

Greenland

Cross border travel

- People

- Depending on your citizenship, you may need a visa to enter Greenland. Here is a list of countries that need and don't need a visa to enter: <https://nyidanmark.dk/en-GB/Words-and-concepts/US/Visum/Countries-with-a-visa-requirement-and-visa-free-countries/?anchor=63F86BF9BAE84296B40028C26E06EF02&callbackItem=AADA0185A3C54C4097E85F7B4350F32C&callbackAnchor=469FFEEF7C9545F594CC7078CC6219D163F86BF9BAE84296B40028C26E06EF02>
- If you need a visa to enter Greenland, you will most likely also need a Schengen visa, since most travel goes through a Schengen country, such as Denmark. The application procedure for visa to enter Greenland is the same as for a Danish visa. If you are seeking to obtain a visa to enter Greenland, as well as a Schengen visa, you only need to submit a single application. Find more information here: <https://nyidanmark.dk/en-GB/You-want-to-apply/Short-stay-visa/Visa-to-the-Faroe-Island-or-Greenland/?anchor=469FFEEF7C9545F594CC7078CC6219D1anchor=63F86BF9BAE84296B40028C26E06EF02&callbackItem=AADA0185A3C54C4097E85F7B4350F32C&callbackAnchor=469FFEEF7C9545F594CC7078CC6219D1>
- A visa normally grants you the right to stay in the entire Schengen region for up to 90 days.
- If you wish to stay in Denmark for a longer time, you must apply for a residence permit.
- Read more about conditions for being a guest researcher and how to apply: <https://nyidanmark.dk/en-GB/You-want-to-apply/Work/Guest-Researcher>
- Note that there is a fee that must be paid to process the application.

Covid-19

You can find general information and links to relevant COVID-19 related information for Greenland on https://nun.gl/emner/english?sc_lang=da.

Greenland can only be reached via Denmark or Iceland. You can find further information regarding the temporary Danish travel restrictions here: <https://en.coronasmitte.dk/rules-and-regulations/entry-into-denmark>. For travels to Greenland via Iceland, see permit system page for Iceland.

- Research vessels

- Research vessels operating in Greenland may need a permit, depending on ownership of vessel and origin of applicant. Guidelines and find links to applications can be found here <https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Fiskeri-Fangst-og-Landbrug/Forskning-i-Groenland>

- Instrumentation (import/export)

- There is export control of dual use items that potentially can be a threat to international peace and security. Read more here: <https://www.businessingreenland.gl/en/Erhverv/Export-control-of-dual-use-items>
- Contact the Ministry of Industry if you have questions (<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Erhverv>).
- Samples (import/export)
 - Export of threatened species (listed by the CITES convention) requires a permit. See which species it applies to and regulations here: <https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/About-government-of-greenland/CITES>
The application form can be found here: <https://naalakkersuisut.gl/~media/Nanoq/Files/Attached%20Files/Engelske-tekster/cites/App%20form%20to%20import-export.pdf>
Contact the Ministry of Science and Environment (<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe>).
- Chemicals (import/export)
In general, it is recommended to use a shipping/transport agency, in order to reassure compliance with the complex set of regulations.
 - Special regulations apply to import and export of dangerous chemicals to and from the EU. Find information from the Environmental Protection Agency: <https://eng.mst.dk/chemicals/chemicals-in-products/legal-framework-for-managing-chemicals/fact-sheets/fact-sheet-exporting-and-importing-dangerous-chemicals-and-pesticides/>
 - Contact the Ministry of Science and Environment (<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe>).
 - The use of radioactive substances most likely requires a permit or registration before use. This is done via the Danish Health Authorities <https://www.sst.dk/da/Opgaver/Straalebeskyttelse/Selvbetjening>. Here you find (in Danish) different ways of registering or applying for permits depending on the radioactive source. For use in human health studies in Greenland, a copy of the permit/registration must be submitted to the Science Ethics Board of the Greenlandic Health Authorities (see Human health studies below).

