ALONG THE VIKING TRAIL: FROM ICELAND TO GREENLAND

12 DAYS/10 NIGHTS – NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER

Centuries ago, Erik the Red became the first European to visit Greenland, and in 1972, Lars-Eric Lindblad pioneered expeditions to the icy country. The region’s history is enriched through walks amid Viking ruins and colorful villages, with a naturalist staff proving a rich understanding of the dramatic landscape and wildlife.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS
> HIKE, ZODIAC & KAYAK ICELAND’S WESTFJORD REGION & GREENLAND’S EAST COAST.
> EXPLORE VIKING SITES SETTLED BY ERIK THE RED 500 YEARS BEFORE COLUMBUS.
> MEET THE FRIENDLY GREENLANDERS WHO MAINTAIN THEIR TRADITIONAL LIFESTYLE.

JUL. 18: U.S./FLY OVERNIGHT TO REYKJAVIK, ICELAND

JUL. 19: REYKJAVIK/EMBARK
Arrive in Reykjavik, the world’s northernmost capital, which lies only a fraction below the Arctic Circle and receives just four hours of sunlight in winter and 22 in summer. Have a guided overview of the Old Town, including Hallgrimskirkja Cathedral with its 210-foot tower, and shed some light on Nordic culture at the National Museum, with its Viking treasures and artifacts. Embark National Geographic Explorer. (L,D)

JUL. 20: EXPLORE THE WEST COAST OF ICELAND
National Geographic Explorer navigates Iceland’s wild western frontier, sailing past the immense Latrabjarg cliffs, the westernmost point of Iceland and home to a huge population of razorbills. The cliffs are an area once famous for egg collecting; the men were tied to ropes and lowered like spiders down onto the ledges. Continue to Flatey Island, a trading post for many centuries, for walks around the charming little hamlet that grew here. (B,L,D)

JUL. 21: CROSSING THE DENMARK STRAIT
Follow the wake of Eric the Red and Brendan the Navigator as we cross to Greenland. Watch for blue whales. (B,L,D)

JUL. 22: EXPLORING EAST GREENLAND
The Greenland Ice Sheet, roughly 80% of the surface of Greenland, is the second largest ice body in the world, after the Antarctic Ice Sheet. The high arctic-like climate is dominated by ice floes. Among the options for exploration are landings at Skjoldungen fjord or Napasorsuaq fjord. We’ll use our tools for exploration to the fullest, taking Zodiac or kayak forays among the icebergs and deploying our ROV. (B,L,D)

JUL. 23: PRINS CHRISTIAN SUND & NANORTALIK
Prins Christian Sund is a major fjord on the southern coast of Greenland. Surrounded by mountain pinnacles and glaciers, the decks are perfect for viewing this landscape. Anchor off Nanortalik, Greenland’s most southerly town. Go ashore to the picturesque little town by the water’s edge. (B,L,D)

WWW.EXPLORATIONS.COM • 1.800.EXPLORATION (1.800.397.3348)
JUL. 24: QAQORTUKULOOQ (HVALSEY RUINS)
QAQORTOQ
Today you'll explore a remarkable site on the Viking Trail. Qaqortukulooq was settled by one of Erik the Red’s cousins in 986 AD. A World Heritage Site, it is the most extensive Norse site in Greenland. The ship them continues to Qaqortoq. Inhabited since Norse times, the Scandinavian influence is still apparent in the colorful wooden buildings and town museum, displaying Greenlandic kayaks, hunting equipment, art, and crafts. (B,L,D)

JUL. 25: ERIKSJORD (BRATTAHLID)
Eriksfjord, the area Erik the Red chose for his farm when he settled here in 982 AD. You'll explore Brattahlid, site of the first Christian church in the western hemisphere, built by Erik’s wife, Tjodhilde. This region is also the starting point of the first voyages to North America by his son Leif Eriksson 500 years before Columbus. (B,L,D)

JUL. 26: NUUK
Nuuk is the world’s smallest capital city with 15,000 inhabitants. Visit the National Museum with its famous 15th-century Qilakitsoq mummies, found near Uummannaq, and the subject of a NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC cover story. (B,L,D)

JUL. 27: EXPLORING GREENLAND’S WEST COAST
Today is left open for exploration of this rugged coastline. We may take a Zodiac cruise, kayak, or hike across the tundra. Our Undersea Specialist may launch the ROV to see the marine life inhabiting the fjord floor. (B,L,D)

JUL. 28-29: KANGERLUSSUAQ/DISEMBARK/FLY TO OTTAWA/HOME
Disembark in Kangerlussuaq and fly to Ottawa via privately chartered aircraft. Overnight at the Fairmont Chateau Laurier, or similar, and fly home from Ottawa on July 29. (B)

Aboard the 148-guest
National Geographic Explorer

2013 Departure: July 18

2013 Cost Per Person Double Occupancy
Category 1.................$9,620
Category 2.................$10,260
Category 3.................$10,640
Category 4.................$11,280
Category 5.................$13,340
Category 6.................$15,550
Category 7.................$17,770

Sole Occupancy
Category A.................$12,830
Category B.................$13,300

Advance Payment: .....$1,000

Sample Airfare:
New York/Reyjavik, Ottawa/New York.
Economy .......................from $650

Sample Charter Airfare: $1,200
(Kangerlussuaq/Ottawa)

Cost Includes: One hotel night in Ottawa; ship accommodations; meals indicated; excursions; services of Lindblad Expeditions’ expedition staff and expert guides; use of kayaks; all port charges and service taxes.

Not Included: Air transportation; visa/immigration fees, personal items such as alcoholic beverages, emails, laundry, etc.; discretionary tips to ship’s crew.

WWW.EXPLORATIONS.COM • 1.800.EXPLORATION (1.800.397.3348)