Arctic photo index

47 gallery photographs. Combined slideshows retain their reference IDs.

AR001

Moss campion

This close view shows the pink flowers of moss campion (Silene acaulis), also called cushion pink, growing in the Arctic tundra.

AR009

Red alpine rosettes and lichen

The red-green rosettes in this photograph are plants, not red lichen. Pale, crusty growth on the surrounding rock appears to be lichen.

AR020

Orange lichen on Arctic rock

Bright orange patches spread across the surface of a weathered boulder, standing out against the gray and brown stones around it.

AR044

Tufted saxifrage among the stones

A small cluster of tufted saxifrage blooms among gravel and larger stones. The white petals, yellow-green centers, and reddish details stand out against the muted ground.

AR004

Arctic light through clouds

These three views follow sunlight breaking through layered Arctic clouds, then widening to show its reflection on the water and ice below.

slideshow AR004

AR005

Arctic light through clouds

Light breaking through clouds

slideshow AR004

AR006

Arctic light through clouds

Sun over the water

slideshow AR004

AR002

Glacier at the Arctic shore

A jagged glacier front rises beyond a bare, rocky stretch of shore. The contrast between pale ice and dark land gives this High Arctic scene its stark character.

AR007

Blue glacier wall

A steep glacier front meets the water, with blue ice, deep fractures, and dark streaks visible across its face.

AR008

Layered blue glacier wall

This wide close-up of a glacier front shows pale blue ice meeting the water. Horizontal bands, deep vertical fractures, and pockets of darker material give the wall its layered texture.

AR011 — **Glacier between mountains**

A tongue of glacier ice descends through a pass between dark mountains under a broad, layered sky. Bare, stony ground fills the foreground.

AR013 — **Glacier at the waterline**

A close view of the glacier's edge shows a dark hollow at the left, fractured blue ice across the face, and pieces of ice near the waterline.

AR022 — **Ice opening at the glacier**

A dark, triangular opening cuts into the glacier at the waterline. Broken-looking edges frame the hollow, while small pieces of ice float in the foreground.

AR039 — **Deep recess in the glacier wall**

A deep blue recess interrupts the towering glacier front. Dark streaks run down the fractured ice, and broken pieces collect near the waterline below the hollow.

AR023 — **Glacier and expedition boat**

A broad glacier front stretches across the water beneath dark, snow-covered mountains. An inflatable boat at the right edge gives a striking sense of the landscape's scale.

AR026 — **Glacier branches and debris bands**

Two glacier branches descend around a rugged mountain and approach the fjord. Dark ribbons of rock debris mark their edges and sweep across the lower ice.

AR014 — **Expedition boat beside blue ice**

An inflatable boat carrying expedition travelers passes bright blue ice below a broad, debris-streaked glacier. The boat gives a sense of the ice's scale.

AR015 — **Glacier calving into the sea**

This photograph catches a calving event at the glacier front: a plume of water and ice spray rises where a section of ice has fallen into the sea.

AR034 — **Calving plume at the glacier front**

A broad white plume bursts from the base of a blue glacier wall as ice calves into the sea. The spray spreads across the water in front of the fractured ice face.

AR016 — **Holding a piece of glacial ice**

An expedition traveler holds a broad, translucent piece of ice for a closer look during a boat excursion. Its uneven surface catches the light like textured glass.

AR036 — **Travelers beside fractured ice**

Expedition travelers stand on loose rock before a wall of sharply fractured glacier ice. Their figures give scale to the crowded ridges and deep crevasses behind them.

AR012 — **World Voyager from a RIB**

The expedition ship World Voyager sits offshore under an overcast sky, seen from inside a rigid inflatable boat. Other small boats are visible beside the ship.

AR017 — **Walrus colony on shore**

A large group of walruses rests shoulder to shoulder on a pebbled shore. Several lift their heads above the crowd, showing their long tusks.

AR021 — **Walruses at the shoreline**

Several walruses rest together in the shallows beside a pale pebble beach. One large animal raises its head and tusks over a companion, while another peers out from the water.

AR045 — **Walrus in shallow coastal water**

A walrus rises from the shallow water near shore, facing the camera. The close view brings its long tusks and dense muzzle whiskers into focus.

