

# WILD PHOTOGRAPHY HOLIDAYS



## EAST GREENLAND SCORESBY SUNN SAILING EXPEDITION

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Wilderness destination
- Icebergs
- Inuit settlements
- Aurora photography
- Wildlife
- Superb arctic light
- Zodiac excursions ashore
- Walking explorations (optional)
- Vibrant autumn colours
- Beach BBQ
- Glaciers
- Iceland (2 nights)
- Iceland – Greenland flights

### INTRODUCTION

Encounter extreme arctic landscapes and wildlife in one of the most remote places in the world. The Scoresby Sund on Greenland's east coast is the largest fjord system in the world, it is the focus of our new photographic sailing expedition. This extensive fjord system flowing from the Greenland Ice Cap is home to some of the most scenically spectacular landscapes anywhere. This fjord system is ice covered for nine months of the year. There is only a narrow window of time when the sound is open to exploration by boat, few photographers make it to this remarkable and remote area which is truly one of the last great wilderness destinations on our earth. During the time of our sailing the Scoresby Sund is packed with

icebergs. The water that can be mirror smooth with superb reflections especially around sunrise and sunset. In autumn East Greenland is when the Tundra displays vibrant colours of dwarf willow, birch, blueberry and the very last alpine flowers. There is also a great chance that we will be lucky enough to experience and photograph the northern lights. We start and finish this expedition with included flights Iceland-Greenland-Iceland plus a hotel in Reykjavík on the first and last day of our adventure. This is a fabulous addition to our growing number of photographic adventures in Greenland, truly the trip of a lifetime.



## OUR BOAT

This is a dedicated photography sailing where the maximum number of guests is 11. Our expedition Schooner is the beautiful two-mast oak ship Donna Wood built in 1918. Representing Danish shipbuilding tradition at its very best, Donna Wood was originally built as a light-house ship but in 1990 the ship underwent massive restoration and was equipped with rigging and sails.

## DAILY ITINERARY

### Day 1: Reykjavík

We transfer from Keflavík, Iceland's international airport to our hotel in the heart of Reykjavík. We will meet in the evening for introductions, a trip briefing from our photographic tutor followed by dinner together in town.  
Accommodation Hotel Reykjavík (D)

### Day 2: To Kulusuk Greenland

Late morning we take a flight north over Iceland and the North Atlantic Ocean, our destination Constable Point Kulusuk on the east coast of Greenland. We will embark the Donna Wood sailing boat and settle into our cabins

followed by an introduction/safety briefing by the crew. Once we have set sail we will head for the Inuit village of Ittoqqortoormiit the most northerly settlement on the east coast of Greenland. This one of the most isolated villages in the world and we will enjoy some peaceful tranquility for this our first photographic location. The village's four hundred and fifty inhabitants make their living mostly by subsistence hunting of seals narwhales, muskoxen and polar bears. They live in colourful small wooden houses dotting the rocky bluffs and without exception there are magnificent vistas.

Accommodation Boat (B,L,D)

### Day 3: Sailing in Scoresby Sund

This morning we set sail early morning to head across the Scoresby Sund fjord system where we will encounter towering basalt peaks on the south coast of the fjord. The iceberg photographic opportunities are out of this world. Bergs the size of skyscrapers gently drift under the influence of the arctic currents after calving from glaciers originating in the inland ice. Our likely anchor will be at Hekla Havn the site of an old Inuit settlement



and wintering camp of the first scientific expedition to Scoresby Sund over a hundred years ago.

Accommodation Boat (B,L,D)

### Day 4: Røde Fjord and Iceberg City

Continuing our sail in a westerly direction we pass through the narrow Føhnfjord with its striking basalt mountains on the port side. To the starboard we will feel dwarfed by the towering 2000 metres granite cliffs of Milne Land. The whole scenario will make for some exceptional and striking photography. At the end of the fjord, we will anchor at Red Island and possible go ashore to explore. At sunset will enjoy what must be one of the trips highlights, a zodiac journey to the magnificent Iceberg City where hundreds of huge icebergs become stranded. The colours at sunset enhance the ice with ethereal pink and blue hues and are often reflected in the still fjord.

