

# POLAR ADVENTURES

Schiffs- und Flug- Expeditionen  
in Arktis und Antarktis



## Arktis Flug-Expeditionen NORDPOL via Barneo Icecamp Spitzbergen

POLARADVENTURES Schiffs- und Flug-Expeditionen in Arktis und Antarktis  
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Schiffs- und Flug- Expeditionen  
in Arktis und Antarktis

# Saison 2024

**Veranstalter Direkt-Angebote**

**ab-bis internationalem Startort für  
individuelle Planungen**

**alle Abfahrten der Saison inkl.  
englischsprachiger Termine**



# Company VICAAR Ltd

International projects and expeditions since 1991

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## Helicopter Expedition to the North Pole and a Night on Ice

The unique program of flight to the North Pole - you reach the geographic North Pole, join the number of selected people, spending a night on the drifting Arctic ice.

### Dates

April 15 – April 19, 2024 (upon request)

April 16 – April 20, 2024 (upon request)

Duration: **5 days**

### Cost and cancellation policy

**The cost per person is 26 000 Euro**

Deposit is 5 000 EUR to reserve a seat

Final payment until January 25th, 2024

### Cancellation:

- Before December 5th – full refund except 500 EUR administrative fee,
- After December 5th – 100% cancelation fee. Insurance is strongly recommended.

### Day 1. Kathanga

Arrival to Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen or Kathanga.

Transfer to your hotel.

Free time in the city.

19:00 Information briefing, where our staff will brief you on the current situation at the Ice Camp “Barneo”, inform about polar flight departure time, and answer any questions you might have. Location: Conference room at Radio Polar Hotel. Overnight at a hotel.

### Day 2. Longyearbyen - Barneo

Transfer to the airport for the flight to Ice Camp “Barneo”.

Flight Longyearbyen - Barneo on the aircraft AN-74 (approximate flight time 2 hours 30 minutes).

Arrival to Barneo, which is located at 89 degrees north latitude.

Accommodation in the heated tents (each tent can accommodate 10-12 people).

At first chance MI-8 helicopter will take you to the geographic North Pole (the approximate flight time 40 minutes).

The celebration of reaching the North Pole! In the environs of the North Pole you spend about 1 hour. Returning to the ice camp by helicopter MI-8 (approximate flight time 40 minutes).

Certificates of reaching the North Pole will be distributed at Barneo. Night in heated tents of Ice Camp “Barneo”.



### **Day 3. Barneo - Longyearbyen**

An incomparable day at Barneo.

You can see the work of scientific expeditions at the ice camp, the process of diving under ice or daily life of the drifting station.

Flight to Longyearbyen on the AN-74 (approximate flight time 2 hours 30 minutes).

On arrival to Longyearbyen transfer to the hotel (if needed).

### **Day 4. Longyearbyen**

Spare day (in case of delays). Free time. You have a chance to take part in Svalbard entertainment programs (for additional costs, advance booking required).

### **Day 5. Longyearbyen**

Spare day (in case of delays). Free time. You have a chance to take part in Svalbard entertainment programs (for additional costs, advance booking required).

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

End of our service.

### **Included in the program:**

- Flights Longyearbyen - Barneo - Longyearbyen
- Helicopter flights Barneo - North Pole - Barneo
- All transfers as presented in the itinerary
- Accommodation at heated tents at the ice camp Barneo
- Full board at Barneo
- Certificate of achievement of the North Pole
- Guides and representatives service
- 15 kilos of luggage for the charter flights
- Pre-departure materials
- Rent of the warm coat, trousers, and boots, if sizes were provided in advance

### **Not included in the program:**

- Flights to/from Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen
- Transfers in Longyearbyen (except those specified in the program)
- Any hotel accommodation
- Mandatory medical insurance with the emergency evacuation coverage for 50 000 euro (available at "Company VICAAR")
- Any alcoholic beverages
- Trip cancellation insurance (strongly recommended), baggage insurance
- Souvenirs and postal services
- Overweight luggage

### **Reference information**

- All luggage must comply with the standard international rules of carriage of dangerous objects in baggage: gas, fuel, arms. The agent undertakes to bring to its clients the rules of carriage of dangerous objects. Sharp objects like multi-tools, knives etc. are prohibited in hand luggage. All hold and hand luggage will be screened by airport security personnel, who may X-ray bags.
- Every agent must provide bag tags for its clients with client name, program name and group/guide name (if applicable).
- All fuels are prohibited by international flight safety regulations!

### **Excess Baggage**

- The cost of excess baggage is 25 Euro per 1 kg if there is available load capacity.



- Information about excess baggage must be declared in advance to avoid defaulting on the carriage of passengers.
- In case of excess baggage, undeclared in advance, the Organiser may refuse carriage of such baggage to ensure the safety of passenger transportation.
- Clients with excess luggage will be charged at check in prior to boarding

# Qualification of the expedition members.



Participation in the North Pole helicopter expedition is not extremely difficult if you do not have a serious disability. There are no special requirements to potential members of the expedition. If you can fly on the regular flights, it is most likely you can fly on the charter aircraft. AN-74 is a simple yet reliable and comfortable jet airplane, and MI-8 helicopter, though having a plain interior, meets all the safety requirements. Barneo Ice Camp meets all the standards of the winter base-camp. It is equipped with heated tents for sleeping accommodation and a large and comfortable mess-tent.

We provide you with polar outer clothing suitable for temperatures between -20 and -35 C°, and you only have to take the garment from the recommended list. Please, let us know in advance if you require some specific items of this sort — we might be able to help you.

Staying at the Barneo Ice Camp and the North Pole includes walks in the surrounding, exploration of the local ice summits (ice-hummocks of 1-2 m high), photographing and things like these.

Generally, you don't have to worry about anything; our friendly and experienced guides would always take care of.



# List of equipment for the North Pole

You should bring your own:		Free rented from VICAAR:	Other useful things you might bring:
Equipment	Clothes		
Thin thermal underwear made of Polycolon (so-called thermal underwear): 1 set	Expedition mittens: 1 pair	Sleeping bag	Compression bags and stuff sacks
Fleece jacket and trousers made of Polartec 300 or Polartec 200 (Polartec 300 or 200 jacket and trousers could be replaced with your usual winter pullovers and long knit pants if worn over the thermal underwear)	Woolen hat with Windstopper membrane: 1	Sleeping mats 40 mm	Photo and video equipment
Casual look garment for civilized places	Sleeping bag liner: 1	Camp-bed	
Thick expedition socks: 2 pairs			
Sunglasses 100% UV & IR: 1			
Sun protection cream: SPF 40			
Personal medical kit: medicine, you normally take along with aspirin, plaster, bandage, etc.			
Large bag or rucksack for your gear: 1 or 2			

**ATTENTION:** Though we may provide you with a basic polar expedition clothes kit, everyone endures cold differently. Therefore, if you have some items in your wardrobe, which are tested in a cold environment and suit you, you are welcome to bring them.

# Company VICAAR Ltd

International projects and expeditions since 1991

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**In 2023 Company VICAAR is exclusive operator for all ski and dogsledding expeditions via Barneo to the North Pole**

## **Ski expeditions**

### **“The Last degree”**

**Dates:**

2-17 April 2023 (Barneo-Barneo 5-15 April 2023)

3-18/19 April 2023 (Barneo-Barneo 6-16/17 April 2023)

12-27 April 2023 (Barneo-Barneo 15-25 April 2023)

**Cost:** 46 500 euro per person

### **“Half degree”**

**Dates:**

Upon request

**Cost:** 46 500 euro per person

### **“Two degrees”**

**Dates:**

2-27 April 2023 (Barneo-Barneo 5-25 April 2023)

**Cost:** 52 500 euro per person

## **Terms of payment**

1. Booking deposit - 4000 Euro per person, payable with application.
2. Full payment prior January 25th, 2023
3. **Discounted prices, valid before December 5th, 2022**

**Terms of booking:** We kindly ask you to send the list of names with passport data and dates of birth with booking, or at least to provide the name of the key client with the deposit payment. This will help to avoid double booking.

**Conditions for the expeditions on other dates will be provided upon request.**

**Detailed day-by-day about expeditions available on our web site.**



# Expedition The North Pole Challenge (ski)

Duration (Barneo-Barneo): 5 days/ 4 nights

(Longyearbyen-Longyearbyen): 10 days/ 9 nights



A day before meeting at Longyearbyen airport, transfer to hotel, that you booked.

<b>1st day</b>	Meeting with a guide, check your individual and group gear, general instruction. Preparation to the training trip and packing the sleds.  19:00 Introductory dinner.  Overnight at the hotel.
<b>2nd day</b>	10:00 Training trip in the Longyearbyen surrounding. Overnight at the hotel.
<b>3rd day</b>	16:00 Information meeting, where our staff will brief you on the situation at the Barneo region, planned departure time and answer your questions. Packing and weighing the expedition sleds.  Overnight at the hotel.

<b>4th day</b>	<p>Transfer to the airport, security check, boarding. Flight from Longyearbyen to Barneo (approx. flight duration: 2 hrs 30 min).</p> <p>Acquaintance with Barneo Ice Camp, located at approximately 89 degrees North. Meeting with Expedition leader, getting information about the place of start, fixing time schedule for communication. Filling bottles with fuel for stoves.</p> <p>Snacks, tea, and coffee are served in Barneo mess-tent. Boarding helicopter and loading sleds. Taking off for place of start. Usually, it takes up to 2 hours between arriving at Barneo by plane and taking off by helicopter</p>
<b>days 5th to 7th</b>	<p>Testing our endurance: Ski trek to the North Pole, overnights in the expedition tents on the drifting ice. The start point will be set at about 50 km from the North Pole, depending on the ice conditions and prevailing ice drift. See also » One day of the ski expedition .»</p>
<b>8th day</b>	<p>On arrival at the top of the globe, we will celebrate it. We will spend a few hours nearby the Pole before helicopter takes us back to Barneo Ice Camp. Coffee, tea, and snacks for free and strong drinks for sale will be available in Barneo mess room while waiting for the plane from Longyearbyen. Usually, depending on the weather, it takes couple hours Flight from Barneo to Longyearbyen on the AN-74 aircraft (approx. flight duration 2 h 30 min). Transfer to your hotel. Night at the hotel.</p>
<b>9th day</b>	<p>The North Pole Certificate ceremony. Time and place are to be discussed with expedition participants and announced in advance. Night at the hotel.</p>
<b>10th day</b>	<p>Free time. You have a chance to take part in Svalbard entertainment programs (for additional costs, advance booking required). Transfer to the airport for your flight home. End of our service.</p>

\* Barneo Ice Camp operates Longyearbyen time.

Changes and amendments may apply to the program, depending on the weather, ice or other conditions. It is important to consider possible delays or alterations, and take them with patience. We strongly recommend you to acquire insurance against full or partial cancellation of the expedition.

