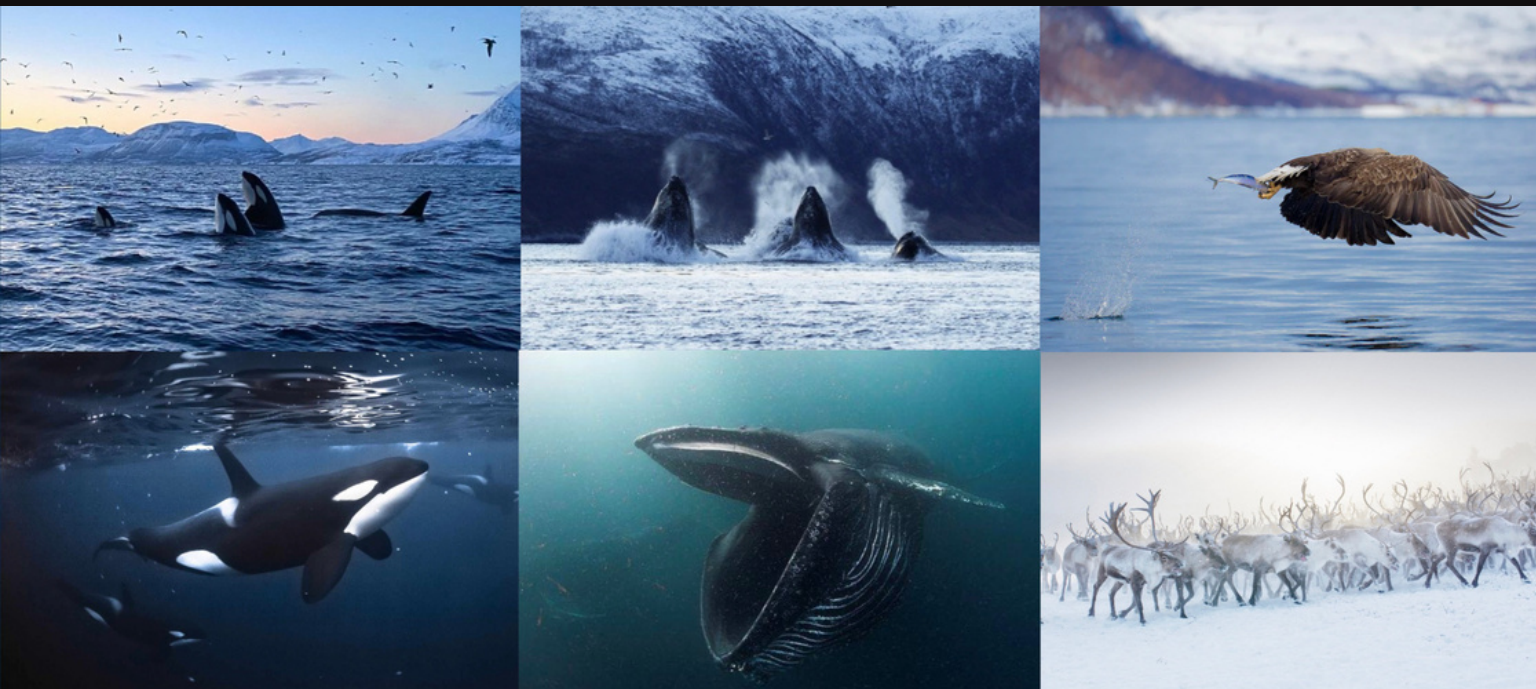
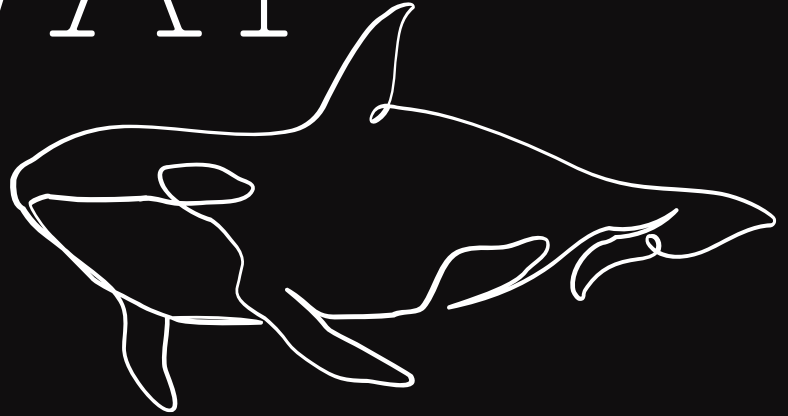


NORWAY

2023

NOV. 3-11



Join us for the expedition of a lifetime. Alongside award winning cinematographer, nat geo contributor & marine biologist , JOÃO RODRIGUES; We will experience the world renowned Fjordlands of Norway. Boasting unparalleled wildlife viewing and dramatic scenery, as well as the famous Arora Borealis - This is sure to be an exciting trip in the land of the Vikings.

