

Abercrombie & Kent



ARCTIC CRUISE ADVENTURE: IN SEARCH OF THE POLAR BEAR (2021)

Explore the Arctic on an all-encompassing expedition in
search of the mighty polar bear.

Cruises, Expeditionary Cruising



Arctic, Norway



15 days, from AU\$28,320



199 Guests

Journey Overview

Explore the Arctic on an all-encompassing expedition in search of the mighty polar bear. Travel alongside A&K's unmatched Expedition Team and a famed climatic scientist to learn about the shifting climate impacts on this delicate region. Discover rarely traversed volcanic island Jan Mayen and the starkly beautiful lava fields and ice caves of Iceland's Westfjords. Experience this thrilling destination through daily guided shore landings, as well as active excursions.

Journey Highlights

Cruise for 13 nights through the Arctic's wildest regions on a voyage exclusively chartered by A&K

Enjoy active exploration of the Arctic's varied landscapes, from sea kayaking through ice floes to epic volcanic hikes, all under the guide of A&K's award-winning Expedition Team

Experience a vast breadth of Arctic wildlife habitats, including the polar bear haven of Svalbard, where A&K enjoys unrestricted access to landing sites with our guest limited capacity limited to just 199

Cruise to the remote east coast of Greenland, where you may visit Kaiser Franz Josef Fjords, Scoresby Sound and the Inuit village of Ittoqqortoormiit

Discover North Iceland and the whale-watching village of Husavik, where you experience a private, behind-the-scenes tour at the renowned Husavik Whale Museum

Learn about the science behind the changing polar climate with famed climate scientist, ecologist and guest lecturer Dr. James McClintock, who has authored multiple research articles and books on the topic of climate change

Featured Experts

Dr. James McClintock, Climate Scientist

A noted climate change expert whose research has covered the polar regions, James has authored 235 research publications, four books on climate science, and has led numerous polar expeditions.

Brent Houston, Naturalist, Polar Bear Expert

Travelling yearly to Antarctica and the Arctic, Brent has served as an Expedition Leader, ornithology lecturer, and naturalist guide. Brent currently serves as a polar bear expert and wildlife scout.

Click [Here](#) to read Brian Johnston's account of searching for a polar bear.



Itinerary

Aug 5: Arrive Oslo, Norway

Arrive in Oslo, your gateway to the Arctic. On arrival, you are met and escorted to your hotel. This evening, meet fellow guests for a welcome dinner and cocktail reception.

Hotel Radisson Blu Gardermoen, Oslo

Aug 6: Norway | Oslo to Longyearbyen

Board an early morning charter flight to Longyearbyen, the capital of Svalbard, also known as Spitsbergen, the sovereign Arctic archipelago of Norway. It is one of the most remote groups of islands on the planet, with nearly two-thirds of its surface covered in luminous glaciers. Tour the tiny town and its Arctic Museum. This afternoon, board your expedition cruiser, 'Le Boreal.'

'Le Boreal' | Meals: BLD

Aug 7-11: Norway | The Svalbard Archipelago

Very few people have the opportunity to view the remote wilderness of the Svalbard Islands. In the archipelago, polar bears, walruses, Svalbard reindeer and an incredibly rich variety of birds are abundant, as are cathedrals of ice, glaciers and craggy mountain peaks. An exquisite assortment of flora also peppers this barren landscape.

The primary objective of your voyage is to spot polar bears as they roam in their natural habitat. Cruising on A&K's exclusive charter limited to just 199 guests grants you unrestricted access to every navigable area within the Svalbard archipelago — something ships with larger capacities cannot provide — allowing the ship to visit any locale favoured by the bears. Your Captain and Expedition Leader determine the day's best sightseeing opportunities, which may include:

Ny-Alesund: Home to a polar research station and the northernmost post office in the world.

Alkefjellet, or “auk cliffs”: Staggering cliffs that drop directly into the water and provide a home to vast colonies of auks, diving birds entirely dependent on the sea for their food.