**Important: Each expedition to the North Pole is the ultimate adventure full of random factors. Though we are making all possible efforts to accomplish every expedition, VICAAR reserves the rights to change or cancel an itinerary due to weather and/or ice conditions, group fitness, political situation, strikes, wars, revolutions, terrorism and/or other factors beyond its control. Such changes are to be made in our customers' interests and with regards to their safety. Please, see [Terms and Conditions](#).**



# What a member of the expedition to the North Pole has to know

Ski expedition to the North Pole — is a complex mission that demands a good physical and psychological preparation.

. It is always better to enjoy the trek than to suffer of it. To estimate your abilities and prepare yourself better, you ought to know what to expect.

## **Physical exercises:**

You are going to walk on skis or foot (depending on the ice conditions) for 8-10 hours daily for 4-5 days. Besides, you have to pull 25-35 kg expedition sled with equipment, fuel, and food. The ice surface is mostly rugged, making smooth and comfortable sliding pretty unlikely.

## **Cold:**

The air temperature in the Pole vicinity during the expedition period usually lies between -20 C° and -35 C° and it is good if you have endured it in the past. Apart that wind may dramatically increase cooling effect. Daily temperature deviations in the Arctic are not significant in April. Sun neither sets nor rises high over the horizon.

## **Conclusions:**

1. Consult your doctor before making up a decision about an expedition to the North Pole.
2. Previous experience of the tours, ascents, expeditions and winter camping could prove very useful.
3. Doing various winter sports would be very helpful.

# Price includes

## Price includes / Price does not include

Price includes:	Price does not include:
Meeting at the Longyearbyen airport (Spitsbergen, Norway)	Travel costs from your place of residence to Longyearbyen ( Spitsbergen, Norway ) and back
2 transfers airport-hotel-airport	Accommodation in Longyearbyen
Introductory dinner in Longyearbyen	Catering in Longyearbyen
Training tour in the Longyearbyen surrounding	Transfers in Longyearbyen (excl. airport-hotel-airport for travel home and hotel-airport-hotel for travel to the North Pole)
Aircraft flights Longyearbyen — Barneo — Longyearbyen	Activities in Longyearbyen (dogsled rides, tours to the glacier, excursion to the coal mine, depending on the weather)
Helicopter flights according to the program	Alcohol drinks
Accommodation in the heated tents at Barneo and full catering at Barneo Camp before departure to Longyearbyen (in case the group will be delayed at Barneo due to any reason caused a delay of the plane after completing the expedition	Insurance against full or partial cancellation of the expedition, baggage insurance, life insurance (strongly recommended)
Using Barneo facilities	Private belongings
Full catering on the trek	All the unforeseen costs related to the flight's delays
Disposable plates, spoons, forks, and cups at Barneo (2 sets per visiting a mess-tent per person)	Souvenirs and postal expenses
Rent of the safety equipment (communication, navigation aid, weapon).25 kg of baggage as free allowance.	Overweight baggage — 25 Euro/kilo
Rent of the skis with binding and ski poles	
Rent of the cargo sled and tent	
Rent of the other group gear	
Stove fuel	
Certificate of the North Pole visit	
Festive ceremony at Longyearbyen	
VICAAR Guides service	



# List of equipment for The North Pole expedition

You should bring your own:		Free rented from VICAAR:	Other useful things you might bring:
Equipment	Clothes		
Plastic mug with press-on cap: 1	Windstopper pile hat: 1	Expedition tent: 1 for two persons	Chemical hand- and foot-warmer bags
Strong plastic spoon:1	Balaclava: 1	Ski with binding and skins: 1 pair	Neoprene face mask
Plastic bowl of 2-3 cups capacity: 1	Hat for sleeping: 1	Ski poles: 1 pair	Compression stuff bags
1 L stainless steel thermos: 1	Storm shell jacket and pants: 1 set	Cargo sled: 1	Photo and video equipment
Knife: 1	Warm coat and trousers with Thinsulate insulation: 1 set	Expedition class (-30 C°) sleeping bag	
Carabiners: 2 standard	Thin synthetic underwear: 2 sets	Sleeping mats 40 mm	
Sunglasses or goggles 100% UV & IR: 1	Expedition thermal underwear made of Polartec Power Stretch: 1 set	Cooking stove with fuel, cooking utensils	
Sun cream: SPF 40 large tube	Polartec 200 jacket and trousers: 1 set	Litter bags	
Hygienic lipstick: SPF 40, at least 2 pieces	Expedition mittens: 1 pair		
Personal medical kit: medicine, you normally take, along with aspirin, plaster, bandage, etc.	Fleece mittens: 1 pair		
Personal hygienic kit, including toilet paper, toothbrush, etc.	WindPro gloves: 1 pair		
Wide-mouthed plastic bottle for using as a urinal in the night: 1	Thick expedition socks: 2 pairs		
Individual sleeping bag liner: 1	Expedition footwear: 1 pair		
Large bag or rucksack for your gear: 1 or 2	Gore-Tex socks or booties for using in the tent: 1 pair		
Casual look garment for civilized places			

You should bring your own:		Free rented from VICAAR:	Other useful things you might bring:
Clothes kit may be purchased for additional 1,500 Euro if booked before 01.02.2017			
You receive from us as a present:			
	40 L backpack: 1		

ATTENTION: Though, we may provide you with basic polar expedition clothes kit, everyone endures cold differently. Therefore, if you have some items in your wardrobe, which are tested in a cold environment and suit you, you are welcome to bring them.

# Expedition The North Pole Adventure (ski)

Duration (Barneo-Barneo): 10 days/ 9 nights

(Longyearbyen-Longyearbyen): 15 days/ 14 nights



A day before the meeting at Longyearbyen airport, transfer to hotel, that you booked.

<b>1st day</b>	Meeting with a guide, check your individual and group gear, general instruction. Preparation to the training trip and packing the sleds.  19:00 Introductory dinner.  Overnight at the hotel.
<b>2nd day</b>	10:00 Training trip in the Longyearbyen surrounding. Overnight at the hotel.
<b>3rd day</b>	16:00-1800. Information meeting, where our staff will brief you on the situation at the Barneo region, planned departure time and answer your questions. Packing and weighing the expedition sleds.  Overnight at the hotel.



<b>4th day</b>	<p>Transfer to the airport, security check, boarding. Flight from Longyearbyen to Barneo (approx. flight duration: 2 hrs 30 min).</p> <p>Acquaintance with Barneo Ice Camp, located at approximately 89 degrees North. Meeting with Expedition Leader, getting information about the place of start, fixing time schedule for communication. Filling bottles with fuel for stoves.</p> <p>Snacks, tea, and coffee are served in Barneo mess-tent. Boarding helicopter and loading sleds. Taking off for place of start. Usually, it takes up to 2 hours between arriving at Barneo by plane and taking off by helicopter</p>
<b>days 5th to 12th</b>	<p>Ski trek to the North Pole, overnight sleeping in the expedition tents on the drifting ice. The start point will be decided in dependence on the ice and prevailing ice drift conditions. See also » One day of the ski expedition .»</p>
<b>13th day</b>	<p>On arrival at the top of the globe, we will celebrate it. We will spend a few hours nearby the Pole before helicopter takes us back to Barneo Ice Camp. Coffee, tea, and snacks for free and strong drinks for sale will be available in Barneo mess room while waiting for the plane from Longyearbyen. Usually, depending on the weather, it takes couple hours Flight from Barneo to Longyearbyen on the AN-74 aircraft (approx. flight duration 2 h 30 min). Transfer to your hotel. Night at the hotel.</p>
<b>14th day</b>	<p>The North Pole Certificate ceremony. Time and place are to be discussed with expedition participants and announced in advance. Night at the hotel.</p>
<b>15th day</b>	<p>Free time. You have a chance to take part in Svalbard entertainment programs (for additional costs, advance booking required). Transfer to the airport for your flight home. End of our service.</p>

*\* Barneo Ice Camp operates Longyearbyen time.*

Changes and amendments may apply to the program, depending on the weather, ice or other conditions. It is important to consider possible delays or alterations, and take them with patience. We strongly recommend you to acquire insurance against full or partial cancellation of the expedition.

**Important: Each expedition to the North Pole is the ultimate adventure full of random factors. Though we are making all possible efforts to accomplish every expedition, VICAAR reserves the rights to change or cancel an itinerary due to weather and/or ice conditions, group fitness, political situation, strikes, wars, revolutions, terrorism and/or other factors beyond its control. Such changes are to be made in our customers' interests and with regards to their safety. Please, see **Terms and Conditions**.**

# What a member of the expedition to the North Pole has to know

Ski expedition to the North Pole — is a complex mission that demands a good physical and psychological preparation.

. It is always better to enjoy the trek than to suffer of it. To estimate your abilities and prepare yourself better, you ought to know what to expect.

## **Physical exercises:**

You are going to walk on skis or foot (depending on the ice conditions) for 8-10 hours daily for 4-5 days. Besides, you have to pull 25-35 kg expedition sled with equipment, fuel, and food. The ice surface is mostly rugged, making smooth and comfortable sliding pretty unlikely.

## **Cold:**

The air temperature in the Pole vicinity during the expedition period usually lies between -20 C° and -35 C° and it is good if you have endured it in the past. Apart that wind may dramatically increase cooling effect. Daily temperature deviations in the Arctic are not significant in April. Sun neither sets nor rises high over the horizon.

## **Conclusions:**

1. Consult your doctor before making up a decision about an expedition to the North Pole.
2. Previous experience of the tours, ascents, expeditions and winter camping could prove very useful.
3. Doing various winter sports would be very helpful.

# Price includes

## Price includes / Price does not include

Price includes:	Price does not include:
Meeting at the Longyearbyen airport (Spitsbergen, Norway)	Travel costs from your place of residence to Longyearbyen ( Spitsbergen, Norway ) and back
2 transfers airport-hotel-airport	Accommodation in Longyearbyen
Introductory dinner in Longyearbyen	Catering in Longyearbyen
Training tour in the Longyearbyen surrounding	Transfers in Longyearbyen (excl. airport-hotel-airport for travel home and hotel-airport-hotel for travel to the North Pole)
Aircraft flights Longyearbyen — Barneo — Longyearbyen	Activities in Longyearbyen (dogsled rides, tours to the glacier, excursion to the coal mine, depending on the weather)
Helicopter flights according to the program	Alcohol drinks
Accommodation in the heated tents at Barneo and full catering at Barneo Camp before departure to Longyearbyen (in case the group will be delayed at Barneo due to any reason caused a delay of the plane after completing the expedition	Insurance against full or partial cancellation of the expedition, baggage insurance, life insurance (strongly recommended)
Using Barneo facilities	Private belongings
Full catering on the trek	All the unforeseen costs related to the flight's delays
Disposable plates, spoons, forks, and cups at Barneo (2 sets per visiting a mess-tent per person)	Souvenirs and postal expenses
Rent of the safety equipment (communication, navigation aid, weapon).25 kg of baggage as free allowance.	Overweight baggage — 25 Euro/kilo
Rent of the skis with binding and ski poles	
Rent of the cargo sled and tent	
Rent of the other group gear	
Stove fuel	
Certificate of the North Pole visit	
Festive ceremony at Longyearbyen	
VICAAR Guides service	



