



Main deck

Viking	Humber	Fastnet
North Utsire	Thames	Irish Sea
South Utsire	Dover	Shannon
Fisher	Wight	Rockall
Cromarty	Plymouth	Malin
Forties	Biscay	Hebrides
Forth	Trafalgar	Bailey
Tyne	Fitzroy	Fair Isle
Dogger	Sole	Faroes
German Bight	Lundy	S E Iceland



SS Explorer arriving in harbour



Aberdeen and north east coast chart



From Spitzbergen (Svalbard) in the north to Southern Ireland in the south

The *SS Explorer* worked in all the traditional Scottish fishing grounds, as well as travelling further afield to the waters off Iceland, Spitzbergen, and the Barents Sea. The furthest south she operated was the Porcupine Bank off south-west Ireland.

Surviving a storm off Iceland

In the early '70s, on returning from a voyage in Icelandic waters, the *SS Explorer* ran into severe storm conditions and while heading into the storm, a large sea broke over the bow and a wall of green water struck the bridge with such force that it stove in the bridge superstructure, breaking all the glass windows and flooding the bridge. The ship shuddered with such an impact but thankfully even with all the extra weight of water on the deck she rose in time to ride over the following wave. The stunned crew had the presence of mind to keep the *SS Explorer's* head into the wind.

On another occasion the propeller was damaged in ice in the waters around Greenland and the bent blade made contact with the rudder stalk on every revolution. She returned to port on low revs having clunked and clicked for several hundred miles and the crew suffering several sleepless nights.

"I would have gone anywhere in her and indeed did so"



Voyage Plan 1976



The fishing mate plotting a course

A conjoint programme with the **Fisheries Laboratory, Lowestoft**, and others, involved *SS Explorer* in a number of cruises to the Barents Sea and Spitzbergen while working on the development of an improved Arctic trawl.



The Wheelhouse



In rough weather



Moored, Thorshaven Faroe