



GREENLAND CROSSING

2019 TRIP NOTES





Greenland Crossing

Expedition Notes

April 10 – May 15, 2019

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In 1888 Fritjof Nansen completed the first traverse of Greenland on skis in an epic journey of hardship and discovery. Nansen built large sleds for the journey which were the first of their type and required several men to haul them.

In April/May of 2019, Adventure Consultants are embarking on a ski traverse across the icy interior of Greenland. The aim will be to cross the island from Tasiilaq/Kulusuk on the East Coast to Sondre Stromfjord on the West Coast, a distance of 540km (335 miles). The entire expedition will take place over a 34 day period.

The expedition will be flown by helicopter from Tasiilaq onto the ice cap at the beginning of the traverse and from here we will travel an average of around 18-20km (11 -12.5 miles) each day. Team members will haul sleds weighing (initially) around 75kg (165lbs) with all the provisions for the entire journey. At the end of our journey, we will be collected by vehicle and transported the short distance to Sondre Stromfjord for our flights back to Reykjavik.

Team members will require previous backcountry winter experience on skis and the ability to work well within a team environment. The nature of this expedition demands strong team cohesion and commitment. An essential ingredient for participants is physical fortitude for working hard in a cold weather environment hence each member must be strong and healthy.

We have programmed our traverse to take place over the early summer season when conditions are the most favourable and we can anticipate temperatures in the range of –25°C (-13F) on the coldest days.

Expedition Leaders

The Adventure Consultants team includes experienced Arctic/Antarctic travellers whose knowledge and expertise are imperative in making these expeditions a success. The guides for each crossing are confirmed six months prior to departure time.

How the Expedition Operates

The group will meet in Reykjavik in Iceland for team introductions and final equipment preparation before flying on the next morning to Kulusuk in Greenland. From Kulusuk we will be transported to Tasiilaq and onto the ice cap to begin the adventure.

Each day the team will haul sleds with scheduled stops at regular intervals for food and liquid. At the completion of each day's journey, the team will assemble tents where the camp duties will be shared amongst the team.

The expedition will gradually climb to the high point of the ice cap to around 2,500m and then begin the long descent towards Greenland's West coast.

We descend from the glacier at the end of the ski tour to meet vehicle transport for the drive to Sondre Stromfjord. From here we fly to Nuuk and on to Reykjavik where the expedition officially ends.

Travel

There are routine flights into Reykjavik (Iceland) from either the UK or Copenhagen.

Equipment

These days our equipment has improved dramatically since Nansen's time allowing us to undertake this significant adventure with considerably less hardship! However, the equipment we do take must be of the highest quality and appropriate for the specific requirements we will encounter.

Expedition members will be sent a list detailing all necessary clothing and equipment for you to bring as part of your kit. Obviously, weight is everything and hence we will rationalise every item we are to carry. A gear check will be carried out prior to departing Reykjavik to allow us to finalise loads.

Adventure Consultants will supply all group gear (e.g. tents, stoves, food and sleds) whilst expedition members are to provide their own personal clothing and equipment including skis, skins and boots.

Safety and Communications

To safeguard members of the expedition, we will be carrying a satellite telephone and a Personal Locator Beacon. Evacuation insurance whilst on the trek will be included in the expedition fee but is limited to cover legitimate accident only and is limited to evacuation to the nearest port within Greenland. We require expedition members to carry additional

insurance for evacuation and repatriation as well as normal travel medical expenses. Contact us for expedition insurance advice.

Itinerary – April 10 to May 15, 2019

We recommend that team members book 'open' airline tickets to cater to changes in itinerary at the end of the trip.

- Day 1 Meet in Reykjavik, Iceland
 - 2 Gear preparation
 - 3 Fly Reykjavik to Kulusuk, Greenland. Transfer to Tasiilaq
 - 4 Preparations in Tasiilaq
 - 5 Helicopter flight Tasiilaq to ice cap at approx. 1000m (3,280ft), begin trek
 - 6-32 Trek crossing days
 - 33 Descend ice cap, transport to Sondre Stromfjord
 - 34 Depart Sondre Stromfjord for flight to Reykjavik
 - 35 Spare day for flight delays
 - 36 Depart Reykjavik for home
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Expedition Fee

The cost of the expedition is **EUR€18,900** per person ex Reykjavik, Iceland.

The expedition fee includes:

- Adventure Consultants polar guides
- All expedition organisational requirements
- All permits for the expedition
- Transport within Greenland
- Food and hotel ex Reykjavik (twin share)
- Expedition food and equipment
- Flights from Reykjavik to Kulusuk and Sondre Stromfjord to Reykjavik
- Tents, stoves, sleds & harness

The expedition fee **does not** include the following:

- International airfare to Reykjavik and return
- Personal clothing and equipment
- Personal travel insurance & trip cancellation insurance
- Airport transfers
- Hotel and personal expenses in Reykjavik.
- Costs for delays in Kulusuk (Tasiilaq) / Sondre Stromfjord (Nuuk) beyond the 2 included nights at each end of the expedition
- Personal rescue/medical evacuation costs beyond Greenland

- Any costs associated with leaving the expedition early
 - Overweight/Excess baggage fees
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Visas

Generally, entry Visas are not required for travellers staying less than three months in Greenland but please check with your travel agent. The expedition ski traverse permits are a separate matter dealt with by the expedition agent.

Payments

All payments should be made by bank transfer to the following **EUR€** bank and account:

Bank of New Zealand

Offshore Branch

1 Willis Street

Wellington

New Zealand

for the account of **Adventure Consultants Limited**

Account #: 1000-594771-0002

Account Type: Euros

Swift Address: BKNZNZ22

Note: All bank transfer charges are for the **remitter's account**.

We can also accept your deposit by credit card (Visa, Mastercard or Amex) plus a 3% credit card fee.

Deposit

A non-refundable deposit of EUR€2,000 is payable to secure a place on the expedition.

Balance

The balance is payable 120 days prior to the trip start date.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

An expedition member may cancel his/her participation on the following basis:

- Cancellations outside of 120 days of the departure date incur the loss of the deposit payment.
- Cancellations between 119-90 days of the departure date incur 50% of balance payment.
- For cancellation made within 89 days of the departure date, there will be no refunds.

Team members should take out private insurance if they wish to be covered against cancellation due to medical or personal reasons. This is called trip cancellation insurance and can be obtained through your normal travel agent.

Team Membership

The team will have a **minimum size of 4 members and 1 guide** and a **maximum size of 8 members and 2 guides**.

Food

Food will be of the highest standard possible, given the remoteness of the situation. As we are hauling all of the gear and food for a month long period, it is usual for food to be somewhat monotonous! However, we are planning our cuisine to be varied and nourishing to ensure energy levels are maintained. Please inform us if you have any special dietary requirements.

Medical Examination

Expedition members will be provided with a medical questionnaire and asked to visit their family physician and receive a full medical examination. This information will be sighted only by our medical adviser and treated with full confidentiality. Advice on immunisations will be provided at this time.

Documentation and Photographs

Expedition members will need to provide 2 passport photographs for various the permits and a copy of their passport biodata page.
