



# **4 NIGHTS IN ILULISSAT, GREENLAND**

The Nordic settler Eric the Red gave Greenland this misleading description of it being green, in a bid to attract more settlers. However, it is far from being green and is in effect the world's largest island and almost entirely covered in ice. It also has the lowest population density of any country/state. The scenery could only be described as stunning but words don't do it justice.

For around 4,500 years, Eskimo pioneers and adventurers have been drawn here, summoned by the northern lights, and to do battle with ice crevasses and polar bears. These days it's more about enjoyment: deep sea fishing, whale-watching (20 species of whale - notably fin, humpback and minke), Arctic cruising, dog-sledding, mountaineering, bird-watching (especially white-tailed eagles with wingspans of 2.5 metres), and marauding herds of musk ox. Sadly, we can't guarantee you will spot them all, but looking is half the fun.

Our independent Greenland tour with 4 nights in Ilulissat is planned to run in conjunction with our June 2026 Iceland tour and Arctic expedition cruise. This town was selected as the single best place to stay to get the complete Greenland experience all in the one place. This tour is not escorted by a Blue Dot leader, but led by experienced local guides.



### Day 1, Friday 29th May **ARRIVE ILULISSAT**

Fly from Copenhagen to Ilulissat, arriving at 2 pm. You'll be transferred to the Arctic hotel, where you'll stay for the next 4 nights. For walkers, you might like to explore the town's "Yellow Route", which is marked very well. On the route, you'll have the most beautiful view over the ice fjord. There is a midnight marathon running while you're in town, so there should be a great atmosphere, and you may have an opportunity to watch the runners. Dinner is by your own arrangement, and there is a restaurant on-site. B



#### 2, Saturday 30th May **EQI GLACIER**

Take a day tour to the calving glacier Eqi in a small boat (approx. 6 hours total). It will take app. 2 hours to reach the glacier. The hotel will provide a picnic box to enjoy while taking in the full view of the glacier. You will likely see some glacial calving and enjoy the area's beautiful scenery for about 2 hours. Sometimes, whales and seals are spotted on the way to Eqi, so keep a lookout. B/L



#### Day 3, Sunday 31st May **ILULISSAT & ICE FJORD CRUISE**

This morning, you'll take a guided town tour to learn the story of the old and modern Ilulissat. You'll visit the Zion Church, the local fish market, the harbour and different stops for the best viewpoints along the way. During your free time this afternoon, you may wish to book a scenic flight over this beautiful area, which can be arranged locally through Air Zafari. This evening, your cruise departs around 9.30 pm and ends around midnight. From the end of May, the sun doesn't set, creating a unique and wonderful experience. Ice looks hauntingly beautiful during the 'golden hour', which happens late into the evening in the land of the midnight sun. Enjoy the extraordinary panorama and see how the icebergs change from white and blue to shades of orange and red when kissed by the sun's rays. B



## Day 4, Monday 1st June **SERMERMIUT GLACIER & OQAATSUT**

Today you'll embark on a light, two-hour trek over undulating terrain to the former settlement of Sermermiut to reach the Ice fjord and the glacier. The Ilulissat Ice fjord is a sight to behold, with icebergs calving continuously from the vast Sermeg Kujalleg ice sheet, which flows directly from the Arctic Ice Cap. The Ilulissat Ice fjord was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2004. The hike is approximately 3km long and of moderate difficulty. Most of the hike is on wooden boards, and the last bit is rocky; the guides can help where needed. You'll return to the hotel around lunchtime, then head back out in the late afternoon for an evening visit to Ogaatsut. Once known as Rodebay, the village began as an 18th-century Dutch whaling post, and the original blubber house, cooperage, and storehouse remain in use. After the Royal Greenland fish plant closed, residents formed their own fishing company in 2000, preserving the community. Depending on the weather and the vessel, the ride takes 45-60 minutes. There are fewer than 40 inhabitants, so don't expect a lot of "action" - this is a calm and beautiful place where you can hear the sled dogs barking and the fishermen's boats coming in and out of the settlement. After the guided walk, dinner is at the Restaurant H8 Explorer, situated in a historical building with incredible views of the bay. B/D

## Day 5, Tuesday 2nd June **DEPARTURE**

After breakfast and a leisurely morning, transfer to the airport for your flight to Reykjavik departing at 14:10. B



