



Sloop Sliding Away

**POLAR
OPPOSITES**
Fjordside views
of *Aurora* in
Icelandic
waters; below,
surfing open-
water breaks in
the Maldives

BORED BY VERBIER? Another trip to Serre Chevalier sound just ho-hum? Try schussing an Icelandic fjord. In April and May, Borea Adventures debuts a weeklong sailboat-ski trip through the West Fjords of Iceland for sailing, climbing, and skiing in the region's glaciated inlets.

Borea's two-man crew, Captain Sigurdur Jónsson and ski guide Runar Karlsson, purchased their 60-foot sloop in 2005 from sailing legend Sir Robin Knox-Johnston, the first man to perform a single-

handed, nonstop circumnavigation of the globe. The two locals retooled the storied boat for guiding, rechristened it *Aurora*, and led an exploratory ski trip in the fjords last spring to lay the groundwork for their 2007 launch.

The ship, which sleeps ten guests, sets sail from Ísafjörður, the West Fjords' teeming capital (population: 2,700). Each morning skiers disembark at the foot of a fjord in the Hornstrandir Nature Reserve and spend the day skinning up and skiing down 3,000-foot runs to the Norwegian Sea. At day's end, guests reboard *Aurora* in a glacier-side inlet, shower up, dig into meals prepared by a resident chef

(with local delicacies like panfried guillemot, a North Atlantic seabird), and rest up for the next day of skiing.

Short of the rare fly-in, the reserve is accessible only by boat. And apart from a few abandoned villages, a vacant Norwegian whaling station, and a mothballed Cold War U.S. radar base, it's wholly undeveloped. In other words: The experience makes for a far less predictable watercooler saga than the obligatory weekend in Aspen. Trips run from April 1 to June 8, 2007. \$1,565-\$2,345; boreaadventures.com

—HANNAH NORDHAUS