# List of equipment for The North Pole expedition

You should bring your own:		Free rented from VICAAR:	Other useful things you might bring:
Equipment	Clothes		
Plastic mug with press-on cap: 1	Windstopper pile hat: 1	Expedition tent: 1 for two persons	Chemical hand- and foot-warmer bags
Strong plastic spoon:1	Balaclava: 1	Ski with binding and skins: 1 pair	Neoprene face mask
Plastic bowl of 2-3 cups capacity: 1	Hat for sleeping: 1	Ski poles: 1 pair	Compression stuff bags
1 L stainless steel thermos: 1	Storm shell jacket and pants: 1 set	Cargo sled: 1	Photo and video equipment
Knife: 1	Warm coat and trousers with Thinsulate insulation: 1 set	Expedition class (-30 C°) sleeping bag	
Carabiners: 2 standard	Thin synthetic underwear: 2 sets	Sleeping mats 40 mm	
Sunglasses or goggles 100% UV & IR: 1	Expedition thermal underwear made of Polartec Power Stretch: 1 set	Cooking stove with fuel, cooking utensils	
Sun cream: SPF 40 large tube	Polartec 200 jacket and trousers: 1 set	Litter bags	
Hygienic lipstick: SPF 40, at least 2 pieces	Expedition mittens: 1 pair		
Personal medical kit: medicine, you normally take, along with aspirin, plaster, bandage, etc.	Fleece mittens: 1 pair		
Personal hygienic kit, including toilet paper, toothbrush, etc.	WindPro gloves: 1 pair		
Wide-mouthed plastic bottle for using as a urinal in the night: 1	Thick expedition socks: 2 pairs		
Individual sleeping bag liner: 1	Expedition footwear: 1 pair		
Large bag or rucksack for your gear: 1 or 2	Gore-Tex socks or booties for using in the tent: 1 pair		
Casual look garment for civilized places			

You should bring your own:		Free rented from VICAAR:	Other useful things you might bring:
Clothes kit may be purchased for additional 1,500 Euro if booked before 01.02.2017			
You receive from us as a present:			
	40 L backpack: 1		

ATTENTION: Though, we may provide you with basic polar expedition clothes kit, everyone endures cold differently. Therefore, if you have some items in your wardrobe, which are tested in a cold environment and suit you, you are welcome to bring them.

# Expedition The North Pole Extreme (ski)

Duration (Barneo-Barneo): 20 days/ 19 nights

(Longyearbyen- Longyearbyen): 25 days/ 24 nights



A day before: meeting at Longyearbyen airport, transfer to hotel, that you booked.

<b>1st day</b>	Meeting with a guide, check your individual and group gear, general instruction. Preparation to the training trip and packing the sled.  19:00 Introductory dinner.  Overnight at the hotel
<b>2nd day</b>	10:00 Training trip in the Longyearbyen surrounding. Overnight at the hotel
<b>3rd day</b>	16:00 -18.00 Information meeting, where our staff will brief you on the current situation at the Barneo region, planned departure time and answer your questions. Packing and weighting of the expedition sleds.  Overnight at the hotel.



<b>4 day</b>	<p>Transfer to the airport, security check, boarding. Flight from Longyearbyen to Barneo (approx. flight duration: 2 hrs 30 min).</p> <p>Acquaintance with Barneo Ice Camp, located at approximately 89 degrees North. Meeting with Expedition leader, getting information about the place of start, fixing time schedule for communication. Filling bottles with fuel for stoves.</p> <p>Snacks, tea, and coffee are served in Barneo mess-tent. Boarding helicopter and loading sleds. Taking off for place of start. Usually, it takes up to 2 hours between arriving at Barneo by plane and taking off by helicopter</p>
<b>days 5th to 22nd</b>	<p>We challenge the severe Arctic. Ski trek to the North Pole, overnight sleeping in the expedition tents on the drifting ice. The start point around 88° North will be decided in dependence on the ice conditions and prevailing drift See also » One day of the ski expedition .»</p>
<b>23st day</b>	<p>On arrival at the top of the globe, we will celebrate it. We will spend a few hours nearby the Pole before helicopter takes us back to Barneo Ice Camp. Coffee, tea, and snacks for free and strong drinks for sale will be available in Barneo mess room while waiting for the plane from Longyearbyen. Usually, depending on the weather, it takes couple hours Flight from Barneo to Longyearbyen on the AN-74 aircraft (approx. flight duration 2 h 30 min). Transfer to your hotel. Night at the hotel.</p>
<b>24nd day</b>	<p>The North Pole Certificate ceremony. Time and place are to be discussed with expedition participants and announced in advance. Night at the hotel.</p>
<b>25rd day</b>	<p>Free time. You have a chance to take part in Svalbard entertainment programs (for additional costs, advance booking required). Transfer to the airport for your flight home. End of our service.</p>

*\*Barneo Ice Camp operates Longyearbyen time.*

Changes and amendments may apply to the program, depending on the weather, ice or other conditions. It is important to consider possible delays or alterations, and take them with patience. We strongly recommend you to acquire insurance against full or partial cancellation of the expedition.

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# What a member of the expedition to the North Pole has to know

Ski expedition to the North Pole — is a complex mission that demands a good physical and psychological preparation. It is always better to enjoy the trek than to suffer of it. To estimate your abilities and prepare yourself better, you ought to know what to expect.

## **Physical exercises:**

You are going to walk on skis or foot (depending on the ice conditions) for 8-10 hours daily for 16-18 days. Besides, you have to pull 40-50 kg expedition sled with equipment, fuel, and food. The ice surface is mostly rugged, making smooth and comfortable sliding pretty unlikely.

## **Cold:**

The air temperature in the Pole vicinity during the expedition period usually lies between -20 C° and -35 C° and it is good if you have endured it in the past. Apart that wind may dramatically increase cooling effect. Daily temperature deviations in the Arctic are not significant in April. Sun neither sets nor rises high over the horizon.

## **Conclusions:**

1. Consult your doctor before making up a decision about an expedition to the North Pole.
2. Previous experience of the tours, ascents, expeditions and winter camping could prove very useful.
3. Doing various winter sports would be very helpful.

# Price includes

## Price includes / Price does not include

Price includes:	Price does not include:
Meeting at the Longyearbyen airport (Spitsbergen, Norway)	Travel costs from your place of residence to Longyearbyen ( Spitsbergen, Norway ) and back
2 transfers airport-hotel-airport	Accommodation in Longyearbyen
Introductory dinner in Longyearbyen	Catering in Longyearbyen
Training tour in the Longyearbyen surrounding	Transfers in Longyearbyen (excl. airport-hotel-airport for travel home and hotel-airport-hotel for travel to the North Pole)
Aircraft flights Longyearbyen — Barneo — Longyearbyen	Activities in Longyearbyen (dog sled rides, tours to the glacier, excursion to the coal mine, depending on the weather)
Helicopter flights according to the program	Alcohol drinks
Accommodation in the heated tents at Barneo and full catering at Barneo Camp before departure to Longyearbyen (in case the group will be delayed at Barneo due to any reason caused a delay of the plane after completing the expedition.)	Insurance against full or partial cancellation of the expedition, baggage insurance, life insurance (strongly recommended)
Using Barneo facilities	Private belongings
Full catering on the trek	All the unforeseen costs related to the flight's delays
Disposable plates, spoons, forks, and cups at Barneo (2 sets per visiting a mess-tent per person)	Souvenirs and postal expenses
Rent of the safety equipment (communication, navigation aid, weapon), 60 kg baggage as free allowance	Overweight baggage — 25 Euro/kilo
Rent of the skis with binding and ski poles	
Rent of the cargo sled and tent	
Rent of the other group gear	
Stove fuel	
Certificate of the North Pole visit	
Festive ceremony at Longyearbyen	
VICAAR Guides service	



# List of equipment for The North Pole expedition

You should bring your own:		Free rented from VICAAR:	Other useful things you might bring:
Equipment	Clothes		
Plastic mug with press-on cap: 1	Windstopper pile hat: 1	Expedition tent: 1 for two persons	Chemical hand- and foot-warmer bags
Strong plastic spoon:1	Balaclava: 1	Ski with binding and skins: 1 pair	Neoprene face mask
Plastic bowl of 2-3 cups capacity: 1	Hat for sleeping: 1	Ski poles: 1 pair	Compression stuff bags
1 L stainless steel thermos: 1	Storm shell jacket and pants: 1 set	Cargo sled: 1	Photo and video equipment
Knife: 1	Warm coat and trousers with Thinsulate insulation: 1 set	Expedition class (-30 C°) sleeping bag	
Carabiners: 2 standard	Thin synthetic underwear: 2 sets	Sleeping mats 40 mm	
Sunglasses or goggles 100% UV & IR: 1	Expedition thermal underwear made of Polartec Power Stretch: 1 set	Cooking stove with fuel, cooking utensils	
Sun cream: SPF 40 large tube	Polartec 200 jacket and trousers: 1 set	Litter bags	
Hygienic lipstick: SPF 40, at least 2 pieces	Expedition mittens: 1 pair		
Personal medical kit: medicine, you normally take, along with aspirin, plaster, bandage, etc.	Fleece mittens: 1 pair		
Personal hygienic kit including toilet paper, toothbrush, etc.	WindPro gloves: 1 pair		
Wide-mouthed plastic bottle for using as a urinal in the night: 1	Thick expedition socks: 2 pairs		
Individual sleeping bag liner: 1	Expedition footwear: 1 pair		
Large bag or rucksack for your gear: 1 or 2	Gore-Tex socks or booties for using in the tent: 1 pair		
Casual look garment for civilized places			

You should bring your own:		Free rented from VICAAR:	Other useful things you might bring:
Clothes kit may be purchased for additional 1,500 Euro if booked before 01.02.2017			
You receive from us as a present:			
	40 L backpack: 1		

**ATTENTION:** Though, we may provide you with basic polar expedition clothes kit, everyone endures cold differently. Therefore, if you have some items in your wardrobe, which are tested in a cold environment and suit you, you are welcome to bring them.

# POLAREXPLORERS

## NORTH POLE LAST DEGREE DOGSLED EXPEDITION



***A remarkable dogsled journey across the dynamic Polar Sea to the North Pole.***

What makes this expedition the ultimate adventure? It starts with the dozen plus Greenland huskies that will impress and inspire you with each passing mile. Add the beauty and unpredictability of the shifting pack ice, the sub zero temperatures and cap it off with standing at the top of the world - the Geographic North Pole. This expedition is often rigorous and difficult. The dogsledding can be "graduate level" and the skiing demands excellent balance and cardiovascular endurance. A positive attitude, supportive team spirit and some good old fashioned tenacity will serve you well. At any moment you may find yourself feeling exhilarated and accomplished or tired and frustrated by expedition. difficult ice. It's all in a day's work on this classic expedition!





### Skill level:



Your level of skill and physical conditioning must be high. You will encounter adverse conditions that will test your abilities. You'll spend 24 hours a day in some of the most extreme conditions the planet has to offer. Trip specific preparation is required.