AR046 — **Walrus rising from the water**

A walrus lifts its head and chest above the water, with both long tusks and its bristled muzzle clearly visible.

AR047 — **Walrus whiskers and tusks**

In a tight view at the waterline, a walrus's thick muzzle, long whiskers, and tusks fill the frame.

AR029 — **Svalbard reindeer on wet tundra**

A Svalbard reindeer stands among shallow pools, moss, and short grasses. Its compact body and large, dark antlers stand out against the patchwork of wet tundra.

AR043 — **Svalbard reindeer grazing**

A Svalbard reindeer lowers its head to graze among patches of green grass and bare tundra. This close view shows its compact body and branching antlers still covered in velvet.

AR041 — **Polar bear resting on rocky shore**

Two views show a polar bear resting on the same dark, rocky ledge. In the first, it looks toward the camera; in the second, its head rests low against the rock.

slideshow AR041

AR042 — **Polar bear resting on rocky shore**

Polar bear resting

slideshow AR041

AR035 — **Arctic fox on rocky ground**

An Arctic fox moves across dark, loose rock. Its brown back, lighter underside, and pale bushy tail stand out against the gravel; it is walking rather than sitting in this frame.

AR003 — **Seabird in Arctic flight**

A gull-like seabird glides beneath an overcast Arctic sky. Its pale underside and dark outer wingtips are clear in this view from below; it may be a black-legged kittiwake, but the photograph does not settle the identification.

AR031 — **Arctic tern over the water**

An Arctic tern hangs over blue water with its wings raised and red bill pointed down. Its black cap, slender wings, and long tail streamers stand out in the close view.

AR032

Black guillemot on the water

A black guillemot floats on calm blue water. Broad white patches break up its dark plumage, and its red feet are visible beneath the surface.

AR037

Bird cliffs at Alkefjellet

These two views move from expedition boats beneath Alkefjellet's sheer cliffs to a closer look at birds packed along the rock ledges. Birds also scatter across the sky above the water in Svalbard's Hinlopen Strait.

slideshow AR037

AR038

Bird cliffs at Alkefjellet

Seabirds nesting on cliffs

slideshow AR037

AR033

Blue whale surfacing

A broad blue-gray whale back rises through the dark sea, with white spray curling along both sides. Its pale, mottled surface is consistent with a blue whale, though only part of the animal is visible.

P21

Whale at the surface

A whale breaks the surface, lifting its dark tail above the water as white spray spreads behind it.

AR019

Whelk egg cases on the shore

A pale, sponge-like ball lies among the beach stones. Up close, it is made of many thin, cup-shaped capsules and appears to be a washed-up whelk egg mass rather than a sponge.

AR024

Toothed fish head on the shore

A dark, sand-covered head lies on the pale beach. Several curved teeth are visible in its partly open mouth. This is a fish head, not a sea turtle hatchling.

AR010

Polar-bear lookout on the Arctic shore

An expedition lookout stands on shoreline rocks and scans the water and coast through binoculars. Dark weather gear and a bright lime-green safety panel make the person visible against the muted Arctic landscape.

AR027

Hiking toward the Arctic shore

A line of expedition travelers walks down a broad, stony slope toward the water. A fjord, distant mountains, and a ship beyond the shore open up the view ahead.

AR040

Madonna, Mike, and Sebastian ashore

Frequent travelers Madonna and Mike pause for a shore-side selfie with Sebastian, their O.A.T. Experienced Travel Leader. A quiet fjord and low, cloud-covered mountains sit behind them.

AR018

Rusted tracked equipment on shore

The remains of a tracked machine sit on a barren gravel shore, with other pieces of old equipment nearby. Rust has eaten through much of its metal body, but the track and small wheels remain recognizable.

AR028

Svalbard Global Seed Vault entrance

The concrete entrance to the Svalbard Global Seed Vault projects from a bare mountainside near Longyearbyen. Reflective art catches the sun above the door, while a visitor stands beside the structure.

AR025

Arctic sea ice and polar routes

A presenter uses a polar map to compare sea ice marked for September 2000–09 and September 2024. Pink lines mark two routes around the Arctic, labeled NWP and NEP.