



WHITMAN COLLEGE



Witness the 2026 Total Solar Eclipse
Iceland & Greenland Arctic
Aboard *Exploris One*

with Dr. Gerard van Belle, Director of Science at Lowell Observatory

August 5 – 15, 2026

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The April 2024 total solar eclipse sparked unprecedented global fascination. Now's the perfect time to set your sights on the next total solar eclipse: **August 12, 2026**. On our 11-day Arctic expedition aboard *Exploris One*, witness this rare phenomenon as you cruise round-trip from Reykjavík, Iceland, and along Greenland's less-traveled yet spectacular east coast. Guided by a professional astronomer with special glasses and telescopes, view the total solar eclipse from a prime, yet little-known, viewing location—along the Scoresby Sound, one of the world's largest fjords systems, in eastern Greenland. This remote area was chosen for optimal conditions of clear skies, extended totality, and a vast, picture-perfect Arctic expanse as your backdrop.

Aboard *Exploris One*, custom-designed for polar waters, accompany naturalist guides and expert lecturers to see icebergs up close via Zodiac excursions and explore geological wonders and glaciers unseen elsewhere on Earth. Meet residents of Inuit settlements for insights into local culture. In private island sanctuaries, observe Arctic animals like polar bears, musk oxen, and colonies of puffins in their natural habitats.

TRAVELING WITH YOU



Dr. Gerard van Belle '90 is the Director of Science at Lowell Observatory. He is an internationally recognized expert in the design, construction, commissioning, and use of optical

telescope arrays for conducting astronomical observations at the highest levels of spatial resolution. His work has included IOTA, PTI, the Keck Interferometer, CHARA, VLTI-PRIMA and -MATISSE, and NPOI. His telescope projects have been pioneering in the fields of stellar surface imaging and the characterization of exoplanet host stars. He earned his B.S. in physics from Whitman College in 1990, followed by an M.S. from Johns Hopkins University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Wyoming.



Map of the region

CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the 2026 total solar eclipse off Greenland's eastern coast in the Scoresby Sound, an optimal yet little-known location to witness this rare celestial event, all with specialized equipment and esteemed astronomers at your side
- Take a guided tour through a private Icelandic island and wildlife sanctuary, Vigur Island, spotting puffins, Arctic terns, and eider ducks, and learning about the intricate ecosystem supporting 100,000 nesting birds
- Navigate the labyrinthine waterways of Scoresby Sound, the world's largest fjord system, via Zodiac as an expert guide explains how towering icebergs are formed
- Enjoy a full-day, expert-guided tour of Iceland's Snæfellsnes Peninsula, stopping at Kirkjufell, with its 1,519-foot peak, and mystical Snæfellsjökull, a 4,744-foot stratovolcano that inspired local legends and novelists like Jules Verne
- Participate in educational lectures, photography workshops, and social gatherings, enriching your understanding and enjoyment of the Arctic's unique environment and culture



Puffin, Vigur Island, Iceland

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5: DEPARTURE

Depart for Reykjavík, Iceland, on an overnight flight.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6: REYKJAVÍK, ICELAND / EMBARK EXPLORIS ONE

Upon arrival in Iceland, enjoy a half-day of excursions around Reykjavík's harbor. Following lunch, embark **Exploris One**, settle into your cabin, and attend a welcome orientation. Enjoy a welcome dinner as the ship sets sail. L,D

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7: VIGUR ISLAND / ÍSAFJÖRÐUR

In the morning, arrive at **Vigur Island**, a green jewel in Iceland's Westfjords. This tiny private paradise and wildlife sanctuary teems with feathered inhabitants, including puffins with their comical waddle, black guillemots chattering from rocky perches, Arctic terns swooping overhead, and eider ducks nestling along the shoreline.

At the heart of this natural spectacle, take **an inside look at the local farmstead**, which has been settled since the late 12th century. Here, six generations of the same family have tended the land and mastered the delicate art of eiderdown harvesting. You will also see a windmill from 1840, Iceland's last remaining heritage windmill.

As midday approaches, we'll set course for **Ísafjörður**, the bustling hub of the Westfjords. This coastal town pulses with maritime energy, its harbor dotted with fishing boats and framed by towering mountains. You may stroll Ísafjörður's streets, where colorful timber houses from the 18th century rub shoulders with modern buildings.



