2027 SEASON / TERMS & CONDITIONS

Hornøya photography tour

A guided wildlife photography day trip from Vardø, Norway. These terms explain your booking, what to expect and what happens if plans change.

Pre-publication edition
Prepared for release after the necessary permits have been issued and checked. This edition does not represent that permission for the 2027 tour has already been granted. Customer terms are on pages 1-6; separate operator review notes and legal sources are on pages 7-8.

Your tour at a glance

NOK 1,700 per person
Photography-focused guiding and round-trip boat transport from Vardø.

09:40 - latest arrival at the meeting dock
10:00 - scheduled departure from Vardø
17:00 - planned departure from Hornøya, not arrival back in Vardø

Maximum 10 photographers with a guide; no minimum group size.
Minimum age 14. Guests aged 14-15 must be accompanied by an adult.
Pay at the dock before departure. Card and cash accepted.

All times are local Norwegian time (Europe/Oslo). Boat travel, boarding, safety briefings and movement with the group form part of the day; seven full hours of photography on land are not promised. The operating schedule must comply with the applicable permit.

Who you are booking with

Arctic Varanger is operated by **Vian Film Production**, organisation number **921 197 942**, Batterigata 12A, Vardø, Norway. In these terms, “we”, “us” and “our” mean Vian Film Production. You book and pay us for the complete tour. Vardø Havn provides the boat transport as our supplier.

Contact: contact@arcticvaranger.com | +47 412 65 786
Meeting point: Open the designated Vardø meeting dock in Google Maps. The business address above is not the meeting point.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Booking, payment & cancellation

1. Making a reservation

Your booking becomes binding when you complete a reservation for an available place. Please read these terms before reserving, check the date and number of guests, and provide accurate contact details. Keep your booking confirmation and contact us promptly if anything is incorrect. If booking for others, make these terms and the tour requirements available to them.

Reservations are handled through Acuity Scheduling. The total tour price is NOK 1,700 per person, including guiding and return boat transport. No food, drinks, photographic equipment, accommodation, travel to Vardø or personal insurance is included.

2. Payment at the dock

Pay the full price to Arctic Varanger on arrival at the boat dock, before departure to Hornøya. We accept card and cash. No advance payment or deposit is required. PayPal is used for payment processing. Payment on arrival does not remove the cancellation obligation attached to your reservation.

3. Cancelling your place

At least 24 hours before the scheduled 10:00 departure: free cancellation.

Less than 24 hours before departure, or a no-show: 50% of the tour price, **NOK 850 per person**, is payable for each affected reserved place.

For a 10:00 departure, the free-cancellation deadline is 10:00 on the preceding day, Norwegian local time.

Send your cancellation to contact@arcticvaranger.com, identifying the reservation and affected guests. Retain evidence of when you sent it. The fee remains payable even though you have not paid in advance. It is subject to mandatory consumer law and may be reduced or disallowed where enforcing it would be unlawful or unreasonable. An operator cancellation is governed by section 5.

4. Late arrival, changes & cooling-off rights

Arrive by 09:40 for payment and boarding. We cannot guarantee that the boat can wait. If you miss departure because you arrive late, the no-show policy applies. Contact us promptly about a date or participant change; any agreed change must be confirmed in writing. A request alone does not amend your booking.

This is a leisure activity booked for a specific date. The usual statutory 14-day cooling-off right does not apply under section 22(m) of the Norwegian Right of Withdrawal Act. The free-cancellation period above is our contractual policy; your rights if we fail to provide the agreed service remain unaffected. [3]

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Weather, changes & refunds

5. Cancellation before departure or inability to land

The captain and guide may delay, change or cancel the trip when weather, sea conditions, unsafe boarding or landing, wildlife protection measures, official restrictions or other circumstances make the planned trip unsafe or unlawful. The tour will not operate without the required permit. There is no minimum number of paying guests required to run the tour.

If we cancel before departure: nothing is payable. If payment has already been collected, it will be refunded in full.

If the trip cannot run or cannot land on Hornøya: any tour payment collected will be refunded in full.

A replacement date or alternative activity is optional. You do not have to accept a voucher or a different tour instead of a refund due under this section.

We will notify you using your booking contact details as soon as reasonably possible after a decision. Conditions can change at short notice, including after you reach the dock. Keep your contact details current and check for messages before travelling.

