# Round trip & hiking 10 days

This package is a cocktail that includes all of the highlights of South Greenland, ranging from stunning wilderness, boat trips on spectacular fjords, visits to historical sites and activities in modern towns and settlements. In Narsaq you will experience a modern, medium-sized town surrounded by ice. You will spend three nights in Igaliku – the most beautiful village in Greenland – with some of the best hiking opportunities in the area. And you will stay at an isolated sheep farm nestled in an area of overwhelming natural beauty. Here you will enjoy the hospitality of a Greenlandic family.

## **Detailed itinerary**

## Day 1

Arrival in Narsarsuaq 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) or an iceberg safari. 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 a picturesque unpaved country road to Igaliku, 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 3 nights.

#### Day 4 and 5

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. 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 6

Boat transfer from Itilleq to the Sillisit sheep farm. Sillisit is beautifully located across from the Qooroq Ice Fjord. It is an idyllic spot for an overnight stay that combines a stunning wilderness backdrop with the warm hospitality of a Greenlandic farm family to give you an unforgettable experience. Accommodation at Sillisit farm for 2 nights. It is possible to buy a local dinner at the farm (not included and must be ordered in advance).

## Day 7

There are several hiking possibilities around Sillisit. If the weather is good, you can hike to the top of Naajat (about 590 m). There is a fantastic view from the summit and you can follow sheep tracks most of the way (not marked). An alternative tour is to take the gravel road across the peninsula to Sermilik Fjord (Kangerlua sheep farm, about 9 km). This is also a spectacular hike, and Sermilik fjord is often filled with icebergs from several active glaciers. Finally, Sillisit is the perfect place to relax and let the impressions from the previous days settle in, or have a walk around the farm and chat with the family living here.

## Day 8

Hike to the village of Qassiarsuk (about 15 km). The hike is easy. The first 5 km follow a gravel road along the fjord, then the road heads uphill and inland for about 5 km before it winds down to Qassiarsuk. Plan approx. 4 hours for the hike. It is also possible to get a lift either by car or by boat for an extra fee of EUR 48/DKK 350 per person. In Qassiarsuk you can visit the Brattahlid open-air museum on your own (admission fee is <u>not</u> included). Late afternoon boat transfer to Narsarsuaq. Accommodation in Narsarsuaq for 2 nights.

### Day 9

Day hike to Narsarsuaq Glacier, which is a part of the ice cap and located only 8 km from Narsarsuaq. The hike takes you through the Flower Valley before the trail winds up a 300 m ascent to a plateau that rewards you a magnificent view of the glacier. From here you walk for about half an hour downhill to the glacier, where you can touch the ice. The way back to Narsarsuaq follows the same route.

## **Day 10**

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 1000 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 Narsarsuaq.

#### Meals

Breakfast is included if you choose guesthouse accommodation, but <u>not</u> included in hostel-style accommodation.

Dinner and lunch packets can be ordered at the guesthouses and farms.

# Difficulty

The hikes between the hotels/farms are easy and follow gravel roads. Your luggage is transported by car or boat. From the Sillisit farm to Qassiarsuk (15 km) you can buy a transfer for a supplement.

## **Price includes**

All accommodations
Transport of luggage
All boat transfers
Boat trip to the Qooroq Ice Fjord