

# Northern Lights

**50°  
NORTH**  
NORDIC / ARCTIC / RUSSIA  
TRAVEL SPECIALIST

**WINTER**  
2015-2016  
version 2

Scandinavia  
Finland  
Iceland  
Greenland  
Russia  
High Arctic

Includes Norwegian Coastal Voyages

# WELCOME

50 Degrees North is approaching its 5th Birthday, and I am proud of what we have achieved in such a short time. In 2010 we started with a blank sheet of paper, and have now grown to be a solid and sustainable tour operator specializing in the region above the 50th parallel north.

We have a lot to thank our very experienced staff, many with over 20 years of experience organising holidays to the Nordic region, the Arctic and Russia. Our success is also very much due to our innovation and creativity, as we continue to create innovative trips that frequently provide inspiration within the industry.

Our passion for the northern region is relentless. As all our staff are 'northerners' we take a very special pride in the holidays we offer and tailor-make, and to ensure that your experience is the very best it can be. The fact that we are natives of our Nordic homeland sets us apart from others, and we are proud to call ourselves true destination specialists. Too many travel companies these days make this claim with little substance, as the next sentence claims they can look after your holiday worldwide.

At 50 Degrees North we are genuine and honest, and don't take advantage of the tricks of the trade to make your holiday look great when the devil is in the details. We are proud of where we come from and want you to experience only the best our region offers.

If you are looking for that amazing winter experience we can help; whether it is a dogsled ride under the Northern Lights or a cozy Christmas experience with Santa and his elves. Or building your own snow igloo to sleep in, visit the best Christmas markets in the town or swim among the ice blocks in a trail of an ice breaker. Contact us to organise your dream holiday!

I look forward to sharing the secrets of our home countries with you.

Tietse Stelma  
Director



Front Cover  
Photo: Andre Schoenherr; greenland.com

Photo: Ewen Bell



Photo: Jørn Tomter; www.nordnorge.com

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## INDEPENDENT WINTER JOURNEYS

- Depart on any day
- For one or more people
- Pre-booked accommodation and tickets structure the tour
- Enjoy the luxury of setting your pace
- All these itineraries can be tailored to suit your needs
- Your choice of hotel – directors choice, design or historic

## HURTIGRUTEN VOYAGES

- Depart on almost any day all year round
- Your choice of cabin category
- Themed voyages available, ask us about the Astronomy Voyages with focus on Northern Lights

## CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

- Independent Christmas Holidays
- Options for singles, couples and families
- Emphasis on celebrating an authentic White Christmas
- All-inclusive packages

## INDEPENDENT WINTER ADVENTURES & SKIING

- Unique locations such as Russia, Iceland, Svalbard and Greenland
- Special activities: dogsledding in Greenland, bathing in a hot spring in Iceland and skiing in the Far North
- Independent and group departures available
- Ask us for more adventures and special interest

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**NO PRICES?**  
Most of our travel arrangements are tailor-made and date-specific to suit individual requirements. Contact us to plan your trip and receive a fully priced quotation.

# TRAVELLING WITH US

## OUR TEAM

At our head office in Australia and in Norway, we have a multilingual team that is very passionate about 'our' part of the world. We speak Norwegian, Swedish, Finnish, Dutch and German and the majority of us are based here in Australia for love, of our adopted country and our partners.

Knowing the local lingo is very helpful when it comes to building strong relationships with our partners in the northern region, and this ensures that we can offer you the most interesting activities with the very best partners. We plan our itineraries carefully, based on first hand experience, and we continue to improve and perfect our itineraries based on our team members' ongoing travel experiences.

We know what is possible and what is available, how to get from one place to another and what to do – and we give all this knowledge to you when you travel with us, to our part of the world. We know how to pronounce all our destinations and we are also very happy to share our intimate knowledge of our world. If you have a question about any of the destinations we travel to from Far East Russia to the remote village of Karasjok in Norwegian Lapland, there will be a team member who has been there.

## SPECIALIST KNOWLEDGE & EXPERTISE

At 50 Degrees North we like to call ourselves specialists! We don't try to do everything – only what we know. What we know really well. As destination specialists, we tailor make holidays to suit you, be that customising the itineraries shown in this brochure and on our website, or creating that special trip just for you. Therefore, if you cannot find exactly what you are looking for, tell us about your interests and budget, and we will get to work. We will do our utmost to make sure that your holiday is right for you.

## ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

Environmentally friendly and sustainable tourism is at the forefront of the 50 Degrees North philosophy. The area north of 50th parallel comprises some of the last true wilderness on Earth. We like to call it the 'last frontier' where sustainable tourism infrastructure in some places is still incomplete. In these areas our aim is to support our local partners in their already substantial efforts to decrease their environmental footprint and become more sustainable in their practices.

50 Degrees North is a member of the Adventure Travel Trade association, and adhere to its values on the responsible and sustainable development of the adventure travel industry.

## SAFETY

We are doing our utmost to ensure the highest safety standards are met on all our tours. With over 20 years experience in the industry we have chosen only the best local operators who have an excellent safety record. Good preparation is one of the keys to a safe and enjoyable travel and this is our priority.

50 Degrees North is a full participant of ATAS; the Australian Travel Accreditation Scheme. ATAS travel agents meet strict standards and criteria in order to become nationally accredited. Their accreditation means they are the best in the industry, credible, well trained and professional businesses. This means you can book your travel knowing you're in the safe hands of a trusted and reputable travel agent.

For more information, visit: <http://www.atas.com.au>



Photo: Staffan Widstrand, imagebank.sweden.se

## TRAVELLING IN WINTER

Winter in Scandinavia is full of lights, warming drinks and hearty food. The abundance of snow turns this winter wonderland into a huge playground, with all imaginable exciting activities widely available. Here are 8 good reasons to visit the far north during the northern winter:

### 1 A SNOWY WINTER WONDERLAND

From December to March the northernmost part of Europe is one of the likeliest places in the world to be blanketed in snow. All kinds of fun winter activities are on offer – discover your inner child!

### 2 CHRISTMAS MARKETS

If you are travelling in the region in November and December, each of the Nordic capitals put on fabulous Christmas markets. Try the special saffron buns or the original pepper-kaka with steaming Glögg to keep you warm.

### 3 SNOW & ICE IGLOOS

Spending a night in an ice hotel or in a snow igloo is an experience of a lifetime. Snow and ice hotels are found across Lapland in Finland, Norway and Sweden.

### 4 DOGSLEDDING

Glide through the snowy forest with a team of eager huskies who love their job!

### 5 NORTHERN LIGHTS

Weather permitting these light curtains of green, yellow and purple dance across the night sky from mid September to early April. If you are lucky enough the Aurora is a sight worth the whole journey!

### 6 WHALE WATCHING

In the winter months a large number of whales and orcas come up to the colder waters of the north to feed. Come with us and we will take you into the Icelandic and Norwegian fjords for a spectacle you won't easily forget.

### 7 SKIING

Northern Scandinavia offers some of the best skiing in Europe, be it downhill or cross-country. Let us show you the best places to try your skills.

### 8 SANTA, ELVES & REINDEERS

Take the family to meet Santa with his elves and reindeer in Northern Finland for Christmas, and combine this with any of the other above 7 reasons to travel in winter.

#### Follow us on:

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# NORTHERN LIGHTS

## Sunlight hours & average daytime

	TROMSØ	REYKJAVIK	STOCKHOLM	ROVANIEMI	LONGYEARBYEN
Nov	4 hrs / -2.5°C	6 hrs / 1.3°C	7 hrs / 2.8°C	9 hrs / -6.1°C	0 hrs / -11.0°C
Dec	0 hrs / -3.2°C	4 hrs / -0.1°C	6 hrs / -0.4°C	5 hrs / -10.0°C	0 hrs / -11.6°C
Jan	2 hrs / -3.7°C	5 hrs / -0.6°C	7 hrs / -1.7°C	3 hrs / -11.7°C	0 hrs / -15.2°C
Feb	8 hrs / -7.3°C	9 hrs / 0.1°C	9 hrs / -1.9°C	8 hrs / -11.0°C	4 hrs / -10.3°C
Mar	9 hrs / -4.2°C	11 hrs / 0.3°C	12 hrs / 0.8°C	11 hrs / -6.1°C	10 hrs / -16°C
Apr	16 hrs / 1.6°C	15 hrs / 2.8°C	14 hrs / 4.9°C	15 hrs / -1.0°C	19 hrs / -7.7°C

Temperatures are average for the cities listed, and note that inland temperatures will be lower than coastal. E.g. Tromsø is further north than Rovaniemi, but Tromsø is coastal.

On days that indicate very short time of actual sunlight, it is important to note that as the sun trajectory is fairly flat there is a long dawn and a long dusk. The actual time of daylight hours, therefore, is considerably longer.

### NORTHERN LIGHTS

#### WILL I SEE THEM?

If your holiday is well planned, the answer is often yes. However, most people will appreciate that the Aurora is a natural phenomena, and part of their attraction lies in the fact that they cannot be controlled or even properly predicted. What we can do is to get you to the best locations at the right time. This may mean allowing for common weather patterns, and/or travelling either inland or out to the coast. It nearly always means getting you out of populated areas with light pollution, and into the exotic wilderness with plenty of great daytime activities to guarantee a memorable experience!

#### WHEN TO GO?

The period between November and March is generally the best time to see the Northern Lights. However, they can also be seen in late September, October and early April. Other times of year there is not enough darkness. October and November tend to see a lot of windy and wet weather, which of course means cloud cover and less chance to see the lights. Our favourite months are mid January, February & March, which means plenty of darkness in the peak viewing period between 6pm and midnight, and plenty of daylight to enjoy other winter activities.

#### WHAT ARE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS?

The ultimate energy source of the aurora is the solar wind flowing past Earth and touching its magnetic field. Aurora starts when explosions in the sun send off particles into space. These particles are charged and form the solar wind. When solar wind hits Earth's magnetic field in the Polar areas where the magnetic shield is less powerful, it collides with particles in our atmosphere creating electricity and light. It is this light that we see as the Northern Light or Aurora Borealis.

The Aurora awed the ancient people. Aurora was the Roman goddess of the dawn. Boreas is a Greek word for the north wind – thus, the northern lights. The Finnish word for the lights, 'revontulet', comes from a Sami legend where the tail of a fox running on along the snow covered fells strikes the snow drifts and sends a trail of sparks high up to the sky. Revontulet literally means foxfires. The Vikings believed that the Aurora was a beautiful maiden called Valkyrias who escorted those killed in battle to the gods. The Sami people of Lapland also believed they had power over the lights, and whistling under them would cause them to come closer. Many ancient people would not stare at or speak of them, due to a fear of insulting their divinity.

# TROMSØ & LYNGEN ALPS

## - independent

Tromsø is the gateway to the Arctic and is located in the middle of the Aurora Borealis zone. Following the planet's rotation, Tromsø moves into the aurora zone around 6 pm to midnight. Just east of Tromsø lies the Lyngen Alps where you will stay in a traditional timber lodge, beautifully situated on the fjord.

This is a perfect and tranquil place to observe the Northern Lights, combined with daytime activities such as dogsledding, snow scooter riding, skiing or a photography course.

#### Day 1: Arrive Tromsø – Gateway to the Arctic

Arrive into Tromsø, and make your own way to your hotel in the city centre.

#### Day 2: Visit the Polar Museum and city walk

Enjoy a guided city walk exploring the historical and cultural parts of Tromsø, including a visit to the Polar Museum.

#### Day 3-5: Lyngen Alps

In the morning, we will pick you up from Tromsø for the 2-hour drive to your base in the alps, Lyngen Lodge, beautifully located above a fjord with a striking mountain backdrop. Enjoy the activities and nature or relax by the open fire in the lodge. Each evening, fingers crossed, be prepared to marvel at the Aurora Borealis.

#### Day 6: Dinner cruise

In the early evening transfer to Skjervøy and board the Hurtigruten ship for a 4-hour dinner cruise along the coast back to Tromsø. Feast at a buffet dinner on board while keeping a watchful eye out for the Northern Lights.

#### Day 7: Depart Tromsø

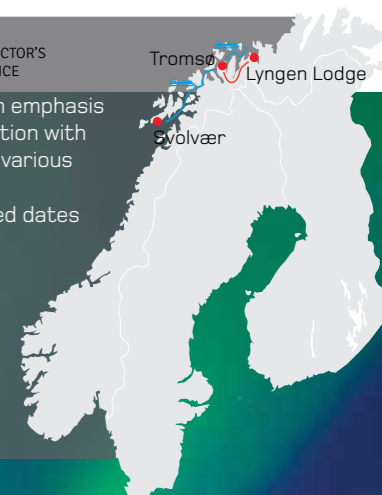
In the mid-morning make your own way to the airport for your flight out.

### INCLUSIONS

All accommodation in a shared double/twin room, single supplement available  
Daily breakfast and full board at Lyngen Lodge  
Transfers from Tromsø to Lyngen Lodge and to Skjervøy  
City walk including Polar Museum  
One activity of choice at Lyngen Lodge (dogsledding, boat trip or other)  
Dinner cruise Skjervøy to Tromsø

### QUICK FACTS

- ° 7 days/6 nights
- ° Easy self-guided journey with emphasis on luxurious stays and relaxation with a possibility to participate in various winter activities
- ° Independent, departs on listed dates - November to February
- ° Start Tromsø (TOS)
- ° End Tromsø
- ° Minimum 2 people to run - single supplement available
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour code TLA001



### LOFOTEN EXTENSION

Lofoten is an archipelago known for its towering mountains, cod fishing, small colourful villages and outdoor activities. Its numerous islands are connected by bridges and under-water tunnels, making it an ideal place to go for a drive with your hire car.

#### BRIEF ITINERARY

Day 6: Overnight cruise from Skjervøy to Svolvær

Day 7: Voyage on board Hurtigruten to Svolvær

Day 8: Explore Lofoten Islands with rental car

Day 9: Boat trips, fishing, hiking, quaint villages and art galleries

Day 10: Depart Lofoten

### INCLUSIONS IN LOFOTEN EXTENSION

Dinner and overnight Hurtigruten cruise from Skjervøy to Svolvær  
3 nights accommodation in a traditional fisherman's cottage  
Car hire for 2 days including free mileage and CDW



Photo: Graham Rustick, Lyngen Lodge

# ALTA & SORRISNIVA IGLOO HOTEL - independent



Photo: Ongajok Mountain Resort

This tour is an ultimate combination of luxury and adventure, taking you to the Alta region of Northern Norway. Experience the best winter activities and scenery of the high north whilst enjoying the comfort and luxury of Ongajok Mountain Resort. A night in a snow igloo is a magical highlight to be retold in years to come!

#### Day 1: Arrive Alta

Enjoy your free afternoon exploring the town. If time permits, we recommend a visit to the Alta Cathedral.

#### Day 2: Transfer to Ongajok and visit a local Sàmi family

After breakfast transfer to Ongajok Mountain Resort. Visit a local Sàmi family and find out more about the fascinating traditional way of life. In the evening, a luxurious dinner of local produce awaits.

#### Day 3: Dogsledding adventure

Harness your team of eager sled dogs and head across the snowy mountains. After an outdoor lunch by an open fire, continue through the magical frozen wilderness back to Ongajok. Relax in the hot outdoor spa and sauna before another hearty dinner.

#### Day 4: Snowmobile safari & a night in a snow igloo

The first highlight of the day awaits upon your arrival to Sorrisniva Igloo Hotel; a snowmobile safari through the spectacular wilderness. Dinner is served in a beautiful Sàmi lavvo-shaped wooden restaurant before a magical night in an ice and snow room.

#### Day 5: Transfer back to Alta

After breakfast transfer back to Alta. We recommend a visit to Alta Museum with its exhibitions about research into the Northern Lights and Sàmi culture.

#### Day 6: Depart Alta

After breakfast, make your own way to your next adventure.

### INCLUSIONS

All accommodation in a shared double/twin room, single supplement available

Overnight stay in an ice/snow igloo incl. special sleeping bags

Daily breakfast, and half board at Sorrisniva

Other meals as per itinerary

Transfers Alta - Ongajok Mountain Resort - Sorrisniva Igloo Hotel - Alta

Cultural visit to a Sàmi family

Dogsledding adventure

Snowmobile safari

### STAYING IN AN ICE or SNOW ROOM

There are several opportunities to experience a night in an ice or snow room during your trip to the far north. The Kirkenes Snow Hotel, the Sorrisniva Igloo Hotel in Alta and ICEHOTEL in Jukkasjärvi are all set up as 'hotels'. Other resorts offer simpler freestanding igloos alongside their more traditional accommodation.

Generally, the entire exterior and interior is made of snow and ice including the beds, tables and internal features. They typically have a bar and/or restaurant attached – some made of ice, others are traditional wooden structures providing a cosy atmosphere with open fires. Ice chapels are also built within the structure.

Generally, the temperature inside the rooms remains constant at minus 4-7 degrees Celsius. Depending on your location, reindeer hides, balaclavas, thermal mattresses and sleeping bags will keep you warm, and ensure you will have a comfortable night. You still might feel the chill of the night, however, adjacent to the cold rooms are lounge areas with facilities, showers, and in some locations, a sauna to warm up in. Warm drinks are provided in the morning.

# TROMSØ, ORCAS & HUSKIES - independent

Experience the incredible wilderness of Norway, have fun commanding your own husky team and take in the amazing beauty of the Norwegian coast. Join a whale watching tour to observe orcas, humpback and fin whales in the inlets around Sommarøy.

#### Day 1: Welcome to Tromsø, the capital of the Arctic

Tromsø is a city packed with culture, polar history and fresh locally sourced food in its numerous restaurants. Mountains, fjords and islands also surround it; making it a great base for exploring the winter landscape.

#### Day 2: Tromsø & Northern Lights

After breakfast, explore Tromsø on a walking tour including a visit to the Polar Museum. In the evening join a guided Aurora Chase by minibus, led by an experienced local guide.

#### Day 3: Day of Dogsledding

Leave the city and mush your own sled, pulled by a happy team of experienced huskies. Drive through the breath-taking snow-covered landscape with incredible ocean views. In the afternoon transfer to Arctic Hotel Sommarøy.

#### Day 4: Explore Sommarøy

Explore this vibrant and traditional coastal community where fishing is still a principal activity. Join a fishing trip, go kayaking or walk along the white sandy beaches.

#### Day 5: Whale-watching

During the months of November and December, join a whale-watching tour with excellent opportunities to observe orcas, humpback and fin whales. In the afternoon return to Tromsø.

#### Day 6: Depart Tromsø

Our services end after breakfast.

### INCLUSIONS

All accommodation in a shared double/twin room, single supplement available

Daily breakfast and half board at Sommarøy

Private guided Tromsø city walk including Polar Museum

Aurora Chase 5-7 hrs

Dogsledding half day

Whale-watching excursion (only in Nov-Dec)

Return transfer from Tromsø - Sommarøy

NOTE: Whale Safaris continue through Jan depending on whale activity in the fjords.



Photo: Terje Rakke/Nordic Life - Visitnorway.com

Alta  
Sorrisniva  
Ongajok

### QUICK FACTS



- ° 6 days/5 nights
- ° Easy self guided journey with emphasis on exciting winter activities and unique stays
- ° Independent, departs any day - January to March
- ° Start Alta (ALF)
- ° End Alta
- ° Minimum 2 people to run - single supplement available
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour code ASI001

### QUICK FACTS



- ° 6 days/5 nights
- ° Easy self-guided journey with emphasis on winter activities
- ° Independent – departs October to March
- ° Start Tromsø (TOS)
- ° End Tromsø
- ° Minimum 2 people to run – single supplement available
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour code TOH001

Sommarøy  
Tromsø



Photo: Marten Brill, www.nordnorge.com



**QUICK FACTS**

- 8 days/7 nights
- Easy self-guided journey with emphasis on spectacular accommodation
- Independent – departs December to March
- Start Luleå (LLA)
- End Abisko
- Minimum 2 people to run – single supplement available
- Pricing and departures – refer to our website
- Tour code ASSL01



Photo: Fredrik Broman, Human Spectra

# AURORA SAFARI IN SWEDISH LAPLAND - independent

Stay overnight at Aurora Safari Camp in the absolute wild forest of Swedish Lapland. Sleep above the snow covered landscape at Treehotel, in an ICE-room at ICEHOTEL and then enjoy the Abisko Sky Station. This trip has been designed to serve you the highlights of Aurora watching in far northern Sweden, coupled with staying at some of the most amazing accommodation you will ever encounter.

**Day 1: Aurora Safari Camp**

Arrive Luleå and transfer to the Aurora Safari Camp. Stay overnight in Lavvu tents with comfort in the absolute wild forest of Swedish Lapland and Råne River Valley.

