

North Pole

Top of the World



14 Jun - 27 Jun 2017

Duration: 14 days

Embarkation: Murmansk (Russia)

Disembarkation: Murmansk (Russia)

Ship: I/b 50 Years of Victory

Activities:



We don't have the heart to use her when we talk about i/b 50 Years of Victory – it's not ladylike at all. Elegance doesn't matter when it comes to the right vessel to take you to the top of the world. The most powerful icebreaker ever built generates 75,000 horsepower and crushes multi-year ice layers three meters thick. After a few days aboard, you'll feel her (or him?) sharing power as you together battle your way through the Arctic icecap to 90° north.

I/b 50 Years of Victory is not a tourist ship. Rather, the icebreaker was purpose-built to pilot scientific and cargo ships to hard-to-reach areas of the Arctic and along the Northeast Passage. It is just during the short summer months when adventurers get a once-in-a-lifetime chance to travel aboard this real working icebreaker to the geographic North Pole.

Rates Include

- 1 night pre-cruise hotel accommodation in Murmansk, Russia, with breakfast;
- 1 night post-cruise hotel accommodation in Moscow, Russia, with breakfast;
- Transfer from airport to the hotel in Murmansk 1 day prior to departure;
- Transfer from hotel to the port in Murmansk on embarkation day;
- Transfer from the port to the airport or central location in Murmansk upon disembarkation;
- Shipboard accommodation with housekeeping;
- Shipboard breakfasts, lunches and dinners;
- Coffee, tea and cocoa available around the clock;
- All shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by helicopter;
- All shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by zodiacs;
- Shore landings included in daily program;
- Program of lectures and informal discussions by experienced Expedition Team and guest lecturers;
- Professional Expedition Leadership;
- Branded Poseidon Expeditions parka;
- Rubber boots for shore landings for the time of the cruise;
- Hair dryer and bathrobes in each cabin;
- Informative pre-departure materials;
- Digital Voyage Log;
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program;
- All shipboard luggage handling;
- Personalized medical insurance covering the risks of evacuation and repatriation. Coverage: 100,000 EUR. Duration: cruise days only. This is only for passengers under 85 years old. Passengers over 85 years old are to purchase

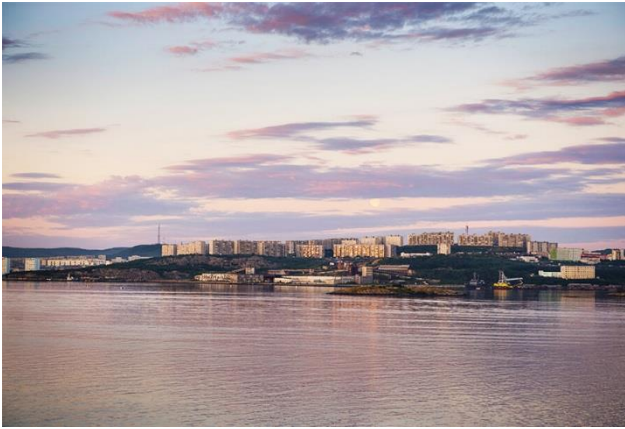
Rates Do Not Include

- Airfare to and from your hometown to Murmansk;
- Helicopter flying time in excess of that offered for the group;
- Passport and visa expenses (if required); A RUSSIAN VISA IS REQUIRED FOR THE TRIP. THE VISA MUST BE OBTAINED BY THE CUSTOMER AND IS AT HIS OR HER EXPENSE. Please, contact your local Russian Consulate to learn more about the procedure for obtaining a Russian Visa.
- State arrival and departure taxes (if levied);
- Meals ashore and supplements in respect of single hotel accommodation (if required);
- Excess luggage charges on international and local flights;
- Telecommunication services; laundry, bar and beverage charges aboard the vessel;
- Luggage, cancellation insurance (strongly recommended);
- Tips for stewards and other service personnel aboard (at your discretion).

their own insurance policy with coverage not less than 100,000 EUR;

- Letter of Invitation. This document should be presented to the Russian Consulate in your area in order to obtain a Russian Visa. Please, contact the Russian Consulate to learn more about the procedure for obtaining a Russian Visa. Do not hesitate to contact Poseidon Expeditions if any questions arise. Let us know if you have any difficulties in visa processing.

