



NORDIC
EXPERIENCE

The Scandinavia Specialist



Norway • Iceland • Sweden • Finland
Greenland • Spitsbergen • Lapland



The Nordic Experience

WHAT IT MEANS FOR YOU

In an era when many tour operators like to pretend that they know the world, we are proud to remain specialists in the Nordic region. Others may dabble in this area, but for us, it is our heart and soul, even our life. We travel there regularly, we keep abreast of all new developments, and we never lose our passion for an area that makes few concessions to a mass market. The local people are individualists and expect their visitors to be the same.

Our brochure highlights what we feel is the best that any region can offer. The majority of our travel plans are tailor-made and so it is unlikely that any single itinerary is repeated. Whether you have three days or three weeks to spare and want to explore by train, car, husky or snowmobile, or you simply want a long weekend in one of Scandinavia's major cities, our staff will be happy to organise whichever you prefer and hundreds of other possibilities too.

We are of course totally independent. When we book your hotel, excursions or tour, it is because we feel it suits your needs best, and not because we need to promote one product over another. Neither are we biased towards one country over another. Each has its different attractions and we will make sure that what is booked matches your requirements.

Our wide range of hotels suit all budgets and locations. The city hotels are close to the centre to make sightseeing accessible and convenient. Our countryside accommodation ranges from historic hotels and lodges to charming B&B's, Rorbua and even Snow Hotels and Tree Houses. Both urban and rural, our hotel selection takes advantage of the distinctive landscapes, wildlife and cultural experiences the Nordic countries provide.

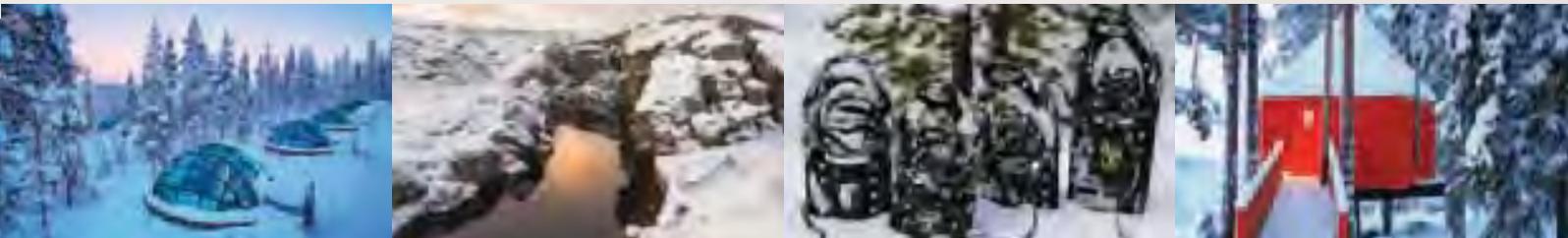
REGIONAL DEPARTURES and UPGRADED ACCOMMODATION

The prices in the brochure are based on departures from London and lodging in a standard room (unless otherwise stated). However, we do understand the convenience of flying from an airport close to home and the benefits of an upgraded room. With more regional departures to Scandinavia than ever we will be delighted to explore all options and tailor any tour to suit your personal requirements. Likewise, we can upgrade your accommodation to incorporate superior, deluxe and suite categories.



PEACE OF MIND

Finally, any tour you book with us is financially secured (however far in advance you book) because we hold an ATOL licence (No 6558) and are members of ABTA (No W879X). In simple terms this means that in the unlikely event of our insolvency either the CAA or ABTA will see to it that if you were on holiday at such time, you could continue, or alternatively any money you had paid in advance of a tour would be refunded.



The Nordic Winter Experience

As the polar night lengthens and the snow begins to fall, an arctic adventure playground, stretching from Norway's Russian border westward to Greenland begins to emerge. Going in search of the Northern Lights are on numerous bucket lists. For many, husky mushing, snowmobiling, or taking a super jeep safari across glacial terrains will be a thrilling new adventure. Whereas for others, sleeping on a bed of ice or meeting Father Christmas will be a once in a life-time experience.

Each year we take a fresh look at our past itineraries, re-visit destinations to check that they continue to offer authentic experiences and review our client feedback. Above all we try to search out new, exciting and different encounters, these include even more festive fun experiences over Christmas and New Year, as well as:

STOPOVER SUGGESTIONS Many flights to the Nordic region travel via the respective capitals. Enhance your experience with a stopover in one of these celebrated cities, all of whom embrace the winter season with gusto.

NORWAY We have introduced a whole raft of breaks that allow you to experience Tromsø and beyond. We have twinned the self-styled capital of the Northern Lights with luxury lodges and traditional Lavvu's, even an Arctic Circle train journey with a snow hotel. Whales and wildlife go hand in hand with knitting and the northern lights, giving you Arctic nights to remember.

SPITSBERGEN During the Polar Nights the sun never rises above the horizon so the Aurora can appear at any time. As the sun returns, so do spectacular Arctic skies. Stay on a ship frozen in the ice, or travel by husky to cabins that truly embody that wilderness experience or enjoy the comforts of the trappers lodge in the world's northernmost city.

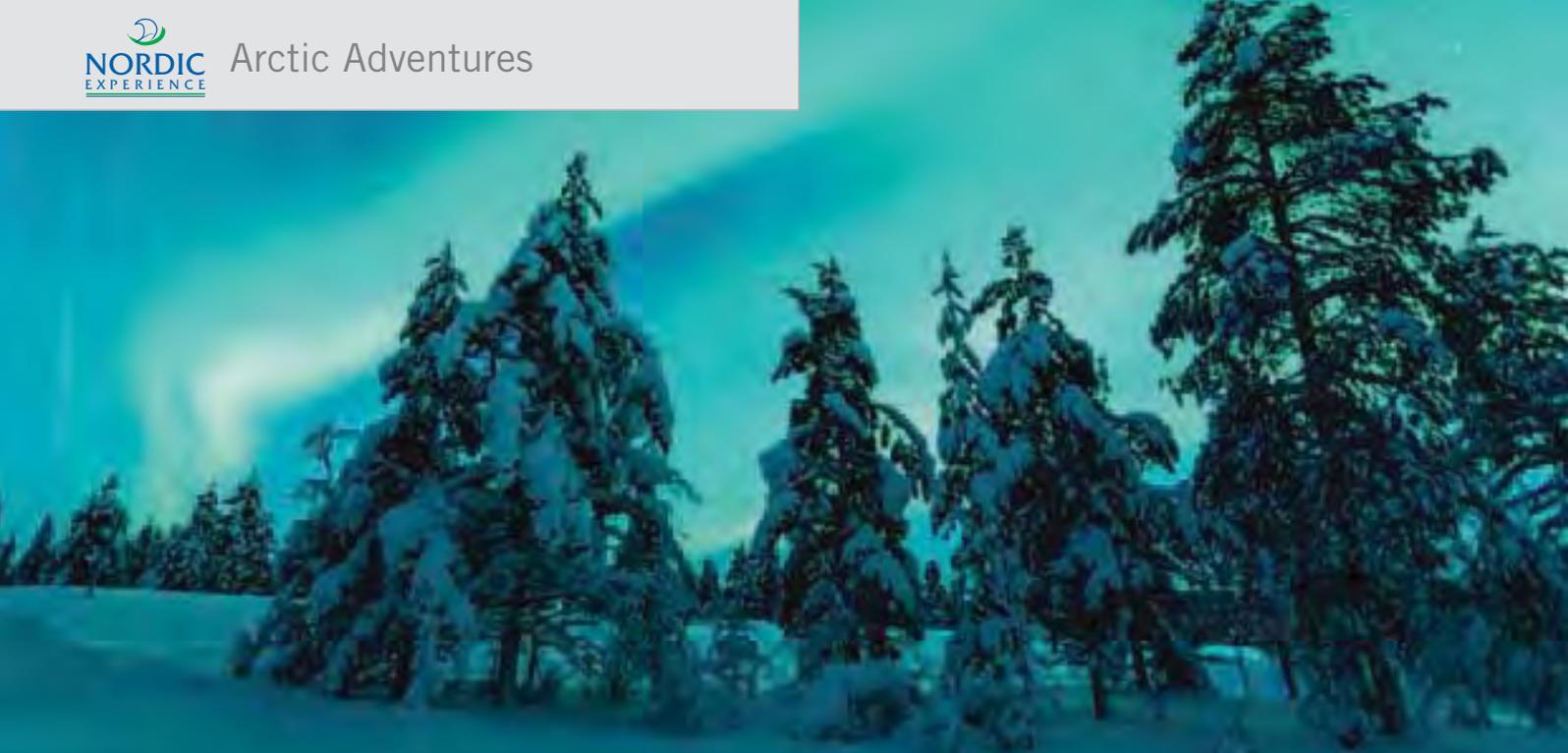
ICELAND Drive your own super truck or take a subterranean tour under a glacier. Romantic and luxury encounters feature alongside ultimate family adventures and festive New Year experiences that embrace this extravagant Icelandic celebration.

GREENLAND Greenland rewards the pioneering traveller with an experience like no other. View the Northern Lights dancing above the sparkling white icebergs in Ilulissat, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and where the hounds outnumber the humans.

SWEDEN A Grand Design break combines the ICEHOTEL with the Tree Hotel. Visit the unique frozen landscapes surrounding Luleå for hovercraft, husky and snowmobile adventures, or relax in an Arctic Spa whilst viewing the Aurora.

FINLAND Father Christmas and Festive Fun go hand in hand with glass igloo's that allow you to view the northern lights in comfort. Alternatively embrace the traditional Sami Culture of the region.

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The Northern Lights

Viewing the Northern Lights or the Aurora Borealis is on every Top 10 List of Natural Phenomena You Have To See, and on most people's bucket list. The Aurora is always there, but conditions have to be right in order to observe this dazzling display. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee a sighting, but here at Nordic Experience we do everything within our power to maximise your chances of seeing this marvellous spectacle.

MYTHS & LEGENDS

Norse legend states that the lights are from glinting shields of victorious Valkyrie warriors. For the Inuit the aurora is connected to a rather sinister game of football, played by human spirits. Many Inuit would rush indoors when the lights showed, terrified that they would be called to play. In Iceland, the aurora was believed to be spirits of the departed attempting to contact their living relatives. Elsewhere, the lights were maids dancing, dressed in festive clothing to while away the long dark nights. Before the scientific explanation, it was thought you could summon the aurora by whistling.

WHAT ARE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

The Northern Lights are created by charged solar particles being expelled from the Sun via explosions and flares. Travelling at great speed, they usually reach Earth within two or three days and are then diverted by the Earth's magnetic fields. However, some particles enter the Earth's upper atmosphere at its polar regions, colliding with atoms and molecules there. The aurora displays that we see with the naked eye generally occur 100-200km above the earth where the 'excited' particles collide with nitrogen to create a blue hue and oxygen turns the skies green.

WHEN TO SEE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

The Northern Lights are best seen between the Autumn and Spring equinoxes, under a cloudless sky and during the dark Arctic winter nights. They are most active between 6pm and 2am and displays can last from a few minutes to several hours. Sightings can never be guaranteed, but you can enhance your experience by escaping any form of light pollution.

WHERE TO SEE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

The aurora is most visible beneath a ring known as the aurora oval, which encircles the earth between 60° and 70° degrees of latitude. In the Nordic region this crosses parts of Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Finland. Most of our winter tours either include or present an opportunity to experience a Northern Lights search or hunt, as well as a whole host of activities to keep you busy during daylight hours.

HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH THE AURORA

Capturing the Northern Lights can be tricky. You are best with an SLR camera that allows long exposures of 10-20 seconds and a tripod is essential. The cold kills batteries quickly, so always carry a spare. Try to find a place with some foreground to give your pictures perspective.



What to Wear

There is no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothes. The activities on our winter tours are often outside, so it's important that you are primed for the regional temperatures. It can be as cold as minus 35°C which is fine, as long as you are prepared.

LAYERS

We recommend wearing three thinner layers below an outer one, as multiple layers trap heat more efficiently. Your innermost layer should be thermal, have long sleeves, full length legs and can be made of wool or a synthetic material. As it is worn next to your skin, it should have the ability to take moisture away. For this reason we do not recommend cotton as this becomes very cold when wet and does not dry quickly. A material such as merino wool will stay warm even when wet or damp. Mid layers can be a material such as wool or a thin fleece. Having two of these thinner layers gives you the option of removing one if you are doing energetic sports. Your top layer should be a heavier material, such as a heavy fleece or a ski jacket. Make sure that it is large enough to wear over several layers.

OUTER LAYER

This final layer should be both wind and waterproof and completed with scarves and hats with earflaps. Some tours offer an Arctic Clothing Pack to hire, which includes a hooded windproof, water resistant thermal suit with boots, hat and gloves. Other tours include protective clothing for the duration of your stay.

HANDS

Mittens keep hands warmer than gloves, but a pair of mittens worn over a pair of gloves will keep them even more comfortable. These also allow the option of removing the mittens if you need to use your fingers. Keeping hand warmers in your pocket gives the option of an extra burst of heat.

FEET

As with your innermost layer, socks should be woollen or a good synthetic material to prevent your feet staying wet. Three pairs of socks of increasing size and thickness should make sure that you are comfortable at low temperatures. We also recommend strong shoes or boots with a good grip. As with the top layer, make sure that you choose a larger size to accommodate the socks. The studs or spikes on ice safety overshoes, or removable ice grips attached under your shoes, make it much easier to prevent slipping on an icy surface.

OTHER TIPS

The Nordic air is very dry so lip salve is a good idea to keep them moisturised. If you are spending a long time outside, a face mask that covers your nose and cheeks is good, or a thin layer of Vaseline on your face will help to keep it protected. Sunglasses will protect your eyes from the sun, especially bright in February and March.



Copenhagen, Denmark

Denmark has been consistently voted the happiest country on Earth and its capital, Copenhagen, boasts world-renowned gastronomy, museums and year-round entertainment.

Copenhagen is home to distinct and innovative dining, from Michelin starred restaurants such as 'Noma', to informal bistro's serving New Nordic cuisine. Museums are scattered throughout the city and a visit to the tiny but iconic Little Mermaid is a must. Enjoy the laid-back atmosphere of Nyhavn and be charmed and thrilled by the 165 year-old Tivoli amusement park where, at night, thousands of coloured lights create a unique fairy-tale atmosphere.

MUST SEE MUST DO MUST TRY

- **TIVOLI GARDENS:** Historic buildings, lush gardens and thrilling rides.
- **NYHAVN:** 17th century harbour area.
- **LITTLE MERMAID:** Perhaps the most famous Dane of all.
- **STRØGET:** Longest shopping/pedestrian area in Europe.
- **NY CARLSBERG GLYPTOTEK:** Museum housing 10,000 works of art.
- **TRY:** Smørrebrød (open sandwich), Stegt flæsk & persillesovs (national dish)

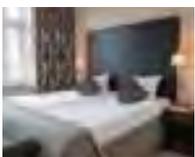
YOUR HOTELS

First Hotel Mayfair



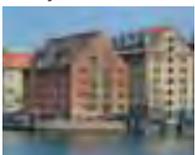
Located minutes from Tivoli and Strøget, the First Hotel Mayfair is a perfect base for exploring Copenhagen. The building dates from the early 1900's, whereas the rooms take on a distinct boutique flavour. Start the day with a vast buffet breakfast and end with a relaxing drink in the cosy lounge or courtyard. You can even live like a local and rent a bike from reception.

Price from: £79 pp



- Charming boutique-style hotel • Convenient location • Service orientated

71 Nyhavn Hotel



Atmospheric hotel housed in converted warehouses situated where Nyhavn Canal and the harbour meet. Rooms vary in size and are decorated in keeping with the style of this beautiful old warehouse. Unique works of art are proudly displayed in the reception and public areas. The inviting cellar 'Restaurant Pakhuskaelderen' has a seasonal menu with locally sourced produce.

Price from: £90 pp



- Nyhavn harbour location • COBRA art collection • Cellar restaurant



Oslo, Norway

Oslo has undergone a transformation, which started with the opening of the new Opera House. Enjoy a city that successfully combines new with old and forest with fjord.

Oslo has over 50 museums. View the world's largest collection of artwork by Munch and study the works of Nobel Prize Laureates at the Nobel Peace Centre. Alternatively, embrace the outdoors with a trip to the surrounding forests. Oslo Winter Park and Ski Centre are just minutes from the city. Aker Brygge, is now a cosmopolitan collection of harbour front bars and restaurants and an excellent place for casual dining and people watching.

MUST SEE MUST DO MUST TRY

- **VIGELAND SCULPTURE PARK:** Outdoor park containing 121 sculptures.
- **THE VIKING SHIP, FRAM AND KON-TIKI MUSEUMS:** Maritime history.
- **OPERA HOUSE:** Waterfront home of the National Opera and Ballet.
- **AKER BRYGGE:** Cosmopolitan harbour bars and restaurants.
- **MUNCH MUSEUM:** A dedication to the Norwegian artist Edvard Munch.
- **TRY:** Vaffler (pancake style waffles), Fiskesuppe (Fish Soup).

YOUR HOTELS

The Thief



Enjoying a spectacular location in a district once home to a shady criminal past, The Thief is a shining example of modern contemporary Scandinavian design. All of the rooms have hand-picked works of art and most enjoy Oslofjord views with floor to ceiling windows and private balcony. The restaurant and bar serve dishes and drinks of pure and honest flavours based on Nordic products and traditions.

