

Frequently Asked Questions:

TELL ME ABOUT YOUR TRIPS: Dogsled trips are a unique winter vacation option which, unlike skiing or snowmobiling, require no special skills or fitness and are suitable for all ages – 5 to 85! Wintergreen vacations offer great fun, great food, great lodging & great guides. But our Eskimo sled dogs steal the show every time – they're very friendly & love to pull!

TELL ME ABOUT WINTERGREEN: We're the nation's oldest, most experienced recreational dogsled center and the nation's only lodge devoted exclusively to dogsledding. PBS-TV ranked us a TOP 6 ADVENTURE LODGE & Minnesota Monthly ranked us a TOP 10 LODGE.

HOW DO I GET THERE? Ely is served by Delta & United Airlines through regional airports in Duluth & Hibbing, and a ground shuttle service to our door. Or you can drive here from Minneapolis in about 4 hours on all-weather highways (4-lane divided most of the way!)

CAN I REALLY DO THIS? Yes you can! People of all ages enjoy these trips. Many of no prior winter experience. Some have never seen snow before! Dogsledding suits most everyone. Like bicycling, it takes a bit of balance and some effort on the uphills. But much of the time, you're gliding along silently & effortlessly in the beautiful winter woods. At all times, our guides are right nearby on skis to assist as needed & share info about the winter woods.

HOW DOES DOGSLEDDING WORK? With training by our guides, you'll actually be driving your own dogteam. The back platform on our sleds allow 2 people to stand side-by-side & enjoy driving the sleds together (solo sleds are also available). You'll control the sled with voice commands, a brake, shifting of balance & an occasional pedal kick. It's easy and fun!

WILL I BE WARM? Yes! No one knows winter clothing & comfort better than Wintergreen. In fact, we have our own winter clothing company. We'll help ensure that you have exactly what you need. Items you don't have can be purchased at a discount or rented from us.

HOW'S THE LODGING & FOOD? The lodges we use, including our own, are in beautiful northwoods lakeshore settings and feature private bedrooms, fireplaces, full baths, saunas, ski & snowshoe trails. Our chef knows exactly what our guests want after an invigorating day of dogsledding -- an interesting, tasteful meal lovingly prepared with fresh top-quality ingredients...and plenty of it! We call it "comfort food with class." Meals are served familystyle and guests & guides dine together so they can share tales from their day on the trail.

TELL ME ABOUT THE GUESTS: About a third of our guests come as singles, the rest with friends or family. 60% are women, 35% are repeats. The average age is 42 & range 5-85.

WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE PRICE? Everything – meals, lodging, guides, dogteams, outfitting, trail fees & taxes. Smarter Travel ranks us a "Top 10 ADVENTURE BARGAIN."

WHEN'S THE BEST TIME TO COME? Our border region lies in the "Ontario Snow Powder Belt" and generally has good snow December thru March. Daytime highs average 20° December thru February & near 30° in March. Each month offers great dogsledding.

TELL ME ABOUT YOUR DOGS: Our pure-bred Canadian Inuit sled dogs are strikingly handsome, very strong & very friendly. Wintergreen features a hands-on experience. Not only will you be mushing a team, you're welcome to harness, feed and care for your team.

- Register with a \$100 deposit. Balance due 2 months before trip.
- Package rates are per adult/dbl occup. Single rooms: +\$50/night.
- Youth discounts: 6-11 \$200 off, 12-17 \$100 off. Family discount: up to \$300 off/child. Groups: \$100 off each for 4+ on private trip

Visit www.dogsledding.com or call toll-free: 1-(877)-753-3386

Wintergreen
PAUL & SUSAN SCHURKE'S DOGSLED LODGE

Enjoy a
Dogsled Vacation
at America's Top
Dogsled Center

"Mush with the best" says...



Mush your own team
of friendly Eskimo dogs

on scenic northwoods trails. *For All ages.*

No experience necessary. You'll be warm, cozy and in good hands. Wintergreen is the oldest, most experienced dogsled center. National Geographic Adventure has ranked us "best in the business" & ranked the Boundary Waters area among the world's "Top Must-See Scenic Places."

Visit www.dogsledding.com or call toll-free: 1-(877)-753-3386

Lodge-Based Dogsled Vacations

These 4-night (*Wed PM to Sun AM*) vacations hosted by our superb guides feature great meals, cozy lakeshore lodging, 3 full days of dogsledding fun, optional skiing, snowshoeing, sauna & a special program at the International Wolf Center.



