

Voyage



North Pole Last Degree

The North Pole is one of the last frontiers left in the world, and what better way to get there than to ski. Svalbard, Norway's northernmost outpost, an island archipelago which is entirely within the Arctic Circle and holds not only a healthy population of Polar Bears, with more bears than humans, but also the most northern permanent settlement. The main island of Spitsbergen is a land mass which has over 60% snow cover and the vast majority of the region is untouched. It is also the gateway to the North Pole.

The North Pole is an incredible experience that few will ever enjoy, you will be flown by jet from Svalbard to the ice base camp. Here you will conduct the last equipment check and then make sure our bindings are secure. We will then head out towards the North Pole, which is always a moving target as you are travelling on floating ice above a very cold deep Ocean. There will be many challenges along the way; open water, thin ice and kilometres of broken ice, some pieces as big as houses.

We will be on the Ice flows from 8 to 14 days before we reach the Pole and when we get there we will pop a bottle of Champagne or two, have a well deserved rest and run around the world a few times, just because we can! From this point everything is south. We will call for the helicopter that will return us to the ice base camp where we connect with the Jet and fly back to Svalbard.

In Svalbard, with very few roads, travel outside the main settlement for locals and tourists alike is by snowmobile and occasionally by dog sled – this action packed next adventure gives you the chance to see Polar Bears and the most stunning landscape as you travel over glaciers and through remote valleys.

Next morning we head back to the hotel where we collect our bags and then connect to the airport and fly back to the UK. Overall an amazing few days that will you will find hard to beat.



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Itinerary

Day One

Depart the UK and fly to Oslo – here you will overnight in a city hotel – the last chance to enjoy the civilisation of a large city before your trip!



Day Two

The big adventure begins. We will fly to Svalbard and be picked up at the airport and taken to our hotel. Once settled in we will have a briefing on the timings of the next few days, as well as what food we need purchase for the expedition.

Day Three

Today is a full day of checking equipment and making sure that we are ready for the big expedition. We will make the most of the good food and safe surroundings before the expedition begins.

Day Four

After a hearty breakfast we will go to the airport and get aboard the jet to take us to the ice. These flights are extremely well done and very safe with each of the pilots being very experienced in polar flying. As we travel over the ice cap we will have a chance to see arctic wildlife. We will land on an ice runway of only a few hundred meters and will stop right outside the ice base camp. We will do a quick check of equipment before we harness up and start out amongst the rubble ice.

Day Five to Fifteen

We will soon get into a routine and establish the speed of the group with frequent stops and many adjustments to our track to keep us on course. We will be moving over ice pans, pressure ridges and ice rubble fields, while circumnavigating thin ice and open water ('leads').

Camp life will be in two person tents and each night cooking will be rotated which gives people free evenings. Our locations will be marked each night and a satellite telephone call will also be made each evening to check in with both the UK and the Polar base.

Day Sixteen

Today if all has gone to plan we will hit the North Pole and celebrate in true arctic style. A bottle of Champagne will be popped and a call made to the arctic Camp to let them know we have achieved our goal.

A celebration drink and a great many photo's will ensure that this journey will stay with us forever. We board the helicopter and fly back to the base camp and then board the jet and fly back to Svalbard.

Day Seventeen

Today we have a day to sleep and rest after the expedition.

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Day Eighteen

The snowmobile day; you will be sped straight off to collect your snowmobiles and, after some lessons in how to ride safely, you will be ready to explore the Arctic wilderness. You will see the magnificent scenery of Barentsburg and will spend the night in a rustic lodge. Before bed you will have the chance to enjoy a traditional Russian dinner, a real experience!

Day Nineteen

After a hearty breakfast we do not have much time before we must get back with the snowmobiles and hand back all the equipment, collect our bags from the hotel and then take the short journey to the airport for your flight home via Oslo. You will take with you fond memories of the beautiful Arctic landscape!



- Includes:** Meals, accommodation and activities as detailed in the itinerary, insurance, transfers, an English speaking guide and carbon offsetting
- Excludes:** International flights, kit (a kit list is provided)
- Price per person:** Price on application
- Best time to travel:** April
- Is it for you?** This trip gives you any amazing opportunity to visit the North Pole. It is a strenuous trip, and requires you to be fit, and have trained specifically for the expedition. The temperatures will be low, and this can be make your trip more physically and mentally difficult. You will be pulling your own sled and camping whilst on the ice, as well as making your own meals.