

# ALASKA & SIBERIA

## FIRE AND ICE IN THE ARCTIC



*Cruising between Russia and the United States from Nome to Seward, you will have the chance to cruise the Bering Strait, visit Wrangel Island in the Chukchi Sea, home to the world's largest polar bear population, and discover extraordinary landscapes combining ice, volcanoes, indigenous people and tundra.*



**DATE:** 2021 - SEP 21 – OCT 05

**DURATION:** 15 DAYS/14 NIGHTS

**EMBARK:** NOME, ALASKA, USA

**DISEMBARK:** SEWARD, ALASKA

**SHIP:** LE BOREAL

**FROM:** \$12,360

*(Including Air Seattle to Nome, and return from Anchorage)*

## Expedition Highlights

- A cruise amid the stunning Arctic and volcanic landscapes of Alaska and Russia.
- Shore visits in Zodiac® inflatables with your naturalist guides.
- Discover the Wrangel Island Reserve, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Sail in the heart of the Bering Sea, surrounded by the planet's most remote islands.
- Sail in the Chukchi Sea.
- Possibility of observing brown bears at Geographic Harbor, in Katmai National Park.
- The wildlife: polar bears, grizzlies, walrus, grey whales, sea otters, spotted seals, and seagulls.
- Meet the locals: the Aleut, Inuit, and Chukchi people.

## ITINERARY

### Day 1: Sep 21 —NOME (ALASKA)



Located along the Bering Strait at the westernmost point of Alaska, Nome offers the rustic charm of a former gold-mining town, set in the middle of magnificent wilderness. As you weave in and out of the brightly colored houses, you will discover the pioneering legacy that still marks local traditions. Fishing, reindeer herding, sled dog-racing and gold mining are still practiced here. The surrounding plains provide stunning vantage points for observing Arctic fauna.

**(NOTE:** Consider adding a day or two to explore Nome, or other highlights of Alaska. We can arrange it all for you.)

Embarkation from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM (16H00 to 17H00). Departure at 6:00 PM (18H00).

### Day 2: Sep 22-23 - Cross the International Date Line (Lose a Day) - PROVIDENIYA, RUSSIA

Across the Bering Strait from Alaska, which it almost touches, the town of Provideniya seems to keep a watchful eye over ships heading for the East Siberian Sea. Nestled against mountains with peaks of up to 2,000 m, Provideniya is the gateway to the Chukotka Peninsula, a polar region practically unknown to the general public, with striking landscapes and a primitive beauty like no other.

### Day 3: Sep 24 - BIG DIOMEDE, RUSSIA

Located in the middle of the narrow Bering Strait between Alaska and Russia, the Diomed Islands are in a unique position to observe migrating gray whales, birds and other marine life.

### Day 4-7: Sep 25-28 - WRANGEL ISLAND NATIONAL RESERVE

Imagine a natural island that is mostly mountainous and, for the rest of its landscapes, alternates between vast tundra plains and areas of great lakes, lagoons and cliffs. Welcome to Wrangel, the most important hotspot of Arctic biodiversity. Situated between the East Siberian Sea and the Chukchi Sea, the island was named after the Russian explorer Ferdinand von Wrangel. Listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, the island is a rare, precious and very ancient ecosystem with unique vegetation, as well as exceptional fauna: it is home to the majestic polar bear and the vast



majority of the Russian Arctic's walrus population. The island also holds traces of the last mammoths and is home to several endemic species.

## **Day 8-9: Sep 29-30 – AT SEA - Cross International Dateline**

### **Day 10: Sep 30 - ST MATTHEW ISLAND**

Saint Matthew island is right in the middle of the Bering Sea, between Siberia and Alaska. Classified as a National Wildlife Refuge by the United States, this island covered in wet tundra corresponds to the northern boundary of the polar bear's range during winter. It is home to many birds, including the McKay's bunting, an endemic species whose population is estimated at 6,000 individuals. We can also find Arctic foxes there. Although populated by the Aleut during prehistoric times Saint Matthew Island is uninhabited today.

### **Day 11: Oct 01 – PRIBILOF ISLANDS**

Located in the middle of the Bering Sea, Saint-Paul Island is the largest island of the Pribilof archipelago. Fur seals, also called Pribilof seals, have made this haven of peace their home with its rich biodiversity.



### **Day 12: Oct 02 – DUTCH HARBOR, UNALASKA**

During your cruise, discover an exceptional site: Unalaska Island and its port, Dutch Harbor. Located between the Pacific Ocean and the Bering Sea, on the Aleutian Islands, Dutch Harbor is the only deep water port in the archipelago. Unalaska is not only an island with astonishing nature and very varied

wildlife, it is also rich in history, where ancient indigenous cultures and remains from World War II can be seen and their tales be told.