Ísafjörður, Iceland

Alternatively, for a deeper dive into local lore, take a guided look at the **Ísafjörður Maritime Museum**, housed in an 18th-century edifice. Active travelers may choose to lace up their hiking boots and strike out into **the majestic mountains cradling Ísafjörður**. Trails wind upward, rewarding your efforts with sweeping views of fjords and distant glaciers. Return to *Exploris One* this evening for dinner. B,L,D

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8: DAY AT SEA

Enjoy **a relaxing day at sea** as *Exploris One* crosses the Denmark Strait. Engage in a variety of onboard activities designed to enrich your Arctic experience, including lectures on Arctic wildlife, where you can learn about the unique species that inhabit this remote region. Enhance your photography skills with specialized workshops that offer tips and techniques for capturing the stunning landscapes and wildlife you'll encounter.

For those seeking tranquility, unwind in the ship's spa, indulging in soothing treatments and enjoying the serene atmosphere as you sail through the open waters. B,L,D

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9 - TUESDAY, AUGUST 11: SCORESBY SOUND, GREENLAND

Venture into **Scoresby Sound**, a colossal network of waterways that carves deep into Greenland's eastern coast. This sprawling fjord system stretches more than 200 miles inland, its icy fingers branching out across nearly 15,000 square miles of Arctic wilderness.

As the ship glides through these pristine waters, towering icebergs loom on all sides. Pass vertiginous cliffs that plunge 5,000 feet into inky depths. Around each bend, discover a new vista, from snow-capped peaks and massive glaciers to narrow inlets that snake into the mountainous interior.

Numerous opportunities for adventure await: **You may step ashore and hike across the tundra** for panoramic views of this frozen realm. From windswept ridges, gaze out over a landscape sculpted by millennia of ice and stone.



Scoresby Sound, Greenland



Kirkjufellsfoss, Grundarfjörður, Iceland

You may also **join experts for Zodiac excursions up close to icebergs and wildlife**. Musk oxen roam the tundra, their shaggy coats perfect insulation against Arctic winds. Seals bask in the sun on ice floes, ever alert for polar bears prowling the shoreline. Arctic hares bound across rocky slopes, their white fur a perfect camouflage.

Aboard *Exploris One*, **enjoy engaging lectures on the area's history and environment**, enhancing your understanding and appreciation of the complex ecosystem and cultural heritage of this magnificent Arctic wilderness. B,L,D

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12: SCORESBY SOUND FOR THE TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

As *Exploris One* anchors in the **Scoresby Sound**, anticipation mounts for today's celestial event—the total solar eclipse. Our destination has been selected to ensure optimal viewing conditions (eclipse duration and probability of clear sky) for the eclipse against the stark Arctic backdrop. With expert guidance from a professional astronomer, you will have rare insights into the mechanics and significance of the eclipse.

Participate in guided observation sessions on deck, equipped with special viewing glasses and telescopes to witness the sun's corona as it briefly eclipses the moon. You may also take part in **onboard photography workshops**, learning from experienced photographers who capture astronomical events. The ship's photographers will offer real-time tips, helping you preserve this fleeting moment forever. B,L,D

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13: DAY AT SEA

After the eclipse, *Exploris One* will begin its way back to Iceland. Today, enjoy an opportunity to relax and reflect on the profound experience you've just witnessed. **Engage in enlightening educational talks** where experts delve into the scientific and cultural significance of solar eclipses, providing a deeper context to the event you've just witnessed.

Join special film screenings about celestial phenomena and Arctic exploration, offering further insights into the wonders of the natural world. Socialize with fellow passengers during lively gatherings where you can share stories, impressions, and photographs from the eclipse. B,L,D

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14: GRUNDARFJÖRÐUR, ICELAND / SNAEFELLSNES PENINSULA

In the morning, *Exploris One* docks at **Grundarfjörður**, a small Icelandic fishing town, where you will step ashore for a captivating full-day exploration of the dramatic **Snaefellsnes Peninsula**. With your expert guide, stop at **Mount Kirkjufell**, its 1,519-foot peak with a distinctive arrowhead shape reflected in the nearby **Kirkjufellsfoss** waterfall. The three-tiered cascade tumbles 39 feet over ancient lava fields.