Accommodation Boat (B,L,D)



### **Day 5: Harefjord & Wildlife Walk**

Today we sail the short distance to Harefjord where we will take a walk to photograph the vividly coloured vegetation to hopefully photograph some of the abundant wildlife. We will focus on searching for musk oxen, arctic hare, grouse, arctic fox, geese and other wildlife that enjoys grazing on the fertile and sheltered south-facing slopes. We will walk for around six hours to top out on a ridge where we will have lunch and experience the breathtaking view over Harefjord. The terrain drops down all around and the glacier tongues snake their way downhill into the sea. Those who prefer less exercise can stroll at the coast or stay on board enjoying the view. In the evening we will have very good possibilities to photograph the northern lights if the skies are clear. Our best

chance will be to go ashore in the zodiac to allow for success in our long exposures.

Accommodation Boat (B,L,D)

### **Day 6: Setting Sails in the Majestic Øfjord**

Our sailing continues eastwards through the majestic Øfjord. This must surely be one of the most spectacular parts of our journey. Superb and shapely mountains create a jagged skyline reminiscent of Cerro Torre in Patagonia. The autumn colours of the Tundra are most striking at this time of the year. Usually, the sea breeze in the Øfjord during the daytime allows sails to be set to take a closer look at some of the most striking cliffs or to get close up to the calving snout of the glacier. Our day ends as we set anchor in Jyttes Havn, Bear Islands.

Accommodation Boat (B,L,D)

### **Day 7: Bear Islands**

Today we will have the opportunity to go ashore for exploration and photography in and around Jyttes Havn in the Bear Islands. This is possibly one of the attractive and picturesque anchorages in Scoresby Sund. There are two options for a longer or shorter walk in the Bear Islands. There is also the possibility to take the zodiac up to the northernmost tip of Milne Land. As ever, much depends on where you wish to focus your photographic antennae! If conditions and time allow, we will light a bonfire on the beach and, given clear skies, photograph the aurora.

Accommodation Boat (B,L,D)



### Day 8: Islands & Icebergs

Today we sail the channel between the Bear Islands and Milne Land with a breathtaking view of this spectacular archipelago. As we sail into the last sunset of this expedition it is likely that we will encounter some of the largest and most interesting icebergs of our whole journey; superb and breathtaking photography right up to the end of our sailing expedition.

Please note that if conditions do not allow for visiting Ittoqqortoormiit on our first day, the visit will take place today.

Accommodation Boat (B,L,D)

### Day 9: Flight to Reykjavik

This will be our last morning aboard the Donna Wood. Following a good breakfast together we will disembark the sailboat for the last time to board the aircraft at Constable Point and our flight back to Reykjavík, Iceland. On our arrival we will transfer to our city centre hotel. We may have time to head out and explore the city before meeting together for a final celebratory dinner.

Accommodation Reykjavík Hotel (B,L,D)

### Day 10: Homeward Flights

This morning after breakfast transfer to Reykjavík's international airport for homeward flights.

(B)

### Payment for Scoresby Sund Sailing Expedition

A place on this sailing can be secured with a deposit of £700 with the balance due in full 120 days prior to the trip starting date.

### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Flight Reykjavík – Constable Point Greenland – Reykjavík
- All airport transfers in Greenland & Iceland
- 2 nights Hotel Reykjavík
- 7 nights boat accommodation
- All meals
- Photography Guide

### WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Flights to/from Iceland
- Visas



- Travel Insurance
- Excess baggage charges
- Alcoholic beverages
- Snacks/drinks apart from included meals

### JOINING ARRANGEMENTS AND TRANSFERS

The trip officially starts on Day 1 with a meeting at the first night hotel in Reykjavík for introductions and a trip briefing followed by dinner together. Wild Photography Holidays services finish after breakfast on the final day of the trip.

### Flybus Airport Transfer

The Flybus is the most convenient way to get from Iceland's international airport to your hotel and back. The buses run all day and the bus stop is right outside arrivals. The bus takes you to the BSÍ central bus station. There you will be directed to a smaller bus that will take you to your hotel. The Flybus transfer is included in the price of the holiday. It is important that you let our office know the timings of your international flights so that Flybus tickets can be sent to you in plenty of time.

## ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is included in the price of the holiday. Our two nights in Reykjavík are based in a good standard city centre hotel with en suite facilities. In Greenland all accommodation is on the boat. This is a roomy ship with a deck saloon seating 24 and ample space below deck comfortably accommodating 12 people in 7 cabins equipped with washbasins and a wardrobe. The hallway features two spacious shared shower facilities and toilets.

## FOOD

We enjoy a good standard and variety of food. In Greenland there will be an opportunity to try local food such as Whale, Seal, Reindeer, Halibut, berries, Crab, Lobster etc. all is optional! The price of the holiday includes breakfast, lunch and dinner also tea/coffee with meals.

## ALCOHOL

This is expensive, maybe consider bringing along a bottle of your favourite tipple, this can be purchased at the Iceland airport en route to Kulusuk. Do not buy in Keflavík Airport as you will not be able to take bottles onto the Kulusuk flight as hand luggage. Beer, wine and spirits are available on the boat.

## INTERNET CONNECTIVITY

There is free WiFi in the Reykjavík hotel. While in Greenland on the boat there is no internet connectivity and no mobile phone signal.



## TRAVEL INSURANCE

You must have appropriate insurance to cover personal accident, medical costs, death, repatriation, camera & computer equipment and loss of baggage. We will need a copy of your travel insurance at the time of booking. You should carry a copy of your policy with you while travelling with us.

## PASSPORT AND VISA REQUIREMENTS

Please check with the appropriate authorities to check if you require a visa for Greenland. There is also some further information on Visas and Greenland generally here <http://www.worldtravelguide.net/greenland/passport-visa>

## LANGUAGE

The official languages are Greenlandic, an Inuit (Eskimo) language and Danish. Greenlanders connected with tourism will normally speak some English. In Iceland the



language is Icelandic although most locals speak English.

### CLIMATE

Greenland has an Arctic climate, but owing to the size of the country there are great variations in the weather. Winters can be severe and the summers comparatively mild, particularly in areas which are sheltered from the prevailing winds. Precipitation, mostly snow, is moderately heavy around the coast from October – April. September can be milder but expect temperatures from around freezing to 7°C.

### CLOTHING SUGGESTIONS

The best solution to temperature control is to have a number of layers available from lightweight thermal underwear through mid-layer insulation to a windproof/waterproof jacket/trousers. Remember that on a moving boat you will often experience wind-chill. If you have any questions feel free to contact us at anytime before the trip.

### SUGGESTED CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT

- Down or artificial fibre duvet jacket – we wear [Rab](#)
- Warm trousers that allow flexibility of movement
- Long sleeved thermal tops and leggings
- Light fleece/wool jumpers
- Thicker warm fleece type jacket
- Waterproof jacket
- Waterproof trousers
- Warm socks, a few pairs
- Boots/shoes with good tread
- Warm hat and neck warmer such as [Buff](#)
- 1–2 pairs warm gloves that enable using camera controls whilst wearing
- Casual clothes, jeans etc for hotel wear
- Indoor shoes/slippers
- Sun cream and sunglasses
- Head torch
- Small basic first aid & any personal medicines
- Small towel
- [HotHands](#) or similar
- Wash kit



### PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT & INFORMATION

- Camera bag or backpack such as the Flipside or Trekker series designed by LowePro.
- Any extra equipment that doesn't fit in your camera bag/hand luggage will need to go in a hard case that can be put in the aircraft hold.
- A camera with interchangeable lenses such as a digital SLR or a mirrorless system camera.
- A set of lenses to cover the whole range from wide-angle to telephoto, for example...  
For full-frame cameras: 16–35mm wide-angle, 24–105mm mid-range and a 70–300mm or longer tele zoom. For crop format cameras: 10–20mm wide-angle, 17–50mm mid-range and a 70–200mm or longer tele zoom.
- For wildlife you will want the longest lens you have and are comfortable travelling with.
- Spare camera (highly recommended)