### **Day 13: Oct 03 - CHANKLIUT ISLAND**

Off the Alaska Peninsula hides a small gem: Chankliut. From mountainous terrain to flowery moors and valleys covered in sea lyme-grass, this island, which is part of the Aleutian archipelago, offers landscapes with a unique charm. During your walk around a lake, you will cross a sumptuous meadow where beautiful aconite and willowherb vie for attention.

### **Day 14: Oct 04 - GEOGRAPHIC HARBOR- HIDDEN HARBOR/ KINAK BAY**

Part of Katmai National Park and Monument, Geographic Harbor is home to many Brown Bear who feed on the plentiful salmon, vegetation, and shell fish along tidal areas.



### **Day 15: Oct 05 - SEWARD (ANCHORAGE)**

Disembark. Transfer to Anchorage Airport, or stay a while to explore more of Alaska.



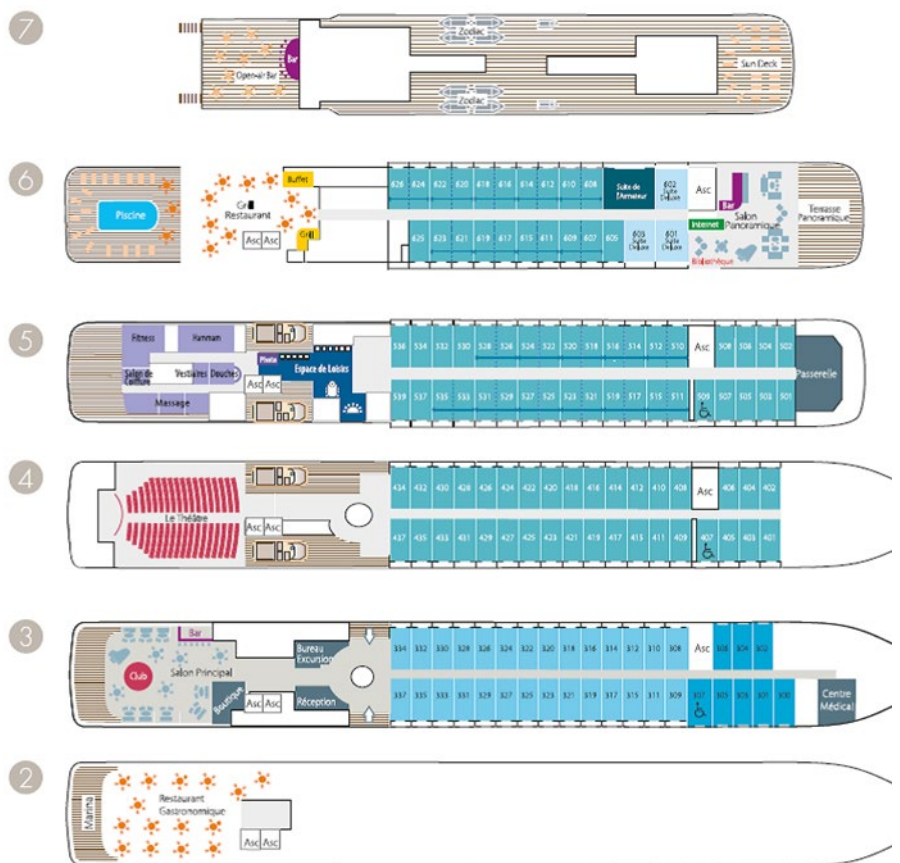
**LE BOREAL**  
**GUESTS: 268**

**RATES – 2021 – FIRE AND ICE**

SUITE –	After 30% Savings
Superior – Deck 3	\$12,360
Deluxe – Deck 3	WAITLIST
Prestige – Deck 4	\$14,350
Prestige – Deck 5	\$14,920
Presitige – Deck 6	\$15,510
Deluxe Ste – Deck 6	\$20,560
Prestige Ste – Dk 5	\$26,930
Prestige Ste – Dk 6	\$28,140
<b>OWNER SUITE</b>	<b>\$39,130</b>

**All inclusive** – Gratuities to crew; Air Seattle to Nome/Anchorage to Seattle; all beverages – open bar; Port Charges; Room Service; Shore excursions.

DECK PLAN



**Reservations & Information**  
**1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)**  
 Email - [info@explorcruises.com](mailto:info@explorcruises.com)  
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