Price from: £125 pp



- Designer living • Waterfront location • Nespresso machines in each room

Clarion Collection Hotel Folketeateret



Just minutes from Karl Johansgate, the city's main thoroughfare, The Clarion Collection Hotel Folketeateret is a tranquil haven in bustling area. The interior is typically modern Scandinavian, whilst the exterior retains the original Art Deco façade. With complimentary waffles and light evening buffet supper included, this hotel is the perfect choice for a winter break in Oslo.

Price from: £70 pp



- Former Opera House • Gym • Complimentary waffles & light supper



Stockholm, Sweden

Stockholm embraces winter as eagerly as it does summer, with residents swapping boats and bikes for skates and ski's. Modern meets Medieval in this exciting and vibrant capital.

Grand public buildings and palaces show off an illustrious 700 year history, celebrated in the city's many museums. Visit the Vasa, Dance to ABBA or admire the photographic skills at Fotografiska. The winding cobblestone streets of Stockholm's Old Town, one of the largest and best preserved in Europe, transport you back to medieval times. Elsewhere tempting aromas lure you into cafés and gastronomic restaurants, whereas shops tantalise you with designer goods.

MUST SEE MUST DO MUST TRY

- **VASA MUSEUM:** Stunning salvaged 17th century ship.
- **SKANSEN:** Fantastic views from Stockholm's open-air museum and zoo.
- **GAMLA STAN:** Stockholm's medieval Old Town.
- **STOCKHOLM PALACE:** The King's official residence.
- **ÖSTERMALMSHALLEN:** Food hall brimming with delicacies.
- **TRY:** Kanelbulle (Cinnamon bun), Räksmörgås (Shrimp sandwich)

YOUR HOTELS

Nobis Hotel



A former bank that gained notoriety after a dramatic heist that coined the phrase 'Stockholm Syndrome'. The bourgeoisie stone buildings are now a luxury design hotel. The contemporary, mellow Scandinavian décor, presents a calming and relaxed retreat. The bar, lounge, bistro and restaurant are all favoured by guests and locals a-like giving testimony to the standards imposed.

Price from: £120 pp



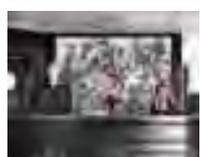
- Timeless elegance • Central location • Courtyard lounge

First Hotel Reisen



This first class waterfront hotel is located in the heart of the Old Town. Originally built in 1760, it is now a cosy and charming 'home from home'. Rooms have views of the Old Town alleys or waterfront, some boast Jacuzzis and balconies. The bar and restaurant menu have a traditional Swedish focus and the Spa is located in a historic vault which forms part of the old city wall dating from 1600.

Price from: £99 pp



- Unique location • Classic design • Award-winning bar • Spa & plunge pool



Helsinki, Finland

World Design Capital in 2012, Helsinki also pays homage to its strategic location connecting East with West. A visit in winter reveals a snow-clad winter playground.

Helsinki deliver's a remarkable array of experiences which also reflect periods of Swedish and Russian rule. This history is illustrated in the outstanding museums and culinary adventures. Meander through the largest concentration of Art Nouveau buildings in Northern Europe. Walk on the frozen waters of the Baltic Sea, rent cross country skis, purchase a Pulkka and sledge in Kaivopuisto Park. A visit is never complete without a trip to that Finnish institution – the sauna.

MUST SEE MUST DO MUST TRY

- **DESIGN MUSEUM:** Delve into a collection of 75,000 objects and archives.
- **SENATE SQUARE & HELSINKI CATHEDRAL:** Symbols of Helsinki.
- **MARKET SQUARE & MARKET HALL:** Traditional food and handicrafts.
- **SUOMENLINNA SEA FORTRESS:** UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- **TEMPELLIAUKIO:** Rock church hewn directly into solid rock.
- **TRY:** Blinnis (savoury starter), Leipäjuusto with cloudberry (Bread Cheese).

YOUR HOTELS

Klaus K



Named after a character in the Finnish epic, the Kalevala, the owners wanted their property to have an equal impact on the hotel scene in Helsinki. Working alongside renowned Finnish architects, this former school now pays homage to the local contemporary art and design scene mixed with a New York SoHo vibe. Sample Italian passion in the restaurant and relax in the on-site spa.

Price from: £185 pp



- Contemporary design hotel • City centre location • Choice of room styles

Solo Sokos Hotel Tornii



This hotel has a colourful history as a result of being one of the longest operating hotels in Helsinki. It offers individually designed rooms that incorporate original features such as tile stoves and Victorian style baths. Rooms on higher floors have impressive city views. There is plenty of opportunity to replenish your batteries in one of the 3 bars, one of which is on the 14th floor.

Price from: £65



- Landmark Hotel • Great views • Excellent location • Restaurant & 3 bars



Northern Lights Experience

Price from **£599**pp
November – March

Witness the extraordinary phenomena of the 'Northern Lights' from Tromsø – the self-styled 'capital of the Arctic'. Situated in the heart of the Aurora Zone this destination offers city comforts and plenty of wilderness excursions. Join the search for the Northern Lights, steer your own husky sled, go reindeer spotting or cross mountain landscapes on a snowmobile safari. The city's attraction's also includes museums, award-winning restaurants, the Arctic Cathedral and Fjellheisen – a cable car journey offering panoramic views of the surrounding area.

YOUR LODGINGS

CLARION COLLECTION HOTEL WITH

Waterfront location near the Polar Museum, Mack's Pub and Brewery and the Arctic Cathedral. Warm Scandinavian décor and friendly staff add to the charm of this property. Upgrade to harbour view rooms for fantastic views. Complimentary afternoon waffles and light evening buffet supper included.

- Waterfront location • 76 rooms • Bar & Restaurant

SCANDIC ISHAVSHOTEL

The futuristic maritime-inspired design and wharf-end location offer spectacular views out over the Sound, the Arctic Cathedral and Tromsø Bridge. Modernist Nordic styling pervades throughout the hotel.

- Harbour location • 180 rooms • Recently refurbished

THON HOTEL POLAR

The ideal hotel for those on a budget is situated in the centre of Tromsø and within easy walking distance of the airport 'Flybus' stop. Simple yet smart rooms all have private WC/shower and TV. A full Scandinavian breakfast is served in the adjoining Egon restaurant which also serves lunch and dinner.

- Central location • 130 rooms • Good value

CLARION HOTEL THE EDGE

Newly opened in May 2014, this design-orientated hotel has already left its mark. Large contemporary rooms, many with spectacular views. Celebrity Chef Marcus Samuelsson combines New York flavours with local ingredients.

- Harbour location • 290 rooms • Tromsø's newest hotel

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Tromsø Fly direct from London Gatwick or via Oslo. Upon arrival transfer with 'Flybussen' from the airport to your chosen hotel.

DAY 2 & 3 At Leisure These days are free for your chosen excursions (see page 9). Top of the agenda has to be a Northern Lights search, but there are plenty of other attractions and activities in this vibrant University City.

Try a thrilling snowmobile or husky safari; go whale watching and reindeer spotting or take a gentle harbour cruise. A stroll through the city reveals museums, cafés and a cable car that takes you to the top of Storsteinen for panoramic views.

DAY 4 UK Enjoy a leisurely morning. Why not grab a lunch in one of the many fish restaurants (we recommend Emma's Kitchen or Fiskekompaniet for a treat). Transfer back to the airport with Flybussen in time for your return flight.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Gatwick or Heathrow to Tromsø
- Return airport/hotel shuttle transfer
- 3 nights in a twin room with private WC/shower
- Breakfasts throughout
- Afternoon waffles and light buffet supper when staying at the Hotel With

NORTHERN LIGHT SEARCH

This trip offers the best chance you can get to spot the Aurora. Your local guide picks you up from the centre of Tromsø and, depending on the level of cloud cover, heads north to a spot where the Atlantic is on one side of you and the Lyngen Alps on the other, or East as far as the Finnish border. The emphasis is firmly on hunting Aurora and where they are most likely to occur, so the trip can last for anything up to 8 hours. During the evening you move location two or three times to provide different backdrop settings and to avoid any light pollution. All levels of photographers are welcome and your guide is on hand to help you produce some memorable shots.

Departs: Daily at 19.00 **Duration:** 5-8 hrs. **Price from:** £125 pp.

NORTHERN LIGHTS SPOTTING

Escape the city's urban lights and travel out to the Tromsø Villmarkssenter where, in between spells lying on reindeer skins staring skywards for the Northern Lights, you can enjoy the warmth of a Sami lavvo's open fire over which you can grill sausages and sip hot berry juice. In between Aurora sightings you can also visit the centre's husky kennels and/or have an optional traditional supper of bidos (stewed reindeer/supplement applies).

Departs: Daily at 18.15 **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Price from:** £85 pp.

WILDERNESS HUSKY SAFARI

Travel to Camp Tamok, a wilderness camp located a picturesque 75 minute drive from Tromsø and mush your own team of huskies. Enjoy the uninhabited mountains and forests that surround this area. Driving in pairs, you can choose to sit in the sled or mush (you will have the opportunity to swap halfway), whilst heading into the white landscapes and through the beautiful Vass Valley. The trails you follow have a total distance of approximately 15km. On your return to camp, you will be served a hot meal in a Lavvu (a Sami herdsman tent). If you choose the evening safari you may even catch a glimpse of the Northern Lights.

Departs: Daily at 09.00 and 17.00 **Duration:** 7 hrs. **Price from:** £185 pp.

SNOWMOBILE SAFARI

Snowmobile through the Finn valley along a 15km trail from Camp Tamok to the frozen waters of Lake Tamok, where you can try your hand at ice-fishing. Driving in pairs and swapping half-way, you each get the chance to admire the contrast between tundra, lake and mogul terrain for an ultimate snowmobile experience. Hot snack served en-route and around an open fire, in typical Nomadic Sami Style.

Departs: Daily at 09.00 or 17.00 **Duration:** 7 hrs. **Price from:** £185 pp.

NORTHERN LIGHTS ARCTIC CRUISE

Cruise offshore in the evening blackness on the fishing boat 'Havcruise', waiting for the aurora to burst out over the Sound. Homemade fish supper on board. **Departs:** Daily at 20.00 **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £135 pp.

BLUE LIGHT ARCTIC CRUISE

Cruise in Tromsø Sound and catch surrounding landscapes in the clear blue light of an Arctic afternoon on-board the custom built catamaran 'Havcruise'. See the island of Sommarøy on one side and the majestic Lyngen Alps on the other.

Departs: Daily at 13.30 **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £110 pp.

SNOW SHOE TREK

Join a guided snow shoe trek. Mastering the art is easy. Just choose the tour most suited to your circumstances. The 'novice' grade is ideal for families including children aged 8 and up. The 'intermediate' grade is best for children aged 12 and up as well as people used to hiking in hilly terrain.

In each case you will enjoy trekking through a variety of landscapes fortified by a hot drink and 'Lefse', a traditional Norwegian cake. There are plenty of photo opportunities along the way.

Novice: Daily at 10.00 **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £65 pp.

Intermediate: Daily at 10.00 **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Price from:** £110 pp

REINDEER SLEDDING

Reindeer sledding is the oldest form of transport in the Arctic, and an ancient part of Sami culture. This cultural journey also includes lasso-throwing and a visit to a Lavvu (a traditional Sami tent) for lunch, where you will learn about the Sami history and way of life. Daytime trips give you amazing views of the wild mountains, and evening trips will give you a good opportunity to spot the Northern Lights.

Departs: Daily at 09.00 or 17.00 **Duration:** 7 hrs. **Price from:** £169 pp.

REINDEER HERD ENCOUNTER

Depart Tromsø on a scenic journey along the coast or into the wilderness in search of reindeer. Herds change location according to the season, but you can be assured of an encounter in their natural surroundings. You also learn about ancient herding traditions and have ample photo opportunities. Hot chocolate and cookies are included.

Departs: Daily at 09.00 **Duration:** 6 hrs. **Price from:** £145 pp.



DAY TRIP TO WHALE ISLAND

Witness and capture the effect of ever-changing light and weather conditions on the picturesque landscape as you travel by road towards the Sommarøy archipelago. Follow every twist and turn of the glacial valleys and fjords, whilst keeping an eye out for local Arctic wildlife. Stop along the way for waffles & coffee at Tove's glassblowing studio, as well as the fishing village of Sommarøya.

Departs: Mon – Fri at 10.00 **Duration:** 5 hrs. **Price from:** £125 pp.

WHALE WATCHING BY BOAT

Spend the day on board a comfortable day-cruiser in search of humpback and killer whales. As you sail into the open sea, keep a watchful eye out for sea eagles and seals that also inhabit the area. Transfer to Ersfjord or Sommarøy, English speaking guide, additional protective clothing, tea, coffee and an Arctic Tapa's lunch included.

Departs: Daily Nov-Jan at 09.00 **Duration:** 3-6 hrs. **Price from:** £135 pp.

WINTER ACTIVITY CAMP

Try snow shoeing, cross-country skiing, tobogganing and ice-skating at a winter activity camp just 5 minutes from the city centre. Suitable for adults and children alike, no previous experience is required as a guide is on hand to show you how to use the equipment. Take a break around the bonfire and listen to the stories about living in the Arctic and, if you are lucky, the northern lights may dance above your head. Hot drinks and 'Lefse' included. Winter clothes are not included but can be rented separately.

Departs: Daily Jan-Mar at 18.30 **Duration:** 2½ hrs. **Price from:** £65 pp.

DURATION INCLUDES ANY APPLICABLE TRANSFER TIME

Start times vary according to the date and will be reconfirmed at time of booking



Arctic Nights to Remember

Price from **£945**pp
15 November – March

Fly high up into the Arctic Circle to Tromsø and turn your stay into 'An Arctic Night to Remember' with two nights in the city and an overnight at Camp Tamok in the Vass valley. Mush huskies, search out moose trails, ice fish and snowmobile across snow white tundra. Sleep under a canopy of Arctic stars in a "hot spot" known to deliver a better than average sightings of the Aurora.

YOUR LODGINGS

Camp Tamok, in the Northern Lights heartland, is located outside of Tromsø amongst lofty mountains, fjords and the Lapland tundra that dominates the region. As well as being well away from any light pollution, the area is known for its dry climate and many days of clear sky, maximising your chances of sighting the Northern Lights. Camp Tamok is a wilderness experience like no other and is an ideal setting for the snowmobile, husky and ice-fishing activities on offer.

You have three types of accommodation options to choose from:

THE WILDERNESS CABIN comprises of four bedrooms and two loft rooms accommodating up to 12 guests. The cabin is heated by a wood stove and lit by oil lamps thus offering a warm and a cosy place for a restful night's sleep.

SAMI TENT A traditional lavvu where you will sleep in winter sleeping bags on top of several reindeer skins. Open wood fires endeavour to keep out the chill but temperatures can drop to zero. The lavvu accommodates up to 12 people and you each have a separate berth.