**Day 2: Dogsledding & camp fire at unique Lavvu camp**

Snowshoe trekking, dogsledding, snowmobile safaris, wildlife trekking, ice fishing are available for you to enjoy here at camp. Being away from artificial-light, this camp is a perfect spot for watching the Aurora Borealis.

**Day 3: Stay at Treehotel above the Swedish forests**

Transfer to Treehotel, a unique hotel experience: treerooms with contemporary design in the middle of unspoilt nature.

**Day 4: Snow mobile safari at the Treehotel**

After breakfast we will take you on an exhilarating snow mobile safari. Riding a snowmobile through a beautiful winter landscape is a liberating feeling, just like surfing or riding a motorbike. Tree saunas, ice fishing and horse riding are options for the afternoon.

**Day 5: Overnight in ICEHOTEL**

Transfer to the Boden train station and enjoy the efficient train services in Sweden as you travel to Kiruna. Transfer to ICEHOTEL and settle into your ICE room (cold) for one night.

**Day 6: Wake up surrounded by ice and then train to Abisko**

Return to Kiruna and board the train. The train ride takes you through the inland winter landscape of northern Sweden along the majestic Torneträsk, the fifth largest lake in Sweden, where we stop at Abisko.

**Day 7: Aurora Sky Station**

The day is free in Abisko to enjoy optional activities such as visiting a Sámi lavvu, go snowshoeing or ice fishing. You can also enjoy a traditional Swedish sauna down by the lake. After your evening meal, enjoy a night visit to the Aurora Sky Station.

**Day 8: Depart Abisko**

After breakfast, depart Abisko by train to Kiruna, or travel on to Narvik on the Norwegian side of the border. Transfers not included.

**INCLUSIONS**

- All accommodation in a shared double/twin room
- Daily breakfast, half board at Aurora Safari Camp and Abisko
- Snow mobile safari at the Treehotel
- Dogsledding 3 hrs
- Sky Station visit in Abisko
- Train Boden-Kiruna-Abisko and transfers as described



# ICE & AURORAS IN SWEDISH LAPLAND - independent

The original ICEHOTEL is located 200 km inside the Arctic Circle, in the little village of Jukkasjärvi. As soon as winter takes hold, a team of experienced snow builders, architects, designers and artists from all over the world gather to create each year's unique version of ICEHOTEL. On average 2000 tons of ice and 30,000 tons of snow are used building this monument of art, architecture and craftsmanship.

Abisko, in the middle of the Aurora zone, is considered to be one of best places to see the Aurora Borealis. A visit to the Aurora Sky Station, accessible only by a chairlift high up above the lights of the village, allows you a great chance to experience the Northern Lights.

**Day 1: Arrive for an Aurora Hunt**

Upon arrival in Kiruna, transfer to ICEHOTEL. In the evening, dress warmly for a snowmobile excursion in search of Northern Lights. Dinner included at a wilderness camp. Overnight in a warm hotel room or cabin.

**Day 2: Dogsledding and Overnight in ICEHOTEL**

Start the day with a dog sled journey across the snowy landscape to a wilderness camp, followed by lunch. Afterwards ride back to the kennel to learn more about these working dogs and their daily life. Be brave and overnight in an ice room. Sleep in thermal sleeping bags laid out on reindeer skins on a special bed made of snow and ice. An unforgettable night!

**Day 3-4: Abisko & the Aurora Zone**

After breakfast transfer to Kiruna train station for an hour's train ride to Abisko. In the evening visit the Aurora Sky Station for a night to remember.

Day 4 is free to join optional activities such as visiting a Sámi lavvu, snow shoeing or reindeer sledding.

**Day 5: Depart Kiruna**

After breakfast, depart by train back to Kiruna for your departure.

**INCLUSIONS**

- All accommodation in a shared double/twin room, single supplement available
- 1 night in ice room and 1 night warm hotel room at ICEHOTEL
- 2 nights in a lodge in Abisko
- Daily breakfast, and half board in Abisko
- Evening snowmobile ride incl. dinner (2 people sharing a snowmobile)
- Dogsled ride to wilderness camp incl. lunch
- Night visit to the Aurora Sky Station
- Train ticket Kiruna – Abisko return
- Transfers as per itinerary

OPTIONS: Ask us about upgrading your room type to either the Northern Lights Suite, Art Suite or Deluxe Suite.

**QUICK FACTS**

- 5 days/4 nights
- Easy self-guided journey with emphasis on unique overnight stays, winter activities and excellent Aurora Borealis viewing locations
- Independent, departs on any day - December to April
- Start Kiruna (KRN)
- End Kiruna
- Minimum 2 people to run – single supplement available
- Pricing and departures – refer to our website
- Tour code IAS001



Photo: Paulina Holmgren, Artists: Lena Kriström & Susan Christianen

# NORDIC WINTER ODYSSEY

- independent

Our Nordic Winter Odyssey is designed to optimise the chances to see the Aurora Borealis. It travels from Oslo, over the North Cape, through the Lyngen Alps, to Tromsø and Swedish Lapland and down to Stockholm.

You stay at boutique hotels such as Lyngen Lodge and ICEHOTEL, and use various modes of transport taking you through a fairy-tale winter landscape. During this 'odyssey' you have access to all the activities that make chasing the Aurora Borealis so wonderful.

## Day 1 & 2: Oslo

Oslo is a wonderful winter city with lots of winter lights, museums and cosy coffee shops to visit. Unique restaurants and design shops, Oslo has plenty to offer in winter.

## Day 3: Fly to Kirkenes

Make your way to Oslo airport for a 2-hour flight to Kirkenes.

## Day 4 & 5: Travel south on the Coastal voyage over the North Cape

Board the Hurtigruten ship for an overnight voyage over the top of Norway and the beautiful North Norwegian coast. Arrive Skjervøy in the evening of the day 5 and transfer to your base in the Lyngen Alps.

## Day 6 & 7: Lyngen Alps

Your lodge sits in a natural forest clearing above the Lyngsfjord with a striking mountain backdrop. High in the Arctic Circle, it is as remote a spot as you could hope to find, and a place to enjoy nature and snow activities. Under the guidance and instruction from your guide you will learn to mush your own dog team through the forested glacial valleys close to Finland.

## Day 8: Tromsø

After breakfast transfer by road to Tromsø for a free afternoon to explore the Arctic Capital.

## Day 9: Travel to Abisko

Take the fast boat south to Harstad, or bus to Narvik, and continue by car or train to Abisko in Sweden (schedule depends on weekday). Enjoy a night visit to the Aurora Sky Station in the evening.

## Day 10: Winter activities in Abisko

The day is free in Abisko to enjoy optional activities such as visiting a Sámi lavvu, go snowshoeing or ice fishing. You can also enjoy a traditional Swedish sauna down by the lake.

## Day 11 & 12: ICEHOTEL – a night to remember

Take the morning train to Kiruna and transfer to ICEHOTEL in the tiny village of Jukkasjärvi. You will enjoy one night in a warm room in the hotel, followed by a night in an ice room. Inside ICEHOTEL, the temperature is never colder than -5 to -8 °C, regardless how cold it may be outside. In the evening of day 11 we depart on a guided snowmobile excursion in search of the Northern Lights.

On day 12 handle and drive your own reindeer with a sled through the wintry pristine forests. Enjoy a Sámi lunch in a traditional tent.

## Day 13 & 14: Stockholm

Transfer to the airport for your flight south to Stockholm. Day 14 is free to enjoy in Stockholm and we have included a Stockholm Card with access to several sights and free public transport.

## Day: 15 Depart Stockholm

Our services end after breakfast.

## INCLUSIONS

All accommodation as described in shared double/twin rooms, single supplement available  
 One night in an ice room and one night in a warm hotel room at the ICEHOTEL  
 Meals as described in the itinerary  
 Bed & breakfast in Oslo, Kirkenes, Tromsø and Stockholm  
 Full board on coastal voyage (Hurtigruten)  
 Full board at Lyngen Lodge  
 Dogsledding in the Reisa Valley  
 Half board in Abisko (breakfast & dinner)  
 Domestic flights Oslo - Kirkenes & Kiruna - Stockholm including taxes  
 Private transfer Skjervøy- Lyngen Lodge - Tromsø  
 Transport Tromsø - Abisko  
 Train tickets Abisko - Kiruna (second class)  
 Arrival and departure transfer to/from ICEHOTEL  
 Hire of warm clothing and boots at ICEHOTEL only  
 Activities/excursions as per itinerary  
 Night visit to the Aurora Sky Station  
 Aurora Snow Mobile safari including dinner at ICEHOTEL  
 Sámi visit and reindeer sledding including lunch at ICEHOTEL  
 City passes 24 hours for Oslo & Stockholm

## QUICK FACTS

- ° 15 days/14 nights
- ° Easy self-guided journey with emphasis on optimising your chances to see the Northern Lights
- ° Independent - departs December to March
- ° Start Oslo (OSL)
- ° End Stockholm (STO)
- ° Minimum 2 people to run - single supplement available
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour code NW0001



Photo: Paulina Hombren

Photo: Katja Rykova, www.nordnorge.com

# LAPLAND CIRCLE

- independent

Scandinavian Lapland offers a great range of comfortable Nordic style accommodation and activities with an added bonus of the Northern Lights. During the day you get to know huskies and reindeers, and at night, our guides will take you out on snowshoes and snowmobiles to 'hunt' for the Aurora.

Experience the vastness of Finnish Lapland, the incredible wild scenery of coastal Norway and the original ICEHOTEL located in the little village of Jukkasjärvi.

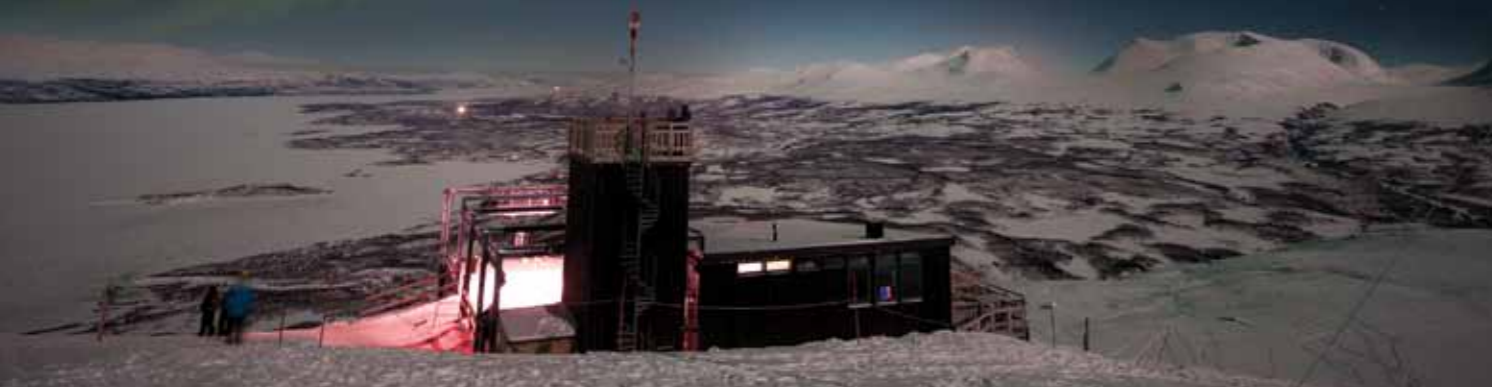


Photo: Lala Akramade Visit Sweden

**Day 1: Welcome to Lapland**

Arrive to Kittilä and transfer to your hotel or cabin.

**Day 2: Huskies & Aurora workshop**

After breakfast it is time to meet your own dogsledding team of eager huskies and head into the snowy wilderness. In the evening, join the Northern Lights workshop, and learn about this magical phenomenon.

**Day 3: Reindeers & Snowmobiles**

Today we will visit a local reindeer herder and his reindeers to learn more about this fascinating way of life. In the evening start your snowmobile engines and head to the top of a nearby fell in search of the Northern Lights. Feel how the sky is closer and stars are brighter!

**Day 4: Transfer to Tromsø**

After breakfast, we take a 6-hour bus trip north across the Norwegian border to Tromsø.

**Day 5: Explore Tromsø - the Arctic Capital**

After breakfast, explore Tromsø on a walking tour including a visit to the Polar Museum.

**Day 6: Whale-watching**

During the months of November, December and January, join a whale watching tour with excellent opportunities to observe orcas, humpback and fin whales. In the afternoon return to Tromsø.

**Day 7: Travel to Abisko**

After breakfast travel overland south along the Norwegian coast and then inland to Abisko.

**Day 8: Abisko & the Aurora Zone**

Enjoy a day in Abisko for optional activities. In the evening visit the Aurora Sky Station for a night to remember.

**Day 9: Travel to ICEHOTEL**

Take the local train to Kiruna and transfer to ICEHOTEL. In the evening dress warmly for a snowmobile excursion in search of Northern Lights. Dinner included at a wilderness camp. Overnight in a warm hotel room or cabin.

**Day 10: Ice Sculpting and Overnight in ICEHOTEL**

Lead by local artists and using the ice from Torne River, let yourself be guided into the magical world of ice sculpting. This evening you will overnight in an ice room. Sleep in thermal sleeping bags laid out on reindeer skins on a special bed made of snow and ice. An unforgettable night!

**Day 11: Depart Kiruna**

After breakfast, transfer to Kiruna airport.



**INCLUSIONS**

All accommodation in a shared double/twin room, single supplement available  
 1 night in ice room at ICEHOTEL  
 Daily breakfast, 3 lunches & 5 dinners  
 Airport transfers days 1 and 11  
 Dogsledding safari, Reindeer farm visit, Snowshoeing and snowmobile safari in Finland  
 Tromsø city walk and Whale Safari (mid Nov-Jan only) in Norway  
 Aurora snowmobile ride and ice sculpting in Sweden  
 Night visit to the Aurora Sky Station  
 All transport between destinations

**QUICK FACTS**

- 11 days/10 nights
- Easy self-guided all-encompassing journey with emphasis on winter activities and optimal chances to see the Northern Lights
- Independent - departs December to March
- Start Kittilä (KTT)
- End Kiruna (KRN)
- Minimum 2 people to run - single supplement available
- Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- Tour code LAC001



# KIRKENES WINTER EXPERIENCE

- independent

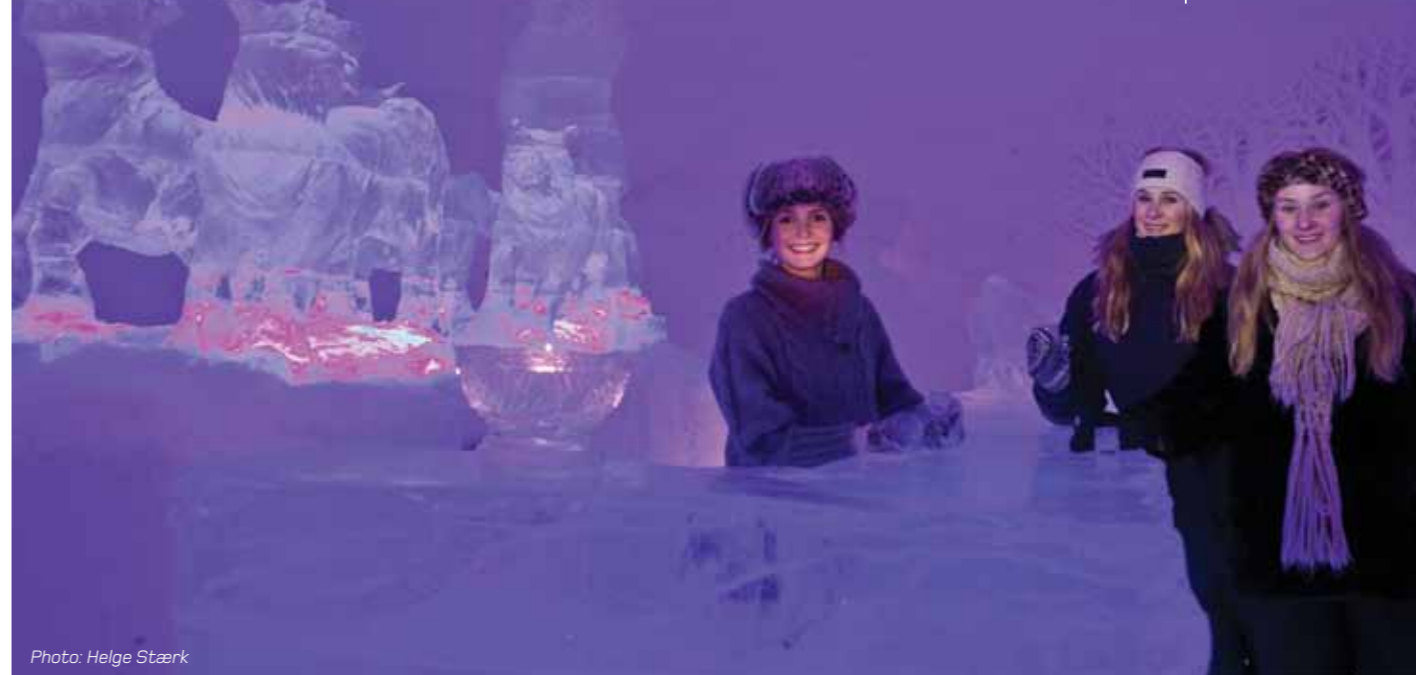


Photo: Helge Stærk

Join us for a fun-filled winter adventure in Northern Norway, including an unforgettable night in a hotel constructed entirely of ice and snow. This is an independent experience, taking place in the middle of the Aurora Zone. Enjoy the speedy adventure on a snowmobile safari, dogsledding through snow covered fjord areas and mountain fells, and a local speciality, king crab fishing.

This trip is great for everyone - a fun family trip, romantic getaway or a relaxing easy way to complete your Norwegian Coastal Voyage.

**Day 1: Arrive Kirkenes**

You may arrive Kirkenes at any time. Make your way to your centrally located hotel.

**Day 2: Dogsledding & Aurora Chase**

Drive your own team of eager sled dogs and see the amazing winter landscapes. In the evening head out to the nature again, this time in a minibus in search for the magical Northern Lights.

**Day 3: Snowmobile safari**

Get kitted out in warm clothing and try your hand at snowmobiling. A picnic lunch is served en route as you zoom through the snow-covered fjord.

**Day 4: King Crab Fishing and a night in the Snow hotel**

The Arctic King Crab is a sought after delicacy, and on a King Crab Fishing Safari you will learn how to catch, prepare and enjoy them for lunch. In the evening transfer to the Snow Hotel, a remarkable structure that is rebuilt of ice and snow. Enjoy a dinner by the fireplace before your night in a snow room.

**Day 5: Scandinavian breakfast, saunas and check out**

After breakfast and morning sauna head to the airport, or port and continue your journey.

**INCLUSIONS**

All accommodation in shared double/twin room, single supplement is available  
 1 night in Kirkenes Snow Hotel in a snow room  
 All activities as per itinerary:  
 Snowmobile excursion incl. lunch and warm clothing  
 Dogsledding safari incl. lunch and warm clothing  
 Northern Lights evening excursion by minibus  
 King Crab Fishing Safari incl. lunch

**OPTION**

Ask us for to upgrade to countryside glass cabins, perfect for Aurora viewing!



