seals and other natural factors. In the Pond Inlet area, you can expect a truly unique Arctic experience and spectacular scenery, but we cannot guarantee wildlife sightings.

## **Weather**

In the regions close to the Arctic Circle temperatures during this season range from -5°C to +10°C. June usually sees temperatures around -1° C to +5°C. Recent years have seen massive fluctuations in the space of a few weeks with lows of -15°C and highs of +10°C just a few days apart.

## **Daylight Hours**

In mid to late Spring (May/June) the sun is constantly shining – a true 24 hours of sun! The sun shines high above at noon, and by 10PM the sun has sunk low on the western horizon and continues to seemingly skim across the tops of the distant mountain ranges until it reaches the eastern horizon, where it then begins to climb higher into the sky again. The warm, soft glow of the midnight sun is a photographer's delight.

## **Power**

Arctic Kingdom provides charging stations for all your power needs in camp. From solar panels to an in camp generator, you will have a place to charge all your camera's, iPods, laptops or any electrical device you may choose to bring. Power provided is 120VAC/60Hz using North American standard plug outlets. Some plug adaptors may be available but it is recommended that you bring your own plug adaptors to suit your electrical devices. If your electrical devices require 220Volt power, most cameras, laptops already have a power inverter/AC Adaptor that converts the power to the necessary level for your equipment on your power cord and there will be no further inverters/adaptors needed. To check, look at the Adaptor (usually the square/rectangular shaped box attached to your power cord) and examine the "Input" information. It will usually have an annotation similar to "INPUT 100 – 240V.

## **Base Camp**

Our aim is to make your Arctic experience as comfortable as possible. After being on the land on a day trip, coming back to the base camp is a pleasurable experience. With hot food and hot drinks, the dining/lounge tent is a place to relax with your fellow expedition members, trade stories and look at pictures on your laptops in a warm, dry environment. Afterwards, retire to your 100sq foot (9 sq metres) warm sleeping tent and stretch out on the raised beds with insulated floors. We have perfected the art of a temporary camp with all the amenities of home. It is your Arctic home away from home. Our expedition base camp on the land will be out on the sea ice within a safe distance from the floe edge, along the coastline nestled beneath a sheltering cliff, along a flat expanse of pebbly beach, or even close to the foot of a large glacial tongue of ice. The comfortable base camp is set up prior to your arrival. The eco-friendly base camp is designed to provide you with the ultimate comfort and functionality. Locations are scouted ahead of time by our hand-picked Inuit guides and the expedition leader. Criteria for the camp locations are safety, proximity to animals, shelter from wind, and safety again. Many locations for base camps are naturally suited for shelter and have been used by the Inuit for eons and are still used to this day.

## **Dining Lounge and Kitchen Facilities**

Base camp configuration will consist of a kitchen tent, where our gourmet chef spends most of his or her time preparing the days meals, snacks and delicious desserts right out of our custom made field ovens, a lounge and dining tent complete with tables, chairs and convenient buffet table where unlimited snacks and hot drinks are served all day long. Expedition adventurers will relax after a day's activities in a large tent that provides a central meeting and dining location to enjoy a hot meal, get to know your fellow expedition members and learn about the arctic from our guides and expedition leaders.

## **Sleeping Tents**

Custom designed for purpose, our sleeping tents are the best one can find in the Arctic and Antarctica for warmth, space and being able to withstand any weather the Arctic can see. Your sleeping tents are spacious at over 100sq feet / 9sq metres floor space and over 6.5 feet / 2 metres tall to provide ample headroom to stand up and floor space to keep your gear organized and accessible. Raised cots, warm 20-pound sleeping bags rated to -29 C / -20 F, down pillows and extra blankets ensure a deep and comfortable sleep in the land of the midnight sun. Most importantly, you have insulated floors, to keep additional warmth inside the tent.

## **Bathrooms**

Bathrooms are almost like home and second to none in the Arctic. Our expert partners have spend years perfecting a portable, mobile bathroom system that allows you the comforts of home – complete with mechanical flushing system with bathroom sink and 'running water' for a completely hygienic and eco-friendly solution when nature calls. In an enclosed shelter, these eco-friendly toilets do not use any chemicals and are fully flushable using a bag system. All waste is brought back to the local town and properly disposed of.

You can rest assured, you will be living in the arctic in a zero-footprint 'camp', in as comfortable a manner as possible!

## **Expertise**

You will be in the very capable hands of leaders in land-based Arctic wildlife encounters whose expeditions have taken them to some of the most remote and logistically challenging locations of the Arctic. Their expeditions have generated award-winning film and television programmes viewed by over 30 million people, including Disney Nature's "Oceans", National Geographic, BBC, MBC, NDR, OLN, and Ushuaia/TF1 programmes, as well as featuring in many magazine articles world-wide.

## **An Authentic Arctic Experience**

With extensive knowledge of the best locations and times of year, we will offer you the highest likelihood of up close and personal animal encounters and fantastic photographic opportunities, by being on the land (or ice), alongside highly experienced senior Inuit guides. Instead of the relatively removed experience of being a passenger looking down from a ship deck or through a portal or bus window, we give you the opportunity to feel part of the Arctic – to stare eye to eye with a polar bear or whale (from what we feel is a safe distance of course) and truly immerse in the experience without rumbling engines or crowds of people.

