



growing valleys of the central region to the lakes of the south.

short break in Finnish Lakeland. Over three days you'll master the skills involved in controlling your pack and steering through snow-blanketed forests – with, just possibly, the Northern Lights shimmering above on a nocturnal expedition.

- Six days, from £1,465, including flights, half-board accommodation, one lunch, three guided husky safaris and cold-weather clothing. Five departures January-March 2018. Artisan Travel (01670 785085; artisantravel.co.uk).

48 FIND YOUR FJORD FOCUS

Explore Scoresby Sound, the world's largest fjord system, on a small-ship expedition to the sparsely populated east coast of Greenland. Sailing from Iceland, you'll dodge huge icebergs to meet local Inuit people, roam the glacier-carved shores, and explore the tundra in search of musk ox, Arctic fox and reindeer.

- Eleven days, from £7,995, including accommodation and meals, shore excursions and guides. Not including international flights to Akureyri, Iceland. Departs Aug 4 2018. Natural World Safaris (01273 691642; naturalworldsafaris.com).

49 GET IN POLE POSITION

Time poor? Conquer the North Pole in just three days. From Spitsbergen's capital Longyearbyen in northern Norway, fly to Ice Camp Barneo at 89 degrees north, then board an Mi-8 helicopter for the hop to the point where all lines of longitude converge. Expensive, but epic.

- Three days, from £15,817, including



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America that's all spectacular. Explore the three former colonies of Guyana, French Guiana and Suriname, visiting the infamous Devil's Island penal colony, an unlikely space centre, turtle nesting beaches, thundering Kaieteur Falls and rainforest thronging with jaguar, giant river otter and bizarre orange cock-of-the-rock.

- Fifteen days, £5,895 per person, including accommodation and most meals. Not including international flights. Departs March 27 2018. Wild Frontiers (020 8741 7390; wildfrontierstravel.com).

44 TRAVERSE THE HIGH ANDES

Scratch beneath the postcard-friendly Inca surface on a four-wheel drive

WET AND WILD

Belize Barrier Reef, above; emperor penguins in Antarctica, right; a husky in Finland, below; kayaking in Antarctica, below right

46 PROWL AROUND POLAR BEARS

Baffin Island, Canada's largest island, is a glacier-scoured open zoo, where polar bears maraud ice floes and bowhead whales – which can live for more than 200 years – come to moult. Immerse yourself in the wild Canadian Arctic on a mini expedition: kayak Coronation Fjord to the Penny Ice Cap Glacier, snorkel in the chill ocean, and watch for beluga, caribou and, of course, the world's largest land predator: bears.

- Seven days, from £6,200, including flights, accommodation, meals and expedition guides. Departs Aug 10 and 17

hotel in Longyearbyen, heated tent in Ice Camp Barneo, helicopter to North Pole. Not including flights to Spitsbergen. Departs April 13 2018. Other Svalbard and North Pole tours available. Swoop Arctic (0117 369 0296; swoop-arctic.com).

50 MARCH TO THE PENGUINS

Board renowned icebreaker Kapitan Khlebnikov to penetrate the floes of the Weddell Sea on a rare Antarctic expedition to Snow