

Round trip 6 days - Narsaq

This trip showcases the contrasts of South Greenland, from the lush green and cool blue of the landscape and fjords, to the region's modern towns and the peaceful village of Igaliku. In Narsaq you can experience the ice in the fjords and at nearby glaciers, and you can enjoy excellent hiking opportunities and study the area's unique geology.

Detailed itinerary

Day 1

Arrival in Narsarsuaq. Info at the airport and boat transfer to Narsaq (duration about 1 hour). Accommodation in Narsaq for 2 nights.

Day 2

Narsaq is a medium-town in South Greenland with about 1,500 inhabitants. It is beautifully situated at the foot of a mountain and next to a sound, which is always filled with icebergs from the surrounding glaciers. In the backcountry are high mountains, including the famous Kvanefjeld, which contains over 200 different minerals (including the beautiful, pink gemstone Tugtupit) and is a Mecca for anyone interested in geology. The museum is housed in the historic colonial houses around the old harbour, and is definitely worth a visit. From Narsaq you can also buy a tour by boat to the ice cap (Twin Glacier). We recommend that you book the tour in advance.

There are several shorter and longer hiking tours around Narsaq: If you want to visit Kvanefjeld, we advise that you take a taxi to the sheep farm in the valley (about 7 km). Otherwise it is quite a long day hike (20-25 km), and you have less time to look for stones! The walks to Dyrnæs and Narsaq Point are also recommended (7-8 km), as well as to the summit of Tasiigaaq (the smaller of the two mountains near the town that serve as a landmark for Narsaq). Ask for more information at the tourist office, near the museum.

Day 3

Boat transfer from Narsaq to Itilleq, followed by a 4 km hike along the "King's Road" (named after the Danish King Frederik 9th's visit in 1952) to Igaliku. Igaliku is one of the most beautiful villages in Greenland! The colourful houses are situated on lush grassland next to a milky-blue fjord. On the other side of the fjord the landmark Illerfissalik (Burfjeld) Mountain towers over a rough and desolate landscape.

Accommodation in Igaliku for 2 nights.

Day 4

Igaliku was the Episcopal seat (named Gardar) for a period of about 300 years (1100-1400) during the Norse era, and the ruins from that time are very impressive. In 1782 Anders Olsen and his Greenlandic wife Tuperna established themselves as farmers and that was the beginning of Igaliku's more recent history. There is a permanent exhibit in the church that tells this particular story. Today, Igaliku and its surroundings have some of the best hiking opportunities in South Greenland. One optional day hike (17 km) goes to the plateau, which offers a superb view of the Qooroq Ice Fjord, the stranded icebergs on the underwater moraine at the entrance to the fjord and the enormous glacier at the head of the fjord. It is the perfect place for a picnic! On the way back, you may be lucky enough to find minerals and

stones, like the shining "moonstone" (labradorite). The "waterfall hike" (about 15 km) is another popular day trip. A set of beautiful waterfalls tumble like pearls on a string down towards Tunulliarfik Fjord. This hike can be combined with the summit of Nuuluk Mountain (823 m), which lies south of Igaliku (20-22 km).

Day 5

Boat transfer from Itilleq to Qassiarsuk. Qassiarsuk is also known as Brattahlid, the place where Eric the Red settled in 982. The Norse ruins are well preserved and the open-air museum (Brattahlid) can be visited on your own (admission fee is not included). The approx. 40 inhabitants earn their livelihoods from sheep farming, but the village also has a school, a shop and a church. Late afternoon boat transfer to Narsarsuaq.

Accommodation in Narsarsuaq for 1 night.

Day 6

Check out of the room.

Boat trip to the Qooroq Ice Fjord. A boat trip among icebergs of all colours, sizes and shapes. When the glacier is in view, the boat engine is stopped, so you can enjoy the absolute silence and a drink chilled with glacier ice – more than 1,000 years old! You can spend the rest of your stay enjoying a cup of coffee at the cosy Blue Ice Café and/or visiting the museum in Narsarsuaq.

Departure to Reykjavik or Copenhagen (check-in one hour before your flight).

In short

Arrivals/Departures in 2017

From Thursday to Tuesday

From Saturday to Thursday

Accommodation

Accommodation at hotel with private or shared facilities.

Meals

Breakfast included.

Dinner and lunch packets can be ordered at the hotels.

Difficulty

No special requirements on this trip. There are good hiking possibilities around Narsaq and Igaliku.

Price

Private facilities, cabin with shared facilities in Igaliku

Double room: EUR 810 / DKK 5,875 per person

Single room: EUR 1,121 / DKK 8,125 per person

Shared facilities

Double room: EUR 669 / DKK 4,850 per person

Single room: EUR 872 / DKK 6,325 per person

25% discount for children 2-11 years

Price includes

All accommodations incl. breakfast

All boat transfers

Transport of luggage

Boat trip to the Qooroq Ice Fjord

Note! Flights are not included