Walk black-sand beaches forged by volcanic fury and see the wind-sculpted basalt cliffs tower overhead as waves crash against the shore. Your journey concludes at **Snaefellsjökull**, a 4,744-foot glacier atop a slumbering volcano. This mystical spot is famous as the portal in Jules Verne's *Journey to the Center of the Earth*, yet its importance in Icelandic mythology precedes that 1864 novel by centuries. This evening, return to *Exploris One* for the festive farewell dinner. B,L,D

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15: REYKJAVÍK / DISEMBARK / RETURN

After breakfast, disembark this morning to catch your flight back home. B

Extend the adventure with an optional Iceland postlude with dates, pricing, and itinerary details to come.



Snaefellsjökull, Iceland

DISCLAIMER: This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

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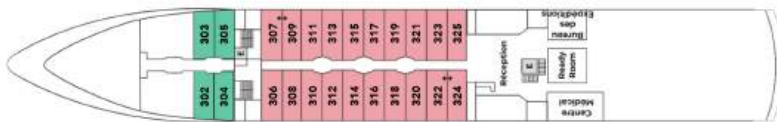
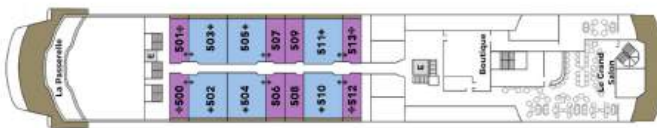
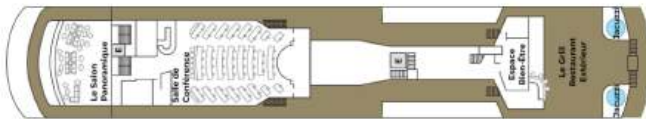
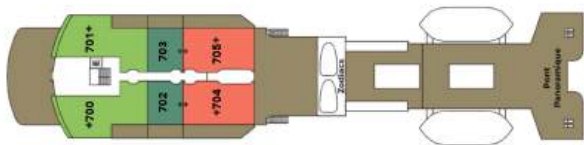
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Cover photo: Mount Kirkjufell, Grundarfjörður, Iceland

CRUISE RATES

Cabins	Decks	Double	Single
302-305 Premium Cabin	Deck 3	\$9,999	\$12,499
400-405, 407, 409 Superior Cabin	Deck 4	\$11,499	\$14,499
306-325 Ocean Stateroom	Deck 3	\$12,499	\$17,499
406, 408, 410-425, 427, 429 Deluxe Stateroom	Deck 4	\$13,499	\$20,299
500, 501, 506-509, 512, 513 Balcony Staterooms	Deck 5	\$16,999	Inquire
702 & 703 Navigator Suites	Deck 7	\$19,999	Inquire
502-505, 510, 511 Discovery Suites	Deck 5	\$20,999	Inquire
700 & 701 Grand Suites	Deck 7	\$23,999	Inquire
704 & 705 Shipowner's Suite	Deck 7	\$26,999	Inquire



Grand Restaurant, Exploris One

EXPLORIS ONE

The recently renovated *Exploris One* (formerly Silversea Cruise Line's *Silver Explorer*) was specially designed to sail the world's most demanding waters in the polar regions. Equipped with a reinforced hull, *Exploris One* is a global benchmark for exploring glacial regions in a completely safe environment. Enjoy an exceptional level of comfort, along with personalized service.

The ship features 60 cabins and 12 suites, among the most spacious available on expedition ships. Enjoy a fitness and well-being area, panoramic decks and lounges, and outdoor Jacuzzis for a moment of relaxation with a view. Onboard Zodiacs allow passengers to disembark all together several times a day, depending on the navigation conditions, in areas that are usually inaccessible.



Exploris One

RATES INCLUDE

- Nine nights cabin accommodations aboard the exclusively chartered and renovated *Exploris One*
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; thoughtfully selected wine and beer with all included lunches and dinners; complimentary open bar aboard *Exploris One* throughout the cruise (including all standard spirits)
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities

NOT INCLUDED IN RATES International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; optional Iceland postlude; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



Reykjavik

**WHITMAN COLLEGE
WITNESS THE 2026 TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE:
ICELAND & GREENLAND ARCTIC ADVENTURE ABOARD EXPLORIS ONE
AUGUST 5 – 15, 2026
RESERVATION FORM**

To reserve a place, please contact Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944; fax: 212-344-7493; email: trips@arrangementsabroad.com; or complete this form with your deposit of \$2,000 per person (of which \$1,000 is non-refundable for administrative fees), payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (home)

(business)

Fax

E-mail

ACCOMMODATIONS

Exploris One cabin preference (1) _____ (2) _____

I wish to share a cabin with _____

FORM OF PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*) Debit card Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this Program (see www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date