



SUMMER in the HIGH ARCTIC.

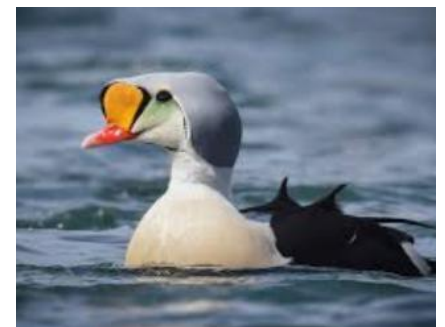
A land of snow-capped mountains, sea ice, glaciers, fjords and abundant wildlife. An exclusive, small ship private charter.



- Watch **POLAR BEARS** from the bow, open decks or the bridge.
- See **walrus, orca, beluga, ringed seals, Arctic fox & reindeer** from zodiacs
- From **puffins** to **phalaropes**: marvel at the teeming **seabird** colonies.
- **Cruise** amongst the **ice floes** slicing deep into the **fjords** edged by glaciers.
- **Spectacular deck viewing** and **walks** shore with local guides



Without needing to adhere to an itinerary, our **private voyage** will take advantage of the conditions to seek out the unique wildlife of this breathtaking mountainous group of islands. Continuous daylight provides plenty of time to search the edge of the pack ice. Our naturalists will spot **polar bears, whales, walrus, seals, reindeer** and **arctic fox**: watching from the **bridge** or right **up in the bow** provides us with superb viewing. **Zodiacs** will allow us to cruise among **Svalbard's** sparkling **icebergs**, to marvel at raucous **seabird colonies** and see the tundra's **miniature gardens**. **Svalbard** is widely accepted as the most striking place to see **polar bears**, and boasts a growing population, we expect to see **killer whales** and if we are lucky a **white beluga**, and hopefully the unicorn of the sea - **narwhal**.

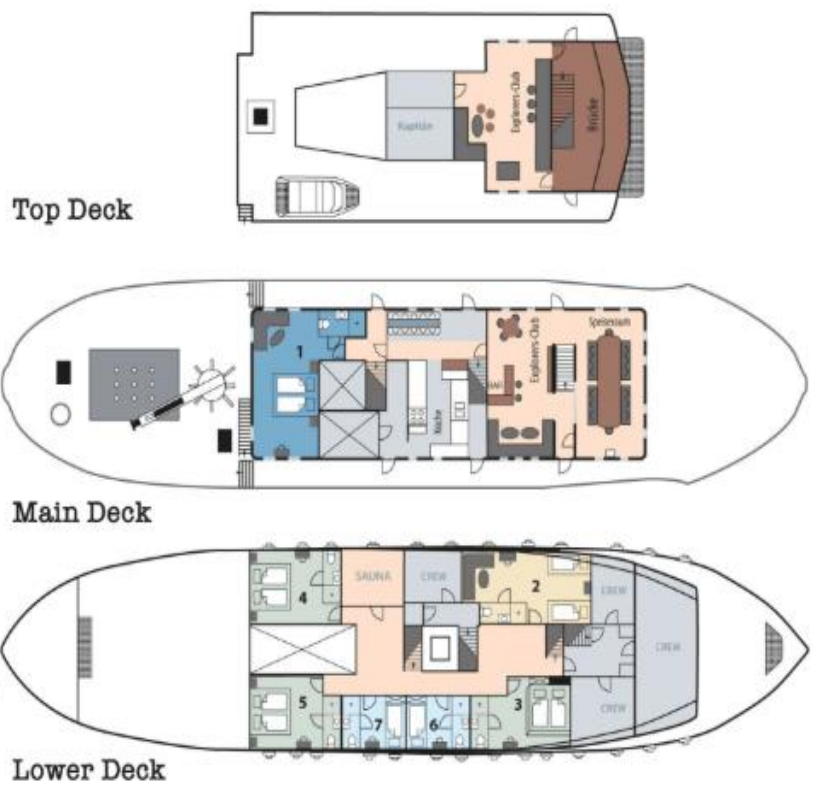


Tuesday 25th MAY 2027 – Wednesday 2nd JUNE 2027.

