

First Arctic navigation in mid winter

Melting ice in the Arctic allowed a Russian gas tanker to sail through the Northern Sea Route in the middle of winter for the first time

CHRISTOPHE DE MARGERIE

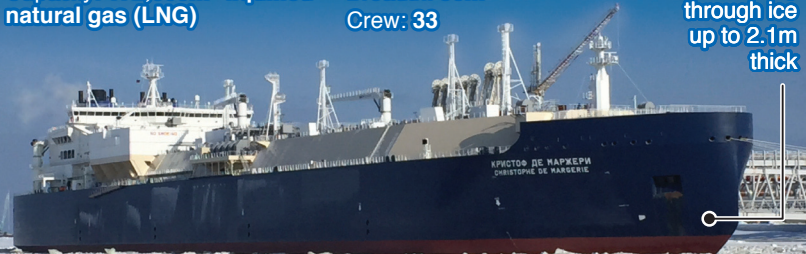
Capacity: 172,600m³ liquified natural gas (LNG)

Length: 299m

Breadth: 50m

Crew: 33

Lightweight steel reinforced hull, allows travelling through ice up to 2.1m thick

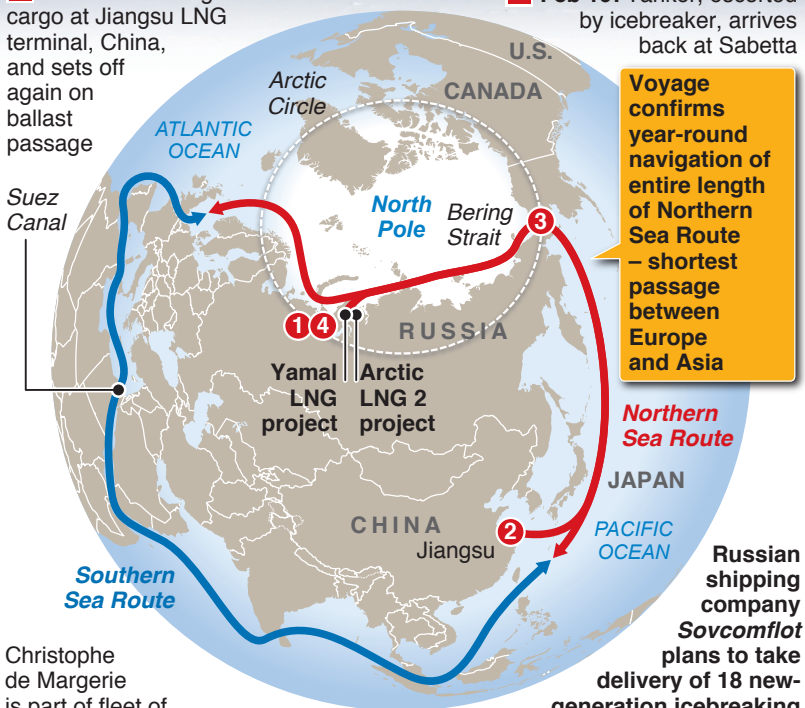


1 Jan 5: Tanker leaves Yamal LNG terminal in Sabetta, Russia

2 Jan 26: Discharges cargo at Jiangsu LNG terminal, China, and sets off again on ballast passage

3 Feb 7: Meets *50 Let Pobedy* nuclear-icebreaker at Bering Strait

4 Feb 19: Tanker, escorted by icebreaker, arrives back at Sabetta



Christophe de Margerie is part of fleet of 15 vessels purpose-built to serve Yamal LNG project

Russian shipping company **Sovcomflot** plans to take delivery of 18 new-generation icebreaking LNG carriers between 2023 and 2025, to service new Arctic LNG 2 project