**Distance:** 111 km as the crow flies. With drift and deviations this distance could be more.

**Duration:** 9 nights on the ice. 12 nights all-in.

**Polar Shakedown Training:** Our five day Polar Shakedown Training is required for team members who have no previous polar expedition experience. Learn the basics of dogsledding and how to stay warm, safe and comfortable on the ice! We offer two trainings annually and we can arrange private or custom trainings as needed.

## Daily Itinerary

**Pre-expedition:** Upon arriving in Longyearbyen, you will be met by your PolarExplorers guide at the airport. A short transfer takes you to your hotel in the beautiful mountain village of Longyearbyen. A gear check will ensure you have everything you need for the expedition or allow time to pick up items in town.

**Day 1:** Our expedition officially kicks off with an evening welcome reception followed by a group dinner. It's a great time to get to know your team mates and review the itinerary.

**Day 2:** A busy day as we ready our kits, review expedition expectations & procedures, and spend some time with the dogs (time permitting). This is the last chance to work out any kinks before we take to the ice! We will pack and prepare all our equipment for the flight. The late afternoon and evening are your final opportunity to grab last-minute necessities in town.

**Day 3:** From Longyearbyen we will travel by charter aircraft to the eclectic "Barneo" floating Ice Camp located between 89-90 degrees North. This flight takes approximately 2.5 hours.





Upon arriving at Barneo we will unload our gear and organize the sleds and dog teams. Depending on the time of day and weather conditions we may depart for our starting location or we may make camp and depart the following morning. Barneo lies on the floating pack ice and its precise location varies on a daily basis. Our guides will review ice conditions and recent drift to determine the best departure point.

**Day 4-11:** For the next 8 days we will ski and dogsled north maneuvering around open water leads and over pressure ridges. In general we will be on the move between seven and nine hours each day (actual length depends on weather and ice conditions and could be longer). At night we look for solid “old” ice to camp on and we cook meals in our tents. Everyone is expected to participate in all aspects of camp life including making and breaking camp, collecting snow to melt into water, helping with cooking, etc. Your family and friends will be able to follow your daily progress and share messages via the Expedition. Blog. On a personal level, the extreme conditions of the polar environment demand that each person is well organized and able to maintain both an appropriate body temperature and adequate reserves of energy. This is where all of your physical training, mental preparation, and time spent acquiring the best clothing and equipment will pay off.

**The North Pole:** Upon reaching the North Pole, our extended celebration begins. Standing at the top of the world, where everything on Earth lies south of your location, we will celebrate our accomplishment. Don't forget your banners, flags and signs for our photo session. You'll also have the opportunity to call home to a family member or friend. Weather depending, we will either spend the night at the North Pole or get picked up that same day before returning to Barneo and then onto Longyearbyen.

**Day 12:** Back in Longyearbyen you'll have the opportunity to enjoy hot showers, fine cuisine, access to phones and internet, and time to meander through town. A farewell dinner and a comfortable bed will top off the day.

**Day 13:** The expedition officially ends after breakfast but some people may opt to leave on the pre-dawn flight to Oslo (to make same-day international connections). If you have time to stay in town an extra day or two we can assist you in booking wonderful activities that will maximize your time in the Arctic.

*This itinerary is highly dependent on a number of factors and it is subject to change.*







### **Ask us for references!**

We have guided hundreds of people to the North Pole. Ask us for references from your city or country and we will put you in contact with someone who has done this expedition and can give you the “inside scoop”. References can be the BEST way to learn about the expedition.

### **Getting there:**

SAS and Norwegian are the only commercial airlines flying to/from Longyearbyen. Their flight schedules are quite limited. Connections are made through Oslo, Norway. Travel in the polar regions requires flexibility. Delays are often the rule rather than the exception. We recommend that you get the most flexible tickets that allow for changes. Trip cancellation insurance and medical evacuation insurance are required. Contact us for assistance!

### **Additional information:**

Please contact us for links to our expedition videos, expedition reviews, equipment checklist, dates and rates and FAQ.

### **Meet us!**

We are always free to meet you, check your gear, or discuss your expedition via Skype or Google. Give us a shout!

# WANT TO JOIN? HERE'S HOW:



1

## **Complete and return our application.**

To join one of our expeditions you'll need to complete and return our application. You can also request an application by emailing [annie@polarexplorers.com](mailto:annie@polarexplorers.com).

2

## **Reserve your space with a deposit.**

A 25% deposit will reserve your space on any expedition. Contact us to request an invoice for your deposit. Deposits can be paid by wire transfer, credit card or USD check. Currency exchange fees and credit card processing fees may apply.

3

## **Review your eConfirmation Kit.**

Upon receipt of your completed application and deposit we will send you a comprehensive eConfirmation Kit that includes all the information you need to prepare for your expedition including what to expect, what to pack and how to prepare. From this point on we are always available answer any questions and to offer assistance during your preparations.

## **Get ready!**

4

All of our expeditions require varying degrees of preparations. There will be forms to complete and travel insurance to purchase. We can assist you with any of these requirements. Some of our expeditions also require physical and mental preparations or participation on our [Polar Shakedown Training](#). We are always available to talk with you about training regimens and to help you prepare as best as possible.

5

## **Let the adventure begin!**

As the expedition approaches we will be in touch on more regular basis. We will meet you at the expedition's starting location and check your kit to ensure you have everything you need. With your preparations behind you now is the time to let the adventure begin. We will be right beside you to help you make the most of the expedition!



# POLAREXPLORERS

## POLAR SHAKEDOWN TRAINING



### ***The Essential Skills To Thrive And Survive At Both Poles And All Cold Places In Between***

From packing a pulk or dogsled to crossing thin ice, planning a menu to picking the best communication device, we will cover everything you need to know to make your next cold weather expedition as safe, fun and rewarding as possible. Stepping off the plane onto the ice, whether in the Arctic, Antarctic or elsewhere is no time to wish you had more experience. It is no time to re-think your decision to participate in a polar expedition or other cold weather adventures. Our Polar Shakedown Training takes care of this by letting you test-drive your clothing & equipment and learn vitally important skills before your expedition. More importantly it gives you a taste of the mental and physical challenges that lie ahead, giving you the benefit of knowing how to personalize your training and approach. Polar Shakedown Trainings are not exclusive to people joining a polar expedition! If you want to get a taste of a polar expedition without having to travel to the ends of the Earth this training is the perfect opportunity!





### Skill level:



When you are proficient in the basic and intermediate skills of any sport and are ready for long days, challenging weather, backcountry camping and a chance to push your limits without going over the top, this is your level. Prepare in advance for some strenuous days in order to fully enjoy this adventure.

**Distance:** Typically 15-20 miles

**Duration:** Ely, MN - 5 nights, 6 days.  
Longyearbyen, Norway - 4 nights, 5 days

**Sled weight:** 20 kg + depending on your goals.

**Location:** We offer two Shakedown locations: Ely, Minnesota in the USA and Longyearbyenm Norway (in Svalbard). We also offer custom trainings in Iceland, Norway and elsewhere depending on the season and your goals. Looking for a longer training? Check out our Polar Training Plus which adds 5 additional night to the Shakedown and covers more topics.

## Daily Itinerary

**Day 1:** This training kicks off on the afternoon of the first day with team introductions and a review of the schedule. If the guide has not already checked your kit via video they will review your clothing and equipment to make sure you have everything you need. Your guide will also do an in-depth review of his/her kit to demonstrate everyone how each item is used and offer tips, suggestions and helpful modifications. Dinner offers a nice opportunity to get to know your other team mates, some of whom may be joining each other on future expeditions.

**Day 2:** Today focuses on the introduction and practice of critical skills including staying warm in the extreme cold; the threat of overheating; personal comfort & hygiene; layering systems; packing a pulk; the basics of skis & bindings; tents & tent maintenance; sleeping systems and stove basics. You'll spend time on your skis working on technique with and without your sled. If you're on our USA Shakedown tonight will be spent in a lodge. If you're on the Longyearbyen Shakedown tonight will be spent in tents.





**Day 3-4:** The next 3 days will be spent travelling between camps by ski & pulk. Evenings will find us preparing expedition-style meals and talking about all things related to expedition life. These days will challenge you to travel efficiently, safely and comfortably. You'll learn and practice various systems that will help you reach your individual and team goals. Along the way we'll cover additional topics including, caloric intake, preparing meals; accident prevention; traveling on ice; encountering leads (open water); insurance tips; evacuations & other logistics. Nights will be spent in the same polar tents and sleeping systems that we use on our expeditions.

If you are on Longyearbyen Shakedown you'll learn about and practice polar bear safety protocols. This might involve participating in a night-watch or helping to set up a perimeter fence at camp. If you are on the USA Shakedown you'll learn about these protocols without the necessity of using them daily.

#### **Dogsledding Training:**

Participants on our North Pole Dogsled & Ski Expedition Shakedown will spend time both "mushing" (driving the dog teams) and skiing. Typically one or two people drive each sled while everyone else skis. At breaks we rotate through these positions allowing everyone time to practice both skiing and mushing.

**Day 5:** A late afternoon return to civilization will allow us to wrap up the training with individual meetings between participants and guides. Your guide will review the experience and discuss your strengths, areas for improvement and how you can continue your training. If you are participating in the USA Shakedown you will also have the chance to learn and practice the art of escaping cold water. Conditions allowing we will cut a hole in the ice of a frozen lake and demonstrate what to do if you break through or fall into open water. This is especially useful for any participants headed to the North Pole. Hot showers, a well-deserved dinner and a comfortable night in a lodge or hotel top off this day.

**Day 6:** This training officially ends after breakfast. Participants on our USA Shakedown will likely make their way to either Duluth or Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airports for flights homeward. Participants on our Shakedown in Longyearbyen should consider spending a day or two participating in one of the many guided tours that are offered (dogsledding, snowmobiling, etc.) Transportation to/from the airport is not included in the cost of the Shakedown. Participants who are continuing directly on to one of our North Pole expeditions may have one day off between the Shakedown and the start of the expedition. We are happy to make recommendations on things to do during your free time. Contact us for suggestions!



*This itinerary is highly dependent on a number of factors and it is subject to change.*





## Ask us for references!

We have guided hundreds of people in the polar regions. Ask us for references from your city or country and we will put you in contact with someone who has done this expedition and can give you the “inside scoop”. References can be the BEST way to learn about the expedition.

## Getting there:

Getting to Ely, MN (USA): Ely is accessible by air from either Duluth International Airport or Minneapolis -St. Paul International Airport. Contact us for more details.

Getting to Longyearbyen: SAS and Norwegian are the only commercial airlines serving Longyearbyen. Their flight schedules are limited. Connections are made through Oslo, Norway. Contact us for details.

## Additional information:

Please contact us for links to our expedition videos, expedition reviews, equipment checklist, dates and rates and FAQ.

## Meet us!

We are always free to meet you, check your gear, or discuss your expedition via Skype or Google. Give us a shout!



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## **Reserve your space with a deposit.**

A 25% deposit will reserve your space on any expedition. Contact us at [annie@polarexplorers.com](mailto:annie@polarexplorers.com) to request an invoice for your deposit. Deposits can be paid by wire transfer, credit card or USD check. Currency exchange fees and credit card processing fees may apply.

