



SKI & SAIL

EXPEDITION MANUAL



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TRAVEL AGENCY & SHIPPING COMPANY

Swan Expeditions organizes special voyages and expeditions to remote destinations. Our adventures have changed the lives of thousands of people.

We are a travel agency and proud owner of our Tall Ships Wyldeswan and Noorderlicht. Because we organize worldwide expeditions and also own the Tall Ships we sail, we fully manage your experience with us.

In this Expedition Manual you will read about our Ski and Sail expeditions in Northern Norway. At the end you will find an overview of all our Ski & Sail voyages and of all our expeditions in Spitsbergen. If you have any questions regarding these expeditions, do not hesitate [contacting us](#).

Are you ready to start exploring?

[BOOK YOUR VOYAGE >](#)



PLEASE NOTE: All itineraries are for guidance only. Programs may vary depending on ice, weather, and wildlife conditions. Landings are subject to site availabilities, permissions, and environmental concerns per AECO regulations. Official sailing plans and landing slots are scheduled with AECO prior to the start of the season, but the expedition leader determines the final plan. Flexibility is paramount for expedition cruises.

NORTHERN NORWAY

SKIING AND SAILING

Are you ready for an extraordinary journey that combines the thrill of skiing with the serenity of sailing? Join us on one of six epic 7-day Ski and Sail expedition in the breath-taking landscapes of Norway.

Imagine stepping aboard the magnificent Tall Ship Noorderlicht, setting sail towards the untouched, pristine white skiing mountains that Norway is renowned for. Our seasoned guides are here to curate a skiing experience like no other, leading you to the perfect backcountry spots where you can immerse yourself in the pure essence of Norway's natural beauty.



[VIEW VOYAGES](#)

TALL SHIP NOORDERLICHT

Many of the North's most spectacular skiing destinations are only accessible by boat, making our voyages truly unique. Aside from conquering these fantastic white mountains, you'll relish the joys of sailing between these skiing spots, creating unforgettable memories at every turn.

Tall Ship

The characteristic appearance of our Tall Ship Noorderlicht makes an expedition to Norway a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Staying on our traditional, comfortable ship with its majestic masts and rigging creates a wonderful atmosphere. If there is wind, we will travel under sail as much as possible. Gliding through the beautiful fjords, surrounded by magnificent mountains and driven by the wind is a unique experience. Besides, if you want to help with sailing the ship, you're more than welcome. You can take the helm and steer the ship to the next special landing, how cool is that!



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VOYAGE DESCRIPTION

This voyage is designed for those who seek a challenging and one-of-a-kind holiday experience, offering wild, breathtaking and beautiful moments that will stay with you forever. With a professional ski guide boasting local expertise and a skilled skipper navigating us to the best conditions, you can rest assured that every moment will be an adventure worth cherishing. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a novice, our journey is tailor-made for adventures like you.



ROUTE AND DURATION

Ready to embark on this epic 7-day Ski and Sail adventure? We offer 4 weeks of Ski & Sail voyages in March, with 4 different routes/locations. The routes we will sail are depending on the wishes of you as guest, and ofcourse weather circumstances.

Solvaer – Harstad (Lofoten)	2 – 8 March
Harstad – Tromso (Senja)	9 – 15 March
Tromso – Alta	16 – 22 March
Alta – Tromso	23 – 30 March

Curious for the availability of our voyages?

[CHECK IT HERE](#)



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LOCATION

The ultimate Nordic experience. Norway's landscape, with its beautiful fjords and amazing mountains, is already pretty spectacular on itself. Combine this with ski touring and sailing and it's definitely a spectacular and unique adventure. Northern Norway is the perfect place for backcountry skiing and is acknowledged for steeper alpine terrain. We offer guided expeditions in Lofoten, Senja, Lyngen and partly in Kvaløya.

The Lofoten Islands showcases some of the most untamed and pristine nature that Norway has to offer. With its alpine mountains and towering peaks up to 1000m high, this region presents skiers with a multitude of natural pistes, providing a wide variety of skiing terrain for skiers of all skill levels. Whether you're a seasoned mountaineer or a novice seeking to embrace the raw beauty of the Norwegian wilderness.

Senja, is situated between the Lofoten Islands and the Lyngen Peninsula and is renowned as the 'mini-Norway', due to its remarkable diversity of landscapes. As you sail along its shores, you'll encounter a rugged coastline adorned with towering peaks, deep fjords and picturesque beaches. In a single day, one can conquer one, two, or even three summits, with the highest point being Breitinden, soaring to an elevation of 1001 meters above sea level.

