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VILLUM RESEARCH STATION

A UNIQUE STATE-OF-THE-ART RESEARCH STATION IN THE HIGH ARCTIC

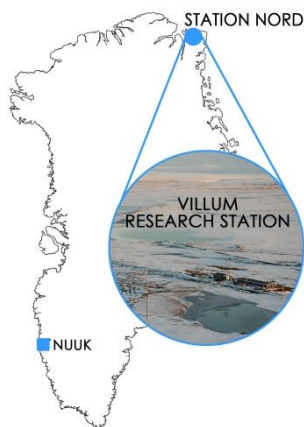
81°36'11"N, 16°39'20"W

The accelerating global climate change observed during the last decades has been particularly significant in the Arctic, as the temperature has increased with twice the speed of the average global temperature increase. This trend is predicted to continue or even accelerate in the future and will put severe stress on the sensitive Arctic ecosystem. A scientific based understanding of the Arctic system is critical for assessing the magnitude of the environmental change and locally, regionally and globally consequences.

VILLUM RESEARCH STATION (VRS) located at the military station, Station Nord, in North Greenland is a new established research and monitoring station in the High Arctic operated by Aarhus University. New state-of-the-art research and monitoring facilities at VRS will provide strategically important information for understanding effects of climate change, which earlier has been impossible to obtain.

ACTIVITIES

The location of VRS in the High Arctic and a unique and flexible combination of facilities enable a variety of advanced and novel research to be pursued within the oceansphere, cryosphere, geosphere, and atmosphere. This enables interdisciplinary research at VRS. First year of activities VRS had more than 100 scientists staying for more than 1700 nights. Collaboration with international research centers has been established.



FACILITIES

VRS consists of a base station and two mobile sub-units – an air and a mobile station:

The **BASE STATION** contains three buildings – one with accommodation facilities for 14 scientists at the time and 4 well-equipped laboratories, one garage, and one atmospheric research building 2 km outside Station Nord with 3 rooms and inlets through the roof for measuring air components.

The **AIR STATION** includes un-manned air vehicles (UAV) and ground based remote sensors for investigations of the vertical profiles of the atmosphere and observations of snow, sea-ice, landscape and vegetation.

The **MOBILE STATION** consists of tents and vehicles for 15 persons, and instrumentations for studying processes in the terrestrial and marine biosphere, land areas, the sea, cryosphere and atmosphere at longer distances from the Base Station.

ACCESS TO VRS

Chartered flights between Longyearbyen, Svalbard, and Station Nord are arranged by Aarhus University.