Monacobreen: Formerly known as Monaco Bay, this glacier reaches down into Spitsbergen and is frequented by polar bears, harbor and bearded seals, walruses and a multitude of seabirds.

The Austfonna Icecap: One of the world's largest icecaps spanning over 5,000 square miles.

Liefdefjorden (The Love Fjord): Named after a Dutch ship with the same name, this fjord is another excellent area for spotting polar bears and wildlife.

Sjuoyane (“Seven Islands”): The most northerly region of the Svalbard archipelago. In every region, enjoy endless moments of discovery alongside A&K's seasoned Expedition Team, who know intuitively where and when you're most likely to see polar bears and wildlife — which you observe from the safety and comfort of 'Le Boreal.' These same experts also scout every landing site in advance of your arrival, assuring your safety and maximizing your experience ashore.

'Le Boreal' | Meals: BLD

Aug 12: At Sea | Cruising the Greenland Sea

Cruise south through the Greenland Sea as lecturers offer presentations on the wildlife, history and geology of Svalbard and prepare you for visits to Jan Mayen and Greenland.

'Le Boreal' | Meals: BLD

Aug 13: Jan Mayen | Glacier-Covered Volcano

At the confluence of the Greenland and Norwegian seas, arrive at Jan Mayen, a fascinating and rugged island dominated by the 7,500-foot Beerenberg Volcano, which today stands as the world's northernmost active volcano. With special permission and conditions permitting, land on this rarely visited island to see its meteorological station, Olonkinbyen, and discover its phenomenal bird colonies. Designated by BirdLife International as an Important Bird Area (IBA), Jan Mayen supports large breeding colonies of northern fulmars, little auks, thick-billed murrelets and black guillemots.

'Le Boreal' | Meals: BLD

Aug 14-15: Greenland | Remote Ittoqqortoormiit Village

While crossing the Greenland Sea and cruising along the Arctic ice edge, your Expedition Team prepares you for the world's largest island: Greenland. Arrive at its rarely visited east coast and Scoresby Sound, the largest and longest fjord system in the world, both of which you enjoy exploring for the next three days. Embark on Zodiac excursions through the fjord's intricate network, taking in its islands and icebergs and searching for residents including the musk ox and Arctic fox. Ice conditions permitting, disembark for a visit to the small settlement of Ittoqqortoormiit, one of the most isolated villages in Greenland.

'Le Boreal' | Meals: BLD

Aug 16: Iceland | Cruising the Denmark Strait

Enjoy a relaxing day at sea cruising the narrow strip of water that separates Greenland from Iceland and connects the Arctic Sea with the Atlantic Ocean. Continue exciting conversations with your Expedition Team and enrichment specialists. Watch for seabirds and whales from the deck in between the insightful lectures they present.

'Le Boreal' | Meals: BLD

Aug 17: Iceland | Husavik & Grundarfjordur

Arrive in picturesque Husavik and visit the Husavik Whale Museum, supported by A&K Philanthropy. The museum is one of the world's foremost centres for research of whales and their habitat. Afterward, choose to embark on a scenic whale-watching tour followed by free time in Husavik, or else set off for Godafoss Falls and geothermal Lake Myvatn. Tonight, gather with your Expedition Team and fellow guests for a special farewell reception and dinner.

'Le Boreal' | Meals: BLD

Aug 18: Iceland's Westfjords | Lava & Ice-Carved Lands

The Westfjords of Iceland are more remote and much less visited than other parts of the country. Settlements are small and interspersed among spectacular lava-formed mountains and coves. You might make a visit to Dynjandi Falls, the grandest waterfall in the Westfjords. Dynjandi is a spectacular sight, with water cascading down tiered ridges flanked by a green and brown façade. Enjoy leisurely walks up to a viewing platform or opt for something more vigorous, like a hike all the way to the top of the falls. Another possible place you may visit is Red Sand Beach, one of the most beguiling shorelines in Iceland. Wander the reddish-hued sands as they subtly change colour with the sunlight, shifting through a palette of reds, golds and greys.