6. A tour that has to end early

After landing and the start of the island visit, we may need to shorten the tour or return early for safety, weather, sea conditions, a closure or another event outside our reasonable control. Our policy is that no automatic contractual refund is offered solely because the tour ends early for these reasons.

This policy does not exclude mandatory rights. If the interruption means a material part of the agreed service is not supplied, any claim for a price reduction, refund or compensation will be assessed under applicable law and the circumstances. Nothing in these terms permits us to retain payment where the law requires repayment. The full-refund rule in section 5 applies if landing is not possible.

7. Other changes and delays

Safety and legal restrictions take priority over the itinerary. We will explain any significant change to the booked service and discuss the available options. A substantially different tour is not imposed as a substitute without your agreement. Changes to these terms do not retrospectively reduce rights under an existing booking.

Refunds due will be arranged without undue delay; contact us if you have not received an expected refund. Return times can change, so allow flexibility for onward travel. Reimbursement of separately booked travel, accommodation or other losses is not automatic and depends on applicable law. We do not exclude liability that cannot lawfully be excluded. [5]

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Wildlife, access & photography

8. Access to a protected nature reserve

Hornøya forms part of the Hornøya and Reinøya Nature Reserve. Access is subject to the reserve regulations, the operator's permit and any current closures or restrictions. During 15 February-15 August, general land and sea access restrictions apply, with specified exceptions and permitted guided access. Your booking is not permission to explore restricted areas independently. [1]

The tour uses authorised transport and guiding within the areas and routes covered by the permit. Remain with the guided group, stay within permitted paths and areas, and return together to the landing point. Follow the guide's instructions to prevent crowding and unnecessary disturbance. The group limit is 11 people per arrival including at least one guide; our tour accepts at most 10 photographers. [1]

9. Protecting the birds and their habitat

Birds, nests and eggs must not be harmed or unnecessarily disturbed. Camping, tents and camouflage installations are prohibited by the reserve rules. Respect barriers, closed paths and instructions from the authorities. A permit does not guarantee access to every part of the island. [1, 2]

Give birds space and stop or move back when instructed. Do not chase, touch, feed, bait or deliberately provoke wildlife to create a photograph. Do not use playback, flash or other equipment in a way that disturbs birds. Keep camera bags and tripods clear of routes and other visitors. Take all rubbish back with you.

Do not operate a drone during the tour. The government's explanation of the reserve rules states that the disturbance prohibition in practice prevents drone use in the reserve during the breeding season. Tell the guide about sick or dead birds; do not handle them. Follow any disease-control or equipment-cleaning instructions in force. [2]

10. What the photography experience includes

This is a photography-focused guided wildlife visit. The guide helps you find suitable photographic opportunities within the permitted route and safe conditions. Wildlife welfare and group safety always take priority over an image. Photography at your own pace must remain compatible with the guided group's movements.

Wildlife is free-ranging. We do not guarantee a particular species, number of birds, distance, behaviour, puffin fights, birds in flight, lighting, weather or photographic result. Promotional photographs illustrate possible experiences. A lack of particular sightings or preferred conditions is not by itself a failure to deliver the tour.

Bring your own camera equipment and protect it against spray, rain and accidental damage. Keep control of your belongings and avoid obstructing others. The booking does not transfer ownership of your photographs to Arctic Varanger or grant us permission to use your images or likeness in marketing.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Preparing for a safe visit

11. Age, access and facilities

Participants must be at least 14 years old. Guests under 16 must be accompanied by an adult who remains responsible for their supervision throughout the tour. Participation must be suitable for the individual guest and the conditions on the day.

Accessibility: the boat access and island route are not wheelchair accessible and are not suitable for guests who require walking assistance. Boarding, disembarking and moving on the island require adequate balance and mobility. Contact us before reserving if you have an access or support need, so we can discuss the actual requirements.

Facilities: there is a shelter on Hornøya, but no toilets. Plan accordingly before boarding.

Suitability is assessed against the practical and safety demands of the trip, rather than a diagnosis or disability label alone. Tell us about support needs relevant to safe participation before booking. Do not send unnecessary medical details through the booking form; contact us to discuss the information needed.

12. What to bring and how to participate

Bring warm layers, windproof and waterproof clothing, suitable footwear with good grip, your own food and drinking water, and any personal medication you need. Conditions may be cold, windy, wet or slippery. Consider the length of the visit and the absence of toilets when deciding whether the tour is suitable for you.