**QUICK FACTS**

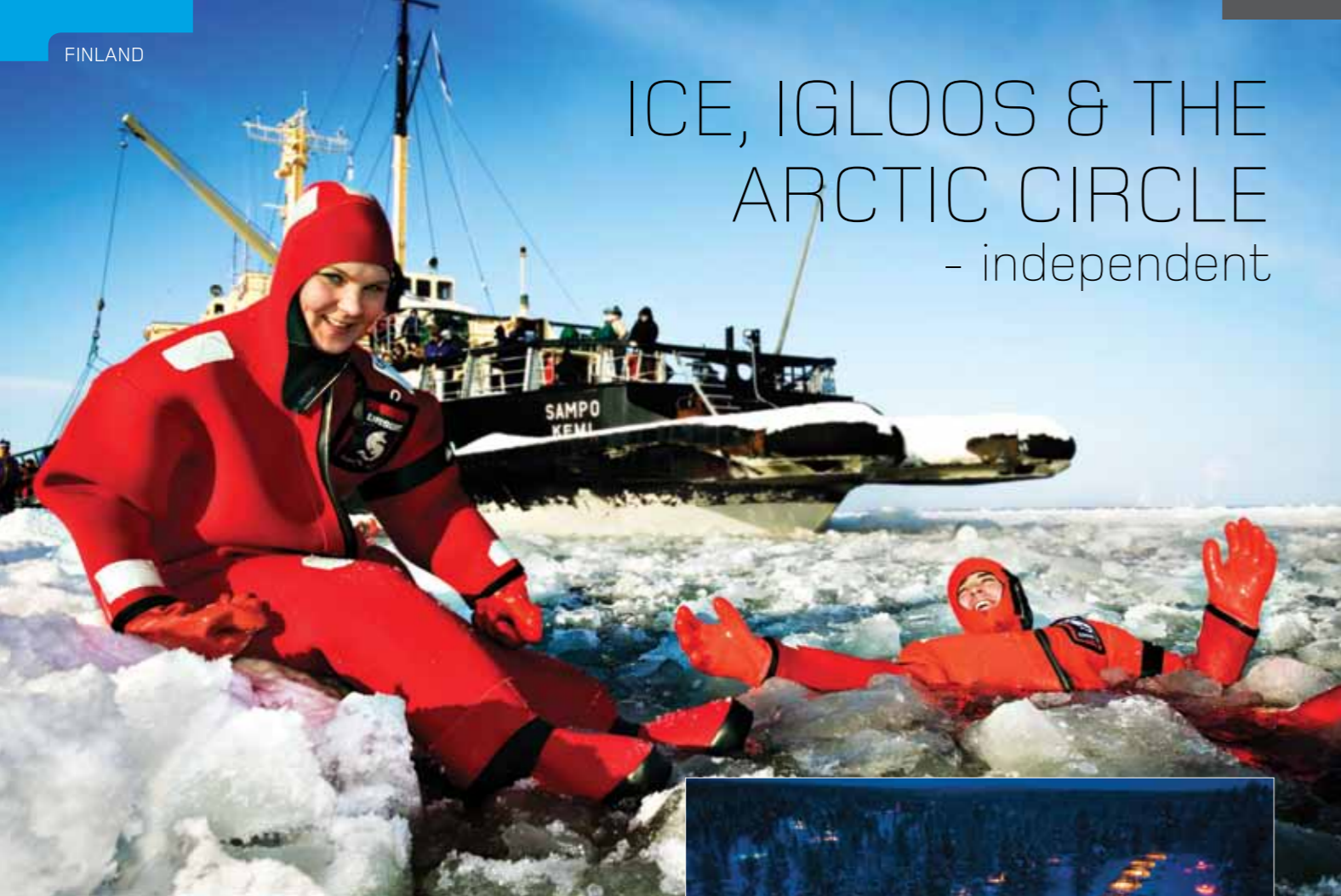
- 5 days/4 nights
- Easy self guided activity packed winter holiday emphasis on optimising your chances to see the Northern Lights
- Independent - departs December until April
- Start Kirkenes (KKN)
- End Kirkenes
- Minimum 2 people to run - single supplement available
- Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- Tour code KWE001





# ICE, IGLOOS & THE ARCTIC CIRCLE

## - independent



Start in Kemi, a port town on the northern Gulf of Bothnia, in Finland. Ride snowmobiles along the frozen sea to the Icebreaker Sampo and try swimming in a waterproof thermal suit among the broken ice blocks.

Head up north to Rovaniemi, the official home of Santa Claus and take part in a special ceremony for crossing the Arctic Circle. Finish the trip in style with an overnight stay in a Glass Igloo, admiring the starry sky and – hopefully – the dance of the Northern Lights above your bed.

### Day 1: Arrive Kemi

Upon arrival in Kemi, transfer to your hotel.

### Day 2: Snowmobile ride and the Icebreaker Sampo

Ride a snowmobile along frozen sea to Icebreaker Sampo for a lunch cruise and swim among the broken ice.

### Day 3: Train to Rovaniemi, Santa's Home Town

Free morning in Kemi before boarding the train to Rovaniemi. You have free time in Rovaniemi to see the Arktikum Museum and its exhibition about life in the Arctic.

### Day 4: Reindeer & Santa Claus' Village

Snowmobile safari to a reindeer farm to learn about reindeer husbandry and Lappish culture. Try a reindeer ride and attend a special Lapp ceremony for crossing the Arctic Circle. After lunch, head to Santa's Village and maybe even have a chat to Santa himself in his office.

### Day 5: Igloo night to enjoy the Northern Lights

Head off for a three-hour bus trip north of the Arctic Circle. Kakslauttanen is home to the wonderful heated Glass Igloos, where you can admire the Northern Lights in a normal room temperature under the glass ceiling.

### Day 6: Dogsledding & Northern Lights

After breakfast meet the Huskies, and join your own dog team through the snow-covered wilderness with lunch en route by an open fire. After dinner take a reindeer sled tour in search of the Northern Lights.



### Day 7: Good Bye & transfer to Ivalo airport.

After breakfast, transfer to Ivalo airport. It is time to say goodbye to your experience of a lifetime!

## INCLUSIONS

4 nights in a comfortable centrally located hotels  
1 night in a log cabin  
1 night in a heated glass igloo  
Daily breakfast and half board at Kakslauttanen  
Arrival and departure transfers on days 1 and 7  
Train tickets Kemi – Rovaniemi  
Bus tickets Rovaniemi – Kakslauttanen  
Snowmobile ride and Icebreaker cruise incl. lunch  
Visit Santa Claus Village and Reindeer Farm  
Arctic Circle Crossing Ceremony  
Dogsled excursion incl. lunch  
Northern Lights Reindeer Sledding

## QUICK FACTS

- ° 7 days / 6 nights
- ° Easy tour with the highlight being a swim among broken ice blocks
- ° Independent, departs any day depending on the Sampo sailing schedule
- December to March
- ° Start Kemi (KEM)
- ° End Ivalo (IVL)
- ° Minimum 2 people to run
- single supplement available
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour code: IIAC01



# NORTHERN LIGHTS & WINTER MAGIC - independent

Kakslauttanen Hotel and Igloo Village is located high above the Arctic Circle in Northern Finland. Surrounded by stunning scenery you will stay in your private log cabin with its own sauna and fireplace, enjoy winter activities and have the chance to see the Northern Lights. During your stay you will go on a dogsledding safari, visit a reindeer farm and experience the magical winter evening on a snowmobile. One of the highlights is a night under the stars in a glass igloo.

### Day 1: Arrive Kakslauttanen

Arrive at Ivalo airport and transfer to Kakslauttanen. Check in to your private log cabin with own sauna and fireplace.

### Day 2: Snowmobile safari to Reindeer Farm

This morning, transfer to the ski village of Saariselkä and get fitted out in your thermal suits. After the all-important lesson on driving a snowmobile, head out on a 3 hour tour. The snowmobile ride takes you through beautiful snow covered landscape to a local reindeer farm.

### Day 3: Evening Snowmobile Safari in search for the Northern Lights

Enjoy optional activities today and as evening arrives, join a snow mobile safari driving through snow covered forests and over treeless fells with a snow mobile. With a little luck, if the sky is clear, the moon, stars and even the Northern Lights may show you the way.

### Day 4: Husky Safari and a spectacular night in Glass Igloo

Head out to the wilderness mushing your own team of sled dogs, happy to be out in the snow and eager to run. After dinner, prepare for another highlight – a night in a glass igloo is a one of a kind opportunity to admire the Northern Lights and millions of stars in the comfort of a warm room.

### Day 5: Depart Ivalo

After breakfast, transfer to Ivalo airport.

## INCLUSIONS

3 nights in a log cabin with its own fireplace and sauna  
1 night in a heated glass igloo  
Daily breakfast and dinner  
Airport transfers on days 1 and 5  
Snowmobile safari to Reindeer farm (3 hours)  
Evening Aurora snowmobile safari (3 hours)  
Dogsled excursion (4 hours)

## QUICK FACTS

- ° 5 days / 4 nights
- ° Easy tour with unique accommodation and unforgettable winter activities
- ° Independent, departs any day - November to March
- ° Start Ivalo (IVL)
- ° End Ivalo
- ° Minimum 2 people to run – single supplement available
- ° Pricing and departures – refer to our website
- ° Tour code NLM001



# NORTHERN LIGHTS IN FINLAND

- independent



Finnish Lapland offers a great range of comfortable Scandinavian style accommodation and activities with an added bonus of the Northern Lights.

During the day you get to know huskies and reindeers, and at night, our guides will take you out on snowshoes and snowmobiles to 'hunt' for the Aurora. This short tour is ideal for 'beginners' and families with kids.

#### Day 1: Welcome to Lapland

Arrive to Kittilä and transfer to your hotel or cabin. Your sauna is waiting.

#### Day 2: Huskies & Aurora snowshoeing

After breakfast, it is time to meet your own dogsledding team of eager huskies and head into the snowy wilderness. In the evening, take out the snowshoes and follow your guide in the search of the Northern Lights. An evening to remember!

#### Day 3: Reindeers & Snowmobiles

Today we will visit a local reindeer herder and his reindeers to learn more about this fascinating way of life. In the evening start your snowmobile engines and head to the top of a nearby fell in search of the Northern Lights. Feel how the sky is closer and stars are brighter!

#### Day 4: Good Bye and depart Kittilä

After the breakfast transfer to Kittilä for your individual departure flight.

## INCLUSIONS

All accommodation in a shared double/twin room, single supplement available  
Daily breakfast and dinner, 1 lunch  
Airport transfers on days 1 and 4  
Dogsledding safari  
Reindeer farm visit  
Aurora snowshoe adventure  
Aurora snowmobile safari  
Winter clothing for the entire stay (overalls, boots, mittens, hat & socks)



## QUICK FACTS

- ° 4 days / 3 nights
- ° Easy short tour with unforgettable winter activities
- ° Independent, departs any day – December to March
- ° Start Kittilä (KTT)
- ° End Kittilä
- ° Minimum 2 people to run – single supplement available
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour code NLW001



DIRECTOR'S CHOICE

# LAPLAND ADVENTURE WEEK

- Independent

Enjoy the best of Finnish Lapland and stay in the countryside resort Harriniva, located 230 km north of the Arctic Circle. During the week you will get to know sled dogs and reindeers, and get to experience the thrill of snowmobiling. You can also venture out on snowshoes or cross-country skis, or even go out on an optional night-time snowmobile safari in search of the Northern Lights.

This tour also includes a 2-day dogsledding safari with an overnight stay at a wilderness cabin.

#### Day 1: Arrive Kittilä

Arrival at Kittilä Airport and transfer to Harriniva Hotel.

#### Day 2: Experience a day of reindeer husbandry and traditional Lappish living

After breakfast, transfer to the 100-year old traditional reindeer farm of Torassieppi. Have fun trying your skills in 'suopunki' (lasso) throwing and find out more about this fascinating way of life.

#### Day 3: Snowmobile tour

It is time to start your snowmobile engines and head out on a tour, through snow-covered forests and over frozen lakes admiring the vast wilderness of Finnish Lapland. Stop for a lunch by an open fire.



#### Day 4: Free day to enjoy cross-country or downhill skiing

This day is free for your own activities. Try cross-country skiing or snowshoes, or go downhill skiing at the nearby ski centre.

#### Day 5: Dogsledding and overnight in a lakeside cabin

Pack your equipment for this 2-day safari and get acquainted with the huskies. Meet your team of 4-5 dogs that accompany you for the next 2 days. Stop for lunch by an open fire before making your way to your wilderness cabin with a traditional lakeside sauna.

#### Day 6: Dogsledding back to Harriniva

After breakfast the dogsledding adventure continues. Return to Harriniva in the afternoon for a special farewell dinner with delicious Lappish dishes.

#### Day 7: Depart Kittilä

After breakfast, transfer to Kittilä airport for departure.

NOTE: Please note that this tour is not suitable for children under the age of 15. Contact our Finnish Destination Specialists for similar child friendly options.

## INCLUSIONS

5 nights in a shared double/twin room, single supplement available  
1 night in a wilderness hut with shared facilities  
Daily breakfast, lunch & dinner  
Airport transfers on days 1 and 7  
2-day dogsled safari  
Reindeer farm visit incl. reindeer sled safari  
Snowmobile safari (5 hours)  
Cross-country skiing equipment or snowshoes for one day  
Winter clothing for the stay (overalls, boots, mittens, hat and socks)  
Sleeping bag for the overnight cabin stay



## QUICK FACTS

- ° 7 days / 6 nights
- ° Adventurous tour with a 2 day dogsled safari
- ° Independent, departs any day – December to March
- ° Start Kittilä (KTT)
- ° End Kittilä
- ° Minimum 2 people to run – single supplement available
- ° Pricing and departures – refer to our website
- ° Tour code LAW001



DIRECTOR'S CHOICE

# TREASURES OF LAPLAND

- exclusively escorted



Join our exclusively escorted Nordic winter small group journey to Northern Scandinavia. We will take you snow mobile riding, dog mushing and reindeer sledding; all under the spectacle of the Northern Lights. We travel through beautiful winter landscapes, blanketed in snow from Finnish Lapland, the incredible wild scenery of coastal Norway and the original ICEHOTEL located in the little village of Jukkasjärvi. This trip is designed to maximise the chances of seeing the Northern Lights, as you spend the complete 10 days travelling through the Aurora Zone. We stay in cosy family run lodges, central hotels and cabins, enjoying winter activities and hot chocolates by the fire.

Experience a Nordic winter in a small and exclusive group accompanied by private escorts and guides - min group size is 6, maximum is 16 people.

**Day 1: Arrive Helsinki**  
Upon arrival at Helsinki Airport, make your own way to our centrally located hotel. In the evening at 18:00 join a tour briefing followed by welcome dinner.

**Day 2: Cool Helsinki**  
Explore Helsinki on foot or public transport with your tour leaders. Helsinki is known for its great mixture of classic buildings, vibrant bars and restaurant scene.

**Day 3: Welcome to Lapland**  
Take a mid morning flight to Kittilä, and transfer to your hotel or cabin.

**Day 4: Huskies & Aurora workshop**  
After breakfast it is time to meet your own dogsledding team of eager huskies and head into the snowy wilderness. In the evening, join the Northern Lights workshop, and learn about this magical phenomenon.

**Day 5: Reindeers & Snowmobiles**  
Today we will visit a local reindeer herder and his reindeers to learn more about this fascinating way of life. In the evening start your snowmobile engines and head to the top of a nearby fell in search of the Northern Lights. Feel how the sky is closer and stars are brighter!



Arctic Hotel Sommarøy

**Day 6: Transfer to Tromsø**  
After breakfast, we take a 6-hour bus trip north across the Norwegian border to Tromsø.

**Day 7: Explore Tromsø - the Arctic Capital**  
After breakfast, explore Tromsø on a walking tour including a visit to the Polar Museum.

**Day 8: Whale-watching**  
During the months of November, December and January, join a whale watching tour with excellent opportunities to observe orcas, humpback and fin whales. In the afternoon return to Tromsø.

**Day 9: Travel to Abisko**  
After breakfast travel overland south along the Norwegian coast and then inland to Abisko.

**Day 10: Abisko & the Aurora Zone**  
Enjoy a day in Abisko for optional activities. In the evening visit the Aurora Sky Station for a night to remember.

**Day 11: ICEHOTEL**  
Take the local train to Kiruna and transfer to ICEHOTEL. This evening you will overnight in an ice room. Sleep in thermal sleeping bags laid out on reindeer skins on a special bed made of snow and ice.

**Day 12: Overnight train to Stockholm**  
After a glass of warm 'lingonberry' juice, join local artists using the ice from Torne River, and let yourself be guided into the magical world of ice sculpting. In the afternoon we will transfer to Kiruna and board an overnight sleeper train south to Stockholm. Triple share compartments with shared facilities.



Tromsø port

**Day 13: Charming Stockholm**  
Arrive into Stockholm in the morning and transfer to your hotel for check in. Explore Stockholm, Sweden's Capital - a charming, vibrant and surrounded by beauty and water - hence its nickname; Venice of the North! Tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

**Day 14: Depart Stockholm**  
Today is departure day, and you may depart any time after breakfast.

**INCLUSIONS**  
All accommodation in a shared double/twin room, single supplement available  
1 night in ice room at ICEHOTEL  
1 night in triple share gender specific compartments  
Daily breakfast, 3 lunches & 6 dinners  
Dogsledding safari, Reindeer farm visit, Snowshoeing and snowmobile safari in Finland  
Tromsø city walk and Whale Safari (mid Nov-Jan only) in Norway  
Ice sculpting and night visit to the Aurora Sky Station in Sweden  
All transport between destinations  
Escorted by one of our Scandinavian staff  
Daytime dogsledding (2 people per sled)  
Whale watching excursion at Sommarøy  
Warm clothing for entire 9-day trip (jacket & trousers, boots, mittens, hat, gloves, balaclava and helmet).  
Qualified local guides for activities and excursions  
Tour escort for complete trip

**QUICK FACTS**

- 14 days/13 nights
- Easy escorted all-encompassing winter journey with emphasis on winter activities and optimal chances to see the Northern Lights
- Escorted - departs January
- Start Helsinki (HEL)
- End Stockholm (STO)
- Minimum 6 people to run - single supplement available
- Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- Tour code TOL001



# CLASSIC NORWEGIAN COASTAL VOYAGE - full voyage

The Classic Round Voyage with Hurtigruten, from Bergen to Kirkenes and back again, is the best way to experience and discover the majestic coastline of Norway, as you hunt for the Northern Lights. You will visit 34 ports and cover over 2500 nautical miles. You can choose the 12-day Classic Round Voyage or enjoy one of the shorter voyages.

## Day 1: Embark in Bergen

Ports visited today: Bergen  
Before sailing from Bergen, explore the famous Bryggen district, the Fish Market and the Fløibanen Funicular.

## Day 2: Ålesund and the fjords

Ports visited today: Florø, Måløy, Torvik, Ålesund, Molde  
Sail north to Ålesund, a beautiful town with Art Nouveau architecture. Keep an eye out for the Northern Lights as you sail up the coast.

## Day 3: The historical Trondheim

Ports visited today: Kristiansund, Trondheim, Rørvik  
Explore the beautiful streets of Trondheim, or join one of the optional guided city tours.

## Day 4: Arctic Circle and The Lofoten Islands

Ports visited today: Brønnøysund, Sandnessjøen, Nesna, Ørnes, Bodø, Stamsund, Svolvær. Crossing the Arctic Circle is one of the highlights of the voyage. As evening approaches, visit the small fishing village of Svolvær in the Lofoten Islands.

## Day 5: Tromsø, the gateway to the Arctic

Ports visited today: Stokmarknes, Sortland, Risøyhamn, Harstad, Finnsnes, Tromsø, Skjervøy. During the night pass the magnificent Trollfjord and the spectacular Raftsund strait. In the afternoon you will visit Tromsø, a lively city with many shops, restaurants and cafes.

## Day 6: Honningsvåg and the North Cape

Ports visited today: Øksfjord, Hammerfest, Havøysund, Honningsvåg, Kjøllefjord, Mehamn, Berlevåg. Make an early stop at Hammerfest then continue on to Honningsvåg.

## Day 7: Kirkenes, the voyage turning point

Ports visited today: Kirkenes, Vardø, Båtsfjord, Berlevåg  
Enjoy the views of the arctic wilderness from deck, your cabin or panorama lounge. In the afternoon dock in Vardø, Norway's easternmost port.

## Day 8: Hammerfest and North Cape

Ports visited today: Mehamn, Kjøllefjord, Honningsvåg, Havøysund, Hammerfest, Øksfjord, Skjervøy, Tromsø. The excursion to the spectacular North Cape starts in Honningsvåg. As you arrive in Tromsø in the evening you may want to book a seat at the Midnight Concert at the Arctic Cathedral or try local beer at the one of the pubs in the town centre.

## Day 9: Vesterålen and Lofoten Islands

Ports visited today: Tromsø, Finnsnes, Harstad, Risøyhamn, Sortland, Stokmarknes, Svolvær, Stamsund. Visit the Hurtigruten Museum in Stokmarknes. Entry free for all passengers.

## Day 10: Arctic Circle, Seven Sisters

Ports visited today: Bodø, Ørnes, Nesna, Sandnessjøen, Brønnøysund, Rørvik. Experience the Helgeland coast with hundreds of islets and steep mountains.

## Day 11: Trondheim and Kristiansund

Ports visited today: Trondheim, Kristiansund, Molde, Ålesund. Arrive Trondheim early in the morning. Visit Nidaros Cathedral, Scandinavia's largest medieval building.

## Day 12: Disembark in Bergen

Ports visited today: Ålesund, Torvik, Måløy, Florø, Bergen  
Finishing your voyage and taking home memories of this unique journey.

## INCLUSIONS

All accommodation in shared double/twin cabin, single supplement and different cabin types available  
Full board during voyage

## VOYAGE OPTIONS

### Classic Voyages

Classic Voyage North-Bergen-Kirkenes 7 days/6 nights (days 1-7 of above itinerary)  
Classic Voyage South-Kirkenes-Bergen 6 days/5 nights (days 7-12 of above itinerary)

Classic voyages are generally sold on full board basis.

### Astronomy Voyage

On select dates during winter, there are Northern Lights Astronomy Voyages with added Astronomy lectures and a visit to the Northern Lights Planetarium.

