

6°

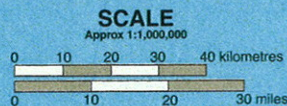
9°

12°

15°

18°

SVALBARD



Legend

- Settlement
- ▲ Height in metres



Former trappers' hut — no longer in use.

What's in a name? The Dutch who discovered this land in 1596 named it Spitsbergen, meaning "pointed mountains", and that is what most people call these islands. However, Norwegians now use the Viking word Svalbard, which means "cold coast", as the official name for the whole archipelago, in recognition of the fact that Vikings may have reached it in the 12th century. The name Spitsbergen is reserved for the largest island.

Mountains. Svalbard's tallest mountains are Newtontoppen and Perriertoppen, on Spitsbergen, which have identical heights of 5,633 feet or 1,717 metres.

Historic monuments. All artefacts relating to human activity from or before the year 1945 are considered historic monuments, and they must not be destroyed or removed. This protection extends to a distance of 100 metres around them.



UNIS — the northernmost university in the world.

Norwegian sovereignty. For most of its history the archipelago was a no man's land, but that changed in 1925 with ratification of the Treaty of Spitsbergen. This granted full sovereignty over the archipelago to the Kingdom of Norway and requires Norway to preserve Svalbard's fauna and flora, and to prohibit military activity. Under the treaty, citizens of the 40 signatory states have equal rights with Norwegians to engage in mining and other economic activities.