Access to specific areas

- Remote areas
 - A permit is required from the Ministry of Science and Environment to enter 'Remote parts of Greenland' (Ice Cap, the National Park in North-east Greenland and remote coastal areas of East Greenland).
 - Areas, rules, procedures and information on other permit types can be found here: <https://exp.gl/>
 - Application form to 'Remote parts of Greenland' is available here: <https://exp.gl/Permit-Application>
 - Contact the Ministry of Science and Environment (<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe>).
- Protected areas

- Nature protection areas and culture protection areas may have restricted access. It is recommended that you look into relevant executive orders (most only available in Danish – see www.lovgivning.gl) or contact the responsible ministry/authority to learn about possibilities for access to these areas.
 - Nature protection areas are managed by the Ministry of Science and Environment who can grant dispensation from regulations for scientific purposes (<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe>).
 - List of protected areas (National Parks, Nature reserves and protected areas): <https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe/Natur-og-Klimaafdelingen/Natur/Fredede-landomraader>
 - Map of protected areas (in Danish): <https://naalakkersuisut.gl/~media/Nanoq/Files/Attached%20Files/Engelske-tekster/Travellers/Protected%20areas.pdf>
 - Cultural protection areas are managed by the Greenland National Museum and Archive who can grant dispensation from regulations for scientific purposes. Overview of Unesco World Heritage sites in Greenland: <https://visitgreenland.com/about-greenland/unesco-sites/>
Contact Greenland National Museum and Archive at nka@natmus.gl
Ilulissat World Heritage Site has an online dispensation application system: <https://exp.gl/Legislation--Logistics/World-Heritage-Site-Ilulissat-Icefjord>
 - Bird protection areas have restricted access in the breeding period.
 - A map of Bird protection areas can be seen in the appendix of the executive order on protection and harvest of birds: <http://lovgivning.gl/lov?rid={5456AAE4-1602-4DD3-A45D-241041DFF511}> (in Danish)
 - Responsible ministry is the Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture: <https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Fiskeri-Fangst-og-Landbrug>
- Restricted areas
 - None (apart from above).

Fieldwork and sample collection

- You may need zero, one or more research permits when conducting research in Greenland.
 - Whether you need to obtain permits depends on the area you want to go to and the type of research you conduct. The most general permits are described below!
 - There is no central coordination of research applications in Greenland, so scientists need to identify all relevant permits themselves and obtain these from relevant authorities.
 - Links to most of below application sites and ministries can be found here: <https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/About-government-of-greenland/Travel-activities-in-remote-parts-of-Greenland>
 - Note that it may take up to 2 months to process an application!
- Permit to conduct research (observations, handling and sampling within all disciplines, incl. collection of genetic resources)
Depending on your research aims and activities, you may need permits to conduct the following types of research in Greenland. Links to application forms are presented below. There are currently two portals that display information about permits

- One focused on expeditions to remote parts of Greenland and additional permits that may be needed: <https://exp.gl/Permit-Application/Additional-Permits>. Contact Ministry of Science and Environment.
- One focused on business and land use: www.big.gl. Contact Ministry of Industry isiin@nanoq.gl.
- Mammals, birds and fish:
You can apply to conduct research on marine mammals, birds and fish here: <https://exp.gl/Permit-Application/Additional-Permits>
Note that the application form only states that it is related to permits falling under the Executive order on travels in remote parts of Greenland.
Contact responsible ministry if in doubt: Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture at apnn@nanoq.gl
- If you intend to collect samples containing biological material (species or samples from species), you need a permit to collect biological resources from the Ministry of Industry. Find regulations and the 'Application form for research on biological resources' here: <https://www.businessingreenland.gl/en/Erhverv/Genetiske-ressourcer>
Contact Ministry of Industry at isiin@nanoq.gl
- Studies involving animal welfare and handling of wildlife may require a permit.
Contact the Ministry of Industry at isiin@nanoq.gl
- Cultural heritage studies may need permit from authorities.
Contact the Ministry of Education, Culture and Church at ikin@nanoq.gl
- Studies related to archaeology, and collection of meteoroids and fossils requires a permit from the Greenland National Museum and Archive. Guidelines and application form can be found here:
https://en.nka.gl/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/NKAGSA-1_v.2_external_application_updated_April_2020.pdf
Contact Greenland National Museum and Archive at nka@natmus.gl or the Ministry of Education, Culture and Church at ikin@nanoq.gl
- Geological and mineral resources scientific surveys require a permit from the Mineral Resources Authority. Guidelines and application form can be found here:
<https://govmin.gl/#>
Contact the Mineral Resources Authority at <https://govmin.gl/about-us/contact/>
- Human health studies:
Studies involving humans and their health need approval from the Science Ethics Board of the Greenland Health Authorities. Guidelines, forms and required documentation can be found here (in Danish)
https://nun.gl/emner/english/science_ethics_committee?sc_lang=da.
Contact the Greenland Health Authorities at nun@nanoq.gl if in need of guidance.