### Port-to-port voyages

Shorter port-to-port voyages give you a taste of what a full Hurtigruten round voyage has to offer and are a great way to travel between the various ports.

Bergen-Lofoten-4 days/3 nights (days 1-4)  
Bergen-Tromsø-5 days/4 nights (days 1-5)  
Tromsø - Kirkenes - 3 days/2 nights (days 5-7)

Port-to-port voyages are sold on breakfast only basis.

## QUICK FACTS

- ° 12 days/11 nights
- ° Easy voyage with many possibilities to customise your experience with exciting excursions
- ° Independent - departs any day all year
- ° Start Bergen (BGO)
- ° End Bergen
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour codes: CNCF01 (Full voyage), CNCN01 (Northbound), CNCS01 (Southbound)



# HURTIGRUTEN

Hurtigruten ships have been a staple along the Norwegian coast since 1893. The current fleet consists of 11 classic ships. The smallest ship, MS Lofoten, has a capacity of 151 beds (licensed to carry 400 passengers) and the largest and newest, MS Midnatsol, has a capacity of 638 beds (licensed to carry 1,000 passengers). When you choose your date; you choose your ship, so ask us for advice.

## CLASSIC VOYAGES

The 'classic' voyages run all the way from Bergen to Kirkenes (7 days), Kirkenes to Bergen (6 days) or up and back (12 days). Travellers coming to experience the spectacular coastline of Norway more often enjoy classic voyages.

## PORT-TO-PORT VOYAGES

Hurtigruten is perfect for shorter voyages. These so called port-to-port voyages are often enjoyed also by Norwegians using the ships as a ferry service along the coast, which is really what the Hurtigruten concept is designed for. The ships service 34 ports along the Norwegian coast (same ports going north and south), so that people living in these remote outposts have regular transport options in and out. So, do ring us at 50 Degrees North and speak to a Norwegian for advice. You can really hop on and off as you like, although this becomes a bit of a challenge when pre-booking. Our tip for you: combining a short voyage with a magnificent stay in a fisherman's cabin (rorbu) in the Lofoten archipelago is something really worthwhile that most people miss out on.



# MOUNTAINS, FJORDS & CLASSIC COASTAL VOYAGE

This classic journey begins in Oslo and takes you across the mountains to the western fjords of Norway. You will enjoy a ride on the famous Flåm Railway, as well as a fjord cruise under towering cliffs. The coastal voyage begins in Bergen and calls at 34 ports as you make your fascinating journey north.

A winter expedition along the coast of Norway, when the landscape is covered in pure white snow, is a beautiful and refreshing experience. During the winter, the sun is low on the horizon and north of the Arctic Circle it remains below it for some weeks. This creates fascinating shades of light ranging from blue to purple and yellow tones. The highlight for many, of course, is the appearance of the majestic Northern Lights. During your journey into the Arctic you will also learn more about the local culture and history. You have the chance to enjoy interesting presentations and activities will be arranged both on board and land.

**Day 1: From Oslo to the Mountains**

Early morning train to Myrdal. Travel on the Flåm Railway through wild and beautiful scenery with waterfalls and steep mountain cliffs to the Sognefjord. Continue by boat to Gudvangen and further by coach up the steep and spectacular hairpin bends to Voss.

**Day 2: The Capital of the Fjords**

Morning train to Bergen, the capital of the fjords. Free day to explore this old Hanseatic harbour city.

**Day 3: The Coastal Voyage begins**

Free time in Bergen before embarking on the coastal voyage in the late afternoon.

**Day 4: Sail through Skerries and Islands**

After stops in the beautiful Art Nouveau town of Ålesund and Molde with its magnificent view of the Romsdal Alps, the ship will carefully navigate a belt of islets and skerries, before docking at Kristiansund.

**Day 5: The Royal City of Trondheim**

Early morning arrival in Trondheim. Free time to explore Norway's first capital. Cross the old city bridge to see the restored wooden buildings in Baklandet and the great gothic cathedral of Nidaros.

**Day 6: Arctic Circle and Lofoten Islands**

After crossing the Arctic Circle, the ship sails through islands and skerries with majestic rock formations. Then further across open sea to the Lofoten Islands.

**Day 7: Tromsø - Gateway to the Arctic**

This morning you'll pass the medieval Trondenes church before calling at Harstad for breakfast. Later you'll stop at Tromsø, the "Paris of the North".

**Day 8: Honningsvåg and the North Cape**

Watch for rookeries of puffins and gannets along the cliffs and pods of orca hunting for herring. After calling at Honningsvåg, the capital of the North Cape, the ship heads east toward the pretty fishing villages of Kjøllefjord, Mehamn, and Berlevåg.

**Day 9: Kirkenes**

Disembark in Kirkenes and fly to Oslo where your tour ends.

**INCLUSIONS**

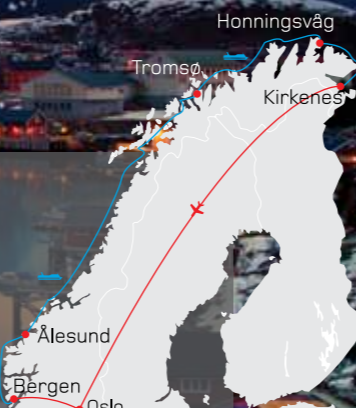
- 2 nights comfortable 3.5 to 4 star hotels
- 6 nights twin outside cabin with private facilities on coastal voyage
- Daily breakfast, and full board during voyage
- Norway in a Nutshell package from Oslo to Bergen via Flåm, including seat reservation
- 24-hour Bergen city card
- Classic Voyage North with Hurtigruten
- Flight Kirkenes - Oslo including taxes



**QUICK FACTS**

- ° 9 days/8 nights
- ° Easy cultural tour/ voyage through Norway
- ° Hurtigruten voyage - departs any day all year
- ° Start Oslo (OSL)
- ° End Oslo
- ° Minimum 2 people to run - single supplement available
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour code CNCV01

D DIRECTOR'S CHOICE
 D DESIGN
 H HISTORIC



# TROMSØ, HURTIGRUTEN & KIRKENES - independent/voyage

If you want to maximise your chances to see the Northern Lights while experiencing all the highlights of Northern Norway, this activity-packed tour is the one you have been searching for. Start from Tromsø and try your luck spotting the Northern Lights on a nighttime dogsled safari. Continue by Hurtigruten ship along the magnificent coast and visit North Cape, the northernmost point of mainland Europe. Upon disembarking in Kirkenes, another set of highlights await you: a King Crab Fishing Safari over the frozen fjords and a night in the famous Kirkenes Snow Hotel.

**Day 1: Arrive Tromsø**

Arrive Tromsø make your own way to your centrally located hotel.

**Day 2: Arctic City Walk & Evening Aurora Chase**

During the day, get to know Tromsø on a guided city walk. In the evening head out on a Aurora Chase by minibus, sometimes driving as far as Finland and Sweden in search of the best Northern Lights viewing.

**Day 3: Tromsø & evening dogsled**

Enjoy your free day in Tromsø before the next highlight: an evening dogsled safari in in the wilderness and another chance to spot the Northern Lights.

**Day 4: Board Hurtigruten**

Enjoy a morning in Tromsø. In the early afternoon, board a Hurtigruten ship and voyage further north.

**Day 5: At Sea & North Cape**

Enjoy the views of the arctic wilderness from deck, your cabin or panorama lounge. To make the most of your day at sea, we have included an excursion to North Cape, the Northernmost point of the European mainland.

**Day 6: Kirkenes**

After breakfast, arrive Kirkenes and get ready for a snowmobile safari to your next highlight: dinner and overnight stay at the extraordinary Kirkenes Snow Hotel.

**Day 7: King Crab Fishing Safari**

Join a King Crab Fishing Safari on the frozen fjords and try your luck. The fresh catch will be served for lunch and many call this the best seafood they have ever tasted!

**Day 8: Depart Kirkenes**

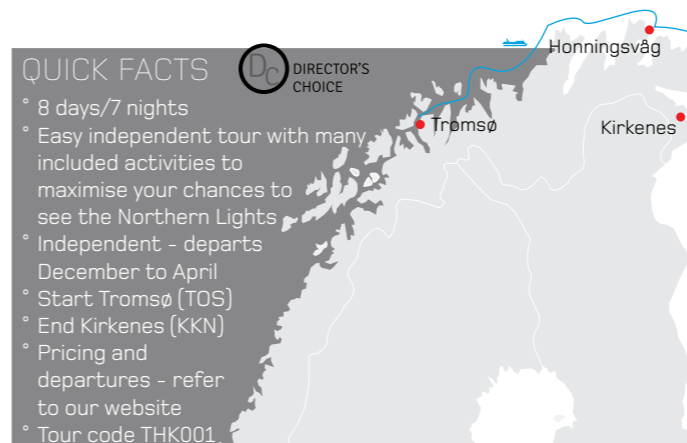
After breakfast, make your own way to Kirkenes airport for your departure flight or extend your adventure into Finland.

**INCLUSIONS**

- All accommodation in shared double/twin room or cabin, single supplement available
- 2 nights onboard Hurtigruten
- 1 night in a snow room at Kirkenes Snow Hotel
- Daily breakfast, full board on board Hurtigruten
- Other meals as per itinerary
- Activities as per itinerary:
- Tromsø City Walk
- Aurora Chase by minibus
- Evening dogsled safari and transfers from/to Tromsø
- North Cape excursion
- Snowmobile safari
- King Crab Fishing Safari

**QUICK FACTS**

- ° 8 days/7 nights
- ° Easy independent tour with many included activities to maximise your chances to see the Northern Lights
- ° Independent - departs December to April
- ° Start Tromsø (TOS)
- ° End Kirkenes (KKN)
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour code THK001





# Relax & Explore



Photo: Andrea Giubelli - Visitnorway.com

## CABINS & CABINS SIZES

All Hurtigruten ships have a wide range of comfortable cabins. They vary in size and location. As a general rule, outside cabins on the higher decks have a picture window while the ones on the lower decks have portholes.



Name	Size	Features
<b>MX</b> - Suite	43-45m <sup>2</sup>	Two rooms, seating area and dining table, private balcony
<b>MG</b> - Suite	35-37m <sup>2</sup>	One or two rooms, seating area, some with bath tub, most with private balcony or bay window
<b>M</b> - Suite	28-30m <sup>2</sup>	One or two rooms, seating area, TV, minibar, some with private balcony
<b>Q</b> - Mini Suite	16m <sup>2</sup>	Seating area, minibar, TV, most have a double bed (can be also two single mattresses in a double frame).
<b>U</b> - Outside Cabin	8-13m <sup>2</sup>	Separate beds, one bed can be turned into a sofa, table. Upper decks.
<b>P</b> - Outside Cabin	8-13m <sup>2</sup>	Separate beds, one bed can be turned into a sofa. Upper and middle decks
<b>N</b> - Outside Cabin	7-13m <sup>2</sup>	Separate beds, one can be turned into a sofa (some with upper/lower berths.) Middle/lower decks.
<b>I</b> - Inside Cabin	6-10m <sup>2</sup>	Separate beds, one bed can be turned into a sofa. Some with upper/lower berths.

Most travel brochures use the entry level N-class cabins as the cabin of choice. These are about 7-13 m<sup>2</sup>, and more often do not comfortably fit two regular large suitcases. Especially on longer voyages, we will always recommend you to spend the \$40- \$70 extra per night and upgrade to a P-class, or better even, a U-class cabin. A bit more space for comfort and enjoyment!

If you are on a budget, inside cabins with no windows are affordable,

and you can spend your evenings on the dance floor. If you like a splurge, suites are very nice and offer double bed options, a seating area and a TV with Norwegian channels if the scenery really disappoints (we don't dub English movies!).

Do also think about which side of the ship you want to be on; remember 'SNPS'; starboard north port south. A bit like when the Brits travelled by ship to India; 'POSH'; Port Out, Starboard Home.



## SEASONALITY & PRICING

Travelling along the Norwegian coast is spectacular in all seasons, even the Autumn storms in November are an experience with whales migrating up the coast. Winter, from December to mid April, is great for the Northern Lights and enjoying winter landscapes. Spring, summer and early/mid autumn, from mid April to October offers spring blossom, long light days of Scandinavian summer and magnificent autumn colours.

From 01 Jun to 31 Aug the Hurtigruten voyage north from Bergen includes a side trip into the infamous Geirangerfjord, while from 01 Sep to 31 Oct the side trip takes you into the Hjørundfjord. On the southbound voyage from 01 Apr to 31 May Hurtigruten sails into Lyngenfjorden from the east side of the mountain range "Lyngen Alps" offering spectacular views of towering cliffs and mountains. On select dates in Jan, Feb, Mar, Sep, Oct and Nov, there are Northern Lights Astronomy Voyages with added Astronomy lectures and a visit to the Northern Lights Planetarium.

Seasonal pricing varies from winter, spring, summer and autumn. Winter; Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb & Mar is low season, and prices are good. Spring; Apr & May is a popular time and is shoulder/high season. Summer; Jun, Jul & Aug is high season with prices approx. 50% higher than in low season. Autumn; Sep & Oct is shoulder season. A voyage starting in Bergen on 01 April can be 25-30% higher than starting 31 Mar, so ring us and we will talk you through the best options.

## LIFE ON BOARD

Each ship has a different style and design. All ships have comfortable lounges and plenty of deck space offering perfect panoramic views of the world's most beautiful coastal scenery. The onboard cuisine is influenced by the traditional dishes of the region and the different seasons. Being on the coastal voyage, seafood is often on the menu and each dinner ends with delicious traditional desserts. Breakfast and lunch are varied buffets. The restaurants are fully licensed, however, alcohol is taxed heavily in Norway so be warned. All of the ships have a small library where you can relax reading a book, and a café serving drinks and snacks 24 hours a day. Most ships also have Jacuzzis out on deck and a fitness room available. During the winter months, an added service provided is a wake up call which alerts you if the Aurora Borealis makes an appearance.

## EARLY BIRDS

Book early and the better your early booking discount will be. It works a little like an airline pricing model. The general rule, though, is to book before 31 October, for travel the following year. If you are able to do that, you will be eligible for an 'early booking' discount of up to 25%. Bookings before 31 January may attract up to 20% discount.

Other promotions and discounts are being announced ad hoc, so ask us if a discount applies for your dates.



Photo: Making View - Visitnorway.com

SHORE EXCURSIONS IN WINTER

All voyages, both 'classic' and 'port-to-port' come as voyage only, and it is up to you to choose which shore excursions you want to do. There is an exciting range of excursions on both the northbound and southbound sailings. Experience everything from dogsledding and snowmobiling to city tours and visits to cultural and historical sites. Ask us for recommendations, as excursions are best chosen with season and interests in mind. We highly recommend booking these at the same time as you book your voyage.

Northbound voyage:

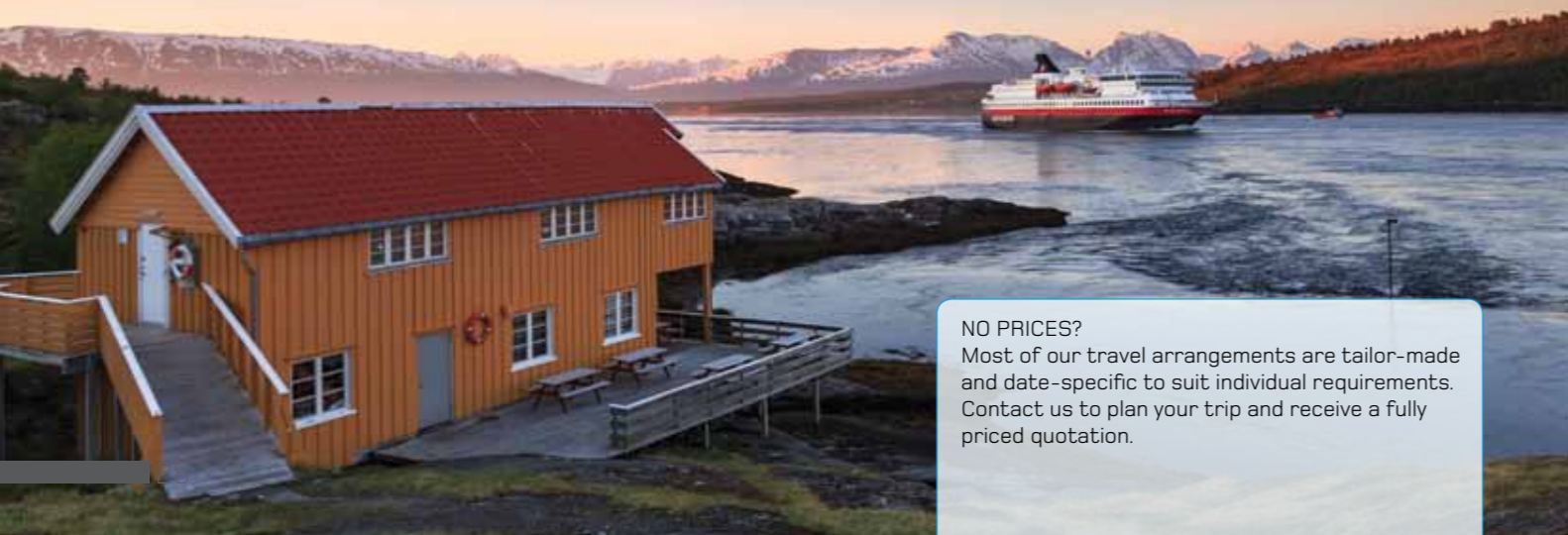
<b>Day 2: Art Nouveau Walk</b> This fascinating guided tour brings the town of Ålesund, its history and the symbolism of its Art Nouveau architecture to life. <b>Ålesund</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 01 Jun, 02 Nov – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 2h	<b>Day 8: Snowmobile Trip in the Polar Night</b> Drive through the beautiful Arctic landscape during the polar night and you might even see the Northern Lights. <b>Mehamn - Kjøllefjord</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 10 May, 15 Dec – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 2h 30min
<b>Day 3: Trondheim with Nidaros Cathedral</b> Visit the medieval Nidaros Cathedral, Norway's national shrine since 11th century. <b>Trondheim</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 02 Apr, 03 Sep – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 2h	<b>Day 8: Midnight Concert in the Arctic Cathedral</b> This elegant church is filled with the sound of the most beautiful Norwegian folk songs and classical selections. <b>Tromsø</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 1h 15min
<b>Day 4: Lofotr Viking Feast</b> The Chieftain and the Lady of the house invite you to join a real Viking feast. <b>Stamsund - Svolvær</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 31 Mar, 01 Oct – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 3h	<b>Day 9: Taste of Vesterålen</b> History, beautiful scenery and a selection of breathtaking sights. <b>Harstad-Sortland</b> <b>Date:</b> 1 Jan – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 4h 15min
<b>Day 5: Wilderness Adventure Camp</b> Experience activities such as reindeer driving and dogsledding at a wilderness camp. Snowmobiling available from 15 Nov, valid driver's licence required. <b>Finnsnes - Tromsø</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 31 Mar, 01 Nov – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 6h 30min	<b>Day 11: Trondheim City Walk</b> A walk through the city is a journey through its 1000-year history. <b>Trondheim</b> <b>Date:</b> 1 Jan – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 2h 15min
<b>Day 5: The Arctic Capital Tromsø</b> Explore the gateway to the Arctic on this tour. <b>Tromsø</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 2h 30min	<b>Day 11: Trondheim with Nidaros Cathedral</b> Get to know the historical Trondheim and its beautiful sights. <b>Trondheim</b> <b>Date:</b> 1 Jan – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 2h
<b>Day 6: The North Cape</b> Visit the northernmost point on the continent. <b>Honningsvåg</b> <b>Date:</b> 1 Jan – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 3h	<b>Day 12: Bergen Sightseeing</b> Receive an insight into the city's history from its founding in 1070 to present day. <b>Bergen</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 2h
<b>Day 6: Snowmobile trip in Lapland</b> Experience the snow-clad valleys, fresh winter air and perhaps even the Northern Lights. Valid driving licence required. <b>Kjøllefjord - Mehamn</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 10 May, 15 Dec – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 2h 15min	
<b>Day 7: The Russian Border</b> The only town in Norway where East meets West. Make a stop at a border station. <b>Kirkenes</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 2h	
<b>Day 7: Kirkenes Snow Hotel</b> Visit the beautifully crafted snow suites followed by a drink in the ice bar and visit to the reindeer. <b>Kirkenes</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 01 May, 15 Dec – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 2 h 30 min	

Southbound voyage:

