Driving a snowmobile in Svalbard

This map shows visitors where they are permitted to drive a snowmobile in Svalbard.

The bright yellow area on the map designate where visitors are allowed to drive a snow mobile. In the blue areas and along the red route you can drive on an organized trip with a tour operator or a permanent resident. Driving in other areas is not allowed.
Permanent residents of Svalbard can drive snowmobile in the area prior to March 1st every season.

The trails on the map are not marked in the terrain. Ground conditions can change rapidly during the season. Trails on the map only provide an indication of the most commonly used routes. Driving in the field requires proper skills and equipment to protect oneself from bad weather conditions and unforeseen incidents.

The Governor of Svalbard recommends you to participate in organized trips.

Snowmobile prohibited for visitors
Permanent residents of Svalbard can drive snowmobile in the area prior to March 1st every season.
For those of you planning a snowmobile tour:

- Bring all the necessary equipment. Firearms and intimidation aids for polar bears, GPS, satellite phone or emergency beacon, windbag, sender/receiver for avalanches and snow shovel. Additional clothing and first aid equipment adapted to the duration of the trip. Be prepared for rapid changes of the weather.
- Be aware of the risk of avalanches and unsafe sea ice. Remember that glacier crevasses, meltwater channels and wind holes are hard to see. Never drive alone.
- The Governor of Svalbard recommends participating in organized excursions, especially if you are inexperienced or do not have all the necessary equipment.
- Emergency telephone number for The Governor’s duty officer is: **00 47 79 02 12 22**. Do not expect cell phone coverage outside the settlements.
- The Road Traffic Act also applies when driving a snow mobile. The speed limit is 30 km/h when driving in settlements, and 80 km/h outside the settlements. The blood alcohol limit is the same as for driving a car. “High marking” is not allowed.
- Do not disturb animals.
- Respect areas prohibited for snowmobiles.
- Drive only on snow; driving on bare ground is not allowed.
- Pay attention to skiers and dog teams. Pass by dog teams by decreasing your speed and make a detour from the track with a distance of at least 10 meters to the dog team.
- Respect the residents of hunting stations and cabins. Please void driving too close and respect people's privacy.
- Common courtesy on Svalbard is to use the same track as preceding snow mobiles, so the pristine wilderness can be experienced by all.
- The rules and regulations, including maps, are according to regulations relating to motor traffic in Svalbard.
- For more information, please see www.sysselmannen.no/en/Visitors/Planning-a-trip/

**Have a nice trip!**