



Alta Canyon. Photo: Roger Johansen Photography

# ALTA

## The City of the Northern Lights

For thousands of years, people have lived in this sheltered area at the end of the Altafjord. Today, the people are still here, but they've added a central harbour, airport and modern infrastructure. The darkness of winter holds our elusive Arctic jewel, the Northern Lights, and Alta has been a favoured spot for scientists and tourists alike to observe them for over a hundred years. In the summer, the Midnight Sun lights the way for outdoor tours, adventures and exploration. dogsleds, reindeer, riverboats, Stone Age carvings, Sami culture and more... it's no wonder people come from around the world to visit.

### ATTRACTIONS/ EXCURSIONS

#### Alta Museum

Duration: 2 hours  
This award-winning museum sits amid thousands of Stone Age rock carvings, visible in summer. Indoor exhibits year-round. It also has one of the best views of Altafjord, no matter what the weather.

#### Hunting for the Aurora Borealis

Duration: 3-4 hours  
Join your guides out under the winter night sky to search for the elusive and beautiful Northern Lights. Enjoy the quiet of the Arctic wilderness as you search, and let the guides help you set up your camera just right.

#### King Crab Safari

Duration: 4 hours  
Travel to the fjord coast outside of Alta to the tiny fishing village of Storekorsnes. You'll have a chance to see king crab in the dockside aquarium, learn more about them, and then sample the delicious crab in a nearby grillhouse.

#### Alta Canyon (Sautso) and Dam

Duration: 4 hours  
Sautso, northern Europe's biggest canyon, lies 45 km outside Alta. In summer, journey to the canyon, stop for photos, and tour the 110-metre-tall dam that is part of Norway's power generation system.

#### Riverboat Tours

Duration: 2 hours  
The area's old-style wooden riverboats are still very much in use during the summer. Join an experienced pilot and cruise along the river through often shallow and white water. Boat trips can be arranged lasting from 20 minutes to 2 hours.

#### Dogsled Riding, Driver or Passenger

Duration: 3 hours  
Drive your own dogsled, or take the passenger seat and just enjoy the ride. In summer, use a wheeled cart instead of the sled. Learn about the sport and raising huskies from a veteran dog musher.

#### Pæskatun

Duration: 2 hours  
Slate quarry in the rugged hills near Alta. The hosts demonstrate old and new techniques for producing slate, and tell the history of the rough and difficult trade that has been a cornerstone of the Alta economy for two centuries. Be the first human ever to touch a 700-million-year-old rock surface!

#### Home Visit With Local Artisans

Duration: 2 hours  
Visit with a local knitting or sewing expert in their home studio. Learn about traditional Norwegian handicrafts and compare notes with local artisans over coffee or tea.

#### Maze and Cavzo Safari

Duration: 4-5 hours  
A genuine Sami village on the high plateau south of Alta. In summer, take riverboats to a nearby old church, or farther up to the Alta Dam in Sautso. In winter, take part in "Sami Games" to learn about the old ways.



Alta Museum. Photo: Marianne Knutsen

#### Reindeer Sledding NEW!

Duration: 4-5 hours  
Take a journey into the interior of Finnmark county. Meet a Sami family, learn about their history and traditions, and go for a peaceful ride on a reindeer-pulled sled along a frozen river.

#### Sorrisniva Igloo Hotel

Duration: 2 hours  
(Jan-Apr) An elaborate and beautiful hotel made entirely of snow and ice every winter. Decorated with ice sculptures and carvings made by local artists. Around 30 rooms, plus lounges, a gallery, a chapel, and a bar where even the glasses for drinks are made of ice.

#### Ice Sculpture Course NEW!

Duration: 3 hours  
(Jan-Apr) Join ice artists at the Sorrisniva Igloo Hotel. See the gorgeous and magical hotel interior, learn how the artists carved the ice and snow inside, and try your own hand at making an ice sculpture.



Northern Lights Cathedral. Photo: jp-foto Alta

#### Snowmobile Tours

Duration: 4 hours  
In winter, try driving your own snowmobile. A professional, experienced guide will outfit you and teach you what you need to know. Ride through wild, Arctic terrain as you explore the area.