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5

## **Let the adventure begin!**

As the expedition approaches we will be in touch on more regular basis. We will meet you at the expedition's starting location and check your kit to ensure you have everything you need. With your preparations behind you now is the time to let the adventure begin. We will be right beside you to help you make the most of the expedition!

## North Pole Last Degree Dogsled and Ski: Qualifications

This polar expedition is for people who are in good shape and are eager to push themselves physically and mentally. Though the skiing is quite demanding, it does not require significant skill (it is similar to walking with skis on). You will need to have **very good cardiovascular endurance**. Towards the end of the day when we stop skiing, it is critical that you have the energy reserves to set up camp and help out with the basic necessities of camp life including making water, cooking, etc.

Most importantly you need to be able to regulate your body temperature so that you do not get too cold or too hot while you are on the move. This expedition will encounter extremely cold conditions and living in such cold conditions 24 hours a day can be **very challenging**.

You do not have to be a world class athlete to participate in and enjoy this expedition, but every ounce of training and preparation will help to make the expedition more enjoyable and safer. Please contact us with further questions [here](#) !

## PolarExplorers Dogsled and Ski Expeditions Dates & Rates

### Tentative 2025 Dates:

Last Degree Dogsled expedition: April 5-17, 2025

### 2025 pricing:

Last Degree Dogsled expedition: approx. €65,500 per person (includes our required Polar-Shakedown training)

### Inclusions

All group equipment, dogs and dogsledding equipment, ski system, sleeping system, team anorak (yours to keep), guide(s), communication & safety gear, North Pole certificate, special polar gift.

## North Pole Last Degree Dogsled and Ski: Equipment List

Upon registration, you will receive a comprehensive PolarExplorer gear guide that explains the importance of each item as well as gear recommendations from our past participants.

- 1 pair skis and ski poles (supplied by PolarExplorers)
- 1 pair snow pack ski boots
- 1 pair extra boot liners
- Sleeping bag rated to at least -35° Celsius (bring your own or let PolarExplorers supply this item)
- Bivy sack (bring your own or let PolarExplorers supply this item)
- 2 sleeping pads (bring your own or let PolarExplorers supply this item)
- 1 wind anorak with hood (supplied by PolarExplorers - yours to keep)
- 1 wind pants
- 1 insulated parka with hood
- 1 warm fleece jacket and pants
- 2 sets wool or synthetic underwear, medium weight top and bottom- 2nd set optional
- 3 sets mitts: 1 regular, 1 overmitts, 1 spare regular mitts or gloves
- 2 pair working gloves
- 2 hats: 1 lightweight balaclava, 1 ski type
- 2 neck gaiters
- 3 pair socks and sock liners
- 1 face mask
- Sun glasses and/ or mountain ski glasses
- 2 pr. anti-fog goggles
- 1 sturdy small backpack with waist belt and sternum strap
- 2 Thermos bottles or insulated water bottles
- 1 set eating utensils with bowl
- Pocket knife / multi-tool
- Personal toiletries
- Several small stuff sacks
- 1 pee bottle (small plastic bottle)
- Face cream, lip protection
- 4 carabiners

# **NORTH POLE**

## **Ice Camp "BARNEO"**



## Contents

Introduction .....	page 1
Our Expeditions .....	page 2
Booking Procedure .....	page 4
Prior to Leaving Home .....	page 7
- Visas .....	page 7
- Hotels .....	page 7
- Equipment .....	page 8
- Clothing Hire .....	page 9
- Insurance .....	page 9
- Purchasing Airline Tickets .....	page 9
In The City Of Starting Point .....	page 11
- Murmansk, Russia .....	page 11
- Luggage Allowance, Preparation and Weighing for Charter Flights .....	page 14
- Departure to the Ice Camp "BARNEO" .....	page 15
- Arrival to the Ice Camp "BARNEO" .....	page 16
Contact Details .....	page 20
Feedback .....	page 20

## Introduction

Traveling to the North Pole over drifting ice is a very specific adventure, not to compare with any Polar Voyage you may have booked before. Please, read these notes carefully to understand in full the main aspects of this type of Polar expeditions.

We make every possible effort to provide you with complete and accurate information in advance. Please understand however that ice and weather conditions in the High Arctic are the most unpredictable and that facilities, services and logistics may differ from those described in these notes due to unforeseen circumstances.

## Our Expeditions

We offer expedition travel experience in the most extreme part of the Globe. Every year in April we build from scratch an ice camp on the drifting ice near the North Pole. Using our ice camp as a base, we arrange for helicopter, ski and dog expeditions to the North Pole, as well as diving and air ballooning at the North Pole.

The uniqueness of our Ice Camp "Barneo" consists in a runway, which operates as the most Northern airport in the World. This runway is checked and accepted by Russian Aviation Authorities and complies with all major international standards for airports. Our Charter aircraft is the only way to achieve the North Pole area in this period of the year.

All our programs start in Murmansk, Russia (Longyearbyen\*) with a 2,5 hours flight by our specially designed aircraft AN-74 to the intermediary airport on Franz Josef Land and the consecutive flight 2,5 hours long the Ice Camp "Barneo". The segment Murmansk-Franz Josef Land-Murmansk is not included into the price and will be charged additionally.

We station also two large MI-8 helicopters during the entire operation period at Ice Camp "Barneo". These helicopters convey travelers to the North Pole or to route starting points.

The Ice Camp "Barneo" is constructed on a drifting ice floe, slowly moving with Arctic ice drift over the Arctic Ocean depth of 4 km. The process of choosing of a suitable ice floe is a very complex procedure, requiring unique and sophisticated experience with Arctic drifting ice in logistics and ice reconnaissance. Russian Polar Explorers built Drifting Ice Stations since 1938, and we are proud to be able to use their vast experience while preparing our exclusive Ice Camp to enable our valued travelers to fulfill their dreams of achieving the North Pole.

Despite the extreme ice and weather conditions our Ice Camp will provide for heated tents and hot meals to your customers. The facilities are expedition-like practical according surrounding circumstances rather than luxurious.

All programs are sold through Special Travel Club/Special Expeditions, the exclusive Tour Operator at the Expeditionary Center under auspice of Russian Geographical Society. Your contract will be with Special Travel Club/Special Expeditions, according to the preferred language: Russian (Special Travel Club) or English (Special Expeditions).



### ***Who are our travelers?***

Anyone over age of 14 years old may participate at all programs, if they are in good physical and psychological conditions. Younger children may be accepted for Helicopter Expedition Programs at a separate agreement.

Agents may book individuals or groups on our standard programs or inquire a custom-designed program.

We will ensure that our experienced polar guides will support your customers during every program at Ice Camp "Barneo".

### ***Please note that our prices do not include:***

- Any flights to/from Murmansk, Russia / Longyearbyen\*, Norway
- Flights at Ice Camp "Barneo", other than shown in the booked itinerary
- Meals and accommodation in Murmansk / Longyearbyen\*
- Any transfers other than shown in the booked itinerary
- Personal equipment and clothing
- Any expenses incurred due to delays
- Any excess baggage costs over the announced luggage allowance
- Compulsory Medical Insurance and other types of insurance

## Booking Procedure

An agent sends its request to inquire availability on relating group departure dates. Upon our availability confirmation, the agent may take a deposit from a client.

Please, forward to us the client's personal data as soon as your clients confirm their interest.

We announce separate departures for standard ski program (Last Degree) and for North Pole helicopter expeditions. It is not possible to combine the ski and helicopter programs on the same flight.

We may put skiers, booking other ski itineraries, onto the departures, assigned for the standard ski program (Last Degree) at extra charges, shown in our price sheet.

If an agent has booked a full charter, same conditions relating to combination of the programs mentioned above will apply.

### ***Terms and Conditions***

This is very important information, very specific due to nature of operations on the Arctic drifting ice. The agent is responsible to ensure that clients have received, read and accepted the terms and conditions of the drifting Ice Camp "Barneo" prior to paying their deposit.

### ***Deposit***

A deposit of 4.000 EUR per person is required to confirm seats on Charter flight for any program. All bank transfer fees are at agent's expense. Reservations will only be confirmed after receiving deposits onto our account.

### ***Medical Information Form***

To be completed by each client in full. Medical Forms must be delivered to our office via email before paying of final balances. The seats will not be confirmed without presented Medical Forms. Not providing or providing false medical information can create a serious risk to your clients and to fellow travelers.

### ***Release of Liability/Waiver***

To be read and signed by each client. It is the agent's responsibility to ensure that clients read, understand and accept this document. Must be delivered to our office via email before paying of final balances. The seats will not be confirmed without presented Release of Liability/Waiver.

### ***Medical Evacuation Insurance***

Due to very high cost of urgent medical evacuation from the North Pole area, all clients are required to purchase medical evacuation insurance of 100.000 EUR per person. Clients should ensure that their medical insurance will continue in case of any delays due to circumstances beyond their control. Please, send a copy of these insurance policies to our office 60 days prior to departure day.

You may purchase for your clients a specifically designed medical evacuation insurance at Special Travel Club.

### ***Photo copy of passports***

Please send a photo copy of each client's passport to our office 60 days prior to departure. Passport information is required for preparing flight manifest and filling forms, requested by related authorities.

### ***Payments***

All payments must be done by bank wires to our account in Euro, according our bank details shown in our invoices. Please, indicate in your wire instruction the invoice number and issue date. Final balance is due until December 10th, 2016 for all programs.

### ***Cancellations***

Cancellation of individual booking must be received in writing and following cancellation penalties apply:

- up to 90 days prior to departure– full refund less 200 EUR administrative fee,
- 91-0 days – 100% cancelation fee,
- If cancellation occurs within the 90 days period and full payment has not been received, the full payment shall still apply and any unpaid money are due immediately.

Due to strict cancellation conditions, an appropriate insurance is strongly recommended!

### ***Guide Seat Regulation***

The regulations vary according the type of a program. Please ensure that you have received from us applicable regulations according your requests.



### ***Commercial Filming***

Any commercial filming must be agreed well in advance and is subject to fees. An agent will need to describe what filming its clients wish to do, how long will it take and what preparations it may require from us.

### ***Starting Point of Our Programs***

We move our operations from Svalbard to Russia in 2017. The starting point of all our programs will be city of Murmansk, Russia.

Nevertheless, we still keep a possibility open that starting point may be moved back to Svalbard, if we receive clear guarantees from Norwegian authorities well in advance. You will be noticed appropriately.

### ***Important Notice***

Please be aware that not providing of filled in and signed documents, mentioned in the Notes, in due time, may bring your clients to be denied for boarding on Charter flights.

Not providing of obligatory documents can create a serious risk to your clients, to fellow travelers and staff. In such cases, the client will bear full responsibility for not complying with tour operators general booking conditions. No refunds will be made in cases of no show and in cases of failure to provide obligatory documents.

The list of obligatory documents, to be signed by each client:

- Medical Information Form,
- Release of Liability/Waiver,
- Medical Evacuation Insurance.

