

Hvalsey, South Greenland, Greenland

Sail into Hvalsey Fjord and step ashore at a hauntingly preserved Norse settlement — stone walls rising from the tundra where the last recorded Norse wedding took place in 1408.

 Tender / Zodiac landing

 Typical call: 3-5 hrs

 No facilities ashore (ship currency only)

 No permanent residents

 UNESCO World Heritage (Kujataa)

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

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

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Anchor & Zodiac / tender — no pier, gravel foreshore landing

Best For: Norse history, remote landscapes, photography, contemplation

Walk to ruins: 100–300 ft from shore landing to church walls

Don't Miss: Standing inside Hvalsey Church — site of Greenland's last Norse wedding, 1408

 Getting around: 📱 **Rideshare** ❌ not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Hvalsey Fjord Church & Norse Farmstead** — Self-guided walk among Greenland's finest Norse ruins — the 14th-century church walls still stand 5–6 metres high.
- **Fjord Wildlife Walk** — Scan the fjord for harbour seals, white-tailed sea eagles and the occasional minke whale.
- **Qaqortoq Town Combination** — Many itineraries pair Hvalsey with a visit to Qaqortoq — South Greenland's main town, 11 miles away by water.
- **Hillside Hike Above the Settlement** — For fit passengers, a short climb above the farmstead rewards with panoramic views over Hvalsey Fjord and the...

BEST WALKS

- **Norse Ruins Loop** 0.5 km · 30–45 min · Easy — From the Zodiac landing, walk to Hvalsey Fjord Church, circle the banquet hall and longhouse ruins, then return along the shoreline.
- **Foreshore & Fjord Walk** 1–2 km · 45–60 min · Easy — Stroll the natural gravel shore of Hvalsey Fjord away from the ruins.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Waterproof hiking boots are essential. The foreshore and tundra grass are frequently wet. Light trainers will leave you with soaked feet within minutes.
- Bring insect repellent and a head net (July–August). Greenlandic mosquitoes and midges are relentless in midsummer. A head net weighs almost nothing and makes a huge difference.
- Do not climb on the church walls. Hvalsey is a UNESCO World Heritage site. Touching, climbing or removing any stone is prohibited and genuinely damages irreplaceable history.