

To ARHC, Associate members and  
IHO-representatives

Your ref.:

Our ref.  
Case/doc.:  
Archive:

Date:  
29.05.2024

## **Invitation to the 14<sup>th</sup> ARHC Conference in Tromsø, Norway 3-5 September 2024**

Dear ARHC Colleagues. It is my pleasure to invite you to the 14th conference of the Arctic Regional Hydrographic Commission. The conference will take place in Tromsø, Norway from 3 to 5 September 2024 at the Fram Center.  
(<https://framsenteret.no/english/>).

A block reservation has been made for the period 2 to 6 September (4 nights), at the conveniently located Clarion Edge hotel and will be reserved for us until 2 August 2024. The price per room per night is NOK 1990,-. Room booking is to be made individually via this link:

<https://app.mews.com/distributor/3f18c5b4-4a85-4ae5-bf32-b12c00f8fdb6?mewsAvailabilityBlockId=7854c490-9da6-491c-9b9f-b17d00c316bf&mewsStart=2024-09-02&mewsEnd=2024-09-06>

The Clarion Edge hotel is member of the strawberry hotel group. If you join the group, the price per night is 200-300NOK lower:

<https://www.strawberryhotels.com/membership/>

There are many other hotels to choose from.

The conference will start on September 3, with an open session forum, where regional users and experts will present topics related to arctic hydrography. A draft program for the Open Forum will be published before the conference.

The ordinary ARHC conference will take place September 4 -5, in accordance with the statutes of the ARHC.



The open forum will also take place at the Fram Center.

Address:

Fram Center

Hjalmar Johansensgate 14

Tromsø

Phone: +47-777 50 200

## An Overview of the Draft Program for the ARHC 14 Conference

	Monday 2 September	Tuesday 3 September	Wednesday 4 September	Thursday 5 September
<b>Morning</b> <b>09.00 - 12.30</b>		Open Forum	The ARHC 14 conference commences	The ARHC 14 conference continues
<b>12.30 - 13.30</b>		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
<b>Afternoon</b> <b>13.30 - 1700</b>		Open Forum	The ARHC 14 conference continues	The ARHC 14 conference continues
<b>Evening</b> <b>19.00 ~ 2100</b>	Ice breaker reception.		ARHC 14 Dinner	

A draft agenda will be sent shortly after the IRCC meeting. Please forward proposals and/or comments to the agenda no later than 2 August 2018.

### Documents of the meeting

You are kindly asked to deliver your **National report** and **other documents** such as Explanatory notes, reports etc. to Evert Flier and Yves Guillam ([yves.guillam@iho.int](mailto:yves.guillam@iho.int)), no later than **10 August 2024**.

I look forward to meeting you in Tromsø.

Best regards,

Birte Noer Borrevik  
Chair ARHC

Attachments:  
Information about Tromsø

# Welcome to Tromsø!

## 1. Introduction to Tromsø

**Brief History:** Tromsø, often called the "Gateway to the Arctic," is the largest city in Northern Norway. The area has been settled since the Ice Ages and the first church on the Tromsø Island was erected in 1252. Tromsø received its status as a market town ("Købsstad") in 1794 and has a rich history as a center for Arctic hunting, trade, and research. The city has evolved from a modest trading post into a vibrant hub of culture and education, home to the world's northernmost university and a significant Arctic research community. Today, Tromsø boasts a population of over 77,000 inhabitants.

## 2. The Nature Around Tromsø

Tromsø is renowned for its stunning natural beauty. Nestled between fjords, mountains, and islands, the area offers breathtaking landscapes:

- **Hiking:** Numerous marked trails are available, from easy walks to challenging climbs, offering beautiful views of fjords and mountains. Check [UT.no](https://www.ut.no) for suggestions. Recommended hikes include:
  - **"Sherpatrappa"**, 1203 mountain steps to Fløya giving a spectacular view of Tromsøya (Tromsø Island) and Kvaløya also accessible by cable car
  - **Rødtinden** on Kvaløya provides fantastic views of Tromsøya from the opposite angle and towards the mainland. Reindeers are often seen grazing in this area.
- **Midnight Sun:** While the Midnight Sun period ends in August, you will still experience long daylight hours in September, perfect for exploring the outdoors.

## 3. Recommended Excursions and Attractions

- **Tromsø Cable Car (Fjellheisen):** Offers panoramic views of the city and surrounding landscapes. It's a great starting point for hikes or just to enjoy the scenery.
- **Arctic Cathedral (Ishavskatedralen):** Known for its distinctive architecture and stunning stained glass windows.
- **Polaria:** An Arctic aquarium and knowledge center, where you can learn about Arctic marine life and the environment.
- **Tromsø Museum:** Offers insights into the region's cultural and natural history.
- **Whale Watching:** September is a good time to join a whale-watching tour to see humpback and killer whales.

## 4. Recommended Dining Options

- **Fiskekompaniet:** Specializes in fresh seafood and offers a fine dining experience.
- **Mathallen Tromsø:** A food hall with a variety of local and international cuisine, perfect for sampling Norwegian dishes.
- **Emma's Dream Kitchen (Emmas Drømmekjøkken):** Offers traditional Norwegian dishes with a modern twist.
- **Bardus Bistro:** A Norwegian take on the traditional bistro concept

## 5. Recommended Cafés

- **Jordbærpikene Nerstranda:** Lovely café for lunch, coffee and cakes overlooking the fjord, Ishavskatedralen and Fjellheisen
- **Kaffebønna:** Tromsø's first coffee bar, great variety of coffees and light meals at several locations downtown.
- **Risø mat og kaffebar:** Serves premium coffee and tea, with a selection of local lunch options.
- **Ølhallen:** Oldest pub in Tromsø (1922), connected with Tromsø's first and largest brewery in northern Norway, Mack Brewery, offers 72 beers on tap in authentic setting



- **Brewyard:** Newest addition to microbrewery in Tromsø, offers a wide selection of home-made beer on tap together with Southern style BBQ, with an awesome outdoor view of Tromsø City.

## 6. Public Transport and Taxi Information

**Public Transport:** Tromsø has an efficient public transport system consisting of buses that can take you around the city and surrounding areas. The main bus operator is [Troms Fylkestrafikk](#). You can purchase tickets via the "Troms Mobillett" app, at kiosks, or directly from the driver (note that on-board tickets are slightly more expensive).

- **Single Ticket:** Approximately NOK 50 for adults within the city zone (covers Tromsøya, Kvaløya and Tromsdalen).
- **Day Pass:** Available for unlimited travel within the city zone for 24 hours, costing around NOK 110.

**Taxis:** Taxis are readily available in Tromsø. You can hail one on the street, find them at taxi stands, or book in advance.

- **Tromsø Taxi:** +47 03011
- **Din Taxi Tromsø:** +47 02045

Taxis in Norway can be expensive, so for shorter distances, walking or public transport is recommended.

## 7. General Tips

- **Currency:** The local currency is the Norwegian Krone (NOK).
- **Language:** While Norwegian is the official language, English is widely spoken and understood.
- **Weather:** September weather can be unpredictable. Pack layers and waterproof clothing to stay comfortable.

We hope you have a wonderful time in Tromsø, please visit [Visit Tromsø](#) for all that Tromsø has to offer!