

M/Y SHEERGOLD

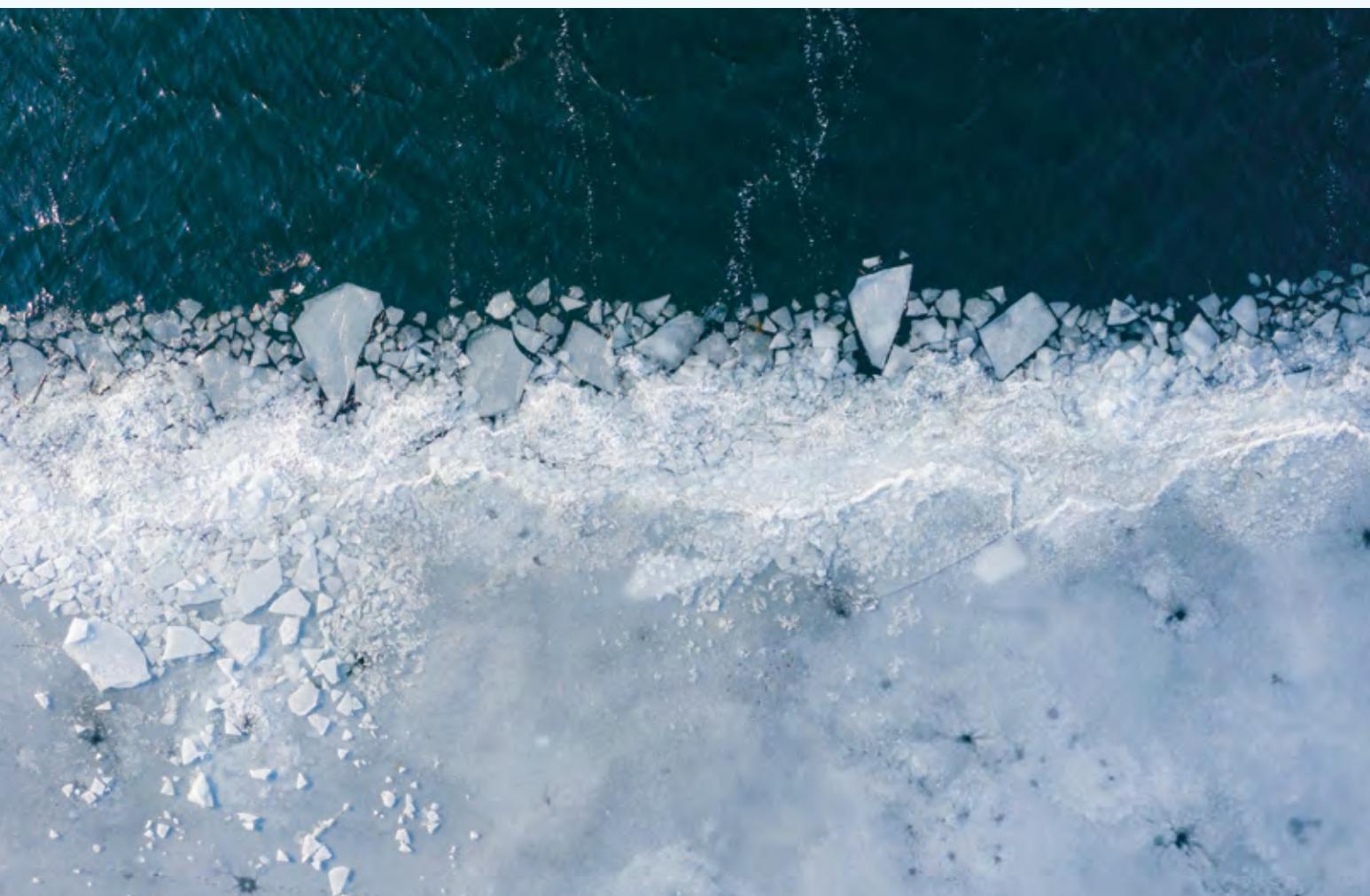
2026

DISTANCE 4,600nm

GREENLAND > CANADA > ALASKA

The
**NORTHWEST
PASSAGE**

BEYOND THE ICE



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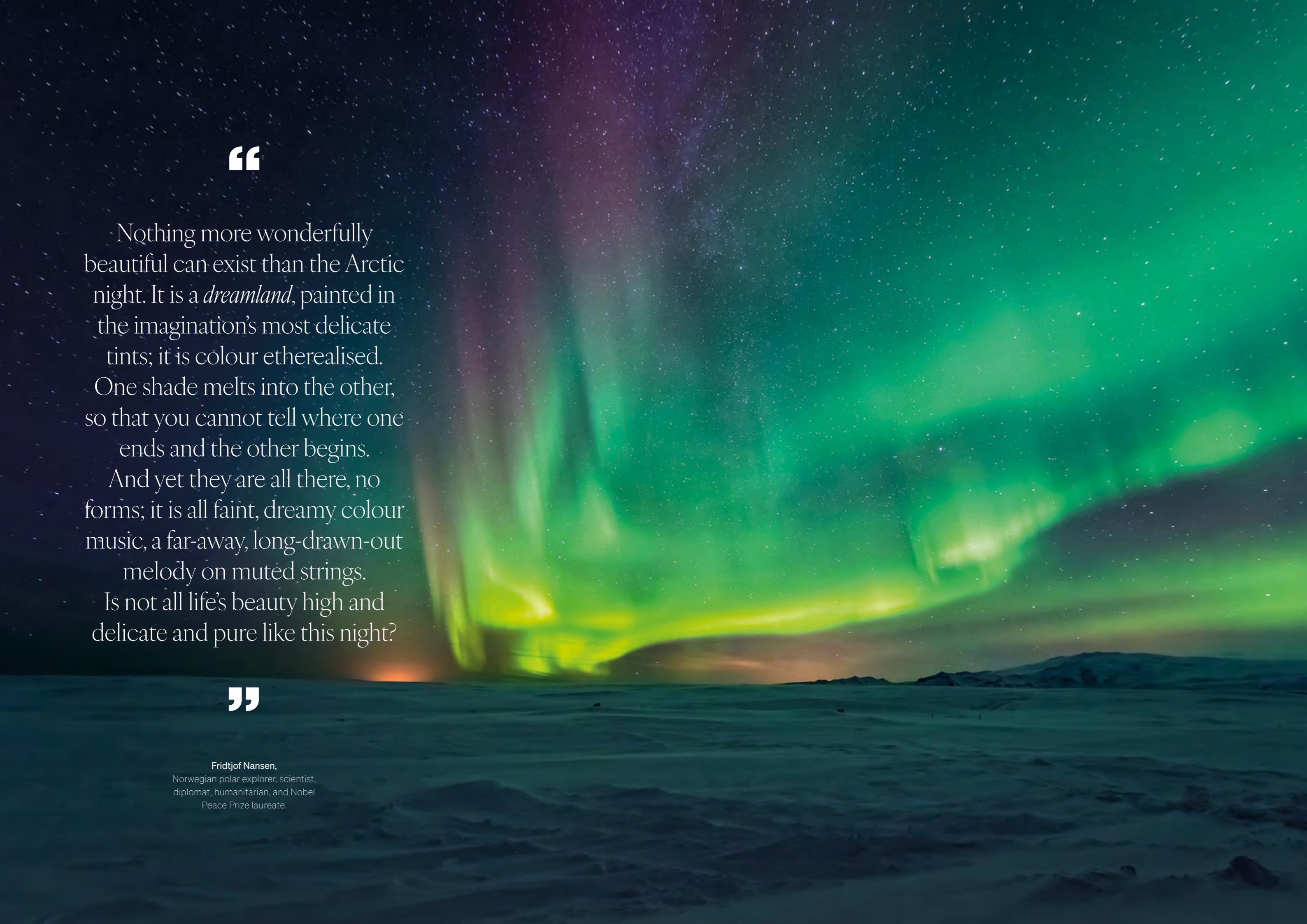
Nothing more wonderfully beautiful can exist than the Arctic night. It is a *dreamland*, painted in the imagination's most delicate tints; it is colour etherealised. One shade melts into the other, so that you cannot tell where one ends and the other begins.

And yet they are all there, no forms; it is all faint, dreamy colour music, a far-away, long-drawn-out melody on muted strings.

Is not all life's beauty high and delicate and pure like this night?

”

Fridtjof Nansen,
Norwegian polar explorer, scientist,
diplomat, humanitarian, and Nobel
Peace Prize laureate.



