



experience
with us

Dear guest,

We understand that you might have concerns about travelling in current COVID-19 times, and we aim to address those in this letter. We are convinced that, if we all observe the right policies and measures, travelling to the remoteness of the polar regions is one of the safest travel destinations. If we all maintain a couple of basic guidelines, the risks of infections and diseases will be much lower than in most public areas or transportation in the world.

Working assumption

The Omicron variant is present in the Arctic region. We see falling numbers of infections and an even lower number of cases with severe symptoms. We still recommend all our guests to avoid social gatherings, bars and events, within the two weeks before boarding Ocean Atlantic.

Vaccine Requirement!

Albatros Expeditions requires all guests, staff, and crew to be fully vaccinated with an WHO approved vaccine a minimum of **14 days** prior to departure. The currently approved vaccines are: Pfizer/BionTech, Moderna, AstraZeneca/Oxford, Sinopharm, Sinovac, Covaxin, Covovaxm Nucaxovid, and Johnson & Johnson.*

Please visit the following link for updated information:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/covid-19-vaccines/advice>

Booster shots are not counted towards the minimum 14 days.

**Children 11 years and under are exempt from the vaccine requirement.*

Information, advice, and policies change

Our first recommendation is to always check the latest updates, advice, or travel policy from Albatros Expeditions, your own government, and the country of embarkation, as learnings and scientific insight, and travel advice changes regularly.

IMPORTANT!

All guests need to take a PCR Test no more than 72 hours or an Antigen test 48 hours prior to embarkation. If guests had a previous infection and still test positive, we will accept a 'recovery letter', in addition to a 'fit to travel letter' from a medical professional, that is maximum 90 days old. Tests need to have been carried out by a trained relevant authority for the detection of SARS-COV-2, which will deliver documentation (electronic or physical) that can be shown at boarding.





experience
with us

What Albatros Expeditions does to keep you safe

You can expect the following key actions from Albatros Expeditions to keep you safe:

- Full compliance with all health and safety requirements of the operating area/ports, our ship flag state, our ship classification society and the AECO membership association.
- Physical adaptation of vessels to reduce hazards that could lead to spread of disease.
- Pre -and during-post voyage ship disinfections.
- Continuous enhanced cleaning procedures for cabins and all public areas, during your voyage with us.
- Health screening and monitoring for all guests, staff, and crew.
- We offer plenty of sanitizing units and hand washing facilities onboard.
- Social distancing where possible and appropriate.
- Optional testing on the ship, to ensure early detection and provide peace of mind.

What you should do pre-travel

To travel safely and healthy, we recommend the following:

- Always register your travel plans with your respective consulate, please see <https://www.embassypages.com> for address details.
- Ensure you have appropriate travel insurance, including travel interruptions, denied boarding and repatriation. Please discuss any travel insurance concerns with your insurance provider.
- Check your travel history and travel plans, to establish if all countries you plan to visit or will travel through before joining vessel will allow you to travel or return to your home country.
- Please check health requirements of destination and transit countries, as well as those of transport services (airlines).
- Please study the WHO recommendations. 'Protecting yourself and others from the spread of COVID-19': <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>
- One of the best things you can do to keep you and others safe, both at home and on our ship, is proper hand washing. Hands can be sanitized but note that sanitation of hands should not be a replacement to washing hands unless soap and water is not available. Please refer to hand washing guidelines by the WHO; https://www.who.int/gpsc/clean_hands_protection/en/
- In the two weeks prior to travel, we **strongly recommend** you closely monitor your health, do a symptom self-check regularly, and practice good hygiene (physical distancing, hand washing, limited social interactions, avoid social events and gatherings in badly ventilated spaces) .
- Please consult with your physician if you are concerned about possible symptoms.
- Please buy an appropriate personal travel kit before leaving home for your travels to our ship. This includes medically graded face masks (recommended at least 20 per person), hand sanitizer gel and wipes, thermometer and protective gloves.
- Ensure you receive your last vaccine latest 14 days prior to travel. Check also that the country of embarkation may have specific vaccines only that are approved for entry.





experience
with us

- Take a COVID-19 PCR or Antigen test prior to travel and if arriving early to embarkation destination, a PCR test which is max 72 hours or an Antigen test 48 hours prior to embarking Ocean Atlantic.