'Le Boreal' | Meals: BLD

Aug 19: Depart Reykjavik

This morning, disembark 'Le Boreal' in Reykjavik and transfer to the airport for your return flight home, or continue on in Iceland with a Reykjavik extension.

Meals: B

Journey Details

Internal Air: Economy class from \$740 Oslo/Longyearbyen

Note: Itinerary is for guidance purposes only and may be adjusted due to unforeseen circumstances, including weather, wildlife, ice, medical emergencies and other conditions beyond A&K's control, at the sole discretion of the Captain.

This journey contains some active elements, including Zodiac boat excursions, walks over uneven terrain and optional, challenging hikes.

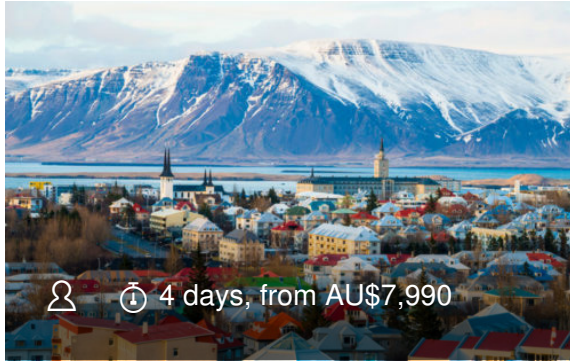
Minimum age is 7 years.

Categories 4–9 include room upgrade at the hotel and butler service aboard the ship.

First group event: welcome reception 6:30 p.m. on Day 1.

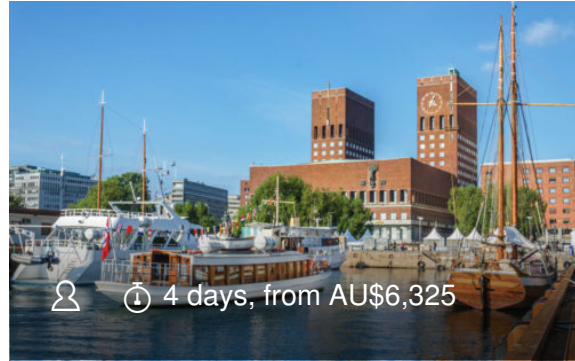
Last group event: disembarkation at 9:00 a.m. on Day 15.

Extensions



Reykjavik Post-Tour Extension (2021)

Bookable in conjunction with 'Arctic Cruise Adventure: In Search of the Polar Bear (2021)'.



Oslo Pre-Tour Extension (2021)

Bookable in conjunction with 'Arctic Cruise Adventure: In Search of the Polar Bear (2021)'.

Accommodation

Le Boreal



- Spacious and passenger-friendly
- All-balcony stateroom vessel
- Expert lecturer/guides to transform your experience
- Sensational shore excursions by zodiac
- Eco-friendly expeditionary cruise
- Overall length: 466 feet (142 metres)
- Beam: 59 feet (18 metres)
- Draft: 15.3 feet (4.6 metres)
- Average speed: 16 knots
- Ice class: 1C
- Passenger decks: 6
- Passenger capacity: Limited to 199 (A&K charters only)
- Crew and A&K staff: 155 (personnel-to-guest ratio of 1.3 to 1)
- Gross tonnage: 10.700 GRT
- Electric Motors: 2 x 2.3 MW
- Standards: USPHS – U.S. Coast Guard's Rules Comfort Class 1 – "Clean" Ship Certification (meets or exceeds all IMO, EPA, IAATO and AECO operating standards)
- Technology: Advanced dynamic positioning system

Aboard MV 'Le Boreal'

Spacious and passenger-friendly, she strikes just the right balance between on-board

amenities and full-fledged wilderness excitement. On other cruises to different destinations, she carries more than 264 passengers. But in the polar regions, A&K limits the complement to just 199 guests. That's an important difference: fewer passengers means more shore excursions each day, as well as outside cabins for every guest. Strength and style 'Le Boreal' features elegant design and innovative state-of-the-art marine technology. The vessel boasts a convenient and sensible layout, aided by three passenger elevators. She offers a single seating dining room, alfresco dining, an outdoor heated pool, and a modern lecture facility and theatre, as well as a comfortable meeting area and library. A full-service salon, steam rooms, spa and fitness centre complete the amenities.

