

Hurtigruten Foundation sponsors outdoor activities for kids and locals in Longyearbyen, Svalbard

In 2024 a non-profit organization called Aktiv i Friluft organized some activities for the locals of Longyearbyen with the help from Hurtigruten Foundation.

A full day, boat trip across *Isfjorden* to a nearby glacier was organized for all kids from 1st to 10th grade from Longyearbyen skole.

The kids had a great day with sunny weather, seals, icebergs, walruses and a big BBQ. Around 60 children attended.

Photo: Lene Jeanette Dyngeland



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With us we also had 9 students from the local college that helped to look after the children. No climbing on the railing! 😊



After a successful activity for the kids, we moved along to the adults. Aktiv i Friluft organized a week of mushroom activities. We had some experts on mushrooms flown up here to help us. On the first day they had a seminar about Svalbard mushrooms at one of Hurtigruten's hotels, *Polarhotellet*.

Photo: Lene Jeanette Dyngeland



The mushroom experts:

Reidun and Even.
-Did you know that there are no dangerous mushrooms on Svalbard?

Photo: Lene Jeanette Dyngeland



In a small and isolated town just beneath the north pole, being new can be lonely. The month we have the most people moving to Longyearbyen is September. This is why the world day for mental health comes at such a perfect timing on the 10th of October.

For the past 3 years, Aktiv i Friluft has organized what's called a "speed-friending" at our local café. The event is open to everyone over 16 years old. We offer free cake and coffee and a friendly atmosphere.

The tables are marked with numbers and arrows. The person facing the number remains seated and the person facing the arrow will move according to the direction of the arrow every 7 minutes.

Here is me calling out that the 7 minutes are up:



Photo: Anja Charlotte Markussen Hansen

Thank you to Hurtigruten Foundation for funding our local events. We appreciate it very much 😊 Hope for more collaborations in the future.

Lene Jeanette Dyngeland
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