
POLAR EXPEDITION EXPERIENCE





Planning & Logistics

Arrival & Departure

Shackleton covers all your train fares and tickets will be sent to you as part of your departure pack a few weeks before your Challenge.

You will be due on the **1625 train on Wednesday 18th March departing from Oslo Central to Bergen (alighting at Finse, approx halfway to Bergen) on .** You will arrive in Finse at approximately 2050. A reminder that you will have a full 3 course meal on arrival in Finse.

Allow minimum 2 hours between landing and catching the 1625 train to allow time to collect luggage and travel from the airport to the main train station. The shuttle service between them is very efficient and only takes 20 minutes.

Your return journey from **Finse to Oslo Central departs 1033 from Finse Sunday 22nd March, arriving at Oslo Central at approximately 1505.** Again, leave plenty of time to catch a train to the airport and check in for your return flight.

We can't take any responsibility for late flights, delayed or cancelled trains, or changes to the timetable. Therefore, clients must have travel insurance.





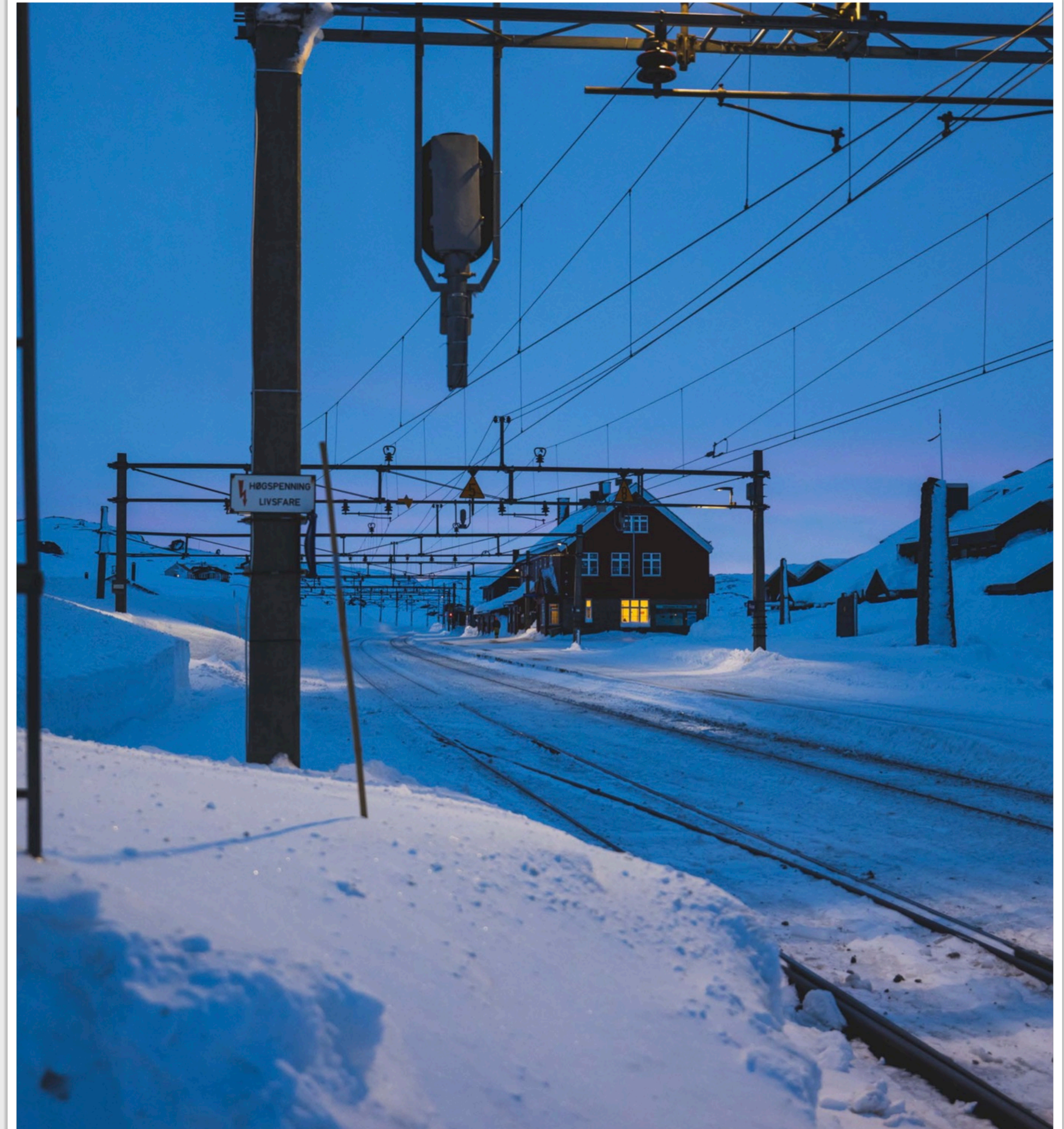
Itinerary

Oslo to Finse

18th March 2026

Day 1

Arrive in Oslo and take the 1625 train from Oslo Central to Finse. At the highest point of the Norwegian rail system lies the remote hamlet of Finse. With the nearest road 15 miles away the snow-train provides the only access. Disembarking the train after dark, first to hit is the icy chill quickly followed by blowing spindrift. Banked up with snow lies one of a handful of buildings in the hamlet, the Finse 1222 Hotel, world famous in exploring circles and your accommodation for the week.















Itinerary

Your New World

19th March 2026
Day 2 (Morning)

The next morning reveals the location – stretching out for 50 miles lies the largest mountain plateau in Europe. An untamed landscape of snow-covered tundra. It's no surprise that this is where Shackleton, Scott and Amundsen came to train a century ago; it's one of the closest places on earth to Antarctica.





