

GUIDE TO ILULISSAT

Inside tips from Greenland Travel

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with our tips to what
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Welcome to Greenland Travel

With more than 25 years' experience and a professional staff, Greenland Travel holds a solid position as the largest tour operator and travel agency in the world specializing in tours in Greenland.

We are dedicated to Greenland with our hearts and experience. Some of us were born in Greenland, some of us have lived in Greenland for shorter or longer periods and others have been tour guides in Greenland for several years.

From day one in 1985 we have dedicated ourselves to giving our customers the very best of Greenland and this dedication has been and is our most valid promise to our customers.

You have come across our guide to Ilulissat – inside tips from Greenland Travel. Use it while you're in Greenland or be inspired for your next tour to Ilulissat.

Best wishes
Greenland Travel staff
 April 2013

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

There are numerous travel books on Greenland and Ilulissat that we can recommend. This guide is our very short complimentary guide to Ilulissat with a few tips on things to do and see, which you should not miss out on while in Ilulissat. Some of them are free or cost very little.

PLEASE NOTE:

The word "Immaqa" means "maybe" and when you travel in Greenland you should always bear a little "immaqa" in mind. Things change, the arctic weather changeable and you can never plan every minute in detail when in Greenland. We try to keep this guide as updated as possible but things might change in Greenland – use our guide with a little "immaqa" in mind.

DO WE NEED TO UPDATE?

Please write us at marketing@greenland-travel.dk if you have comments and updates to this guide



Welcome to Ilulissat

The town of Ilulissat has a very impressive neighbour. The world famous UNESCO site Ilulissat Icefiord with its huge icebergs can be seen from almost all over town.

The Northern Hemisphere's most productive glacier, Sermeq Kujalleq produces about 20 million tons of ice each day, all floating into the Ilulissat Ice Fjord and the Disko Bay.

Ilulissat is the third largest town municipality in Greenland with more than 5000 inhabitants. About 4500 peo-

ple live in the town Ilulissat, and 500 people live in the four remaining small settlements. Did we mention the sled dogs? There is a sled dog for every person living in Ilulissat – that might not be entirely true, however there are many sled dogs in the area. In summer they long for winter and in winter they long to go dog sledding.

If you ever get the chance to visit Ilulissat you will be welcomed by a warm population where old traditions and modern society go hand in hand.





Easy hiking on your own

Hiking in Greenland is mostly done on rugged unmarked tracks however in Ilulissat there are a few very well marked routes that take you along the Ice Fjord.

We recommend two tours, a shorter and a longer one – both can be done as guided tours where you also get insights from the guide. We do recommend these guided tours, especially if your stay in Ilulissat is short.

An easy hike to the old settlement at the Ice Fjord

This hike is relative easy and takes about 30-45 minutes from the centre of town. It takes you to a very nice spot at the edge of the Ice Fjord where a former settlement was situated. You will need a guide to show you exactly where it is, but the place is

beautiful. Do the tour as an evening hike or during the day time – bring some lunch, your camera and perhaps a book and enjoy the view over the Ice Fjord.

The route to the edge has a walkway. When you get to the edge of the Ice Fjord you can walk up a little hill and get an even more breath-taking view. However to add this last piece to your tour you need good level of fitness and balance. It is not at all extreme but very rugged.

The long hike along the Ice Fjord

This is a day tour for those who are in normal good physical condition. You walk to the old settlement at the Ice Fjord “Sermermiut” and the tour continues along the marked route. You need to bring food

and extra clothing for a day in the “mountains”. The route is relatively easy but the last piece of the tour takes you along a very stony track. We recommend this tour for those of you who are used to rugged terrain and finding your way along marked paths.

Download hiking map at greenland-travel.com/ilulissat



Cultural experiences on your own

Before you continue your reading let us just draw your attention to the "Cultural and Historical City Walk" guided tour. This is a short introduction to the town and its history, and all the things you might miss out on when strolling along in town on your own. The tour also takes you by a lot of the places we recommend, but not inside, so you will become familiar with the town.

Ilulissat Museum

Absolutely worth a visit! The Danish expedition leader and polar researcher Knud Rasmussen was born in Ilulissat in 1879. Today his birthplace and childhood home is the local museum. Opening hours are daily from 10 am - 5 am, and closed at week-ends during low seasons. It costs 35 DKK per person (approx. 4.6 euro). Children up to 15 years go free. The museum is not larger than you can cover it within an hour.

The Zion church – church fair

This church is situated right next to the museum. On Sundays you can join the church fair and if you are lucky you might experience a baptism, confirmation or wedding. The church is to our knowledge

not open on week days. You might be able to ask kindly at the museum, but we cannot guarantee that this is an option. The church has to be kept closed due to vandalism.

Ilulissat Art Museum

Another nice place to visit is the local art museum with its major exhibition of paintings by Danish artist Emanuel A. Petersen. In the summer period they often exhibit upcoming Greenlandic artists. The building itself is lovely – you can almost sense life as it took place hundreds of years ago.

