



# Sailing among Northern Lights 8 days

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **01-05-2025** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

Visit: 8 days in three towns and on the coastal ship

### **Escorted Experience**

- Fixed Dates
- Modern Airconditioned Vehicle
- First Class Hotels

#### **Tour Vehicle**

Car or Small Van AC

#### **Tour Guide**

Local English only guide



## **Detailed Itinerary**

#### **Day 01: Day 1**

We fly from Copenhagen to Kangerlussuaq with Air Greenland and, after a pleasant flight of about 4½ hours, we land in the middle of the Greenlandic tundra in Kangerlussuaq. In clear weather, you've already gotten your first glimpse of the ice sheet which is just 25 kilometers from the settlement. Because of the time difference, we land at about the same time as we left, so we have almost a full day available to us here. Hotel Kangerlussuaq is located at the airport, and the tour guide makes sure that everyone gets their luggage and will be settled in their rooms. Then we have a welcome meeting where you get an overview of the Kangerlussuaq area. After the welcome meeting, it is the time for excursions for those who have purchased the excursion package. We recommend that you add an excursion package to your trip which includes the most popular excursions, though it is also possible to explore on your own.

#### **Day 02: Day 2**

After breakfast at the hotel, we fly from Kangerlussuaq to Nuuk. We fly with one of Air Greenland's bright, red Dash 8 aircraft. The trip lasts about 50 minutes along the west coast of Greenland. Just before we land in Nuuk, we pass the landmark of Nuuk, the Sermitsiag mountain. We also fly over the stunning Nuuk fjord system, which is the second largest in the world. When we land in Nuuk, we'll collect our baggage and go to the center of Nuuk where we deposit our baggage at Hotel Hans Egede. City tour of Nuuk, Greenland National Museum Nuuk has about 17,500 inhabitants, which is significantly more than just two decades ago. Entirely new neighborhoods have been added since the year 2000. Although Nuuk is a busy place in a Greenlandic context, nature is never far away. We go on a city tour in Nuuk's old center, and the first stop is the National Museum. Greenland's National Museum houses many relics, but the most amazing are without comparison the famous mummies from Qilakitsoq. They were found in North Greenland outside the town of Uummannaq by two brothers who were out hunting. They found eight freeze-dried and unusually wellpreserved mummies under a rocky outcrop. Four of the mummies are now at home at the National Museum and provide a fascinating insight into the ancient Inuit culture in Greenland. We continue our round trip of the old town. We visit the statue of Hans Egede, overlooking the old colonial harbor, the fjord and the islands that separate Nuuk from the Davis Strait. Then we move on to the beautiful building of Katuaq, the Cultural Center of Greenland, whose facade is shaped like the northern lights. Experience Nuuk on your own. Shopping and culture The rest of the afternoon, you are on your own to explore Nuuk. There are cafés and restaurants and many shopping opportunities. You'll find a great selection of shops offering Greenlandic handicrafts and Greenlandic design. Nuuk is the best place to look for original Greenlandic design since the selection here is greater than in the other towns in Greenland. However, you can also find unique and beautiful things in Ilulissat. Departure by the coastal ship Sarfaq Ittuk and sailing northward When the day



draws to an end, we board the ship Sarfaq Ittuk. Departure is at 9 PM. Ahead of us are two days aboard the ship bound for Ilulissat. The coastal ship sails up and down the west coast and is very popular among the Greenlanders. When the ship docks in coastal towns, you will experience happy reunions when the locals pick up their long-awaited friends and family. The northern lights on the starboard We head out in the evening and, if it is a cloudless night, there is a good chance to see the northern lights from the deck. There is something special about Greenlandic nature. It's rough and rugged, but also beautiful, and you will quickly feel like you are a part of it. If it is too cold on the deck, you can also see the northern lights from the panoramic lounge. However, we can already reveal that it is not the same to see the northern lights from the inside. This time of the year, it is cold to be outside on a ship, but it's also incredibly beautiful. Pack your warm clothes!