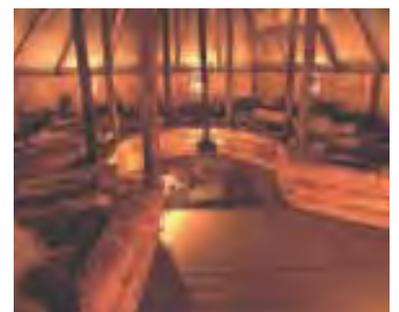
AURORA CABIN This is the most private and romantic accommodation. Choose one of 3 small aurora cabins. Heated but without water or electricity, these are ideal for couples as you can lie in bed gazing out of the rooftop window through which you can view the aurora when visible.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Gatwick or Heathrow to Tromsø
- Return airport/hotel shuttle transfers
- 2 nights in a twin room with private WC/shower at the Hotel With, Tromsø
- Breakfast, afternoon waffles and light buffet supper at the Hotel With
- Overnight programme to Camp Tamok including local transfers, snowmobile & husky safaris
- Choice of accommodation at Camp Tamok including breakfast, lunch and dinner

YOUR TOUR

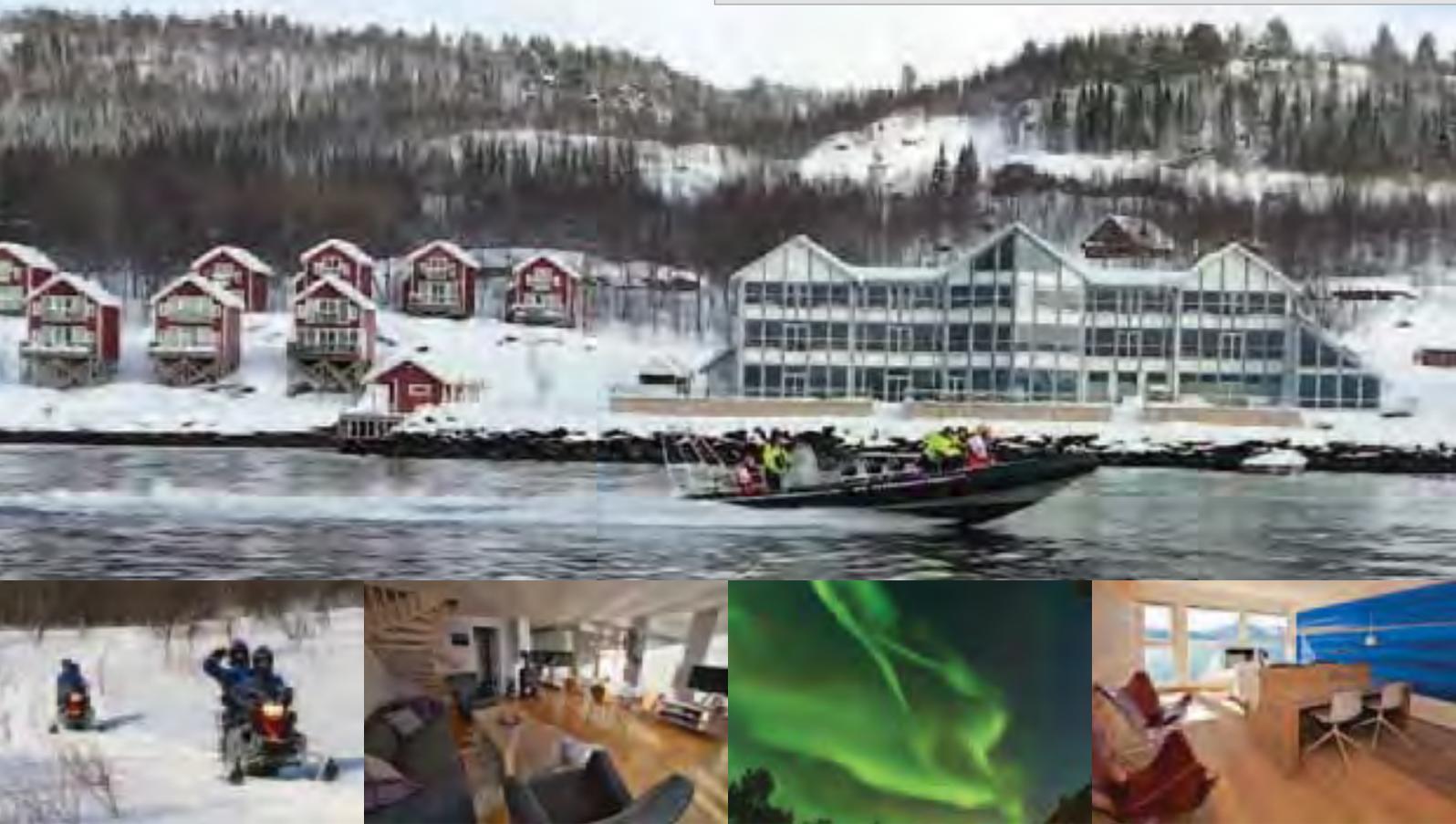
DAY 1 Tromsø Fly direct from London Gatwick, transfer to and check-in at the Clarion Collection Hotel With. You may opt to take an additional evening excursion (see page 9) or simply enjoy the charm of the Hotel With as well as the sights and sounds of Tromsø. Light buffet supper is served until 9pm each night.



DAY 2 Tromsø-Camp Tamok Breakfast at leisure. Your day is free until late afternoon when you transfer to Camp Tamok where, after a full safety briefing, you will embark on a 30km snowmobile safari. At 800m high, along the shores of a frozen lake, you will try your hand at ice-fishing, returning to the camp for supper around an open fire. Search the night sky for the Aurora Borealis and revel in the peace and tranquillity that the wilderness offers before retiring to your chosen accommodation.

DAY 3 Camp Tamok-Tromsø After a hearty breakfast you will meet your Alaskan huskies. Mush in pairs and share the driving along a 15km trail through the mountainous and forested landscape of the Vass valley. Return to camp for lunch before transferring back to the Hotel With, where a light supper awaits.

DAY 4 UK Breakfast at leisure, and perhaps shop for some last minute treats, before taking 'Flybussen' to the airport in time for your return flight home.



Tromsø & Malangen Resort

Price from **£1395**pp
November – March

Just over an hour's scenic drive from Tromsø lays Malangen Resort. This fjord-side residence offers a stylish break in one of Northern Norway's Northern Lights hot spots. You will enjoy a night in Tromsø, the 'Capital of the Arctic', a choice of Arctic adventures including snowmobile, husky or reindeer safari, as well as two nights in elegant and comfortable accommodation. The surrounding snow-capped mountains provide a marvellous setting for the dancing ribbons of the Aurora Borealis.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Tromsø Fly to Tromsø. Transfer via 'Flybuss' to the Clarion Collection Hotel Aurora, conveniently located minutes from the Arctic Cathedral, Polar Museum and harbour front. It is the only hotel in Tromsø offering an outdoor, rooftop Jacuzzi with unrivalled views across the city and the wilderness beyond. Enjoy afternoon waffles and a light evening buffet supper served until 9pm.

DAY 2 Reindeer & Malangen Resort Following breakfast, check-out and meet your local guide. On the way to Malangen Resort you will visit a Sami family and their reindeer herd. This is a unique chance to learn about the life and traditions of the indigenous people of this region. On arrival at Malangen Resort, dinner will be served after which you will head out in search of the Northern Lights.

DAY 3 Snowmobile Safari After a leisurely breakfast, the resort guides will take you to Camp Nikka, where following instruction, you will embark on a snowmobile safari through the Arctic wilderness and forested landscapes that surround the resort. On your return to the camp hot drinks and a snack will be served round the fire. Back at the resort there is time for some relaxation in the hotel's Panoramic Sauna before that evening's dinner.

DAY 4 Snow Shoe Trek & Tromsø Check-out is not until after lunch so you have plenty of time to explore the surroundings on your own snow shoe trek (included) or enjoy a thrilling dog sledding safari (supplement applies). Return to Tromsø and the Clarion Collection Aurora in time for supper and perhaps one more evening excursion (see page 9).

DAY 5 UK Further enjoy Tromsø before your shuttle transfer back to the airport in time for your return flight to the UK.

YOUR LODGINGS

Malangen Resort boasts an enviable waterfront location just 1 hour's drive from Tromsø. This stylish fjord-side residence has a wide choice of accommodation ranging from standard hotel rooms to deluxe sea-view cabins. All have spectacular views and large panoramic windows framing the views of the mountains and fjords.

The restaurant prides itself on producing menus with locally sourced ingredients which pay homage to traditional Norwegian dishes with an international twist. Children are well catered for too.

Malangen Resort is an ideal choice for both families and couples wishing to immerse themselves in the stunning arctic surroundings.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Tromsø
- Return airport/hotel shuttle and resort transfers
- 2 nights at the Clarion Collection Hotel Aurora
- 2 nights at Malangen Resort
- Lodging in twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- Breakfast throughout
- Afternoon waffles and light buffet supper in Tromsø
- Lunch & dinner at Malangen Resort
- Visit to Sami reindeer herder
- 3-hour snowmobile safari including transfer & instruction
- Guided Northern Lights chase
- Rental of Snow Shoes on Day 4
- Panorama Sauna at Malangen Resort on Day 3
- Outdoor winter clothing for the snowmobile & Northern Lights chase



Tromsø & Hamn i Senja

Price from **£1485**pp
October – April

Tromsø is an excellent springboard for a two-centre stay. Contrast this exciting University City with a retreat that showcases some of Northern Norway's most dramatic coastal scenery. Tromsø offers culture and history, while Senja has been selected as one of the most spectacular landscapes in Norway, rivalling Lofoten for its dramatic scenery and wildlife. This self-drive adventure takes you on a journey of discovery.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 UK – Tromsø Fly to Tromsø and transfer with 'Flybussen' to the Clarion Collection Hotel With for 2 nights.

DAY 2 Tromsø Choose from one of the many excursions (see page 9). There is ample time for both an Arctic adventure and to enjoy the city.

DAY 3 Senja Collect your hire car and head south for Senja. The journey will take you over high plateaus and alongside mountains that plunge into the sea. Break the journey with a snowmobile or husky safari or stop off at the Polar Park, which offers a unique opportunity to enter a wolf enclosure.

Arrival at Hamn i Senja uncovers a hidden gem. Large suites have a luxury kitchen and living room with floor to ceiling windows framing the ever changing scenery. A 3-course dinner is served in Storbrygga Restaurant and we recommend retreating to the Lighthouse for a digestif and 360° views over the surrounding fjord and mountains.

DAY 4-5 Senja The hotel has a range of activities that showcase the best of the region according to the season. In January killer and humpback whales follow the herring into the fjord. RIB boat rides reveal islands ringed with coral sandy beaches and soaring sea eagles. There are plenty of photo opportunities along the National Tourist Route. After dinner choose to relax in your suite, the Lighthouse or join an evening trek in a quest for the Northern Lights.

DAY 6 UK After breakfast drive back to Tromsø before dropping off your hire car in time for your flight home.

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

WHALE & WILDLIFE SAFARI Skirt idyllic islands in a turquoise sea, whilst searching for humpback & killer whales (02 Jan – 05 Feb) sea eagles, seals, porpoises and more. **Departs:** Daily **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £110 pp

BODYRAFTING OR ATLANTIC BATHING A special protective Arctic floating suit keeps you warm and dry as you drift in the streams maelstrom and see the world from a different perspective, or take a dip outside the hotel. **Departs:** Mon-Wed, Fri-Sat **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £105 pp. **Atlantic Bathing from:** £45 pp

NORTHERN LIGHTS GUIDED HIKE TOWARDS SUKKERTOPPEN An easy guided walk to the dam for great views over the fjord. Snow shoes provided if required, otherwise hiking boots recommended. **Departs:** Tue, Fri at 20.00 **Duration:** 3-4 hrs. **Price from:** £99 pp

GUIDED TOUR ALONG NATIONAL SCENIC ROUTE The west coast of Senja is celebrated as one of the most beautiful landscapes in Norway. Locally guided tour offers an insight to the region. **Departs:** Wed, Sat **Duration:** 4hrs. **Price from:** £99 pp

Programmes may be changed to fit the weather. Alternative activities will be offered, if possible.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Tromsø
- One way airport/hotel shuttle bus transfer in Tromsø
- 5 nights hotel accommodation as specified in the itinerary
- Breakfasts and dinner throughout
- 4 days (4x24 hrs) Group B car hire including unlimited mileage, theft protection, CDW and all applicable taxes.



Arctic Circle Explorer

Price from **£795**pp

December – April

This show-stopping journey transports you from Tromsø in Northern Norway, across the frozen tundra and mountain plateaus to Narvik, where you board The Arctic Train to Kiruna in Sweden. The tour ends with a spectacular stay at the ICEHOTEL. This flexible trip is in the heart of the aurora zone and allows you ample time to add Arctic excursions such as a Northern Lights hunt or husky, snowmobile and reindeer safaris. You can also extend your stay in any of the destinations featured.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Tromsø Fly to Tromsø and transfer with 'Flybuss' to the Clarion Collection Hotel With for 2 nights.

DAY 2 Tromsø Tailor-make your stay in the 'Capital of the North' selecting from excursions featured on page 9. You will have plenty of time for an Arctic adventure. A snowmobile safari and husky mushing are always popular choices. The evening can be spent in pursuit of the Northern Lights.

DAY 3 Narvik Enjoy a plentiful breakfast before taking the early morning bus south to Narvik. The scenic 4-hour journey meanders through the glacial valleys and fjords of the Troms region. On arrival in Narvik, check-in to the Scandic Narvik and sample its designer delights.

The rest of the day is at leisure. We recommend the Ofoten Museum, which chronicles the construction of the railway and the WWII battles that took place for the control of both Narvik's harbour and all important iron ore. Alternatively, take the cable car to the top of Narvikjellet for panoramic views of Ofotfjord. Fine dining can be enjoyed at the Linken Restaurant. Being 250 miles north of the Arctic Circle, there is every chance of spotting the Northern Lights.

DAY 4 The Arctic Train & ICEHOTEL Board the Ofoten Line and Arctic Circle train for one of the most northern railway journeys in the world. The 3-hour journey initially hugs the shores of the Ofotfjord before ascending to its highest point at the border crossing of Riksangransen. There are no customs as you continue onwards crossing Abisko National Park before arriving at the former mining town of Kiruna.

On arrival you will be met and transferred to the ICEHOTEL. Your accommodation for the night is a bed of ice, covered with reindeer skins topped with the warmest of sleeping bags. A whole host of activities await

(see page 29) but first raise a toast to your journey in the ICEBAR whilst appreciating the fine ice carvings hewn by award-winning ice artists.

DAY 5 UK Enjoy a warming hot berry juice and rejuvenating sauna before breakfast. Afterwards you will transfer to Kiruna Airport in time for your flight home to the UK (via Stockholm).



WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Flight from London to Tromsø returning from Kiruna to London (via Oslo)
- 3 nights hotel accommodation as described in the itinerary
- Lodging in twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- 1 night in an ice room at the ICEHOTEL, Kiruna (shared facilities)
- Breakfast throughout
- Afternoon waffles and light buffet supper in Tromsø
- Local bus from Tromsø to Narvik
- Journey on the Ofoten Railway from Narvik to Kiruna
- Airport/Hotel transfers and local transfers in Kiruna



Alta & the Sorrisoniva Igloo Hotel

Price from **£1535**pp
Selected Fridays, Jan – Mar

Fly to Alta in Northern Norway and discover the intimate charm and intricate ice architecture of the Sorrisoniva Igloo Hotel. Alta enjoys a quieter reputation than neighbouring Tromsø, but delivers no less of a thrill. You can snowmobile across the frozen tundra, mush your own husky team, and delight in the chase for the Aurora Borealis, 'sleep on ice' and enjoy gourmet dining at Sorrisoniva's delectable restaurant.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Alta & Northern Lights Search Fly to Alta (via Oslo). On arrival, transfer to the Scandic Alta for 1 night. The hotel is situated opposite the titanium-clad Northern Lights Cathedral which, when lit up, forms a stunning backdrop against the Arctic skies.

Early evening you will leave behind the city lights and head to an area where the chance of seeing the Northern Lights is best. You could be travelling the coastline, alongside fjords or even head inland.

DAY 2 Snowmobile Safari & Sorrisoniva After breakfast you will transfer to the Sorrisoniva Igloo Hotel. Here, the day continues with an exciting snowmobile safari where you will follow a former trading route, across the vast snow-covered plateau in one of the last wilderness areas in Europe.

Enjoy a leisurely afternoon in these idyllic surroundings, where you can walk alongside the frozen river, go for a kick-sled ride or spend some time in the outdoor hot tub gazing at the starry skies.

Dinner is at Laksestua, a wooden building shaped like a traditional Sami Lavvu, complete with open fire. Here, the award-winning chef will prepare a delicious 3-course meal. This is Nordic cuisine at its best. Retire to your snow room for a cosy night wrapped in reindeer skins and the warmest of sleeping bags.

DAY 3 Husky Mushing Following a warming sauna and breakfast, transfer to a local husky kennel. Meet your team of dogs and, after instruction, drive your own sled, steering your team of dogs through the Alta Canyon and along the banks of the river. Return to the Scandic Alta for your final night.

DAY 4 UK Enjoy a last day in Alta before you transfer to the airport in time for your return flight home.

YOUR LODGINGS

SORRISONIVA IGLOO HOTEL

The building of the Sorrisoniva Igloo Hotel begins as soon as the first snow falls and this year, its 16th, the doors will open on the 6th January 2016. There are just 30 rooms, an ice lounge and bar, a themed sculpture gallery and an exquisitely decorated chapel.

The temperature inside the igloo remains constant (between -4°C and -7°C) but the natural reindeer hides, mattresses and sleeping bags will keep you warm throughout the night – although we do recommend you wear thermals and perhaps, a woolly hat!

SCANDIC HOTEL ALTA

This is a popular choice for those looking for a convenient and centrally located hotel. Just a short walk from the town's shops and restaurants, it also enjoys stunning views of the Northern Lights Cathedral.

Modern Scandinavian style rooms have all the facilities required for a comfortable stay including free Wi-Fi and tea & coffee making facilities. It is also the meeting point for many of the excursions starting in the town.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Alta (via Oslo)
- Return airport/hotel and resort transfers
- 2 nights accommodation at the Scandic Alta
- 1 night accommodation in a snow room at the Sorrisoniva Igloo Hotel
- Breakfast throughout
- 1 x 3-course dinner at the Sorrisoniva Igloo Hotel
- Northern Lights Search, Snowmobile and Husky Safari as per itinerary



Luxurious Lyngen Lodge

Price from **£1515**pp
Selected departures November – March

Lyngen Lodge offers a luxurious combination of deluxe accommodation and first class hosting in an exceptional location. This hideaway escape is nestled along the scenic shores of the Lyngen Fjord in the heart of the Alps. There is an assortment of seasonal activities on offer and of course, the chance to spot the Northern Lights literally on your doorstep.

YOUR LODGINGS

Lyngen Lodge is the brainchild of Graham Austick, whose vision was to create a tranquil haven without the need to compromise on quality or comforts. It was when out skiing in the Lyngen Alps that he stumbled on the ideal setting and the project took hold. Lyngen Lodge now provides a sanctuary for up to 18 people accommodated in 8 en-suite fjord-facing rooms.

Large panoramic windows frame commanding views over the Lyngen Alps, whereas the soft pastel colours of the interior complement the natural surroundings. The large open stone fireplace contributes to the warm and welcoming ambience. Guests are catered for on a full board basis. Delicious menus reflect Norwegian coastal culture and are prepared from the finest local produce. Additional amenities include a fully licensed bar, dining room, lounge, library, sauna and outdoor Jacuzzi and the services of the lodge manager.