The NORTHWEST PASSAGE

The fabled Northwest Passage was once a path for the most hardy and rugged among us. For hundreds of years, the mythical sea lane was only hypothesised to exist; no one really knew for sure. Winding through the Canadian Arctic Archipelago—flanked by Greenland to the east and Alaska to the west—the passage was inaccessible for much of the year: thick slabs of sea ice locked the channels in winter, and above the Arctic Circle, the months-long polar night reduced days to a mere few hours of dim twilight.

Why did this sea path matter? Because it promised a shorter journey between Europe and Asia, bypassing the perilous Strait of Magellan and Cape Horn, long feared for their storms and turbulent waters.

The legend of the Northwest Passage challenged explorers for centuries, leaving daring expedition teams stranded in the harsh Arctic winter. It wasn't until 1906 that Roald Amundsen, the famous Norwegian polar explorer, became the first to successfully traverse the Passage in an expedition that lasted three years, and with invaluable guidance from Inuit communities, whose generations of Arctic knowledge ensured survival in these extreme conditions.

Today, it is one of the last places on earth where true exploration still exists—though with far less risk and much more comfort. Aboard SHEERGOLD's heated decks, we'll navigate the waterways from Ilulissat, Greenland to Nome, Alaska via frozen islands and weather-beaten bays teem-

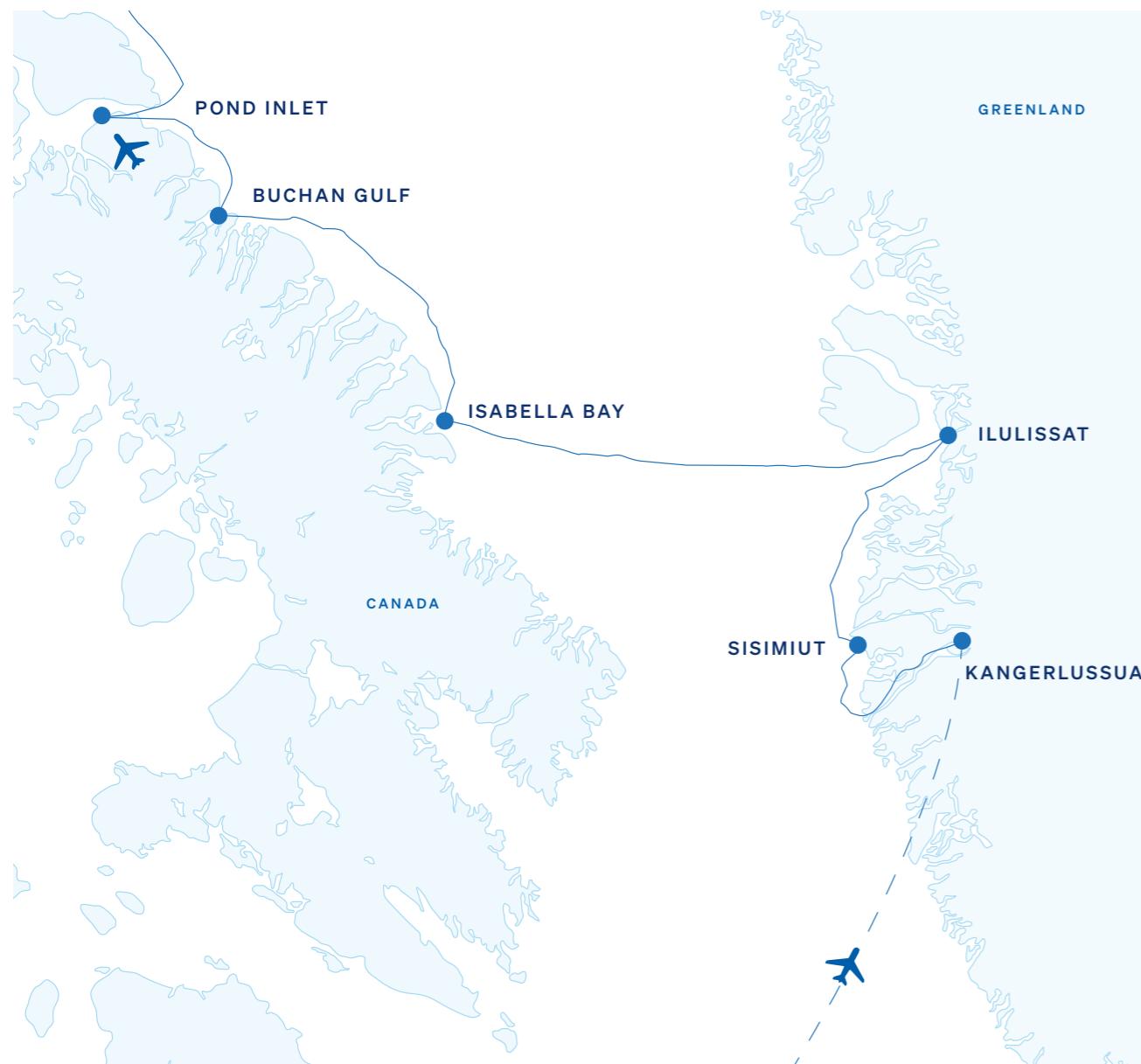
ing with wildlife: It is not unusual to spot polar bears, musk oxen, Arctic foxes, seals and walruses—even the notoriously shy narwhal—while thousands of seabirds soar overhead. We'll engage with those same Inuit communities and learn from local elders and knowledge-keepers about life so far north, and—if we're lucky—we'll watch the northern lights dance across the night sky in an ethereal spectacle at the very edge of the world.



