

Questions and answers regarding Northwest Passage voyages 2019 with MS Fram.

What plans are in place if we cannot get through like last year?

- Our alternative itineraries are pushing the expedition as far in to the passage as possible. We have several alternative routes in the area. This will be communicated in detail if we see a high risk of not getting thru.

If we cannot go through what will be the arrangements for the change in travel plans?

- If we cannot get through, then we will make all necessary alternate arrangements for a 'Plan B itinerary'.

When will be the next information?

- 1st week of August.

Is the first week of August the time when you decide if it is impossible to get through the Northwest Passage?

- As explained during the webinar by Paul (the Ice Navigator), it is not yet possible in early July to determine if the passage as far as Cambridge Bay can be completed as planned.

We will continue to monitor conditions from now until the voyage departure, and this will give us an understanding of the evolving ice regime. By evaluating the progression of sea ice breakup, the long-term temperature forecast, and the distribution of multi-year (old) ice, we should be able to assess the feasibility of the passage with increasing confidence. By the first week of August, two weeks before we sail, we will share this assessment with you in a status update.

How many guests can be in the Expedition boats at one time?

- We have 2 different boat sizes on Fram, the smaller take 7 guests and the larger 11.

How are guests prioritised to go in the boats?

- Everybody is divided into boat groups and each group is rotated so everybody gets a chance to go first, last and in the middle.

Is there still snow to be seen?

- Yes. We will see sea ice, glaciers, icebergs, snowy areas and mountain tops full of snow.

Are there kayaks on board?

- Yes. We will try to offer kayaking on board MS Fram in the Northwest Passage, pending weather and ice conditions. This activity will be bookable on-board.

What size do the expedition jackets go to and from?

- We have a big range from 3XS to 4XL jackets available for you. You can try the jacket on on board to choose the most suitable size for you.

In addition to the Hurrigruten Jacket that is provided what trousers would you recommend

- Water proof trousers as well as layers for thermal protection underneath. For more information please visit our web page or contact our Customer Sales Centre / Travel agency.

What kind of footwear do we need for landings?

- Guests may borrow a pair of high-quality rubber boots to wear throughout the landings and hikes free of charge. These boots will be kept in the cabin and guests will have their own pair throughout the voyage. We recommend bringing a few pairs of thicker socks to wear inside your boots.

Would you recommend bringing mosquito protection?

- For the time of the year we are the mosquitos should not be too bad (June is the peak month). But if you are susceptible you might want to bring a repellent with you.

Are we allowed to bring Drones for photo purposes?

- Drones are not allowed on any of our voyages.

What will temperatures be?

- In the NWP region the temperature varies between -8C° / -17,6 F to +6 C°/ 42,8 F. While staying on deck when the ship is sailing the winds feel much colder.

Are we planning to have local guests on board as part of the Expedition Team?

- Yes.

Will there be German speaking Expedition team members?

- Yes, the trip will be English/German and we will have German speaking expedition team members including a simultaneous translator for lectures.

Is it allowed to take Rock samples?

- No, guests cannot take any samples of rocks, feathers, wood, flowers etc. Allowed are only beautiful memories and pictures to take with you.

What cash/currency should we bring?

- You do not need cash on the ship, but for going ashore it will be useful to have some Canadian dollars for buying gifts in the local communities. Most communities have an ATM and larger stores take credit cards.

Will the French group have a guide?

- Yes, as normal you will have an escort.

What laundry facilities are available?

- A laundry service is available for an extra charge. Laundry service is included for suite guests only. Dry-cleaning is not possible on any of our expedition ships.

When will we be sent information regarding baggage, timings, flights etc?

- You will receive voyage specific documents 3-4 weeks prior to the departure date.

Will we need a Canadian eTA (electronic Travel Authority)?

No. When you enter Canada by ship you do not need one. However, you may need a visa to enter Canada, depending upon where you come from. Together with your booking confirmation, you have been given a link to our "Entry Requirements" page for more information. It is the sole responsibility of the guest to identify and obtain all required travel documents (i.e. Visas) and have them available when necessary! Please refer to: <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada/entry-requirements-country.html>