Open daily except Fridays and Sundays from 1pm - 4pm.

www.ilukunstmus.gl



The harbour

Spend a little time at the harbour. Sit down and relax and get the feel of the active life of the fishermen coming in with fresh fish. Sitting down is mostly recommended in the summer time where the temperature invites you to do such activities. Very close to the harbour, actually on the way down, there is a little convenience store "Brugseneraq" – on the right hand you can buy food and freshly baked bread and coffee – on the left you can buy all kinds of equipment for hunting and fishing, including rifles.

The local fish and meat market

This is the place to go if you want real fresh meat or fish. The local hunters and fishers bring their catch to this market. It is a small place and the

meat and fish is sold in large portions and mainly bought by the locals. The market is situated in the centre of Ilulissat. Open weekdays, 9am - 5pm, weekends 9am - 1pm.

Handicraft Workshop

Local artists produce beautiful handicraft for sale. You simply drop-in at the workshop and it is open weekdays when the artists are working. The workshop is located in the very centre close to the World of Greenland office. Simply go past the bank "Grønlandsbanken" and the workshop is on your left side on the way to the harbour. Just ask people on your way. There is a sign outside the workshop.

Sewing workshop

This workshop produces very nice things in sealskin and other local materials.

All items can be purchased. The Sewing Workshop is also situated in the centre of town very close to the Handicraft Workshop.



Eating out in Ilulissat

This is our favourite part of our tips on Ilulissat. The town offers various restaurants and cafés where you can enjoy fabulous food – often with a spectacular view. Greenlandic restaurants have entered the international cooking arena in recent years. The combination of local fish and meat and international cooking make the experience of dining out in Greenland a very enjoyable one.

Some of the best chefs and restaurants in Greenland are situated in Ilulissat.

Greenlandic buffet

During your stay in Ilulissat you must treat yourself to a Greenlandic buffet. All larger restaurants offer Greenlandic buffet once a week. Book your table in advance, especially during the high summer season.

A Greenlandic buffet consists of all kinds of Greenlandic specialities and is absolutely sumptuous.

Hotel Arctic

Chef Jeppe Ejvind Nielsen at Hotel Arctic has won several gastronomic awards and is a guarantor for the high, culinary standard at Restaurant Ulo in Hotel Arctic. Besides the restaurant Hotel Arctic also has Brasserie Ferdinand which is more informal, and offers simpler meals, but very nice and with the same stun-

ning view as the restaurant.

Everybody is welcome at Hotel Arctic so do not hesitate to pay the hotel a visit. The view is magnificent and the atmosphere is warm and welcoming.

A Greenlandic Buffet is served Mondays and Barbecues on Saturdays. In summertime they often barbeque outside on the terrace. Hotel Arctic is situated on a hill just outside town. You can see the hotel, a red building, and you can either walk (20 minutes) or go by the shuttle bus from the centre of Ilulissat.

Visit hotel-arctic.gl

Hotel Icefiord

Restaurant Icefiord in Hotel Icefiord offers a Greenlandic buffet on Thursdays. The restaurant has enormous pano-



ramic windows with a great view to the Ice Fjord. The restaurant is open all week with an evening and lunch menu. You can also get Thai take-aways from the restaurant.

Visit hotelicefjord.gl

Hotel Hvide Falk

Also situated in the centre of Ilulissat with a great view. The restaurant offers Greenlandic buffet on Thursdays.

Restaurant Mamartut

This cosy little restaurant is located on the way to the Ice Fjord and you can drop in on your way to or from the Ice Fjord. The restaurant is owned

by the couple Benedikte Aniella Christensen and Kim Sander Pedersen. Kim won silver in the Greenlandic Chef Championship in 2007. The restaurant offers meals at a very high quality and many specialities.

All dishes are served using local meat and fish. Even the spices are from their own garden. Restaurant Mamartut also offers a great Greenlandic buffet. Book a table well in advance. We currently do not know the exact weekday for the buffet.