#### Northern Lights Cathedral and BorealisAlta

Duration: 1.5 hours  
Tour Alta's best-known landmark, the Northern Lights Cathedral. Learn about the construction and symbolism both inside and out at this unique architectural gem. Then, visit BorealisAlta inside the church building, a fun and interactive Northern Lights exhibition that will help bring the science and history of the aurora borealis to life.

#### Tirpitz Museum

Duration: 2 hours  
Dedicated to telling the story of and showing artefacts from the German Navy's occupation of the Alta area in World War II, with a focus on the fearsome battleship Tirpitz that was anchored here.



BorealisAlta

#### Hiking in Alta

Alta has extraordinary nature. Winter and summer, hikes and tours that range from moderate to strenuous activity levels are available in many locations and destinations in the Arctic wilderness. Hikes can be arranged for anywhere from 30 minutes to several hours.

#### Overland Excursions

Duration: 7-10 hours  
Visit nearby towns and attractions, accompanied by a guide with stories and local knowledge to bring the area to life.  
Hammerfest - the northernmost city in the world  
Kautokeino - visit the unique Juhls silver gallery  
Karasjok - Sapmi Park and Sami Parliament  
North Cape - visit the area's northernmost point

#### PORT OF ALTA

**Visiting address** Havneveien 24, NO-9515 Alta  
**Mailing address** Havneveien 24, NO-9515 Alta  
**Phone** +47 78 44 69 10  
**E-mail** post@altahavn.no  
**Internet** www.altahavn.no  
**Maritime contact person** Arnt Nielsen  
**E-mail contact person** post@altahavn.no  
**Phone contact person** +47 78 44 69 10  
**Pilot channel** None

#### TOURIST INFORMATION

**Visiting address** Bjørn Wirkolas vei 11, NO-9510 Alta  
**Mailing address** Bjørn Wirkolas vei 11, NO-9510 Alta, Norway  
**Phone** +47 991 00 022  
**E-mail** info@visitalta.no  
**Internet** www.visitalta.no  
**Distance from port** 4 km

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

**Guide Service** North Adventure AS, +47 78 44 50 50, booking@northadventure.no  
**Turnaround facilities** No  
**Terminal/Restrooms in pier area** No  
**Shuttle bus** Provided when contracted by ships  
**Parking place for buses** Outside of ISPS area  
**Public transportation** Bus stop 500 m from pier

#### Shopping

In city centre, 4 km from ship  
**Currency exchange** None  
**Internet access in pier area** No  
**Distance to airport** < 1 km  
**Distance to city centre** 4 km  
**Distance nearest hospital** Hammerfest, 2-hour drive

#### PORT SERVICE/FACILITIES & INFORMATION

**LNG** None  
**Supplies available** Yes, depending on what is needed  
**Waste** Removed by container and truck  
**Grey water** Yes, by truck  
**Tugboats** Hammerfest, 48 hours advance notice, price includes transit time  
**Anchorage** In Bukta harbour, just off the pier  
**Ship tender facilities** Alta Havn pier, ca 500 m from terminal quay and anchorage  
**Tidal movement** 2.43 m tidal difference  
**Gangway available (B /10 /12 m)** No  
**Seawalk** No  
**ISPS approved** Yes  
**Restrictions in harbour** No  
**Maximum ship length** 275m  
**Maximum ship draft** Harbour depth 30-45 m  
**Maximum beam** 40 m  
**Maximum air draft** 60 m  
**Crew facilities** None

#### ANCHORAGE/TENDER

**Ship tenders allowed** Yes  
**Type of bottom** Sand  
**Depth** 30-45 m in harbour, 8.4 m alongside pier  
**Distance from anchorage to Tender Pier** ca 300-500 m



Quay	Length	Draft	Aircraft	Beam	Height
Terminalkaia	169 m	9.5 m	-	40 m	3 m
Marinekaia	59 m	10.5 m	-	-	2.5 m

