78°N
Cruiseport
Longyearbyen/Isfjorden
Svalbard
Sittin’ On Top Of The World

Was in the spring
One sunny day
My sweetheart left me
Lord, she went away

And now she’s gone
And I don’t’ worry
Lord, I’m sitting
On top of the world

She called me up
From down in Al Paso
She said “Come back, daddy
Ooh, I need you so”
And now she’s gone
And I don’t’ worry
Lord, I’m sitting
On top of the world

-Doc Watson
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Those of us fortunate to live at 78˚ North feel like we’re living in a dream – a genuine Arctic fairy tale. We have experiences in everyday life in this landscape dominated by tundra, bare mountains, glaciers, extreme light variations and an exciting animal life that would be hard to match anywhere on earth. We love life here in Svalbard, and we can’t for a moment imagine a better place to live. We call this the “Polar bug”, a term indicating your constant desire to return after setting your feet here for the first time. Are you ready to be bitten by the Polar bug...?

To the uninitiated, Svalbard may seem desolate and barren with large open landscapes, sparse vegetation and endless glaciers. But if you look beyond this first impression, you will discover an eldorado of nature-based experiences – all year round. The seasonal variations this far north are enormous – the long, dark season is replaced by bright winter months, which in turn are replaced by a surprisingly mild summer with sun 24/7.

The archipelago is invaded by birds which migrate here in vast numbers to nest. On the seemingly inhospitable tundra, a minor miracle occurs at ground level as a rich flora emerges in the most unthinkable of places, offering life where you would hardly believe it was possible for plants to take root. When the landscape dries up after the snow melts, countless possibilities for hiking emerge. Many locals transform into eager hikers and head for the mountain peaks which surround Longyearbyen. Consequently, outdoor recreation still dominates the lives of the locals. Hiking boots make way for boats or kayaks when we set our sights on slightly longer trips.

Svalbard is large and diverse, boasting nature which is surprisingly rich and extremely varied. At the same time, we have personal experiences of climate change and the threats it poses here in the Arctic, and we are worried about the future. Life in Longyearbyen may be perceived both as different and perhaps extreme, but for those of us fortunate to live here, it’s hard to imagine anything else. We live as one with nature, and we work in harmony to uphold the good life that we do have throughout the enormous seasonal variations in temperature, light and darkness. We love this place and are proud to call ourselves Svalbards. We also love to receive visitors from all over the world – all year round.

I welcome you to Longyearbyen and Svalbard – and hope you have wonderful, memorable and profound experiences as a guest in our small, local community. Please remember, if you are bitten by the Polar bug, it’s harmless even though it will remain in your body for a long time!

Arctic greetings from
Ronny Brunvoll
Director of Tourism, Visit Svalbard

Photo: Monika Aaserud
SHORE EXCURSIONS IN LONGYEARBYEN

One of the world’s largest areas of untouched wilderness awaits the visitors in the High Arctic. During the summer Svalbard comes alive with calving glaciers, teeming bird cliffs, unique Polar wildlife and hardy flowers, all set against a backdrop of majestic mountain ranges and endless Arctic tundra.

Visitors can enjoy a range of excursions. Our local tour operators offer a diverse selection of organised tours.
Svalbard’s unique wildlife is best seen from a boat, and among the most popular activities is the Isfjord bird safari. Every summer thousands of migratory birds return to breed in the mountains surrounding Longyearbyen, and there is intense bird activity at sea, in the bird cliffs and on the islands.
DOGS OF SVALBARD

Dog sledding in an Arctic landscape is both peaceful and beautiful. In winter, the dogs pull the sled across a snow-covered landscape, while in summer they pull specially made wheeled sleds. Visitors get a close-up experience with the huskies and nature. Whether you want to mush the dogs in full speed, cuddle the puppies in the nursery or just experience life in the dog yard, this is a true Arctic experience.
Many visitors are tempted by the chance to glide silently through the water and enjoy the magnificent landscape in a peaceful manner. Kayaking trips are a great way to have a close-up experience with the arctic nature. Some kayaking trips include a guided walk to the abandoned settlement of Hiorthhamn and a hot lunch on the beach, while others include a mountain hike.
FOSSIL HUNTING

You can combine a hiking trip with exciting fossil hunting. It is possible to find 60-million-year-old plant fossils in Svalbard, which make a great souvenir to take home. The guides will tell you about Svalbard’s history and geology while you enjoy a biscuit and drinks break.
HIKING ON THE TUNDRA AND IN THE MOUNTAINS