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CHARTER

1



Highlights

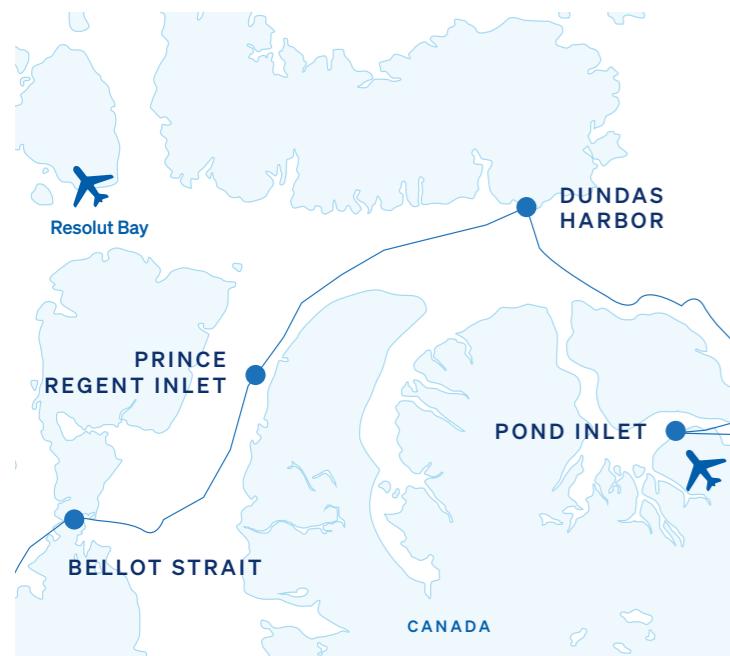
In Ilulissat, Greenland, icebergs drift from the UNESCO-listed Ilulissat Icefjord, the glacier Sermeq Kujalleq sculpted over millennia, and among the fastest and most active in the Northern Hemisphere. Across Disko Bay, whales move between floating ice, framed by the rugged cliffs that have long shaped Arctic life, from Inuit communities to explorers and whalers. Further along, the dramatic fjords of Baffin Island reveal secluded villages where elders share stories of survival and artistry, and along the coastline from Sisimut to Upernivik, ice-carved channels and quiet bays frame encounters with wildlife and dramatic views of a landscape as alive as it is ancient.

Locations:	Ilulissat, Greenland to Pond Inlet, Canada
Distance:	~1,000 nautical miles
Duration:	~12-14 days
Charter flight access:	Ilulissat (BGJN) / Pond Inlet (CYIO)



CHARTER

2



Highlights

At the northern gateway to the Northwest Passage, icy Lancaster Sound—one of the Arctic's largest marine sanctuaries—is an important corridor for wildlife: Timid narwhals frolic under ice floes while polar bears play on the ice above. This area is perfect for photography; the wild vistas here show off the stark beauty of these extreme climes. To the west, the windswept shores of Devon and Beechey Islands bear haunting traces of Sir John Franklin's ill-fated 1845 expedition to chart the final untraversed section of the Northwest Passage.