Itinerary

Learn Expedition Skills

19th March 2026
Day 2 (Morning)

The first day sees the best polar guides in the world teach you expedition skiing techniques and the critical elements of polar skills - you don't need to have any prior experience on the ice. You'll venture out across a stunning frozen lake to test skills and ability, exploring the local wilderness.





Itinerary

Your First Expedition

19th March 2026
Day 2 (Afternoon)

The polar expedition begins with a push into the tundra and overnight stay on the ice; a chance to put into practice the skills you have learned. You'll pack up your pulks with expedition rations, hi-tech clothing systems and camping equipment, before waving goodbye to the comfort of the 1222 Hotel.





Itinerary

Untouched Wilderness

19th March 2026
Day 2 (Afternoon)

As the expedition route leads deeper into the landscape, a profound sense of isolation embraces - a stark contrast to the modern connected world. You'll ascend glaciers, cut through valleys and navigate the varied terrain of the Hardangervidda National Park.





Itinerary

Sub-Zero Camping

19th March 2026

Day 2 (Evening)

The overnight camp is a special experience, an encounter with nature at its most elemental. Few can claim to have slept in such a wild and inhospitable location; nothing but miles of pristine polar landscape surrounds. But equipped with best-in-class equipment the night is spent in warmth and relative comfort.







Itinerary

Sub-Zero Camping

20th March 2026
Day 3 (Morning)

Your first ever night camping in the polar tundra, complete. Waking from a unique sleep, you'll turn on the cookers, heat water and have breakfast and hot drinks inside your tents to start your day.

Packing away your tents into your pulks, you'll continue your journey.