- Sturdy tripod – not only useful for low light photography but also for accurate framing and composition of landscape and close-up images.
- Cable release – mechanical or electronic remote to avoid shake on long exposures.
- Neutral density, graduated filters and polariser, if you use these. At least a neutral density filter in the range of 4–6 stops would be a good addition to your kit.
- Lens cloth
- Sensor cleaning device (optional)
- Lightweight ‘trekking’ absorbent towel for drying cameras and equipment
- Rain cover for camera and camera bag.
- Sufficient memory cards for the whole holiday as it may not be possible to buy more during the trip.
- Film users should bring enough film, as it may not be possible to buy in many places.
- A laptop with the image editing applications of your choice, essential for checking and presenting images during the trip and for one-on-one sessions with the tutor.
- Backup storage device (optional)
- Spare batteries and chargers
- All the electrical sockets are European two-pin, so you might need a travel plug adapter.

## PARTNERS

Although this is primarily a photography holiday, non-photographer partners will be very welcome as there are



many options and interesting possibilities in addition to taking photographs.

## MORE QUESTIONS?

While we hope that this information has answered most of your questions about the holiday, we know it will not give you all the information you need. If you have any more questions, please get in touch. Talking to us on the phone (we will always call you back) can often be a quick way of sorting out individual questions. It also helps us to get to know each other before the holiday.

## BOOKING THIS HOLIDAY

Fill in the [online booking form](#), or give us a call on +44 (0)1630 647828.

## LINKS

View [images and information for this tour](#) on the website. Read about [our approach to teaching photography](#)

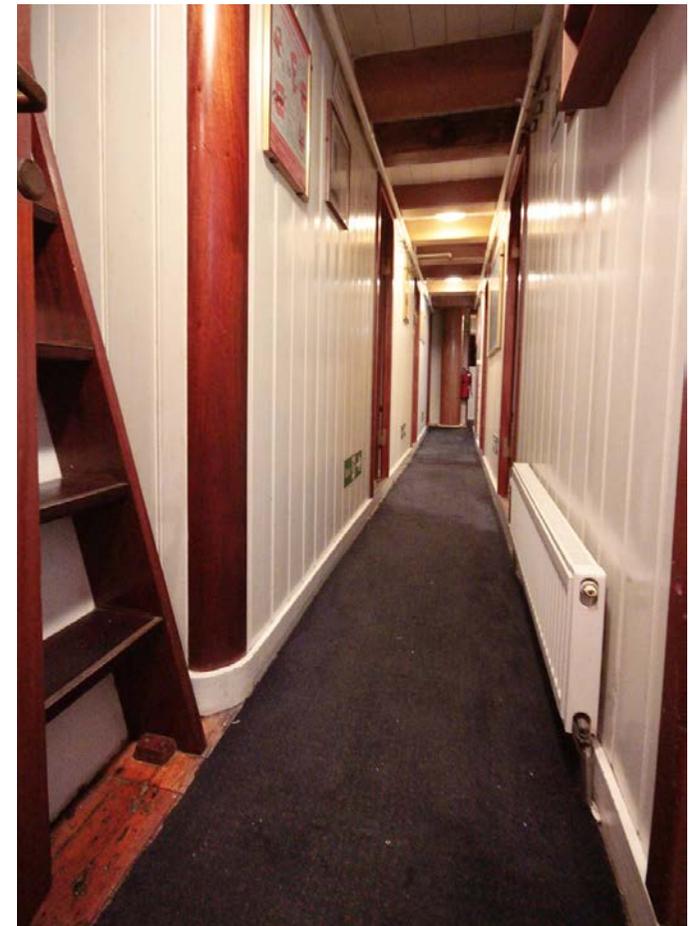
## IMAGE CREDITS

Images in the online gallery are by James Rushforth and Richard Burdon as noted. All other images by Wild Photography Holidays.

## OUR BOAT – THE DONNA WOOD

Representing Danish shipbuilding tradition at its very best Donna Wood was originally built in 1918 as a lighthouse ship. In 1990 the ship underwent massive restoration and was equipped with rigging and sails.

Donna Wood is a roomy ship with a deck saloon seating 24 and ample space below deck comfortably accommodating 12 people in 7 cabins equipped with washbasins and closets. The hallway features spacious shared shower facilities and toilets.



# DECK PLAN DONNA WOOD

