LAND OF THE ICE BEARS
EXPLORING THE HIGH ARCTIC

June 8-18, 2012
Aboard National Geographic Explorer
Cover Photo: Ice bear spotter Stefan Lundgren found the bear and got the shot. Above: “Extreme” photojournalist National Geographic’s Paul Nicklen captured this photo.

Ship’s Registry: Bahamas
Dear NWF Traveler,

Under the midnight sun, only 600 miles from the North Pole, lies the Svalbard archipelago, a strikingly beautiful wilderness known only to the adventurous few. This is the home of the ice bear, king of the Arctic, where you'll have the rare privilege of observing these magnificent creatures in their natural habitat.

Journey with us June 8-18, 2012 to this isolated, ethereal world where each moment offers opportunities for adventure and discovery. Observe polar bears stalking the pack ice for seals, herds of walruses hauled out on scoured granite beaches, iconic reindeer grazing the tundra and teeming bird colonies nesting in the sea cliffs. Cruise down icy fjords, paddle in kayaks amid brilliantly blue icebergs and hike across tundra punctuated by clusters of vibrant wildflowers.

This trip is the perfect introduction to one of our favorite tour operators — Lindblad Expeditions, a pioneer in the field of responsible tourism. In fact, Lindblad Expeditions was awarded NWF's highest honor for a company — the Corporate Leadership Conservation Achievement Award. Their efforts in the Arctic and around the world encourage greater awareness and participation in conservation projects.

You'll travel there in safety and comfort aboard the ice-strengthened expedition ship National Geographic Explorer, along with the best ice team in the world. The experienced captain and crew along with a team of onboard naturalists have been exploring this wilderness for years and have found the best spots to look for polar bears or search offshore for some of the largest whales on Earth.

Join us and like-minded travelers in the summer of 2012 for an unforgettable exploration of the High Arctic. To reserve your place, please call toll free at 800-606-9563 or return the enclosed reservation form.

Sincerely,

Marie E. Uehling
Director of Stewardship
Few experiences are as profound as locating and observing bears in Arctic Svalbard. To be on the 6,471-ton National Geographic Explorer in the Arctic, maneuvered with near-surgical precision by a skilled ice master as it draws close to a bear hunting on the pack ice or a mother bear instructing her young cubs, is simply enthralling. To be able to hover there, observing these creatures that remain completely undisturbed by the people gazing raptly from the deck rail or by their whirring camera motor drives, is one of life’s most inspiring and satisfying experiences. Every shot featured in this brochure was taken during previous Arctic voyages, and every guest aboard witnessed these same scenes.
Ace spotters like Stefan Lundgren have an uncanny ability to scan vast expanses of featureless ice and distinguish the telltale tinge of ivory against white that says “bear.” Together with the skilled captain, they guide us in close for thrilling observations.
Guests on the lookout as National Geographic Explorer nimbly maneuvers through the pack ice.
THE PERFECT PLATFORM FOR EXPLORING THE ARCTIC

Through the agility of *National Geographic Explorer* and the skill of her captain, we can experience unprecedented encounters in the Arctic, a region of infinite, subtle beauty and an astonishing diversity of life. This is not the passive state of cruising; this is active engagement with the environment and its creatures. It’s not mere looking; it’s seeing and then turning to companion experts for answers to questions, or a sense of context — especially valuable in the High Arctic which plays such a role in the climate change discussion. You’ll return a more informed citizen of the planet, better able to participate in the worldwide conversation about the environment.

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER’S TOOLS & TECHNOLOGY**

- **Fully stabilized** with an Ice-1A Class rating on the hull
- **A Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV)** that can explore the ocean at depths to 1,000 feet
- **A Remote-controlled Crow’s Nest Camera** with real-time footage broadcast on high-definition LCD video screens within each cabin
- **An Electronic Chart System** that broadcasts as a channel in the cabins
- **A Chart Room** with nautical maps and a coffee, tea, hot cocoa station
- **Open Invitation to Visit the Bridge**
- **The Observation Lounge**, providing panoramic vistas of scenic destinations
- **13 Zodiacs** and internal boarding mechanism for swift, effortless disembarkation
- **36 Double Kayaks** that allow guests to explore pristine environments
- **A Professional Video Chronicler** to capture every facet of your unique adventure, and professionally edit a DVD prior to departure available for purchase.
Go with us for a genuinely exploratory experience. Thanks to Explorer’s tools and expert staff, you can actively engage. Savor the thrill of crunching through the pack ice. Kayak for eye-level encounters. Zodiac where few have gone before. See walruses, whales and polar bears. Discover the undersea. Shoot with an onboard National Geographic photographer and more.
Despite the fact that all companies claim to have knowledgeable experts on board, it simply isn’t, in all cases, true. Over the 40+ years of Lindblad’s history, the quality of their veteran staff and their companionship is the reason their name is known and respected for top-quality expeditions. And with a Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic Certified Photo Instructor aboard, there is no better team anywhere. The staff composition ensures a diverse range of expertise — naturalists, ornithologists, marine biologists, polar historians and more. They invest significantly to keep a minimum guest-to-staff ratio of 15:1. Guests are not herded around in large groups, but can gravitate naturally to the staffers they’re most interested in. Guests often comment on how actively the staff participates in the experience, and how personable and accessible they are. Their enthusiasm makes this High Arctic expedition uniquely informative and fun.

