



POLAREXPLORERS

NORTH POLE HALF DEGREE SKI EXPEDITION

“This was the hardest, most exhilarating 6 days of my life.”



FULL ADVENTURE, HALF DEGREE

EXPERIENCE THE VIGOR OF OUR LONGER EXPEDITION IN A SHORTER AMOUNT OF TIME

You love adventure. The idea of skiing to the North Pole gives you goose bumps. It would be a dream come true BUT... you don't have enough time, or for other reasons our longer Last Degree expedition is not an option. Enter our Half Degree North Pole Expedition. Skiing the "Half Degree" you will experience all the rigors of a polar expedition with the benefit of a shorter time away from home. This expedition starts around 89°30' North and traverses the last half degree to the top of the world. That's over 50 kilometers or 30 nautical miles. In no way does the shorter duration affect the difficulty of any given day. You will face the same extreme temperatures, pressure ridges, open water leads, and shifting ice that make the North Pole the most unusual destination for expeditions on the planet.

Skill Level 1 2 3 4

Your level of skill and physical conditioning must be high as you may encounter adverse conditions that will test your abilities. You'll spend both days and nights in some of the most extreme conditions the planet has to offer. You will test all your limits. Trip specific preparation is required, and you must obtain the consent of the trip leader to participate.

Polar Shakedown Training

Our five day Polar Shakedown Training is highly recommended for all participants on this expedition and is included in the cost of our "Complete" expedition package. Choose from two dates and locations; the first in Ely, Minnesota in late January; the second in April, just prior to the expedition in Longyearbyen, Norway. Please contact us for more details.



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.

Day 1: Your PolarExplorers guide will set up a time to check your gear mid-day. Our expedition officially kicks off with our evening welcome reception followed by a group dinner.

Day 2: A busy day as we ready our kits, review expedition expectations & procedures. This is the last chance to work out any kinks before we take to the ice! We will prepare all our kit for the flight and deliver it to the airport. 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” ice camp located between 89-90 degrees north. This flight takes approximately 2.5 hours. Barneo is located on the floating pack ice and its precise location varies on a daily basis. Our guides will review ice conditions and recent drift trends to determine the best starting point. We may spend this night in the vicinity of Barneo in our own expedition tents or we may be shuttled by helicopter to our starting point.

Day 4-6: Ski to the North Pole! We will travel by ski with pulks in tow maneuvering around open water leads and over pressure ridges. As we make our way north our pace will be slightly faster than walking and we will stop every 60-90 minutes to eat snacks and drink fluids. Our goal will be to make 10 miles of northward progress a day. Your family and friends will be able to follow your daily progress and share messages via our 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 your physical training, mental preparation, and time spent acquiring the right 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 our location we will celebrate our accomplishment. Don’t forget your banners, flags and signs for our photo session. You will also have the opportunity to call home to a family member or friend. Depending on timing we may spend the night at the North Pole under the 24 hour sun of the Arctic spring. Bring your GPS to monitor how far we drift overnight. We may wake up at the North Pole or several kilometers away!

Day 8: We will return to the Barneo ice camp where we will catch our return flight to Longyearbyen. The exact timing of the flight depends on weather and various logistics. Back in Longyearbyen you will be able to enjoy hot showers, fine cuisine, access to phones and internet, and a comfortable night at your hotel.

Day 9: This is the official end of the expedition. Consider spending an extra day or two in Longyearbyen to join one of the many guided tours that explore Spitsbergen. We are happy to make recommendations and help you book your trip. Your final transfer to the Longyearbyen Airport on your departure day is not included. Both Taxi and Flybussen pick-ups can be arranged at the front desk of your hotel or guesthouse.

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

“AMAZING...”



Connect with PolarExplorers

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Facebook:

[facebook.com/polarexplorers](https://www.facebook.com/polarexplorers)

YouTube:

www.youtube.com/polarexplorers

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.

Travel arrangements:

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 is HIGHLY recommended and medical evacuation insurance is 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.





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. The application can be found online at:

http://www.polarexplorers.com/images/docs/pe_application_elctronic.pdf

You can also request an application by emailing annie@polarexplorers.com.

2) Reserve your space with a deposit

A 25% deposit will reserve your space on any expedition. Contact us at

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.

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.

4) Get ready!

All of our expeditions require varying degrees of preparations. There will be forms to complete and return 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!