M.S. BALTO, was built in Finland to the highest ice class standards and refurbished in 2025, complete with **sauna**, to offer expeditions for 12 passengers. Operated by a Norwegian company I have worked with many times, I am entirely confident the food will be generous and delicious, the ship warm & comfortable. Regulations require a minimum of 500 metres from polar bears at all times.



M S BALTO accommodates 12 guests in 7 spacious cabins, including an Owner's Cabin (1), Superior Cabin (2), Double Cabin (3), 2 Twin Cabins (4&5), and 2 Single Cabins (6&7). Each cabin features private facilities, beds not bunks, desk, chair, portholes and storage space. The Owner's and Superior cabin also include a separate seating area and large windows.



General Information: this is the perfect time of year for Svalbard's wildlife, with polar bears on the ice hunting seals rather than pacing the land hungry and gaunt. Birds are nesting and whale are regularly seen, such as Beluga along the pack ice edge, and Orca ranging the fjords. Svalbard is well north of the main Atlantic wind zone and the sea is generally calm being largely frozen, the sun doesn't set and temperatures range between 3°-7° C during this period.

Life on Board: the beautifully appointed saloon and dining room form the heart of life on board, with rich mahogany panelling, a bar, a small library, and tea and coffee stations. After a day exploring, guests can relax with a book, or enjoy the views from one of the **open** or **semi-enclosed decks**. The **bridge** welcomes visitors, and the atmosphere throughout the ship is relaxed, friendly, and infused with the spirit of classic expeditionary travel.

MAY 25th Fly OSLO – LONGYEARBYEN (flights TBC) Transfer to Svalbard Hotel Polfaren. (1 night)



26th: A day taking in Longyearbyen, an ex-mining Arctic town with its own unique and curious atmosphere. Visit the fascinating museum, North Pole Expedition Museum and the Svalbard Gallery which houses an interesting collection of artwork, maps, books and notes. Keen birders can make their way to the bay, an interesting place to look for waders, or to spot a King Eider duck.

27th May Afternoon transfer to M S Balto to sail out through the spectacular Isfjorden. Our days will now be dependent on the ice and weather conditions, with the aim being to explore by zodiac every day and to go ashore whenever possible. We are likely to visit **Prins Karls Forland**, a narrow strip of land covered by a magnificent snow-covered mountain chain and home to seals and walrus. **Danskøya:** two of the most courageous attempts to reach the North Pole started here. Swedish explorer Andrée, using a hydrogen balloon and American journalist Wellman using an airship. There are still interesting remnants from these expeditions left to see amongst the breathtaking scenery.

2nd June Disembark after breakfast for the return flight: with usually an ETA at LHR of approx. 21.00

COST: £8,595.00 per person, based on two sharing a cabin with the following supplements for varying cabins: Twin Cabin £300.00pp / Superior Cabin £1,150pp / Owners Cabin £1,950.00 and Single Cabin £2,550.00

COST includes:

- Voyage on a full board basis with excellent food, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate, juices for breakfast.
- Accommodation as detailed
- 2 expedition guides onboard
- 2 rubber zodiac-style boats for excursions
- All excursions and landings from M S Balto
- 24 hour assistance whilst travelling
- Working with **Steppes Travel** provides full ATOL protection

Cost does NOT include:

Flights TBC with flexibility to allow for time in Oslo, or Tromso.
Gratuities, Travel insurance & items of a personal nature.

Please contact: Amelia on +44 (0) 207 8235612 / +44 7831 121 156 amelia@ameliadaltonttravel.co.uk

OR Sue Grimwood at Steppes on +44 (0) 01285 880 980 sue@steppestravel.com

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AMELIA DALTON
TRAVEL

SteppesTravel

