Welcome to Kiruna, Sweden
67.8 N, 20.3 E
Ptarmigan  *Lagopus mutus*
Giron in Sami language
Kiruna

Area: 20 000 km²
Population: 23 000
Founded 1899-1900

Iron ore mine
Research
Tourism
Reindeer husbandry
LKAB mine in Kiruna, the largest underground iron ore mine in the world.

Now growing larger so that Kiruna has to be moved.

Pellets, the main product
Icehotel, Jukkasjärvi
Kiruna is also a part of Sápmi, the land of the Sami people.
Research institutions in Kiruna

• Abisko Natural Research Station (Royal Academy of Sciences)

• Tarfala Research Station (Stockholm University)
Space activities in Kiruna 1957-2005

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Space-related establishments

- Mars Express
- IRF
- EISCAT
- Arena Arctica
- ESASalmijärvi
- Metria
Spaceport Sweden

2011-2012 Space tourism from Kiruna
Spaceship 2

Contract with Virgin Galactic

2009 Space tourism from New Mexico

Illustration: Virgin Galactic
Fly through the aurora

Photo: Astronaut Don Pettit