SEEING BENEATH THE ICE

The world under the Arctic ice is as spectacular and diverse as the icescape. You’ll experience it through underwater video equipment, including an ROV. The undersea specialist dives, then displays the images he captures on HD TVs while you’re winding down in the ship’s comfortable Lounge.
DAY 1: U.S./FLY OVERNIGHT TO OSLO, NORWAY

DAY 2: OSLO
Upon arrival, check in to the Continental Hotel (or similar). Later, stroll among the famed Vigeland sculptures set in parklands and make a visit to the Polar Ship Fram Museum.

DAY 3: OSLO/LONGYEARBYEN/EMBARK
Take a private charter flight to Longyearbyen and embark our ship. (B,L,D)

DAYS 4-9: EXPLORING SVALBARD
In true expedition style, we will let nature dictate our day-to-day movements and remain flexible, maximizing our opportunities to observe Svalbard’s abundant wildlife. With a fully stabilized ice-class expedition ship, we probe the ice in search of seals, Arctic foxes and the very symbol of the Arctic — polar bears. Once spotted, the scene is one of sheer excitement and reverence for these great animals. They are often seen on the pack ice searching for a meal, but a few times each season we sight a bear which has recently caught a seal. Cruising in Svalbard’s fjords in the legendary land of the midnight
sun, we venture to the foot of stunning tidewater glaciers. Zodiac and kayak among beautiful icebergs, and experience the geology, wildlife and wildflowers that give color and vitality to the High Arctic. (B,L,D)

DAY 10: LONGYEARBYEN/DISEMBARK/OSLO
Disembark and explore Longyearbyen before we fly to Oslo. Overnight at the Radisson Blu Airport Hotel. (B,L)

DAY 11: OSLO/HOME (B)

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS
» Norwegian Fjords, Pre-voyage, 4 Days
» Exploring Iceland, Post-voyage, 4 Days
Call for details.

Observing a polar bear in the wild is a rare privilege.
National Geographic Explorer

CAPACITY: 148 guests in 81 outside cabins.
REGISTRY: Bahamas. OVERALL LENGTH: 367 feet.

*National Geographic Explorer* is a state-of-the-art expedition ship and the newest addition to the Lindblad fleet. It is a fully stabilized, ice-class vessel with an Ice-1A rating on the hull, enabling it to navigate polar environments while providing exceptional comfort. It carries 36 double kayaks and a fleet of 13 Zodiac landing craft. An undersea specialist operates a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) and sophisticated undersea video equipment, extending access to the underwater world.

**PUBLIC AREAS:** Bistro Bar; Chart Room; Restaurant; Global Gallery; Library; Lounge with full service bar and state-of-the-art facilities for films, slideshows and presentations; Mud Room with lockers for expedition gear, and Observation Lounge. Our “Open Bridge” provides guests an opportunity to meet our officers and captains and learn about navigation.

**MEALS:** Served in single seatings with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Menu is international.

**CABINS:** All cabins face outside with windows or portholes, private facilities and climate controls. Some cabins have balconies.

**EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT:** Zodiac landing craft, kayaks, Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), hydrophone, SplashCam, underwater video camera, Crow’s Nest remote-controlled camera, video microscope.

**SPECIAL FEATURES:** A full-time doctor, undersea specialist, LEX photo specialist and video chronicler, Internet café and laundry.

**WELLNESS:** The vessel is staffed by a wellness specialist and features a glass-enclosed Fitness Center, outdoor stretching area, two LEXspa treatment rooms and Sauna.

*From top: Example of a Main Deck cabin with window. Spacious solo cabins are available on all decks. Standard bathrooms are stocked with a hair dryer, white terry robes and deluxe amenities.*
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER DECK PLAN
Capacity: 148 guests in 81 outside cabins.

Prices are per person, double occupancy unless otherwise indicated as solo.