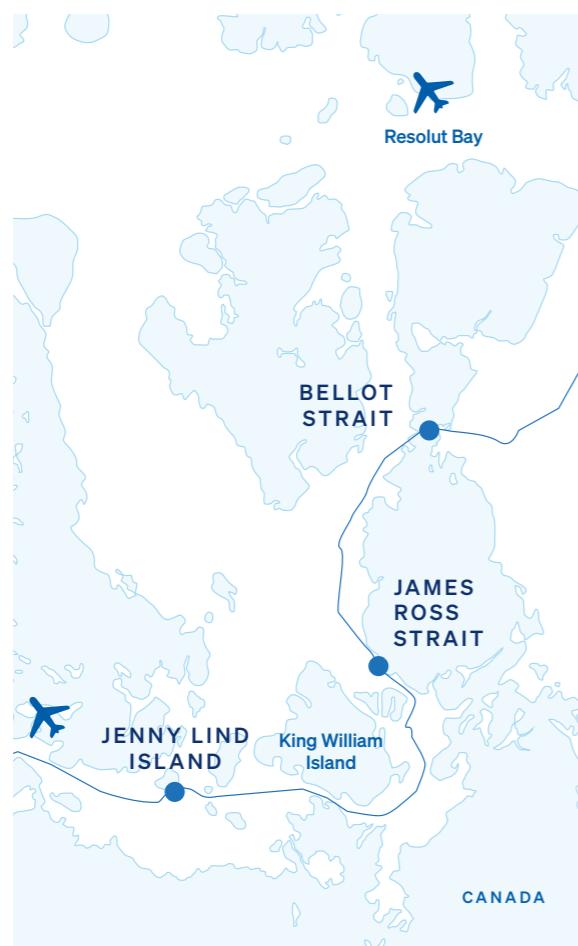


Locations:	Pond Inlet, Canada to Resolute Bay, Canada
Distance:	~600 nautical miles
Duration:	~10–12 days
Charter flight access:	Pond Inlet (CYIO) / Resolute Bay (CYRB)



CHARTER

3



Locations:	Resolute Bay, Canada to Cambridge Bay, Canada
Distance:	~700 nautical miles
Duration:	~12–13 days
Charter flight access:	Resolute Bay (CYRB) / Cambridge Bay (CYCB)



Highlights

As you sail through the narrow waters of Bellot Strait, light, ice, and water converge to create the prettiest of views, bathed in the soft glow of summer's endless Arctic daylight. Further along are the ruins of Fort Ross, a trading post from 1937 to 1948. It's an evocative site, with remnants of the original buildings surrounded by tundra, almost otherworldly in its seclusion. Search parties looking for the missing Franklin expedition frequently visited the site, though they were ultimately unsuccessful. The two missing ships—HMS Erebus and HMS Terror—were found in

excellent condition south of King William Island; you can still see the wreckage today. Guided tundra landings reveal the Arctic plains in close detail, where hardy musk ox roam against a backdrop of glaciers and ice-strewn landscapes, while in Gjoa Haven—named after Roald Amundsen's wooden ship, the *Gjøa*—you'll meet Inuit elders and knowledge-keepers, gaining insight into life this far north, their local traditions, and the deep connections between people and this extraordinary Arctic environment.

