

# Responsible Arctic tourism

Congratulations on choosing a responsible operator! You are travelling with a member of the Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators (AECO).

## What does this mean for your visit?



### Wildlife Guidelines

AECO has mandatory wildlife guidelines that give important guidance on how to observe wildlife without disturbing animals.



### Community Engagement

AECO promotes considerate and respectful tourism. Dialogue, engagement and local benefits from tourism are important to AECO members.



### HFO ban

AECO supports a ban on the use and carriage of heavy fuel oil (HFO) in the Arctic because of the severe risks that heavy fuel oil poses to polar environments.



### Clean Seas

AECO is working to combat marine plastic pollution by reducing the use of single-use plastics on ships and engaging guests in beach cleanups in the Arctic.



### Supporting Arctic Science

AECO members support polar science through wildlife observations and contributions to research projects and citizen science.



### Drones

- AECO has banned recreational use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs/drones).
- Drones may disturb wildlife and is a source of pollution if lost.

## What can you do?

- Ask your operator what they are doing to ensure responsible tourism and how you can contribute.
- Use your time in the Arctic to reflect around how your choices can help the environment.
- When returning home, continue making conscious and sustainable choices.

## Did you know?

- AECO is an international association for expedition cruise operators operating in the Arctic.
- Members of AECO have committed to responsible, environmentally friendly and safe tourism in the Arctic.
- AECO develops guidelines, standards and tools to ensure responsible tourism.