“GOOD” 4-night trips are perfect for singles, pairs & family groups. They feature cabins that accommodate up to 8 guests in double bedrooms with private or shared bathrooms. (*3-night option has 2 days of dogsledding*)



“BETTER” packages accommodate up to 3 couples or pairs in cabins with a private bedroom & private bathroom for each pair. Optional fireplace socializing each evening.



“BEST” packages feature our finest lakeshore cabins for up to 2 couples or pairs, each with bedroom suite on their own floor. Optimal privacy & optimal trip flexibility.



WORKSHOPS: These lodge-based dogsled vacations “with a twist” include our 4-night trips for Parent-Child pairs (*ages 8-14*) & our 5-night Photo Adventure Vacation with Time-Life Photographer Layne Kennedy.



Dogsled Camping Adventures



BEGINNING: These 5-night trips feature 1st & last nights in the lodge and 4 days/3 nights of dogsledding & camping. For all ages, no skills needed, just be fairly fit & ready for fun!



ADVANCED: Are you ready to “go for the gusto” and get deeper into the wilderness? If you have some prior camping, ski or snowshoe experience, these 6-night trips are for you.



ARCTIC: Are you ready for the trip of a lifetime? We offer the best arctic dogsled trips in the world: Greenland, Hudson Bay, Svalbard and more. 8-12 day adventures every spring. Includes a free training trip.



DAY TRIPS: Half-day morning or afternoon trips & full-day trips (*with lunch*) are offered most Sundays and some holidays December through March. All ages are welcome.



PRIVATE DOGSLED VACATIONS:

Do you have your own group of 4 or more? Book your own private lodge-based dogsled vacation or dogsled camping adventure at discount rates.



Lodge-Based Dogsled Vacations

Feed your soul with REAL fun. Canned vacations are like canned food – uninspiring. You deserve an authentic experience to recharge & rejuvenate. Refresh & relax in the sparkling snowscapes of a northwoods winter. Enjoy our fun-loving guides, sumptuous meals, lovely lodging & our furry 4-legged friends.



Sumptuous Meals

Dinners are prepared by our Wintergreen chef and served at your cabin. A few examples of menu items: Champagne Chicken with Wild Rice, sliced Roast Pork with oven roast potato or corn frittatas, Beef Stroganoff with Italian pasta, baked Caramel Custard with almond lace cookies. Guests are welcome to bring their own wine or beer as desired. We happily accommodate any dietary requests.

Lovely Lodging

Tucked in the pines with lake views, our lodges & cabins all feature fireplaces, full bathrooms, dining & lounge areas, rooms with single or double beds as desired.

Sample 4-night Trip Itinerary (varies with trip type & dates)

DAY 1: Arrive Ely early afternoon by car or airport shuttle. Visit our store for any rental clothing needs. Continue to lodge for check-in & site tour. Meet your guides & sled dogs. Welcome dinner at 6 pm followed by fireside trip orientation.

DAY 2: Sunrise kennel care (optional) followed by breakfast & “Dogsledding 101” training. The big moment arrives as your guides help you launch your team and escort you on a dogsled training trip. Midday lunch break in lodge. Afternoon dogsled excursion. Early evening R&R at lodge. Dinner. Fireplace socializing.

DAY 3: Full day of guided dogsledding with trailside campfire lunch & rest stops at sites of scenic, wildlife or historic interest. Return to lodge late afternoon. Optional ski/snowshoe or R&R. Dinner. Evening options: Finnish sauna, fireplace stories or ‘film fest’ of National Geographic films on our Arctic adventures.

DAY 4: Now that you “knows the ropes,” the guides will plan the day based upon your interests -- choose between easy or challenging trails & a longer or shorter routes. Scenic stop options: the ice caves, the Murphys Falls overlook, the river bluff, the old growth forest. Return to lodge for Celebration Dinner. Shuttle to Ely’s International Wolf Center for special Saturday evening presentation on timber wolves. Cap off a great evening with dessert at the lodge before bed.

DAY 5: “Bon voyage” breakfast buffet. Light-hearted “Mushers Graduation” event (with diploma!). Kennel visit for final puppy hugs & to bid your dogteam adieu. Check-out mid to late morning (or earlier if your travel plans require)

Dec 2015 - Mar 2016 Lodge-Based Vacations

Check-in 4-6pm/check-out 9-11am, rates are per adult/dbl occup, kids/teens: \$100-\$300 off
PLEASE NOTE: Many trips are already FULL. Call us for openings.