The Lyngen Alps are likely the most famous ski touring area in Norway. This peninsula is roughly 90 kilometers long and 20 kilometers wide, with its highest point reaching 1,833 meters above sea level. The landscape features glaciers, steep couloirs and expansive bowls. Peaks typically skied in the Lyngen Alps are at elevations below 1,200 meters and the descents can extend all the way to sea level. It's a truly inspiring place to ski.

Kvaløya is an island that is located just outside Tromsø. It has a stunning, predominantly mountainous landscape. Kvaløya is almost divided into three sections by the Erstfjorden and Kaldfjorden fjords. The highest peak is Store Blåmann, which reaches 1,044 meters. Kvaløya gives the impression of being a remote, untamed place and this atmosphere only enhances the joy of skiing there.



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SKILL LEVEL – MEDIUM

For our Ski & Sail expeditions, it's important that you have previous skiing or snowboarding experience and have participated in backcountry or touring trips. You should be able to achieve a minimum of 1000 vertical meters daily for five consecutive days. While taking a day off is off course an option. Next to that, we will customize the trip based on the group's experience to ensure that everyone has the most amazing and fulfilling experience.

If you're uncertain whether this trip is the right fit for you, please feel free to reach out. We are available to assist you in choosing the expedition that best aligns with your preferences and skill level, whether you're a rookie or highly experienced.



GROUPSIZE

We will have a crew consisting of 4 nautical experts, 1 chef and either 2 or 3 certified guides, depending on the size and requirements of the group. We'll have a maximum of 12 guests on board. To ensure a more tailored experience, we can organize two separate groups based on everyone's experience. This way you can choose to join the faster-paced group or the slower-paced one, depending on your preferences and comfort level.

ELEVATION

On this adventure, we'll embark on a sailing trip to access secluded locations that are exclusively reachable through ski touring. You can expect an average daily vertical ascent of 700 to 1200 meters over a span of 7 days.



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ITINERARY

Day 1

Embarkation. Depending on which of the four expeditions you choose, you will step aboard our Tall Ship in Solvear, Harstad, Tromsø or Alta. We get on board in the afternoon and sail towards our first skiing destination. The definitive route will be decided together with your fellow travelers. Our route is highly dependant on weather circumstances.

Day 2 – 6

Each day begins with a hearty breakfast and we will prepare packed lunches before heading ashore. Depending on the day, we may have dinner immediately after skiing, while on other occasions, we'll enjoy a light meal upon returning to the ship and then set sail before having a late dinner. We'll navigate the breathtaking Norwegian fjords, hop into the dinghy, make landings on secluded beaches where we'll hike and ski one of the most exhilarating lines of our lives. As we descend, we'll be treated with beautiful views of the surrounding peaks and the ocean. While sailing towards our next destination, we'll take the opportunity to unwind and savor the magnificent landscapes. For the daring, a refreshing dip in the icy waters is an option and if we're fortunate, we might even catch a glimpse of the Northern Lights during the evening.

Day 7

Unfortunately, our adventure through the beautiful fjords and mountains of Northern Norway has come to an end. After a hearty breakfast, you are kindly requested to disembark by 9 o'clock in the morning. We hope we've been able to give you an amazing ski and sail adventure and that you've had an enjoyable time on board the Noorderlicht.



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WHAT'S INCLUDED?

Included

- › All meals. breakfast, lunch and dinner
- › Coffee & tea
- › Bed linen & towel
- › Crew: 5 nautical crew
- › Guide
- › Port fees
- › Fuel

Excluded

- › Flights to Norway
- › Drinks aboard
- › Travel & cancellation insurance
- › Tip/gratuities for the staff on board
- › Ski & avalanche equipment (beacon, shovel, probe)



Are you ready to start your Ski & Sail adventure?

[More info & pricing >](#)

VOYAGE OVERVIEW 2024

On this page you will find a chronological overview of all our scheduled expeditions in 2024. On the following page you can read more about Spitsbergen - Svalbard.

Northern Norway

- Ski & Sail | 2 - 8 March
- Ski & Sail | 9 - 15 March
- Ski & Sail | 16 - 22 March
- Ski & Sail | 23 - 30 March

Svalbard

- Arctic Spring | 26 May - 2 June
- Arctic Spring | 2 June - 9 June
- Arctic Spring | 9 June - 16 June

- North West Svalbard | 18 June - 28 June

- Circumnavigation | 30 June - 15 July
- Circumnavigation | 15 July - 30 July
- Circumnavigation | 1 August - 15 August
- Circumnavigation | 15 August - 30 August

- Arctic Fall: NorthWest | 1 September - 8 September
- Arctic Fall: Bellsund&Isfjorden | 8 September - 15 September
- Arctic Fall: NorthWest | 15 September - 22 September
- Arctic Fall: Bellsund&Isfjorden | 22 September - 29 September

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SPITSBERGEN

Tallship de Noorderlicht has 30 years of experience in Spitsbergen. Only with us can you really experience the Arctic wilderness with spectacular glaciers, encounters with Arctic animals and dive into the history of Spitsbergen.

