

# **Our Dogsledding Tours - A short Introduction**

Our tours, which we offer in collaboration with Hasselberg Husky, are designed to provide an immersive, hands-on experience with our sled dogs. Guests are actively involved in the entire process, from preparing the dogs to driving the sled.

### **Tour Details & Structure**

- **Duration:** Approximately 2.5 to 4 hours.
- **Hands-On Experience:** Guests learn how to harness the dogs, attach them to the sled, and drive the team.
- **Safety & Instruction:** A comprehensive safety briefing and practical demonstration are provided before the tour.
- **Sled Teams:** Two guests share one sled, alternating between the roles of driver and passenger so both can drive if they wish.
- The Route: The sledding distance is approximately 14 km, with stops for photographs.
- **Post-Tour Refreshments:** After the tour, hot chocolate, coffee, tea, snacks, and a sandwich are served by a fire, accompanied by stories about the local area and culture.

### How to Drive a Sled: Key Instructions

- **Braking:** Always keep at least one foot on the metal brake when stopping or standing still. When changing drivers, ensure the new driver has their foot on the brake before you step off.
- **Steering & Control:** Steer with your whole body, not just your arms. Follow the rhythm of the dogs and sled for better control. The pressure-sensitive mat brake is used to control speed.
- **Following Distance:** Maintain a distance of about 5 meters from the sled in front of you. Stop when your lead dogs are 1 meter from the driver ahead.
- **Maintaining Momentum:** If you need to slow down, apply consistent brake pressure rather than stopping and starting abruptly, as this delays the entire group.
- **Guides:** A guide will be with the first team and another with the last team to assist all guests.

## On the Trail

- The dogs know the trail and will follow the teams ahead. If you lose sight of the group, trust that the dogs will lead you to where the others are waiting.
- If the dogs become tangled in their lines, stop to untangle them. If you are unsure how to proceed, remain still and a guide will assist you.



## Dog Welfare

Our dogs' health and happiness are our highest priority. We operate under strict Norwegian animal welfare regulations.

- **Housing:** Each dog has its own insulated house with dry hay for bedding, which serves as its personal space.
- **Training & Diet:** The dogs are trained almost daily and fed a high-energy diet of meat, vitamins, minerals, and dry food, supplemented with bones and fish.
- **Health Checks:** All dogs receive regular veterinary check-ups, including before each season. Staff perform daily health checks during feeding and cleaning.
- **Socialization:** Dogs are socialized from puppyhood to be comfortable with people. Our small kennel size allows us to know each dog individually and tailor its care, training, and rest.
- **Summer Care:** When temperatures exceed 13°C, hard training stops. In warm weather, the dogs are provided with water pools to cool down and are monitored closely.