

Your Arctic Adventure

Svalbard, Norway

26 March - 03 April 2027 - 9 Days

Photography & Exploration



Join me for an intimate expedition into one of the wildest and most remote places on Earth.

In early spring 2027, you and I will explore Svalbard at one of the most magical times of the year. As winter slowly loosens its grip, the Arctic reveals a landscape of snow-covered mountains, frozen fjords and soft polar light.

This is a season few people experience. The sun returns to the horizon, painting the mountains in shades of pink and gold, while the snow-covered landscape creates incredible conditions for photography.

This expedition is designed with photographers in mind, but it is not only for photographers. It is for anyone who feels drawn to wild places, to silence and to real exploration. For those who want to stand in the Arctic winter landscape and experience this remote world with curiosity and presence.

This is not about rushing from place to place. It's about time. Time to observe wildlife, to wait for the right light and to truly experience the Arctic.

With a maximum of just 12 guests on board, we have the flexibility to adapt to weather, ice and wildlife — making decisions in the moment and following opportunity wherever it leads us.

Early season in Svalbard also means fewer ships, quieter fjords and a feeling of true remoteness that is becoming increasingly rare.



You won't just witness the Arctic — you'll feel it.

I'll be guiding you personally, supporting your photography at your own level and sharing everything I've learned from years in the polar regions.

Together, we won't just take pictures, we'll experience a true Arctic expedition and adventure.

-  Location: Svalbard & Pack Ice
-  Dates: March 26 – April 3, 2027
-  Duration: 9 Days
-  Group Size: Max. 12 Guests
-  Vessel: RV Kinfish



Wildlife

In Svalbard, wildlife is not something you simply observe — it's something you feel. Watching a polar bear move silently across the ice, standing among walrus hauled out on a remote shore, or witnessing seabirds circling above towering cliffs is humbling in the best possible way. These encounters aren't staged; they are raw, unpredictable and unforgettable.

History

The Arctic carries stories in its silence. Explorers, trappers, and polar pioneers once ventured into these icy waters with little more than courage and determination. As we walk past old hunting cabins and historic landing sites, you don't just learn about history — you sense it. You feel how fragile and powerful this place has always been.

Landscape

The landscape of Svalbard is vast, dramatic, and constantly shifting. Glaciers calve into icy fjords, pack ice drifts endlessly under the midnight sun, and soft polar light transforms even the harshest terrain into something almost surreal. It's a place where scale humbles you and where every turn of the ship reveals a new, breathtaking scene.

Activities



Zodiac Cruises

Our Zodiac cruises are where the Arctic truly comes alive. Gliding quietly between ice floes, drifting past towering glacier fronts, or approaching wildlife at eye level. These are the moments where you feel completely immersed. The engine slows, the camera lifts, and suddenly you're right in the middle of something extraordinary.



Landings

Stepping ashore in the High Arctic is unlike anything else. The stillness of the air and the awareness that few people have ever stood exactly where you are make these moments truly special. In the early season, landings are not always possible due to snow and ice conditions, but whenever it is safe to do so we will make every effort to step ashore and experience this wild place up close.



Workshops

Our workshops go far beyond camera settings. In the field, we'll work side by side — reading light, anticipating wildlife behavior, refining composition. In the evenings, we'll dive deeper into photography, Arctic history, wildlife and expedition life. It's about growing creatively while understanding the place you're photographing.

About Max



Max Unterharnscheidt

I'll be guiding this journey personally — bringing years of experience as an expedition photographer and polar guide in some of the world's most remote regions.

Over the past years, I've spent months in the Arctic and Antarctica, working as an expedition photographer, Zodiac driver and photo instructor. From the pack ice of Svalbard to the vast landscapes of the Himalayas and remote island chains, my focus has always been on authentic encounters, meaningful storytelling and respectful exploration.

For me, it is not just about photography and stunning images — it's about understanding a place, reading light and wildlife behavior and being fully present in the moment.

Throughout the voyage, we'll also have an additional experienced expedition guide on board. Together, we'll offer lectures and talks on Svalbard's history, polar exploration, wildlife and environmental topics — adding depth and context to everything we experience.

In the field and on board, I'll support you at your own photographic level, ensuring this journey becomes more than just a trip — but a true Arctic expedition we experience together.