## Prior to Leaving Home

### ***Visas***

Our expeditions start in Murmansk, Russia, every traveler requires a valid two entries visa into Russian Federation. Please check the procedure at a Russian consulate in your country.

We are able to issue a Russian visa invitation for your clients free of charge.

\*If expeditions start in Longyearbyen, Norway, most of the nations do not need any visas. Please check it though with your Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Although Ice Camp "Barneo" operates under Russian flag, visitors to Ice Camp do not need to possess Russian visas.

### ***Hotels***

#### **Murmansk, Russia**

We include three popular hotels in Murmansk in our listing. If you wish, we can book these hotels for your clients. If you book hotels on behalf of your clients, please let us know the name of the hotel and arrival date.

Please, keep in mind that flights to the Ice Camp on a drifting ice are often delayed, so hotel reservations should be possible to extend on ongoing basis.

#### **Park Inn by Radisson Poliarnie Zori 4\***

The first international chain hotel in Murmansk.

Located in the heart of Murmansk, this eco-friendly hotel is within a 10-minute walk of Murmansk Regional Drama Theater, Murmansk Regional Philharmonic. Folk Art Division of Murmansk Art Museum are also within 15 minutes walk.

Hotel Features: a restaurant, an indoor pool, and a nightclub are available at this smoke-free hotel. WiFi in public areas is free. Other amenities include 2 bars/lounges, a fitness center, and a spa tub.

Room Amenities: all 262 soundproofed rooms feature free WiFi and 24-hour room service. For a bit of entertainment, plasma TVs come with satellite channels, and guests can also appreciate conveniences like sitting areas and coffee makers on each floor.

### **AZIMUT Hotel Murmansk 4\***

This hotel is within a 10-minute walk of Murmansk Regional Philharmonic, Folk Art Division of Murmansk Art Museum, and Murmansk Regional Puppet Theater. Monument to Saints Cyril and Methodius and Murmansk State Science Library are also within 10 minutes.

Hotel Features: a restaurant, a bar/lounge, and a coffee shop/café are available at this smoke-free hotel. WiFi in public areas is free. Other amenities include a snack bar/deli, a conference center, and selfparking area.

Room Amenities: all 186 rooms feature thoughtful touches like bathrobes and slippers, along with conveniences such as sitting areas and refrigerators. Free WiFi and 24-hour room service are standard, as are TVs with cable channels.

### **Congress Hotel Meridian 3\***

Located in the heart of the city, this hotel is within a 10-minute walk of Murmansk Region Art Museum, Murmansk Regional Philharmonic. Murmansk State Science Library and Murmansk Museum of Local Lore are also within 15 minutes walk.

Hotel Features: along with a restaurant, this smoke-free hotel has a bar/lounge and self parking. WiFi in public areas is free. Other amenities include meeting rooms, dry cleaning, and a 24-hour front desk.

Room Amenities: all 136 rooms offer free WiFi, room service, and TVs with satellite channels. Guests will also find coffee makers, hair dryers, and desks.

### **Equipment**

We do not offer hiring of any equipment for Ski and Dog Sledge programs if these programs are booked at confidential agent net rates.

If you book Ski and Dog Sledge programs at full public rates, which include standard agent commission, the usual set of equipment will be provided.

With our final information we send you a list of useful equipment, which is suitable for a booked program, as well as some details on dressing in Arctic conditions.

Please note that parkas from Arctic and Antarctic cruises are not sufficient for well-being at Ice Camp "Barneo".

### ***Clothing Hire***

For Ski and Dog Sledge programs we do not offer any clothing to rent, if these programs are booked at confidential agent net rates.

If you book these programs at full public rates, which include standard agent commission, the usual set of clothing will be provided.

We include a North Pole branded sweatshirt for all participants of the North Pole Helicopter programs.

### ***Insurance***

A medical evacuation insurance of 100.000 EUR per person is obligatory to participate at any North Pole Expedition. You may purchase for your clients a specifically designed medical evacuation insurance at Special Travel Club.

Due to strict cancellation conditions and unpredictable ice and weather conditions in the High Arctic, an appropriate insurance is strongly recommended!

### ***Purchasing Airline Tickets***

The North Pole is a unique destination, which presents travelers with many challenges. Coordinating a flexible return date from the North Pole with fixed reservations on commercial airlines is one of these challenges. All flights to and from the North Pole and the Ice Camp are weather and ice dependent, it's probable that you will need to make changes to your return flight reservations.

You will be travelling to and from Russia in April, which is usually not a high season period, so there should be no problem with getting seats.

Unfortunately, there are no direct scheduled air connection to Murmansk from any non-Russian airport. You will have to connect your route through Moscow or Saint Petersburg. There are plenty of daily flights to both of these cities by various airlines: from Lufthansa to Aeroflot.

Moscow offers more flexible departures and timelines, but Saint Petersburg represents a world-renown architecture heritage. Perhaps, it would be a great opportunity for your clients to spend 2-3 days in picturesque imperial Saint Petersburg or in vibrant Russian capital. Both cities possess luxurious hotels of all major world hotel chains.



Several internationally renowned Russian airlines are flying to Murmansk several times per day: Aeroflot, Nordavia, S7 (Sibir) and Utair.

Please, ensure that your client will purchase a full-fare, completely flexible air ticket of sufficient duration. Allow time for delays in Arctic even for Helicopter North Pole Expeditions!

Check the restrictions before your client buys a ticket! Warn your clients of obtaining tickets through a web-consolidator, of discounted tickets or of tickets using frequent flyer points. These types of tickets usually are heavily restricted and have limited space availability.

Keep in mind that change penalties and paying for hotel nights may end up being more expensive than buying a higher priced ticket that gives the client more flexibility.

## In The City Of Starting Point

### ***Murmansk, Russia***

Murmansk is located in the far North West of Russia, hundreds of kilometers north of the Arctic Circle. It is a major port and naval base and very much one of these places visited for being unusual rather than for conventional tourist sights. You can come here to experience 24 hour darkness in the winter or 24 hour daylight in the summer (40 days of each) or just to experience life in one of the world's most northerly inhabited places – it has more than 400.000 residents.

Murmansk Airport (MMK) has multiple daily flights to Moscow and Saint Petersburg, and limited services to other Russian cities including Arkhangelsk, Sochi. The airport is located about 40km south of Murmansk, near the town of Murmashi. Taxis to the city center cost about 1100 rubles (15 EUR) and make the trip in about 40 minutes.

### ***Getting Around***

Although Murmansk is long and thin, most sites of interest to visitors are within a fairly compact area in the city center. Prospekt Lenina is the main north-south thoroughfare through the city center and the central Five Corners Square. Avid walkers could cover the entire stretch of the central area from the Poliarnie Zori Hotel on the south end of the city center to the Alyosha Statue, which is situated on a plateau on the north side of the city in less than two hours.

Trolleybuses are available on most larger streets and generally follows a north-south route, if you are heading east («up the hill») you have to rely on the small marshrootka buses.

Another option is to use taxis, which are plentiful and cheap, few drivers speak anything other than Russian so memorize the street or name of the place you are going to. A typical journey in the city centre will cost somewhere around 400 rubles (5 EUR). Unmarked taxis can be cheaper but are generally a bit unreliable to use for those not fluent in the native tongue.

The most convenient way to get around is to order a personal English-speaking guide with a car. It is also not expensive.

### ***Tourist Information Centre in Murmansk***

Tourist Information Center (hereinafter - TIC) Murmansk has a virtual character. TIC provides comprehensive information on places of interest and city events, cultural events and tourist

routes. Available reference materials about the sports complex and ski slopes, hospitals and clinics, transport communication, consulates and representative offices of foreign states.

At present TIC organized four information kiosks:

- in the lobby of the hotel «Park Inn by Radisson Poliarnie Zori « Str. Knipovich, 17,
- in the lobby of the congress hotel «Meridian» Str. Thieves, 5/23,
- on the ground floor of the shopping center «Wave» Str. Leningradskaya, 20/3,
- and in the main hall of the airport “Murmashi”.

### ***Restaurants***

Main restaurants in the city center:

#### **Restaurant Shanghai**

Str. Polar Zori, 35/2, tel. : 44-33-41, restoran-shanghai.ru . Opening hours: Monday to Thursday and Sunday from 12.00 to 23.00; Friday-Saturday from 12.00 to 01.00

#### **Steak House Torro**

This elegant restaurant is a favorite with visiting businessmen and anyone with a carnivorous inclination.

Address: pr. Lenina 80, tel: +7 (8152) 45-1700, Opening hours: noon-midnight

#### **Restaurant M-Club**

This entertainment complex inside Hotel Meridian consists of a bar, billiards, bowling and large dance floor with music themes changing nightly.

Address: ul Vorovskogo 5, tel: +7 (8152) 28-8751, Opening hours: 11:00 – 00:00

#### **Bongiorno Italian café**

Address: Samoilovoy St., 14a , Shopping Mall «Pioner», tel: +7(8152) 45-0863, Opening hours: 12:00 – 00:00

There are many supermarkets in the city center, a few of them work 24-hours.

There are several shops with quality goods for outdoor activities. You can buy almost everything: clothing, footwear, climbing gear and more.

## ***Money***

For cash operations, you may use only Rubles (RUB). Currency is changed in banks and exchange offices.

Visa and MasterCard credit cards are accepted in big stores, many restaurants and hotels. American Express cards are usually not accepted.

Travelers checks, USD or EUR bills are not accepted. The opening times of banks vary and many of them are closed on weekends. ATMs are available in banks and major hotels.

## ***Electricity***

There is 220 Volt in Murmansk, European plug. Please check your appliances before use.

## ***Buildings and Memorials in Murmansk***

Murmansk has lots of statues and memorials that you will encounter while walking around the city. Here are some of the most famous places to visit:

- The Alyosha monument: Be sure to see one of the largest war memorials in Russia, a 42,5m tall statue of an unnamed soldier in honor of the «Defenders of the Soviet Arctic during the Great Patriotic War» (World War II).
- St. Nicholas Church: A small but significant Russian Orthodox church named after the patron saint of sailors. Nearby is a commemorative lighthouse, also dedicated to Russian sailors.
- The Square of Five Corners: This is the central square of Murmansk, housing the DUMA (Local Parliament), the main shopping center and the Hotel Arktika.

## ***Museums***

- The Museum of Regional History: This museum houses four floors detailing the history and culture of the region, including stunning nature and animal displays that kids will enjoy.
- The Fine Arts Museum: The only art museum above the Arctic Circle. There are more than 3000 works of art on display, focusing on artists from Murmansk and a sculpture collection.
- The Lenin Nuclear Icebreaker: The first nuclear icebreaker built in the world, the ship is still kept in very good shape. It houses a museum with lots of hands-on exhibitions. Tours are offered daily in English, and you can even take a look at the nuclear reactor inside.



## **Theaters**

- The Puppet Theater: Great for kids and adults alike, the theater puts on Russian fairy tales for kids of all ages throughout the year, including Christmas tales. The strong visuals mean it's not necessary to speak Russian to enjoy the shows!
- The Murmansk Regional Drama Theatre: This Theater shows Russian plays year-round. This is a great place to soak up some Russian culture.