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

SNOW SHOE NATURE TRAIL A guided tour into the wilderness.

Duration: 2 or 4 hrs. **Price from:** £79/£125 pp

DOG SLEDDING Following expert tuition mush your own team of husky dogs.

Duration: 5 hrs. Lunch included. **Price from:** £285 pp

WINTER SEA SAFARI Board the 'Spirit of Lyngen' for a cultural and wildlife adventure. **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Price from:** £239 pp

HIGH FROZEN LAKE ADVENTURE Be a passenger on a snowmobile into the high mountain terrain and try ice-fishing. **Duration:** 5 hrs. **Price from:** £285 pp

CROSS-COUNTRY SKI Master the art on tracks that are home to the National Norwegian Team. **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £159 pp

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Tromsø On arrival transfer to the Clarion Collection Hotel With. Enjoy a light evening buffet supper (served until 9pm).

DAY 2 Tromsø Today is at leisure. Choose from a wide range of excursions. Our favourites are featured on page 9.

DAY 3 Lyngen Lodge After a leisurely breakfast, a private transfer will take you on the 2¾ hour journey through the Arctic wilderness, arriving at Lyngen Lodge in time for afternoon tea. Settle into your surroundings, then marvel at the changing colours of the Arctic sky and watch for the Northern Lights. Evening meal served at the Lodge.

Lyngen Lodge offers free lectures on the origins of the aurora and additional photography lessons are available (on request and at a supplement) to enable you to capture this natural phenomenon. Please enquire at time of booking.

DAY 4-5 Lyngen Lodge At leisure.

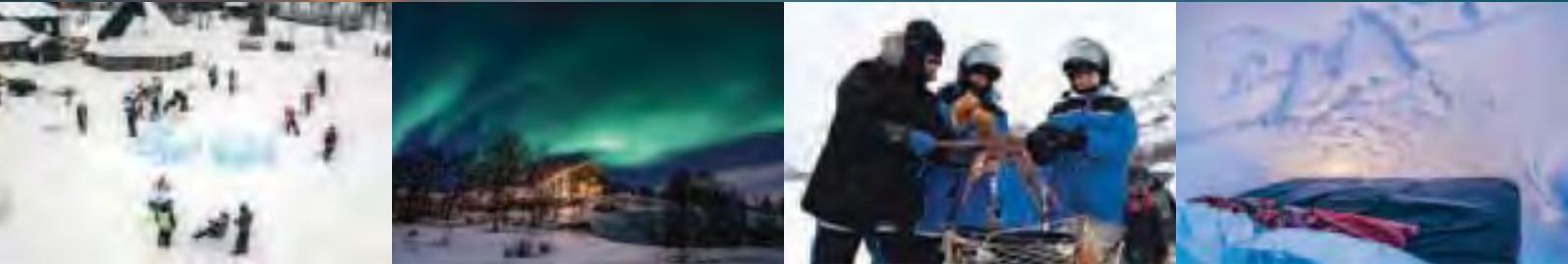
Lyngen Lodge is the perfect place to relax, unwind and rejuvenate your soul. Do not under estimate the value of doing nothing, then resting afterwards. Alternatively combine your stay with one of the Arctic adventures on offer.

DAY 6 UK Return to Tromsø in time for your flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Tromsø
- One way airport/hotel shuttle and private resort transfers
- 2 nights at the Clarion Collection Hotel With in a superior room, half board.
- 3 nights at the Lyngen Lodge in an en-suite twin/double, full board.





SnowHotel at the Top of the World

Price from **£1495**pp
Late December – April

Perched at the top of the world is the SnowHotel Kirkenes. Now in its 10th year this is a firm favourite with our guests. An enthusiastic welcome starts with 110 howling huskies; the resident reindeer are a little more nonchalant, but no less friendly. You can then savour a cocktail of adventures. Catch a King Crab, ice fish with the experts, dash across frozen fjords or go in search of the Northern Lights, before you kick-sled your way to dinner and then retire to your snow room or designer aurora cabin.

SNOWHOTEL KIRKENES

At 69°N, the SnowHotel Kirkenes is the world's most northerly snow hotel. Located alongside the Langfjorden, 400km north of the Arctic Circle, it is at the apex of Scandinavia where Norway meets Russia and Finland. The resort has a wealth of facilities including a restaurant in a beautifully renovated barn, a bar and sauna. With just 20 ice suites the 'boutique nature' of the property has been retained.

Intricately carved ice art designed by sculptors from the Chinese city of Harbin (home of the renowned Ice & Snow Festival) illuminate and adorn the public areas. Each ice room is a small treasure, which features double frame beds surrounded by ice blocks topped with thermal insulation and reindeer pelts.

The SnowHotel Kirkenes are also delighted to offer 'Gamme Cabins' loosely based on the traditional Sami hunting and fishing hut that you find in the wilderness. Developed in conjunction with Swiss architects, these strikingly simple private cabins offer underfloor heating, en-suite Villeroy & Boch bathroom, separate seating area with Aurora panoramic window. Ideal for romantics and those wanting an alternative to the cold accommodation.

THON HOTEL KIRKENES

Set down by the quayside on the edge of town the Thon Hotel Kirkenes is in an ideal location. These simply furnished yet comfortable rooms provide a warm and welcoming stay with many rooms offering a fjord view. The hotel also boasts a large restaurant with panoramic windows offering views over the Bøkfjorden.





YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Oslo Fly to Oslo and overnight at the Comfort Hotel Runway, Gardermoen Airport.

DAY 2 SnowHotel Kirkenes & Husky Safari. An early morning flight ensures you arrive in Kirkenes with a full day ahead. Upon arrival you will be transferred to the SnowHotel. You will be given your protective thermal clothing, which is for the duration of your stay.

It is then time to meet the huskies for your afternoon husky safari. As you approach, the enthusiastic barking signals the dog's eagerness to get out onto the trail, but first you will be taught the basics of handling your team. Heading out into the surrounding wilderness you will be driving 2 to a sled, taking it in turns to mush. This 4-5 hour experience includes a wilderness lunch in a traditional Lavvu.

Returning to the SnowHotel you will be given a guided tour of your surroundings and a welcome drink. A delicious 3-course dinner comprising of the best local ingredients is served in the newly converted barn, complete with wonderful views of the surrounding landscape. Take time to pop outside and perhaps catch the Northern Lights before retiring to your ice suite and a night sleeping in a giant igloo at the very top of the world.

DAY 3 King Crab Safari Enjoy breakfast and a warm-up sauna before your transfer to the Thon Hotel Kirkenes for the next 2 nights. The remainder of the morning is at leisure. In the afternoon prepare for sightings of the sub aquatic albatross of the Barents Sea, a King Crab resplendent with a 2-metre claw span.

You will be picked up by bus at the hotel. From Namndalen you will travel by snowmobile sledge to the edge of the ice. Your driver guide helps you cut a hole in the frozen ocean and draw up the crab pods. You will transport your catch back to the quayside to cook and enjoy in a local fisherman's hut.

Return to the Thon Hotel late in the afternoon, with the remainder of your time at leisure.

DAY 4 Snowmobile Safari Enjoy a hearty breakfast before embarking on a 4-5 hour guided snowmobile tour. Driving in pairs, you each will have plenty of opportunities to steer and take photos along the way. A small picnic meal will be served en-route. On returning to the hotel there is time for some well-deserved R&R.

DAY 5 UK Enjoy a leisurely breakfast and morning before your transfer to the airport in time for your flight home.

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

HUSKY TRANSFER FROM THE AIRPORT Start your adventure at the airport and have your own team of huskies waiting to take you directly to the SnowHotel Kirkenes. Pre-booking required. Each sled carries up to 2 people. Luggage travels separately.

Duration: 45 mins. **Price from:** £305 pp

HUNTING THE NORTHERN LIGHTS BY HUSKY A 5-hour journey across frozen tundra taking you far away from light pollution in your hunt for the magical Aurora Borealis. There are plenty of stops for polar sky photo opportunities along the way, as well as a wilderness picnic dinner.

Pick up: 17.00 **Duration:** 5 hrs. **Price from:** £199 pp

NORTHERN LIGHTS BY SNOWMOBILE Full instruction is given on handling your snowmobile before you head off into the surrounding hills, where the darkness increases the chances of catching the Aurora. 2 people per snowmobile taking it in turns to drive.

Pick up: 21.00 **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £180 pp

NORTHERN LIGHTS BY AURORA EXPRESS BUS A knowledgeable guide will check the latest Aurora forecast and decide where to head for the best possible chance of spotting the lights.

Pick up: 21.00 **Duration:** 2½ hrs. **Price from:** £75 pp

SNOW SHOEING WITH GUIDE Adorn a pair of snow shoes and head out with your guide into the surrounding nature and some wonderful photo opportunities. Warm clothes and equipment included.

Pick up: 13.00 **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £99 pp

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Kirkenes (via Oslo)
- 1 night accommodation at the Comfort Hotel Runway Gardermoen Airport, Oslo
- 1 night accommodation in an ice suite at the SnowHotel Kirkenes
- 2 nights accommodation at the Thon Hotel Kirkenes
- Lodging at hotels in twin bedded room(s) with private WC/shower
- Breakfast throughout
- 1 x 3-course dinner at the SnowHotel Kirkenes
- 1 x Husky Safari including snack
- 1 x King Crab Safari including snack
- 1 x Snowmobile Safari including snack
- Return local and airport/hotel transfers in Kirkenes



Northern Lights at the Top of the World

Price from **£1815**^{pp}
January – March

Sail around the top of the Norwegian peninsula for a special adventure. As your journey is entirely inside the Arctic Circle you maximise your chances of seeing the Northern Lights. Navigate the fjords of the Norwegian coast, journey to Nordkapp, the most northerly point of mainland Europe, snowmobile across Arctic tundra and sleep on ice in the world's most northerly snow hotel. Mush huskies, or fish for King Crabs, cook reindeer over an open fire in a Sami Lavvu and much more besides.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Tromsø Fly to Tromsø, the self-styled Capital of the Northern Lights. Transfer by 'Flybuss' and overnight at the Clarion Collection Hotel With. Light buffet supper served until 9pm. Depending on your arrival time we have a number of additional excursions that can be taken this evening or tomorrow morning. Please refer to page 9 for your options.

DAY 2 Tromsø & Hurtigruten Day at leisure in this vibrant town. The Arctic and Polaria museums showcase the exploits of Polar Explorers Nansen & Amundsen and the Fjellheisen cable car to Mount Storsteinen offers a superb panoramic view of the surrounding landscape.

Board your Hurtigruten ship for the late afternoon departure. Sail north along the fjord-indented coast towards Honningsvåg whilst enjoying a dinner sourced from Norway's natural coastal kitchen. Overnight on board.

DAY 3 Honningsvåg, North Cape and Mehamn On your arrival at Honningsvåg you disembark, travelling by bus, crossing the 71st parallel to the vertical cliffs of the North Cape. Labelled Europe's northernmost point (even though it isn't), the sheer rock face rises over 300m from the depths of the Arctic Ocean. There is time for photographic opportunities and a visit to the North Cape Hall, where you can enjoy a bite to eat.

Return to Honningsvåg to re-join the ship in order to sail across Kjøllefjord where you disembark for a snowmobile safari across the Nordkyn peninsula. Remember to take a small overnight bag as you will be staying overnight in the tiny fishing village of Mehamn. Supper, sauna and overnight in a fjord-side Rorbu in the world's most northerly fishing village.

DAY 4 Kirkenes You will have time to savour this uniquely remote and rugged spot overlooking the Barents Sea before re-joining the Hurtigruten boat and cruising onwards to Kirkenes on the Norwegian/Russian border. Overnight on board.

DAY 5 SnowHotel Kirkenes Disembark and transfer to the SnowHotel Kirkenes. After donning your protective thermal suits, you will be taken by snowmobile sledge to the edge of the frozen sea. Your driver-guide will help you draw up the pods containing the King Crabs complete with their impressive 2-metre wide claw span. You will return to the quayside to cook and enjoy this delicacy. A welcome drink waits back at the SnowHotel before a 3-course supper. Let us hope that you catch the Northern Lights before retiring to your snow suite.

DAY 6 UK Warm up with a sauna before breakfast and transfer to the airport in time for your flight back to the UK.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Tromsø returning from Kirkenes
- 1 night accommodation at the Clarion Collection Hotel With
- 2 nights unspecified inside cabin on board Hurtigruten with private WC/shower
- 1 night accommodation in a snow suite at SnowHotel Kirkenes
- 1 night accommodation in a Mehamn Rorbu with private WC/shower
- Breakfast throughout, 1 x lunch and 5 x dinner.
- Excursions as described in itinerary
- Return airport/hotel shuttle and local transfers



Lofoten & the Aurora

Price from **£1350**pp
Sat & Tue, November – February

Lofoten has justifiably been described as one of the most scenic archipelagos in the world and in winter it can certainly be one of the most dramatic. A long and rich cultural heritage dates back to the Vikings who settled in the region and it has long provided an inspiration to artists who relish the opportunity to capture the unique landscape and light. It was also here that Joanna Lumley finally fulfilled her lifelong dream and witnessed the dancing hues of the Aurora Borealis.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 UK – Tromsø Fly to Tromsø in the heart of the Aurora zone. Transfer with the 'Flybuss' to the Clarion Collection Hotel With for 1 night.

DAY 2 Huskies and Hurtigruten Take time to explore the Arctic capital. The Polar Museum, Polaria and Arctic Cathedral lead the cultural charge. Try a Macks Brewery tour, lunch in one of the myriad of fish restaurants or indulge in an afternoon tea of hot waffles and brown cheese.

Later venture into the snow-covered wilderness for a husky safari and a chance to see the Northern Lights. A light snack is served in a traditional Lawvu. Returning to Tromsø, there is just enough time for a late night drink before catching the southbound Hurtigruten at 23.45. Overnight on board.

DAY 3 Lofoten The ship traverses the coast, passing sheltered bays and glorious mountain landscapes. There is a short stop at Stokmarknes, before continuing through the Raftsund, a picturesque and narrow channel between the Vesterålen and Lofoten islands. Disembark in Svolvaer where it is just a short transfer to Svinoya Rorbuer. Overnight in a converted fisherman's cabin on the shores edge. Dine in the atmospheric 'Børsen Spiseri' a quayside warehouse dating back to 1828.

DAY 4-5 Lofoten Day time is free for you to choose from the optional additional excursions on offer. Each evening we have included a guided Northern Lights search where you will be taken to the best locations in order to spot this amazing natural phenomenon.

DAY 6 UK A final leisurely breakfast before departing for your return flight to the UK (via Bodø & Oslo)

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

LOFOTEN PANORAMA Explore the dramatic coastline and historical villages that make up this archipelago. A traditional fisherman's lunch is included.

Available: Tue, Fri **Departs:** 10.00 **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Price from:** £99 pp

SEA EAGLE RIB SAFARI Join a winter RIB safari adventure along Trollfjord to the local nature hot spots and a close encounter with the white tailed sea eagle.

Available: Wed, Thu, Fri & Sat **Departs:** 11.30 **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £85 pp

LOFOTEN NATURE SAFARI Learn more about the marine life in Lofoten starting with a lecture and presentation on the local flora and fauna before boarding the safari boat in search of the real thing. Lunch on board. **Available:** Selected departure dates **Departs:** 09.00 **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Price from:** £120 pp

SNOWSHOE HIKE Don snow shoes and hike into the surrounding nature with a local guide. Transfer to and from a suitable location included.

Available: Daily **Departs:** 10.00 **Duration:** 3 hrs **Price from:** £85 pp

WINTER SEA KAYAKING Kayak along the fjords and coastline of this incredible landscape with a fully qualified guide. Equipment & transfers included. Lunch extra. **Available:** Daily **Departs:** 10.00 **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Price from:** £115 pp

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights London - Tromsø & then Svolvaer - London (via Bodø & Oslo)
- Return airport/hotel and port transfers Tromsø & Svolvaer
- 1 night accommodation at the Clarion Collection Hotel With
- 1 night on board Hurtigruten in inside cabin
- 3 nights at Svinoya Rorbuer
- Lodging in twin room/cabin/rorbuer with private WC/shower
- Breakfast throughout
- 1 x dinner at Svinoya Rorbuer Børsen Spiseri
- 1 x Northern Lights Husky Safari in Tromsø
- 2 x Northern Lights Hunt in Lofoten



Whales, Wildlife & Aurora Adventures

The Vesterålen archipelago is off the beaten track, tucked as it is between the Northern Light heavy weights of Tromsø and Lofoten. However, this undiscovered gem is an Arctic wildlife and Aurora magnet. In winter, 5 billion spawning herring attract killer and humpback whales along its coast and little light pollution has established the area's Aurora credentials. This small-group escorted tour will introduce you to the treasure trove of photographic and authentic experiences available in this region.

YOUR DESTINATION

Situated comfortably within the aurora zone, and thanks to the warm currents of the Gulf Stream, Vesterålen's coastal position enjoys a milder climate compared to other areas within the region. February is one of the best winter months to visit as the sun has returned, throwing dramatic hues across this varied terrain.

The landscape ranges from rugged mountain and craggy peaks, fjords and valleys, uninhabited white beaches and sea dotted skerries. Lack of light pollution has also meant that this has become the centre for Norway's most important land-based Northern Lights research centre.