Longyearbyen is surrounded by majestic mountains. There are many guided hikes on offer, from climbing summits to exploring valleys. Some are short and suitable for everyone, while others are more physically demanding. No matter which hiking trip – visitors are assured of a fantastic experience with an experienced guide and wonderful views.
LOCAL LIFE & LIVING

We are some 2,200 locals living in Longyearbyen all year round. Everyday life in Longyearbyen is quite civilised, but in some aspects dramatically different from life on the main land. Where else do you have 24 hours of daylight during four continuous summer months, where else are wild reindeer crossing your doorstep, and where else do you need to carry polar bear protection if you leave town? We show the visitors real Arctic life here at the top of the world. Join us on a walk through our neighbourhood and visit a local family to experience the everyday life in Longyearbyen.
ATV

The summer in Svalbard is short and hectic with daylight around the clock during the midnight sun season from April to late August. Visitors have the chance to experience this in the world’s most exciting place. They can drive a Can-Am Outlander ATV from Longyearbyen in a summery Svalbard landscape to Advent Valley, experience the rich animal and bird life and, if lucky, they may spot Arctic foxes and reindeer. Visitors can enjoy the wonderful view from the top of the mountain at Mine 7 and then stop for coffee at a trappers’ station!
TAKE CARE OF SVALBARD—GUIDELINES

Flora and fauna on Svalbard have adapted to the difficult Arctic conditions, but the nature is still very fragile, and even minor encroachments can cause lasting damage. This is why special environmental regulations have been developed for Svalbard. The purpose of the Environmental Act of Svalbard and its appurtenant regulations is among other things to ensure the protection of Svalbard’s vulnerable natural environment and its many valuable historical monuments.

1. Don’t be an arctic litterbug! Leave no lasting signs of your visit.

2. Birds and other animals are not to be disturbed. Remember, you are the guest.

3. Help take care of the biodiversity. Do not pick flowers.

4. Leave old cultural remains alone. Law protects all traces of humans from before 1946.

5. It is prohibited to lure, pursue or otherwise seek out polarbears in such a way as to disturb them or expose either bears or humans to danger.

6. Do not leave the settlements without a suitable gun, and experience in using it.

7. Be considerate to others.

8. Contact the Governor’s office (Sysselmannen) if planning a longer field excursion. A mandatory registration applies for travel to large parts of Svalbard.

9. Acquaint yourself with the rules and regulations pertaining to travel and other tourist activities on Svalbard.

10. For the sake of both the environment and yourself, we recommend organized tour arrangements.
BICYCLING

Riding a fatbike is lots of fun. The 12 cm (4.8 inch) tyres handle snow, loose rocks, mud and sand with ease. They are far gentler on the ground than regular mountain bikes. In the summer, we ride on old roads, beaches and riverbeds.

The participants experience the joy of a physical trip in the Arctic landscape. Small groups or personalised trips, long or short, electric bike or not – there are plenty of options.
Within the town of Longyearbyen, and in the neighbouring Adventfjord delta you can often spot a range of exotic birds and unique Arctic wildlife. Phalaropes, purple sandpipers, barnacle geese, eider ducks, glaucous gulls, red-throated divers, little auks and the Svalbard ptarmigan are among the species nesting here.

The Svalbard reindeer and Arctic fox are often spotted in town, whilst the Isfjord is home to ringed and bearded seals, and often visited by a migratory whales and pods of belugas. Join us on a wildlife safari from Longyearbyen at 78° North.
PHOTO SAFARI IN LONGYEARBYEN

Visitors with a passion for photography should join one of our exciting Photo Safari Tours – scenic discovery journeys where photography is in focus!
TASTE OF SVALBARD

Despite having a modest population of around 2,200, Svalbard is a culinary paradise. Visitors can join exciting lectures and learn how to make Arctic delicacies. Svalbard is home to the northernmost breweries in the world, and guided tours and tastings are possible both in Longyearbyen and in Russian Barentsburg. Come taste the most delicious chocolate from our northernmost chocolaterie Fruene or have a sip of Svalbardi, water from an iceberg gently melted in a specially constructed machine and bottled by hand, capturing the best drinking water in its purest form. Polar Permaculture where we grow herbs and micro greens will give you an insight into Arctic farming. There are long hunting traditions in Svalbard, and at several of the restaurants there are local delicacies such as Arctic grouse and reindeer, and cod and char from the Icefjord.
Most likely, the town Longyearbyen would not have been here today if the American John Munroe Longyear had not started coal mining here in the early 1900s. Visitors will be picked up by a bus and guide, who will show you the town, before driving you out to the mine – just like the miners themselves when they began a shift. Up at Gruve 3 there is a tour through the mine. Everybody is kitted up with a miner’s helmet/headlamp, and can experience the miners working conditions and equipment.

