

AIP 020: Summer in Finnmark

<i>Location:</i>	<i>Alta, Norway, plus day tours around in Finnmark County</i>
<i>Airport:</i>	<i>Arrive and depart Alta (ALF)</i>
<i>Duration:</i>	<i>5 nights, 6 days</i>
<i>Minimum/Maximum</i>	<i>2 – 4 people</i>
<i>Clothing and gear:</i>	<i>Be prepared for anything in the arctic summertime – rain coat and trousers, sweaters for cool weather, plus t-shirts and shorts in case of warm weather. Sturdy shoes that can get wet and dirty, for hiking.</i>

Your Tour

Many people think of the arctic as a winter play paradise – snowmobiles and dogsleds, skis and fatbikes to take you along trails under the northern lights. We do have that in the winter, but the land of the midnight sun is a fantastic destination in summertime as well. Even though the snowmobiles are safely in their summer storage, there is plenty of fun activities, and lots to see as well.

On this tour, you'll get a balanced sampling of activity and sightseeing as you see the countryside around Alta and then take some time to explore other destinations like North Cape, a half-day's journey to the northern edge of the country.

Your Itinerary

Day 1: Welcome to Alta!

- You'll be met in the afternoon by a North Adventure representative at the airport to ensure that everything is in order with your arrival. Once you collect your luggage, you will head out by taxi to Trasti & Trine, a husky dog kennel and guest house approximately 20 minutes outside of Alta. You'll check in and get acquainted with your delightful surroundings out in the forest.
- **Evening: Husky Hike in the Midnight Sun**
By now, you have probably already met the dogs at Trasti & Trine. With your hosts, you will pick a small selection of them for an evening hike. You'll head upwards to a nearby mountaintop, stopping along the way for a late dinner served around an open fire. Whether it's clear or cloudy, it's a magical experience to hike through the forest at night in the endless bright daylight.



Day 2: River and Waterfall

- **12:00-14:30: Explore Alta Canyon and the Wilderness by Riverboat**

For centuries, locals have used sharp-nosed, narrow longboats to navigate the rapids and currents on the Alta River. These sturdy wooden craft are still used today, and that's what you'll ride in on this tour. Your tour begins at Sorriniva (the same place where you'll find the world-renowned Igloo Hotel each winter). From there, you'll don a lifejacket and step into the longboat. Your experienced river guide will take command and steer you southwards along the Alta River, pointing out sights along the way and telling stories from the river. The journey south will end near a lovely waterfall named Gabofossen, and you'll be able to gaze into the Alta Canyon ahead. From there, the boat will return downriver, back to Sorriniva where you will be served coffee/tea and Norwegian waffles.



- **Evening: Hiking Tour to an Arctic Waterfall**

The tour begins at Gargia Lodge and follows the old postal road through the Beskades mountain area, keeping clear of marshy areas below. You'll cross a couple of rivers by natural bridges or by hopping along rocks (or just get your feet wet!), and finally arrive at the thundering falls. There will be time for food and a rest nearby around an open fire, and then it's back to the starting point, this time following the path in the valley. The way home winds through old pine trees, and it feels like walking through a fairytale forest. You might spot a moose (or at the very least, a "calling card" showing they were nearby), or maybe even a rare butterfly that calls Gargia forest its home.



- **Overnight: Trasti & Trine**

Day 3: Culture and Cruising

- **Daytime: Half-day tour of Alta**

It's just a small arctic town, but Alta has a fascinating history dating back thousands of years. Along with your private car and guide, you will stop in at the Alta Museum to see rock carvings from 7,000 years ago; take a tour out to the Tirpitz Museum to learn more about the events that took place in World War 2; and then head back in to Alta to see the old Alta Church and the modern and intriguing Northern Lights Cathedral. Your expert guide will provide you with stories and historical insights about the area and the places you'll visit.



- **Check in to Thon Hotel Vica**

With your hiking tours done south of Alta, it's time to move back into town to make your other tour connections easier. Thon Hotel Vica is an old, converted farmhouse just a kilometer outside of Alta's small town center. Though it is a full service hotel with one of Alta's best restaurants attached, it has a lot of charm from its old days, with wooden floors, only a couple dozen rooms, and even a stuffed bear in the lobby!

- **18:00 – 23:00 Boat Safari on Alta Fjord**

Join us out on the sea, on a boat safari on the beautiful Alta fjord, where we can see eagles and small whales on the trip. We can try our luck with fishing during the tour... we might even get a closer look at the eagles when we toss out some fish. In the summertime, the endless daylight provides the perfect backdrop for exploring the unique scenery of the area.



