

8-DAY ADVENTURE

GREENLAND MULTI ACTIVITY

Greenland

Adventure deep into the frozen North, beneath the glow of the Northern Lights and the gentle creaking of icebergs. This multi activity trip departs from Ilulissat on the Western coast of Greenland, at the mouth of the Kangia Fjord where giants of the iceberg world pass by, on their way to the open ocean. Embark on a jam-packed itinerary; dog sledding through the remote valleys and out to the ice floe on traditional sleds, snow shoeing to panoramic viewpoints and exploring the vast wilderness on a mini-pulking expedition. An incredible way to experience authentic Inuit life amongst some of the most far flung settlements on earth.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Immerse yourself in traditional Inuit culture amongst the local settlers of Oqaatsut
- Catch a glimpse of the Northern Lights, dancing across Greenland's dark skies
- Let the huskies take the helm as you sled across huge snowfields
- Embark on a mini pulking expedition either by ski or snowshoe

Disko Bay

Oqaatsut

Ilulissat

Greenland Ice Fløe

- ■ ■ ■ ■ Dog Sled
- — — — — Snowshoe
- Boat / Snowmobile



ITINERARY

DAY 1

WELCOME TO ILULISSAT

Arrive into Ilulissat over the snow capped peaks and ice floes making up Greenland's landscape. A member of the team will meet you at the airport and transfer to your hotel. A pre-trek briefing will be held this evening in the hotel, this is a good opportunity to discuss any questions or concerns you may have with your guide.

Transport: **Private transfer**

Accommodation: **Hotel**

DAY 2

DOG SLEDDING - OQAATSUT

This morning, we will be introduced to the traditional Greenlandic sport of mushing. A very immersive method of travel, we will learn to handle the dogs by voice commands, occasionally jumping off our sled to run alongside and detangle their ropes. We make our way over vast expanses of snow covered wilderness, with occasional views out to the Greenland Ice floe in the distance.

Returning to our base in Ilulissat, we say goodbye to our furry friends and head towards the village of Oqaatsut, a tiny settlement, housing a mere 30 residents. This is where the adventure truly begins. Depending on the snow conditions, we travel by boat or snowmobile to the ice floe that adjoins this isolated village, recognisable by its colourful rooftops, to the mainland. Here, we settle into our guesthouse, taking in the breathtaking views of the giant icebergs as they float past. Embrace the feeling of being at the end of the world.

Transport: **Boat, Snowmobile (2 hours)**

Activity time: **2 hours**

Accommodation: **Guesthouse**

Meals included:

Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 3

SNOWSHOEING AND NORTHERN LIGHTS IN OQAATSUT

Donning snowshoes we spend the day discovering this Arctic utopia on foot. Following the coast, we keep an eye out for minke, fin and humpback whales cruising amongst the icebergs. We then begin a steady ascent to gain incredible views of the mammoth compositions of ice artistry, woven by the ocean and resting upon the teal base of Disko Bay. After taking in these beautifully unique scenes, we return to the relative civilisation of Oqaatsut, ready to share a much needed coffee with some of the locals. Returning to the guesthouse in the evening, we have the opportunity to stay up to try to see the "Aqsamiit" or Northern Lights as we know them. This truly incredible celestial spectacle is frequently visible across the dark, clear skies of coastal Greenland.

Activity time: **5 hours**

Ascent: **70 m**

Descent: **70 m**

Accommodation: **Guesthouse**

Meals included:

Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 4

MINI SNOWSHOE-PULK EXPEDITION

This morning, we prepare to depart on our mini-pulk expedition. We repack our belongings into the hard cases of our pulk shells which will be used as our luggage transportation over the next 2 days. Slipping on snowshoes and climbing into harnesses, we lean on our poles and away we go! (Skis can also be used, if preferred, for this part of the trip). We set off through the quaint houses and quickly arrive on the ice floe, a flat immensity where icebergs have been captured and frozen in time. Soon we are alone, as we glide through the snow, pulling our pulkas between looming granite faces, carved smooth by the cold. At the end of the day, we reach a small heated cabin which will be our refuge for the night. In the middle of the polar wilderness, this is an ideal location to view the luminous Northern Lights draping themselves across the sky.

Activity time: **5 hours**

Ascent: **50 m**

Accommodation: **Cabin**

Meals included:

Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 5

MINI PULK EXPEDITION - OQAATSUT

Today we have time to revel in the echoing silence of the Fjord, broken only by the whistle of wind or creaking of ice. After a leisurely breakfast, we head South, past frozen lakes blanketed in snow, to our start point in Oqaatsut. Reaching here at the end of the day, we once again settle into our guesthouse for the evening.

Activity time: **5 hours**

Descent: **50 m**

Accommodation: **Guesthouse**

Meals included:

Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

DAY 6

OQAATSUT - ILULISSAT

On our final morning in Oqaatsut we have time to enjoy the calm of the village, chat with the local inhabitants or play with the husky puppies. We then transfer by boat or snowmobile back towards Ilulissat. Again, dependant on the weather, we will either take a route through the iceberg-studded waters of Disko Bay or the snow-covered mountains that overlook it, this transfer will be a real journey in itself. Back in Ilulissat, we relax into the comfort of the hotel and a hot shower, heading down into the town for some food in the evening.