YOUR GUIDE

Robert Finn Novak is an experienced guide and photographer, who has lived in Sortland since 2009. He has focused on his passion, Aurora and Landscape photography, in Vesterålen for the past two years and knows all of the best spots to find and photograph the Aurora and the beautiful landscape of Vesterålen.

When he's not taking photographs you will find him hiking, skiing and mountain biking. He has Special Army Forces background, trained to survive in every crisis. He loves to share his passion for nature and photography with guests.



YOUR LODGINGS

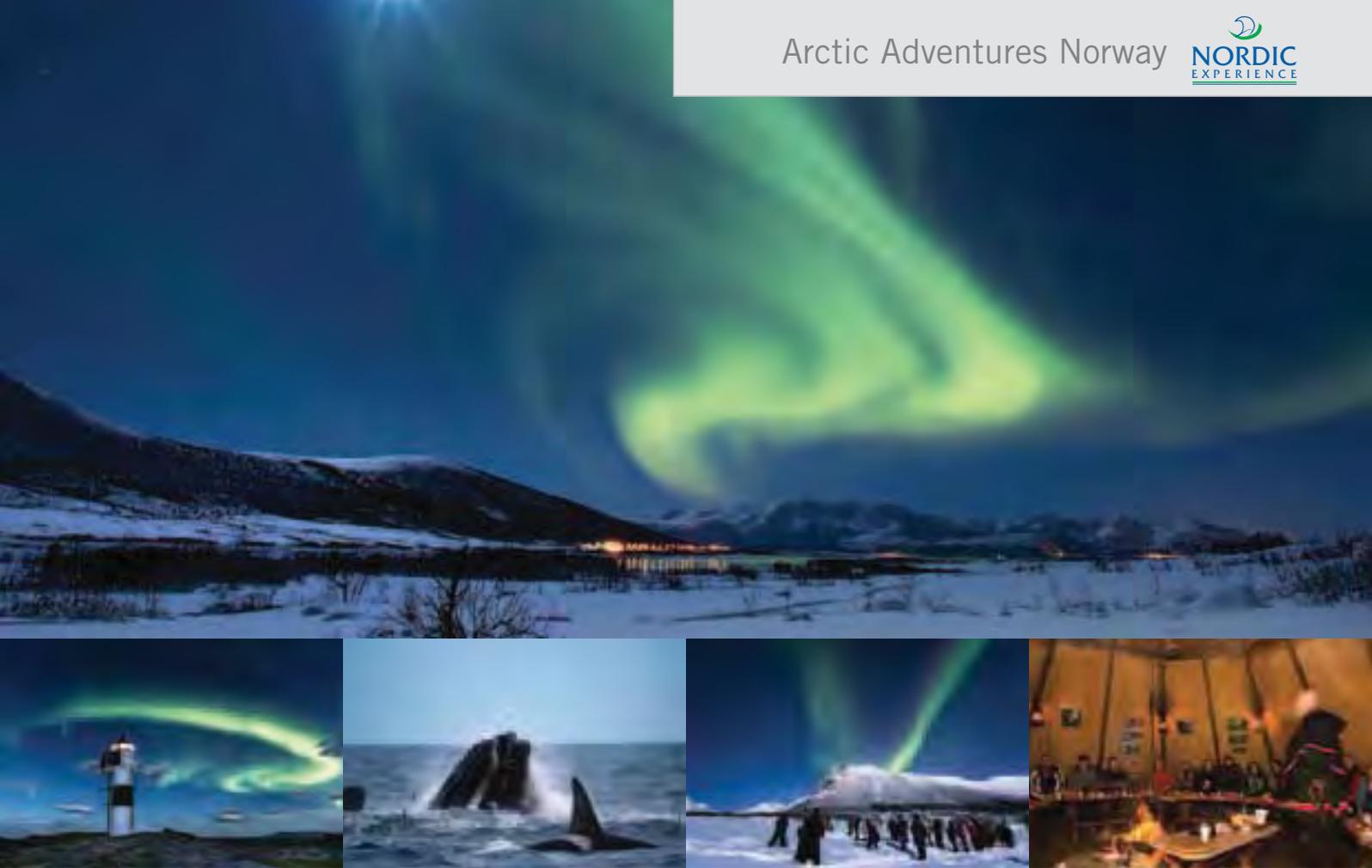
The Sortland Hotell has provided a welcome retreat and hospitality to guests for over 100 years. Surrounded by the Langøya fjords and mountains, the hotel is in the heart of Sortland, gateway to Vesterålen. Noted visitors to the hotel include the Nobel prize-winning author Knut Hamsun, who penned his book here in 1911.

Rooms have been recently refurbished and offer a warm refuge from the outside elements. A typical Scandinavian décor is complemented by flat-screen TV's, free Wi-Fi and a piece of original art from renowned local artist Tove Hov Jacobsen.

The hotel's restaurant is dedicated to celebrated local author Lars Saabye Christensen. It offers a menu based on locally sourced product and seasonal produce, served in a dining room that plays homage to the Norwegian author's literary life.

A feather in the owner Harald's cap is the complimentary tea, coffee and cake available throughout the day.





Price from **£1845**pp
11, 18, 28 Feb & 03 Mar 2016

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Sortland & Northern Lights Search Fly to Evenes (via Oslo). On arrival, your local guide takes you on a scenic 2-hour transfer to the Sortland Hotell. Check-in to your newly refurbished room before dinner and a welcome drink. Replenished, you and your fellow travellers will embark on the first foray into the surrounds in a quest for the Northern Lights.

DAY 2 Whale Safari & Northern Lights Search Enjoy a typical Scandinavian buffet breakfast before departing for Andenes, the whale capital of the north. After an introduction and briefing, you quickly head out on a RIB boat safari to the herring spawning grounds and where the gorging whales gather. We can't guarantee exactly what you will see but pilot, minke, humpback, killer and sperm whales are all regular visitors at this time. The expert crew will maximise your chances of an encounter, whilst ensuring the welfare of the whales at all times.

Lunch is back on land, followed by a return journey to Sortland that follows the picturesque National Tourist Route along the west coast of Andøya. There are plenty of photo stops en-route, including a panoramic view at Kleivodden and Bukkekjerka, a Sami place of sacrifice.

Dinner is served at the Sortland Hotell restaurant, before you head out on this evening's Northern Lights quest.

DAY 3 Dog Sledding & Northern Lights Search Huskies have long been the favoured form of transport in the Arctic. Bjørn Utstøl and his wife Hilde are considered experts in this field, having raised huskies from an early age and participated in Finnmarksløpet, the world's northernmost sled dog race.

After instruction, you will head off with your guide into the wilderness, driving in pairs and taking it in turns to mush.

Lunch back at the hotel before an afternoon's photo tour with Robert Novak, whose local knowledge and expertise will ensure that you will capture some of the essence of this region. After dinner at the Sortland Hotell venture once again into the surroundings. We hope that your efforts are suitably rewarded with a dazzling display of the Aurora.

DAY 4 Hike & Northern Lights Search Enjoy a leisurely Sunday breakfast, then do what all good Norwegians do, and head out on a guided hike. This is not designed to be a challenging endeavour, but an opportunity to gain another perspective of the surroundings. Lunch will be taken wilderness style, around an open camp fire. Dinner is served at Sortland Hotell before your final Northern Lights chase.

DAY 5 Reindeer & return to the UK This morning pay a visit to the Inga Sami Siida reindeer farm, where Laila and Arild continue the 150 year old family tradition of raising reindeer. The Inga's delight in presenting an authentic insight into the indigenous people of the region and will share the myths and magic that surrounds the Sami culture. You will be treated to a Joik (the traditional song of the Sami) before returning to the hotel to check-out and transfer to the airport in time for your return flight home.



WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Evenes (via Oslo)
- 4 nights accommodation at the Sortland Hotell
- Lodging in twin/double room(s) with private WC/shower on a full board basis
- All excursions as described in the itinerary
- Northern Lights Search each night
- Services of Robert Finn Novak and local guides





Knitting and the Northern Lights

Price from **£865**pp

04 February & 17 March 2016

Combine knitting and the Northern Lights in Northern Norway. Knit, natter and master new techniques in the picturesque setting of Vesterålen Sjøhus, home of Marit Asbjørnsen, an accomplished and prolific knitter. As well as fashioning a set of specially commissioned Northern Light gloves, keep an eye out for the Aurora from the hotel's hot tubs and visit a local Sami reindeer farm. Join this social small group event on the selected dates above. Alternatively we can craft a bespoke visit for your knitting club.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Oslo Fly to Oslo and overnight at the Comfort Hotel Runway at Gardermoen airport, where there is a direct metro link to the city centre, should you wish to spend some time in the capital.

DAY 2 Sortland Fly to Evenes. Transfer by public bus to the Vesterålen Sjøhus in Sortland. Marit will be there to welcome you to your home for the next 3 nights.

A welcome lunch of soup is served, after which the group will head to Husfliden, a Norwegian knitting and handy-craft emporium. Materials are included in the package but there is always the chance that you will find something special. Returning to the hotel, dinner is served followed by a sociable evening in the hot tub and barrel sauna, whilst waiting for the Northern Lights to appear above you.

DAY 2 Knitting Workshop Most of the day is given over to the knitting workshop. Marit will be assisted by members of the Sortland Husflidlag, all of whom are on hand to offer assistance and share techniques. Lunch and dinner are both served at the hotel. The day is interspersed with sitting on the quay around an open fire (weather permitting), hot tubs and sauna, and with luck a magical show of the Aurora Borealis.

DAY 3 Reindeer Farm, City Tour & Northern Lights The knitting workshop resumes. This is followed by a visit to the Inga Sami Siida reindeer farm. Here Laila and Arild continue the 150 year old family tradition of raising reindeer. The Inga's delight in presenting an authentic insight into the indigenous people of the region and will share the myths and magic that surrounds the Sami culture. You will be treated to a Joik (the traditional song of the Sami).

The day continues with a tour of 'The Blue City', the affectionate name given by the locals to Sortland.

Finally return to Vesterålen Sjøhus for dinner and a final night under the Arctic sky and stars.

DAY 4 UK Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before bidding farewell to your fellow guests and departing for Evenes airport in time for your return flight home.

PLEASE NOTE

Knitting guests are asked to bring along 5 x Number 5 knitting needles, some small scissors and a needle to fasten the threads.

The transfer from Evenes airport to Sortland is by public bus and is payable locally (approx. NOK300/£30 pp). The bus meets every flight and the transfer to Sortland takes around 2 hours. Marit will meet you at Sortland bus station.

Should you wish to create a tailor-made small group tour for your knitting club to Vesterålen Sjøhus, then please do call to discuss further.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Evenes (via Oslo)
- 3 nights accommodation at the Vesterålen Sjøhus on a full board basis
- Lodging in twin/double Rorbu room(s) with private WC/shower
- Knitting materials for Northern Light gloves
- Excursions and workshops as described



Spitsbergen Winter Adventures

Price from **£855**^{pp}
November – May

Spitsbergen offers you an authentic Arctic experience in the realm of the Polar Bear. Participate in exciting excursions in spectacular surroundings. Harness your own dogs and mush into the wilderness, track the northern lights by snowcat, snowmobile or husky, delve in ice caves under the frozen glacier. The fact that the streets have no names and it is customary to check your gun in at the door (along with your shoes) just adds to the frontier feel of the world's northernmost city.

YOUR LODGINGS



TRAPPERS LODGE

Built with reclaimed driftwood in a traditional, rustic trapper's style and furnished with arctic bric-a-brac, the Trappers Lodge is a warm and welcoming retreat. All rooms have private WC/shower and are adorned with driftwood, sealskins and slate. In keeping with the

trapper's style there are no TV's in the rooms. There is a well-stocked library of books to borrow and the Cognac lounge offers the opportunity to view the Northern Lights through the panoramic windows. Complimentary tea/coffee and small snacks are available in the lobby all day. Breakfast is served in the adjoining restaurant.

16 rooms • rustic and cosy • Snug Cognac Lounge for Northern Lights viewing



RADISSON BLU POLAR HOTEL

This hotel was originally built for the Lillehammer Olympics and then transported to Svalbard, where it has become the world's northernmost full service hotel. The hotel offers a wide variety of rooms including standard and superior rooms, as well as a choice of junior suites and suites. Restaurant Nansen

features a la carte Arctic specialities and has panoramic windows looking out to Isfjord and Hiorthfjellet. Barentz Pub & Spiseri is a relaxed and informal meeting place for locals and visitors and offers a light menu. If that is not enough then there is also a sauna for warming up after a day of activities.

95 rooms • Arctic dining with panoramic windows • Informal atmosphere

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Oslo Fly to Oslo and overnight at the Comfort Hotel Runway, just 7 minutes from the airport. Central Oslo is just 20 minutes by airport train, should you wish to explore the capital.

DAY 2 Svalbard Within 3 hours, the early morning flight from Oslo to Longyearbyen transports you to the world's northernmost airport. Self-transfer to your hotel for 4 nights. The remainder of your day is at leisure. We do recommend a visit to the Svalbard Museum in order to learn more about the fascinating history of this Arctic outpost.

DAY 3-5 Longyearbyen These 3 days are free for you to choose your Spitsbergen Adventure, see page 25. Contrary to popular belief, it is not always dark.

The mystical Polar Nights (when the sun does not rise above the horizon) last until mid-Feb. Residents consider this a special time, when the only light is from streetlamps, the reflections of the moon on the glistening snow or from the Northern Lights, which can show at any time of the day. By mid-March the archipelago is enjoying 12 hours of daylight, by mid-April the sun does not set.

DAY 6 UK Self-transfer to Longyearbyen airport for your return flight to the UK.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from Heathrow to Longyearbyen via Oslo
- 4 nights accommodation at your choice of accommodation in Longyearbyen
- 1 nights accommodation at Comfort Hotel Runway Gardermoen Airport, Oslo
- Lodging in twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- Breakfasts throughout

SIGHTSEEING IN LONGYEARBYEN

This tour will give you an insight to the history of Longyearbyen and its important international position. You will first be taken to the Longyear Valley and explore the town, before heading out to Adventdalen and Mine 7. This is followed by the airport district and Hotellneset.

Available: All year **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £39 pp

NORTHERN LIGHTS EVENING

The Northern Lights can be seen 24 hours a day during the Polar Night. Escape any light pollution and head to Camp Barentz, where you will enjoy an Aurora Borealis presentation, as well as a delicious dinner and drinks.

Available: 15 Oct-15 Feb **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £115 pp

HUNTING THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

This tour takes you deep into the Advent Valley, near to the Mine 7 Mountain. Here you can see the EISCAT antennae, used to study the Earth's atmosphere. Continue to keep a watchful eye out for the Aurora as you head to Camp Barentz for hot drinks and snacks on your way home.

Available: 15 Oct-15 Feb **Duration:** 3-4 hrs. **Price from:** £79 pp

ARCTIC WILDERNESS EVENING

Enjoy an atmospheric evening in the wilderness. You will be driven to Camp Barentz in the Advent Valley, 10km from Longyearbyen. During supper, your hosts entertain you with stories from Spitsbergen and a presentation on polar bears. This is followed by coffee & cake.

Available: 16 Feb-31 May **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £115 pp

NORTHERN LIGHTS SNOWCAT SAFARI

Join an exciting trip into the wilderness hunting for the Aurora Borealis. You will be picked up in an impressive red SnowCat, and then driven out into the darkness and across the snow-clad Advent Valley. Frequent stops are made en-route to the long-closed mining town of Hiorthhamn in order to look for the Northern Lights. The guides share their stories of the area whilst you enjoy a hot drink and startling landscape views.

Available: 21 Nov – 28 Feb **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £79 pp



ICE-CAVING FROZEN ADVENTURE

This trip starts with a 1½ snow shoe hike to the Lars Glacier, where equipped with headlamps, helmets, harnesses and crampons you will descend into a fascinating world below the ice. Walk along glistening crystal passages formed by the melting waters under the glacier. On this breathtaking journey, you will see mesmerising shapes formed of ice and stones. You need to have a good level of physical fitness to participate and may have to crawl in some places.

Available: 1 Nov-1 Feb **Duration:** 5 hrs. **Price from:** £85 pp

From 01 Feb this tour is operated by SnowCat, which takes you to an ice-cave in the Longyearbyen Glacier. This excursion requires an average level of fitness and is not suitable for those suffering from claustrophobia or restricted movement. Helmets, headlamps and ice-spikes supplied.

Available: 1 Feb-17 May **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £89 pp

SNOWMOBILE SAFARI TO CAMP BARENTZ

Following a full briefing, drive, (in pairs) deep into the Advent Valley. Travelling at a relaxed pace, you will stop to swap drivers and to hear about the region that you are driving through. Steeped in history there are old mines, WWII sites and early scientific sites to be found. Keep an eye out for the Svalbard reindeer, which is a common to the area. Stopping at Camp Barentz, you are served warm drinks in the wooden cabin, before heading back towards Longyearbyen.

Available: 11 Feb-17 May **Duration:** 3 hrs.

Price from: £179 pp. **Passenger only from:** £100 pp

NORTHERN LIGHTS SNOWMOBILE SAFARI

During the Polar Nights the sun never shines on Spitsbergen. In addition there are days where the moon is a constant presence or disappears completely. Experience the unique 'blue light' and atmosphere on a Snowmobile safari across the frozen landscape. With only the glistening snow to light your way you have every chance of seeing the Northern Lights, whatever time of day.

