



**BASECAMP
EXPLORER™**

PACKINGLIST FOR SVALBARD ADVENTURES

— The top must-have items

Wool really is king here in the Arctic, and it is mandatory to use woollen layers during your activities. The natural fibres trap air which acts as an insulator and even when damp it will still work to keep you warm. The lanolin in wool is naturally anti-bacterial so wool also stays odour free for much longer than synthetic fabrics on long Arctic days.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION

PASSPORT

You need to present your passport before entering Svalbard.

DRIVER'S LICENSE

You need to have a valid driver's license with you if you are driving a snowmobile in the wintertime.

TOPS

THERMAL TOP (QUANTITY: 2 / SPECIFICS: 100% WOOL)

One base layer of woollen underwear next to your skin and a spare "just in case".

MIDLAYER (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: WOOL/FLEECE)

Ideally wool but fleece is an okay alternative.

THICK SWEATER (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: 100% WOOL)

The best insulator you will pack as you can pop it under your over suit or shell jacket.

INSULATED JACKET (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: DOWN/PRIMALOFT)

An extra layer to throw on is always sensible as once we have stopped for a break it is easy to cool down.

JACKET (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: WIND- & WATERPROOF)

A shell jacket to be used over your layers and protect you from the wind.

BOTTOMS

THERMAL LEGGINGS (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: 100% WOOL)

One base layer of woollen underwear next to your skin.

THICKER LEGGINGS (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: 100% WOOL/WINDSTOP FABRIC)

Ideally wool but fleece is an okay If you are prone to getting cold then having a thicker wool pair of leggings really helps to trap air and keep you warm whilst being comfortable in your over suit.

However, a pair of wind stop trousers work too if you are a warmer person.

TROUSERS (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: WINDPROOF & WATERPROOF)

Shell trousers to protect you from the wind.



BASECAMP EXPLORER™

FEET

THIN LINER SOCKS (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: 100% WOOL)

Thin merino wool liners sold by many companies for hiking are great.

THICK SOCKS (QUANTITY: 2 / SPECIFICS: 100% WOOL)

One pair for your hiking boots and one pair extra heavy sock for the boat- or snowmobile ride. The Smartwool mountaineering extra heavy sock, Woolpower 800g/m2 sock and Devold Nansen sock are three great examples of heavy wool socks. Don't panic as they are all sold here on Svalbard if you can't find any at home.

STEADY BOOTS (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: WATERPROOF/HIGHER THAN ANGLE)

Solid and waterproof hiking boots with high angle to keep you steady and dry when crossing rivers, and to support you when walking in rough terrain or snow. For the wintertime you need warm boots also when walking around in Longyearbyen.

ACCESSORIES

HAT (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: WOOL/WINDSTOP)

Pick a warm hat for the adventure in Svalbard.

BALACLAVA (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: WOOL)

A good fitting balaclava can really help to keep that Arctic wind out on the boat ride.

BUFF (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: WOOL/FLEECE)

These tubular scarves really help keep any sneaky cold drafts from travelling down your neck. If you are looking for a souvenir, they sell a wonderful assortment here on the Island, including the "Arctic Edge" thick wool buffs which are a favourite item amongst guides here.

WOOL MITTEN (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: 100% WOOL)

To go inside the over mittens on the boat safari or to put outside the liner glove.

WINDPROOF MITTEN (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: WINDSTOP)

These are always a saviour when out in the wilderness in Svalbard.

LINER GLOVE (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: 100% WOOL/OR A FLEECE ALTERNATIVE)

To go inside the mittens.

INDOOR & SHOES CLOTHING (QUANTITY: 1 SET)

Casual clothing for dinner and evening wear and swimsuit for bathing.

BACKPACK FOR A GREAT ADVENTURE (QUANTITY: 1/ SPECIFICS: WATERPROOF)

Brilliant for organising your belongings. A larger bag around 30-40l is useful for packing everything into and is easy to fit in the boat or on the snowmobile. We like to use a selection of different size dry bags as well, to organise your belongings into spare layers for the evening, toiletries etc. The rest of your belongings you can leave to the luggage room at Basecamp Hotel.

SUNGLASSES (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: CATEGORY 3 MINIMUM)

Remember the sun is out 24hours a day after the 19th April!

TOILETRIES

TOOTHPASTE & TOOTHBRUSH (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: TRAVEL SIZED PASTE)

A small toothpaste and brush to go with our personal toiletries.

SUNSCREEN (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: FACTOR 50)

The combination of 24hour daylight after April 19th and snow means sunscreen is essential. Try to get a water free sunscreen, this way it won't contribute to your face getting cold or frozen spots. Elizabeth Arden make a great one in a handy stick.



BASECAMP EXPLORER™

PERSONAL MEDICATION (QUANTITY: IF REQUIRED)

Be sure to let your guide know if you take any personal medication and where you will keep it.

RECOMMENDED ITEMS

HEAT PACKS (QUANTITY: 1-2 PER DAY)

To warm your feet or hands in cold occasions.

NALGENE BOTTLE (QUANTITY: 1)

If you're looking for a water bottle that will keep you well hydrated, hold up against bangs, bumps, and drops, and not leak a single drop, then the wide mouth bottle is your water bottle. The Nalgene bottle can handle hot and cold water, and it may also be used as hot water bottle in your bed at night (remember to wrap it so it doesn't get too hot on your skin!). To prevent your water from freezing during the day we recommend buying an insulated sleeve. Both bottle and sleeve can be bought in Longyearbyen if you cannot find them at your place.

CONTACT LENSES (QUANTITY: IF REQUIRED)

For those wearing glasses you will find they tend to fog up and then promptly freeze. Contact lenses are a great alternative if you can manage them.

A BOOK (QUANTITY: 1)

A reader is nice for cosy evenings or if bad weather blows in. Try to avoid an e-reader. Anything battery operated tends to lose power rather quickly in cold temperatures.

CAMERA & BINOCULARS

To capture the arctic memories.

WE PROVIDE

FLOATING SUIT FOR THE BOAT RIDE (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: SUMMERTIME)

To keep you warm and dry for the boat ride and floating in case of emergencies.

SNOWMOBILE SUIT & -BOOTS (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: WINTERTIME)

Remember to choose a size or two bigger than normally –air is the best insulation!

HAT & BALACLAVA (QUANTITY: 1)

Warm hat if the one that you have is too cold.

HELMET (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: WINTERTIME)

Helmet is mandatory when driving a snowmobile.

OUTER MITTENS (QUANTITY: 1)

To keep your hands warm and protect you from the wind and moisture.

GOOGLES (QUANTITY: 1 / SPECIFICS: SUMMERTIME)

To protect you from sea spray during the boat ride.

OTHER EQUIPMENT

For special activities that needs other equipment that mentioned, as well as lunch in the wilderness.