Transport: **Boat, Snowmobile
(2 hours)**

Accommodation: **Hotel**

Meals included: **Breakfast / Lunch**

DAY 7

HIKE THE UNESCO- LISTED ICE FJORD

Our final day in Greenland is an exceptional one, we have definitely saved the best 'til last. Once again, putting on our snowshoes we head out for a hike to the famous Ice Fjord. Trekking through the Sermermiut valley, where the remnants of Inuit settlements provide a fascinating glimpse into the past, we explore this spectacular UNESCO World Heritage Site. Gigantic cathedrals of ice, frozen by the floe, offer a striking panorama of an Arctic wonderland! Spending time taking in this awe inspiring landscape, we then make a slow return to our accommodation and may wish to sample some of the local Greenlandic cuisine for our dinner.

Note: Depending on weather conditions, there may also be the option to sail by boat among the icebergs in the fjord.

Activity time: **5 hours**

Ascent: **80 m**

Descent: **80 m**

Accommodation: **Hotel**

Meals included: **Breakfast / Lunch**

DAY 8

DEPARTURE

This morning we say goodbye and transfer you to the airport in time for your flight.

Transport: **Private transfer**

Meals included: **Breakfast**

PLEASE NOTE

Please note that this itinerary, including elevation and times, is indicative. Our guides aim to provide the adventure that is best suited to the weather, your interests and the demands of the group. Please be aware that in order to achieve this, changes to the programme may be made.

TRIP INFORMATION

DIFFICULTY

This multi-activity trip is of **moderate difficulty**. The busy nature of the trip and the fact that you will be undertaking different physical activities every day, in an environment that can be somewhat unforgiving can be tiring, so a good degree of fitness is beneficial to ensure you have an enjoyable experience. The hikes in Greenland are not technically difficult but you will be wearing snow shoes and pulling a pulk for part of the trip which can take some getting used to. Trekking through snow can be very tiring on your legs and adverse weather conditions can also make hiking feel much more challenging. In general, however, the routes have little ascent and descent so anybody with a good level of fitness should find them well within their capabilities. We would recommend heading out into your local hills in the months leading up to your trip to get used to being out for 6-7 hours per day. The weather in Greenland during winter can be extremely harsh, with long nights and temperatures rarely exceeding -10°C and dropping to as low as -20°C. It is therefore really important to make sure you have the right clothing and proper equipment for an enjoyable trip, see our Equipment & Clothing section for more information.

As well as taking part in all your activities you will also be assisting with loading and unloading pulks, cooking, food prep and washing up. There are no porters, cooks or waiters on this trip, you are part of the expedition and must do your share of the work. Although this makes the adventure more demanding, it also adds to the enormous sense of satisfaction and achievement at the end of your journey.

If you have any questions about your suitability for this trip or would like more specific information about what to expect, please do not hesitate to contact us.

FOOD & DRINK

This trip includes full board aside from your evening meals in Ilulissat on Days 1, 6 and 7. We are proud of the varied and frankly delicious food we provide in such remote regions. Meals are based on a selection of local products and you will have the opportunity to try Greenlandic delicacies such as cod, arctic char and mussels. Please be aware that it is very difficult to find fresh fruit and vegetables so far North.

Each day will start with a hearty breakfast accompanied by plenty of tea and coffee. You will prepare your own picnic lunch for the day from a buffet style array of options - everyday there will be soup, noodles, cold meats, cheese, hot drinks and cereal bars among other ingredients. Each evening meal will be three courses- we try to offer fresh fruit and vegetables everyday but this is not always possible in Greenland!

Your help in the kitchen is expected and much appreciated, particularly in the evenings. Cooking is most enjoyable when the whole group work as a team to prepare dinner, it creates a pleasant atmosphere as we reflect on the days adventures together.

Please let us know about any dietary requirements when you book the trip and we will work with you to cater for your needs.

ACCOMMODATION

We will spend 3 nights in hotels, 3 nights in a local guesthouse accommodation and 1 night in a remote cabin.

Hotel accommodation will be warm, comfortable en-suite twin rooms with heating and hot water.

Guesthouse accommodation and the remote cabin, will be in dormitories of between 4 and 12 people with shared bathroom facilities.

All your accommodation on this trip will have flushing toilets. Whilst trekking it is a case of finding somewhere hidden, away from the path and digging a hole. We can guarantee it will be the most scenic, exciting toilet break you've ever had!

YOUR GUIDE

This trip will be lead by an English-speaking guide who specializes in working in Greenland.

The dog sleds will be guided by an English-speaking Greenlandic musher and for the snowmobile trips, you will be driven by a local Greenlander.

LUGGAGE

You will need a 70-90L soft duffel or rucksack as your main luggage for this trip. During the expedition, your luggage will be repacked into a smaller waterproof bag which we provide; this includes your clothing, toiletries, sleeping bag, torch and any other essential personal items. This is not an enormous amount of space so bringing clothing that packs down small is strongly recommended. We also recommend packing all of your clothes in plastic bags or dry bags within this as an extra precaution so that they stay dry. Your smaller bag will then be placed on the pulk and covered to give additional waterproofing. You can leave any extra belongings at the guesthouse in Oqaatsut.

