

Icefjords and Remote Villages of East Greenland

Trip Code: IRV

Version:



WALK & TREK



GUIDED GROUP



MODERATE



HIGHLIGHTS

- Circumnavigate Ammassalik Island on a series of treks and thrilling boat transfers
- Visit the colourful and isolated inuit villages of Kuummiut, Tiniteqilaaq and Tasiilaq
- Explore Greenland's untouched wilderness of icy fjords, dramatic peaks and glaciers

- Look out for humpback whales in the Iceberg strewn waters of Sermiliik fjord
- Includes two nights in the Icelandic capital of Reykjavik

AT A GLANCE

- 7 days walking
- Max. altitude - 1050 metres
- Join at Reykjavik

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

Introduction

With towering granite peaks, unspoilt nature, shimmering glaciers, and fjord-cut coastline, East Greenland is one of the most spectacular locations on Earth. On this walking holiday we will explore this boundless wilderness from several different bases: first Kulusuk Island; then Kuummiut, an isolated community on a peninsula deep in the fjords; Camp Quaato, a mountain refuge right at the heart of this raw, glacial landscape; and finally, Tasiilaq, the tiny “capital” of eastern Greenland, on the island of Ammassalik. Here, we have a day to explore amongst the colourful houses, fishing boats and howling sled dogs; this is a local community with a true pioneering spirit. Highlights will include the ascent of Kuummiut Mountain (1050m), offering views that extend to the Greenland Icecap, and following the Sermilik Way, a route used by the Inuit for generations. We connect the dots with a series of exciting boat transfers; as we whisk past the icebergs we should look out for seals and fin whales also making their way through they fjords. This is the perfect holiday for those seeking a real wilderness adventure.

Is this holiday for you?

This holiday is perfect for regular hikers, with a reasonable level of fitness and a spirit of adventure. In good weather this a moderate walking holiday at low elevation. However, if the weather is not cooperative (conditions can be wintry in Greenland, even in the summer) it becomes much more of an adventure and you should be prepared for this. As you would expect from an unspoilt wilderness, the terrain is rugged, involving scree, moraine and trackless moorland and there are days with as much as 8 hours walking. We have taken all this, and the remote location, into account in giving this holiday its grade. Whilst in Greenland we will be sleeping in simple but comfortable hostel/mountain refuge and guest house accommodation, preparing meals as a group using the facilities provided and under the instruction of our tour leader.

Itinerary

Version:

Holiday Information

What's Included

- A professional and qualified tour leader
- Return flights from Reykjavik to Kulusuk Greenland
- All land and boat transport required by the itinerary
- Accommodation as described
- Meals as detailed in the Meal Plan

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Some meals as detailed in the Meal Plan
- Miscellaneous personal expenditure - drinks and souvenirs etc...

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

TRAVEL TO YOUR DESTINATION

If flying from the UK there are low cost airlines available to the start and from the end of your holiday.

To benefit from full financial protection, ease your holiday planning, and avoid dealing with airlines, we can book scheduled flights from the UK as part of a flight inclusive package. Scheduled flights are usually more expensive than low cost alternatives, however potentially less stressful if your flight is cancelled or delayed. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will offset the carbon of your flight.

The first night of this holiday in Reykjavik is unescorted by the guide and the group will meet on arrival in Kulusuk Airport, Greenland, in the afternoon of Day 2 of the holiday.

Shared transfers on the Flybus service on Day 1 and 2 are included in the holiday price.

Hotel information and an emergency contact number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

Meal Plan

All meals from breakfast on Day 2 to breakfast on Day 11, plus breakfast on Day 12, are included in the holiday price.

Food & Water

Water from the taps may not be drinkable in all locations on this trip - please check with your guide. We recommend taking water purification tablets and a reusable bottle with a filter such as [Water-to-Go](#), which can both be used to help make safe other water sources. Please note that we do not encourage the purchase of single use plastic bottles.