Listen to the safety briefing and follow the captain's and guide's instructions, including directions on seating, movement, boarding, lifejackets and other safety equipment. Keep equipment secure on the boat. Tell the guide promptly if you feel unwell, see a hazard or need assistance. Do not leave the group or attempt an independent return crossing.

Do not participate while impaired by alcohol or drugs or behave in a way that endangers people or wildlife. We may refuse boarding or stop participation where reasonably necessary for safety or compliance with the reserve rules. Any financial consequences will be assessed fairly under the circumstances and applicable law; this is not an automatic forfeiture of all rights.

13. Our safety responsibilities

We are responsible for organising the agreed tour with reasonable care and for meeting our applicable safety obligations. We use Vardø Havn for boat transport; the captain controls vessel operations and the guide controls the group ashore. Your duty to follow instructions does not transfer our legal safety responsibilities to you. [6, 7]

If conditions deteriorate, follow instructions concerning shelter, regrouping, evacuation or a delayed return. Protecting people takes priority over the timetable. In an immediate emergency, alert the guide or crew; Norwegian emergency numbers are 112 for police and 113 for medical emergencies.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Responsibilities & your rights

14. Liability and personal insurance

Outdoor wildlife trips and boat travel involve risks, including changing seas, exposure, slips and falls. We will take reasonable safety measures, but cannot promise a risk-free environment. Participation is not a waiver of claims for negligence, breach of contract, personal injury or other liability arising under applicable law.

We remain your contact for the complete booked tour, including transport supplied by Vardø Havn. Applicable mandatory maritime rules may govern particular transport claims. No blanket liability cap or exclusion of our responsibility for suppliers is created by these terms. You are responsible for taking reasonable care of your equipment; this does not exclude a claim where we or a supplier are legally responsible for its loss or damage.

Personal travel, accident and camera-equipment insurance is not included. We recommend suitable cover for cancellation, illness, travel disruption, medical assistance and equipment used on boat trips. Check the policy's limits and exclusions. Insurance does not replace any rights you have against us.

15. Booking information and privacy

Vian Film Production is responsible for its handling of your booking information. We use Acuity Scheduling for reservations and PayPal for payment processing. Booking and contact information is used to administer the reservation and communicate about your tour; payment information is handled through the relevant payment process.

For questions about your data, contact contact@arcticvaranger.com. Subject to the applicable conditions, you may request access, correction, deletion, restriction or portability of your personal data, and object to processing where that right applies. You may complain to Datatilsynet. Accepting these tour terms is not blanket consent to unrelated marketing or use of your photograph. This section is a summary, not a substitute for the privacy information required when data is collected. [8]

16. Problems and complaints

Tell the guide or crew promptly about a problem so it can be addressed where possible. Send any further complaint to contact@arcticvaranger.com with your booking details, what happened and the remedy you request. Keep relevant receipts and correspondence. Reporting promptly helps us investigate; these terms do not impose a shorter deadline than mandatory law allows.

If we cannot resolve the complaint, you may seek guidance from Forbrukerrådet and, where the case falls within its remit, mediation through Forbrukertilsynet. Fees and admissibility rules apply. The relevant body can advise on any further dispute route; the right to use the courts is preserved. [9]

17. Applicable law

Norwegian law governs these terms, without removing any mandatory consumer protection or court jurisdiction rights that apply to you. This standalone day trip has no overnight accommodation and falls outside the Package Travel Act's scope under section 2(a). A different assessment is needed if it is sold as part of a wider travel arrangement. Mandatory rights prevail over any conflicting term. [4, 5]

OPERATOR REVIEW / NOT PART OF THE CUSTOMER CONTRACT

Before this edition is published

The commercial details in the customer text reflect the operator's instructions received on 15 November 2026. No deposit, minimum group size, invented permit number or arbitrary refund deadline has been added. This page records release requirements, not additional customer obligations.

