

# HOW TO KAFFEMIK

## A GUIDE FOR THOSE WHO'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE

It might be the first day of school, a wedding, a birthday. A kaffemik is a celebration of life - and Greenlanders like to remind themselves that life is great!

If you visit Greenland and stay for some time, chances are that you will be invited to a kaffemik.

Here are some customs which will help to guide you through the happy event.



Remember to take your shoes off when you arrive. You don't want to bring in dirt or snow.



Bring a small gift for the person who is getting celebrated. A gift card or money in a card is an alternative.



Take a cup of coffee or tea. Try a little bit of everything - all on one plate!



Acknowledge the people around you, but don't feel like you have to talk all of the time. Some kaffemiks can be quieter than others. Just enjoy being there.



When it comes to how long you stay, go with the flow. As a rule, if there are no seats left, and new guests arrive, consider leaving to make space for others - but it varies from kaffemik to kaffemik. Don't be surprised if some guests only stay for 20 minutes (they might have many to get to).



A kaffemik will usually have an assortment of food. A full meal can be provided from seafood soup to roasted reindeer, dried fish and the whale blubber delicacy called mattak. There will always be tea and coffee.



And cake, cake, glorious cake!!!



Greenlanders will spend days preparing for a kaffemik. For a big event, a host might bake 10 cakes, and close friends will usually help to bring more.



There are even some kaffemik classics such as meringue pie, rye bread cake, and the oh so dreamy dream cake.



## WANT TO KAFFEMIK?

For a tourist who wants to try, check your local tour provider to see if they provide a kaffemik experience.



Here, you will get the chance to visit a local family at their home and try some of the classic cakes that are baked for any celebration. And of course, drink coffee!

Text by: Tanny Por