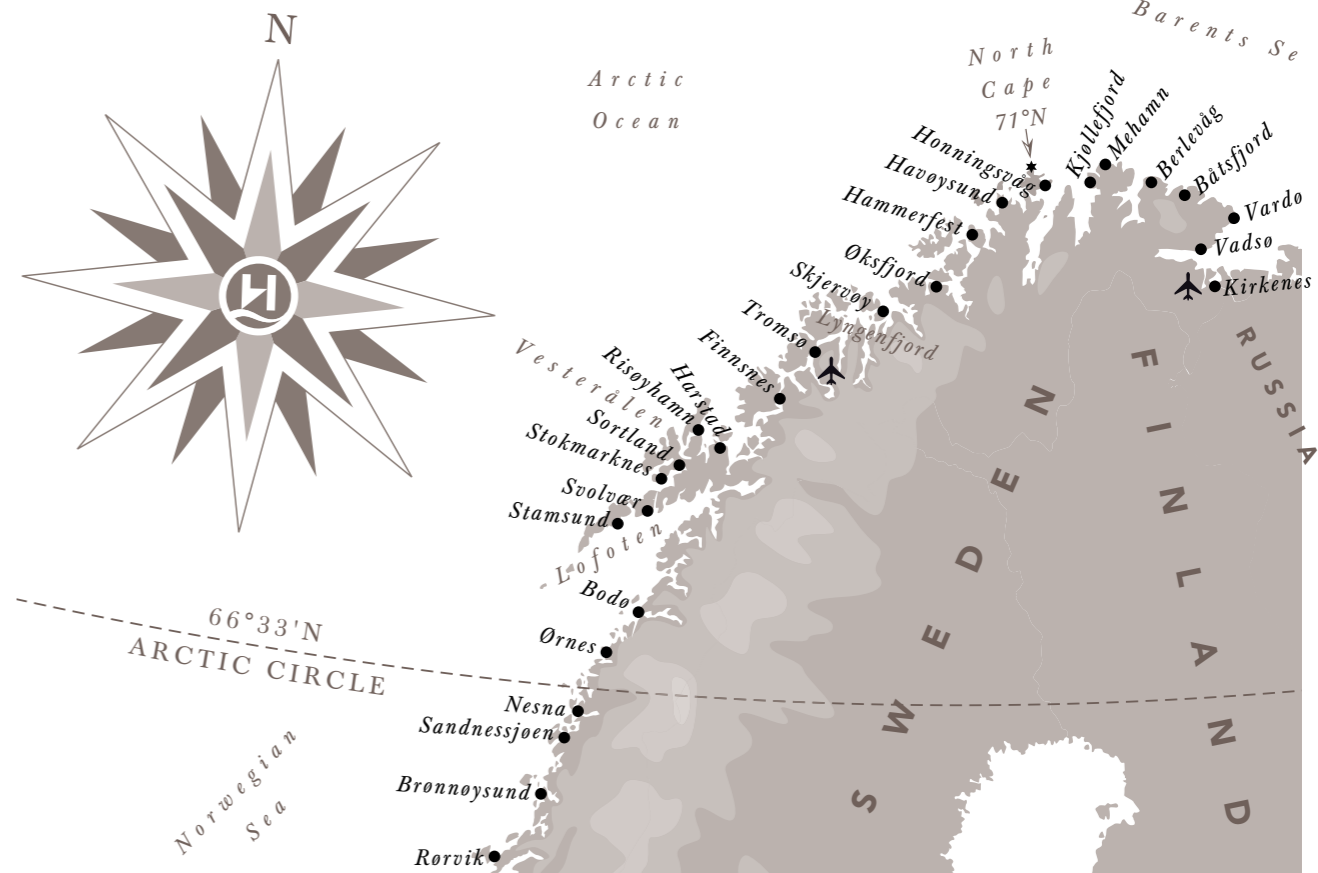
<b>Day 2: Art Nouveau Walk</b> This fascinating guided tour brings the town of Ålesund, its history and the symbolism of its Art Nouveau architecture to life. <b>Ålesund</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 01 Jun, 02 Nov – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 2h	<b>Day 8: Snowmobile Trip in the Polar Night</b> Drive through the beautiful Arctic landscape during the polar night and you might even see the Northern Lights. <b>Mehamn - Kjøllefjord</b> <b>Date:</b> 01 Jan – 10 May, 15 Dec – 31 Dec <b>Duration:</b> 2h 30min
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SHORE EXCURSIONS

You can pre-book your optional excursions with us or wait until you are on board. However, there is a maximum number of participants and they do book out. Pre-bookings should be made at the time you book the voyage, or at latest before your full payment is due 70 days prior to your travel date. For prices, please refer to the specific form on our website.



**NO PRICES?**  
Most of our travel arrangements are tailor-made and date-specific to suit individual requirements. Contact us to plan your trip and receive a fully priced quotation.



NORTHBOUND		Departure Bergen 01.01.-31.05	Departure Bergen 01.06.-31.10.*	SOUTHBOUND		Departure Bergen 01.01.-31.03	Departure Bergen 01.04.-31.05
Day		8 01.11.-31.12		Day		8 01.06.-31.12	
1	from BERGEN	22:30	20:00	7	from KIRKENES	12:30	12:30
2	from FLORØ	4:45	2:15		from VADSØ	-	-
	from MÅLØY	7:30	4:30		from VARDØ	16:45	16:45
	from TORVIK	10:45	7:30		from BÅTSFJORD	20:15	20:15
	to ÅLESUND	12:00	8:45		from BERLEVÅG	22:15	22:15
	to GEIRANGER	-	13:25*	8	from MEHAMN	1:00	1:00
	to URKE	-	11:30*		from KJØLLEFJORD	3:00	3:00
	from ÅLESUND	15:00	19:00		from HONNINGSVÅG	5:45	5:45
	from MOLDE	18:30	22:15		from HAVØYSUND	8:00	8:00
3	from KRISTIANSUND	23:00	2:00		to HAMMERFEST	10:45	10:45
	to TRONDHEIM	6:00	8:30		from HAMMERFEST	12:45	11:45*
	from TRONDHEIM	12:00	12:00		to ØKSFJORD	15:45	14:45
	from RØRVIK	21:15	21:15		from SKJERVØY	19:45	18:30
4	from BRØNNØYSUND	1:00	1:00		to TROMSØ	23:45	23:45
	from SANDNESSJØEN	4:15	4:15	9	from TROMSØ	1:30	1:30
	from NESNA	5:30	5:30		from FINNSNES	4:45	4:45
	from ØRNES	9:30	9:30		to HARSTAD	8:00	8:00
	to BODØ	12:30	12:30		from HARSTAD	8:30	8:30
	from BODØ	15:00	15:00		from RISØYHAMN	11:00	11:00
	from STAMSUND	19:30	19:30		from SORTLAND	13:00	13:00
	to SVOLVÆR	21:00	21:00		from STOKMARKNES	15:15	15:15
	from SVOLVÆR	22:00	22:00		to SVOLVÆR	18:30	18:30
5	from STOKMARKNES	1:15	1:15		from SVOLVÆR	20:30	20:30
	from SORTLAND	3:00	3:00		from STAMSUND	22:30	22:30
	from RISØYHAMN	4:30	4:30	10	to BODØ	2:30	2:30
	to HARSTAD	6:45	6:45		from BODØ	4:15	4:15
	from HARSTAD	8:00	8:00		from ØRNES	7:15	7:15
	from FINNSNES	11:45	11:45		from NESNA	11:15	11:15
	to TROMSØ	14:30	14:30		from SANDNESSJØEN	13:00	13:00
	from TROMSØ	18:30	18:30		from BRØNNØYSUND	17:00	17:00
	from SKJERVØY	22:45	22:45		from RØRVIK	21:30	21:30
6	from ØKSFJORD	2:15	2:15	11	to TRONDHEIM	6:30	6:30
	to HAMMERFEST	5:15	5:15		from TRONDHEIM	10:00	10:00
	from HAMMERFEST	6:00	6:00		from KRISTIANSUND	17:00	17:00
	from HAVØYSUND	9:15	9:15		from MOLDE	21:30	21:30
	to HONNINGSVÅG	11:15	11:15		to ÅLESUND	00:30	00:30
	from HONNINGSVÅG	14:45	14:45		from ÅLESUND	1:00	1:00
	from KJØLLEFJORD	17:15	17:15		from TORVIK	2:30	2:30
	from MEHAMN	19:30	19:30		from MÅLØY	5:45	5:45
	from BERLEVÅG	22:00	22:00		from FLORØ	8:15	8:15
7	from BÅTSFJORD	0:15	0:15		to BERGEN	14:30	14:30
	from VARDØ	3:30	3:30				
	from VADSØ	7:15	7:15				
	to KIRKENES	9:00	9:00				

\* Please note for Arctic Awakening period (dep BGO 01.04.2014 to 31.05.2014) departure time from Hammerfest will be 11:45 due to diversion into Lyngen. Departure time from Hammerfest in the period (dep BGO 01.06 to 31.03) is 12:45 as today and will give 30 minutes extra in HFT



# CHRISTMAS WINTER WONDERLAND

## - independent

This action packed Christmas holiday is perfect for families looking for a magical experience in Finland. Taking part in safaris with huskies and snowmobiles and a visit to a real reindeer farm, you have got the main modes of transport covered. With snowshoeing, children's snowmobiles, cookie baking, a private visit with Santa and his elves and lunch in an ice restaurant there is plenty for the whole family to enjoy. Staying in intimate cosy cabins or rooms, this tour will give you wonderful family memories to last a lifetime.

### 22 Dec: Welcome dinner

Arrive at Kittilä airport and transfer to your cabin or room. Meet your guide and fit your allocated winter clothing, afterwards, head to the main hotel restaurant for a welcome dinner.

### 23 Dec: Reindeer farm and winter village

During a visit to a local reindeer farm, try your hand at lasso throwing and learn about the reindeers in the small museum. After taking a 3km safari through the silent forest we will feed the reindeer before saying our good byes to Dancer and Prancer. Visit an Ice hotel and enjoy lunch served in the ice restaurant where even the tables and chairs are made of ice!

### 24 Dec: Tree decorating, baking and search for Santa

Set off to hunt for the perfect Christmas tree. We will bring the tree back to the hotel where it will be decorated ready for the Christmas festivities. Next join in baking the traditional Finnish Christmas cookies. This afternoon, hop on a sleigh pulled by snowmobiles in our search for Santa. Elves can be spotted on the edge of the forest with their lanterns shining bright, leading us straight to the cabin for your private family visit.

Tonight the festivities continue with a Christmas buffet and watch out for the surprise guest of the night with a sack full of presents.

### 25 Dec: Engines on, it's snowmobile time

Spend Christmas morning at leisure to enjoy some time as a family. In the afternoon we will head out on the snowmobiles, adults driving their own with two sharing and children pulled behind the guide in a

sleigh snuggle wrapped up in blankets. 20km will be covered before returning to the hotel for a Christmas Day buffet.

### 26 Dec: Huskies and snow fun

Today you will visit a local husky farm, with a tour of the farm and a chance to have a cuddle with some of the young pups. A 6km safari follows with adults having the chance to mush their own team, and children being taken in the local guide's sleigh. Lunch will be served in a small traditional wooden restaurant with open fire.

Returning back to the hotel, it's time for some fun in the snow with snowshoeing, ice fishing, tobogganing and for the children a chance to drive their own mini snowmobile under supervision.

### 27 Dec: Departure day

Breakfast and departure to Kittilä airport

## INCLUSIONS

5 nights in a shared double/twin room or cabins, family rooms and single supplement available

Full board incl. Christmas Eve dinner

Airport transfers on days 1 and 6

All activities listed in the itinerary: Mini Snowmobile, ice fishing, Santa's search on snowmobile, dogsled drive and reindeer sleigh ride  
Winter clothing provided - Thermal winter suit, winter boots, woollen socks, inner and outer gloves, winter hat and balaclava.

# WHITE CHRISTMAS

Christmas is a magical time and where else can you enjoy it at its most authentic than in our region. Christmas in Scandinavia is full of lights, tumbling snowflakes, warming drinks and hearty food. It is the time when families and friends come together. We celebrate on the 24th and this is when Santa stops by to deliver presents, so the 25th is a relaxing day to enjoy the warmth of Christmas.

We take pride in looking after the little things that make a holiday special. Our Christmas packages are distanced from the crowds in continental Europe; accommodation is cosy, comfortable & private; and the region is one of the first in Europe to be blanketed in snow.

Be sure to book early, as these packages are very popular. We have done the planning for you, so sit back and enjoy this amazing family experience.

Photo: Carolina Romare/Imagebank.sweden.se



## QUICK FACTS



- ° 6 days/5 nights
- ° Active Christmas adventure for families with lots of inclusions
- ° Partly guided – departs in set dates in December
- ° Start Kittilä (KTT)
- ° End Kittilä
- ° Minimum 3 people to run
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour code CWW001





# SANTA, ELVES & GLASS IGLOOS

## - escorted tour

Head up high into the Arctic Circle to enjoy the Christmas period in Northern Finland. A landscape of snow, the chance of the Aurora Borealis and Finnish Christmas traditions combined with Santa and his elves will set your imagination soaring.

This is a rustic wilderness experience in the remote forests of northern Finland, away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. We provide snow, private log cabins, fun activities and beautiful scenery for you to make the most of this unique holiday. You will have lots of free time to enjoy this special time of year with your family.

### 23 Dec: Arrive Ivalo, transfer to Kakslauttanen

Catch a morning flight to Ivalo and transfer to Kakslauttanen. Check in to your private log cabin, equipped with its own fireplace and sauna. The adventure begins immediately; after dinner venture out into the snowy wilderness on snowmobiles in search for the Northern Lights.

### 24 Dec: Christmas spirit with a visit to Santa's home

Celebrate a traditional Finnish Christmas Eve and visit Santa in his home at Santa's Home. Help decorate the Christmas tree and enjoy a sauna in your own cosy log cabin before a special Finnish Christmas Eve dinner. Tonight, Santa will arrive in a sleigh pulled by his reindeer.

### 25 Dec: Snowmobile safari to Reindeer Farm

Start the snowmobile engine and ride through the beautiful snow-covered landscape to a local reindeer farm where our Sámi host tells you about reindeer herding in Lapland, a fascinating way of life.

### 26 Dec: Husky Safaris and a spectacular night in a Glass Igloo

Meet your team of sled dogs, eager to head out and take you on an unforgettable journey through magical winter scenery. The evening brings another highlight: a night in a heated glass igloo - a one of a kind opportunity to admire the Northern Lights and the night sky.

### 27 Dec: Depart to Ivalo

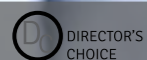
After breakfast transfer to Ivalo airport for your onward flight.

## INCLUSIONS

3 nights in a traditional log cabin in Finnish Lapland  
1 night in a Glass Igloo  
Daily breakfast, and half board at Kakslauttanen, including a Christmas lunch and Christmas Eve dinner  
Return transfer between Ivalo airport and Kakslauttanen  
Appropriate equipment for activities  
Visit a reindeer farm by snow mobile (3 hours)  
Husky safari (4 hours)  
Aurora snow mobile safari in the evening (3 hours)  
Hosted by our Nordic staff



## QUICK FACTS



- 5 days / 4 nights
- Easy Christmas celebration for adventurous families with older independent children
- Partly guided - departs on set dates in December
- Start Ivalo (IVL)
- End Ivalo
- Minimum 2 people to run - single supplement available
- Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- Tour code CHF001

Ivalo ●  
Kakslauttanen ●



# LAPLAND CHRISTMAS

## MAGIC - escorted tour



The village of Äkäslompola is located 200km north of the Arctic Circle, deep in Finnish Lapland surrounded by the peaceful old forests of the Pallas-Ylläs Nature Park. You will stay in cosy log cabins, each with their own fireplace and sauna. Enjoy great local food and join in some exhilarating winter activities like husky & reindeer sledding, ice fishing and snowmobiling.

On Christmas Eve we will visit a Lapp Village where the day is spent enjoying winter activities and making gingerbread biscuits and Christmas decorations. As the highlight of the day each family will travel through the snowy forest by sleigh for a private visit to Santa's cabin.

### 21 Dec: Welcome to Lapland

Transfer to Äkäslompola village. Relax and settle into your cabin: light the fire, make a cup of tea and watch the kids make their first snowman. You have kick sledges, snowshoes and cross-country skis at your disposal. Enjoy your first evening in Lapland with a traditional dinner.

### 22 Dec: Day with Reindeer

Visit a local reindeer farm and get close to these beautiful creatures. Your guide will tell you about reindeers, their indigenous Sami culture and life in the Arctic, followed by a short reindeer sleigh ride.

### 23 Dec: Ice Fishing & Snowmobiling

Today we will have a go at ice fishing and snowmobiling. Driving a snowmobile is easy and one of the most exhilarating winter activities. On the frozen lake you get to experience the traditional way of winter fishing - through a hole in the ice. We enjoy wilderness lunch - hopefully your own catch of fish.

### 24 Dec: Christmas Eve, Snow Activities & Private Family visit to Santa's Cabin

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast and spend the morning relaxing in your cabin or outside in the snow. Travel to Elämänluokku and be greeted by the old shaman who will introduce us to the Arctic Circle Crossing Ceremony. Each family will receive an invite from Santa with your scheduled time for a visit to Santa's cabin by snowmobile and a short reindeer ride. In the evening we will enjoy a traditional Christmas Eve buffet dinner at a local restaurant.

**25 Dec: Christmas Day with Dogsledding and Lunch at Snow Village**  
Travel to the nearby husky farm and be greeted by friendly barking dogs, eager to get going! After the safety briefing, and with children safely in the guides' sleighs, off we go mushing through the snowy forest! We visit the Snow Village, a real masterpiece of ice & snow art. After soup, we will continue back to our cabins in Äkäslompola and a special farewell dinner.

### 26 Dec: Good Bye Lapland

After breakfast, transfer to Kittilä Airport.

## INCLUSIONS

Arrival and departure transfers from/to Kittilä Airport  
5 nights' accommodation in your private log cabin  
5 breakfasts, 4 lunches during your activities and 5 dinners including a festive Christmas meal  
Winter clothing hire: overall, boots, balaclava, mittens  
All activities as per itinerary including: visit to a reindeer farm incl. reindeer sleigh ride, husky safari with visit to the Snow Village, icefishing safari by snowmobiles, private family visit to Santa's cabin by sleigh, Christmas Eve snow activities, making Christmas decorations and baking gingerbread.  
Hosted by our Nordic staff

## QUICK FACTS



- 6 days/5 nights
- Easy self-guided Christmas special tour - suits families with children of all ages
- Independent - departs on set dates in December
- Start Kittilä (KTT)
- End Kittilä
- Minimum 4 people to run - single supplement available
- Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- Tour code LCM001

Äkäslompola ● Kittilä

# CHRISTMAS IN FINLAND

## - independent

Enjoy an authentic Christmas experience with your family in Finland. We all love the thrill of showing our kids the best that life can be, and this is one tradition we know how to celebrate. A landscape of snow, Finnish Christmas traditions and cuisine combined with Santa and his elves will make for a unique experience.

We provide snow, great family friendly accommodation, fun activities and simple pleasures such as singing around a tree, freshly baked biscuits and promenading in the forest looking for Christmas trees. You just need to provide your time.

### 22 Dec: Welcome by Santa's Elves

You will be welcomed by Santa's Elves at Kajaani airport. Transfer to Hotel Kalevala and join the welcome dinner.

### 23 Dec: Snow Angels & Gingerbread Cookies

This morning is free for outdoor activities: tobogganing, kick sledding, making snow angels & visiting our reindeers. After lunch, help the elves bake Santa's favourite treat; gingerbread cookies.

### 24 Dec: Traditional Christmas Eve Celebration

After breakfast head out in the forest in search of the perfect Christmas tree for your children to decorate. Finland is the home of Santa Claus, and before he sets off delivering presents to the rest of the world, he stops by this afternoon. In the evening enjoy a traditional Christmas Eve dinner and get-together by the fireplace.

### 25 Dec: Christmas Day At Your Leisure

Christmas Day is yours to spend at your leisure, just relaxing or trying out activities of your choice. After dinner, take a short walk along the frozen lake and enjoy warm drinks by the campfire.

### 26 Dec: Boxing Day Adventure day by a frozen lake

Spend Boxing Day by the lake, and try out activities such as a short reindeer sled ride, horse sleigh tour, husky sled ride or a snowmobile drive.

### 27 Dec: Explore the village and enjoy an evening sauna

This is a day for relaxing and optional activities. Enjoy an evening sauna and dinner at the restaurant.

### 28 Dec: Good Bye Finland

After breakfast, transfer to the airport in Kajaani.

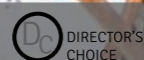
## INCLUSIONS

6 nights in a shared double/twin room, family rooms and single supplement available  
Full board incl. Christmas Eve dinner  
Airport transfers on days 1 and 7  
All activities listed in the itinerary: Fairy Tale Christmas tour in Christmas Village, Santa's visit, short dogsled drive, horse sleigh drive, reindeer sleigh ride and snowmobile ride  
Children's activities in the hotel include DVD movies, PlayStation and Wii games, playroom, board games and a library.



