

# UArctic Council Meeting Sisimiut Excursion

## INFOSHEET

**August 12<sup>th</sup> – August 14<sup>th</sup> 2017**



ARCTIC TECHNOLOGY CENTRE



### Sisimiut

Sisimiut has a population of 6000 inhabitants, and as the second largest town in Greenland it is well known for its strong position as a technical education centre. The town houses both ARTEK with its Arctic engineering education and its affiliated research activities, and the Tech college Greenland, KTI, with a vocational technical school, a high school, and Greenland School of Minerals.

### Transport from/to airport in Sisimiut

There will be plenty of taxis available at the Sisimiut airport to come to your accommodation. Taxa Sisimiut: +299 86 55 33. The taxi fee will be approx. 150 DKK.

### Money

The currency used in Greenland is the Danish krone (DKK) and you can pay by (Danish) credit card anywhere in Greenland. International credit cards are accepted at many locations, including ATM machines in Sisimiut.

Sisimiut has two banks, Grønlandsbanken and Sparbank Vest, both situated in the town centre.

## **The Greenlandic language**

Greenlandic is the official language of Greenland and is spoken by the majority of the population. Danish is used as alternative language in the public administration, education and business.

The Greenland cities are generally characterized by being strongly influenced by the Danish language since the majority of the approximate 7.000 ethnic Danes in Greenland live in towns. But many Greenlanders particularly the elderly and inhabitants in the small settlements along the coast generally don't speak neither understand Danish.

## **The climate in Sisimiut**

Midwest Greenland, where Sisimiut is situated, has coastal climate. This means that the weather in generally is dominated by cool air from the cold sea. The temperatures are typically between 5 and 15 °C during the summer. On a calm, sunny day, however, the temperature can reach 20 °C and even make it possible to wear shorts. At night however it is always cold and the temperatures can get down to zero or even slightly frost.

## **Practical advice about footwear**

Be prepared to walk in a hilly and rugged terrain during your stay in Greenland. Therefore, solid, watertight boots or hiking boots are important to carry.

## **Arctic mosquitoes!**

The Greenlandic summer is wonderful, but usually also with a lot of mosquitoes. They occur in large quantities and are rather aggressive! They prefer to fly into ears and nose. Ankles are also a sought-after goal. It is therefore an imperative to bring mosquito nets to cover your head and insect balsam, especially if you are planning to stay outside the towns in the mountains, where the mosquitoes will for sure be there. Preferably buy insect balsam in Greenland, for example in Kangerlussuaq Airport since they have quite efficient products. Don't forget antihistamine if you are allergic to insect bites.

## **The local drinking water**

The tap water in Greenland is fully drinkable but often with added chlorine. In Sisimiut – as in most other Greenlandic towns - the drinking water comes from a lake nearby the city.

## **Relevant web pages**

- The official homepage of Greenland Tourism where you can find useful information about Greenland: [www.greenland.com](http://www.greenland.com)
- The municipality of Qeqqata: [www.qeqqata.gl](http://www.qeqqata.gl)  
Tourism in Sisimiut : Tourism in Sisimiut: [www.wogac.com/excursions-sisimiut](http://www.wogac.com/excursions-sisimiut)