

Svalbard Guide Training Course - SGO

16. – 23. February 2026



Self-study:

Every participant of module 1 needs to read the compulsory online study and go through the test on day 1.

Self-study site: www.visitsvalbard.com/en/SGO

Coffee/tea/water will be available for free, while lunch might be bought at Barentz Pub.

Monday 16. Module 1 - basic course			
When	What	Whom	Where
08.30-09.30	Introduction to SGO, sustainability and tourism in Svalbard	By Visit Svalbard; Ronny Brunvoll and Moa-Maria Kero	Radisson
09.30-10.00	Written test – exam based on the web study (need to be passed in order to follow the rest of the course)	By Visit Svalbard	Radisson
10.15-12.15	The environment and the role of the guide	By Kine Bjelland, ANG Study (Arctic Nature Guide)	Radisson
12.15-13.00	Lunch		
13.00-14.30	Svalbard and Longyearbyen; history lesson. An introduction to local history and the community of Longyearbyen.	By Anna Lena Ekeblad, True North Arctic Guideservice	Radisson
14.45-16.00	Climate, science and education in Svalbard	By Marius Jonassen, UNIS	Radisson
Tuesday 17. Module 1 - basic course			
When	What	Whom	Where
08.30-09.45	Environmental management in Svalbard, Cultural heritage in Svalbard, Tourism in Svalbard	By Roy Duvier, Sysselimesteren	Radisson
10.00-11.15	The police; emergency and rescue services	By Håkon Finstad, Sysselimesteren	Radisson
11.15-12.00	Lunch		
12.00-13.45	Visit to CHC Helikopter Service (including transport 12:00 and 13:30)	By Kjell Arne Lundin	Airport
13.45-14.45	Visit to Svalbard Museum	By Saskia Heynekamp	Svalbard Museum
15.00-16.00	Visit to North Pole Expedition Museum	By	North Pole Expedition Museum
Module 3 - field course			
16.15-17.15	Information on the winter field course	By instructors	IGP 2nd floor

Wednesday 18. Module 2 - safety course			
When	What	Whom	Where
08.00-16.00	First aid course (Note: combined indoor-outdoor so please wear appropriate clothes)	By Longyearbyen Røde Kors	Røde Kors Depot
Thursday 19. Module 2 - safety course			
When	What	Whom	Where
08.30-09.45	Polar bear safety – theory	By Svalbard Adventures	SSU
09.45-15:30	Polar bear safety – practice (including transport 09:45 and 15:15)	By Svalbard Adventures	Shooting range

Module 3 – winter field course

Meet at the UNIS field at 08.00, if not otherwise told at the information meeting.

Back in Longyearbyen on Monday 23. approximately 14.00.

NB: you need to have your own snowmobile (or rent one) and your own personal gear in order to follow the field course. The equipment list will be shared with participants in mid-January.

20.-23. Module 3 – winter field course			
When	What	Whom	Where
Tuesday 17. 16.15-17.15	<i>Information on the winter field course</i>	By instructors	IGP 2nd floor
Day 1 08.00	Off we go into the wilderness! Bring gear according to list and info given by the instructors.	By instructors	UNIS field
08.30-14.00	On snowmobile to location		Field
14.00-	Establish winter camp		Field
Day 2 8.30-16.00	Glaciers and avalanches; training		Field
16.00-	Establish snow bivouak		Field
Day 3 8.00-12.00	To location for training on sea ice		Field
12.00-16.00	Safety and rescue on sea ice		Field
16.00-	To location for overnight stay		Field
Day 4 8.30-14.00	Return to town		Field
14.00-	Evaluation		IGP/SSU
17.30	Round up with pizza and refreshments	All participants and instructors	Kroa

 This program is with reservations; the content, hours and instructors may be changed before and as the course is held.



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