Itinerary



Day 1: Murmansk, Russia

Welcome to the city of Murmansk on Russia's Kola Peninsula, starting point of our adventure. Upon your arrival at the airport we provide a transfer to your hotel, which has been arranged by us and is included in the price of the voyage.



Day 2: Embarkation in Murmansk

Today we provide a group transfer to the port where we welcome you aboard the nuclear-powered icebreaker 50 Let Pobedy. Explore the ship and get orientated as we slip our moorings and sail north out of Kola Bay.



Day 3-6: The Voyage North

Nowhere can it be more truly said that “getting there is half the fun”. As we cruise northward through the Barents Sea there is always the possibility of seeing whales. Meanwhile, you have the opportunity to learn about the unique icebreaking capabilities of the ship. You are also treated to a tour of the engine room.

As we make our way across the ice cap, you witness firsthand the ship’s awesome power as massive ice blocks give way under the enormous bulk of the spoon-shaped bow. The sensation of being on deck at this time is surreal and

unforgettable.

We also take advantage of 24-hour daylight to offer helicopter flightseeing tours. From the air you can observe the ship crushing a path through the ice. You also have a unique vantage point from which to witness the stunning beauty of this vast polar icescape.



Day 7: North Pole

Welcome to the geographic North Pole! After carefully navigating to 90 degrees North, we ceremoniously drop the anchor on a sturdy stretch of ice and disembark onto the frozen sea.

Now is the time to experience the long-anticipated thrill of standing at the top of the world. Join hands with your fellow passengers and literally walk around the world during our special International Round Dance. You are also treated to a barbecue meal on the ice. You may even have the chance to take a plunge into the icy water!

After our memorable time at the North Pole we turn around and head south. But the adventure is not over yet. The High Arctic archipelago of Franz Josef Land is still to come!



Day 8-10: Exploration of Franz Josef Land

The Franz Josef Land archipelago, part of the Russian Arctic National Park since 2012, is a nature sanctuary. Polar bears and other quintessential High Arctic wildlife—such as walruses and some rare whale species—can be spotted anytime, anywhere in and around Franz Josef Land. Scree slopes and cliffs around the islands host enormous nesting colonies of migratory seabirds such as guillemots, dovekies, and ivory gulls. We take advantage of 24-hour daylight to exploit every opportunity for wildlife viewing and excursions via Zodiac and helicopter.

Franz Josef Land is home to some interesting geological features, such as the mysterious stone spheres on Champ Island. Collectors of geographical extremes may take note that Cape Fligely on Rudolf Island is the northernmost point of land in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Franz Josef Land also offers visitors the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of famous polar explorers at well-preserved historical sites. The journals of explorers such as Julius von Payer, Benjamin Leigh Smith, Frederick George Jackson,

and Fridtjof Nansen come alive at Cape Norway, Cape Flora, Eira Harbour, and Cape Tegetthoff. Memorials, monuments, crosses, and the remains of dwellings are testimony to incredible historical events that are further illuminated by our expert lecturers.

Tikhaya Bukhta is currently a Russian Arctic National Park ranger station occupying Soviet-era research buildings and was also a major base for polar expeditions. Nearby, the fascinating columnar basalt cliffs of Rubini Rock are home to thousands of nesting seabirds.



Day 11-12: The Voyage South

After our amazing time in Franz Josef Land we cross back south through the bountiful waters of the Barents Sea. Presentations and workshops by our expert staff ensure that these days at sea are not idly spent. You may also take advantage of onboard facilities and amenities such as a polar library, volleyball court, gym, two saunas, warm seawater pool, gift shop, and massage treatments. Seabird viewing and whale sightings can be enjoyed from panoramic open decks as well as exterior stateroom windows.