9 day trip. 8 nights of accommodation. 5 boat days. Endless memories.

We will be heading to SKJERVOY, NORWAY to experience the amazing bio-diversity That comes along with the natural phenomenon of the herring run. This special season brings hundreds of Orca and Humpback whales to take part in an exciting aggregation of extremely active sea life. We will have the chance to not only witness this from the surface, but also to get into the water with these amazing animals for what will be a show to remember. Along with ocean adventure; Norway is known for Northern Light sitings during this time.



ORCA SWIMS

The opportunities we are looking for are when orcas are feeding on herring. The herring form bait balls for protection, and the orcas corral and drive them up to the surface, trapping them there. Once the herring are trapped, the orcas, and humpbacks (they join in the feeds sometimes), will stay in one area, slamming into the bait balls to kill their prey. - Allowing you to witness this extraordinary feeding event. WE WILL SPEND OUR TIME AT SEA, SEARCHING FOR THESE OPPORTUNITIES.

When the orcas are not feeding, they are hunting, which makes swimming with them difficult and brief. On the days that we do not find a baitball, we will try and slip in with them for a quick look to see them as they swim by. Occasionally, the orcas take an interest in us and will come in for a close look.

On days they do not feel social, we will follow them around, watching and photographing them from the surface until they hopefully round up a baitball to feed on.

THIS IS THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME TO SWIM WITH ORCAS IN THE WILD.



THE NOTHERN LIGHTS

Northern Lights (Aurora borealis) are the result of collisions between gaseous particles in the Earth's atmosphere with charged particles released from the sun's atmosphere. Variations in color are due to the type of gas particles that are colliding. Here you can watch these breathtaking dances of light move and change into their many forms – from patches or scattered clouds of light, to streamers, arcs, or rippling curtains that light up the sky with an eerie glow. After dinner, in the late evening, if the skies are clear, we will head out into the darkness, to search for the Northern Lights.



OTHER WILDLIFE

In the event of bad sea conditions and being unable to follow the orcas and humpback whales in the open ocean; Our skipper will take us to a coastal sheltered area, along the fjords, where it is possible to see and photograph sea eagles, reindeer, moose, and more.



EXPEDITION ITENERARY

STARTING 11/3

DAY 1 – 10:00am – Meeting at Comfort Hotel Xpress, Tromsø | Road trip to Skjervoy (with lunch break) Arrival and resting at the apartment | Welcome dinner at the staff house

DAY 2 – 09:00am Breakfast | 10:30am Equipment preparation | Visit to the Marina | 01:30pm Lunch | 04:30pm Briefing on Orca diving | 07:30pm Dinner

DAY 3 – Boat / Diving day 1

Day 4 – Boat / Diving day 2

Day 5 – Boat / Diving day 3

Day 6 – Boat / Diving day 4

Day 7 – Boat / Diving day 5

Day 8 – Resting Day | Equipment packaging | Farewell dinner

Day 9 – Road trip to Tromsø

ENDS 11/11

DIVING DAYS SCHEDULE & DETAILS

7:30/8 – Morning snack

08:30 – Equipment assembly

09:00 – Boat leaves dock

14:00 – Boat back to dock

14:30 – Lunch

19:30 – Dinner

21:30 – Northern lights

NOTES:

- The road trip from Tromsø to Skjervoy will take around 4 hours
- The lunch on the road trip is not included on the expedition package
- During the boat trip there will be snacks and drinks on board.
- In the event of bad sea conditions to follow the orcas and humpback whales our skipper will take us to a sheltered place to see sea eagles, reindeer, and more along the fjords.



THE BOAT

The Merry Fisher Marlin: Crossover of the Seas.

Merry Fisher Marlin models are characterized by an inverted windscreen and a walk-around deck plan. Safety, performance and fuel efficiency are assured in this line by an excellent level of security on board, a proven hull and an outboard engine. The line features a contemporary, adventurous spirit, inspired by Scandinavian style and adapted to meet the needs of our daily expeditions.



ACCOMMODATION

Your picturesque and comfortable apartment is located right next to the marina, surrounded by breathtaking nature with waterfront views.

This is a 4 person apartment with two bedrooms and four single beds total. The apartment features a fully equipped self-catering kitchen, private bathroom with shower and WC. Bedlinen, towels and cleaning are included.

In the living room you will be able to enjoy some down time while reading your book or watching your favorite show on a Flat screen TV.

The apartment is equipped with Air Conditioning, Central Heating System and WIFI. Your delicious meals (lunch and dinner) will be served by Chef Filipe Oliveira at the staff house, which is located near the apartment.