## QUICK FACTS

- 7 days/6 nights
- Easy Christmas adventure for families with young children
- Independent - departs on set dates in December
- Start Kajaani (KAJ)
- End Kajaani
- Minimum 2 people to run - single supplement available
- Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- Tour code CHF001



Kajaani • Kalevala



# CHRISTMAS ADVENTURE IN SWEDISH LAPLAND

## - independent

Celebrate the festive season in the glistening winter wonderland of Northern Sweden. The original ICEHOTEL is located as far as 200km inside the Arctic Circle and is the ideal place to start your White Christmas adventure.

Not far away, Björkliden, situated in the middle of the Aurora zone, is considered to be one of best places on earth to see the Aurora Borealis. An exclusive dinner at the Abisko Aurora Sky Station, accessible only by a chairlift, offers you a great chance to experience the Northern Lights.

The traditional festive food and drinks, snowy adventures and traditions of a Swedish Christmas await you on this unique Christmas holiday in Swedish Lapland.

### 21 Dec: Arrive in Kiruna

On arrival in Kiruna transfer to ICEHOTEL. Wander around, check out all the different art suites and enjoy your first day in the Swedish Lapland. In the evening, enjoy dinner at the ICE Restaurant. This evening you will stay in a warm room, i.e. a normal hotel room.

### 22 Dec: Ice Sculpting, Reindeer Sledding & overnight in an Ice room

Lead by local artists and using the ice from Torne River, let yourself be guided into the magical world of ice sculpting. In the afternoon, join our Sámi guide to the reindeer camp for an encounter with the reindeer and Sámi culture.

In the evening enjoy a drink in the uber-cool ice-bar before settling into your ice room at ICEHOTEL.

### 23 Dec: Björkliden & Dinner at Aurora Sky Station

Travel to Björkliden located near the Abisko National Park and check into your log cabin - your home for the next four nights, located on a mountain slope with fantastic views over the mountains and the Torne Lake.

In the evening drive to Abisko, take a chair lift to the Aurora Sky Station, and enjoy the aurora exhibition and dinner. Abisko, in the middle of the Aurora zone, is considered to be the best place on earth to see the Aurora Borealis.

### 24 Dec: Snowmobile Safari & Christmas Celebrations Swedish Style

In Scandinavian our main day of celebrations is the 24th. Start the day with traditional porridge, followed by an exciting snowmobile safari. In the afternoon, join a torch-lit walk to our cosy lavvu to meet Santa Claus. Enjoy a hot drink and a dance around the Christmas tree. A traditional Christmas Eve Dinner will be served at Restaurant Lappporten.

### 25 Dec: Christmas Day, Dogsledding & Turkey Dinner

Join an optional excursion to a Christmas church service in the Tornehamn Church, or spend a relaxing morning at your cabin. In the afternoon, take an exhilarating dogsledding tour - it's hard to get closer to nature. Glide across the blanket of snow to the sound of the panting dogs. Traditional Turkey Dinner in the evening.

### 26 Dec: Snowshoeing & Cave Tour in Käppasjåkka

After breakfast head out on a snowshoes walk before travelling to the Käppasjåkka cave, part of one of Sweden's longest cave system. We put on our headlamps and discover cave halls adorned with stalagmites and stalactites.

### 27 Dec: Departure Kiruna

After breakfast, transfer to Kiruna airport is included.

## INCLUSIONS

1 night in a warm room at ICEHOTEL  
1 night in an ice room at ICEHOTEL  
4 nights in a cabin in Björkliden (including linen and end cleaning)  
Full board from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on day 7  
Exclusive Dinner at Aurora Sky Station  
Ice Sculpting at ICEHOTEL  
Sámi Culture & Reindeer Excursion  
Dogsledding, Snowmobiling, Snowshoeing and Cave tours  
Arrival and departure transfer from/to Kiruna Airport

## QUICK FACTS

- 7 days/6 nights
- Easy self-guided Christmas special tour with emphasis on winter adventures - suits adventurous families
- Independent - departs on set dates in December
- Start Kiruna (KRN)
- End Kiruna
- Minimum 2 people to run - single supplement available
- Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- Tour code CAS001



Björkliden  
Kiruna • Jukkasjärvi

# AURORA SAFARI & TREEHOTEL

## - Independent Christmas Special

This Christmas Special has you staying in the 'African style' Aurora Safari Camp, and offers a unique opportunity to experience the elusive Aurora and celebrate an unforgettable Christmas in the wilds of Swedish Lapland.

You will also make the Treehotel your home for 2 nights in one of the quirky Tree-rooms. Enjoy spectacular winter landscapes, loads of activities like husky sledding, snow mobile riding and a relaxing hour in the Tree Sauna.

**22 Dec: Arrive Luleå, transfer to Aurora Safari Camp**  
Stay overnight in lavvu tents with comfort in the absolute wild forest of Swedish Lapland. Snowshoe trekking, dog sled adventures, wildlife trekking and ice fishing are all available for you to enjoy.

**23 Dec: Dogsledding & Camp Fires**  
After a leisurely breakfast in the cosy dining-tent you have the day to enjoy the wild nature of Swedish Lapland. A team of Siberian huskies will take you on an exciting safari through the snowy landscape.

**24 Dec: Christmas Eve at Sörbyn**  
Transfer to the village of Sörbyn and choose from a hotel room or a cosy family cabin. In the evening of the 24th a beautiful Christmas Eve dinner awaits.

**25 Dec: Transfer to Treehotel, check into your Tree-house**  
Stay at Treehotel in a unique tree-room with contemporary design in the middle of un-spoilt nature. From your room in the treetops you get fantastic views of the Lule River valley, miles of forest and the powerful river.

**26 Dec: Snow Mobile Safari, Ice Fishing, Sauna & Wilderness**  
Enjoy a morning snow mobile safari through a beautiful winter landscape. In the afternoon, you have time for optional (not included) activities like ice-fishing or horse riding.

**27 Dec: Depart Swedish Lapland**  
Transfer back to the Luleå Airport for your flight out.



### INCLUSIONS

- Arrival and departure transfer from/to Luleå Airport
- Aurora Safari Camp 2 nights including full board
- Warm sleeping bag at Aurora Safari Camp
- Sörbyn cottages 1 night including Christmas dinner & breakfast
- Dog sledding at Aurora Safari Camp
- Private Santa visit
- Treehotel - 2 nights in unique Tree-house including full board
- Snow mobile safari
- Tree Sauna

### QUICK FACTS

- 6 days/5 nights
- Easy self-guided and unique Christmas special tour for families with adventurous children or couples
- Independent - departs on set dates in December
- Start Luleå (LLA)
- End Luleå
- Minimum 8 people to run - single supplement available
- Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- Tour code AST001

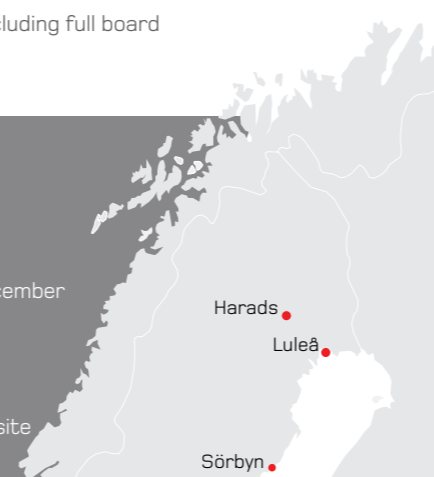


Photo: Fredrik Broman

# NEW YEARS IN THE LYNGEN ALPS

## - exclusive small group



High above the Arctic Circle in Northern Norway, Lyngen Lodge is an exclusive lodge with top quality cuisine and a fantastic location above the Lyngen Fjord. This is where the mountains meet the fjords and un-spoilt nature lies at the doorstep.

Lyngen Lodge caters for 16 guests in 8 en-suite twin and double bedrooms with triple and single options. The lodge provides full board accommodation, and amenities include a fully licensed bar, dining room, lounge with large open fireplace, library, sauna and outdoor Jacuzzi.

We have reserved Lyngen Lodge exclusively for this 5-night all-inclusive New Years program, and packed it full of adventures, relaxation, hearty local cuisine, ice-fishing, dogsledding, a private fireworks display and, if nature permits; the spectacle of the Northern Lights. We will have our own chef and local guide with us for the complete stay.

Join us for a New Years celebration to remember.

**28 Dec: Arrive at Lyngen Lodge**  
Arrival day, and a transfer is included from Tromsø or Skjervøy (closest Hurtigruten port). Check in, relax and get to know your fellow travellers over a cup of tea or a glass of wine. In the evening enjoy a welcome dinner of local produce.

**29 Dec: Dogsledding in the secluded Reisa Valley**  
Under the guidance and instruction from your guide you will learn to mush your own dog team through the forested glacial valleys close to Finland.

**30 Dec: Excursion to the Arctic Capital of Tromsø**  
We travel to Tromsø by minibus for a day in the city visiting the Polar Museum and the Arctic Cathedral. In the evening we board a Hurtigruten ship for a 4-hour dinner & Northern Lights cruise back to Skjervøy. We arrive back at the lodge in the late evening.

**31 Dec: Snowmobiles, Ice Fishing and New Years Eve**  
In the morning we jump on snowmobiles to reach the high frozen mountain lakes of the Rotsund. Once on the lake you will learn to drill

ice holes through the thick ice and fish for large mountain trout and cook them over an open fire inside a large tipi style tent.

This evening we celebrate the last day of the year with a gourmet dinner, and welcome the New Year with a private fireworks display.

**01 Jan: Day at the Lodge**  
Sleep in and enjoy the last day at the lodge. You may just relax in the jacuzzi or go cross country skiing. The day is yours.

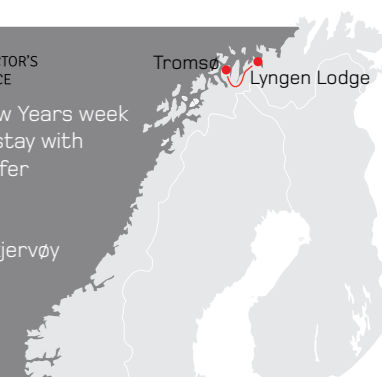
**02 Jan: Departure day**  
In the midmorning, after a traditional Norwegian breakfast, say good-bye and continue to your next destination. We will transfer you back to Tromsø, the airport or to Skjervøy if you are continuing on a Hurtigruten voyage.

### INCLUSIONS

- All accommodation in a shared double/twin room, single supplement available
- Full board at Lyngen Lodge from dinner day 1 to breakfast day 6
- New Years Eve dinner and private firework display
- Return transfers Tromsø/ Skjervøy to Lyngen Lodge
- All activities as described including those on your free day
- Dinner cruise Tromsø to Skjervøy

### QUICK FACTS

- 6 days/5 nights
- Easy exclusive small group New Years week with emphasis on a luxurious stay with various winter activities on offer
- Special New Years departure 28 Dec to 02 Jan
- Start/end Tromsø (TOS) or Skjervøy
- Guaranteed to run
- Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- Tour code NYLA01



# GLORIOUS ST PETERSBURG

- independent/privately guided

Founded in 1703 by Peter the Great, St Petersburg combines its fascinating Russian heritage with a distinctly European outlook. Considered the cultural heart of modern day Russia, St Petersburg is rapidly regaining its reputation as one of the Great Cities of Europe.

This independent itinerary allows you to enjoy the splendour of St Petersburg in style and in depth. You can choose your class of hotel and enjoy the freedom to tailor your special highlights. Sightseeing is conducted in a combination of walking tours and in a private Mercedes with your own guide.



## Day 1: Arrive St Petersburg

Transfer by private car to your centrally located hotel.

## Day 2: Explore the Hermitage and St Isaac's Cathedral

After breakfast meet your private guide and head out exploring the glorious city of St Petersburg. Start with a panoramic city tour by private car including a visit to St Isaac's Cathedral and Peter & Paul Fortress. Continue on a guided walking tour of the famous Hermitage Museum. If you are still open for more, we recommend an optional Russian ballet performance in the unique Hermitage Theatre.

## Day 3: Catherine's Palace and Park

Drive to the town of Pushkin to see the Catherine's Palace & Park – once the official summer residence of Russian Czars. Visit the Yusupov Palace, the richest of the non-imperial palaces of St Petersburg.

## Day 4: Peterhof and the Russian Museum

Join a special tour of Peterhof (also called Petrodvorets) and arrive before the official opening hours to enter the Grand Summer Palace in private. Tour the Russian Museum, a beautiful royal palace that contains the largest collection of Russian Art, from medieval icons to the famous 'avante garde' of the 20s & 30s.

## Day 5: Depart St Petersburg

After breakfast, transfer to the airport by private car.

### INCLUSIONS

- All accommodation in a centrally located hotel in shared twin/double room, single supplement available
- Daily breakfast
- Services of experienced English speaking guide
- Tours conducted on foot and by Mercedes car
- Entrance fees as per the itinerary

### QUICK FACTS

- 5 days / 4 nights
- Easy independent tour with an emphasis on heritage and private guided visits
- Independent, departs any day
- Start St Petersburg (LED)
- End St Petersburg
- Minimum 2 people to run – single supplement available
- Pricing and departures – refer to our website
- Tour code: SPW001



# ROMANTIC TALLINN

- independent



### QUICK FACTS

- 4 days/3 nights
- Enjoy the Christmas Markets and spirit of this medieval town.
- Independent – departs Dec for pre-Christmas markets or New Years, but can also run any day during winter.
- Start Tallinn (TLL)
- End Tallinn
- Minimum 2 people to run – single supplement available
- Pricing and departures – refer to our website
- Tour code RTA001



Tallinn before Christmas has a special magic – decorations, traditional craft and specialist markets, and the festivities and sights of the historic Old Town. Plenty of cosy cafes and cheery pubs fill the town with a great spirit. This tour can also be run during New Years where you can pop the champagne, celebrate at gala dinners and enjoy fireworks over Tallinn. Combine this short Tallinn city break with any of our Finnish Christmas and winter adventures. Tallinn is a short 2-hour trip from Helsinki by express boat across the Baltic Sea.

## Day 1: Arrive Tallinn

Arrive Tallinn, and make your way to your centrally located hotel.

## Day 2: Tallinn – a charming old medieval city

Tallinn is a charming blend of medieval tranquillity and modern urban life. The Old Town is wonderful all the year, but at it's best in the run-up to Christmas when the magic is felt at every corner.

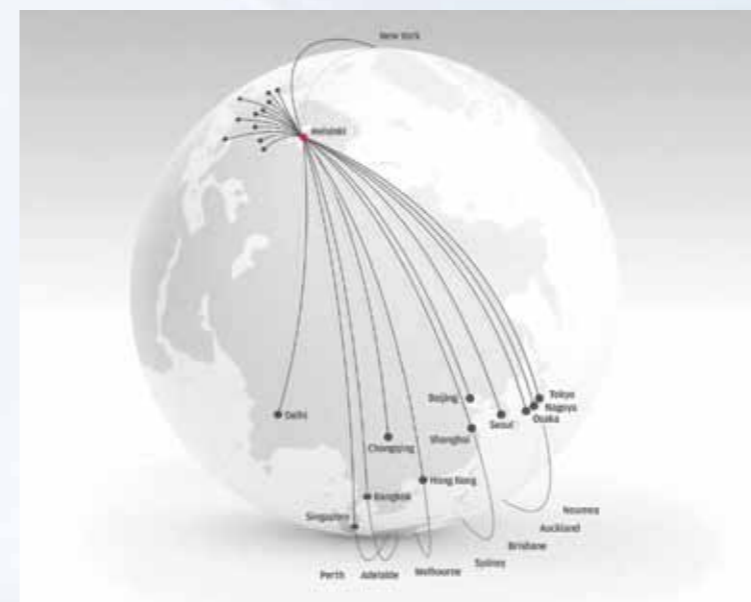
**Day 3: Kadriorg Park and the new Estonian art museum KUMU**  
Spend the morning visiting the Kadriorg Park and the new Estonian art museum KUMU. The afternoon is free to wander the design shops, art galleries and fashion boutiques in the Old Town, with the main focus on local Estonian brands and artists. Enjoy an optional ballet or opera performance at the Estonian Theatre before the day ends.

## Day 4: Depart Tallinn

Our services end after breakfast.

### INCLUSIONS

- All accommodation in unique 4\* boutique hotel
- Daily breakfast
- Guided walk in Tallinn Old Town
- Excursion to KUMU Art Gallery and Kadriory Park.



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# FIRE, ICE & THE BLUE LAGOON

- independent/partly guided

Join us for a winter escape to the land of ice and fire in the middle of the North Atlantic. We will take you out to see the most famous sights around the Golden Circle and dine under the spectacle of the Northern Lights. As a finale you will have a day and night at the Blue Lagoon for a soak in the warm healing waters.

**Day 1: Arrive Reykjavik**

Arrive into Reykjavik and take the door-to-door shuttle to your centrally located hotel in Reykjavik. If time allows, optional activities for this afternoon include a gourmet walk or whale watching safari.

**Day 2: Golden Circle Highlights and Aurora Borealis chase**

Head off for a tour to the Golden Circle, famous for its extraordinary landscape, the great Geyser and other hot springs, including a geothermal spa – an experience when it is snowing! After dinner in a local restaurant, start your search for the Aurora Borealis.

**Day 3: Easy Glacier Walk, local museums and farm experiences**

After an easy morning, head down south driving past the famous Eyjafjallajökull volcano, stopping to visit waterfalls along the way. A safe and easy Glacier walk with crampons awaits you. On your return, visit a local museum and then head to a farm for a traditional Icelandic meat dinner. As you head back to Reykjavik, you will drive into the night looking out for the Northern Lights.

**Day 4: Blue Lagoon afternoon of soaking**

After a morning exploring the design shops in the Icelandic capital, transfer to the Blue Lagoon for a therapeutic afternoon and evening in the healing waters of the Blue Lagoon. Stay overnight at the Northern Lights Inn, which is just a stone's throw from the international airport.

**Day 5: Transfer from the Blue Lagoon to the airport**

Our services end after breakfast and a bus transfer to the international airport.

**INCLUSIONS**

- All accommodation in a shared double/twin room, single supplement available
- Daily breakfast
- Golden Triangle day tour incl. geothermal spa and dinner
- Glacier walk with guide, incl. safety equipment and dinner
- Airport transfers on days 1 and 5 with FlyBus+
- Transfer to Blue Lagoon on day 4
- Entrance to the Blue Lagoon



**QUICK FACTS**

- 5 days/4 nights or 6 days/5 nights
- Easy independent/partly guided tour of Iceland with emphasis on nature sights and activities
- Start Reykjavik (REK or KEF)
- End Reykjavik
- Minimum 2 people to run – single supplement available
- Pricing and departures – refer to our website
- Tour code FIB001

**D** DIRECTOR'S CHOICE **D** DESIGN



# NORTHERN LIGHTS & KILLER WHALES

- independent/self drive



For the past several years, the herring have chosen Grundarfjörður as their port of call, and right behind them follow the killer whales. This phenomenon provides a golden opportunity to experience the vast number of killer whales visiting the fjord. Combined with an excellent chance to see the Northern Lights, this is sure to be an unforgettable experience.

**Day 1: Arrive Reykjavik**

Arrive into Reykjavik and take the door-to-door shuttle to your centrally located hotel.

**Day 2: The Golden Circle**

Join a full day tour to the Golden Circle, famous for extraordinary landscape, the great Geyser and other hot springs. A geothermal spa is an extraordinary experience when it is snowing.



**Day 3-5: Grundarfjörður, Northern Lights & Killer Whales**

Drive 180 km north to the Snæfellsnes Peninsula and the village of Grundarfjörður. Stay at the Hotel Framnes for 3 nights on half board basis (breakfast & dinner).

During your stay in Grundarfjörður you will join two 2-hour boat tours on board a converted fishing trawler to search for the killer whales that frequent the fjord in search of herring. We will also take you out one evening hunting for the Northern Lights.

**Day 6: The Blue Lagoon**

After breakfast, drive back to Reykjavik and continue to the Blue Lagoon for a therapeutic afternoon and evening in the healing waters. Stay overnight at the Northern Lights Inn, which is just a stone's throw from the international airport.

**Day 7: Drop off car and depart**

Drop off your car at the Keflavik International Airport before your departure flight.