Itinerary

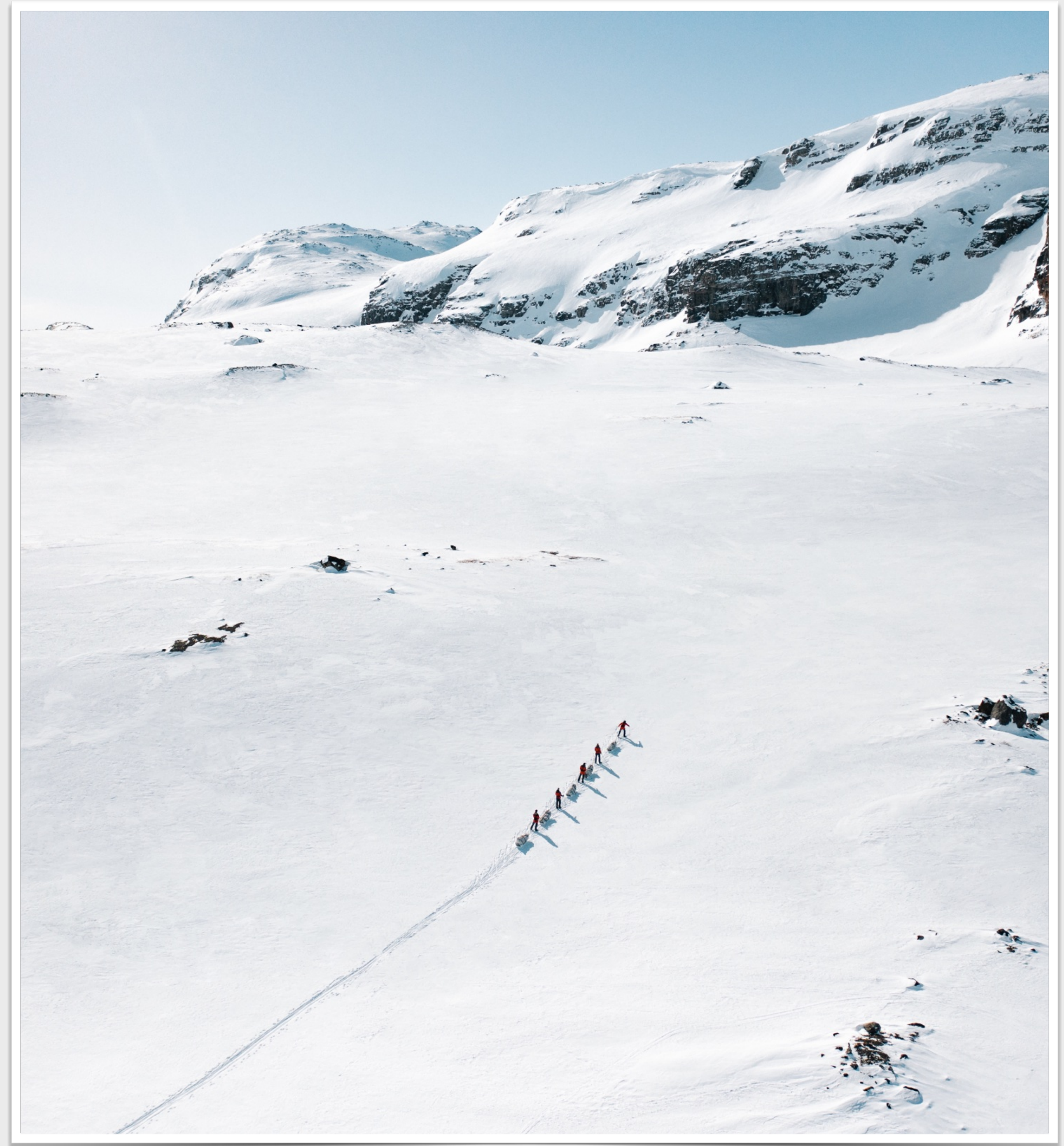
Expanding Your Comfort Zones

20th March 2026

Day 3 (Afternoon)

The ski continues further into the wilderness. Every valley, mountain or frozen lake brings a new draw-dropping view. You'll already feel like you've been in this magical place for weeks, as your personal perspective of time slows down.

It will be a challenging but rewarding physical and mental effort as you progress toward your next refuge - a Norwegian hut.





Itinerary

Authentic Norwegian Hut Stay

20th March 2026

Day 3 (Evening)

Arrival at the hut brings a strong sense of achievement, and a welcome break.

The Norwegian DNT hut system features over 550 cabins positioned about a day's ski apart, offering a curated range of hospitality experiences. From cozy, fully-staffed lodges providing warm hospitality to rustic shelters designed for a night's rest.

Your hut will be very much the former, providing a special evening with comfortable bunk rooms and communal meals exchanging stories with other expeditioners on their own adventures.







Itinerary

Return to Relative Civilisation

21st March 2026

Day 4

After a hearty hut breakfast, your final day sees you make your way back to Finse. A stunning day's ski toward a local town and train station is your destination.

Slowly, the first few buildings begin to emerge along your route, before you see a scattering of remote civilisation on the horizon - Finse and the warm luxury of the 1222 Hotel awaits.





Itinerary

Celebrate Your Success

21st March 2026
Day 4 (Evening)

A special celebratory 3-course meal, now more satisfying than any you have had before, caps off your experience. As you exchange stories of your week over well-earned drinks, you will glance out to the vast expanse of the Hardangervidda National Park known you are a small part of the ongoing history of polar exploration.





Itinerary

The Journey Home

22nd March 2026

Day 5

Once the snow has been cleared off the tracks it's time for you to board the snow-train back to Oslo. Many of you will return feeling different: more confident to take on new challenges in your lives.



Pathway to South Pole

GUIDES

Louis Rudd MBE, Shackleton's Director of Expeditions, is considered one of the modern day polar exploring greats. He served 25 years in the SAS before embarking on an exploring career during which he has reached the South Pole five times. Louis is one of only two people to cross Antarctica solo and unsupported.

Amelia Rudd is a polar explorer and qualified mountain leader who in 2020 became only the seventh woman in history to ski solo and unsupported to the South Pole. She has also completed a full traverse of Greenland, an ascent of Mount Vinson and has guided hundreds of explorers across the polar regions.

