



## Cruise Details

Name:	Expedition Northwest Passage - The Epitome Of Pioneering Spirit
Reference:	HAPAGINS2612
Operator:	Hapag-Lloyd Cruises
Cruise Type:	Ocean
Cruise Rating:	Expedition
Ship:	HANSEATIC inspiration
Regions:	Alaska
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Departs On:	06 Aug 26
Departs From:	Seward, Alaska
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Arrives On:	05 Sep 26
Arrives At:	Zurich
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Cruise Nights:	30
Total Vacation Days:	31

## Itinerary

Day 1: Seward, Alaska (United States)

Arrives On: 06 Aug 26

Day 3: Aleutian Islands, Alaska (United States)

In 1906, Roald Amundsen achieved the first complete passage of the Northwest Passage. Now, you too can take on this pioneering endeavour with the HANSEATIC inspiration. The first chapters of your expedition weeks lie along the coast of the Alaskan Peninsula. Cruising by Kak Island, the bird rock ignites your anticipation for upcoming adventures. "Strong wind" is the meaning of Chignik in the Alutiiq language. Gain insights into life in this small fishing village with its roughly 80 inhabitants. The volcanic island chain of the Aleutians stretches in a wide arc into the Pacific. Here, on Popof Island, you will visit the home of bison. Bald eagles, however, reign supreme in the skies. Their distinctive call over Unalaska Island invariably draws your gaze upward.

Arrives On: 08 Aug 26

### Day 6: Saint Paul Island, Alaska (United States)

A colony of northern fur seals may greet you during a hike with your experts on St. Paul Island – a tantalising preview of further intense encounters with the surprisingly diverse wildlife of this remote region.

Arrives On: 11 Aug 26

### Day 8: Nome, Alaska (United States)

What constitutes the rich experiences on this passage for you was gold to Alaska in the early 1900s. The town of Nome is still imbued with the spirit of the bygone gold rush era: abandoned steam locomotives, tracks, and gold dredges contribute to this atmosphere.

Arrives On: 13 Aug 26

### Day 13: Lancaster Sound, Tallurutiup Imanga National Park, Nunavut (Canada)

The Northwest Passage Adventure: To this day, captivating legends surround this famous sea route. The journey commences with the rarely visited Sachs Harbour. With a bit of luck, you might be greeted by rough-legged hawks, and perhaps even catch a glimpse of the elusive Arctic fox. In Franklin Bay, alongside the history of the eponymous polar explorer, you will encounter the phenomenon of the Smoking Hills. These hills owe their name to pyrite-containing rock layers that have self-ignited. A Zodiac ride offers you unique perspectives on this mystical spectacle. On Victoria Island, named after the British Queen, you may be fortunate enough to observe imposing musk oxen, weighing up to 400 kg. Will you spot polar bears here as well? Look forward to astonishing insights into the lifestyle and history of the Inuit. For centuries, the area around Cambridge Bay was a summer meeting place for families of the “Copper Eskimos,” named after their copper tools. As a silent witness to the daring of Roald Amundsen, the wreck of his research ship “Maud” lay here in the ice for around 90 years before being returned to Norway in 2018. The echo of a great voice resonates on Jenny Lind Island: The island is named after a 19th-century Swedish opera singer lovingly called the “Nightingale.” Here, you may be surprised by northern residents like snow hares, Arctic foxes, and caribou. Cruising in the Victoria Strait, the dramatic landscape becomes a mirror of moving history. At the narrow entrance, the long-lost ships of the Franklin Expedition, which unsuccessfully sought the Northwest Passage in 1845, were once suspected to lie. One of these ships, the “Terror,” was located in Terror Bay in 2016, about 100 km further south than previously assumed. With your experts on board, you’ll delve into the fate and relentless courage of those who braved the elements back then. Whether your journey continues through Peel Sound will be decided by the ice – it sets the pace as the HANSEATIC inspiration safely navigates through the island labyrinth to the next destinations. Only a few ships are capable of this, requiring top-notch equipment and an experienced crew. Zodiac rides and landings in the habitats of whales, seals, and polar bears are always possible. Prince of Wales Island, for instance, invites you to a hike in pristine nature. Follow in the footsteps of former explorers on Beechey

Island. A stroll to the graves of the Franklin Expedition members makes the historical significance palpable. On the largest uninhabited island on Earth, Devon Island, you are greeted by vast wilderness. An abandoned Royal Canadian Mounted Police station enhances the sense of quiet seclusion. Once the ship sets course for Greenland from Lancaster Sound, you've done it: You are among the few who can claim to have conquered the Northwest Passage.

Arrives On: 18 Aug 26

#### Day 27: Evighedsfjorden (Greenland)

The final act of your adventure unfolds along the west coast of Greenland. Small but exquisite, Uummannaq nestles at the base of a majestic, heart-shaped mountain. The Disko Bay will provide even more memorable moments: ice sculptures in all manner of forms drift slowly through the vast area. Enjoy this natural spectacle from your front-row seat on deck – or take a Zodiac ride to the centre of the action. Illuminated by the sunlight, the ice gleams in a fascinating play of colours from white to azure blue. If conditions allow, you will also visit the world-famous Ilulissat Icefjord. Here you can witness one of the world's most active glaciers releasing majestic icebergs into the vastness of the fjord – an incredible UNESCO World Heritage Site. An atmospheric finale to your expedition awaits in Sisimiut, where houses are scattered over several hills. Nearly a whole month dotted with milestones of maritime history is now behind you – the ensuing wealth of life experiences and cherished memories will linger for a long time.

Arrives On: 01 Sep 26

#### Day 30: Kangerlussuaq Havn (Greenland)

Arrives On: 04 Sep 26

#### Day 31: Zurich (Switzerland)

Arrives On: 05 Sep 26

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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