Amenities

English language on board. Private balcony with every guest cabin, exclusively offered on A&K charters only. Complimentary butler service with every suite category, exclusively offered on A&K charters only. Sun Deck and multiple outer deck observation areas. Outside heated pool Library with selection of books . Two restaurants: Main and Grill . Open bar (excluding premium wines and spirits), an exclusive offering on A&K charters only. Two lounges with bars: Club with live music and Panoramic with Terrace. Complimentary 24-hour room service. Complimentary in-cabin breakfast (on request) .Three passenger elevators. Fitness Center with Kinesis® wall. Full-service salon with spa and steam room. Theater for more than 200 guests. Boutique shop. 24-hour medical facilities with certified doctor. Laundry services. Electricity: 110/220 volts. Wireless Internet (due to remote destinations, access and speed varies)

Adventuring in comfort

'Le Boreal' boasts elegant guest accommodations, among the most comfortable available on any Antarctic cruise. The ship features 104 outside, fully equipped balcony cabins and suites. Guests can watch whales breaching outside the floor-to-ceiling window, then step out onto the balcony for a closer look. 'Le Boreal' is also outfitted with a technologically advanced stabilising system to minimise the effects of rough conditions and keep passengers comfortable in remote seas.

Zodiacs

'Le Boreal' carries a fleet of Zodiacs, 10 to 12-seat motorised rubber boats designed by Jacques Cousteau for safe operations in rough and shallow waters. They allow passengers to explore remote shores where there are no docking arrangements and nimbly cruise alongside towering glaciers or near pods of passing whale. 'Le Boreal's' Zodiacs feature fuel-efficient motors that comply with all environmental protection standards.

Safety

Safety is first and foremost on board. The ship is equipped with a GMDSS emergency communication system and a satellite weather system, receiving real-time satellite images of weather and ice conditions in the area. Announcements update passengers on current conditions of the decks. English is the primary language aboard, so instructions will be clear and understandable. Passengers will be able to communicate with officers, staff and crew at all times. Finally, a full-time physician is on board throughout your voyage.

International cuisine

'Le Boreal' features two restaurants: La Licorne, offering gourmet, contemporary and international cuisine; and casual La Boussole, with indoor and outdoor dining for breakfast, lunch and themed dinners. There is always a selection of light fare and vegetarian dishes, and most special diets can be accommodated with advance notice. In-cabin room service is also available.

Eco-friendly cruising

MV 'Le Boreal' employs the latest environmental practices and technology, including using the cleanest-burning marine gas oil fuel and a state-of-the-art positioning system that eliminates the need for dropping anchor in fragile marine reserves.

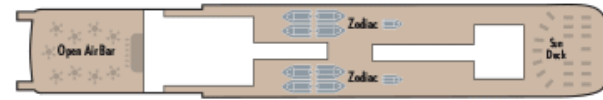
Environmentally Sound Travel

Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy (AKP) supports a number of worthwhile projects in the polar regions. In Antarctica, the organisation supports a whale photo-identification programme and a project devoted to helping save the albatross and other seabirds dying needlessly on long-line fishing hooks. In the Arctic the Husavik Whale Museum has much needed support from AKP.

