

# Svalbard and Jan Mayen solar power system for home

What is the difference between Svalbard and Jan Mayen?

Svalbard is an archipelago in the Arctic Ocean under the sovereignty of Norway, but is subject to the special status granted by the Svalbard Treaty. Jan Mayen is a remote island in the Arctic Ocean; it has no permanent population and is administered by the County Governor of Nordland.

What is a Svalbard & Jan Mayen islands?

The United Nations Statistics Division also uses this code, but has named it the Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands. Svalbard is an archipelago in the Arctic Ocean under the sovereignty of Norway, but is subject to the special status granted by the Svalbard Treaty.

What country code is Svalbard & Jan Mayen?

Svalbard and Jan Mayen are collectively assigned the ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 country-code "SJ". Both areas are administered by Norway, though they are separated by a distance of over 950 kilometres (510 nautical miles) and have very different administrative structures.

What is Unis & Svalbard Energi doing in the Arctic?

The energy company is collaborating with the University of Svalbard (UNIS) and Svalbard Energi in the testing of hybrid renewable energy, battery storage, and diesel generator systems, with a plan to implement them in many of the 1,500 Arctic communities that are off-grid and currently use coal or diesel as an energy source.

Who governs Svalbard?

The archipelago is administered by the Governor of Svalbard, which is subordinate to the Norwegian Ministry of Justice and Public Security. Unlike the rest of Norway (including Jan Mayen), Svalbard is a free economic zone and a demilitarized zone, and is not part of the Schengen Area nor the European Economic Area.

Why do solar panels work in Isfjord Radio?

The solar panels also benefit from the "albedo" effect, the reflective power of snow and ice, as well as low temperatures that improve their efficiency. On the flipside, the region is plunged into total darkness from early October until mid-February, which makes it impossible for Isfjord Radio to completely give up fossil fuels.

The Norwegian state-owned company Store Norske Energi installed the world's northernmost solar farm. The developed pilot project with 360 solar panels is located in Svalbard on the Spitsbergen island - Svalbard's only permanently inhabited island, located 1,300 km (808 miles) from the North Pole.

Norway has installed the world's northernmost ground solar panels in its Svalbard archipelago, despite the region being plunged into darkness from early October until mid-February every year.

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Svalbard and Jan Mayen have in common that they are the only integrated parts of Norway not allocated to counties. While a separate ISO code for Svalbard was proposed by the United Nations, it was the Norwegian authorities who took initiative to include Jan Mayen in the code.

By testing and proving hybrid solutions at Isfjord Radio and elsewhere on Svalbard, and making these a "best practice" for Arctic energy transition, Store Norske Energi hopes to accelerate the introduction of renewable energy in other Arctic communities.

In the remote Svalbard archipelago of Norway, situated in perpetual winter darkness, a groundbreaking project has been completed: the installation of the world's northernmost ground solar panels. This innovative initiative holds the potential to assist isolated Arctic communities in their transition to clean energy.

Many seabirds use Svalbard as a breeding ground, and it is home to polar bears, reindeer, the Arctic fox, and certain marine mammals. Seven national parks and 23 nature-reserves cover two-thirds of the archipelago, protecting the largely untouched fragile environment.

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Glistening under the Arctic sun, 360 neatly arranged solar panels sprawl across a field, set to power the Isfjord Radio. Once a shipping radio station, it now serves as a base camp for intrepid tourists exploring the Arctic wilderness.

Installing solar panels in a place that experiences around five months of complete darkness might seem counterintuitive, but a new initiative in the Svalbard archipelago is hoping to generate clean power using the technology.



## Svalbard and Jan Mayen solar power system for home

Norway has installed the world's northernmost solar farm and battery storage in the Svalbard archipelago, near the North Pole.

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