TRIP PRICING

WHATS INCLUDED:

- All taxes • Airport shuttles • Welcome dinner on day 1 • 8 nights accommodation
- 3 meals a day (from day 2 to day 8) – morning snack, lunch & dinner • boat

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED:

The price of your trip EXCLUDES

Flights • Travel Insurance • Diving Insurance • Your dive gear • Lunch on the road trip from Tromso to Skjervoy • Crew gratuities • Alcoholic beverages apart from the ones included in the Welcome and Farewell dinners • Cost of COVID tests if required

NORWAY EXPEDITION PRICE: \$7000

DEPOSITS & CANCELLATIONS

50% deposit is due to hold the reservation by June 13th, 2023

Remaining balance is due the 30 days before the expedition – Oct 4th, 2023

50% of the full rate will be forfeited for cancellations

RECOMMENDED GEAR

We are fully available to help you select the right gear for you! Nixi is also able to offer discounts on gear bought through us... Or help you find great used gear.

Water temperatures during the month of November range from 8oC to 6oC (46-42oF).

Every diver is required to have the following:

Dry suit or apnea wetsuit (7mm+), hood, gloves (5mm+), boots or socks (5mm+), fins, mask, snorkel and weight belt.

Please be very careful to make sure you have all the equipment mentioned on the list above. There will be no diving gear for rent in Skjervoy. For the ones using apnea neoprene suits, we strongly recommend using waterproof jackets above the suits on the way back to the marina.

Air temperatures during the month of November range from 3oC to -3oC (38-25oF).

Dress is casual. We recommend you to wear WARM and COMFORTABLE cloths: long underwear (fleece, wool, merino), warm jumper/jacket, beani, gloves and warm, waterproof shoes/boots.



EXPEDITION LEADER

JOÃO RODRIGUES

Cinematographer, Marine Biologist, Conservationist



João Rodrigues is a Filmmaker, Photojournalist and Marine Biologist specialized in Nature and Conservation.

During his professional career, which has taken him to dive from the icy waters of the Nordic seas to the coral reefs of the tropics, collaborated on documentaries such as “Europe’s Wild Islands” by National Geographic Channel, “Blue Planet 2” by BBC, “Oasis – Azores Islands–North Atlantic Ocean” by NHK, “+ or – 5 mètres” by the Arte channel and “Life at the Extreme-Deep / Azores” from the iTV channel.

Currently, João Rodrigues is a contributor to National Geographic and director of production company Chimera Visuals, through which he made the film “Cavalos de Guerra”, distinguished in environmental film festivals

in the United States, Argentina, Mexico, England, among others.

He also works as Director of Photography on nature and wildlife films from international producers, such as Bonne Pioche and Passion Planet.

Awarded in internationally renowned photography competitions such as the European Photographer of the Year, the Underwater Photographer of the Year and the SIENA International Photo Awards in 2021,

João was the first Portuguese to win a first place in the prestigious competition of London Natural History Museum, Wildlife Photographer of the Year. João Rodrigues' mission is to tell stories of the oceans through those who believe be one of the most important tools for community awareness, the visual storytelling.

THE CREW :

JOSÉ CARVALHO | DIVE GUIDE



José Carvalho is a Skipper, Marine Biologist and Dive Guide specialized in Marine Wildlife.

Born in 1989 in Porto, Portugal, he grew up by the sea and developed his passion for it since an early age. Started surfing at 12 years old and had his first contact with sailing at the age of 14, during summer holidays on the optimist class.

José studied marine biology and has a master degree in Marine Biodiversity and Conservation.

In 2009, José became a Local Skipper and moved to the Azores in 2014 to work on the whale watching and diving industry, where he worked as skipper,

dive master and marine biologist until the present day.

Passionate about traveling, meeting new people and cultures, José speaks fluently 4 languages (Portuguese, English, French, Spanish) and has great communication skills. José Carvalho

believes that the combination of his unique character and some personal interests such as surfing, apnea, spearfishing, fishing, scuba diving, literature, ocean conservation initiatives, together with his positive and pro-active attitude, is the key to provide great experiences to charter guests as well as a good relation with all the crew members.

SOPHIA FONTES | SKIPPER & TOUR GUIDE



Sophia Fontes is a Marine Tourism Manager , Skipper and Photographer, with an academic background in Tourism.

Sophia is specialized in large cetaceans and has spent more than 4000 hours on the high seas and have traveled more than 3000 miles during the last decade, while working with these wild animals. From whale watching to wildlife film productions, Sophia's experience and passion for the sea has been providing some of the best marine wildlife encounters that one can have.

Sophia is the manager of the prestigious and worldwide known Whale Watching & Diving company, Norberto Diver – Azores, since 2015, and freelance skipper & tour guide in Skjervoy, Norway since 2019.

FILIPPE OLIVEIRA | CHEF



Filipe Oliveira is a Professional Chef, specialized in Fish and Fusion Cuisine, with an academic background in Culinary and Business Management.

After several years studying and working in London, Filipe returned to his motherland, more precisely to the Algarve, the Portuguese capital of fresh fish, in order to implement his finest techniques on the local products, providing a whole new experience for the most refined palates.

After working in several prestigious restaurants in the most important cities in the region, Filipe is currently in Faro, as the Executive Chef of Escama, a restaurant specialized in seafood and fresh fish known for its innovative dishes and recipes.