Day 4: Overland Tour

- **[Option 1] Head to Hammerfest**

Explore the north of Norway at a leisurely pace on your own with a trip to Hammerfest, the first town in the region to be given the status as a city. Your trip begins in the morning with a bus from Alta city center to the town of Hammerfest. You will get a good overview of the vast Finnmarksvidda mountain plain as you make your way north. In Hammerfest, you will have time to explore the town including the Royal and Ancient Polar Bear Society, the Struve Meridian Marker and the Museum of Reconstruction. In the afternoon, you will board an Alta-bound express boat that will take you along the wild and rugged coast between the two cities.

- **[Option 2] Private Tour to North Cape**

You'll start from Alta in the morning with your own guide and a private car. You'll travel through the forested valleys around Alta, and then up and onto the rough and rugged Finnmarksvidda high plateau. The journey will take you through the sparsely-covered land of rolling hills to the coast, and along the way there your guide can slow down or stop for an occasional picture. Along the way, you'll hear about the history of the region and stories about life in the Norwegian arctic - our expert guides make great traveling companions! Once at North Cape, you'll receive a certificate to commemorate your journey, stamped with North Cape's exclusive seal, and a glass of sparkling wine to celebrate. There will be plenty of time to explore the visitor center there, and wander out to the big iron globe. You'll have lunch in the restaurant up in North Cape before heading back down again to Alta.



- **Overnight: Thon Hotel Vica**

Day 5: River Canoes and Sami Reindeer

- **Daytime: Half-day Canoe Tour**

You did some exploring in motorized boats. Now, slow down and become a part of the still wilderness that surrounds you. Traveling along the Alta River or one of the local lakes by canoe is the ideal way to connect with nature. The sights both close up and far away provide a spectacular backdrop to a fun ride. Keep an eye out - you never know when you might see a white-tailed eagle, ducks, and maybe even a moose!



- **Evening: Visit the Boazo Sami Siida**

Visit a reindeer herding demonstration camp just on the outskirts of Alta. Meet reindeer, see traditional clothing and learn more about old ways, old traditions and present day life for the Sami people in Northern Norway. Try your luck at catching a reindeer with a lasso (they've made it easier by just using horns and not the whole reindeer), and then join your hosts in their traditional tent for coffee or, if you prefer, a meal of traditional reindeer stew.



- **Overnight: Thon Hotel Vica**

Day 6: Farewell!

- **Transfer to airport by taxi, and depart**



Activities in Alta SUMMER TOURS

Booking Terms and Conditions

All services provided by North Adventure are provided to the customer on the following terms and conditions.

All prices quoted by North Adventure are indicative only and are subject to dates of travel and availability. The offers are based on the group travelling together and one total invoice, unless otherwise agreed upon beforehand. Any other possibilities can be arranged upon request.

No allotment for any part of this tour has been held or pre-booked.

A name list must be provided to hotels used for this tour at least one month before arrival.

Price:

The price on all tours and offers includes only what is stated in the accompanying itinerary. North Adventure reserves the right to alter prices in the event of circumstances beyond North Adventure's control.

Payment:

Upon confirmation of a tour, a deposit will be required for 30% of the total amount, unless otherwise agreed. The remaining balance must be paid one month before arrival. Normal banking fees for processing the payments will be added to the invoice.

Changes after confirmation:

Individual changes/adjustments made after a tour has been confirmed will be charged, unless otherwise agreed, an additional 100,- NOK plus VAT per person per change.

After a tour has been confirmed, program changes/adjustments made that require additional work will be charged, unless otherwise agreed, 650,- NOK plus VAT per hour during office hours and 1050,- NOK plus VAT per hour on weekends and holidays, and after 17:00 on weekdays.

All changes to the cost of the trip will be identified and presented for approval before the changes are made.

Activity provider cancellations:

Providers of activities and transport may cancel excursions due to weather conditions and safety concerns for the clients. If an alternative activity is offered and the client accepts this alternative, there will be no refund for the activities. Additional costs may be imposed for back-up solutions with a higher cost than the original program.

Customer cancellations:

In the event of cancellation of the itinerary by the customer, North Adventure must be notified in writing and the following charges are immediately due and payable by the customer to North Adventure based on the time of notification:

0-3 days prior to scheduled arrival date of itinerary: Full amount payable

4-7 days prior to scheduled arrival date of itinerary: 50% of total amount payable

7-30 days prior to scheduled arrival date of itinerary: 10% of total amount payable

For booking and additional information:

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