

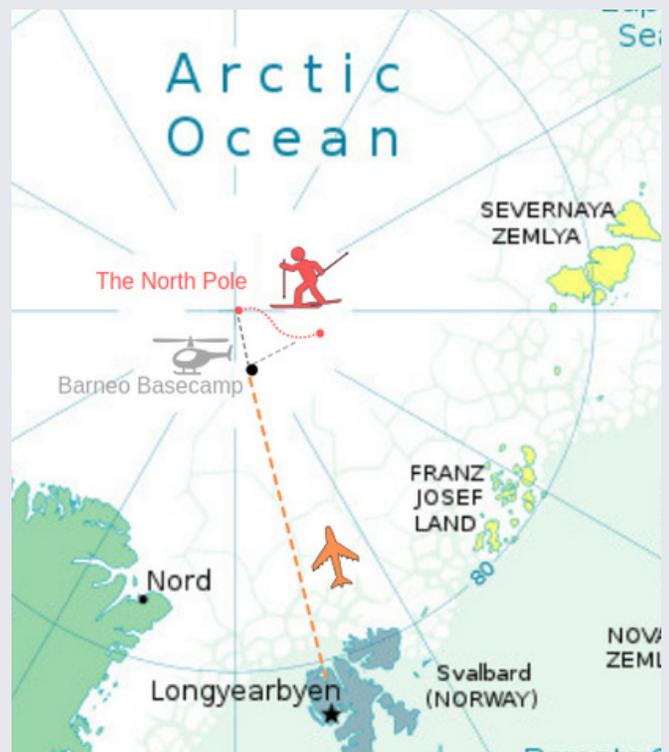
POLAREXPLORERS

NORTH POLE HALF DEGREE SKI EXPEDITION



FULL ADVENTURE, HALF DEGREE

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 Ski Expedition. Skiing the "Half Degree" you will experience all the rigors of a polar expedition with the benefit of a shorter duration. This expedition starts around 89°30' north and traverses the remaining 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 on the planet for high adventure expeditions.



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

Duration: Typically 4 nights on the ice. 8 Days all in.

Sled weight: 25kg - 30 kg

Polar Shakedown Training: Our five day [Polar Shakedown Training](#) is required for team members who have no previous polar expedition experience. Choose from two dates and locations; the first in Ely, Minnesota (USA) in late January or early February; 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. If you need anything there are several outdoor stores in town. Our expedition officially kicks off with an 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" floating Ice Camp located between 89-90 degrees North. This flight takes approximately 2.5 hours. Upon arriving at Barneo we reorganized our kit and prepare for the transfer to our starting location, usually by helicopter.



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 to determine the best departure point. Depending on the time of day we may start skiing immediately or we may set up camp.

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 pace and we will stop every 60-90 minutes to eat and stay hydrated. Our goal will be to make 10 nautical miles of progress north each day. 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 7: 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 8: 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 [online application](#). 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 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!



Connect with us!



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