4-night “GOOD” Dogsled Vacations, up to 8 per trip

Sat Dec 12 – Wed Dec 16	\$875	Wed Jan 27 – Sun Jan 31	\$1175
Wed Dec 16 – Sun Dec 20	\$1075	Wed Feb 3 – Sun Feb 7	\$1175
Sat Dec 19 – Wed Dec 23	\$1175	Wed Feb 17 – Sun Feb 21	\$1175
Wed Dec 23 – Sun Dec 27	\$1275	Wed Feb 24 – Sun Feb 28	\$1175
Mon Dec 28 – Fri Jan 1	\$1375	Wed Mar 2 – Sun Mar 6	\$1175
Thur Dec 31 – Mon Jan 4	\$1275	Wed Mar 9 – Sun Mar 13	\$1175
Wed Jan 6 – Sun Jan 10	\$1075	Wed Mar 16 – Sun Mar 20	\$1075
Wed Jan 20 – Sun Jan 24	\$1175		

3-night “GOOD” Dogsled Vacations, up to 8 per trip

Sat Dec 12 – Tue Dec 14	\$675	Thur Feb 18 – Sun Feb 21	\$975
Fri Jan 1 – Mon Jan 4	\$1075	Thur Feb 25 – Sun Feb 28	\$975
Thur Jan 7 – Sun Jan 10	\$875	Thur Mar 3 – Sun Mar 6	\$975
Thur Jan 20 – Sun Jan 24	\$975	Thur Mar 10 – Sun Mar 13	\$975
Thur Jan 28 – Sun Jan 31	\$975	Thur Mar 17 – Sun Mar 20	\$875
Thur Feb 4 – Sun Feb 7	\$975		

4-night “BETTER” Dogsled Vacations, up to 6 per trip

Sat Dec 19 – Wed Dec 23	\$1375	Thur Feb 11 – Mon Feb 15	\$1475 Pres
Mon Dec 28 – Fri Jan 1	\$1575	Wed Feb 17 – Sun Feb 21	\$1375
Wed Jan 6 – Sun Jan 10	\$1275	Wed Feb 24 – Sun Feb 28	\$1375
Thur Jan 14 – Mon Jan 18	\$1375 MLK	Wed Mar 2 – Sun Mar 6	\$1375
Wed Jan 20 – Sun Jan 24	\$1375	Wed Mar 9 – Sun Mar 13	\$1375
Wed Jan 27 – Sun Jan 31	\$1375	Wed Mar 16 – Sun Mar 20	\$1275
Wed Feb 3 – Sun Feb 7	\$1375		

4-night “BEST” Dogsled Vacations, up to 4 per trip

Wed Dec 16 - Sun Dec 20	\$1475	Wed Feb 3 – Sun Feb 7	\$1575
Sat Dec 19 – Wed Dec 23	\$1575	Thur Feb 11 – Mon Feb 15	\$1675 Pres
Wed Dec 23 – Sun Dec 27	\$1675	Wed Feb 17 – Sun Feb 21	\$1575
Mon Dec 28 – Fri Jan 1	\$1775	Wed Feb 24 – Sun Feb 28	\$1575
Wed Jan 6 – Sun Jan 10	\$1475	Wed Mar 2 – Sun Mar 6	\$1575
Thur Jan 14 – Mon Jan 18	\$1575 MLK	Wed Mar 9 – Sun Mar 13	\$1575
Wed Jan 20 – Sun Jan 24	\$1575	Wed Mar 16 – Sun Mar 20	\$1475
Wed Jan 27 – Sun Jan 31	\$1575		

4-night Dogsled Vacation for Parent-Child Pairs (ages 8-14)

With evening campcraft, storytelling & journaling workshops, \$1975/pair

Thur Jan 14 – Mon Jan 18 MLK Hol Thur Feb 11 – Mon Feb 15 Pres.Hol

5-night Photo Adventure Dogsled Vacation, \$1575/adult

With National Geographic photographer Layne Kennedy, Wed Feb 3 -Mon Feb 8

Dogsled Camping Adventures

Wintergreen camping trips offer you as much dogsledding as our lodge-based trips PLUS so much more: backcountry navigating & route-finding, campsite skills, firebuilding & campfire cookery, tenting & snowshelters, winter stars & northern lights, winter ecology & animal tracks. And after each gratifying day on the trail, you'll enjoy warm camaraderie and fun stories around a glowing campfire.

