
Greenland Paddling 101: Greenland paddle and strokes

New to the Greenland paddle and want some help with the basics? Spend some time getting the feel for your paddle, learn how a Greenland paddle is different from a euro paddle and work on the basic strokes (forward, reverse, turning, draw strokes and stopping).

Greenland Paddling 102: traditional gear and strokes

Here's another chance to get help using your Greenland paddle performing the basic strokes – this time using all traditional-style gear (skin on frame qajaq and tuilik or akuilisaq). Also learn some of the basic Greenlandic vocabulary that you might be hearing around the camp. **If this is your first time in a skin on frame qajaq, you must perform a wet exit in the watchful presence of a mentor.**

Forward Stroke w/ Pedersen (2 x 2hr sessions)

Spend 2 hours with Greenlander John Pedersen working on your forward stroke.

Kayak control – edging and bracing

Using the paddle is only part of paddling a kayak. Explore how to use the rest of your body to make your kayak go straight, turn faster and prevent a capsize.

Kayak control – advanced strokes

(edging review, low brace turn, high brace turn, draw on the move, hanging draw, stern rudder, bow rudder, reverse turns)

Have the basics under your belt and are ready for the more advanced strokes and maneuvers using a Greenland paddle? This session will give you the tools to become a more efficient and graceful kayaker.

Rescues and Towing

Learn the basics for rescuing modern kayaks and traditional qajaqs! Lead mentors will share important tips and tricks to get your paddling group out of the water and back into your kayaks.

Intro Harpoon (land) and hunting weapons w/ Pedersen

Think throwing a harpoon is easy? Come down to the beach and find out. John will help you power up and smooth out this ancient hunting skill – which could be considered one of the most important skills an Inuit hunter needed.

Hunting Stroke / Harpoon on the water (taalutaq) w/Pedersen

Here is where the rubber meets the road for traditional Greenland qajaqing. Try your hand and get some tips from John on throwing a harpoon from your kayak. Try to sneak up on your prey (or fellow qajaqers) using the hunting stroke while hiding behind a hunting screen (taalutaq).

Intro to Rolling on beach (60 min)

Ready to start down the path to rolling success? This 60 minute primer on the beach will cover the fundamental body movements necessary to learn to roll your kayak – all while breathing air the whole time! Highly recommended as a precursor to your rolling sessions.

1 on 1 rolling (60 minute sessions) pool and beach

Spend 60 minutes with a rolling mentor all to yourself. Choose learning in the pool or at the beach. Sign up for as many sessions as you think you can handle but **be warned: learning to roll can be physically and mentally exhausting!**

Dubside sculling roll session

Dubside is once again offering this special pool session for up to three lucky paddlers to work on their sculling roll at the pool.

Combat Rolling

Think your roll is bombproof? Put it to the test! Christopher Crowhurst has designed this session to help you learn if your roll is as infallible as you think – and find out what you might need to work on. Bill Voss and Adam Keiper will be leading the class this year.

Guide on the Side w/ Dave Niles

Want to learn to properly use wood working tools and how to keep them sharp. Dave's our Guide on the Side. Find him at posted times in the Craft Building, or just milling about the event. Each year he puts emphasis on different tools, but he's always willing to discuss any of them. As service to the kayak building community we ask him to bring an assortment of the tools he might want to sell. He always looking, buying and selling some impressive hand tools. I'd go to him before I'd go to the box store.

Foul weather substitute classes:

- Rough water kayaking
 - Combat Rolling
 - Rescues
 - Shore/pool rolling
 - Mitt Making / working with neoprene
 - Qajaq design roundtable
 - Paddle design roundtable
 - John Pedersen "Tales from the Hunt"
 - Incident Management, Distress and Communications
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