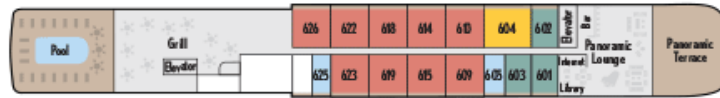
'Le Boreal'

- Category 1
Classic Stateroom
- Category 2
Deluxe Stateroom
- Category 3
Premier Stateroom
- Category 4
Superior Stateroom
- Category 5*
Prestige Suite
- Category 6*
Premier Two-Room Suite
- Category 7*
Prestige Two-Room Suite
- Category 8*
Owner's Suite

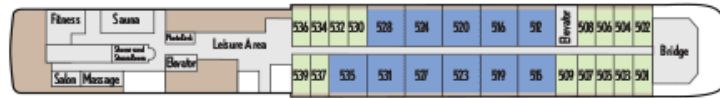
*Butler Service Included



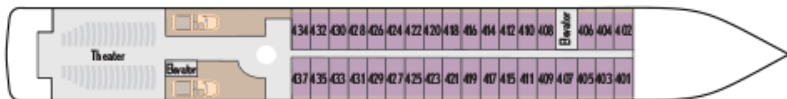
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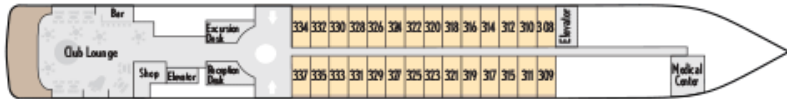
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DECK 5



DECK 4



DECK 3



DECK 2

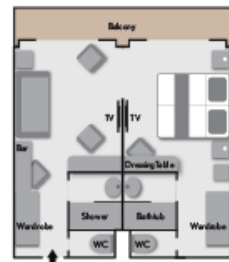


Categories 1-4
Staterooms
Cabin: 18 sq. mt. | Balcony: 4 sq. mt.

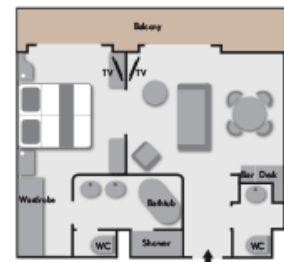
BUTLER SERVICE INCLUDED



Category 5
Prestige Suites
Cabin: 27 sq. mt. | Balcony: 5 sq. mt.



Categories 6-7
Premier and Prestige Two-Room Suites
Cabin: 37 sq. mt. | Balcony: 8 sq. mt.



Category 8
Owner's Suite
Cabin: 45 sq. mt. | Balcony: 9 sq. mt.

Dates & Pricing

Prices are in AUD, per person, based on double occupancy

Aug 5, 2021 - Aug 19, 2021

Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Boreal: Classic Balcony Stateroom-Category 1	AU\$32,485 NOW ONLY AU\$28,320 pp	AU\$23,740	Included	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Boreal: Deluxe Balcony Stateroom-Category 2	AU\$36,650 NOW ONLY AU\$32,485 pp	AU\$26,875	Included	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Boreal: Premier Balcony Stateroom-Category 3	AU\$39,150 NOW ONLY AU\$34,985 pp	AU\$28,740	Included	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Boreal: Superior Balcony Stateroom-Category 4	AU\$40,185 NOW ONLY AU\$36,020 pp	AU\$33,990	Included	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Boreal: Prestige Balcony Suite-Category 5	AU\$54,150 NOW ONLY AU\$49,985 pp	AU\$46,660	Included	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Boreal: Premier Two-Room Balcony Suite - Category 6	AU\$64,150 NOW ONLY AU\$59,985 pp	AU\$56,160	Included	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Boreal: Prestige Two-Room Balcony Suite-Category 7	AU\$69,150 NOW ONLY AU\$64,985 pp	AU\$60,960	Included	Available
Cabin Class	Price	Single Supplement	Internal Air (From)	Availability
Le Boreal: Owner's Balcony Suite-Category 8	AU\$77,485 NOW ONLY AU\$73,320 pp	AU\$68,825	Included	Limited Availability