Field Instrumentation

- Area allotment for instrumentation
If you intend to set up field instruments for 2 months or more, you need an area allotment. You can apply here: <http://ver1.nunagis.gl/en/>

- Note! The application form must be submitted to the relevant municipality (see below). For the National Park in Northeast Greenland it must be submitted to the Ministry of Science and Environment (see below).
For a delineation of municipalities see: <http://lovgivning.gl/lov?rid={357AA123-BD0F-4AB2-B302-920E3639D2BF}> (in Danish).
- Municipality and ministerial contacts:
 - Qaasuitsup Kommunia (qaasuitsup@qaasuitsup.gl)
 - Kommune Qeqertalik (qeqertalik@qeqertalik.gl)
 - Qeqqata Kommunia (qeqqata@qeqqata.gl)
 - Kommuneqarfik Sermersooq (kommuneqarfik@sermersooq.gl)
 - Kommune Kujalleq (kommune@kujalleq.gl)
 - Ministry of Science and Environment
(<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe>)
- Drone use
 - There are rules for drone use in Greenland: <https://droneregler.dk/Droneflyvning-i-Groenland-og-Faeroerne#> (in Danish)
 - If you need dispensation from the rules, you must contact the Danish Transport, Construction and Housing Agency at info@tbst.dk for more information.

Safety related permits

- Weapon
 - If you need to bring in a firearm to Greenland, you need a permit from the police. Application form (in Danish) can be found here: <https://politi.gl/soeg-tilladelse/vaaben/tilladelse-til-indfoersel>
 - If you need to bring a weapon into the National Park in Northeast Greenland you find the application form here (in Danish) <https://politi.gl/soeg-tilladelse/vaaben/vaaben-i-nationalparken>
An English version is available here <https://exp.gl/Permit-Application/Additional-Permits>
 - If in doubt, you can contact the police here <https://politi.gl/kontakt>
- Radio permits
 - Use of PLBs (Personal Locator Beacon) and radio equipment in Greenland requires a permit from the Radio Administration. Requirements and application form can be found here: <https://exp.gl/Permit-Application/Additional-Permits>
Contact the Radio Administration at RVF@nanog.gl

Regional/local level permits

- See 'Area allotment for instrumentation' under 'Field instrumentation' above.

Additional information of relevance

- The Research Unit, under the Department of Environment and Research, is tasked with managing the Government's research policies with the objective to strengthen the research efforts and cooperation in Greenland and the Arctic, also acting as a liaison between the research community and the relevant authorities:
<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe/Forskning>

- Nunatsinni Ilisimatusarnermik Siunnersuisoqatigiit/Greenland Research Council (NIS) was established in June 2014, NIS is set up to promote research anchored in Greenland. Financing research and handle the research professional advice for e.g. Naalakkersuisut, Minister of Science and international stakeholders.
- International Arctic Hub – Government secretariat that enhances interdisciplinary international cooperation related to Arctic research, education and innovation in Greenland: <https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe/International-Arktisk-Hub>
- ISAAFFIK Arctic Gateway – Creates a user-driven platform for collaboration across border: <https://www.isaaffik.org/>