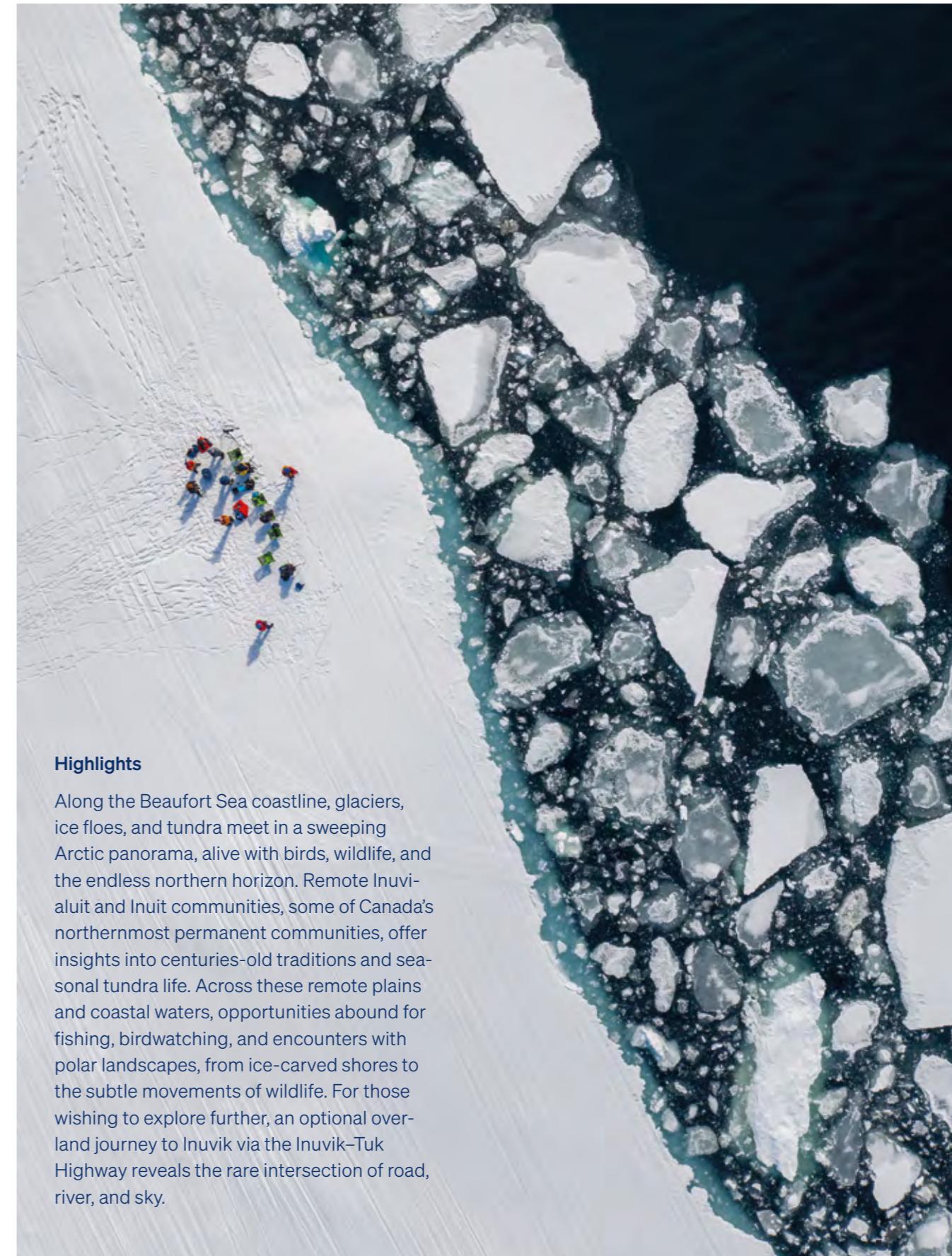


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Locations:	Cambridge bay, Canada to Tuktoyaktuk, Canada
Distance:	~1,000 nautical miles
Duration:	~13–14 days
Charter flight access:	Cambridge Bay (CYCB) / Tuktoyaktuk (CYUB) or Inuvik (CYEV)



