

Arctic Survival

Sweden, 8 day Survival Challenge in the Arctic



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Arctic Survival Challenge

Huskies, sledding, snow shoeing...experience it all

Imagine eight days in the middle of Sweden, set in a stunning and pristine wilderness environment, miles from anywhere. This once in a lifetime challenge combines your ability to adapt to and live in the heart of this environment, satisfy your survival instinct, as well as experience tranquility and relaxation under the stars of the Arctic. You will participate in husky driving, ice fishing, trapping, hunting, fire lighting, shelter and snow hole building, skiing – to name but a few. Other than your fellow colleagues and staff, you will not see another human! Wonderful!

This really is a trip of a lifetime – never to be forgotten, and reminisced on for years to come.



Detailed itinerary

Day 1: Depart London to Sweden

We fly from London Heathrow to Stockholm in Sweden and then transfer on to an internal flight north to Ostersund (one hour flight). Upon arrival at Ostersund we are met by our Swedish guides, and travel for one hour by car or minibus to our base which is a log cabin set in the woods on the edge of a lake at a location called Raftlaven. This cabin is wonderfully basic with no power, just an open fire, a cooker and beds – perfect!

Day 2: Acclimatisation day

After breakfast and a briefing on the locality, this day is spent acclimatising to the environment, and we then trek to a remote beaver dam on snowshoes, and cross-country skis for the more adventurous!

Day 3: Husky Driving

We have breakfast before setting off for the day to do some Husky driving. We set out on cross-country skis to the edge of the Sandviksjon Lake (about 7km) where we meet up with the husky sleigh teams. We experience an exhilarating trip around the frozen lake, both riding and having the opportunity to actually drive the husky dog teams. A delicious lunch is then provided on the island of Storon, before skiing back to our cabin later in the afternoon.



Day 4: Snowmobiles

We wake up, have breakfast and then drive for approximately one hour where we meet up with the snowmobiles. Each person has their own snowmobile and we head off across frozen lakes and up into the mountains. A brief lunch stop is provided by locals (moose or reindeer) cooked on an open fire, then back to the snowmobiles. The snow mobile safari lasts for six hours. We drive through stunning scenery, until we reach the plateau (2,500ft above sea level), where the views are spectacular. We then return to the cabin, and prepare for the survival phase of the Experience. We set out at nighttime to a location where we spend our first night in the elements (and a large tent with a wood burner)!

Detailed itinerary

Day 5 and 6: Survival Phase

You will be extremely well briefed with lectures and demonstrations on many aspects of survival, and will get the opportunity to put what you learn to the ultimate test. For the second night we will sleep in shelters that are constructed from the natural resources, that we will spend the day constructing. The third nights sleep will be in a snug snow hole, again that we have built. Other skills that will be learnt are making and setting traps from natural resources, trying your luck at ice fishing through holes bored in the icy lakes, fire lighting to keep the chill out of the air, water purification and shelter construction. All these skills will stand us in good stead were we ever in this situation again. The survival phase ends after our last campfire breakfast, and then we head back to the cabin

Day 7: Relaxation

A little R & R! Following the challenging and rewarding previous 48 hours, we treat ourselves to some well deserved pampering! We will enjoy a hot tub to soak away those aching limbs under the clear blue sky, on the shore of our lake, as well as a sauna too. We relax in the most beautiful surroundings and have the opportunity to take in the breathtaking views, and what we have accomplished over the last few days. This evening we have a celebratory meal in our cabin, and share stories!

Day 8: Depart Sweden

After breakfast we get up , pack, and make our way back to the airport, to return to the UK.

Challenge grade

Tough

Best time of year

January to March

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This itinerary is complex and subject to change