We make a special effort to source our food on Greenland itself and the guide will buy much of what we eat at the small local stores. The variety of foodstuffs available in Greenland is necessarily limited, however, and some fresh fruit and vegetables will travel with the group from Iceland. The emphasis is on easily-prepared meals. The local guide will prepare the group's evening meals at the overnight lodging and he or she will appreciate the help of group members in the kitchen - preparing vegetables, serving the food and washing up, for example. Evening meals will consist of 3 courses, usually a soup to start, a simple main and some cake for dessert. Breakfasts will consist of porridge, muesli, bread, jam and other preserves, plus tea and coffee. At breakfast, snack items and sandwich materials will be made available so that group members can make up their own packed lunches. You may want to bring some of your own favourite snacks from home to supplement this.

Accommodation

We will spend the first night of the holiday at a simple guesthouse in Reykjavik within walking distance of the BSI bus terminal. Rooms are twin sharing with shared bathrooms. If you are travelling by yourself, you will be paired up with another single client of the same sex. Single rooms are available at supplementary cost. At the end of the holiday, arriving from Greenland quite late at Keflavik Airport, we will spend the last night of the holiday at guesthouse accommodation in Keflavik.

If you are planning to extend your holiday additional nights at the guesthouse in Reykjavik are available on request.

In Kulusuk, Kuummiut and Tinitequillaaq, we will stay in hut style accommodation in a traditional local house with shared bathroom facilities; showers will be available nearby for a small local charge (50DKK per shower). In Tasiilaq (Days 9) we stay in a simple guesthouse, generally in twin rooms, with shared bathroom facilities.

Group Leader & Support Staff

The group will be led by a professional and qualified tour leader.

Altitude

This holiday does not involve any significant ascent to altitude and we would not expect any altitude issues with this trip.

Spending Money

Approximately £200 (in local currency) should be allowed for miscellaneous expenses, including your meals in Reykjavik. You can withdraw cash from ATMs in most towns in Iceland using a credit or debit card. If you wish to bring your travel money in cash this can be changed into Icelandic Krona at the airport. Meals whilst in Greenland are included so you will only need to pay directly for meals other than breakfast whilst staying in Reykjavik. In Reykjavik there is a wide range of dining options and you can expect to pay from around 2500ISK for lunch and 4000ISK for an evening meal in a restaurant in Reykjavik. The currency in Greenland is the Danish Kronur and we suggest that you take £50 worth of Danish Kronur with you from home. You won't need to spend much in Greenland, there is a small cost for hot showers at some of the accommodations and there are stores at each of the villages that sell chocolate and other treats. Additionally, you might choose to buy a souvenir or two in Tasiilaq.

Guidance on Tipping

Tipping is the accepted way of saying 'thank you' to your leader and any other local staff. Tipping is entirely voluntary and should be dependent on good service.

Baggage Allowance

For this holiday you should take one piece of luggage, which should be a soft duffel bag, and a daypack. The check-in allowance on the Reykjavik to Kulusuk flight is 15kg for hold baggage and 6kg for cabin baggage.

Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in the 'Dates and Prices' table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

General Information

Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday. Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

Visa Iceland

UK and USA passport holders do not require a visa for short stays.

Health & Vaccinations

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips. You will need to carry your own treatment for the allergy with you, as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' are not carried as standard by KE leaders and staff. You should inform your leader on arrival of your allergy, and let them know where you keep your adrenaline pen.

Vaccinations

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you require any specific vaccinations.

GHIC / Medical cover

UK residents should carry a free Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC). This entitles you to state provided medical treatment when you're visiting an EU country or Switzerland. This is not a substitute for medical travel insurance which is vital when travelling overseas.

Currency

The unit of currency in Greenland is the Danish Krone.

Preparing for your Holiday

Getting some additional exercise before coming on an active holiday makes a lot of sense. The fitter you are, after all, the more enjoyable you will find the experience.