#### **Day 03: Day 3**

After a night's sleep on the ship, you can look forward to the breakfast buffet in the ship's cafeteria. In the morning, the ship docks in Maniitsoq and Kangaamiut, two of the towns along the coast. We are not able to go ashore, but from the deck, you get a glimpse of the the life in the two towns. Ashore in Greenland's second largest town, Sisimiut At 6 PM, we reach Sisimiut, and here we will go on a guided town walk. Sisimiut, Greenland's second largest town has just over 5,500 inhabitants. There is a cozy atmosphere and an authenticity that is particular to Sisimiut. The town is surrounded by steep mountains, and the view is beautiful. At this point, we have crossed into the Arctic Circle, and we are in 'Dogsled Country'. This means you will hear a lot of howling dogs. It's exciting, intense, and a bit like travelling back in time when we all relied on animals to transport us around. We do not have not a lot of time in Sisimiut, but enough time to get an idea of the town in the hilly landscape. We pass the town hall, and we also experience the old, original buildings from the colonial era, now lovingly restored. Aboard Sarfaq Ittuk, our journey north continues. Tonight, once again, we go on deck and gaze at the sky, hoping that the weather gods are with us and gives us lots of life-affirming northern lights. The name of our tour comes from this part of the journey; as we sail north along the west coast of Greenland, we hope to see lots of northern lights along the way.

#### **Day 04: Day 4**

As Sarfaq Ittuk approaches Ilulissat, there will be many more icebergs in the water. Very large icebergs. They are significantly larger in the Disko Bay, and in the coming days, icebergs are at the core of our activities. Along with northern lights, of course. Accommodation at Hotel Arctic Upon arrival in Ilulissat, we are picked up and accommodated at Hotel Arctic. Hotel Arctic lies on the outskirts of Ilulissat with a view of the Ilulissat Ice Fjord. The Ice Fjord was added to UNESCO's World Heritage List in 2004. Today, Hotel Arctic is becoming a part of Ilulissat town. However, this has not always been the case. Until recently, it was located outside town, but as Ilulissat is one of Greenland's four growth centers, the town has expanded and now includes the 4-star hotel. The other growth centers in Greenland are Nuuk, Sisimiut, and Qaqortoq. Once you've got your room, we will have an information meeting to learn more about the town and the many



excursions that are available in this exciting area. If you have purchased the excursion package, you have five excursions to look forward to. If you have not purchased the excursion package, there are still two exciting excursions included in the trip, and you can always go exploring on your own. Cultural town walk with a visit to the sled dog area After the information meeting with the tour guide, we go on a town walk where you get the opportunity to get to know Ilulissat. The tour guide gives you an introduction to the history and culture of the area. We also pass by the town's museum which is housed in the world-famous polar explorer Knud Rasmussen's birthplace. We see the old colonial houses, the almost 250 years old Zion Church and the city's iconic and vibrant harbor. After the tour of the town, we head towards the outskirts of town where the sled dogs reign. Here you can learn about life as a sled dog which is quite relevant in this city where thousands of dogs are waiting for winter so they can take their human owners out on traditional dogsleds to go hunting and exploring in the backcountry. Ilulissat on your own After our visit to the dogs, you have the opportunity to see more of the town on your own. There are some crafts shops and also a workshop where the artists are busy with their artwork. You can also take a break at a café before you find a place to have dinner. Restaurants in Ilulissat There are many restaurants in Ilulissat and, at Hotel Arctic, there are two really good ones. They both come with excellent views of the ice fjord, and the food is of international standard, prepared with tasty Greenlandic ingredients. You'll also find several restaurants in town. In the evening, we recommend that you go out on the hotel's terrace and look at the northern lights. You may use the hotel's back door and walk down to the five aluminum igloos next to the hotel. They are situated on a small hill right above the water's edge so, while watching the northern lights above you, you can also hear the waves below you, creating the perfect soundscape!