Available: 27 Nov-14 Feb **Duration:** 3 hrs.

Price from: £215 pp. **Passenger only from:** £100 pp

TEMPLEFJORD SNOWMOBILE SAFARI

After instruction and accompanied by a guide, head off on a snowmobile adventure towards Tempelfjorden. Driving in pairs, and taking one of two routes, you will drive up towards the ragged glacier face of the Tuna and Von Post glacier, which is trapped in the ice-covered sea. A 'survival' lunch is served before heading home via an alternative route (weather permitting).

Available: 13 Feb-17 May **Duration:** 7 hrs. **Price from:** £315 pp.

Passenger only from: £169 pp

DOG SLEDDING IN BOLTERDALEN

Dog sledding has long been a part of life on Svalbard, and this is your chance to experience a slice of day-to-day living with these remarkable animals. After receiving an introduction to mushing, help to harness the huskies. Then, driving in pairs and swapping half-way, follow river beds and reindeer tracks, as you head out into the varied Arctic wilderness. On your return to the camp, meet the latest additions to the pack.

Available: 11 Feb-25 May: **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Price from:** £145 pp

NORTHERN LIGHTS DOG SLEDDING SAFARI

Help to harness the dogs and lead a thrilling husky sled excursion into the wilderness. Travelling under the starry skies, dancing aurora or shimmering moonlight, take turns to mush and enjoy the scenery from the sled. Despite the darkness it is astonishing how much you can see during this time.

Available: Nov-10 Feb **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Price from:** £145 pp

SNOW SHOE SILENCE

The art of snow shoeing is quick to master and before long you are heading into territory not normally accessible by other means. Regardless of the destination chosen (dependent on weather, snow and wind conditions of the day), you are assured of an enthralling encounter in this Arctic desert.

Available: 1 Oct-31 Jan **Duration:** 5 hrs. **Price from:** £79 pp

CHAMPAGNE TASTING

This champagne tasting evening is housed in the 'Nordpolet' cellar store, where the miners and administration staff came to collect their quota of alcohol. Knowledgeable waiters will share the history and guide you through the tasting of three champagnes accompanied by specially prepared canapés. Minimum of 4 people.

Available: All year **Duration:** 1 hr. **Price from:** £55 pp

DURATION INCLUDES ANY APPLICABLE TRANSFER TIME



Spitsbergen Frozen Adventure

Price from **£2045**pp
Sat, Mon & Fri, 01 March – 15 May

Follow in the footprints of the polar explorers, Nansen and Amundsen, in one of the world's most remote regions. Travel by snowmobile or husky across the vast snow plains of the Svalbard archipelago. You may even catch a glimpse of the majestic Polar Bear along the way. Stay overnight on the Noorderlicht, a schooner frozen in the ice – a truly unique experience. Remaining days are based at the rustic and cosy Trappers Lodge in Longyearbyen, where your frozen adventure can continue.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Oslo Fly to Oslo. Overnight Comfort Hotel Runway Gardermoen, Oslo Airport.

DAY 2 Spitsbergen After breakfast take the morning flight to Longyearbyen. Self-transfer to the atmospheric Trappers Lodge. The remainder of the day is at your leisure. Choose to relax and acclimatise to your surroundings or pick one of the exciting winter excursions (as featured on page 21). We do recommend a guided city walk in order to hear more about the fascinating history of this Arctic outpost.

DAY 3 Ship in the Ice Enjoy a leisurely breakfast and day. At 17.00 you will meet in reception, be given full instructions and warm protective thermal clothing, before heading to the snowmobiles. You will drive through vast valleys and past white mountains to the frozen Tempelfjord about 60 km from Longyearbyen.

Here, at the foot of the majestic Tempel Mountain, lies the world's only ice bound hotel ship. You will be welcomed with hot drinks and a 3-course dinner, but not before having embraced the stunning Arctic landscape. The silence envelops you and any darkness is lifted by the reflection of the shimmering white snow. The ship itself has a mess room, bar and two saloons so allowing plenty of opportunity to chat with your like-minded fellow intrepid explorers before retiring to your comfortable private cabin (shared facilities).

DAY 4 Longyearbyen After a substantial breakfast, it is time to head back by snowmobile into the beautiful landscape of Svalbard. You will visit the striking, blue Von Post glacier front, where you may see or hear it calving. Fortified by an expedition lunch, you will continue your journey back to Longyearbyen and a further 2 nights at the Trappers Lodge.

DAY 5 Longyearbyen At leisure and free for optional additional excursions (see page 25).

DAY 6 UK Self-transfer to the airport in time for your flight back to the UK (via Oslo).

The journey to the Ship in the Ice is also possible by husky. Please call for details. The itinerary is subject to change dependent on local conditions.



WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Longyearbyen (via Oslo)
- 1 night at Comfort Runway Hotel Gardermoen, Oslo Airport
- 3 nights at the Trappers Lodge
- 1 night 'Frozen Adventure' programme snowmobile to Ship in the Ice in cabin/shared facilities
- Breakfast throughout
- 1 x expedition lunch & 1 x 3-course dinner at Ship in the Ice



Spitsbergen Cabins & Canines

Price from **£1945**pp
January – May

This break will give you a unique Arctic experience. Fly to Svalbard, the northernmost airport in the world serviced by a scheduled airline, collect your husky dogs and head off with your guide for a 3-day mushing expedition into the polar wilderness. Your days are filled immersed in this wild landscape, previously the domain of long gone hunters and trappers. Nights are spent in a comfortable, modern cabin as far away from civilisation as you can imagine. No previous experience of husky mushing is necessary but a reasonable level of fitness and a love of dogs is essential.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Spitsbergen Fly to Oslo. Overnight Comfort Hotel Runway Gardermoen, Oslo Airport.

DAY 2 Longyearbyen After breakfast take the morning flight to Longyearbyen. Self-transfer to the Radisson Blu Hotel Polar for one night. The hotel is situated in the centre of this Arctic outpost and within easy walking distance of the Svalbard Museum. Choose to relax and acclimatise to your surroundings or pick one of the exciting winter excursions (as featured on page 25).

DAY 3 Cabin & Canines After an early breakfast you will be driven to the husky home located 10km into the Advent Valley. Here you will be given your protective clothing for the trip and an introduction to dogsledding. Help harness the dogs and prepare the sleds (2 people per sled). The dogs will be eager to depart and when you do, the only sound will be the panting of the huskies and the scrapping of the sled skis against the snow.

Heading inland, the wide, beautiful Adventdalen grows narrower and the mountains come closer as you follow the riverbed into the valley. A visit is paid to the ice cave in the Scott Turner Glacier, before arriving at the simple, cosy cabin in Foxdalen. By now you will know your dogs by name, have an insight to their personalities and appreciate their quiet strength and endurance.

Settle the dogs for the evening and help prepare the fire and dinner, before an evening in the company of your fellow human explorers and hopefully the Northern Lights.

DAY 4 Cabin & Canines The next day you will head with your team of huskies towards Brentskarret, and Spitsbergen Expedition Lodge, your accommodation for the night. This cosy cabin has 4 bedrooms (sleeping 10 on comfortable bunks), a simple bathroom and gas cooking facilities in the kitchen. It even has a sauna, complete with window to view the Aurora from. After unharnessing and feeding the dogs it will be time to relax and unwind beside the roaring fireplace. It will be impossible not to be seduced by the magical light and landscape. A sound night's sleep is assured.

DAY 5 Longyearbyen After breakfast you will head back towards Longyearbyen, taking a different return route. A light lunch will be served before returning your canine friends to their home. You will head back to the Radisson Blu Hotel Polar to reflect on the amazing experience you have just had.

DAY 6 UK Breakfast and self-transfer back to the airport in time for your return flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Longyearbyen (via Oslo)
- 1 night at the Comfort Hotel Runway, Gardermoen Airport, Oslo
- 2 nights at the Radisson Blu Hotel Polar, Longyearbyen including breakfast.
- 2 nights at the in wilderness cabins, including breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Breakfast throughout
- 2 night husky expedition programme as described
- Outdoor clothing such as mittens, facemask/balaclava, thick hat, goggles, winter shoes and thermal suit. Shared equipment and experienced guide who is equipped with all necessary safety equipment, as well as search and rescue insurance.



Classic ICEHOTEL Break

Price from **£825**^{pp}
December – April

Experience the extraordinary, unique and glittering ICEHOTEL in the heart of Swedish Lapland. Each year the surrounding snow and ice morphs into a fully serviced snow hotel. World famous sculptors transform huge blocks of ice into dramatic art, which then adorns the hotel and its rooms. Enjoy traditional Sami cuisine, a celebratory drink at the ICEBAR at ICEHOTEL, as well as a plethora of activities. Snowmobile, reindeer and huskies are on hand for Arctic safaris. The romantics can dine under the stars and the adventurous can overnight in a wilderness cabin. This is a bucket list adventure waiting to be ticked.

YOUR LODGINGS

A stay at the ICEHOTEL normally involves 1 night in cold accommodation after which you move to the warmer option. The beds in your cold accommodation are made out of ice blocks covered with a thick mattress and reindeer skins. Rooms are a constant -7°C no matter how cold it is outside. Dress warmly in thermal underwear, and a hat is recommended before you slide into your special arctic sleeping bag. Choose from the different levels of accommodation to create your bespoke ICE break.

COLD ACCOMMODATION AT THE ICEHOTEL

- **Snow Room** A simple but spacious snow room
- **ICE Room** Larger room with additional furniture crafted from ice
- **Northern Lights Room** Comes complete with ice and light installations
- **Art Suite** Individually themed, designed and carved by hand, the art suites are created by hand-picked artists from around the world
- **Deluxe Suite** An extraordinary vision of snow and ice furnished with a large bed and seating area. It also boasts an en-suite sauna and private WC.

WARM ACCOMMODATION AT THE ICEHOTEL

- **Kamos Hotel Room** Airy and bright double room decorated in simple Scandinavian design
- **Arctic Chalet** A charming wooden chalet with two separate bedrooms (1 single & 1 double), small dining area and living room
- **Nordic Chalet** A larger chalet with two separate bedrooms (1 double & 1 with bunk beds), small dining area and living room

All warm rooms have private WC/shower, TV, microwave, kettle and Wi-Fi.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Jukkasjärvi An early morning flight to Kiruna (via Stockholm) will enable you to make the most of your break. Alternatively we can arrange a stopover in Stockholm, see page 7 for our suggestions. Transfer to the ICEHOTEL, where you will receive your 'survival induction'. Be enthralled by your sparkling surroundings or partake in one of the many excursions on offer. Overnight in your preferred cold accommodation.

DAY 2-3 ICEHOTEL Wake up to a hot cloudberry juice, banish any chilly thoughts with a warming sauna, then breakfast in the ICEHOTEL restaurant. The following 2 days are free for you to participate in your handpicked excursions. See page 29 for a selection of our favourites.

New for this year include a wilderness dinner, where you dine under the stars in anticipation of glimpsing the aurora. You could also further extend your stay with an overnight adventure in a wilderness cabin or add cross-country skiing to your list of skills.

Days 2 and 3 are spent in your preferred warm accommodation.

DAY 4 UK There is still time after breakfast for a brief walk around the village. The Jukkarjarvi Church, with its hand painted wooden alter piece, is worth a visit. Transfer to Kiruna airport for your return flight to the UK (via Stockholm).

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights to Kiruna (via Stockholm)
- Return airport/hotel shuttle transfers
- 1 night in a snow room & 2 nights in warm accommodation (Arctic Chalet)
- Breakfasts throughout
- Protective outer thermal clothing for the duration of your stay

SNOWMOBILE TOUR WITH SWEDISH FIKA

A snowmobile tour that will take you into the wilderness, over frozen lakes and through beautiful arctic Taiga forests. There is a stop at a wilderness camp to enjoy coffee & the traditional Swedish 'Fika' cake over an open fire.

Available: Daily 12.30 **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £115 pp

NORTHERN LIGHTS BY SNOWMOBILE

In cooperation with the Swedish Institute of Space Physics, specially trained guides will take you on a snowmobile excursion that takes you in search of the Northern Lights. You will learn the truths and myths about this celestial phenomenon. A 3-course dinner made with local ingredients is served in a wilderness camp. **Available:** Daily 19.00 **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Price from:** £189 pp

SNOWMOBILE ARCTIC WILDLIFE SAFARI

Learn about the wild animals native to this region as you snowmobile through the wilderness with a local guide. Spot how to track moose and reindeer in this magnificent mountain scenery and learn how they affect the climate. Transfers and wilderness lunch included.

Available: Daily **Duration:** 6 hrs. **Price from:** £265 pp

OVERNIGHT ADVENTURE – SNOWMOBILE TOUR & LOG CABIN

Your ultimate overnight destination is a log cabin situated on the edge of a frozen lake. After having driven your snowmobiles through the wintery landscape your guide lights the fireplace, candles and wood-fired sauna. Whilst settling into your surroundings he will cook a 3-course dinner to enjoy in the cabin. The icing on the cake will be an appearance of the Aurora Borealis. **Available:** Fri 16.00 **Duration:** 1 night (returning 10.00 the following day) **Price from:** £450 pp

DOG SLEDDING IN WINTER WONDERLAND

Take a seat in the sled and experience the sudden silence of the howling dogs as your journey into the surrounding forest begins. Coffee and cake over a campfire included.

Available: Daily 09.30 & 13.00 **Duration:** 1½ hrs. **Price from:** £165 pp

LUNCH WITH THE HUSKIES

Acquire an insight into the daily life of a husky musher with this exclusive excursion into the isolated wilderness. You can choose to drive your own team of dogs or join as a passenger and assist unharnessing the dogs at the end of the tour. Transfers, and a traditional lunch at a wilderness camp included. **Available:** Daily 11.15 **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Price from:** £425 as musher £325 as passenger.

OVERNIGHT ADVENTURE – HUSKY TOUR & LOG CABIN

Join an exciting adventure with your own team of sled dogs in search of the Northern Lights. The tour starts at the husky kennel where, following instruction, you will head out with your guide into the Arctic wilderness. The night is spent in a wilderness cabin. The guide prepares the sauna and dinner leaving you free to look for an appearance of the Aurora Borealis. Wake up to breakfast and then return to ICEHOTEL in the late morning. **Available:** Daily 15.30 **Duration:** 1 night (returning 11.00 the following day) **Price from:** £665 pp

MAKE YOUR OWN ICE SCULPTURE

Create your own unique piece of ICE art instructed by professional sculptors, Alessandro Falco and AnnaSofia Mååg.

Available: Daily 08.30 **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £75 pp

MOOSE SAFARI ON HORSEBACK

On this excursion you will head out on Icelandic horses in search of the Swedish moose or as he is affectionally known 'The King of the Forest'. Ride in the foothills and in the shadow of Sweden's highest mountain. Enjoy a wilderness lunch before returning to the ICEHOTEL.

Available: Daily 09.00 **Duration:** 6 hrs. **Price from:** £199 pp



HUSKY AIRPORT TRANSFER

Start your visit to the ICEHOTEL with a very special and unique form of airport transfer - be greeted on arrival by your own team of huskies. You will be kitted out with protective thermal clothing before settling in your sled and enjoying your first taste of the tranquil Sami landscapes. Your luggage travels separately to the hotel. **Available:** Daily on request **Duration:** 75 mins. **Price from:** £665 per transfer (up to 4 people)

NORTHERN LIGHTS ON HORSEBACK

Ride into the Arctic night in search of the Aurora Borealis. Accompanied by friendly Icelandic horses you will enjoy the silence of the wilderness and dinner along with the chance to spot the Northern Lights. **Available:** Daily 15.00 (to 28 Feb) 17.00 (to 31 Mar) **Duration:** 5 hrs. **Price from:** £199 pp

ENCOUNTER THE REINDEER

Join a Sami guide for an encounter with the reindeer and Sami culture. Try a reindeer sled ride around a short track. Hand-feed and learn more about reindeer husbandry and the region's indigenous people. Hot coffee and tasty 'suovas' (the Sami national dish) are served in front of a roaring fire inside a traditional Sami tent. **Available:** Daily **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £215 pp

REINDEER SLEDDING

Experience the Sami's traditional mode of winter transport. Drive your own reindeer and sled through the snow-clad and pristine landscape. Enjoy a Sami lunch in a traditional Sami tent before returning to the ICEHOTEL. **Available:** Daily (07Jan-12Apr only) **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Price from:** £295 pp

WILDERNESS DINNER

Travel in the comfort of a mini-bus to a wilderness camp, located at the edge of a frozen lake, in the heart of the forest. A warming aperitif is served whilst the guide divulges tales and myths of the Northern Lights and the wild animals of the region. A 3-course dinner is served in a wilderness cabin complete with flickering fire. Following dessert and coffee return to the ICEHOTEL. **Available:** Daily 19.00 (to 31Mar) **Duration:** 6 hrs. **Price from:** £240 pp

SKIING IN THE POIKKIJARVI WOODS

Your guide initially transports you by snowmobile sled a short distance across the River Torne into the surrounding forest. On arrival, adorn your cross-country skis and head along the snow tracks. Refuel with a welcome Hot Dog snack and coffee served around an open log fire, before returning to the hotel. You may use the skis for the remainder of the day.