**INCLUSIONS**

- All accommodation in a shared double/twin room, single supplement available
- Daily breakfast and half board at Hotel Framnes
- Rental car for 5 days
- Golden Circle day tour
- Two x 2-hour whale watching boat trips including thermal clothing
- Northern Lights hunt by minibus
- Arrival transfers shuttle on days 1 with FlyBus+

**QUICK FACTS**

- 7 days/6 nights
- Easy independent/self drive tour of Iceland with emphasis on the Northern Lights and whale watching
- Start Reykjavik (REK or KEF)
- End Reykjavik
- Minimum 2 people to run – single supplement available
- Pricing and departures – refer to our website
- Tour code INL001

**D** DIRECTOR'S CHOICE **D** DESIGN



# HIDDEN POWERS & NORTHERN LIGHTS - escorted coach tour

Discover Iceland in winter. Get to know its raw, magnificent nature spotted with volcanoes, bubbling hot springs and floating icebergs. Explore the Icelandic South Shore including the glacial lagoon Jokulsarlon.

**Day 1: Arrive Reykjavik**

Arrive into Reykjavik and take the door-to-door Flybus to your hotel in the centre of town. The afternoon and evening is yours to explore this compact city. Be sure to check out the new Harp Opera house on the harbour.

**Day 2: Visit the Northern Lights Centre and then explore the Golden Circle**

Visit the newly opened Northern Lights Centre in Reykjavik, then head off to explore the wonders of the Golden Circle; Þingvellir National Park, the great Geysir and Strokkur spouting hot springs, as well as Gullfoss - the "Golden Waterfall".

**Day 3: Eyjafjallajökull Volcano and Northern Lights evening hunt**

We will spend this day exploring the region close to the towering, strato-volcano, Eyjafjallajökull. Visit an innovative Icelandic dairy, beef and grain farm. In the afternoon we make a stop at the spectacular Seljalandsfoss and Skogafoss waterfalls.

**Day 4: Skaftafell National Park & the Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon**

Skaftafell National Park is one of Iceland's most outstanding areas of natural beauty dominated by the glacier Vatnajökull, Europe's largest ice cap. Continue to Jokulsarlon Glacial Lagoon where you can enjoy a breathtaking sight of floating icebergs on the fantastic 180m deep glacial lagoon.

**Day 5: Visit a village located directly on top of a geothermal area**

We head towards the village of Hveragerdi, which is one of the few sites in the world located directly on top of a geothermal area.

On the Reykjanes peninsula we enjoy a dip in the famous Blue Lagoon - a unique wonder of nature with pleasantly warm mineral rich geothermal water in a middle of a black lava field. In the early evening return to Reykjavik.

**Day 6: Tour ends**

Our tour ends after breakfast.

**INCLUSIONS**

- Arrival shuttle bus transfer
- 2 nights at 4 star hotel in Reykjavik
- 3 nights at countryside hotels
- Daily breakfast
- Fully guided coach tour from day 2 to the end of day 5
- Entrance fee to Northern Lights centre, the Volcano visitor centre at Eyjafjallajökull
- Visit to an innovative Icelandic farm
- Northern Light hunting kit (flash light, blanket and thermos with hot chocolate) and optional wake up call

**QUICK FACTS**

- ° 6 days/5 nights
- ° Easy escorted coach tour exploring the highlights of South Iceland
- ° Start Reykjavik (REK or KEF)
- ° End Reykjavik
- ° Guaranteed departures
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour code HPNL01

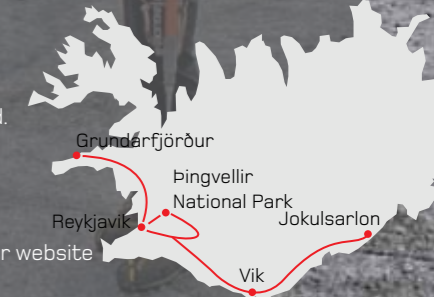
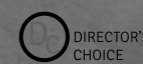


# THE TREASURE TRAIL OF ICELAND - small group tour



**QUICK FACTS**

- ° 6 days/5 nights
- ° Easy small group tour exploring the highlights of South and West Iceland. Max 16 participants.
- ° Start Reykjavik (REK or KEF)
- ° End Reykjavik
- ° Minimum 6 people to run
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour code TTI001



Let us take you to some of Iceland's most attractive locations of the south and west. Along with lesser known treasures we will visit the country's most famous sites like Þingvellir, Gullfoss and Geysir, Vatnajökull glacier and pass right under the notorious Eyjafjallajökull Volcano. From the ocean and cliffs of the west, into the highlands and then along the south coast, sandy beaches, hot springs and waterfalls, lava fields, caves, volcanoes, glaciers and icebergs create unbelievable contrasts in the scenery surrounding us. Every day different hikes give you a chance to take in the essence of this unique country.

**Day 1: Reykjavik & the Snæfellsnes Peninsula**

We depart Reykjavik in the morning, as we set course to west Iceland and Snæfellsnes, a volcanic peninsula that stretches out from the Icelandic west coast. At Djúpálónssandur the lava formations run all the way to the sea. Test your strength at the four big lifting-stones that fishermen used to measure their strength in the old times. Overnight in a guesthouse.

**Day 2: Snæfellsnes, Borgarfjörður & Þingvellir**

Turning back east we head to the beautiful Borgarfjörður region, the home of the most powerful hot spring in Iceland. We stop at Þingvellir, the site of the old Parliament - a UNESCO World Heritage site. Overnight in a hostel in the Laugarvatn area.

**Day 3: Gullfoss, Geysir & Þórsmörk Glacier Valley**

Visit to the famous waterfall Gullfoss and Geysir, the namesake of all sprouting hot springs. We then head to Þórsmörk, a magnificent glacier valley hidden behind the glaciers of the south coast. Overnight in basic mountain hut.

**Day 4: Seljalandsfoss, Vík & Skaftafell**

From Þórsmörk we return to the main road and continue east stopping at the waterfalls Seljalandsfoss and the magnificent Skógarfoss. Walk on the black beaches of Vík, admiring the power and beauty of the Atlantic Ocean before heading to Skaftafell right beneath Iceland's highest peaks. Overnight in local guesthouse.

**Day 5: Jökulsárlón Glacier Lake**

Today we will visit the Jökulsárlón Glacier Lake scattered with icebergs that break off from the great Breiðamerkurjökull glacier. A boat ride on the lake among the icebergs is optional. A glacier walk on Svínafellsjökull outlet glacier is also optional. Overnight in guesthouse.

**Day 6: Hot Springs & Reykjavik**

On our long return to Reykjavik we make a few interesting stops along the way at the Systrafoss waterfall and the village of Kirkjubæjarklaustur, followed by a short walk among the numerous hot springs and boiling mud pools in Reykjadalur valley. Arrive in Reykjavik in the afternoon.

**INCLUSIONS**

Shared accommodation at hostels and guesthouses. One night in mountain hut with sleeping bag included. Full board from lunch day 1 to lunch day 6. All tours and activities included as per itinerary.

**NOTE:**

This is a participative tour, and you are required to assist with kitchen duties etc. Single supplement is not available. Accommodation in Reykjavik is not included - ask us for details. Optional tours: Glacier walk with guide, incl. safety equipment and a boat trip on Jökulsárlón Glacier Lake.



# SVALBARD 78° NORTH - independent

Experience the true Arctic wilderness on this 7-day trip to Svalbard, one of the planet's last great frontiers. Explore Oslo before flying up to Longyearbyen situated in the high Arctic at 78 degrees north. Enjoy Svalbard's pristine nature and rugged landscapes with activities such as dogsledding and a full day snow mobile safari to the Ship in the Ice.

**Day 1: Arrive Oslo**

The Norwegian capital has a great deal to offer the discerning traveller, and you have two full days to discover the city with the help of an Oslo Pass.

**Day 2: Ice-skate in the city and visit the Munch Museum**

With your Oslo Pass, explore Oslo's amazing museums, parks and harbour. Be tempted by Oslo's fine dining options and cosy cafes.

**Day 3: Flight to Longyearbyen, Svalbard**

Catch a flight to the township of Longyearbyen with its polar museum and church. Settle into the unique Trapper's Hotel, Longyearbyen's most amazing place to stay; decorated in traditional trapper's style with driftwood, sealskins, pictures and objects that illustrate the past and current trappers' life in the Arctic.



**Day 4: Dogsledding and Northern Lights**

After breakfast, get equipped for an adventurous dogsled ride. In the evening stay up for the Northern Lights, if they make an appearance.

**Day 5: Snow Mobile ride to the Ship in the Ice**

Switch on the engines and head out on a snowmobile. Lunch is served on board the Ship in the ice, tightly frozen into the Tempelfjord. Continue to see the mighty glacier front of the Von Post and Tunabreen up close, and hopefully spot some seals.

**Day 6: Relax in Longyearbyen and return to Oslo**

Take some time to get to know Longyearbyen with a stroll around town, a visit to the Svalbard Gallery and the Polar Museum. In the early afternoon fly back to Oslo.

**Day 7: Depart Oslo**

Our services end after breakfast.


**INCLUSIONS**

All accommodation in shared double/twin room, single supplement available  
 3 nights in a centrally located hotel in Oslo & 3 nights at the Basecamp Trapper's Hotel  
 Daily breakfast  
 Return flights from Oslo to Longyearbyen  
 Oslo Pass 24 hours  
 4-hour dogsledding tour with professional wilderness guides and all necessary safety equipment (2 people per dog sled), incl. lunch  
 8-hour snow mobile ride to the Ship in the Ice with professional guide and all necessary gear and safety equipment incl. lunch  
 Additional outerwear for dogsledding and snow mobile ride: thermal overalls, mittens, boots, helmet, balaclava, and goggles.

**OPTION**

Alternatively, this itinerary can run with Tromsø instead of Oslo.




**QUICK FACTS** 

- ° 7 days / 6 nights
- ° Easy tour to the High Arctic with unique accommodation
- ° Independent, departs any day – mid February to mid May
- ° Start Oslo (OSL)
- ° End Oslo
- ° Minimum 2 people to run – single supplement available
- ° Pricing and departures – refer to our website
- ° Tour code SVE001

Photo: Jørgen Chemnitz



**QUICK FACTS** 

- ° 8 days/7 nights
- ° Adventurous guided dogsled expedition with emphasis on nature, dogsledding and Arctic culture
- ° Start Reykjavik (REK)
- ° End Reykjavik
- ° Minimum 2 people to run
- ° Pricing and departures - refer to our website
- ° Tour code ADS001

## ARCTIC DOGSLEDDING - small group adventure

East Greenland is probably the most isolated part of this great island. It is also where old traditions are still very much upheld. In winter hunting and ice fishing are a part of the way of life and dog sledges are widely used to get around. Dogsledding is a great way to experience both the magnificent landscape and nature of this isolated area and to get a feel for the traditional arctic way of life. On this adventure we will set out from Tasiilaq for a tour of the Ammassalik Island. Visit the Sermilik Ice Fjord and experience the small settlement of Tiniteqilaaq where we will dine with a local family. This adventure takes you deep into the arctic world of East Greenland.

**Day 1: Reykjavik, Kulusuk & Tasiilaq**  
 Meet at Reykjavik airport for the 2-hour flight to Kulusuk, followed by a helicopter ride to Tasiilaq on Ammassalik Island. Free evening in Tasiilaq and overnight in a guesthouse.

**Day 2: Tasiilaq & the Sermilik Coast**  
 Meet the dog teams in the outskirts of Tasiilaq for a briefing. With two people per sled, we head north over King Oscar Fjord and up to the big lake Qordlortq, before the dogs pull us up to an altitude of 500 m with a spectacular view over the Sermilik Ice Fjord. Overnight in huts for two nights with a sleeping bag. Dogsledding: 6 hours total

**Day 3: Snowshoe Adventure up a peak with a view**  
 With snow shoes on, we will venture up onto a close by peak, in an attempt to get a superb view of the great Greenland Icecap across the fjord on the horizon. Snow shoeing: 4-6 hours

**Day 4: The village of Tiniteqilaaq**  
 After breakfast, we pack up our sleds and head along the coast towards the small settlement of Tiniteqilaaq. We explore the village and get some insight into the Inuit way of life in these harsh arctic conditions. We will spend the night in sleeping bags at a house with basic facilities. Dinner is served with a local family. Dogsledding: 4 hours

**Day 5: Pitserpaajik**  
 Today we travel over the strait that separates Tiniteqilaaq and Ammassalik Island and turn east following one of the most beautiful riverbed rides on the island. Our route takes us over a fjord and all the way down to Pitserpaajik peninsula where a hut awaits us. Dogsledding: 6 hours

**Day 6: Pitserpaajik to Tasiilaq**  
 From the Pitserpaajik peninsula we head west straight trough Ammassalik Island until we reach Tasiilaq. After saying goodbye to the dog teams you are transferred back to your guesthouse. Dogsledding: 6 hours

**Day 7: Tasiilaq**  
 We have a free day to explore the town of Tasiilaq or go for an optional tour on snowshoes to the valley of Flowers in its winter coat. Overnight at a guesthouse.

**Day 8: Return to Reykjavik**  
 We transfer to Kulusuk and board our flight back to Reykjavik where the tour ends at the airport.

**INCLUSIONS**  
 Return flight Reykjavik to Kulusuk, helicopter transfer and taxes  
 Transfers in Greenland  
 Accommodation 3 nights in a Tasiilaq guesthouse  
 Guided dogsled tour for 5 days with full board - 3 nights in huts and 1 night in sleeping bag accommodation in Tiniteqilaaq  
 Snowsuit for the dogsled tour & snowshoes

**NOTE:**  
 You can take max 10 kg of luggage with you  
 No single supplement available



# SKIING IN THE FAR NORTH

Scandinavia and Finland offers great skiing possibilities for everyone, from the experienced skier with a family to a beginner on your own. You can even ski under the midnight sun! A standard package includes 3 nights accommodation in a 3.5 – 4-star hotel or lodge, daily breakfast and 2 full days ski pass. Ski hire is available at all these resorts. Each destination is different, so we will advise you on travel arrangements and help organise transfers. All these brief itineraries can be combined with other tours and locations. They can easily be extended. Tell us what you are after, and we will recommend the best option for you.

## SWEDEN

**RIKSGRÄNSEN** Have you been skiing everywhere in the world? If yes, Riksgränsen is the next place for you. On a good day, there is no ski resort in Scandinavia that can match this one. There are endless possibilities and new challenges. Huge drops, big powder faces, and rolling pistes are popular among freeriders and guarantee great skiing for experienced skiers.

Season: February – June (from May onwards the lifts operate under the midnight sun)  
Fly to: Kiruna  
Stay: Hotel Björkliden (30 minutes by train)  
Combine with: Abisko, Kiruna, Treehotel, ICEHOTEL

**ÅRE** located 220 km south of the Arctic Circle is one of Scandinavia's largest mountain resorts covering a total of 1080 acres over 4 ski areas that are linked by a regular ski bus service. The 114 runs and 42 lifts cater for all ages and abilities. Also non-skiers will find plenty to do in Åre, be it snowmobiling or shopping. A wide choice of accommodation is available for shorter and longer stays. Åre is convenient to reach from both Sweden and Norway by train, car or plane.

Season: November – early May  
Fly to: Östersund, Sweden (90 km) or Trondheim, Norway (170 km)  
Stay: Hotel Diplomat Åregården  
Combine with: Stockholm, Trondheim

## NORWAY

**GEILO** is a mountain village halfway between Oslo and Bergen. It is a winter paradise for the whole family with 39 slopes, where skiing with children is in the spotlight. Other family friendly options such as cross-country tracks, dogsledding, ice fishing and much more are widely available. Geilo is also a good location for snow kiting.

Season: November – late April  
Fly to: Oslo or Bergen and continue by train, bus or car  
Stay: Bardøla Høyfjellshotel  
Combine with: Norway in a Nutshell, Bergen, Oslo

**HEMSEDAL** is the second largest ski resort in Norway. The unique mountain scenery gives Hemsedal a decidedly alpine feel. It has the highest point in all of Scandinavia, 1500 metres above sea level and a vertical drop of 810 metres. The pistes are wide, well groomed and suitable for all levels of expertise. It is especially well suited for snowboarding with plenty of built structures which make it ideal for thrill seekers. After Ski and shopping is also available during the main season.

Season: November – early May  
Fly to: Oslo or Bergen and continue by train, bus or car  
Stay: Skogstad Hotel  
Combine with: Norway in a Nutshell, Bergen, Oslo

**VOSS** is one of the most snow-reliable ski resorts in Norway. It combines two resorts, Voss Fjellandsby Myrkdalen and Voss Resorts, which are connected by a ski bus. Altogether 50 km of well-prepared slopes host popular World Cup events. The resort is suitable for all the ages and expertise levels including families. It offers a wide range of activities outside of slopes.

Season: November – April  
Fly to: Oslo or Bergen and continue by train, bus or car  
Stay: Fleischer's Hotel  
Combine with: Norway in a Nutshell, Bergen, Oslo

## FINLAND

**LEVI** is located in Finnish Lapland, in the middle of pure nature and endless wilderness areas. 43 pistes and 10 children's pistes offer variety for even a longer skiing holiday. Be it ice rally driving, dogsledding, reindeer driver's licence or cross-country skiing, Levi will keep you entertained in the piste and outside of it. The resort itself is a holiday town, which offers a wide range of first class services including several accommodation options and over 60 restaurants.

Season: December – mid May  
Fly to: Kittilä  
Stay: K5 or self-catered glass igloos  
Combine with: Helsinki, Rovaniemi, Muonio



# Feel at home on the slopes

Check in your own skis or snowboard\* thanks to our generous luggage allowances across all classes and feel at ease, even on the most challenging runs.



Hello Tomorrow Emirates



30kg Economy Class ♦ 40kg Business Class ♦ 50kg First Class

\*Emirates will accept a single snowboard or skis as part of the 30kg luggage allowance as long as the length does not exceed 300cm or 10 feet. Emirates Skywards members receive up to 16kg extra baggage allowance. When checking in your sporting equipment please ensure that it is correctly packaged as you may not be entitled to claim compensation if equipment is damaged. To find out more check out our online baggage calculator at emirates.com/au or call Emirates Contact Centre on 1300 303 777.



# CAPITAL HOTELS

At 50 Degrees North we spend a lot of time ensuring you get a stay that is right for you. We personally visit our hotels instead of blindly taking the seemingly best option off the Internet.

We are nothing less than extremely proud of the selection of handpicked options we present. Please look for these Director's Choice, Design and Historic icons throughout the brochure to see which of our categories are available for your trip.



Our Director's Choice properties are those used in most of our packages. They are handpicked boutique options, and combine great location, friendly and personal service, good food, unique design and

something intangible - something that makes you feel that you have arrived at home. If we have to put a star rating on them, they tend to be 3.5 to 4 stars, but are not your standard chain hotel. If you are after the very best, ask us for an upgrade to our Design choice, which is available in most larger cities and towns. These properties may offer art, design furniture or are famous for their unique architecture. They guarantee an unforgettable and unique stay with a modern Scandinavian feel.

Or, if you are a romantic, our Historic stays may be what you are after? Stay the night in a historic hotel, often an iconic landmark, lovingly renovated and respecting the tradition and original design with hospitality dating back centuries. Yet they provide all the modern comforts that today's discerning traveller might expect.

Ask us for advice, so we can make your holiday an unforgettable and special experience.

## OSLO

is a winter wonderland. This booming and forward-thinking city is alive with design, food and art. Restaurants and bars tempt you in with candles and warmth and the locals make the most out of their capital's unique location between fjords and forests, heading outdoors to the mountains for a late afternoon ski. There are more than 50 interesting and interactive museums to visit, including the world renowned Viking Museum.

**FIRST HOTEL GRIMS** **D** DESIGN  
**GRENKA** is a unique design hotel situated in the urban area near the famous Akerhus Fortress in the historical part of Oslo city centre. The 65 spacious rooms include 17 themed suites, interior design and colour schemes focusing on being creative, innovative and genuinely Scandinavian.



**GRAND HOTEL OSLO** **H** HISTORIC  
 is perhaps Oslo's most venerable and luxurious hotel and forms a striking landmark on the city's grandest street. Best known as the host to Nobel Peace Prize winners, laureates and heads of state, the hotel offers a well-balanced mix of beautiful tradition and modern quality and comfort.



**HOTEL BRISTOL** - located **Dc** DIRECTOR'S CHOICE  
 in the heart of Oslo and only a short walk away from most of Oslo's attractions and the main street Karl Johans gate. Tradition, quality and service are high on agenda with the 251 spacious, comfortable and well-equipped rooms accommodating every need.



## STOCKHOLM

, one of the most beautiful capitals in the world is built on 14 islands and you will never be far away from water. It is a city with a spectacular combination of medieval buildings and modern design and architecture. Stroll on the cobblestone streets of the picturesque Old Town or 'Gamla Stan', have some Swedish meatballs for lunch or a coffee with a princess tårta in the numerous little cafes between visits to some of the many design shops. Or why not go on a cruise to the numerous small islands of the archipelago?