#### **Day 05: Day 5**

After a wonderful breakfast buffet at the Hotel Arctic, we head out on a trip to Ilulissat Icefjord. We will be picked up from the hotel and driven to the top of the Sermermiut Valley. Today, you will need your hiking boots. Hike to Sermermiut and Ilulissat Ice Fjord We are going on a five-hour hike along the Ice Fjord. We walk at a steady pace, but the terrain is uneven in some places, and we do not recommend this trip if you are physically disabled. However, you can come along at the start of the excursion and consider how long you wish to continue. The first part of the trip is quite easy. We begin our walk at the old quarry on the outskirts of Ilulissat. Subsequently, we pass Seqinniarfik, Holm's Hill where, every year on January 13, the townspeople go to welcome the sun after a few months without sun. Here we enjoy our lunch before we reach the vantage point at Nakkaavik (Kællingekløften). The story goes that, in the old days, if there was famine the elderly people went out here and threw themselves into the sea so as not to be a burden to the community and to ensure that there was enough food for the next generations. Here we have a view of Ilulissat Ice Fjord and the huge amounts of ice and icebergs that float along the fjord. The hike ends at a footbridge, built after the site became a world heritage site and we walk past the former Inuit settlement, Sermermiut. Before Ilulissat became a colony, this place was the most populated place in North Greenland. Northern lights and dining You are free to make your own plans this evening. The tour guide will be happy to

#### Sailing among Northern Lights 8 days #2333



go with you to see the northern lights again.

#### **Day 06: Day 6**

Today you can do explore the area on your own. For those who have purchased the excursion package, an exciting excursion is on the menu. For those who have not acquired the tour package, it is possible to book onto the excursions (if space is available).

#### **Day 07: Day 7**

On your last day in Ilulissat, you can enjoy the town and its surroundings. If you have purchased the excursion package, you will go on an excursion to the beautifully situated settlement Oqaatsut north of Ilulissat.

#### **Day 08: Day 8**

With your minds filled with experiences from the land of the fantastic northern lights, we fly via Kangerlussuaq to Copenhagen, where we arrive in the evening. We can guarantee you that you go home with your heart filled with memories that will stay with you longer than other holiday memories. At least, that's what our other guests usually tell us afterward. On the flight from Ilulissat to Kangerlussuaq, you will see Ilulissat Ice Fjord from above. The flight lasts about 45 minutes, and you can see parts of the route that you sailed earlier this week. In Kangerlussuaq, there is a brief stay before you board Air Greenland's Airbus and fly to Denmark. Copenhagen You arrive late in the evening in Copenhagen, and for those living outside of Copenhagen, we recommend an overnight stay. Copenhagen is a wonderful place to visit. It is easy to travel between the airport and the town center. Please do not hesitate to contact us for accommodation in Copenhagen.

#### Inclusion

- Flight Copenhagen Kangerlussuaq
- Flight Kangerlussuaq Copenhagen
- Flight Kangerlussuaq Nuuk
- Flight Ilulissat Kangerlussuaq
- Coastal ship Nuuk Ilulissat with MS Sarfaq Ittuk
- Transfers to/from hotels and excursions
- 2 nights in a cabin on the coastal ship with a private bath/toilet
- 1 night at Hotel Kangerlussuaq with private bath/toilet
- 4 nights at Hotel Arctic with private bath/toilet
- Breakfast
- Full board on the coastal ship from Saturday morning to Sunday lunch (excl. beverages)
- Welcome dinner in Kangerlussuaq (excl. beverages)
- Farewell dinner in Ilulissat (excl. beverages)
- Sandwich on the excursion to Sermermiut at Ilulissat Icefjord (4-5 hours)
- Food and beverages onboard the flight from Copenhagen to Kangerlussuaq and the return flight





- Guided city tours in Nuuk, Sisimiut, and Ilulissat
- Guided hike to Sermermiut by the Icefjord incl. sandwich
- Dog show in Ilulissat
- Tour guide (The tour guide speaks English on departure 13 October)
- All flight/transportation taxes and fees known to Greenland Travel at the time of publishing
- 20 kg of checked baggage and 8 kg of cabin baggage

#### **Exclusion**

- Meals not listed above
- Travel Insurance
- Excursions

#### Note

Point of arrival and departure is Copenhagen.

There will be a connecting flight from Copenhagen to Kangerlussuaq inclusive in the package.

## **Tour Dates & Pricing**