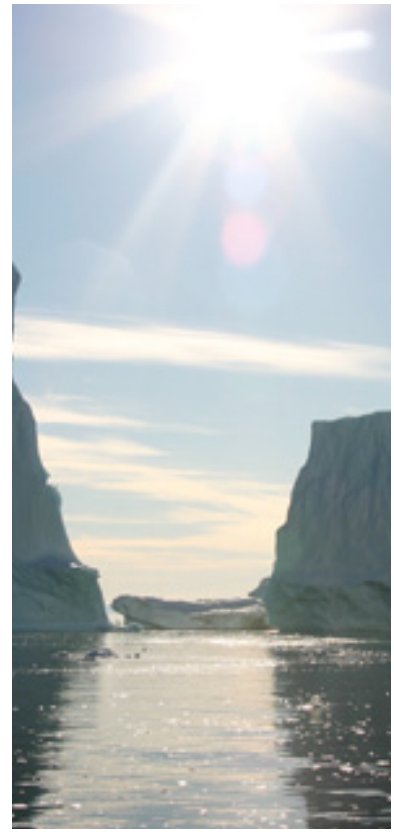
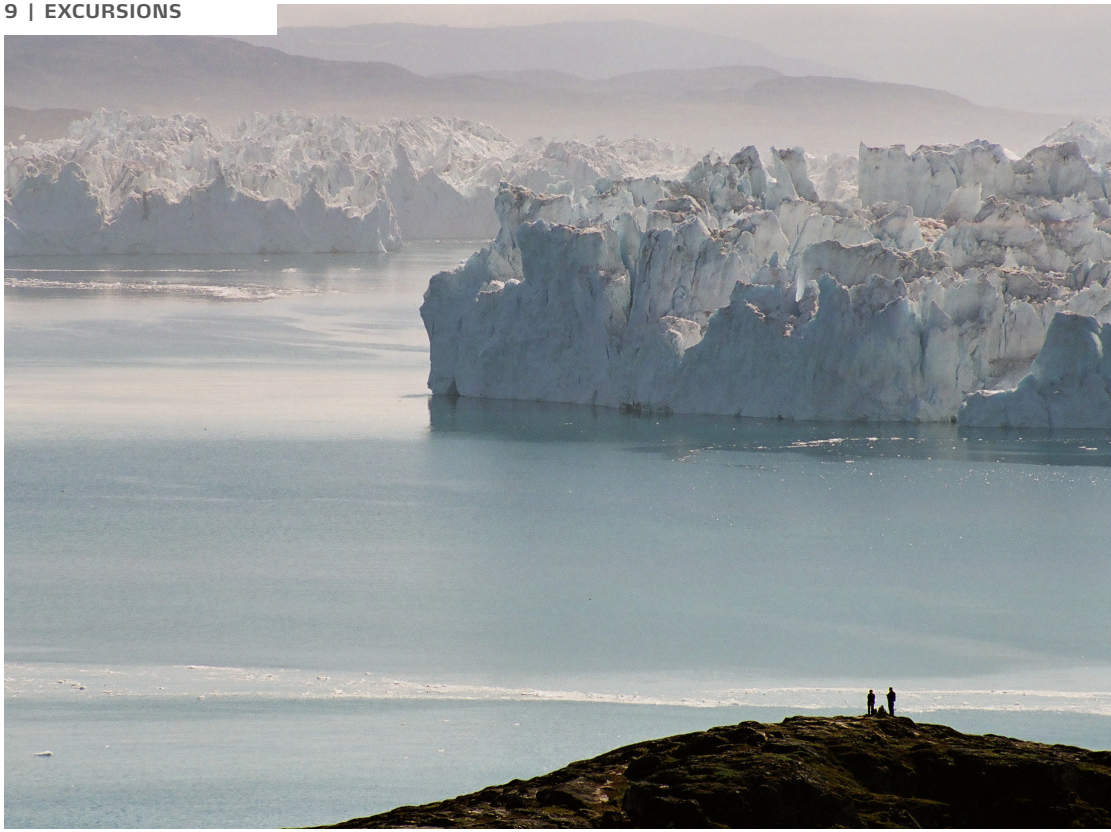
Visit Mamartut.dk
(only in Danish)

Hong Kong Grill

During summer time you can enjoy a simple meal from their terrace with a view to the Ice Fjord and Ilulissat Museum and the Zion church. The food is simple and includes a grill with Thai-inspired dishes. We recommend the whale in curry. Alcohol is not served.

Other cafés

At the heart of Ilulissat you will find some delightful cafés with traditional café dishes such as fish dishes, but also burgers and French fries. Drop in for a cup of coffee – in summertime you can enjoy food and drinks outside.



Excursions

Ilulissat and the area offers a great variety of excursions, from sailing and whale tours to the Ice Fjord, tours to settlements and the full day excursion to the active glacier Eqip Sermia where you also find Glacier Lodge Eqi.

You will find much more information on these excursions either at

worldofgreenland.gl

greenland-travel.com

(under each tour we recommend an excursion package)





Maps and books

Maps of Greenland can be bought locally in most places in Greenland.

A great place on the internet is amazon.com

General travel literature about Greenland

Greenland and the Arctic (Lonely Planet)

Faroe Islands, Iceland and Greenland

(Imray, Laurie, Norie & Wilson Ltd – 2004)

A Nature and Wildlife Guide to Greenland

(Gyldendals Forlag)

Grönland (DuMont Reise Taschenbücher)

Grönland Reisehandbuch (Conrad Stein Verlag)

Links to more information about Ilulissat

- kangia.gl (about UNESCO site Ilulissat Icefjord)
- worldofgreenland.gl
- sermitsiaq.ag/icecam/ (webcam from Ilulissat Ice Fjord)
- greenland.com/en/explore-greenland/nordgroenland/ilulissat

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