The wilderness of the Kola Peninsula and Murmansk Oblast is perfect for camping, fishing or hunting. A great deal of travelers continue out into the wild from here. There are several large national parks nearby.

## ***Luggage Allowance, Preparation and Weighing for Charter Flights***

Luggage allowances vary by programs.

All luggage must comply with the standard international rules of carriage of dangerous objects in baggage: gas, fuel, arms. The agent undertakes to bring to its clients the rules of carriage of dangerous objects. Sharp objects like multi-tools, knives etc. are prohibited in hand luggage. All hold and hand luggage will be screened by airport security personnel, who may X-ray bags.

Hold luggage (checked in): hold luggage for ski and dog sledges programs will be loaded the day prior to the flight and will remain in our store house until weather conditions permit us to fly. Every agent must provide bag tags for its clients with client name, program name and group/guide name (if applicable). Clients will not have access to their luggage until the arriving to Ice Camp "Barneo". Please, be ready for weather delays of several days. All fuels are prohibited by international flight safety regulations!

Hand luggage must be in a small sized day pack for personal items: passport, medications, cameras, money etc. Please, do not pack any sharp objects in your hand luggage!

All luggage taken to Ice Camp "Barneo" may be weighed including hold and hand luggage (with cameras!).

Clients with excess luggage will be charged on spot prior to boarding. The cost of excess baggage is 25 Euro per 1 kg if there is available cargo capacity. Information about excess baggage must be communicated to our office in advance to avoid misunderstandings. In case of excess baggage, undeclared in advance, Special Travel Club / Special Expeditions may refuse carriage of such baggage to ensure the safety of passenger transportation.

### ***Departure to the Ice Camp "BARNEO"***

Please remember that flights from Murmansk to Franz Josef Land and further to Ice Camp "Barneo" are heavily dependent on weather, runway condition and aircraft serviceability. Safety of our travelers is our first priority, so weather and ice delays are often a part of the North Pole journey.

In Murmansk we will organize a briefing a day before departure and explain current situation. After that we will keep clients up-to-date with weather information.

It is your client's responsibility to arrange for additional hotel nights in case of weather delays.

Helicopter North Pole Expeditions are often perceived as an express trip to the North Pole. Usually, it is the case, but weather delays may occur during this program, too. It is very important to inform your clients to keep more days open after planned return date and book only flexible air tickets!

We will arrange for group transfer from designated hotels to the airport in Murmansk. All clients must be in the lobby ready to board our bus at announced pick up time.

All passengers must pass through security check prior to boarding.

The flight to Franz Josef Land will take about 2,5 hours. We serve only drinking water during the flight. No toilet facilities are available onboard the aircraft. Please encourage your clients to use facilities in the airport prior to boarding.

Our aircraft will first land at Franz Josef Land for refueling and then continue to Ice Camp "Barneo". Travelers will spend around one hour at our facility at Franz Josef Land. There will be available hot beverages and small snacks in our facility. Basic toilets will be available as well.

In case of weather delay prior to departure to Ice Camp "Barneo" we provide clients with beds for overnight and hot meals will be offered free of charge. Hot dishes of Russian style expedition kitchen will be served.

Clients may charge their devices in our facility at Franz Josef Land. The voltage is – 220 V / 50 Hertz, European plug.

No mobile phone network and no Internet access will be available.

Weather dependent we continue our flight to Ice Camp "Barneo", when aircraft is ready.

The flight to Ice Camp "Barneo" will take about 2,5 hours. We serve only drinking water during the flight. No toilet facilities are available onboard the aircraft. Please encourage your clients to use facilities at Franz Josef Land prior to boarding.

If the landing is not possible for any reason, the aircraft will return to Franz Josef Land. According to the situation we will decide, whenever we wait for new flight on Franz Josef Land or depart back to Murmansk after refueling.

### ***Arrival to the Ice Camp "BARNEO"***

Ice Camp «Barneo» is a unique complex of facilities for receiving and maintaining aircraft, which is annually built on drifting ice in the area of 89 degrees North latitude. "Barneo" is the main hub of the infrastructure of Arctic expeditions. The most important and significant aspect of «Barneo» is a runway, the construction of which takes about a week. The staff base is about 50 people, permanently living in the Ice Camp for the season.

### ***Ice Camp's Aviation***

The AN-74 plane was designed to operate in the most extreme latitudes of the globe - the Arctic and the Antarctic. It is tailored for the transportation of goods, equipment and people on airfields of small and average length and in any climatic conditions from -60 to +45 degrees and on any latitudes, including in the highlands. It can be operated in the equipped and unequipped air routes at any time of day and year on concrete, pebble, ice and snow aerodromes, domestic and international runways.

The Mi-8 helicopter is a proven and reliable machine that offers a sufficient level of forwarding service and ensures passenger safety when working in the extreme conditions of the Polar Regions. There are two Mi-8T helicopters at Ice Camp.

### ***Helicopter Flights***

During our expedition you will be participating in helicopter flights. Helicopter flights can only take place when the weather conditions are suitable, and when helicopters are not needed for ice operative tasks.

CAUTION! Never approach a helicopter at rear side!

### ***Accommodation***

Ice Camp «Barneo» consists of specially designed high-tech tents with a rigid skeleton.

There are 10-12 person modules to sleep and rest which are heated by special technology, and inside temperature of +18 to +20 degrees.

Each traveller receives a cot, mattress and sleeping bag.

### ***Public Tent***

All of the briefings and lectures are held in the public tent, which is also where travelers meet and communicate. In the Public tent we also serve breakfast, lunch and dinner. There is also a table with tea/coffee and light snacks, serving you 24 hours a day.

The Public Tent is also the working place of Special Travel Club's representative, who will organize your leisure time at the Ice Camp.

### ***Smoking***

Smoking is not permitted in all indoor areas of the Ice Camp. Our representative will show you the Smoking area in the Ice Camp.

It is STRICTLY prohibited to smoke in the plane or helicopter and in the immediate proximity of the aircraft!

The Arctic is a fragile ecological system. Please throw cigarette butts only in designated ballot boxes in the designated Smoking areas or take your butts with you, not to waste in the Arctic.

### ***Electricity***

You may charge your devices only in the Public tent. The voltage is – 220 V / 50 Hertz, European plug.

### ***Laundry***

This service is not available at the Ice Camp.

### ***Toilet***

The base is equipped with an unheated toilet. Its location will be advised you during the briefing at the Ice Camp.



### ***Potable Water***

There is no opportunity to provide all guests with drinking water in the Ice Camp. There is hot water, which can be used for drinking, at the Coffee Station in the Public tent. You can buy bottled water in the Public tent.

### ***Shop***

There is a limited selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, souvenir t-shirts, patches and other Souvenirs in the shop at the Public tent. To purchase these products contact Special Travel Club's representative (or staff in the kitchen adjacent to the Public tent).

The shop accepts payment in cash (euros, dollars, rubles). On your return to Murmansk you will have the possibility to pay by a credit card (the necessary amount+2%) (VISA, MasterCard).

### ***Expedition Doctor***

There is an English speaking doctor in the Ice Camp. He will be able to provide first medical assistance only as the range of medicine and instruments is very limited at the Ice Camp.

### ***Dining***

Standard hours of dining (time may vary due to program changes):

Tea and instant coffee, some sweets and cookies at Coffee Station – round the clock.

Breakfast — 9:00

Lunch — 13:00

Dinner — 19:00

Hot dishes of Russian style expedition kitchen will be served.

### ***Presentations***

Special Travel Club's representative at the Ice Camp «Barneo» will tell you about the climatic features of the Arctic, about Arctic animals and about modern Arctic research. We may present documentaries and feature films about the Arctic and about polar explorers if the schedule allows. We may also be able to organize meetings with scientists working at the Ice Camp.

### ***Daily program***

Special Travel Club's representative will prepare a daily program and display it on a board in the Public tent.

## ***Flexibility***

Planned activities may change depending on weather conditions.

## ***Walking around Ice Camp***

In April in the Arctic, there are 24 hours of daylight each day – the polar day prevails - so in good weather the sun will always stand at the Zenith. You can move freely around the Ice Camp within the boundaries cleared of surface snow. However, you cannot go outside the boundaries! Under the unprepared snow, the ice can be cracked!

It is forbidden to walk on the runway and where the helicopters are stationed.

In the case of unfavourable weather (wind, snow) don't leave your tent or Public tent. In the Arctic, wind can rise rapidly, and it can be easy to lose your point of reference in the snow. This is the case even for experienced explorers, and search operations in such weather are extremely difficult.

## ***Phones***

There is no mobile network or Internet facilities in the Ice Camp. The expedition leader of the camp has a satellite phone for emergency and operational contacts with the Central office. Calls for guests through this phone are not possible. You are welcome to use your own satellite phones (Iridium), but always pay attention to the rules of transportation of this equipment at the airports on your route.

# 1. General Provisions

**The Arctic Ocean** is one of the most inhospitable regions on our planet. Logistics problems are enormous; the weather ferocious and unpredictable, ice condition is unstable. Distances are immense, facilities scarce. Safety and self-sufficiency are the paramount rules. We acknowledge and respect this. It is our obligation to warn all clients that they like us and everyone else attempting to function in this extreme environment, are at the mercy of forces more powerful than any of us. A tight time-schedule in connection with the North Pole expedition is often unwise. Despite the expected period of calm dry weather, windstorms and blizzards, as well as changes in the ice condition, are a major threat to flights and groups en route. Delays of days and even weeks must be anticipated. Changes and amendments may apply to the program, depending on the weather, ice or other conditions. It is important to consider possible delays or alterations and take them with patience. We strongly recommend buying an open date return ticket for your trip. This allows for greater flexibility in your time control.

Our flight to the Polar region takes about 2.5 hours. We always make sure that the weather conditions are suitable for safe aircraft and helicopter operation for the journey in both directions. We keep permanent radio contact with the world-famous Barneo Ice Camp and are awaiting for THEIR PERMISSION to depart. The aircraft crews are also in touch during the whole flight duration.

On board of our charter flights, clients are required to respect the authority of the chief pilot and comply with his instructions. While at Barneo Ice Camp, field operations manager is given authority and responsibility for the safety and comfort of all clients. During field expeditions, VICAAR's lead guides are delegated similar responsibility for all participants of the expedition in their care.

By arrival at the Barneo Ice Camp, we are even more dependent on the Arctic weather. Storms and unfavourable ice conditions may easily interrupt aircraft or group departs. Considering safety matters most seriously we reserve the right to make any necessary changes in the itinerary up to the full cancellation of the expedition on the final stage should the situation require this.