What you should do during travel to the ship

During your travels to **Ocean Atlantic** we recommend you do/consider the following:

- Minimize handshaking and hugging.
- Carry hand sanitizer gel and wipes, washing your hands regularly.
- Observe physical distancing during travel whenever possible.
- Consider face masks when in prolonged or close contact with others (flights and public transport).
- Minimize use of public transport while in transit.
- If you do not feel well, please be vigilant, open, and honest about symptoms, your health is our immediate concern.

Arrival at the airport after an included flight provided by Albatros Expeditions in Longyearbyen and Kagerlussuaq.

We will have representatives waiting to take you by coach to the port. At some arrivals, there will be some free time in the local area before leaving for the port. Please make sure to follow the instructions of the representatives. Please maintain social distancing as much as possible whilst travelling.

Arrival at the port

Our crew and staff are ready to invite you on board. You will need to present your proof of vaccination and PCR/Antigen test as earlier described. Please be patient as our hardworking crew and staff check all passengers documentation and clear them for boarding.





experience
with us

What you can expect at embarkation

- All guests will be asked to show their vaccine certificates and PCR/Antigen tests.
- Wash and sanitize hands, luggage, and footwear at bottom of gangway before boarding the vessel. Guests will be able to check in, go to their staterooms and/or walk around the ship, depending on current requirements. You must join the mandatory passenger safety briefing which includes our 'Clean Ships and Healthy People Strategy', outlining the new procedures intended to prevent the spread of infections. You could be assigned to fixed social groups for meals, gatherings, and activities.

***Testing.** We will have self-test kits onboard to offer. Any guests that show symptoms or have been in close contact with a positive guest, will need to be tested. If a guest tests positive or inconclusive on an antigen test, we will provide a PCR test just to be sure we don't have a "false positive".*

The costs of tests on board are \$20 for antigen test and \$75 for a PCR test (RT-LAMP). Please be aware these tests do not include an official certificate which can be used for traveling and flying.

The cost of the tests will be charged to your onboard account.

Onboard tests have been shipped, received and stored in a medically controlled environment in accordance to requirements.

What happens if a guest tests positive?

We will always first check with a RT-LAMP test if there is a case of a "false positive". So, the below is if the PCR test is also positive.

***Before boarding the ship:** The guest and any travel partners are recommended to isolate themselves. It is not possible to board the ship after testing positive. We strongly recommend guests to purchase travel insurance that covers any isolation costs.*

***On-board the ship:** The guest is required to isolate themselves in an isolation cabin, if available, alternately the originally assigned cabin, until the Doctor/Captain releases you. Travel partners may also be required to isolate.*

***Before disembarking the ship:** The guest should follow local regulations/recommendations. We again strongly recommend guests to purchase travel insurance that covers isolation/costs for any such medical situations.*





experience
with us

Testing for return flights

For guests that need an official laboratory certificate to return home, please make sure you have the time for this. Mention this to our crew onboard so they are aware. Many airports offer testing, but it is up to you to confirm that you can get this and where.

For US guests returning home, we would like to refer you to appendix I below

What you should do on the ship to keep you safe:

- In public spaces wearing a face mask is optional.
- If you have any cold, flu or COVID-19 like symptoms, you need to inform the ship's medical staff immediately to get tested for COVID-19.
- If you have fever or certain symptoms, you may not be allowed to participate in any activities, including landings, excursions, and lectures.
- Upon Doctor's or Captain's orders you could be isolated in a specific isolation cabin. You will be taken care off, but you will not be allowed to leave the cabin, until symptoms have disappeared and/or the Doctor (or Captain) states it is safe to do so.
- Please wash your hands as frequently as possible, as a minimum before and after every meal, activity, excursion, and after using the toilet of course. Hands can be sanitized but note that sanitation of hands should not be a replacement to washing hands unless soap and water is not available.
- Please use credit card to settle your final bill, as we try to avoid cash payments.

At Albatros Expeditions, we are committed to your health and safety, and to deliver you the best polar experiences available. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us or ask anyone of your crew onboard!