The smell of coal dust, and perhaps of the miners themselves, hangs in the air, and all the equipment has been abandoned exactly where it was 20 years ago. Visitors see the same untouched tunnel that was excavated in the 1970s and wander down, far into the mountain, and can turn off the headlamps in order to really feel the darkness. Visitors will also hear about the seed vault built on the island ‘Frøyhall’. This trial project formed the basis for the Global Seed Vault, which is now located 1 kilometre from the mine.
The majestic Isfjorden on the island of Spitsbergen offers great opportunities for a diversity of experience within a small radius: Glaciers, wildlife, cultural relics and small settlements.

This vast fjord stretches from the west of Spitsbergen to the east, virtually dividing Svalbard’s largest island in two. The settlements of Longyearbyen and Barentsburg are both located in Isfjorden which also has a number of smaller arms, one of which is Billefjorden. At the head of this fjord, cruise passengers can go ashore for a guided tour of the abandoned Russian mining settlement of Pyramiden, a former communist stronghold in the High Arctic.

The Slow Cruise Isfjord concept features shore excursions on three levels. On the top shelf is Longyearbyen offering excellent museums, galleries, activities and duty free shopping. Isfjord sailing offers calls in Barentsburg and Pyramiden with guided tours of the Russian communities, while the most adventurous sail into the Tempelfjord and Billefjord. Visitors who venture here will experience a rich array of cultural relics of trapping settlements, expeditions and mining as well as a rich animal life, flora and a beautiful nature.
SLOW CRUISE ISFJORD
BARENTSBURG AND PYRAMIDEN

Barentsburg is a small mining settlement on the shores of the beautiful Grønfjord. It is located around 60 km west of Longyearbyen. The 450 or so miners who live here are employed by the Russian state-owned mining company Trust Arctickugol, which owns and runs the mines and infrastructure. Facilities in Barentsburg include a coal-fired power station, hospital, hotel, school, kindergarten, sports and cultural centre, Russian scientific research centre and a Russian consulate.

Pyramiden is an abandoned and remote ghost town. It was founded by Sweden in 1910 and sold to the Soviet Union in 1927. In the 1980s, the mining community had a population of more than 1,000. It is named after the pyramid-shaped mountain of the same name nearby. Pyramiden is now mostly visited by seagulls, polar foxes and, not infrequently, polar bears. Tourists visit too – by boat in the summertime and by snowmobile in the wintertime – to experience this surreal place.
We are proud to announce that Longyearbyen is a “Sustainable Destination”. Increased focus on sustainable tourism as a priority area is a growing trend worldwide. More and more people are seeking and choosing destinations that are proactively showing responsibility and meeting challenges related to sustainability. An investment in sustainability is an investment in the future.

Sustainable tourism involves working to take care of nature, culture and the environment, strengthening the social values and being financially viable.

Tourism impacts on the environment, climate, nature, culture and local communities. Consequently, a responsibility rests with the tourism industry to develop and practice its activities in a manner that generates the least possible negative impact, while at the same time increasing the positive impact.

The vulnerability of Svalbard’s nature, the delicate balance between use and protection and, last but not least, the perception of the authentic that the guests come to experience mean that it’s essential that we always conduct our activities here responsibly. Longyearbyen as a destination wishes to be one step ahead and show that we are taking responsibility for the future. As a destination, we strive to continuously improve our sustainability status.

Developing a sustainable destination is a platform for cooperation and development, which creates commitment and cooperation locally – among the businesses, residents and guests alike.

Increased interest in the environment makes tough demands on the companies in terms of adapting and promoting more sustainable tourism activities. Consequently, any value creation that occurs in tourism must occur in a sustainable manner that takes care of environmental considerations to ensure that the nature and culture of Svalbard remain a competitive advantage – not just in the wilderness, but also in Longyearbyen.

The Sustainable Destination label is a quality label for destinations in Norway. This prestigious label is based on a standard that sets clear demands for sustainable business practices and development. The Sustainable Destination label combines and highlights the many good sustainability measures that have been implemented in Longyearbyen.

