



Sailing to Siku

Voyage to the Last Ice Area



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SCHEDULE

JUL 24 - AUG 8, 2012

Upernavik to Qaanaaq
(Greenland)

AUG 8 - 18, 2012

Qaanaaq (Greenland) to
Grise Fiord (Canada)

AUG 18 - SEP 1, 2012

Grise Fiord to Pond Inlet
(Canada)

This summer, join WWF as we sail to the heart of the Arctic where summer sea ice is projected to last the longest. In support of our “Last Ice Area” project, the Canon Europe funded expedition will go up the northwest coast of Greenland, then probe up into the high Arctic Ocean before crossing to Canada’s High Arctic Islands.

It is this area where summer sea ice is projected to persist past 2050, when all other ice in the Arctic Ocean will have melted. We believe this remnant sea ice may become the core of an area increasingly important to the survival of ice dependent life.

Living creatures from tiny plankton to 100 tonne Bowhead whales and the iconic polar bear are currently found in association with sea ice. As climate change eats away at the ice, it eats away at the homes of the life that surrounds the ice, radically changing the environment for both animals and people.

[FOLLOW THE VOYAGE AT LASTICEAREA.ORG](http://LASTICEAREA.ORG)

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ABOUT THE LAST ICE AREA

The Last Ice Area is a new WWF project designed to assess the best future management options for the area of Arctic summer sea ice projected to remain the longest. WWF is helping collate and conduct research in this area, and connecting this research to the question of how this area may best be managed in the future to the benefit of both species and people.

This summer's voyage is an opportunity for us to further investigate the area. Along with WWF staff, we have invited researchers to join us. These researchers will be adding to the knowledge of the area, looking at how the environment is changing, and what those changes may mean for the future of life in the area. We will also be stopping at local communities along the route, explaining our project to local people, and inviting their guidance and expertise. Finally, we shall be reaching out to a global audience, talking about the local and global significance of the project, and sharing our discoveries and experiences along the way. These audiences will be able to follow the voyage on a web based map, which we will fill with video, pictures and stories.

ABOUT THE BOAT

The boat is being chartered from Students on Ice, an award-winning organization offering unique educational expeditions to the Antarctic and the Arctic. Acquired the Students on Ice in 2009, Arctic Tern I is a steel 50 ft. expedition sailing yacht made by the French yard Caroff Duflos. Its hull is made of stainless steel. The yacht has a retractable keel to meet the risks of sailing in ice-bound areas which also enables it to sail onto a beach. The boat sleeps 7, and has extra fuel and water tanks to allow for long extended expeditions. It has satellite communication, radar, autopilot, GPS, a Zodiac and outboard engine. Arctic Tern I is a Canadian-flagged sailing vessel registered in Iqaluit, Nunavut. It will be staffed by a crew of 3 experienced polar sailors.

ABOUT THE WWF/CANON EUROPE PARTNERSHIP

The "Sailing to Siku – Voyage to the Last Ice Area" expedition is the first of three Arctic expeditions to be funded by Canon Europe, as part of its work with WWF to help capture through images the changes to the state of the environment and climate change. Canon also funds the WWF-Canon photo library, helping WWF tell conservation stories worldwide through photography.

FOLLOW THE VOYAGE:

LASTICEAREA.ORG



Information

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