



Our upcoming Season Covid Protocol Plan:

Covid concerns remain fluid, but the trends are encouraging. Below are our Covid protocols from last season. They served us well, We had no mishaps. As Covid concerns relax, we hope to relax these protocols. We assume that (adult) guests will arrive fully vaccinated with booster (if no booster, please test). If so, perhaps guests & our guides can dine together again (*indoor socializing was missed last season*). But breakfasts delivered to your cabin doors for DIY service will probably continue (*guests appreciated morning privacy last season*). At present, we intend to largely adhere to these protocols. If health advisories allow us to relax them, we'll alert you in your Final Trip Update (emailed a week before your trip). Thanks for your flexibility.

Our last Season Covid Protocols:

Your health & safety is our key priority. Fortunately dogsledding is an outdoor activity deemed safe by the Minnesota Department of Health and there is NO evidence that dogs can catch, carry or spread Covid 19. We're also fortunate that while our region hosted nearly a half-million visitors last summer for adventure trips, not one case of virus transfer was confirmed among vacationers. That indicates the lodging & meal service safety protocols implemented in Ely are working and we've adopted our own for your safety. These include the following:

- For groups who've booked your own private group trip, it's assumed you'll function as your own safe 'bubbles' within your private cabins and exercise appropriate masking, social-distancing, & sanitizing practices as you choose.
- For guests who've booked trips that include other guests, each booking 'bubble' will have their own private bedrooms & bathrooms in cabins that have ample common space and table options for socially-distanced dining as per Department of Health protocols. While socializing in the cabins, guests are asked to wear masks &/or appropriately distance. Lodging options for these 'mixed group' trips may involve one or more larger adjoining cabins and/or nearby private hotel-type units that have 1-3 beds in each.
- Ample sanitizing & cleaning supplies will be provided for guest use in all cabin areas.
- For everyone's health and safety, Wintergreen's Covid protocols call for minimizing in-cabin contact between guests & guides. Therefore, dinners prepared by our chef in our commercial kitchen may be delivered hot to your cabin door each evening for self-service. Before or after dinner (weather permitting), guests may join their guides safely out-of-doors for socializing, stories and route-planning at campfire circles near their cabin with insulated, social-distanced seating. Guests are asked to return used serving-ware in the catering boxes to the cabin door for guide clean-up. Guests are asked to clean used dishware in their cabin dishwashers.
- Cabins will be stocked with an ample, tasty variety of fresh and frozen heat & self-serve breakfast options (and self-serve soup & hot sandwich options if/when indoor lunches are preferred).
- During dogsled outings, trailside campfire picnic lunches will be served by your guides at scenic sites with social distancing. Guests will be issued ample trail snacks and hot & cold beverages for personal use.
- Guests are welcome and encouraged to join the guides for all outside activities including morning kennel care and evening dog feeding/watering following each days' dogsled excursion.
- On camping trips, ample tent & sleeping system options will be provided to ensure private sleeping spaces as desired. Sanitizing and hygiene will be strictly enforced for dining. Campfire gatherings may be socially distanced (and masks or neck-gaiter mouth coverings are welcome as desired).
- Wintergreen will have masks & hand sanitizer available, but guests are asked to bring their own supplies as desired. Pocket-size packets of sanitizing "handi-wipes" are ideal since you can keep them thawed and readily available for use while dogsledding and in your cabins. Thank you for accommodating these protocols to ensure we all enjoy a safe and healthy season.

The Wintergreen Team

"Give me winter, give me dogs and you can keep the rest." Knud Rasmussen, Greenlandic explorer

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