

THE CHALLENGE OF A LIFETIME,  
FOR THE CHARITY OF YOUR CHOICE...

# LAPLAND HUSKY TRAIL

## SLED

SLED THROUGH ROLLING  
HIGHLANDS AND DEEP FORESTS  
FROM NORWAY TO SWEDEN



 **GLOBAL  
ADVENTURE  
CHALLENGES®**

01244 676 454

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## KEY INFO

Duration: 8 days

Distance: 270km approx.

Challenge Grade: Tough 2

Location: Norway and Sweden

## CHALLENGE HIGHLIGHTS

- Lead your own team of huskies across the Arctic
- Learn how to dog sled in a long distance expedition
- Sleep in secluded timber cabins
- A chance to see the incredible Northern Lights!

## THE CHALLENGE

Our challenge is to spend five days sledding through the rolling highlands and deep forests of Lapland! We'll cover approximately 270km as we journey from Norway to Sweden passing through wild and untouched nature on our way to the original and world famous Ice Hotel in Jukkasjärvi. Full training is given so the only requirement to take part in this challenge is a thirst for extreme adventure! We'll experience the daily life of the Sami people as we tend to our dogs and watch the Northern Lights (if we're lucky!)... A truly unforgettable experience awaits us!

### Day 1

#### Arrive Tromsø

We depart the UK for our flight to Tromsø, Norway. Upon arrival, we are welcomed by our local guides and then transfer to the Dog Sled Centre where we will meet lots of high-spirited Huskies - our companions for the next 6 days. The guides will then give a briefing and go through the specialist equipment and also show us how to drive the dogs and set up camp. We will then take a short trip of about 10-15km to practice our new dog-sledding and camp building skills before enjoying our evening meal and spending the night in a traditional lavvu.

**Sledding distance - approx. 10km**

### Day 2

After an early breakfast in the Sami tent (lavvu) we load our dogs, sleds and equipment into trailers and then board our bus for a scenic 2 hour drive to Signal Valley which is the starting point for our Arctic adventure. Our goal for today is to reach the Tri-Nations Border (between Norway, Sweden and Finland) sledding through the mountains and forest with our faithful companions. Tonight we sleep in our tents under the stars after enjoying our evening meal at camp.

**Sledding distance - approx. 30km / 4 hours**

### Day 3

Following breakfast and after harnessing our dogs and breaking camp we set off and head further along the Swedish side of the border. We start with a steep uphill climb and ascend 800m to enjoy the incredible views. We maintain this altitude for the morning and then later in the afternoon there will be some deep descents (try your best to keep your balance!) as we drive down to Keinovopio. We will then set up camp before our evening meal and then we can relax for the evening.

**Sledding distance - approx. 55km / 5.5 hours**

### Day 4

After our morning duties of making breakfast, harnessing our dogs and breaking camp, we push on with our dog sledding challenge. Today, we head deep into the mountains of Sweden - home of the Sami people. We may even see the occasional reindeer on the long push to our next camp at Rostojavri, which is known locally as the Fish Camp. Here, we will be treated to an overnight stay in a log cabin!

**Sledding distance - approx. 45km / 5 hours**



## LEAD YOUR OWN TEAM OF HUSKIES ACROSS THE ARCTIC FROM NORWAY TO SWEDEN IN THIS HANDS-ON ADVENTURE!

### Day 5

After breaking camp we set off for yet another very exciting day. We head back down the mountains to the tree-line and into the depths of the Swedish forest. This is one of the longer days on the sled and we mostly follow snow mobile tracks, which are challenging and bumpy but guarantee so much fun as they twist and turn through the forest. This is our opportunity to put our expert mushing skills to the test. Upon arrival in camp, we feed our dogs and erect our tents, before sharing our experiences around the camp fire.

**Sledding distance – approx. 55km / 5.5 hours**

### Day 6

Today is the longest day of the challenge. We sled through more dramatic forest and then down onto the lakes and rivers that guide us to the famous Ice Hotel in Jukkasjärvi. Upon arrival extra guides will meet us to give us a night off from our dog duties and we will then be given a tour of the mystical Ice Hotel before being shown to our cabins where we will stay tonight. We can then relax and enjoy our celebratory meal in the Ice Hotel restaurant before spending the rest of the evening sharing our stories and experience at the Ice Bar.

**Sledding distance – approx. 75km / 7.5 hours**

### Day 7

After a big breakfast at the Ice Hotel, and feeding our trusted companions for the last time, we take a 5 hour transfer back to Tromsø, stopping along the way for a scenic lunch break. We will arrive in Tromsø late afternoon with time enough to say goodbye to our dogs before heading to our hotel where we will stay tonight. After a rest and a freshen up we can then enjoy the evening celebrating our achievements and exploring Tromsø itself before returning to our hotel for the night.

### Day 8

#### Depart Tromsø

Following breakfast at our hotel, we have some free time to look around Tromsø before transferring to the airport. Here we will wave goodbye to our guides and then board our flight to return back to the UK after our exciting Lapland challenge.

**(Please note, this is a complex itinerary and is subject to change.)**

**DID YOU KNOW?** ANCESTORS OF THE SAMI PEOPLE BELIEVED THAT THE NORTHERN LIGHTS (GUOVSSAHASAT) CAME FROM THE SOULS OF THE DEAD AND SHOULD BE TREATED WITH RESPECT.

# YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED...

## Is this trip for me?

**ABSOLUTELY!** This challenge is suitable for all ages with the correct training. The minimum age for this challenge is 18 years old (14-17 year olds must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian). The one thing everyone will have in common is a great sense of adventure and a desire to help a charity. Whether you are taking part as an individual or as a team with friends, team spirit will be flying high on the challenge.

## How fit do I need to be?

This challenge has been graded as Tough (2) on our challenge grading scheme and is designed to push your boundaries - however it is achievable by most people as long as you fitness train beforehand. Remember, you are going to be on your feet for the majority of the day, as well as taking care of campsite duties. (You will participate in all aspects of the challenge, including feeding, bedding and preparing the dogs, putting up and taking down tents, making hot drinks and generally helping around camp). Dog sledding can be arduous so good cardiovascular fitness is recommended. Training tips can be found on our website to point you in the right direction, and why not join one of our challenge training weekends - it's a great opportunity for you to meet our team and your fellow participants!

Our policy is to encourage and support as many people as possible to take part in our challenges. But they may not be suitable for all people due to restriction posed by limitation in mobility, physical or cognitive disability, pregnancy or other various medical conditions. If you have any doubts regarding your suitability for your challenge please contact our office to speak to one of the team.

## What is the challenge grading scheme?

All of our challenges are graded on a scale from 1 to 3 to indicate the level of difficulty, 1 being the lowest challenge grade and 3 being the most challenging. (1 = Challenging, 2 = Tough and 3 = Extreme).

## Where will we stay?

Upon arrival in Tromsø, we will stay in a traditional lavvu (a large static tent) at the Dog Sled Centre. The lavvu will have a roaring fire to keep us warm and we will sleep on natural reindeer skins to keep us extra comfy. Whilst on trail, we will be mainly staying in tents which are provided (on some occasions we may stay in a log cabin) - all participants are expected to erect their own tents and cook for themselves using the stoves and equipment provided. On the last night of our challenge we will stay in a hotel in Tromsø (twin-share).

## Do I have to carry my own luggage?

No. Your kit whilst on trail will be kept in your sled and any other items can be left at the Dog Sled Centre ready for your return to Tromsø. You will need to bring a waterproof bag to take items on trail with you.

## Do I need specialist kit?

We will supply you with a kit list of what to take once you register for the challenge. As you can appreciate, the kit required for this expedition needs to be quite comprehensive due to the environment, therefore you will be provided with much of the required kit including a parka, insulated bib trousers, a pair of snow boots and a sleeping bag suitable to withstand temperatures of lower than -20°C. Further details will be sent when you register for the challenge. If you do have any queries regarding the kit needed for this challenge, please don't hesitate to contact our team on 01244 676 454.

## Food Matters...

Due to the extreme conditions of the Arctic, all food is cooked using boiled water. Each tent (two mushers per tent) will be issued with a food box for the expedition - this will contain items for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Dinners are typically 'Dry Tech' (just add boiling water) foods which are tasty and very nutritional. You and your tenting partner will be required to cook for yourselves upon arrival at each camp. We cater for most dietary requirements so long as we know in advance - just fill in the appropriate section on your registration form.

## What's included?

- Return flights from a London airport to Tromsø
- All accommodation and all meals on the trail excluding the celebratory meal on Day 7
- Tents and essential kit items (snow boots, parka, trousers, sleeping bag, etc.)
- Professional English-speaking sledding guides throughout the expedition
- Global Adventure Challenges leader from the UK
- Full and comprehensive first aid kits

## What's not included?

- Airport taxes and fuel surcharge - these are approximately £100 and payable 8 weeks prior to departure
- Celebratory meal at the Ice Hotel - we recommend you budget around £50 - £70 for this (Norway is an expensive country!)
- Tips and gratuities
- Alcoholic drinks and drinks during meals
- Personal travel insurance - it is strongly advised to take this through Global Adventure Challenges

## Can I stay in Norway after the challenge?

All extensions are strictly limited, subject to availability and are given on a first-come, first-served basis. You will need to complete an extension request form, available from Global Adventure Challenges by emailing [customer.care@globaladventurechallenges.com](mailto:customer.care@globaladventurechallenges.com). There is a minimum £60 + VAT charge for having your return airline ticket extended. Please note, the final decision always rests with the airline.

## What support is there on the challenge?

There will be a strong support team with a professional Global Adventure Challenges Leader from the UK, as well as local dog sledding guides. Comprehensive medical kits will be taken. Mobile telephones/radios will be used to ensure your safety and security at all times.

## What happens if I get tired?

There will be regular rest stops for drinks and snacks. A guide will be bringing up the rear of the group ensuring no-one is left behind - remember though, this is not a race!

## How do I go about raising the sponsorship?

Once you have signed up you will receive a fundraising pack from your charity in order to make your fundraising as easy as possible. You will also receive a few tips and ideas from Global Adventure Challenges to help you on your way!

## I'm interested... what do I do now?

You can register online at [www.globaladventurechallenges.com](http://www.globaladventurechallenges.com) and payment of the registration fee is due at time of booking - all payment options and costs are explained on the dates and costs information sheet. Once your registration is received Global Adventure Challenges will write to you, sending you further information on what to expect from this awesome adventure! Your charity will also be in contact to discuss your fundraising.

# REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!

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