Day 13: Disembarkation in Murmansk and Flight to Moscow

After breakfast on board we say farewell in Murmansk. We provide you with a transfer to the airport or to the city center, depending on the time of your flight to Moscow. Tonight in Moscow we have arranged a hotel for you. This is included in the price of the voyage.



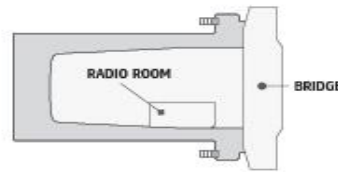
Day 14: Moscow, Russia

After breakfast (included with your hotel stay) you are free to make your way back to the airport or to extend your stay in Moscow.

I/b 50 Years of Victory

DECK PLAN I/B 50 YEARS OF VICTORY

- Arktika Suite
- Victory Suite
- Grand Suite
- Junior Suite
- Mini Suite
- Standard Twin



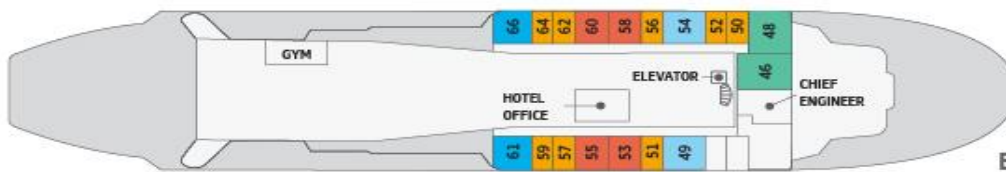
BRIDGE DECK 4



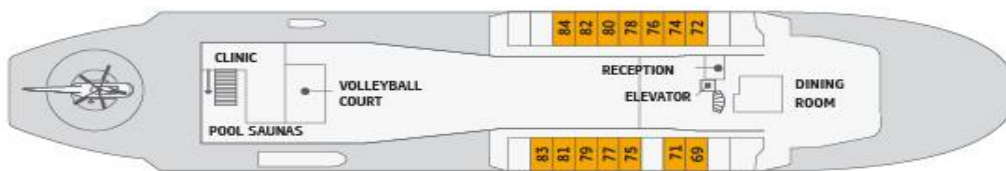
BRIDGE DECK 3



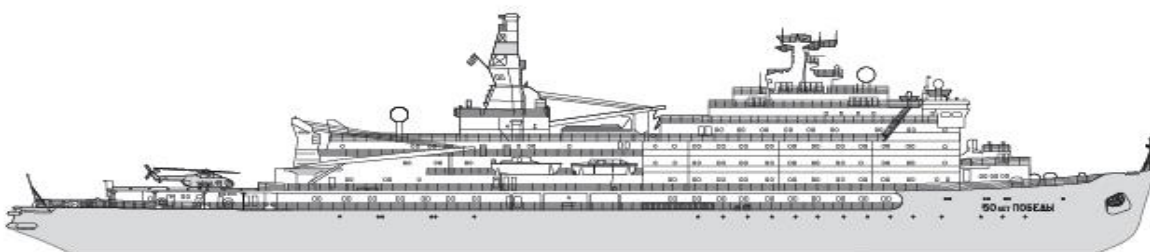
BRIDGE DECK 2



BRIDGE DECK 1



BOW DECK



- BRIDGE DECK 4
- BRIDGE DECK 3
- BRIDGE DECK 2
- BRIDGE DECK 1
- BOW DECK
- MIDDLE DECK

Standard Twin



One lower berth, one sofa bed, private facilities with a shower, TV set and DVD player, opening windows.

Mini Suite



Sitting area with sofa bed, sleeping bed separated from the sitting area, private facilities with a shower, TV set and DVD player, refrigerator, opening windows.

Junior Suite



Sitting area with sofa bed, sleeping bed separated from the sitting area, private facilities with a shower, TV set and DVD player, refrigerator, opening windows.

Grand Suite



Sitting area with sofa bed, sleeping bed separated from the sitting area, private facilities with a shower, TV set and DVD player, refrigerator, opening windows.