Welcome to Longyearbyen – a sustainable destination #sustainablelongyearbyen
**SVALBARD MUSEUM**
Svalbard Museum was lauded by the Council of Europe Museum Prize as the European Museum of the year in 2008. It features a collection of artefacts covering the 400 years of human activity since the archipelago’s discovery, and a display of the area’s flora and fauna. The museum’s gift shop stocks a large selection of Polar literature. The museum operates with a cruise guarantee, whereby the opening hours are extended for the calls of all major cruise ships.

**NORTH POLE EXPEDITION MUSEUM**
The museum recounts the heroic efforts made by pioneers to reach the North Pole at the turn of the last century. The purpose of the museum is to impart the history and importance of the North Pole expeditions have had in the Arctic. The exhibition is in two floors, and consists of the original expedition film footage, pictures, telegrams, newspapers, philately, ship and plane models and other related artifacts.

**GALLERI SVALBARD**
Galleri Svalbard showcases works by artists who have been inspired by the light and landscapes of Svalbard. The gallery’s permanent collections house works by the Norwegian painter Kåre Tveter, historical maps, books and local currency in the Svalbard Collection, as well as lithographs from the Recherche expeditions. The gallery also boasts a lovely gift shop with books, gifts and artworks, and a licensed cafe.
KUNSTHALL SVALBARD
Northern Norway Art Museum tours exhibitions to a selection of museums and galleries in the three northern counties, as well as Svalbard/Spitsbergen. Kunsthall Svalbard is a vibrant art arena in Longyearbyen for historical and contemporary art of the highest calibre. The Kunsthall offers guided tours, workshops and other art events.

WILDPHOTO GALLERY
Welcome to WildPhoto Gallery, the northern most photo gallery in the world at 78,22°N. Here the internationally acclaimed wildlife photographers Ole J Liodden and Roy Mangersnes are presenting collection of 30 FineArt prints from their best Svalbard images. They are produced as high quality prints on Hanemühle Baryta paper, signed and numbered 1-30 in a Limited Edition collection. Most images are photographed during our WildPhoto Travel expeditions.

OLAF STORØ
Painter Olaf Storø lives permanently in Longyearbyen and stays here most of the year. A studio by the seaside, including a litographic press was opened in 2000. Here visitors are welcome to watch a permanent sales exibition. Storø also offers spesial arrangemts for groups, like guided tours in his studio - where he will demonstrate the litographic prosesses. He also offers arranged outdoor trips where he will be guiding you through the breathtaking landscapes of the area.

SVALBARD KIRKE
The world’s northernmost church, Svalbard Kirke, is located in Longyearbyen. The church is always open, and visitors are welcome to explore it, and it boasts many local artworks and historical items. The church holds regular Lutheran services on Sundays and religious festivals, but is also home to many local activities.
DUTY FREE SHOPPING

Svalbard is a duty-free zone so lower tax-free prices apply for everything you buy here. Visitors will find bargain prices on outdoor clothing and equipment at Longyearbyen’s sporting goods stores, while the price of alcohol and tobacco is considerably lower than on the Norwegian mainland. You will also find a broad selection of souvenirs, gold products and quality clothes. The shops in Svalbard are open all year round.

SKINNBODEN

ISBJØRN BUTIKKEN

SPORT 1

APOTEK 1 SPITSBERGEN

GULLGRUVA

FROST-SPITSBERGEN

SVALBARDBUTIKKEN

ARCTICA
FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

There are several cultural arrangements happening throughout the year. In the beginning of February we have a jazz festival, PolarJazz. Every year, during the first week of March, we arrange Solfestuka (Sun Festival Week) to celebrate the return of the sun. We arrange the Dark Season Blues Festival in the end of October and KunstPause Svalbard (an art festival) in November.

At Taste Svalbard food festival, Svalbard’s amazing history will be served through a number of cultural happenings related to local food and drink traditions.

In September visitors can be a part of the world’s northernmost Octoberfest and enjoy the Arctic with various types of beer while wearing lederhosen.
Svalbard Cruise Network was established in 2015 and counts 32 local members with a common goal to develop and market Longyearbyen and Isfjorden as the most attractive and unique cruise destination in the Arctic both for transit and turn around calls.

The members in the cruise network are Visit Svalbard, Port Longyear and Svalbard Airport Longyearbyen in addition to local tour operators, logistics and ship agency, bus&taxi, museums and galleries, restaurants and shops. Longyearbyen has 30 overseas calls and more than 250 turn around operations with expedition vessels cruising along the west coast of Spitsbergen and also circumnavigating the whole archipelago. The main season for overseas calls is June – August while the expedition season stretches from March – October. Some 45 000 overseas and 17 000 expedition cruise guests visited Longyearbyen during this period last year.