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Included:

- Airport shuttle
- Welcome dinner
- High standard meals -full board incl. fruits & snacks during the day
- Alcoholic & non alcoholic drinks
- One piece suit (borrowed) for excursions / zodiac cruises
- Rubber Boots (borrowed)
- WiFi to share your adventure

Excluded:

- International / domestic flights from/to Longyearbean
- Hotel in Longyearbyen
- Travel insurance
- Appreciation to the crew and guides

Price: 11.490 €

Secure your spot before **April 1, 2026** and receive a **€500 early expedition discount**.

All prices are listed in Euros. Payments in USD or other currencies will be calculated based on the official exchange rate on the day of payment.

“Of course, you won’t be left alone with the planning — once you join the expedition, you’ll receive detailed packing lists, hotel recommendations and additional preparation material.

And as always, I’m personally available for any questions along the way.”

Expedition Itinerary

25 March

Recommended arrival in Longyearbyen, Svalbard. In the evening, we'll meet for a relaxed welcome dinner and prepare for the adventure ahead.

26 March

We board our vessel at 04:00 PM and as the lines are released, we slowly leave the harbor behind and turn our bow toward the vast Arctic wilderness. From that very first moment, the expedition truly begins.

Out here, there is no rigid schedule dictating our path. Our course is shaped by drifting ice, shifting weather systems, ever-changing Arctic light, and the presence of wildlife. We move with the elements, adjusting each day in search of the most extraordinary encounters and the most powerful photographic moments.

It is not simply a voyage, but an immersion into one of the most remote and awe-inspiring regions on Earth. A journey defined by flexibility, curiosity and the thrill of exploration.

A true Arctic adventure in every sense of the word.

03 April

We are back in Longyearbyen and disembark our vessel at **08-09:00 am**. Time to head home, with full memory cards, new friendships and a heart full of Arctic stories.



RV KINFISH

R/V **Kinfish** is a small expedition vessel designed for exploring the remote waters of Svalbard. With space for only **12 guests**, the ship offers a truly intimate expedition experience and the flexibility to reach places larger vessels simply cannot access.

Originally built as a **sea rescue vessel** and later converted into an expedition ship, Kinfish combines strength, character and comfort. Her compact size allows us to navigate narrow fjords, shallow bays and drifting sea ice while staying close to the Arctic wilderness.

For a photography expedition, this kind of ship makes all the difference — giving us the freedom to follow wildlife, light and conditions wherever the Arctic leads us.

Life on board **R/V Kinfish** is relaxed, comfortable and centered around the expedition experience.

Guests are welcome on the **open bridge**, offering a 360° panoramic view — often the best place to watch for wildlife and experience navigation through the Arctic landscapes.

Vessel

Inside the ship you'll find a comfortable **survey lounge**, where we gather for expedition briefings, photography sessions and lectures about wildlife, history and the Arctic environment.

Multiple **outdoor decks** provide excellent viewpoints for photography, while meals in the dining area bring everyone together to share stories and experiences from the day. With such a small group on board, the atmosphere quickly becomes that of a **close expedition team rather than a cruise**.





R/V Kinfish offers **six guest cabins**, accommodating a maximum of **12 guests**, which keeps the atmosphere on board personal, relaxed and expedition-focused.

All cabins feature **private en-suite bathrooms** and comfortable beds, providing a warm and practical space to rest after long days exploring the Arctic.

Portholes positioned close to the waterline offer a unique perspective of the surrounding landscape — allowing you to watch drifting sea ice, glaciers or passing wildlife right from your cabin.

The ship includes **five twin cabins and one triple cabin**, designed for comfort while maintaining the authentic character of a true expedition vessel.

After a full day out on deck, in the Zodiacs or exploring ashore, your cabin becomes a quiet retreat — a place to warm up, review your photographs and prepare for the next day of adventure.

Single occupancy is available at **1.8x the regular cabin rate**.

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I can't wait to head north with you.

To travel on a small ship, follow the light, the ice and the wildlife — and adapt to whatever the Arctic gives us.

To explore, photograph and learn side by side, sharing real moments and unforgettable stories along the way.

This isn't just a trip. It's an adventure we'll experience together.

Max