**Category 1:** $8,240
Main Deck with one or two Portholes #301-308

**Category 2:** $8,790
Main Deck with Window #317-320, 335-336

**Category 3:** $9,120
Main Deck with Window #313-316, 321-328, 337-340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350

**Category 4:** $9,670
Upper and Veranda Decks with Window #103-104, 107-108, 201-202, 204-207, 210, 212, 217, 226, 228

**Category 5:** $11,430
Upper Deck with Balcony #209, 211, 214, 216, 218, 220-222, 224

**Category 6:** $13,330
Veranda Deck–Suite #101-102; Upper Deck-Suite with Balcony #213

**Category 7:** $15,230
Upper Deck–Suite with Balcony #215, 219, 230

**Category 2 Sole Occupancy:** $10,980
Main Deck with Window #309-312, 329-334

**Category 3 Sole Occupancy:** $11,400
Upper and Veranda Decks with Window #105-106, 203, 208

**Category 3 Triple Occupancy***:
Main Deck with Window #341, 343

**SHARED ACCOMMODATIONS:** Available in Categories 1 and 2.

**NOTE:** Cabins #209, 211, 214, 216-218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 303-306 – These cabins have one queen-sized bed. All other double cabins have two lower single beds; some can convert to a queen-sized bed. Note: Sole-occupancy cabins available in Categories 2 and 3. *Third-person rates are available in the designated triple-occupancy cabins at one-half the double-occupancy rate.
SPECIAL OFFER

BRING THE KIDS: We believe sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. So, take $500 off the double-occupancy rate for each person under 18.

Costs Include: Accommodations aboard ship; two hotel nights in Oslo; meals indicated; non-alcoholic beverages aboard ship; transfers to/from airport if traveling on group flights; all shore excursions, sightseeing and entrance fees; taxes, service charges and tips (except to ship’s crew). There’s never a charge for kayaks or the services of the ship physician and Lindblad’s expedition staff.

Not Included: Airfare between hometown/Oslo and Oslo/Longyearbyen/Oslo; meals not indicated; optional extensions; passport and visa fees; baggage/accident/travel protection plan; voyage DVD; personal items including email, telephone and fax calls, and laundry; and discretionary gratuities to ship’s crew.

Sample Airfares: Round-trip Newark/Oslo: Economy from $1,195; Business from $3,440; Charter flights Oslo/Longyearbyen/Oslo: $725 per person. Lindblad will gladly assist in making your air arrangements for a $50 per person service fee. Fares subject to change.

Terms & Conditions

Reservations: To confirm your place, an advance payment of US $1,000 per person is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover or check.

Final Payment: Due 90 days prior to departure.

Travel Protection Plan: A travel protection plan is available at extra cost. Upon receiving your reservation, we will send you information on this policy. This comprehensive guest protection plan covers trip cancellation for medical reasons; trip delay; medical expenses; accidental death; lost baggage; and medical evacuation.

Smoking Policy: Allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

Responsibility: Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of the Company’s liability for loss of property, injury, illness or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests prior to final payment, and to prospective guests upon request.

Prices listed in this brochure are as of publication date, and are subject to change. The Company reserves the right to impose surcharges based on increases in the Company’s actual cost of fuel.

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<th>CANCELLATION POLICY</th>
<th>Per Person Cancellation Fee</th>
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<tr>
<td>120 or more days</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<td>119-90 days</td>
<td>Advance payment cost</td>
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<td>89–60 days</td>
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<td>29–0 days</td>
<td>No refund</td>
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This policy applies to expeditions and may differ for extensions. We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.
Reservation Form: Land of the Ice Bears
Aboard National Geographic Explorer — June 8-18, 2012

Please reserve ____________ place(s).

Name 1: _____________________________________________________________
(As it appears on passport)

Name 1: ______________________________ Date of Birth: ____________________
(Preferred name for name badge)

Name 2: _____________________________________________________________
(As it appears on passport)

Name 2: ______________________________ Date of Birth: ____________________
(Preferred name for name badge)

Street Address: ________________________________________________________

City: ________________________________ State: _______________ Zip: ________

Home Phone: __________________________________________________________

Business Phone: _______________________________________________________

Fax: ________________________________________________________________

Email: _______________________________________________________________

Accommodations: □ Double □ Single □ Twin share w/friend
□ Share with roommate assigned by tour operator

Please indicate choice of cabin category in order of preference:

1st choice: _____________________ 2nd choice: ___________________________

□ Enclosed is my advance payment of $ _____________________________
(US$1,000 per person). Check made payable to Lindblad Maritime Enterprises, Ltd.

□ Charge my advance payment of $ _____________________________
(US$1,000 per person) to my □ Visa □ MasterCard □ American Express or □ Discover.

Account Number: ___________________________ Expires: _________________

Cardholder Signature: ___________________________ Date: _________________
EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

» Explore nature in its purest form in the High Arctic aboard National Geographic Explorer.

» See wild polar bears in their natural habitat — on the sea ice.

» Experience the land of the midnight sun.

» Observe walruses, seals, arctic foxes and reindeer.

» Explore in Zodiacs and kayaks with a team of expert naturalists.