Available: Daily 08.45 **Duration:** 2¾ hrs. **Price from:** £75 pp

DURATION INCLUDES ANY APPLICABLE TRANSFER TIME.



Arctic Spa & Aurora at Camp Ripan

Price from **£1195**pp
Thursday departures December – March

Travel to Swedish Lapland for snow adventures and a fantastic chance to see the Northern Lights. The areas surrounding Camp Ripan have some of the best records for cloud free nights and the resort's north facing cabins afford some of the best views of the Aurora when they show. Whatever your wish list of winter activities, Camp Ripan offers them all. During your days you can mush with huskies and come the evening you will head to Abisko in search of the Northern Lights.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Kiruna On arrival in Swedish Lapland you will be met by your local guide and transferred to Camp Ripan. Once settled, familiarise yourself with the hotel and its surroundings, before enjoying a 3-course dinner served in Restaurant Ripan. After dinner head to the Northern Lights room, where you can relax and unwind watching an informative slideshow – remember to take a peek outside for the real thing before you retire.

DAY 2 Aurora Photo Tour Choose to unwind in the comfort of the cabin or take part in one of the many optional excursions on offer. Join a guided snow shoe tour, learn the art of cross-country skiing or snowmobile through the winter landscape surrounding Camp Ripan. Dinner is served in the restaurant.

Later that evening you will be collected by minibus and taken to one of the best places in Kiruna for Aurora photography. You will be taught the basic skills needed to capture this phenomenon. Beverages, an open fire and a warming Lavvu tent will be on hand should you need thawing out.

DAY 3 Husky Safari on the Trap Line and Aurora Spa After breakfast meet your team of excited Alaskan huskies before heading out into the low mountain landscape. The silence of the surroundings is restored as the dogs focus on the task in hand. A break is taken for coffee and some local specialities served around an open fire. Returning to the hotel, the afternoon is at leisure before a 3-course dinner is served at the hotel.

This evening you will get the opportunity to visit the newly built Aurora Spa. Relax indoors and enjoy the winter landscape through the panoramic windows and experience the warming comfort of the outdoor pool and if you are lucky, catch a display of the Aurora Borealis.

DAY 4 UK Morning at leisure before a short transfer back to Kiruna airport ready for your return flight back to the UK.

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

REINDEER SLED EXCURSION WITH RÁIDU Gain a deeper insight to the Sami culture. Transfer by snowmobile sled to a local reindeer farm, where your guide will further enlighten you. Sled ride, hot drinks and snack included.

Departs: Daily at 13.00 **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Price from:** £198 pp

SNOW SHOE TOUR Snow shoes are easy to master and enable you to explore otherwise inaccessible areas. Guided tour. Coffee and sandwiches included.

Departs: Mon, Wed, Fri at 14.00 **Duration:** 2½ hrs. **Price from:** £69 pp

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING Learn the basics of cross-country skiing before heading out independently on tracks close to Camp Ripan.

Departs: Tue, Thu, Sat at 14.00 **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £59 pp

VISIT THE ICEHOTEL Snowmobile to, or take a mini-bus transfer to Jukkasjärvi and receive a tour and lunch at the ICEHOTEL. **Departs:** Sat at 11.00/10.30 **Duration:** 4 hrs. **Snowmobile option from:** £250 pp **Mini-bus option from:** £135 pp

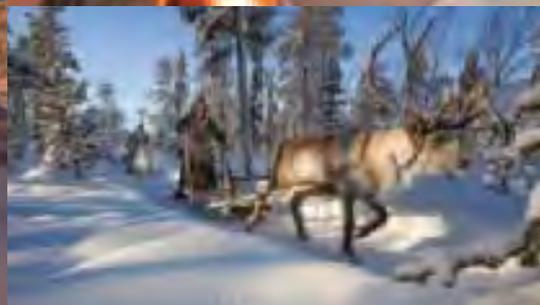
SNOWMOBILE TOURS Take a full day excursion to the top of the Kebnekaise massive or head out into the polar night. Depending on your tour keep an eye out for the Aurora and abundant wildlife. **Departs:** See website

Duration: See website **Northern Lights by Snowmobile from:** £149 pp

Mountain Snowmobile from: £270 pp including ice fishing and lunch.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Kiruna (via Stockholm)
- Return airport/hotel shuttle transfers
- 3 nights accommodation at Camp Ripan
- Lodging in a double or family cabin with private WC/shower
- Breakfast and 3-course dinners throughout
- 1 x husky safari, 1 x entry to Aurora Spa & pool, 1 x Aurora Photo safari



Aurora & Arctic Photographic Adventure

Price from **£2845**pp

27 Jan & 24 Feb 2016

Learn how to take great shots of the Northern Lights, Arctic nature and wildlife, all under the expert tutelage of Peter Rosén. Fly high into the heart of the Swedish Lapland and the aurora zone, where days will be spent in the Arctic wilderness. Travel by reindeer and minibus with Peter offering formal instruction on how to capture the unique landscape and fauna of the region. Nights will be spent on a quest for the Northern Lights, whilst staying in a combination of simple & cosy accommodation.

YOUR TUTOR

As an environmental researcher Peter initially moved to Abisko in 1999, where his subsequent fascination for all things Arctic has led his images to appear in more than 100 publications, television broadcasts, books and marketing material world-wide. His ability to capture the essence of the Arctic resulted in the publication of the book 'Aurora Borealis in Lapland'. Part of the Canon Photography School, Peter can provide the latest SLR camera, lenses and tripods for your use during the tour.

YOUR LODGINGS

Camp Ripan Indulge and acclimatise at the 4* Camp Ripan, complete with Aurora Spa & Pool. Twin rooms with en-suite WC/shower.

Reindeer Lodge Simple, Sami-designed winter cabins nestled in the snow-clad forest. The cosy cabins sleep 2 people and have a wood burning stove and electric heaters. Dinner is taken in the adjoining, timber log building. A separate lodge houses the communal sauna, showers and WC.

Abisko Mountain Station Simple en-suite twin accommodation in the heart of Abisko National Park. The Station has a restaurant, lounge, inviting bar and unprecedented views over Lake Tornetrask and the surrounding snow-clad mountains.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Kiruna (via Stockholm)
- Return airport/hotel and local transfers
- 1 night accommodation at Camp Ripan
- Breakfast throughout. Lunch & dinner on days 2,3,4 & 5
- Photographic Adventure programme incl 4 nights accommodation, excursions & services of Peter Rosén

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Kiruna Fly to Kiruna (via Stockholm) and transfer to Camp Ripan for 1 night. Unwind and acclimatise to your surroundings.

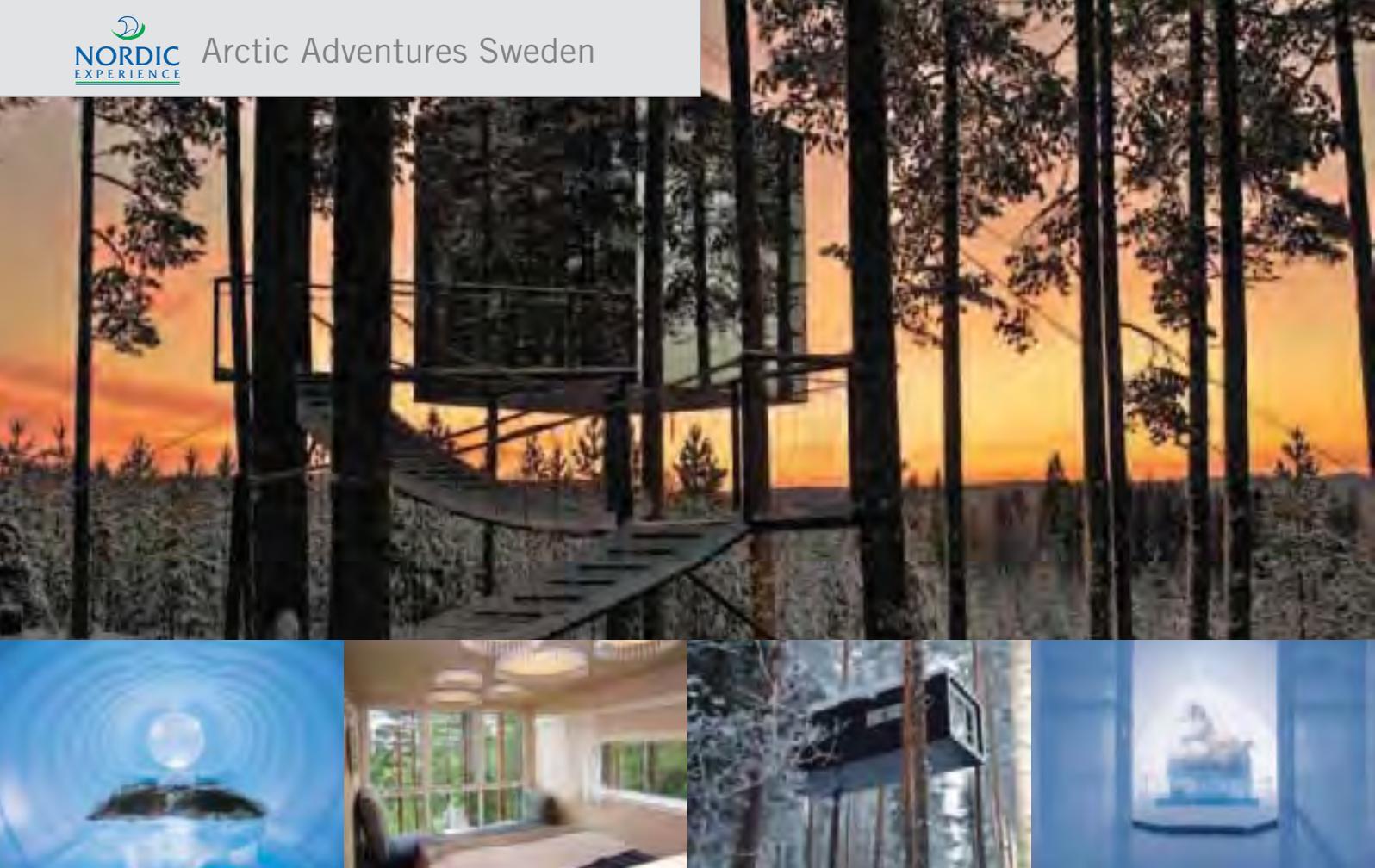
DAY 2 Reindeer Lodge & Aurora Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before transferring to Reindeer Lodge for 2 nights. Here you will meet Peter Rosén, who will present the tour programme and first lesson in photography, culminating in your first shots of the Sami camp, Reindeer and (hopefully) the Aurora.

DAY 3 Reindeer, Aurora & Night photography After breakfast you will receive instruction on how to handle your reindeer and sled, giving you a unique perspective of travelling in Sápmi. After a campfire lunch there will be a photo workshop to discuss the images taken and how to improve them. Evening sauna is followed by dinner and more night-time photography.

DAY 4-5 Abisko Mountain Station Transfer by mini-bus to the shores of Lake Tornetrask in the heart of Abisko National Park. Landscape photography and catching the mid-winter light is the focus of the next 2 days. There is a further indoor photography class and two evenings at an Aurora Borealis photo session at the Aurora Sky Station. Accommodation is at the Abisko Mountain Station.

DAY 6 UK Time to leave with a memory card packed with reminders of this breathtaking region. You will be transferred back to Kiruna in time for your return flight.





Grand Designs in Swedish Lapland

Price from **£1625**^{pp}
Mid December – Mid April

The ICEHOTEL and Treehotel have joined Sweden's impressive list of award-winning and innovative designs. The ICEHOTEL sparkles like a diamond in an elaborate setting. Complete with glittering ice sculptures and gourmet dining, it offers a 'bling' experience. On the contrary, the Treehotel offers serenity, solace and delicious home-made cooking amid forested surrounds. Combine these two innovative properties for a unique break as well as an exceptional opportunity to view the Northern Lights.

YOUR LODGINGS

ICEHOTEL

Each year the surrounding snow and ice of the river Torne morphs into a fully functioning snow hotel. World famous sculptors transform huge blocks of ice into dramatic art, which then adorns the hotel and its rooms. Facilities include cold and warm accommodation; sauna, an ICEBAR, two restaurants as well as a whole host of winter activities. See page 28 & 29 for room choices and activities.

The beds in the ICEHOTEL are made from ice blocks covered with a thick mattress and reindeer skins. The temperature remains a constant -7°C, but thermal sleeping bags keep you snug.

TREEHOTEL

Situated in Harads in the southern reaches of Swedish Lapland, the Treehotel comprises of 6 innovative cabins suspended amongst trees and accessed by a variety of bridges and ladders.

Choose from the almost invisible Mirror Cube, the Bird's Nest, emulating the home of our feathered friends, or the UFO seemingly transported from another world. The Dragonfly spreads its wings amongst the branches, whereas the Blue Cone is actually a red square. The Cabin is poised high on the hillside and has dramatic views of the Lule River Valley.

Each cabin has a simple interior design (including eco WC), which only serves to emphasise and enhance the natural surroundings. Meals are served at Britta's Guest House, a traditional Swedish homestead which oozes character and an unusual 1950's vibe.

Activities on offer include a forest spa, ice dining, family snow fun, along with snowmobile & husky safaris and horse adventures. Please refer to our website for a full listing of some extraordinary experiences.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Kiruna Fly to Kiruna (via Stockholm). Transfer to the ICEHOTEL and receive a 'survival induction'. The remainder of your day is free for your chosen excursions (see page 29) before retiring to your ICE room.

DAY 2 ICEHOTEL Wake up to a hot cloudberry juice, warming sauna and breakfast. The remainder of the day is free for excursions. This evening is spent in warm accommodation.

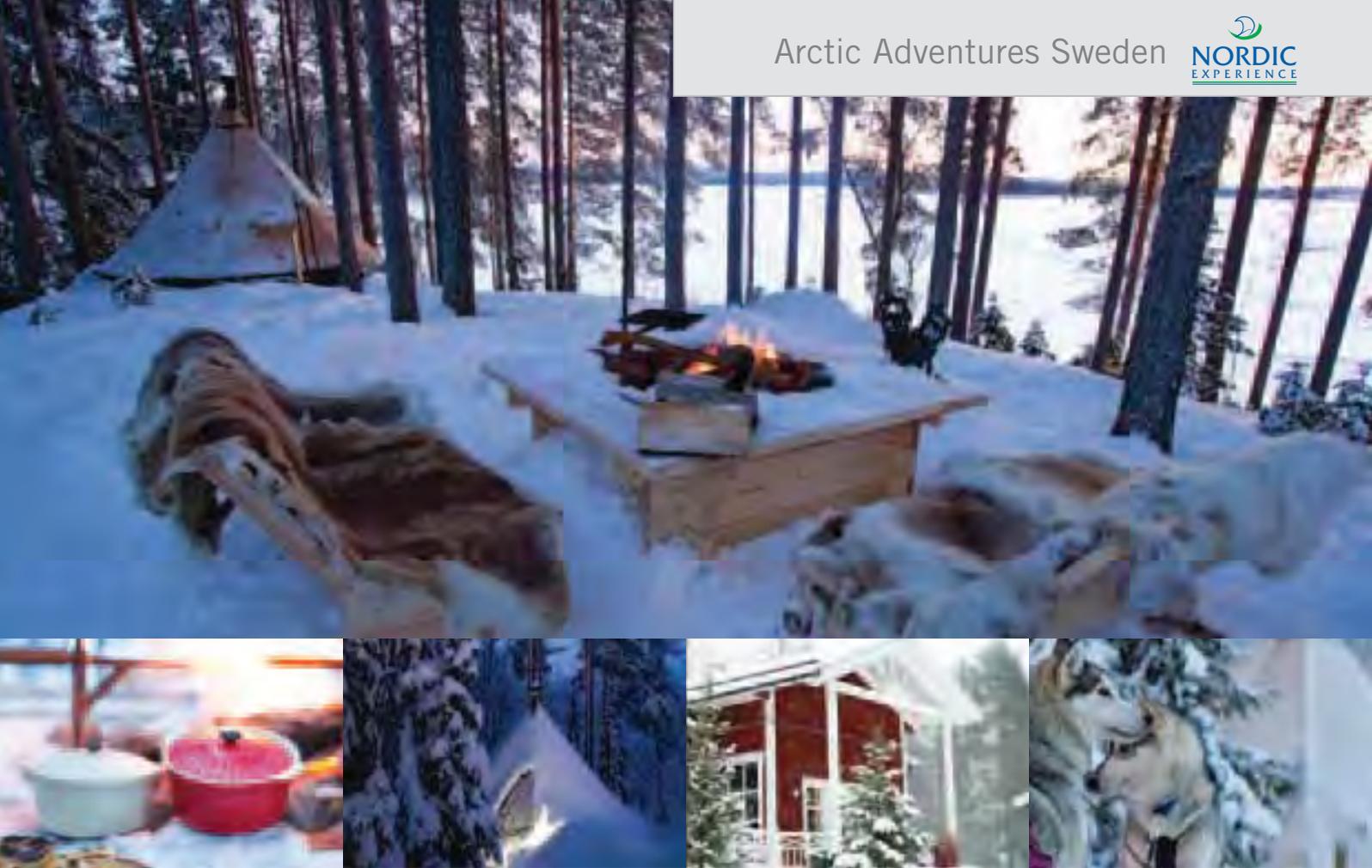
DAY 3 Treehotel After breakfast, take the 3½ hour train journey across Swedish Lapland to Boden where, on arrival, there is a privately-guided transfer to the Treehotel. First check-in to Britta's Guest House, and then stroll through the forest to your extraordinary tree room. A delicious home-made dinner is served at Britta's Guest House, where you may also meet the owners of this extraordinary escape.

