

Barentsøya Island, Svalbard, Norway

One of Svalbard's most remote and wildlife-rich islands, Barentsøya lies in a protected nature reserve where polar bears outnumber human visitors and nearly half the land is smothered in glacier ice. Expedition ships anchor offshore; Zodiacs do the rest.

-  Zodiac tender only (no pier)
-  Typical call: 4–7 hrs
-  Norwegian Krone (NOK) — no shops ashore
-  Norwegian (uninhabited island)
-  Active polar bear habitat

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date:	Arrive:	All aboard:
Excursion:	Notes:	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Anchor & Zodiac only — no pier or dock of any kind

Walk to center: No settlement; all exploration is guided ashore from Zodiacs

Best For: Polar bears, walrus, glacier fronts, and Arctic birdlife

Don't Miss: Barentsjøkulen glacier calving and walrus haul-out beaches

 Getting around:  **Rideshare**  not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Polar Bear Search & Tundra Hike** — Armed naturalist guides lead small groups across the tundra in search of polar bears, Arctic foxes, and Svalbard...
- Zodiac Glacier Cruise — Barentsjøkulen Front** — Zodiac boats motor along the calving front of Barentsjøkulen, Barentsøya's massive ice cap.
- Walrus Haul-Out Visit** — The island's west coast beaches host significant walrus colonies during summer.
- Arctic Seabird Colony Observation** — Black-legged kittiwakes, Brünnich's guillemots, little auks, and barnacle geese nest on the island's cliffs and coastal...
- Arctic Kayaking** — Select expedition operators offer sea kayaking among ice floes and along coastal cliffs — a quiet, close-to-the-water...

BEST WALKS

- Coastal Tundra Ramble** 1–3 km | Easy–Moderate | Guided only — A short guided walk from the Zodiac landing point across low Arctic tundra.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				 DAYLIGHT &  MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Sep 5:20AM–7:45PM · Oct 9:15AM–3:33PM	
Apr	12°	4°	8d		
Jun	31°	27°	7d		
Aug	36°	31°	9d		
Sep	31°	25°	12d		
Oct	23°	17°	14d		

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Polar bear alert:** This island has one of Svalbard's highest polar bear densities. Never wander away from armed guides ashore — not even a few metres.
- Dress for extreme cold:** Even in July, temperatures hover near 0–5°C with wind and possible freezing spray on Zodiacs.