Beginning Dogsled Camping Trips

On these entry-level winter skills programs, you'll spend your first evening & morning at the lodge receiving hands-on training in winter camping & travel skills, including dog care & harnessing, dogsledding & snow-season comfort and safety. Then you'll embark on a 4-day, 3-night guided trek, dogsledding each day and enjoying a cozy campfire each evening. You'll camp in our Yukon wall tents or dome tents and snooze in our Antarctic-rated sleeping systems with soft camp mattress, warm down bag with fleece liner and bivvy cover ("a toasty sleep at any temp!") Your 6-member team + 2 guides will celebrate with a festive final evening back at the lodge. No experience or gear needed. Lots of learning & lots of fun! You'll travel by dogsled but you're welcome to try skiing/snowshoeing at camp.

Advanced Dogsled & Ski Camping Adventures

These highly adventurous treks involve dogsledding & skiing greater distances & deeper into the wilderness, often to reach the northwood's top scenic & historic sites. Open to adults & teens in good fitness who are ready for a physical challenge in a remote winter setting. Previous camping experience (summer or winter) and familiarity with skiing is helpful. During the first evening's orientation at the lodge, the guides will organize your group as a team so that when the trek is launched the next morning, everyone is prepared to learn & assist with camp & trail duties. Each group of 6-7 participants (plus 2 guides) has 2 freight sleds driven by 2 persons each. This means that 4 participants are mushing at any given time, while others in rotation are following along on skis or snowshoes. But since we're breaking trail in untracked wilderness, the travel pace is very moderate (like a walking pace). Most trips are led by director Paul Schurke.

Wintergreen provides:

- Freight sleds & dogteams
- Dome sleeping tents (for 2-3 people each)
- Cook tent (for entire group to gather in heated comfort if needed)
- Coleman stoves, cook kit, misc. camp gear, Thermoses and water bottles
- Wiggys Antarctic-rated sleeping bags
- Strata Rest foam camping mattresses
- Thermax sleeping bag liner & outer Ultrex "bivvy sack" bag cover
- Back-country metal-edged skis with Berwyn bindings and poles (optional)
- Sherpa snowshoes (optional)
- Sled bags for packing personal gear
- Trail phone, map kit, trail radios, First Aid kit
- Lots of scrumptious food for both campfire cooking & trailside snacking

Dec 2015 - Mar 2016 Dogsled Camping Trips

Check-in 4-6pm/check-out 9-11am, rates are per adult/dbl occup, kids/teens: \$100-\$300 off
PLEASE NOTE: Many trips are already FULL. Call us for openings.

Dogsled Camping for Complete Beginners (all gear provided)

5 nights: 3 nights camping, 1st & last nights in lodge, up to 6 per trip, for all ages

Tue Dec 16-Sun Dec 20	\$1075
Sun Dec 27-Fri Jan 1	\$1375
Wed Jan 13-Mon Jan 18	\$1275
Wed Feb 10-Mon Feb 15	\$1275
Tue Mar 1-Sun Mar 6	\$1275



Advanced Dogsled & Ski Camping (all gear provided)

6 nights: 4 nights camping, 1st & last in lodge, prior camping & skiing helpful

Heart of the Winter Wilderness

Mon Jan 25-Sun Jan 31 \$1375

February Director's Choice

Mon Feb 15-Sun Feb 21 \$1275

March Director's Choice

Mon Mar 7-Sun Mar 13 \$1275



Adventures of a Lifetime

Join Wintergreen founders Paul & Sue Schurke in 2016

ARCTIC:

Dogsled Svalbard Island in Norway's High Arctic
8 Days, Apr 27- May 4, 2016 **FULL**

Features 6 days dogsled camping on the High Arctic's most beautiful island & 2 days in the world's northernmost town.



AMAZON:

River of Doubt Tour with Theodore Roosevelt Association

June 7-17: Tour Rio, Iguazu Falls, Manaus & enjoy Amazon Cruise

Paul, with Sue, will be guest lecturer on the 4-day luxury ship portion of this 11-day trip. He'll share his 2014 retracing of TR's epic 1914 canoe descent of the Amazon's legendary River of Doubt. Details: www.theodoreroosevelt.org

AFRICA:

Tanzania Adventure Safari with Wilderness Inquiry

12 days, Sept 9-21, 2016, with our non-profit

cross-cultural program. *Join Paul & Sue to witness*

Africa's "Big Five" top animals & top three "must see" sites: the Ngorongoro Crater (the continent's greatest density of big animals), Olduvai Gorge (celebrated archeological site of our earliest known human ancestors), and Serengeti National Park (7th wonder of the world)

Details: info@dogsledding.com