You can enjoy the silence of the Arctic at the pace it deserves. Since this will be a small group, treading lightly on the land, animals can be observed in their natural habitat at times unaware that we are present. It also allows for a highly personalised service which allows for daily activities that can be tailored to your interests allowing you to enjoy the spontaneity of exploration.

## **Strong Cultural Exposure**

Working closely with our Inuit senior guides, experienced elders and energetic youth in each community, guides are handpicked for their skills, personalities and knowledge. Your Inuit guides will quickly become friends. Sharing stories, watching them track animals, scan the horizon for a polar bear, sew a new parka or make a new pair of seal skin mitts it is your opportunity to augment the arctic experience by learning side by side with these incredible people of the Arctic.

## **Last but not least: Safety**

You won't ever see it (hopefully!) but there is a thorough Arctic Safety Plan complete with training and top of the line equipment. The arctic is a beautiful place, but when you are far from the nearest town out on the land, we take your safety very seriously. With a mix of traditional survival and modern technology, our staff are well prepared to handle minor to major emergency scenarios. Expedition leaders are highly trained professionals and along with Inuit guides have instant communication ability with headquarters in Toronto and us at Reef and Rainforest Tours as well as local response teams. With top of line communication systems, GPS, and satellite phones, your safety is our number one consideration.

**Experience the Arctic: the real Arctic, the authentic Arctic,  
the fragile and beautiful Arctic for yourself,  
so it can live on in your memory forever**



## IMPORTANT NOTES TO ACCOMPANY THE ABOVE ITINERARY

NB: The above itinerary and its quoted price are based on specific hotels and lodges. Should there be insufficient availability at the time of booking, alternative hotels and lodges of a similar standard may have to be booked instead, in which case the itinerary and/or price may change.

NB: Prices are based on specific airlines and specific seating classes. The price may change if those are not available at the time of booking, or when they are available to book. We strongly advise booking early to secure the prices quoted, particularly as the seating classes quoted for are usually the first to be filled.

NB: The quoted price for the above itinerary is based on current airline fares (both international and domestic), fuel surcharges and flight taxes. These (and other tour costs) may be subject to unanticipated increases beyond our control at short notice, either before or after you have booked the tour, in which case the price would need to be revised accordingly.

NB: Prices are based on standard rooms unless otherwise stated in the itinerary. Should you wish to upgrade please let us know.

NB: All itineraries are subject to change without notice to take into account possible airline flight schedule changes which can take place before departure date or during the tour, and other operational factors.

NB: Once the tour has been booked and a deposit paid, any further changes initiated by the client may be subject to additional charges.

NB: Inclusive tours and excursions as stated in the itinerary will have been pre-paid. Once full payment has been made and/or clients are actually at their destination, should clients be disinclined to partake of any inclusive tour or excursion, no refunds will be possible.

NB: Excursions marked as 'Optional' are not included in the price.

NB: Some service providers may require that guests sign an indemnity waiver form and may refuse services if these forms are not signed. Reef and Rainforest Tours cannot give refunds for services not provided due to a refusal to sign such forms.

NB: This tour involves some travel in remote areas. This adds to the adventure and increases the opportunity to enjoy a true wildlife experience. However, due to terrain, weather, road/ice conditions, and other factors beyond our control, some elements of the tour may have to be altered. Times of some activities may need to be changed or even cancelled due to the conditions. If an activity is cancelled it will usually be replaced with an alternative activity that is more appropriate for the conditions. Advance notice will be given for any changes where possible, although at times changes may need to be made whilst the tour is in progress.

NB: With any trip involving wildlife it is impossible to guarantee a sighting, but each trip is designed around known habitats. Every effort will be made to ensure a sighting, but cannot be held responsible if no sighting is made due to the wildlife itself, weather, or any other elements beyond our control.

NB: Some Arctic activities/wildlife can potentially become very dangerous/lethal. Do not become complacent and be sure to adhere to all instructions and advice made by your expedition leader and guides.

NB: Despite recent improvements, Madagascar still has some accommodation of a lower standard than that normally expected by western travelers, and a precarious infrastructure including unreliable domestic flights, poor telecommunications and bad roads. Many of our tours visit areas well off the beaten track, and therefore far from medical and other services. Trails can often be arduous and slippery, and campsites are usually very basic. Bookings will only be accepted on the understanding that the client accepts Reef and Rainforest Tours has done everything in its power to ensure there are no difficulties, but has no control over standards of some equipment, available accommodation and services, airline reservation policies, flight schedule changes or possible breakdowns in communication in Madagascar.

NB: Adequate insurance cover is mandatory. Please ensure your policy will cover the Arctic including medical and non-medical evacuation & repatriation. Please supply us with details of your cover.

NB: All domestic flights should be re-confirmed at least 36 hours before departure. Please also ensure international flights are re-confirmed at least 72 hours before departure. Our representatives will assist you on request.

NB: Flight timings are subject to change. Please do not rely on the timings in this itinerary. Please always check with the airlines at least the day before flying.

NB: It is your responsibility to ensure Canada entry requirements are met. At time of writing, Visas are not generally required for British Citizens visiting Canada for short periods. Please contact the Visa Section of the Canadian High Commission for the most up to date information.

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## Reef and Rainforest Tours Ltd.

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E-mail: [mail@reefandrainforest.co.uk](mailto:mail@reefandrainforest.co.uk)