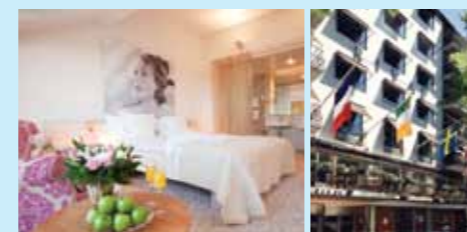
**HOTEL NOBIS** is an **D** DESIGN  
 independent luxury hotel occupying a prime spot between the trendy Östermalm area and the Old Town. Hotel Nobis defines a new sense of luxury stay - one that is modern, elegant and extremely comfortable yet ethically sound and warm. The 201 rooms and suites are calm, relaxed and sophisticated, built of superior quality natural materials for long-term enjoyment of its guests.



**VICTORY HOTEL** is a **H** HISTORIC  
 welcoming and exclusive boutique hotel with a personal atmosphere in a superior location in Stockholm's charming Old Town, with most of the city's sights within walking distance. It is an attraction in its own right, each room comfortably furnished and tastefully displaying the unique, private collection of marine antiques, passionately selected by the owner himself.



**HOTEL RIVAL** is a small **Dc** DIRECTOR'S CHOICE  
 hotel at Maria Square in Stockholm's Söder area. It offers 99 rooms, a bistro with a bar, a cocktail bar in art deco style and a café and a lounge. Owned by the former Abba member Benny Anderson, the Rival even has its own theme song written by Benny & Björn från Abba. Rival is a hidden gem among the Stockholm hotels and highly recommended to anyone wanting to have a memorable and comfortable stay!



# COPENHAGEN

There are many fantastic things to do in Copenhagen during the winter. A visit to Tivoli is a must, during the Christmas period. Make sure that you take a walk along Strøget, the main shopping and restaurant street and finish in Nyhavn canal street where you can have a beer and relax with locals. Finding a great restaurant will not be a problem, as Michelin Guide 2013 has awarded Copenhagen's restaurants a total of 15 stars - the highest number ever!

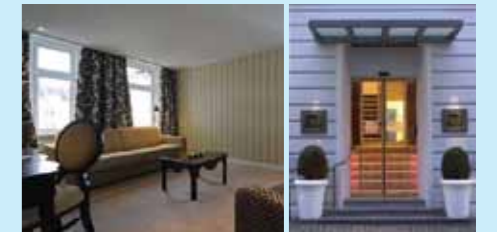
**HOTEL NIMB** is a centrally located 5-star boutique hotel **D** DESIGN  
 offering 17 uniquely decorated suites. The Nimb family and 100 years of gastronomic tradition in excellence are famous for their focus on details, featuring the magic of Tivoli. All rooms are well equipped with designer furniture and appliances, most also having a fireplace and view over the famous Tivoli Gardens.



**ADMIRAL HOTEL**. Built in 1787 as a harbour warehouse, the **H** HISTORIC  
 Admiral hotel offers culture, design and flawless service. Overlooking the harbour and conveniently located near all the major attractions and shopping district, this 4-star hotel offers good-sized, well-equipped design rooms and suites, superbly renovated and handsomely rustic with original wooden beams. No room is alike! The hotel also has a bar, two restaurants and free Wifi.



**CLARION COLLECTION HOTEL MAYFAIR** is a **Dc** DIRECTOR'S CHOICE  
 charming, boutique style hotel ideally located right in the heart of Copenhagen. The trendy area with various restaurants and unique shops is just a few minutes walk from the Central Station, Tivoli Gardens, Strøget shopping area and Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek art museum. Free evening buffet included for all guests.



## HELSINKI

The life style in the second most northern capital in the world is full of contrasts. Centuries of influences from West and East are visible in the modern life of this trendy capital and can be seen in architecture, design, cuisine and even in events and traditions. Gateway to Stockholm as well as to St Petersburg, Helsinki offers a seamless blend of nature and high-tech achievements.

**HOTEL HAVEN** - Finland's first member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World is designed to provide homely warmth, exclusive comfort and high-quality services for the discerning guest. The 77 individual and well-appointed rooms, premium restaurants and conference services are conveniently situated in the attractive setting of Helsinki's Market Square. **D** DESIGN



**GLO KLUUVI** - brilliantly located right in the middle of Helsinki near South Harbour, Hotel GLO Kluuvi is a **Dc** DIRECTOR'S CHOICE  
 modern lifestyle hotel offering personalised services. The rooms and suites are perfectly equipped with high quality beds, textiles, flat screens and quirky amenities for your enjoyment.



## REYKJAVIK

is an intriguing city and has lots to offer in winter. From geothermal pools to design shops, from cosy restaurants and cafes to art galleries and concerts. Soak your stress away relaxing in one of the city's thermal pools. Climb up Hallgrímskirkja Church tower for a panoramic view of the city. Indulge your interest in Iceland's fascinating cultural heritage or cutting edge art at one of the city's many museums and galleries. Shop for some quirky Icelandic designed art, clothing or jewellery.

**CENTREHOTEL THINGHOLT** - centrally located next to Reykjavik's main shopping street, design hotel **D** DESIGN  
 Thingholt offers 52 rooms in 5 different room categories, all decorated in a sleek, contemporary style inspired by Icelandic Nature and materials. It has 24-hrs front desk, wireless internet and lounge bar.



**RADISSON BLU 1919 HOTEL** - is situated right in the middle of central Reykjavik, close to the waterfront. A small historic hotel with studios and suites, this hotel offers an ideal balance of design and comfort. It has free high-speed internet, a modern gym and restaurant & lounge. **Dc** DIRECTOR'S CHOICE



# AURORA STAYS - your carefully selected accommodation above the Arctic Circle

## NORWAY



**RICA ISHAVSHOTEL** in Tromsø is perfectly located on the quay with wonderful views across the strait. Restaurants and shops are in the close proximity, Hurtigruten ships dock 20 metres away, and the airport bus stops directly outside the front door. Superior rooms have fabulous views over the strait, and towards the mountains, while standard rooms look out towards the city. Rica Ishavshotel is well known for its fabulous Scandinavian breakfast buffet, and offers free wireless Internet in all rooms.



Only two hours from Tromsø and below the majestic Lyngen Alps, **LYNGEN LODGE** is an experience of warm and intimate luxury looking out at a picture perfect landscape: a shining fjord rounded by snow-capped mountains. It is a traditional wooden lodge with only 8 guest rooms, as well as communal areas such as a dining room and lounge. Warm elegant interiors with a mountain style and a touch of design greet you after your day's activities. You are also rewarded with first class dining where you can appreciate local products prepared with taste and natural ingredients.



**SOMMARØY ARCTIC HOTEL** is unique for its wonderful location with 360-degree panorama to the sea and mountains. The sea is an amazing crystal blue and the beach in front of the hotel mesmerizingly white. Chose between self-catering sea cabins or hotels rooms. There is free wireless Internet throughout, a cosy restaurant and a swimming pool and sauna. Situated 1-hour from Tromsø in a small, but lively fishing village, this peaceful hotel is a perfect base for watching the Northern Lights. Several whale species are regularly seen in the waters around Sommarøy from November to late January.



**KIRKENES SNOW HOTEL** is a 'once in a lifetime' experience – sleep in a snow igloo with amazing ice carvings on the walls. The snow-rooms run off a corridor with a curtain door and beds with thermal mattresses. You are provided with a sleeping bag and balaclava to keep warm. The adjacent service building houses a warm and cosy restaurant, as well as facilities. A stay at the Snow Hotel combines perfectly with a Hurtigruten voyage starting or ending in Kirkenes. The Snow Hotel is open from late December to March.

## FINLAND



**KAKSLAUTTANEN HOTEL & IGLOO VILLAGE** is situated above the Arctic Circle amidst beautiful Lapland scenery. Its location high up north maximizes your chances of experiencing the Northern Lights. As well as a stay in the glass igloos, you can stay in cosy traditional wooden cabins with open fireplaces and saunas. There is a restaurant and reception area, plenty of outdoor activities to enjoy as well as the Finnish saunas.



**HARRINIVA HOTEL & HOTEL JERIS** are located near Muonio, right on the Swedish/Finnish border. Offering several different accommodation options, the hotels are perfect for a winter visit. Christmas traditions are celebrated at all resorts. Free wireless Internet is available at both Harriniva Hotel & Hotel Jeris. Cosy restaurants, welcoming staff and fun activities will ensure a great stay in Finland.



**SANTA CLAUS HOTEL, ROVANIEMI** is a modern, centrally located hotel in the heart of Rovaniemi. It is a short bus ride from Santa's village, and offers large and spacious rooms with free wireless Internet. The hotel has a fabulous restaurant and a traditional Nordic breakfast.

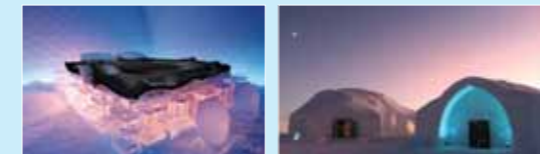
## SWEDEN



**ABISKO MOUNTAIN STATION** is a classic Swedish mountain lodge located right at the base of the Aurora Sky Station - a fabulous vantage point for viewing the Northern Lights. There are a few different types of accommodation on offer – standard & superior hotel rooms, as well as 4 & 6-bed cabins with a lounge and kitchenette. Regardless where you stay you have access to a drying room, sauna, washing machine and lounge/TV-room. In the main building you will find the reception, a shop with sport equipment rental, the restaurant and lots of information about the surrounding area.



**HOTEL FJÄLLET IN BJÖRKLIDEN** is 8 km from Abisko, and resembles a hybrid between a modern hotel and a mountain ski lodge. The lodge offers fabulous views across the Torneträsk lake and forests. Cabins and rooms are available with free wireless Internet. There is a cosy restaurant with open fires and comfortable couches to enjoy as you wait for the Northern Lights to appear.



**ICEHOTEL**, in the village of Jukkasjärvi, about 17 km from Kiruna, was the world's first ice hotel. After its first opening in 1990, the hotel has been taking guests each year from late December to early April. It is certainly a unique experience, sleeping on reindeer skins inside the exquisitely carved ice rooms. Sleeping bags are included to ensure you are warm and snug during the night. Adjacent to the cold rooms is a lounge area with facilities, showers and a sauna should you feel the pinch during the night. ICEHOTEL also offers a number of 'warm' accommodation options ranging from; double and twin rooms, hotel chalets for 3-5 people - all spacious and comfortable with Scandinavian design.



Staying at the **AURORA SAFARI CAMP** is a comfortable and very intense wilderness experience. Stay overnight in Lavvu tents in the absolute wild forest of Swedish Lapland and Råne River Valley. Single, twin, double and family rooms can be arranged. Shared eco-toilet & washroom are found 50 m from the tents. Showers can be arranged in the end and at the start of the stay. Activities on offer are snowshoe trekking, dogsled adventure, snowmobile safaris and ice fishing, but one of the best adventures and experiences is the camp itself.



**TREEHOTEL** offers a unique hotel experience: tree-rooms with contemporary design in the middle of unspoiled nature. Here you can forget about the time constraints of everyday life, enjoy the serenity, and rejuvenate in a sophisticated yet familiar environment. From Treehotel's rooms you get a fantastic view of the Lule River valley, miles of forest and the powerful river. Large moose are often reported to wander through the forest below the tree-houses. Treehotel is located in Harads, near the Lule river, about 100 kilometres from Luleå airport.



# WINTER CLOTHING & PRACTICAL INFO

## CLOTHING & WEATHER

In Scandinavia, Iceland and Finland the winters are long and cold with large amounts of snow in the north. Temperatures and snow conditions vary significantly from south to north and from coast to inland. The coldest temperatures and often also the clearest skies are found inland and far to the north.

That said; far north is exactly where you are heading, so with temperatures well below freezing it is important to be well prepared. There is a local saying that loosely translates to "There is no bad weather, just bad clothing". This is the ultimate tip that assists locals and visitors alike through the northern winter with its famous sub zero temperatures.

As a rule of thumb, it is important always to keep your head and neck covered and feet and hands warm. Make sure to have a pair of good winter boots that have a non-slippery sole. A warm winter jacket, gloves, hat, scarf, warm socks and thermal underwear will see you through the most extreme weather.

The largest investment if you normally live in the southern hemisphere is a pair of warm boots. We strongly recommend that you do invest in, or borrow, some nice warm winter or snow boots, as that will ensure you have an enjoyable holiday rather than always being cold. Your boots need to be sizable enough to fit two pairs of thick, warm socks.

Your travel documents will provide further guidance on what to wear in order to fully enjoy your holiday!

YOUR CLOTHING - these four layers are what you should aim for when you are packing:

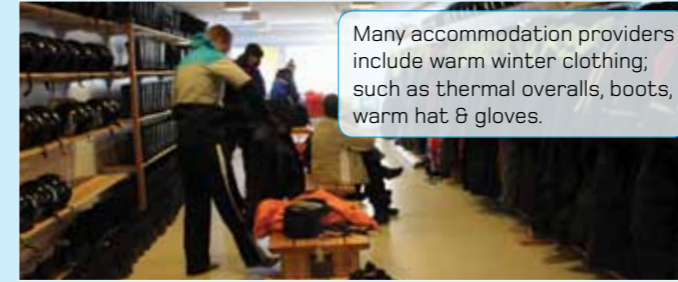
- 1 Underwear: "Breathable" material, e.g. long-sleeved and long-legged thermal underwear and cotton socks worn under woollen socks.
- 2 Trousers and shirts: loose-fitting, fleece, cotton or similar, high collar.
- 3 Thick woollen scarf, thick jumper and lined and windproof pants.
- 4 Winter jacket, hat, balaclava gloves and mittens and winter shoes.



Activity operators provide blankets and reindeer skins to keep you warm.

## IS WINTER CLOTHING PROVIDED OR CAN I RENT?

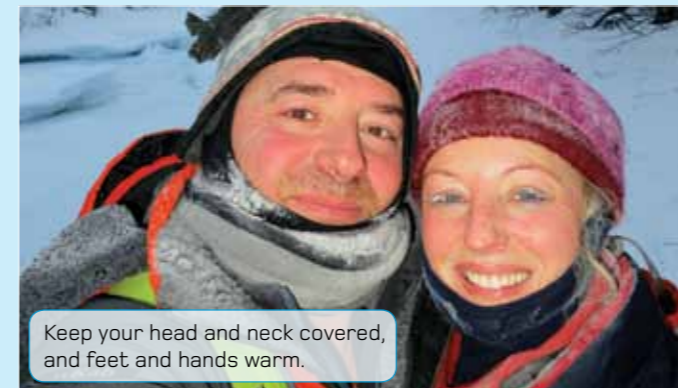
It's recommended that you purchase or borrow inner layer clothing. Renting clothes when you arrive at your destination could mean that you don't get your preferred choice. There are generally few options, if any, for renting winter clothing unless you are taking part in an activity. All larger towns will have very good winter clothing for sale. On some of our daytrips & overnight trips outer layers are provided or available for rent. Please ask us for details as you book as to which trips provide outer clothing.



Many accommodation providers include warm winter clothing; such as thermal overalls, boots, warm hat & gloves.



Dress wisely, and you'll have loads of fun with the whole family.



Keep your head and neck covered, and feet and hands warm.

## SCANDINAVIAN BUILDING STANDARDS

All houses and major structures are built to withstand cold temperatures and you will never be cold inside. Those layers of clothing will be shed within minutes of entering any Scandinavian structure. Most cabins and hotels also have a good entry points with wet clothing storage areas, drying areas and boot dryers.



A good warm jumper is a necessity.



A pair of insulated warm winter boots is a must have, and these are readily available, and not too expensive, in the Nordic capitals.

## HELLY HANSEN CATWALK



Stegastein, Aurland fjord, Norway

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## AIRPORTS & TRANSFERS

Flying in the Nordic region during winter is safe and convenient. Winter conditions do not prevent the ability to fly or land. As winter conditions in the far north are nothing unusual airports are well prepared, and de-icing equipment is readily available. The industry is well regulated, planes safe and pilots very experienced in flying in all weather.

There is no airport in Scandinavia without a convenient public transport connection to the nearest city. Your travel documents contain instructions and options that guide you straight to where you need to go - with or without a pre-booked transfer. Our fellow countrymen speak English and are very happy to help you at any stage.

We can organise a private transfer in most of the locations if this is your preference.

## HIDDEN GEMS & INSIDER INFORMATION

At 50 Degrees North; we are all from the Nordic region, passionate about what we do and have travelled extensively through the Far North. When you book with us, we share our expertise with you, and make sure you are well prepared with detailed information and notes.

Our knowledge spans beyond regular listed tourism attractions, or any comments made by one-time visitors. Let us know your preferences, and you can rest assured your stay will be authentic and memorable.

## HOW TO BOOK

- Contact us directly or go to [www.fiftydegreesnorth](http://www.fiftydegreesnorth) to check the dates and prices. You can also ask your travel agent to contact us on your behalf.
- Read the Booking Conditions carefully and agree to them. Submitting the booking form and paying a deposit or full payments means that you are entering into a binding contract with us and agree to be bound by the Booking Conditions.
- Complete the booking form on our website and pay a non-refundable deposit as per the Booking Conditions or make a full payment if your tour date is close.
- Finalise your bookings early and ensure all the required booking details are correct and submitted to us. Late adjustments and changes may incur additional charges.
- In most cases the final payment is due 70 days before your tour date (earlier for flights, cruises and expeditions - see Booking Conditions).
- Ensure you have comprehensive travel insurance, all visas and any necessary vaccination.

## PRONUNCIATIONS

How do you pronounce our special vowels? The challenge is to really distinguish them as separate vowels, and not just muddled versions of A and O.

Å (upper case) å (lower case) is used in Swedish, Danish & Norwegian. Some Danish towns use a double Aa which is still pronounced as Å. The Å can be thought of as the 'au' sound in 'Paul' or the 'o' sound in the word "afford".

Ä (upper case) ä (lower case) in Swedish and Æ (upper case) æ (lower case) in Norwegian & Danish is pronounced the same. The word "hair" works well for this letter. Particularly if you try to imitate a rather posh British-English pronunciation of that word.

Ö (upper case) ö (lower case) in Swedish and Ø (upper case) ø (lower case) in Norwegian & Danish is pronounced the same. Think of the vowel sound in words like "bird" and "girl".

The word 'island' translated in to Swedish is the one letter Ö and Ø in Danish & Norwegian. Hence, many of our coastal cities and islands have this letter in their names.



## THE FINNISH SAUNA

Imagine you are invited to take off all your clothes and go to a little room heated to almost 100 C°, where you will sit, naked, with others for a while and sweat. Then you will go outside and jump (still naked) through a small hole in the ice on a lake and refresh yourselves in the freezing water - or roll in the snow instead.

In short, "What about a sauna?"

The answer should be simple. Be courageous and say, "yes" - because if you don't you will miss a deliciously relaxing experience, which will provide a vital insight into the culture and mentality of your Finnish hosts.

Saunas in Finland have become entwined in the national culture. In days gone by, they were the most practical place to wash during the long winters when there was no running hot water. It is estimated that there are two million saunas in Finland, for a population of 5.3 million.

Enjoy!



## DRIVING ON ICE

Ice driving lessons are offered throughout northern Finland and Sweden, the most famous, being the Juha Kankkunen Academy. Participants learn to control the car on the ice track like a true rally champion in a safe and controlled environment. Another adrenaline boosting option is go-karting through the snow. Some of the go-karting circuits are situated close to our principal properties in Finland and can easily fit into your itinerary.



# OUR WORLD

## HOW DO YOU PHOTOGRAPH THE NORTHERN LIGHTS?

1. You need a tripod and a camera with manual settings you can use.
2. Stick with Manual or AV for your camera modes.
3. You often need shutter speeds up to a minute or longer.
4. Try a f/2.8 lens. It'll help a lot. If the lights are really strong, you can go down to a shutter speed of around 10sec with one of these lenses.
5. Do all of the above using ISO around 100-400 for good results.
6. Clear skies and snow on the ground are ideal conditions.

Ask us for further details.



FIND US ONLINE For more information, tips and quirky facts, see our new website at [www.fiftydegreesnorth.com](http://www.fiftydegreesnorth.com). We want to share our knowledge and expertise and have collected useful and interesting information about countries, cities and places you are planning to travel to. You will also find beautiful image galleries full of great shots, lovingly chosen to showcase the extraordinary beauty of our corner of the world. We keep updating and improving so make sure to catch the information that is going to make your trip perfect.



Follow the icons and links on our new webpages and either like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter & Pinterest, watch us on YouTube, connect with us on Google+ & LinkedIn, subscribe to our newsletter and read our blog updates on tumblr. Stay tuned to what is happening in your future of past destinations.

FEEDBACK We love to hear about your experiences and your feedback is much appreciated. Drop us a line, give us a call, post on one of our medias or stop by for a coffee at our office. We like to hear from you anytime, be it before, during or after your journey with us!



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