Tuktut Nogait National Park Camping Trips

Parks Canada provides for your use:

- Outdoor cooking facilities including a kitchen tent, bear-safe storage, garbage and greywater disposal system
- Biodegradable dish soap, wash basin, dish towels
- Bear deterrents
- Field guides (flowers, plants, birds)
- Portable toilet with storage bags/toilet paper supplied
- · Wilderness first aid kit
- Emergency communications (satellite phone, etc.)
- Water Treatment: a limited amount of boiled water may be available, please be prepared to boil/treat water for your own use as well.

You should bring:

- Back-pack to carry your gear
- Three or Four Season tent (bring extra tent pegs and guy lines for wind)
- Sleeping bag rated to -10°C range
- Sleeping pad, pillowcase
- Small daypack for hikes
- Hiking poles, if desired
- Personal water container(s) (2L capacity) and a water purification system (filter/treat/boil)
- Compact camping stove with fuel, pots, bowl, cup, plate, matches and/or lighter
- Basic food preparation supplies (eg. Knife, utensils, serving spoons, etc.)
- Meals and snacks for five days (recommend dehydrated, high energy food)
- Ziplock bags (for dayhike lunches, etc.)
- Maps and/or GPS
- Sturdy hiking footwear
- Light shoes or sandals for camp
- Light, weather-proof (eg. GoreTex) jacket and pants for wind and precipitation
- Warm middle layer (eg. fleece) for top and bottom
- Merino wool or synthetic base layer for top and bottom (ie. long underwear)
- Fresh underwear and comfortable hiking socks for each day (remember what Mom always said)
- Pants, shirt, shorts, and bathing suit (hey, you never know)
- Warm hat and mitts
- Towel
- Sunhat, sunscreen & chapstick
- Bug jacket and/or repellent
- Small personal first aid kit
- Personal toiletries, small hand sanitizer and medications
- Sleep mask (if midnight sun will disturb your sleep)
- Other equipment such as binoculars, camera, fishing rod, book, etc.

Note: This list is not comprehensive and is to be used as a guide. Since the luggage weight limit is 60lb per person; sharing common gear or foods with others is encouraged. We can share group contact info for this, if desired. Please contact us with any questions or concerns. 867-777-8800 or Inuvik.info@pc.gc.ca





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Questions and Answers

What is typical weather like in Tuktut Nogait?

Summer temperatures in Tuktut Nogait average 14°C and usually range between 5 and 25°C. Extreme weather can bring snowfall and temperatures as low as -5°C or lower even in summer, though this is rare.

What gear is appropriate for the weather?

The area is susceptible to high winds and offers little natural shelter or protection. A good quality three or four-season tent, in good condition, is important. Your tent must be able to withstand high winds, rainfall and possibly snowfall. Extra tent pegs/guy lines are recommended. If you are not able to bring your own tent, ask when you book your trip and we can provide a MEC Lightfield tent for your use. Pitched properly, these tents have proven adequate for the range of conditions in Tuktut Nogait.

Bringing layers of clothing will allow you to add or shed layers to adjust for different temperatures and activity levels. At night, many people prefer a -10 rated sleeping bag with a light sheet liner. In hot weather the liner is pleasant by itself, and if it cools off the bag can be zipped closed. Combining the sleeping bag, liner and long underwear should ensure that you'll be comfortable even in extreme weather.

Will there be biting insects?

Insects are only active during the brief arctic summer, so they pack a lot of activity into their short lives. The numbers of mosquitos and blackflies seems to increase gradually during June, and decrease sharply with cooler nights in August. July is reliably buggy. Many people use insect repellent, bug jackets, or a combination of both. Even at the height of bug season, breezes on the ridges make hiking pleasant, and the base camp includes a kitchen shelter for cooking and relaxing without swatting.

Can I hike on my own?

Parks Canada staff will lead day hikes of varying lengths and difficulty. You are encouraged to pack and plan for self sufficiency on all hikes. If you wish

to hike on your own we recommend hiking in groups; carrying satellite communication equipment, map, compass and GPS; and communicating your route plan to Parks Canada staff.

Is the water safe to drink?

There have been instances of giardia in the park. For this reason, it is advised that you boil or treat all of your water before drinking it. There will be a limited amount of boiled water made available, however you should ensure that you are able to provide sufficient drinking water for yourself, especially during hikes. Pack water containers totaling at least two litres for hiking.

Can I fish in the park?

Fishers with the appropriate license may fish for Arctic char, lake trout, whitefish or arctic grayling. Details about applicable fishing regulations are provided with the license. The conservation limits set for Tuktut Nogait allow a catch and possession limit of 1 of any species of fish. Your catch should then be cleaned on the lakeshore or riverbank and an appropriate location for entrails will be determined onsite.

How can I feel safe about wildlife?

Tuktut Nogait is grizzly bear country and it is possible but unlikely that polar bears could travel this far inland. You are an important participant in the bear safety program: beginning with your mandatory visitor orientation, where we discuss bear safety through prevention and appropriate responses to encounters. Your role continues in the park, where staff and visitors work together to manage bear attractants. Parks Canada staff and visitors may carry bear deterrents including pepper spray and bear bangers. Designated Parks Canada staff are trained to use firearms for wildlife conflict management, should it ever become necessary.

It must be noted that a more frequently encountered wildlife hazard is the arctic ground squirrel or "sik-sik." These deceptively cute animals have been known to snatch unattended items, and leave tiny "presents" inside unzipped

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tents!

Can anyone reach me in case of an emergency back home?

Visitors may share the Parks Canada-Western Arctic Duty Officer phone number with their emergency contacts (867-777-4893). The Duty Officer is able to contact Parks Canada staff in Tuktut Nogait and relay emergency or urgent information as needed.

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