A. Check the issued permit and the return schedule

Review the actual permission covering 2027, its holder, authorised dates, routes, trip allocation, guiding arrangements, transport supplier and all special conditions. Do not infer 2027 authorisation from a 2026 operator listing. The current rule sets a 09:00-17:00 operating window; a planned 17:00 departure from Hornøya must be checked against the permit and the authority's interpretation before release. A safety exception is not authority for routine late operation. [1]

The 19 June 2026 amendment permits multi-year permissions and changes the application deadline to 15 August of the preceding year. Older guidance stating one-year permits and a 1 December deadline is superseded. [10]

B. Make the booking process match the terms

Show the complete price, tour details, cancellation fee, contact information and terms before the reservation is completed. The final booking action must clearly acknowledge the payment obligation even though payment is deferred until arrival. Supply a confirmation and the applicable terms on a durable medium, such as email. Keep evidence of acceptance. Check how late-cancellation fees are requested and collected; these terms do not authorise an undisclosed automatic card charge. [3]

C. Review the two clauses with financial consequences

NOK 850 is the operator-selected late-cancellation/no-show fee, not a statutory tariff or a legally certified amount. Review its fairness against expected loss and the actual circumstances. The early-return policy is also an operator policy, not a rule imposed by law. Retaining all payment after very limited delivery may be challenged despite the event being outside the operator's control. Preserve the express mandatory-rights safeguards and obtain Norwegian legal review of these clauses before release. [5]

D. Complete the supporting compliance work

Provide a separate, accurate privacy notice at booking. It must describe actual legal bases, recipients, retention criteria, relevant overseas transfers and safeguards, rights and contact details. Acuity and PayPal's notices alone do not replace your own transparency duties. No retention period, transfer arrangement or marketing practice has been assumed here. [8]

Check the supplier's applicable maritime compliance, crew qualifications, safety equipment and capacity; the reserve limit is not the vessel's passenger certificate. Complete the tour risk assessment and emergency procedures and verify relevant insurance. Do not claim that small commercial boats are individually approved by Sjøfartsdirektoratet where the self-check regime applies. [6, 7]

After these checks, update any affected wording, date the release, remove this internal appendix and the pre-publication labels, and keep a copy of the version accepted for each booking. Recheck legal and permit changes before the 2027 season.

OPERATOR REFERENCE / CHECKED 15 NOVEMBER 2026

Legal sources & research notes

Source titles below are clickable. References support the legal framework; they do not certify the operator's individual permit, policies or compliance. Some Lovdata pages were available through indexed text when direct retrieval was blocked. The 2026 amendment was checked separately to avoid relying on stale consolidated extracts.

Reserve rules and permits

[1] Hornøya and Reinøya Nature Reserve Regulations, 28 January 1983 no. 120, particularly IV and VI(4), read with the 15 August 2025 amendment. Supports the seasonal access framework, guided route, group limit, return together and operating window.

[2] Royal Resolution, 15 August 2025, especially the discussion of wildlife disturbance, drones and guiding. “Authorised guiding” means operation under the relevant permission, not a claim that Norway awards an individual Hornøya guide certification.

[10] Amendment of 19 June 2026 no. 1233, effective immediately: permit duration is set by the authority, multi-year permits are possible, and applications are due by 15 August of the previous year.

Booking, cancellation and consumer protection

[3] Right of Withdrawal Act, 20 June 2014 no. 27, sections 8, 16, 18 and 22(m); also 2023 amending Act, legislative decision 80. Pre-contract information, clear payment obligation, confirmation and fixed-date leisure exception. The exception does not extinguish contractual cancellation rights.

[4] Package Travel Act, 15 June 2018 no. 32, section 2(a). Trips under 24 hours without overnight accommodation are excluded. Package-tour refund deadlines, cancellation tariffs and travel-guarantee claims have therefore not been imported into this standalone tour.

[5] Contracts Act, sections 36-37. Unreasonable terms can be set aside or adjusted; standard consumer terms receive additional scrutiny. Neither a 50% fee nor a blanket weather-related refund exclusion is automatically validated by these provisions.

Safety, maritime rights, privacy and complaints

[6] DSB: risk analysis for consumer services. Operator risk assessment, safety information, precautions and emergency planning; responsibility for safe services cannot simply be waived.

[7] Norwegian Maritime Authority: vessels carrying 12 passengers or fewer. The applicable regime depends on the vessel and operation. Regulation (EU) 1177/2010, Article 2 excludes, among others, ships certified for up to 12 passengers and certain excursion services. The ten-photographer tour limit alone does not establish the boat's legal classification; no automatic ferry compensation has been promised.

[8] Datatilsynet: information businesses must provide, reflecting GDPR Articles 12-14. The short customer privacy summary needs supporting information at data collection.

[9] Forbrukerrådet: complaint routes. Complain to the trader first; mediation and further adjudication depend on jurisdiction. The Consumer Disputes Commission does not automatically hear every tourism-service dispute.