Please bring a small rucksack 20-30L to use as a day bag. You can bring this as hand luggage on the aeroplane. You will carry your lunch, water, spare layers and any personal medication with you each day in this bag.

HOW DO I GET THERE?

You will need to arrive at Ilulissat Airport on day 1 of this adventure. The airport code is JAV.

You can fly to Ilulissat from either Iceland or Denmark. The easiest way to get there is to fly to Keflavik Airport (KEF) in Iceland and then catch your flight to Ilulissat from there. Iceland Air provide direct flights to Ilulissat from Keflavik International Airport. We recommend going directly to the Iceland Air website to check schedules and availability.

From the UK, there are direct flights to Keflavik from London Heathrow (LHR) with British Airways and Icelandair. Easy Jet also offer direct flights from London Luton (LTN), Manchester (MAN) and Edinburgh (EDI).

For those traveling from the USA, Icelandair have direct flights to Keflavik from New York (JFK), Boston (BOS), Washington (IAD) and Seattle (SEA). Delta offer convenient flights via New York from San Francisco (SFO), Los Angeles (LAX), Phoenix (PHX) and Atlanta (ATL).

Flights from Denmark depart from Copenhagen and are operated by Air Greenland. You will stop in Kangerlussuaq before continuing to Ilulissat.

On arrival, after clearing immigration and collecting your luggage, please look out for a member of our team in the arrivals area. They will be holding a large "KANDOO" sign.

If you are changing airlines or re-checking your luggage at an airport on route, please ensure you leave a minimum of 3 hours between flights. This will account for any delays on arrival, travel time across airports (this can take longer than you think) and time taken to re-check baggage.

BUDGET & CHANGE

The currency is the Danish Krone (DKK).

In the larger towns, you can withdraw money and pay using most common credit or debit cards. We recommend carrying some cash to avoid disappointment when card facilities are not available. Please budget for drinks, tips, personal expenses and any meals not included in your trip. Expect to pay at least 200DKK (£23/\$30) for a meal.

TIPS

Tipping customs vary all over the world and can be very confusing when travelling to a new country. Tipping in Greenland is always appreciated, however it is not obligatory and should be left to the discretion of each individual. If you are satisfied with your guide's services we recommend a tip between **250-350 DKK per person (equivalent to £30-40 per person)**. On the other hand, if you receive bad service or have not been treated well, you would not be expected to tip at all.

FORMALITIES & HEALTH

PASSPORT

Most travellers will require a passport valid for at least 6 months after your return date. It is your responsibility to confirm your specific requirements and please be aware that proof of onward travel may be required.

VISA

Travelling to Greenland is visa free for up to 90 days, for UK and US citizens

VACCINATIONS

No vaccinations are required.

INSURANCE

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are fully and adequately insured for the duration of your trip. Please ensure that all activities, excursions and destinations in your itinerary are included in your travel insurance policy, in addition to your regular cover for cancellation and medical expenses. We ask that you keep a copy of your policy summary (containing policy number and the emergency contact number for your insurer) in your day sack at all times, so that we can access this information should we need to contact the insurer on your behalf.

EQUIPMENT & CLOTHING

EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED BY KANDOO ADVENTURES

- Sleeping bag suitable for extreme temperatures
- Polar jacket suitable for extreme temperatures
- Snowshoes
- Skis and skins (if required)
- Poles
- Shoes suitable for extreme cold
- Pulks (mini sledges to pull luggage)
- Group equipment (stoves, cooking utensils)
- Satellite phone
- SARSAT beacon

CLOTHING TO BRING

- Walking boots
- Waterproof and windproof hard shell jacket and trousers
- Warm hat
- Gloves - one pair warm fleece or wool gloves and one pair heavyweight, insulative gloves
- Sun hat
- Warm jumpers
- Thermal base layers (top and leggings)
- Fleece or soft shell jacket
- Suitable underwear, t-shirts and walking trousers
- Warm socks
- Warm pyjamas, towel, toiletries
- Sunglasses with high UV protection

EQUIPMENT TO BRING

- Water bottle / thermos
- Head torch with spare batteries
- Daypack 30L to 40L
- Duffel bag 70L to 90L or similar flexible bag for your main luggage. Not a suitcase.
- Camera
- Comfortable shoes / clothes for the evenings
- Toiletries including wet wipes and suncream
- Plastic bags for wet/dirty clothing

HOW TO BOOK THIS TRIP

1

CHOOSE YOUR DATE AND CHECK AVAILABILITY

A full list of available dates can be found on our website.

2

CONTACT US

Contact us by phone, email or through our website. We will answer any questions you may have and send you a personalized itinerary and quote.

3

COMPLETE BOOKING AND PAYMENT

When you are ready to book, we will send you a link to our online booking forms and participation agreements. We accept all major credit and debit cards and require a low 20% deposit to secure your place.