Construction of the ice runway and Barneo Ice Camp — is a sophisticated logistic and technical process, which requires huge precursory work to be done. It incorporates coordination of the several air carriers' schedules, along with other involved organizations all over the country including high-ranking officials from The Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Defense and Federal Security Service. The logistics operation of the ice runway and Barneo Ice Camp construction begins a long time before the start of the expedition; for example, fuel purchase and its supply to the Arctic take place during the previous summer. That is why VICAAR has to follow its **Refund and Cancellation Policy** in all customer relations. We strongly recommend that all our clients should carefully read these **Terms and Conditions** and purchase **insurance against full or partial cancellation of the expedition** as a protection against an unforeseen situation leading to interruption of your expedition.

## 2. Booking and Payments

2.1. To book a place in the expedition, the client or client's agent has to send us an application for the participation in the desired expedition. This application should be sent well in advance, as we have to prepare many licensing documents along with visa support (if the client goes via Russia ).

2.2. The application should contain the following information:

- code and dates of the expedition;
- client's full name;
- date and place of birth;
- gender;
- citizenship;
- contact phone number and e-mail
- passport number and period of validity
- clothes/footwear sizes

2.3. After receiving your application, we will return a written confirmation of initial place booking and send an invoice for deposit payment. If by the time of your application, we do not have places for the dates you specified, we will advise alternative dates, if it is not possible, we will cancel your booking with explanations of the reason for denial. If the dates are agreed, the deposit should be paid within 3 days from the invoice issue. Place in the expedition would not be secured until the deposit is paid. In case the cancellation of booking or participation was made by the client, a deposit is not refundable. After receiving the deposit, we will inform that booking has been made and confirm expedition itinerary.

2.4. Large discount applies to the programs, which are booked before December 5th (See rates and dates page). For programs, which are booked after December 5th, the cost is rising by 10% and has to be paid in full by common payment. In the case of late booking the total expedition cost should be paid flat by 15 the March (only if the places are available). Other terms of payment may be discussed in each case. All the payments are to be made in Euro.

2.5. If the money for participation in the expedition has not been transferred according to terms stated in the paragraphs 2.3 and 2.4 of the present **Terms and Conditions**, VICAAR reserves the right to cancel booking and retain the payments, received by that moment, except the cases, when such changes have been agreed with authorized VICAAR representative.

## 3. Cancellations, Changes to Itinerary and Refunds

3.1. Should VICAAR, for any reason, except Force Majeure, cancel an expedition prior to the scheduled day of departure, all money received from the client or the client's booking agent up to that time will be refunded to the client or the client's booking agent within 45 working days of such cancellation without further obligations on VICAAR's part. This will be the limit of VICAAR liability, and we will not be responsible for other consequences of the cancellation as well as for further expenses incurred by the client or



client's agent, including non-refundable airline tickets, special clothes, and equipment purchase, visa and passport fees and other expenses.

3.2. Expeditions to the high latitudes are extremely dependent on the ice and weather conditions. VICAAR makes every effort to follow planned expedition itinerary. However, we cannot accept responsibility for changes, caused by the factors beyond our control. In these situations, VICAAR reserves the right to change expeditions' itineraries, dates, and routes without warning and further obligations to the clients. It is understood that such decisions will be made in the best interest of all clients and about the safety of all expedition members. Participants have no right to any refund or other considerations in the event of these inevitable itinerary changes. **Rescheduling does not represent the cancellation of the expedition by VICAAR.** We will make any effort to ensure our clients' expectations were met. However, to avoid problems caused by the changes in itinerary we strongly recommend buying an open date ticket for your trip back to the place of residence.

3.3. VICAAR leaders and guides will do all their best to solve any possible issue for the good of the group and expedition on the whole. If, during the expedition or 3-day advance period, a responsible VICAAR representative (whether Captain, Field Manager or Guide) would decide that the client is not capable of participating or continuing the expedition without jeopardizing the life or health of other participants, or VICAAR personnel — agency reserve the right to cancel or discontinue client's participation in the expedition. In this case, VICAAR will make any effort for client's safe return to the Barneo Ice Camp and further to Longyearbyen ( Spitsbergen ) at the first chance, but no compensations will be made. Payment for all the unscheduled flights, arising as a result of the matter above, should be made by the client to VICAAR within three days after the expedition close.

3.4. Should the client or the client's booking agent cancel their booking prior December 5th, VICAAR will reimburse the sum received from the client or client's booking agent by the afore-mentioned date, except 500 euro administrative fee.

3.5. Should the client or the client's booking agent cancel their booking after December 5th, no refunds will be payable by VICAAR. All inquiries related to cancellations or refunds should be received in writing.

3.6. Prices quoted are based on group participation, and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which the clients choose not to participate, including any helicopter flying time.

3.7. VICAAR agents and representatives other than authorized personnel are not entitled to promise any compensation to the clients. Such oral promises do not commit VICAAR to anything.

## 4. Prices and rates

4.1. All the prices are given in Euro.

4.2. VICAAR offer special conditions to agencies.

4.3. Trip rates are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change before the departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, and price of fuel, services, and labor sometimes increase the cost of trips arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices accordingly, presenting a written notice to our booking agents or/and clients.

## **5. Liability**

5.1 The Parties will be released from liability for partial or complete non-fulfillment of the Agreement obligations if this resulted from the Act of God (Force Majeure) circumstances.

5.2 Act of God circumstances includes by not limited to: natural forces, such as earthquakes, floods, fire (caused by natural reasons), ice cracks and other disasters; social and public circumstances, such as warfare, riots, boycott, political or economic strikes (except strikes of The Agreement participants' personnel), rebellions, epidemics, quarantine, etc.; governmental acts, such as adoption and entering in force of limiting legislative acts and regulations, etc.; failure of machinery and breakage of mechanisms, any other circumstances, which may be characterized as extraordinary and insuperable.

5.3 The Party which does not execute the obligations upon the present agreement owing to the action of Acts of God (force major), should inform other Party within 10 (ten) calendar days from the moment such circumstances occurred only if the latter did not prevent timely notification. This notification should include information about occurrence, character, and possible consequences of the force-majeure situation.

5.4 In case of a force-majeure situation, the Agreement may be partly or completely suspended for a period of such circumstances.

5.5 Where the duration of the impediment invoked under this Clause has finished, Parties shall continue the fulfillment of the present agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions envisaged herein, unless its impossibility or separate agreement made between the parties

5.6 VICAAR acts as general sales agents and operator for the expeditions and trips to the North Pole and exercises every possible care about clients.

However, VICAAR, its owners, and employees assume no responsibility or liability for any political, meteorological, climatic, or other event or for the services of transportation companies, contractors, or other principals for which we act as agents. Due to the nature of the destination, it is normal to encounter flight delays and/or changes of itineraries, in the event of which all additional expenses will be borne by the client.

5.7 VICAAR accept no responsibility for any accidents, injuries, diseases, death, loss of property and other damage caused to the members of the expedition and clients or by the members of the expedition and clients to the third persons, if this damage or loss was caused through no fault of VICAAR or happened as a result of knowing violation of

the Accident Prevent (Safety Measures) Regulations, which are in force in Russian Federation, by the members of the expedition or the clients. Before the departure, our representative will introduce everybody with Safety Measures. All clients have to sign [a Waiver](#).

5.8 In the case of medical problems, requiring evacuation, using aircraft transportation and other expenses, the client holds all responsibilities for such expenditure. All participants have to acquire insurance enough for covering medical aid and evacuation expenses.

5.9 VICAAR strongly urges individual clients to obtain appropriate insurance coverage. Client's baggage is at owner's risk entirely.

5.10 All legal inquiries and Claims from the clients or the client's booking agents should be addressed to VICAAR's office in St. Petersburg in writing within 14 days after the expedition ending otherwise no claims will be accepted by VICAAR.

5.11 By forwarding application and deposit, client certifies that he/she has fully read and understood these **Terms and Conditions** and does not have any mental, physical or other limitations or disability that might carry a potential risk for oneself or other participants.

# POLAR ADVENTURES

Schiffs- und Flug- Expeditionen  
in Arktis und Antarktis

## OFFLINE-KATALOG-ANFORDERUNG

Sehr geehrte Reise-Interessenten. Vielen Dank für Ihr Interesse und den Download eines digitalen Kataloges im PDF-Format.

Gerne senden wir Ihnen zusätzlich bei weitergehendem Interesse die ausgewählten PDF-Inhalte als gedruckte Version auf dem Postweg.

Bitte nennen Sie unten den gewünschten Katalog und senden Sie dieses Formular per Post oder Fax an uns zurück.

Bitte senden Sie mir den aktuellen Katalog für folgendes Schiff/ Tour:

--

Bitte senden Sie den ausgewählten Katalog an folgende Adresse:

Vorname + Name

Telefonnummer

--	--

Strasse + Nr.

Faxnummer

--	--

PLZ + Wohnort

e-mail-Adresse

--	--

Bitte per Post an:

oder per Fax an 04131-54255

an POLARADVENTURES Schiffs- und Flug-Expeditionen in Arktis und Antarktis Heinrich-Böll-Str. 40 D-21335 Lüneburg
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# POLAR ADVENTURES

## Schiffs- und Flug- Expeditionen in Arktis und Antarktis

**Unverbindliche Buchungsanfrage per Fax an 04131-54255 oder per Post an  
Polaradventures, Heinrich-Böll-Str. 40, D-21335 Lüneburg, Deutschland**

Bitte unterbreiten Sie mir ein unverbindliches Angebot für folgende Leistungen:

- ☐ Veranstalter-Angebot mit Insolvenzversicherung nach deutschem Reiseveranstalterrecht + Preis in EUR  
☐ Direkt-Angebot der ausländischen Reedereien (ausländ. Reiserecht + Preis in USD zum Tageskurs in EUR)

Schiffsname		
Reisenname/ -Route		
Abfahrt von - bis (tt/mm - tt/mm/jj)		
Alternative Abfahrt (tt/mm - tt/mm/jj) (falls ausgebucht)		
Kabinenkategorie		
Alternative Kabinenkategorie (falls ausgebucht)		

- ☐ Doppelkabine ☐ Doppelkabine zur Einzelnutzung ☐ Halbe Doppelkabine zur Mitbenutzung

Zubringerflüge:

Abflughafen		
Hinflugdatum (tt/mm/jj)		
Rückflugdatum (tt/mm/jj)		
bevorzugte Airline		

☐ Economy-Class ☐ Business-Class

Zusätzliche Hotelübernachtungen:

Hotelname/Übernachtungsort		
Aufenthalt von - bis (tt/mm - tt/mm/jj)		
Hotelname/Übernachtungsort		
Aufenthalt von - bis (tt/mm - tt/mm/jj)		

Reiseversicherungen:

- ☐ keine  
☐ Reiserücktrittskostenversicherung  
☐ Komplettschutz (Reiserücktritts-, Kranken-, Unfall-, Gepäck- und Notfallversicherung)

Persönliche Angaben:

1. Reiseteilnehmer Vorname, Name / Geburtsdatum		
2. Reiseteilnehmer Vorname, Name / Geburtsdatum		

Angebot bitte:

<input type="checkbox"/> per Email an (Emailadresse)		
<input type="checkbox"/> per Fax an (Nummer)		
<input type="checkbox"/> per Post an (Vorname & Name) (Straße & Nr.) (PLZ & Wohnort)		