Victory Suite



Large bedroom and sitting room, sofa bed in sitting room, private facilities with a bathtub, refrigerator, TV set and DVD player, opening windows.

Arktika Suite



Very spacious bedroom and sitting room, sofa bed in sitting room, private facilities with a bathtub, refrigerator, TV set and DVD player, coffee maker, opening windows.



Photography

Free option

The Polar Regions are perhaps the most photogenic on earth, with countless beautiful scenes presenting themselves every day. Endless expanses of ice, beaches crowded with seals or penguins, sunsets over unbroken horizons, starlit skies, and even the majestic northern lights – they all present fantastic photographic opportunities – and in order to make sure that you come home with some spectacular images we offer you the chance to learn and practice your photography alongside an experienced professional.

Our expert Photographer will be on hand to answer your questions and give advice, both in the form of on-board lectures and workshops on shore. Explore the key elements of photography in a fun and relaxed setting, with plenty of opportunities for questions and feedback. Learn how to see light in a new way and experiment with the techniques of composition and framing.



Helicopter sightseeing

Free option

A helicopter aboard the 50 Years of Victory in our North Pole cruises lets our passengers be more than just spectators in this intrepid mission.

Time, weather and/or ice conditions permitting, you will experience breathtaking helicopter rides over the icebreaker as it plows its way through the ice. Just imagine how amazing photo ops this adventure provides!

The helicopter is also used to land on wild Franz Josef Land islands where we cannot use Zodiacs. So our North Pole passengers are never far from the action.

The helicopter landings and rides during the North Pole cruise are included.

Terms and Conditions – Expedition Cruise to the North Pole

Reservations and Payment. – A deposit of 20% of the appropriate cabin rate is required to confirm reservation with final payment due 90 days prior to departure.

Cancellation and Refunds. All requests for cancellation must be made in writing. Cancellations received more than 120 days prior to departure will be fully refunded less an administrative fee of 5% of the offered rate. Cancellations received between 119 days and 91 days prior to departure will be fully refunded less the deposit of 20% of the offered rate. In case a cancellation is received within the 90-day period (90 days and less prior to the beginning of the voyage), all payments are forfeited (cancellation fee is 100%). For these and other reasons mentioned below, passengers are strongly encouraged to obtain trip cancellation insurance.

Prices quoted are based on group participation, and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which passengers choose not to participate, including any helicopter flight time (if applicable and which at the discretion of the captain and expedition leader may or may not be utilized). It should be understood that refunds will not be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for any reason whatsoever.

Poseidon Arctic Voyages (Operator hereafter) reserves the right to cancel any departure due to insufficient reservations up to eight weeks before the date of departure (passengers may be offered alternative cruise dates).

Operator also reserves the right to cancel any departure up until the date of that departure due to force majeure or other circumstances beyond the control of Operator that prevents the operation of the tour (this also includes governmental and administrative decisions).

Operator or its agents are not responsible for any costs or penalties relating to air transport or other services that are cancelled. Operator is not liable for failure to provide the services or accommodations offered to the extent that such services or accommodations cannot be provided due to force majeure or other circumstances beyond its control.

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Itinerary. The itinerary described is subject to change at the discretion of the Operator Expedition Leader. This is an expedition to a remote and sparsely populated part of the world, and we expressly reserve the right to change the itinerary, the date or place of departure due to weather conditions, availability of anchorages, political conditions and other factors beyond Operator's control without consulting the participants. It is understood that such decisions will be made in the interests of all passengers aboard and with regard to the safety of the vessel. Participants have no right to any refund or other considerations in the event of such itinerary changes. Nothing in this Itinerary is meant to signify the use of any specific design or model of helicopter. If a passenger misses any scheduled sailing of the vessel from any port or place, including any stopover, Operator shall not be liable for any costs, expenses or damages incurred by the passenger as a result of his/her action and no refund of fare shall be granted. Passengers and staff members who participate in tours, operated by Operator, agree that any photographs or video, that include their person, may be used by Operator and its associates for promotional purposes. Passengers may not charge for their appearance in any photographs or video.

