

# Requirements for Winter Operations – *RV Teisten*

## Operating Area and Weather Conditions

- The winter season is defined as the period from 15<sup>th</sup> of October to 31<sup>st</sup> of March.
- The operating area is limited to Kongsfjorden, within a straight line from Kapp Guisnez to Kvadehuken, including NPI sampling station KB1.
- Winter operations are highly dependent on prevailing weather conditions. The feasibility of operation on the fjord shall be determined by multiple factors, including wind speed, wind direction, wave height, air and water temperature, ice conditions, and visibility.
- The final decision to commence or terminate operations rests solely with the skipper.
- The skipper may at any time suspend operations and return to the harbour, if deemed necessary for safety reasons. Kings Bay will not be held responsible for any loss of time or related costs resulting from such decisions.

## Booking Procedures

- All vessel reservations must be made through the Research in Svalbard (RiS) Portal.
- Each project must submit a completed booking form to [teisten@kingsbay.no](mailto:teisten@kingsbay.no), ensuring that all required information is provided.
- A booking will not be confirmed until a fully completed form has been received and approved by Kings Bay.
- It is strongly recommended that vessel time is reserved well in advance, with an appropriate number of buffer days allocated to account for potential weather-related delays.

## Crew Requirements

- A mandatory safety briefing shall be conducted by Kings Bay staff prior to departure to review operational procedures and safety requirements.
- During the winter season, a maximum of one (1) researcher is permitted on board.
- Up to three (3) researchers may be permitted with prior approval from Kings Bay.
- Kings Bay staff will assist with sample collection during field activity.
- A complete crew list must be submitted for each voyage.
- All personnel on board must be proficient in English and/or Norwegian to ensure effective communication and safety compliance.

## Emergency Preparedness

- There is **no local emergency response unit** based in Ny-Ålesund. In the event of an accident or emergency, the Governor of Svalbard (Sysselmesteren) shall act as the official emergency authority.
- The skipper holds ultimate responsibility and sole decision-making authority regarding all matters of safety on board.

## Clothing and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Use of SOLAS-approved flotation suits on board is mandatory. These shall be provided, maintained and regularly inspected by Kings Bay.
- Wool garments are required as a base layer to ensure adequate thermal protection.
- Safety footwear with reinforced toe protection is recommended.
- Life jackets and safety helmets are required when working on deck.

- Wool socks, hats, neck warmers, and gloves are required for all personnel to ensure adequate thermal protection.
- It is recommended to carry an extra set of dry clothing on board.
- A personal headlamp is required for all deck operations.
- All personnel must demonstrate competent use and understanding of their personal protective equipment

## **Equipment**

- Scientific equipment associated with *Teisten* may only be operated in conjunction with a formal rental of the vessel. Any unauthorized or independent use of *Teisten*'s research equipment is strictly prohibited.