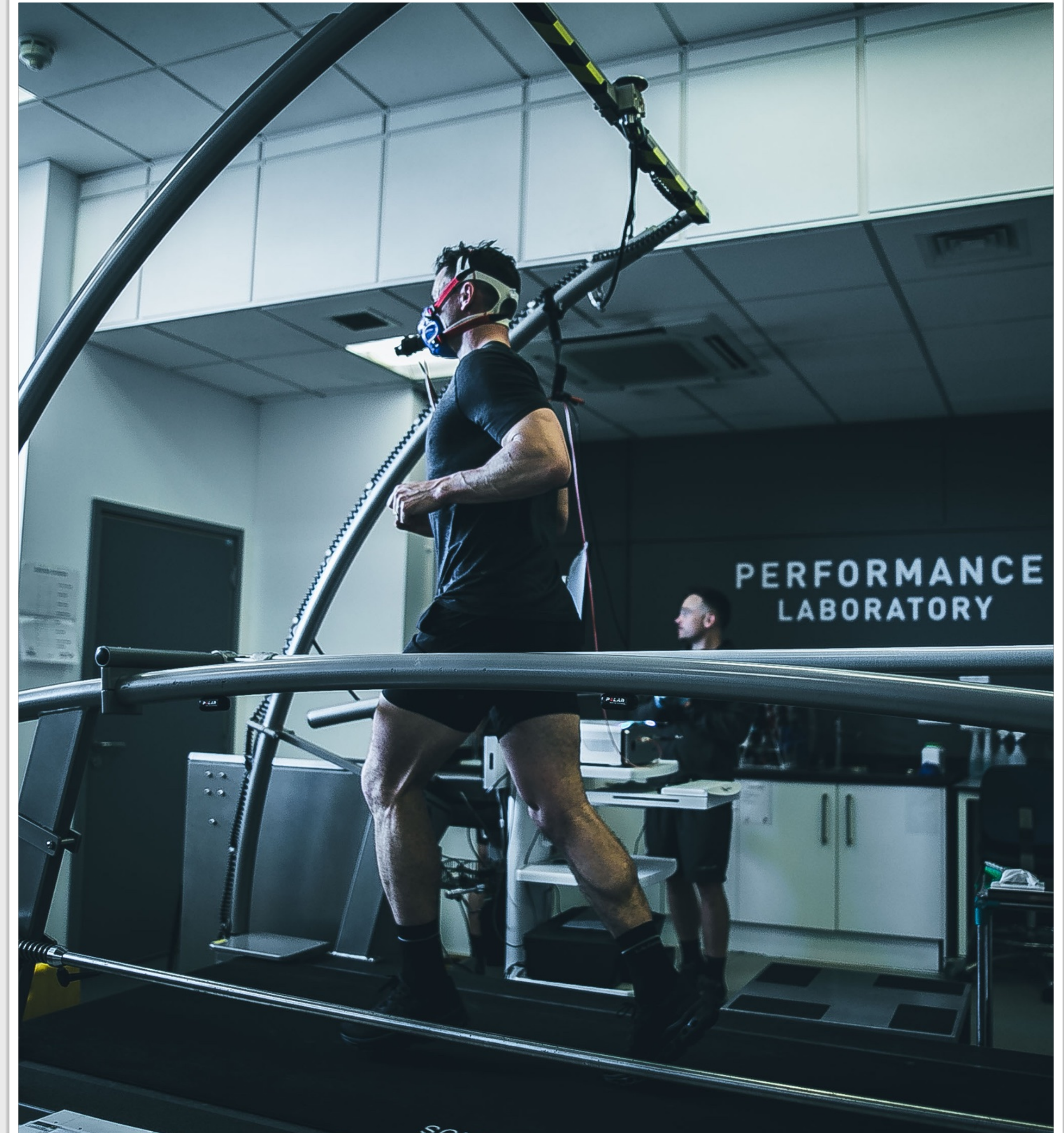


FOUNDATIONS

Challenges Foundations is a world-class expedition preparation programme designed to inspire, prepare and equip you for the Challenge. The programme is delivered via a combination of personal consultations, webinars and experiences and led by Shackleton's performance experts in endurance, expeditions and extremes.

The programme focuses on helping you prepare physically and mentally for your Challenges, whilst educating you in expedition equipment, historical context and more.

Shackleton have partnered with world-leading institutions including Loughborough University and Royal Geographic Society to deliver this unique preparedness experience.



SHACKLETON CHALLENGES