Responsibility. The payment of a deposit or full payment for a reservation on this tour shall constitute consent to all the provisions contained herein.

Operator acts as sales agent on behalf of the shipping company and as a sales agent on behalf of transport companies, hotels, and other supplying services included in the program. However, Operator, its subsidiaries and/or its associated agents, shall not be held responsible for property loss(es) or damage resulting from illness, personal injury or death which may be sustained by reason of, or while engaged on, any tour whether due to the ownership, maintenance, use, operation or control of any aircraft, helicopter, automobile, bicycle, boat, vehicle, state carrier or any other conveyance used in carrying out these tours. Operator can assume no liability due to any cause whatsoever whether caused by failure or delay or other irregularity, acts or omissions occurring during a tour under which the means of transportation or other service provided thereby is offered or supplied by owners, operators or public carriers for whom Operator acts only as agent.

Operator reserves the right (at its discretion) to alter or omit any part of the itinerary or change any reservation, feature and/or means of conveyance without notice and for any reason whatsoever and without allowance or refund. Operator reserves the right to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which case payments will be refunded without further obligation on Operator's part.

Operator shall not be responsible for any injury to person (whether or not resulting in death) or damage to property arising out of any act of war, insurrection, revolt or other civil uprising or military action in the countries of origin, destination or passage. The passenger is completely liable for damage or injury (to his/her own person, other passengers, ship, staff or other) caused by improper behavior.

Operator provides all passengers with medical insurance coverage to the value of 100.000 EUR per person provided and implemented by insurance company (Insurer) in accordance with the Insurer's general terms and conditions. Nevertheless, it is to be understood by passengers that the Insurer is an independent provider and the Insurance Policy is made between the passenger and the Insurer. Operator is not liable for any disagreements or misunderstandings that might arise between the passenger and the Insurer. Each passenger is fully responsible for resolving any issues that might arise from his/her contract with the Insurer. Operator reserves the right to substitute the Insurer. In case of substitution, the new Insurer is to provide an insurance policy that is sufficient for the expedition cruise by Operator described in this brochure or file.

Passengers are not permitted to bring or have onboard any pets or animals, firearms, flammable or hazardous items, controlled or prohibited substances or drugs, contraband or items prohibited by any country or port to be visited. Baggage is transported entirely at the owner's risk.

For those passengers who rejected the insurance policy included into the cost of voyage, but did not make appropriate insurance policy on their own: in case of medical problems arising during the voyage, either on board or on shore, which results in costs for evacuation, use of aircraft or repatriation, the responsibility for payment of these costs rests solely with the passenger and his/her Insurer. The onboard medical personnel (doctors) are independent contractors and work directly for the passenger concerned.

Insurance. All passengers are covered by medical travel insurance policy to the value of 100.000 EUR per person and said policy includes emergency evacuation and repatriation. This is only for travelers under 85 years old. Travelers over 85 years old are to purchase their own insurance policy with coverage not less than 100,000 EUR – such policy is to cover risks of repatriation/evacuation from extremely remote territories, and is to be sufficient for travelling in the High Arctic. Any risks, not covered by the insurance policy provided, are to be covered by passengers at his/her disposal and at his/her own expense. Insurance is in effect only on board the Ship and outside the port of Murmansk.

The published rate is based on the prices, exchange rates, duties and taxes as known to Operator at the time of publication of materials and at the time of travel confirmation. Operator reserves the right to raise the published rate (for such reasons as but not limited to unforeseeable increases in exchange rates, duties, taxes, port fees and fuel prices) if considered necessary by Operator. Operator will inform passengers, tour operators or agents at least 30 days prior to departure. In the event of a price increase of more than 15% of the total price of the trip, passengers, tour operators or agents are entitled to cancel the trip without incurring cancellation fee for the trip.

By forwarding a deposit the passenger certifies that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/her or other passengers. Operator reserves the right to cancel or withdraw any person as a member of a tour at any time.

Please read: By purchasing this product you accept the above Terms and Conditions. In case you disagree to any of the Terms and Conditions of Operator you will not be able to take part in the expedition cruise.