Art galleries
Gallery Svalbard
Kunsthall Svalbard
Olaf Storø
Wild Photo Travel

Car rental
Arctic Auto Rent

Eat & drink
Fruene Coffee Shop
Mary-Anns Polarrigg
Restaurant Kroa
Svalbard Brewery
Svalbardì

Local tour operators & activity providers
Basecamp Spitsbergen
Hurtigruten Svalbard
Spitzbergen Adventures
Svalbard Adventure Group
Svalbard Husky
Svalbard Wildlife Expeditions
Trust Arcticugol

Museums
Svalbard Museum
North Pole Expedition Museum
Coal Mine No. 3

Shopping
Arctica
COOP Svalbardbutikken
Frost Spitsbergen
Gullgruva Arctic Design
Isbjørnbutikken
Isblink, Sport 1
Pharmacy Apotek 1 Spitsbergen
Skinnboden Arctic Products

Transport & logistics
Arctic Explorer
Port Longyear
Pole Position Logistics
Svalbard Buss & Taxi
Svalbard Airport Longyearbyen

Tourist Information
Visit Svalbard
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Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Oslo | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Oslo | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Oslo | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Oslo | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Oslo | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Oslo | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Oslo | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Oslo | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Oslo | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Oslo | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Oslo | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Oslo | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandefjord | Drammen | Fredrikstad | Sandeff
Svalbard offers wonderful fishing adventures. On the fishing trips the visitors get to experience the waters of Longyearbyen and get a close-up view of the coastal mountains plunging into the sea. In the late summer and autumn, the waters of Longyearbyen are abounding with cod, so chances are high to catch a fish and take some great photos.
A new floating pier will be ready by 2021.
PORT LONGYEAR

The Port of Longyearbyen is the main logistic point for the cruise industry and for cargo to the different settlements on Spitsbergen. The port is located close to the city centre and Longyearbyen airport with regular flights to Tromsø and Oslo.

In a few years, Longyearbyen and the Port of Longyear has developed into a driving force for research in the high Arctic. A large number of research vessels and research projects are using the logistic services Longyearbyen can offer. Skilled local businesses can offer support and services to most challenges mariners face up here above 78 degrees north.

Visiting address: Bykaia, Port of Longyear
Mailing address: P.O.B. 350, NO-9171 Longyearbyen
Phone/Fax: +47 91 12 23 00/+47 79 02 13 15
E-mail: bykaia@lokalstyre.no
Internet: www.portlongyear.no

PORT SERVICES / FACILITIES & INFORMATION
Bunkers delivery /method: YES/TRUCK
Supplies: YES
Waste handling: YES
Waste water method: Not available
Tugboats: NO
Anchorage*: YES
Pontoons: YES
Pilot: YES
Emergency: VHF Channel 12 (16)
Medical emergency: 113
Tidal movement: Maximum 2 m
ISPS approved: YES
Designated quays for cruise ships: YES
Ship tenders allowed: YES
Beam: Bykaia 16m. Turistkaia 5 m
Max size ship in port: No limit
Max number of passengers per day in port: No limitation
Max number of ships per day in port: No limitation
Ship’s stay min /max: No limitation
Environmental limitations /restrictions: NO
Port facilities according to Cruise Norway’s guidelines: YES

MAXIMUM SHIP LENGTH
Bykaia: 335 m
Turistkaia: 65 m
Gammelkaia: 90 m
Kullkaia: 150 m
Maximum ship draft and depth in sea: Bykaia draft 9 m
Maximum ship air draft if bridge: No bridges
Crew facilities: Toilet, shower, Wi-Fi

* IF ANCHORAGE
Type of bottom: Clay/rock
Minimum depth: 30 m
Distance from anchorage to tender pier: 400-800 m

GENERAL INFORMATION
Terminal/Restrooms in pier area: YES
Shuttle bus: Can be ordered
Parking place for buses: 50 m from gangway
Taxi: Can be ordered
Rental cars: Can be ordered
Public transportation: NO
Shopping: Tent at harbour or town centre, 2 km
Local currency: NOK (Norwegian Kroner)
ATM: YES, 2 km from harbour
Currency exchange: NO
Tax refund: NO - Tax-free area
Public telephones in pier area: NO
Internet access in pier area: YES – near harbour office
Mailboxes in pier area: NO
Distances - airport: 4 km, Svalbard Airport Longyear
Distance to city centre: 2 km

NEAREST HOSPITAL
Longyearbyen Hospital: +47 7902 4200. 2 km from port