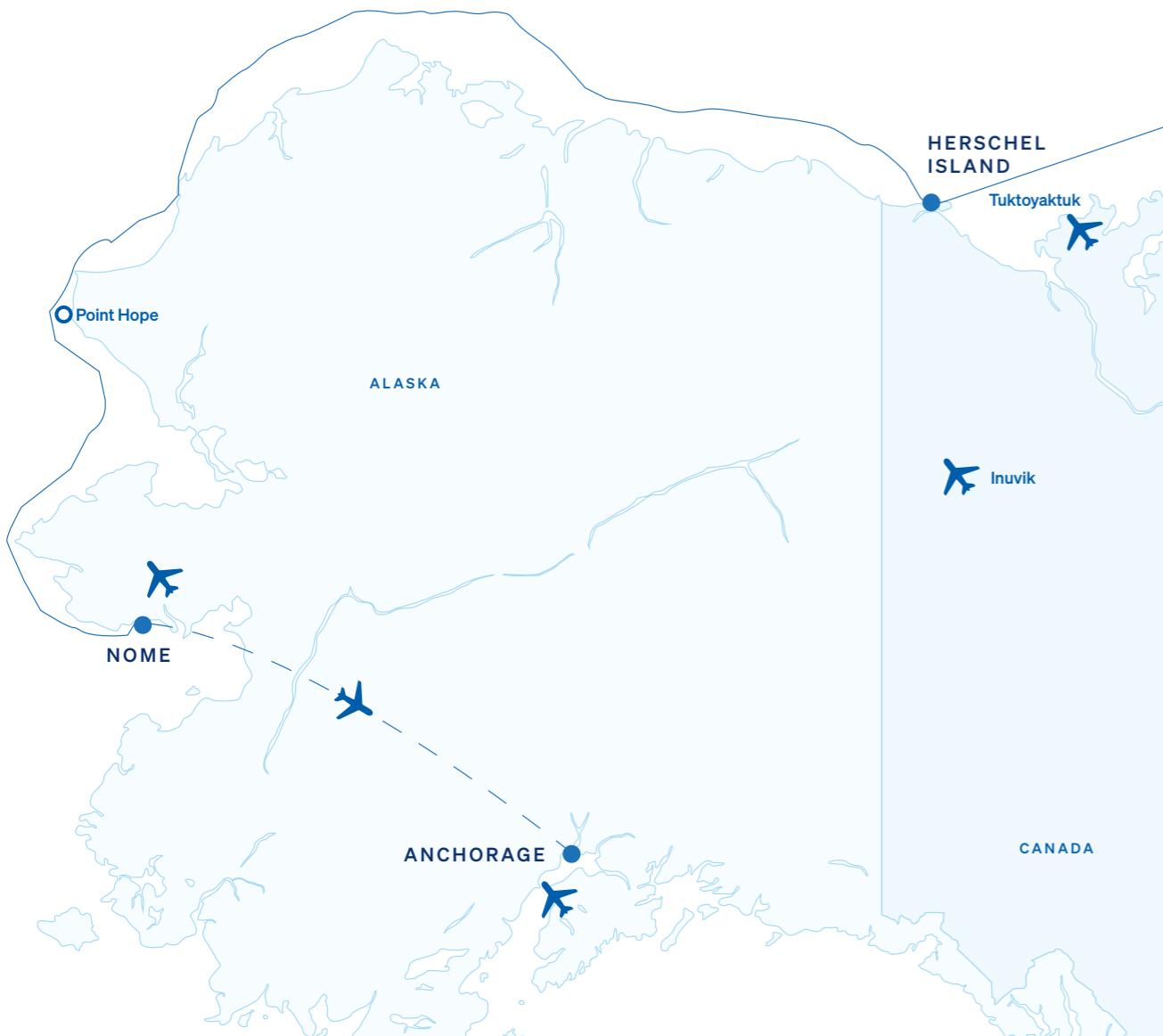
Highlights

Along the Beaufort Sea coastline, glaciers, ice floes, and tundra meet in a sweeping Arctic panorama, alive with birds, wildlife, and the endless northern horizon. Remote Inuvialuit and Inuit communities, some of Canada's northernmost permanent communities, offer insights into centuries-old traditions and seasonal tundra life. Across these remote plains and coastal waters, opportunities abound for fishing, birdwatching, and encounters with polar landscapes, from ice-carved shores to the subtle movements of wildlife. For those wishing to explore further, an optional overland journey to Inuvik via the Inuvik-Tuk Highway reveals the rare intersection of road, river, and sky.



CHARTER

5



Highlights

This last stretch of coast is the most remote. It is where navigation turns to true wildness. Siberian-style tundra stretches on, seemingly forever. Wildlife occasionally punctuates the solitude: We'll likely spot polar bears, beluga whales, and plenty of migratory birds. Scattered outposts reveal traces of western frontier life amid the enduring traditions of the indigenous

communities that still inhabit these lands, like the Iñupiak village of Tikigaq on Point Hope—one of the oldest continually inhabited places in North America. Here, at the end of the world, we'll encounter the true meaning of solitude before we reach our destination of Nome, Alaska.



Locations:	Tuktoyaktuk/Inuvik, Canada to Nome, Alaska
Distance:	~1,300 nautical miles
Duration:	~14–16 days
Charter flight access:	Nome (PAOM)







M/Y SHEERGOLD
42m (137'1") | Amels | 1987/2025

Beam	8.05 m (26'5")
Draft	2.8 m (9'2")
Cabins	4
Guests	8
Maximum speed	13.5 knots
Cruising speed	11.5 knots



While she may look like a classic, SHEERGOLD is built for adventure. She is ideal for unhurried days at sea—wherever that sea may be. Her heated decks make her supremely comfortable for high-latitude cruising.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT SHEERGOLD](#)







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