We have several voyages in Spitsbergen. They take place from April to September: in spring, summer and the arctic autumn. Experience a life-changing journey with Swan Expeditions on Tallship Noorderlicht.

[VIEW VOYAGES](#)



SAILING AND SPITSBERGEN?

Yes, only with a sailing ship you can discover the real Spitsbergen on a voyage between 7 and 16 days. Larger and only motorized ships are increasingly banned from the most beautiful and vulnerable places.

Smaller Ship – beter expeditions

In the past 30 years that we execute sailing expeditions in Spitsbergen, we have also seen mass tourism increase. Fortunately, the Norwegian government is making rules to protect vulnerable areas from the larger, motorized ships of up to 200 passengers. Noorderlicht with only 20 guests is still allowed to visit those places.



For more information about our Svalbard Expeditions please download our

[EXPEDITION GUIDE](#)



LIFE ON BOARD

What immediately stands out is the warm and cozy atmosphere in the ship. There are nice common areas that can be heated well for the arctic areas. There are also 10 comfortable double cabins. Living together on board is a fantastic experience, regardless of your age.

The group process is one of the most important parts of an expedition.

Want to know more about our voyages or do you have a question? You can either talk to our Expedition Manager Christian, fill out our contact form or visit one of our online webinars.

[SCHEDULE A CALL](#)



SLEEPING

Noorderlicht has 10 cabins for 2 people. The cabins are spacious and comfortable. Some cabins share a shower and toilet with one other cabin. Other cabins have the shower and toilet in the sanitary room. A double bed on a sailing ship is not a good idea. As soon as there is some heel, this is not pleasant. We therefore have two single beds in a bunk bed arrangement.

If you want more privacy, you can choose to book one cabin for one person. We only have a limited number of this option.

FOOD

Every day our chef and crew prepare a delicious breakfast with various cereals, fresh bread, sweet and savory spreads with coffee, tea, juice, milk. At the coffee and tea moments, something tasty is usually provided.

Lunch is an important meal with bread where something extra or warm is often served.

Dinner usually consists of three courses and is prepared with great care.

Because we have a relatively small group of passengers, our cook can always add a personal touch to the food for our guests.

DAILY ROUTINE

After breakfast usually follows the first excursion or landing of the day. Lunch on board is after the first landing/excursion, between 12 noon and 2 pm. Depending on what the day offers, we will then sail to the next destination.

Sometimes we use the whole afternoon for that. Another time we go on a second excursion or landing. Dinner takes place between 6 and 8 pm. In the evening there is room for a lecture or briefing from the guides and of course to chat or read a book. Sometimes there is still sailing in the evening or at night and it is nice to participate in the sailing of the ship.

Do you have any questions regarding diets or allergies?

Send an [email](#) or visit our online webinar.

Our crew and our guides join in with our guests. This ensures that we are all really sailing the expedition together.

SAFETY

The Noorderlicht meets all safety requirements set by the International Maritime Organization (IMO). The crew and guides are well trained in dealing with emergencies, but especially in preventing them. Every year, the entire ship and crew are inspected by various government agencies.

Do you have any questions about safety or our voyages?

[CONTACT FORM](#)



BOOKING AND COSTS

Costs

Although our expeditions with our Tall ship are the most unique of all voyages you can do at Northern Norway or Spitsbergen, they are still very affordable. (VZR garant has secured the paid travel money. [Read more about it here](#)).

Full board

Prices are based on full board, coffee, tea, juice, etc.. Only your personal (alcoholic) drinks are for your account. Your flight and transfer is not included.

Merchandise

We have a number of unique items for sale on board. Think of small souvenirs like magnets and keychains or clothing like socks, sweaters, polos and caps. Fun to have or to wear as a reminder of your extraordinary expedition on the Noorderlicht with Swan Expeditions. Or you can even surprise family and friends back home with a thoughtful and adventurous little gift.

Tipping

It is customary for guests to tip the crew. This can be arranged when paying for your drinks and merchandise on the last day. For example, consider 5% of the travel sum.

Book your expedition

When you have found your expedition of choice, you can start booking. For expeditions of more than 3000 euros that are booked more than 60 days in advance, you only pay 30% first. If the expedition is already within 60 days of booking or for less than 3000 euros you pay the entire travel sum direct. With your booking you will receive a link to your personal account. There you will find all information about your expedition. We also ask you to complete your personal information in your account. Do you pay in parts? Then you will also find the second invoice in your personal account 2 months before the trip.

Are you ready to start your next adventure?
View the availability and pricing of our voyages

[OUR VOYAGES >](#)

