

# Varanger Husky Adventure

## 5 days in Arctic Norway

Based around Vestre Jakobselv, a lovely old fishing port sitting on the north shore of the stunning Varanger Fjord. The Varanger Peninsula, a true arctic region, pushes out into the notorious Barents Sea. You are further east than Istanbul here, further north than Alaska. Welcome to the edge of Europe!

Led by local born and knowledgeable guides you will drive your own dog team from the fjord to the mountains, from sheltered birch tree covered valleys to the naked tundra with almost endless horizon over a snowy plateaus or blue arctic sea. With so much sky and this far north the Northern Lights are common not rare.

Varanger has been a melting pot between Norwegians, Finns, Russians and the Sámi people resulting in a cultural mosaic of languages and traditions. You will have the opportunity to try the traditional sauna and taste local delicacies as reindeer, moose and salmon.



### Day 1

Arrival Vadsø airport. Transfer to accommodation (15 min by car).



### Days 2 to 4

We start at our husky farm introducing the basics of arctic winter behaviour and learning and practicing dog sledding. After lunch the real sled dog adventure starts as we gently set off into the rolling landscape along the Varanger Fjord. For the rest of the trip we will try to avoid fixed routes and schedules. This is to keep the spirit of freedom to move – perhaps the most appraised and important qualities of life in the Arctic.

Depending on snow and weather conditions we can choose between trails in sheltered valleys and the birch fringed hills, or make our own tracks at the naked tundra or in the mountains. The opportunity to improvise also gives us a better chance to get in touch with arctic wild life such as reindeer, hare, fox and willow grouse. All accommodation on the trip will be in comfortable lodges/inns. The distance per day will vary from 20km to 50km depending on conditions and routes.

### Day 5

Depart Vadsø.

**2010 Cost: £1295 per person** (minimum 2 persons, maximum 4 persons)

**Included:** All transfers. Supper day 1, breakfast day 5, full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner) days 2 to 4. Accommodation in double rooms in lodges, wilderness cabins, fishermen's cottages. Appropriate winter clothing and gear including snowshoes. One dog team and sledge per client, English speaking guide.

**Not included:** International and internal flights. Alcoholic drinks. Travel insurance.

**2010 dates:** Upon request from 1<sup>st</sup> December until 15<sup>th</sup> April excluding Christmas and Easter.

**Client requirements:** Normal physical & mental health.

**How to get there:** UK / Oslo / Kirkenes / Vadsø

**Note:** The guides are raised in the region and have the necessary skills and respect for the Arctic in their blood. They have the utmost concern for the safety of our clients. A main safety precaution is to always act according to the conditions. They will try to stick to the outlined itinerary but reserve the right to alter the plans due to unexpected conditions, weather and circumstances beyond our control. In the end each day will be planned according to present situation and in co-operation with and respect to all the participants – including the huskies...