You should be aerobically fit and comfortable with walking 3 to 6 hours for consecutive days. Hill walking, with a good amount of ascent and descent, is the best training. Running, cycling and swimming are also good for developing cardiovascular fitness and stamina.

Climate

The weather in Greenland in July and August is generally fairly good. It is not unusual for high pressure to settle over the island for long periods, giving good weather. We can expect daytime temperatures anywhere from 10°C to 15°C, dropping to just above freezing in the evenings. Even in the Greenland summer, there is a chance of poor weather, with rain and wind. But, equally, we should also encounter good days that are clear and sunny. In short, you need to be prepared for English Lake District walking. Bring your waterproofs!

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: www.travel.state.gov for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

Books

- Lonely Planet. Iceland, Greenland and the Faroe Islands
- The Rough Guide to Iceland
- Visitor's Guide Iceland and Greenland (World Traveller) Don Philpott

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

Explore International

This holiday is part of our Explore International range. Participants on these trips can book through KE or through one of our international partners. This helps us to gather together sufficient numbers of like-minded adventurers to get your holiday up and running quickly. Led by an English-speaking guide, the cosmopolitan nature of these groups can be an important part of the experience!

Equipment Information

Equipment List

Please try to keep the weight of your baggage to a minimum. See the 'baggage allowance' section for further details.

The itinerary includes several boat transfers and you should be able to comfortably step into the boat while carrying your luggage.

You should bring the following items:

- Sturdy and waterproof hiking boots
- Daypack of approximately 30 to 40 litres capacity*
- 4 season sleeping bag (rated down to 0°C)
- Trainers / sneakers
- Sandals (for river crossing)
- Socks and underwear
- Trekking trousers / pants
- Waterproof overtrousers / rain-pants
- Baselayer shirts (1 short sleeve, 1 long sleeve)
- T-shirts and/or casual shirts
- Fleece jacket or jumper
- Warm jacket (down or synthetic)
- Windproof/waterproof jacket
- Warm hat
- Eyewear - sunglasses
- Light thermal gloves and waterproof overgloves or mittens
- Survival bag (simple plastic type or lighter and more sophisticated)

- Drybags (to keep the contents of you luggage dry)
- Sun protection (including for lips)
- Water bottle (1 Litre) (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Water purification tablets
- Washbag and toiletries
- Small trek towel
- Antibacterial handwash
- Insect repellent
- Mosquito net for your head**
- Penknife
- Headtorch
- Basic First Aid Kit. Including: antiseptic cream, throat lozenges, diarrhoea treatment (Imodium), painkillers, plasters and blister treatment, Insect repellent, and re-hydration salts (Dioralite).

The following items are optional:

- Sleeping bag liner
- Trekking poles
- Gaiters
- Shorts
- Swimwear
- Thermal sitmat (for lunch stops)
- Spare laces
- Earplugs (particularly if you are not the one snoring!)
- Eye cover to assist sleeping in the 24-hour daylight
- Travel clothes
- Repair kit - (eg. needle, thread, duct tape)
- Camera, memory cards, batteries
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

Notes

** In the lowest, wind protected valleys, mosquitoes can be annoying. You should bring a mesh net which covers the head completely and can be tucked into a shirt or jacket collar.

Cotswold Outdoor

Many of the equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive a 12.5% discount with Cotswold Outdoor, Snow+Rock and Runners Need. The discount code can be downloaded from your MyKE account and you can use this code at the checkout, either in store or online.

Land Only Information

We sell this holiday on a Land Only basis allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method that best suits you. The holiday starts at the guesthouse in Reykjavik. Shared airport bus transfers from Keflavik Airport are included.

Why Choose KE

Why KE

Make the most of the wilderness that is East Greenland on this unique trekking holiday. With the help of 4 boat transfers, we make a circuit of Ammassalik Island, including 6 day-walks and overnighting in hostel and simple village house accommodation. No-one else is offering anything remotely like this adventurous itinerary.

Please Note This document was downloaded on 21/11/2024 and the trip is subject to change