DAY 4 Treehotel Breakfast at Britta's, after which the remainder of your day is free. See our website for a full listing which includes Northern Lights excursions, husky and snowmobile excursions, Sami cultural experiences as well as moose and reindeer encounters. Evening meal at Britta's included.

DAY 5 UK Transfer to Luleå airport in time for your return flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights London to Kiruna, Luleå to London (via Stockholm)
- All airport/hotel transfers and resort transfers
- One-way train journey from Kiruna to Boden (second class)
- 4 nights accommodation at the ICEHOTEL and Treehotel as detailed
- Lodging in an ICE room, Arctic Chalet and Treehotel Cabin
- Breakfast throughout. 2 x 3-course buffet dinner at the Treehotel



Sörbyn Lodge & Aurora Safari Camp

Price from **£1995**^{pp}
December – April

The small village of Sörbyn sits on the edge of a forest lake and nestling on its shores is Sörbyn Lodge offering a collection of warm, cosy cabins, hotel rooms and some of the best cuisine in Swedish Lapland. The surrounding frozen pine forests and ice-covered lakes turn the area into a perfect stage for your winter activities and Northern Lights adventures which includes a night at the Aurora Safari Camp.

YOUR LODGINGS

SORBYN LODGE

This lakeside property is just 1 hour from Luleå airport and offers a tranquil retreat with a choice of accommodation. Simply furnished pine cabins all overlook the lake and have living/dining and kitchen areas as well as private bathrooms. The newly added hotel rooms are typically stylish and reflect modern Scandinavian design. Relax in the cosy lounge area complete with bar and fireplace or inhale the fresh outdoors on the terrace. The crowning glory is the highly rated Restaurant Kallkällan which serves a delicious array of organic and regional specialities.

AURORA SAFARI CAMP

The Aurora Safari Camp is a collection of 5 Lawu tents. Each has a comfortable bed, arctic sleeping bag and chairs. Whereas the outside temperature can be anything from -5°C to -35°C, inside the wood burning stove keeps the tents warm and snug. There are shared washrooms & eco WC on site. The Aurora Safari Camp is the brainchild of celebrated photographer Frederick Broman who has succeeded in creating a comfortable, authentic wilderness experience in superb surroundings.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London or Manchester to Luleå (via Stockholm)
- Return airport/hotel and local transfers
- 2 nights accommodation at Sörbyn Lodge
- Lodging in twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner throughout
- Overnight programme at Aurora Safari Camp
- Husky, snowmobile and Northern Lights safari's as described

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Swedish Lapland Fly from London Heathrow, Gatwick or Manchester to Luleå (via Stockholm) and transfer to Sörbyn Lodge. Familiarise yourself with your snowy surroundings before dinner in Restaurant Kallkällan. You will be served Swedish specialities such as reindeer, arctic char, forest fruits and fungi with continental classics in this regionally renowned establishment. Later you may be able to further feast your eyes on a display of the aurora in this Northern Lights hot spot.

DAY 2 Snowmobile & Aurora Safari Camp After breakfast you will head out on a 3-hour snowmobile safari. Driving in pairs you follow the frozen Råne River and thick snow covered pine forest to Gumberget Mountain where you are rewarded by spectacular views over the valley. Lunch back at the hotel and make your preparations for a magical night under canvas at the Aurora Safari Camp. Northern Lights spotting and a wilderness dinner are both on the menu in this natural establishment in the heart of the forest.

DAY 3 Husky & Northern Lights Safari A 1½ hour dog sled safari follows breakfast. Led by the Swedish family that rear pure Siberian huskies, this highly personal experience enables you to bond with the hounds, then sit in a sled as they mush you and a team of dogs through the surrounding wilderness. Return to Sörbyn Lodge for lunch and dinner. Later that evening you will go in search of the Northern Lights. Your guide drives his 4x4 as far as the road allows. It is then an easy short hike to the mountain peak and wonderful clear views over the vast forest landscape. Sausages are cooked and hot drinks served by an open fire as you wait for the Aurora to show.

DAY 4 UK Enjoy your final breakfast in Sörbyn before transferring back to Luleå in time for your return flight back home.



Brändön Lodge & Arctic Archipelago

Price from **£1545**pp
Mid December – March

The first thing you see when flying into Luleå is a string of islands imprisoned in a frozen sea. In winter, boat traffic is replaced by snowmobiles, huskies and even cars driving across the metre thick ice. Positioned looking out across the archipelago is Brändön Lodge, a collection of 15 cottages, all providing a comfortable and cosy respite from days spent exploring the ice pack and the surrounds. In this unpolluted wilderness the only street lights will be the glow of the Northern Lights as they dance across the sky.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Luleå Fly to Luleå (via Stockholm). A guided transfer will take you to Brändön Lodge, where a 3-course dinner will be served in the main lodge. Enjoy a digestif in the bar whilst keeping an eye out for the Northern Lights.

DAY 2 Snowmobile Pack Ice Tour After breakfast you will explore the unique features of this region with a 4-hour snowmobile tour. Travel across glistening ice and islands of the Luleå archipelago. Your guide will tell you about life in the northern wilderness and you will get the opportunity to try ice-fishing. Your goal is Brändöskär, an idyllic 17th century fishing village situated the outer reaches of the archipelago. Here pack ice and snow can form 10m high barriers. Warming drinks and lunch are cooked over an open fire.

Returning to Brändön Lodge, your afternoon is at leisure before dining in the main lodge. With luck you may enjoy a panoramic aurora display whilst enjoying the lakeside sauna and bubble pool.

DAY 3 Husky Safari Enjoy a leisurely morning. Snow shoes are on hand should you wish to try a fun-filled walk before lunch.

This afternoon you will transfer to a local husky kennel. Here you will learn how to mush your own team of dogs and then, driving in pairs, you will embark on a thrilling ride through the forest and along the lakeside trail. Take it in turns to be both passenger and mush. Return to Brändön Lodge for your final gourmet dinner.

DAY 4 UK Breakfast before your transfer to the airport in time for your return flight home.

ABOUT LULEÅ

Luleå is situated just an hour's flight from Stockholm, overlooking the Gulf of Bothnia. Each winter when the sea freezes over, the locals adapt their way of life and in doing so create an adventure playground like no other. Ice roads are marked and go-carting tracks created. A modified hovercraft can take you to tumbling pack ice, whereas snowmobile and huskies transport you to isolated islands and remote restaurants. Luleå showcases an authentic and exciting insight to life at the edge of the Arctic Circle.

YOUR LODGINGS

The cottages at Brändön Lodge are simple yet warm and stylish. Each cabin has 2 bedrooms, a kitchenette, lounge, bathroom and veranda overlooking the frozen sea. The main pinewood lodge houses a cosy bar and restaurant, where Head Chef, Johan Hedenström designs imaginative menus based on locally-sourced produce. Johan is equally at home cooking in the kitchen as he is over an open fire in the Arctic wilderness. The facilities on hand are topped off by a lake-side sauna and bubble pool.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow, Gatwick or Manchester to Luleå
- Guided return airport/hotel transfers
- 3 nights accommodation in a 2-bedroomed cabin
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner throughout
- Excursions and Sauna access as per itinerary
- Protective outer thermal clothing for the duration of your stay



Half Term Heaven at Brändön Lodge

Adult from **£1865**pp
Child from **£1135**pp
13 & 17 Feb 2016

Brändön Lodge is an ideal setting for a family Arctic adventure. Stay in welcoming cabins overlooking the frozen archipelago, which has been transformed into a perfect winter playground.

This exclusive holiday has been tailored to suit the whole family. Learn new wilderness skills and experience unique thrills on the frozen sea and surrounding area. This relaxed resort has just 15 cabins with a lodge housing a bar & restaurant. Morning excursions give way to afternoons at leisure and to enjoy the kick sleds, toboggans and ice hockey sticks that are always on offer.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Luleå On arrival in Luleå, transfer to Brändön Lodge. Settle into your cabin and enjoy a 2-course dinner in the main lodge.

DAY 2 Nordic Winter Skills After breakfast learn how to survive an Arctic winter before donning a pair of snow shoes and heading out with your guide on an educational journey through the nearby forests. Lunch is taken in a Sami tent, sitting on reindeer skins around an open fire. Return to the lodge where the remainder of the day is at leisure. Dinner is served in the lodge.

DAY 3 Snowmobile Pack-Ice Safari Today's adventure is a snowmobile safari across the glistening ice and around the frozen islands. Adults drive in pairs with children drawn on a sled behind the guide. Try ice-fishing before lunch on Brändöskär, at the outer edge of the archipelago. Here pack-ice can pile into 10m high formations. The afternoon is at leisure before dining in the lodge.

DAY 4 Husky & Northern Lights Adventure Visit a nearby husky kennel. Learn to mush a team of dogs, and then drive 2 per sled on an exciting ride through a forest. Lunch at the lodge. This evening enjoy a Northern Lights snow shoe walk with hot drinks served as you look out for the Aurora.

DAY 5 UK At leisure before returning to the airport in time for your flight home.

Additional excursions are available including a hovercraft ride on the frozen sea. Please refer to our website for more details.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Luleå (via Stockholm)
- 4 nights accommodation at Brändön Lodge
- Lodging in a 2-bedroomed sea-facing cabin
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner throughout
- Excursions as described
- Return airport/hotel transfers
- Thermal Arctic clothing pack for the duration of your stay
- Price based on 2 adults & 2 children sharing a cabin

Couples Retreat at Pine Bay Lodge

Adult from **£1865**pp
13 & 17 Feb 2016

Escape to this classic Swedish cottage for an adult-orientated half term break. Pine Bay Lodge is a cosy, intimate guesthouse offering an authentic Arctic adventure in stunning surroundings.

This break has been crafted for couples looking for a 'home from home' in the wilderness. Pine Bay Lodge (sister hotel to Brändön Lodge) has 8 en-suite rooms centred around a large open-plan dining room and lounge with fireplace. Good food, personal service with like-minded companions, exciting excursions and superb surroundings ticks all the boxes for a memorable Arctic break.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Luleå On arrival, it is just a short 30 minute transfer to Pine Bay Lodge where, later that evening Chef will serve a dinner showcasing the local produce.

DAY 2 Snowmobile Pack-Ice Safari Snowmobile across the glistening ice and around the frozen islands. Adults drive in pairs, swopping half way. Lunch is on the island of Brändöskär, a tiny settlement on the outer edges of the archipelago, where pack-ice can pile into 10m high formations. Return to the lodge for a sauna and some R&R before the evening's dinner.

DAY 3 Husky & Northern Lights Adventure Learn to mush a team of dogs, then drive 2 per sled on an exciting ride through a forest. Lunch is at the lodge. This evening enjoy a Northern Lights snow shoe walk with hot drinks served as you look out for the dancing ribbons of the aurora across the night sky.

DAY 4 Nordic Winter Skills After breakfast learn how to survive in an Arctic climate, then don a pair of snow shoes and head out with your guide into the nearby forests. The snow shoes allow you to cross normally inaccessible terrain. Help to make a typical wilderness meal, which is enjoyed sitting on reindeer skins around an open fire. Later, dine at the lodge and keep an eye out for the Aurora.

DAY 5 UK At leisure before returning to the airport for your flight home.3

Additional excursions are available including a hovercraft ride on the frozen sea. Please refer to our website for more details.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Luleå (via Stockholm)
- 4 nights accommodation at Pine Bay Lodge
- Lodging in a twin bedded room with private WC/shower
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner throughout
- Excursions as described
- Return airport/hotel transfers
- Thermal Arctic clothing pack for the duration of your stay
- Itinerary order may be subject to change



Northern Lights Adventure by Lake Inari

Price from **£1985**^{pp}
December – March

Lake Inari is infused with the mysticism of the Sami, and Nellim Wilderness Lodge lies at its very heart. It is here that Jouko and Mari have painstakingly converted a former school house into an authentically crafted hotel that reflects the local culture. This most tranquil of settings is home to a warm and magical atmosphere, where you will enjoy snowmobile and husky safaris, spend a day in the wild with a reindeer herder and practice the ancient Sami arts of snow shoeing and cross-country skiing. The Northern Lights swirling above the pine forest make for an unforgettable experience.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Nellim Fly to Ivalo (via Helsinki) and transfer to Nellim Wilderness Lodge. Programme briefing, dinner and overnight for 5 nights.

DAY 2 Snowmobile Safari & Aurora Camp After breakfast receive full instructions on how to drive a snowmobile, before setting off, with your guide on a 50 km journey, which covers perfect fell scenery with forests and frozen lakes. Stop along the way for lunch around an open fire, returning to the hotel early afternoon. After dinner, depart for Nellim's Aurora Camp. Keep a look out for the Northern Lights from the heated lakeside cabin, whilst hot berry juice and snacks keep you warm, inside and out.

DAY 3 Husky Safari Today meet Nellim's pack of Alaskan huskies, whose kennels are just a short snowmobile sled transfer from the hotel. After instruction mush (in pairs), through the silent forest. Lunch is cooked en-route over an open fire. The remainder of the day is at leisure before supper at the hotel.

DAY 4 Snow Shoeing & Aurora Evening Snowmobile Today test your prowess for snow shoeing, followed by an evening snowmobile excursion to a special spot by the lake to stake out the Northern Lights. Dine at the lodge.

DAY 5 A day with an Inari Reindeer Herder Board a snowmobile sled and head into the forest to meet a reindeer herder tending and feeding his herd in the wild. Continue along the shores of Lake Inari, with a stop for lunch in the company of local fishermen before continuing back to Nellim for supper and a final night of Aurora spotting.

DAY 6 UK Breakfast and transfer to Ivalo airport for your return flight back to London (via Helsinki).

YOUR LODGINGS

Although small, Nellim offers adaptable accommodation including 22 hotel rooms, 5 apartments, and 4 cabins that are flexible enough to lodge couples, groups of friends and differing family sizes. In addition to the hotel's restaurant there is a welcoming lounge and a bar handcrafted by Jouko himself.

UPGRADE TO AN AURORA BUBBLE

Nellim is also home to the Aurora Bubble. Each individual and romantic pod has heating, private eco WC and a comfortable double bed from where you can view the star-lit sky. Located on the water's edge, the north facing pods have specially formulated curved glass ceilings, which allow you to watch nature unfold. Nellim has an impressive Northern Lights record, so should the conditions be right, you may be rewarded with your very own performance of the Aurora Borealis swirling above you.

We can incorporate a night in an aurora bubble into your stay for a supplement of £35 per person per night.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights to Ivalo (via Helsinki)
- Return airport/hotel transfers
- 5 nights accommodation at Nellim Wilderness Lodge
- Lodging in twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- Full board throughout
- All excursions as specified in the itinerary
- Services of experienced local wilderness guides
- Protective outer clothing for the duration of your stay



Nellim & the Sarmi Aurora Lodge

Price from **£1395**^{pp}
December – April

2014 saw the introduction of Sarmi Aurora Lodge into the fold at Nellim. Complementing Jouko and Mari's commitment to providing authentic experiences, the Sarmi Aurora Lodge provides the opportunity to overnight with like-minded guests in the heart of the Lappish wilderness. Accessible only by snowmobile (or on foot) and despite limited electricity and no running water, there is no lack of warmth or entertainment, which is provided by the guide on hand, your fellow travellers and the natural surrounds of the lodge.

YOUR LODGINGS

SARMI AURORA LODGE

Located 9km from Nellim, the Sarmi Aurora Lodge delivers a wilderness experience for those not wishing to completely discard home comforts. Limited electricity means evenings lit by candlelight. Simple delicious dinners are sourced from local products and often cooked over an open fire. Warm water and sauna are available, as is an inviting and welcoming communal dining room and lounge with roaring fire. In keeping with the lodge's environmental commitments there are eco WC's housed in a separate building.

Sarmi Aurora Lodge accommodates a maximum of 12 guests, housed in 5 double rooms and 1 cabin. Simple furnishings adorn the cosy bedrooms that have ample duvets and blankets with which to protect you from the outside Arctic temperatures.

NELIM WILDERNESS LODGE

This former school house has been lovingly converted into an authentically crafted hotel that reflects the local culture. Located in an Aurora hot spot, this warm and cosy property captures the essence of rural life in Finnish Lapland, which is enthusiastically shared by its owners, Mari and Jouko. A variety of en-suite accommodation is on offer as well as a restaurant and bar.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights to Ivalo (via Helsinki)
- Return airport/hotel shuttle and resort transfers
- 2 nights in a Hotel Room at Nellim Wilderness Lodge with private WC/shower
- 1 night in a double room Sarmi Aurora Lodge with shared facilities
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner throughout
- Overnight programme at Sarmi Aurora Lodge
- Afternoon husky Safari

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Ivalo & Nellim Wilderness Lodge Fly to Ivalo (via Helsinki) where you will be met and transferred to Nellim Wilderness Lodge, just 1 hour from the airport. Check-in to your hotel room. Dinner is served at the lodge. There is ample time to relax or participate in a Northern Lights snowmobile safari (supplement applies).

DAY 2 Sarmi Aurora Lodge Following breakfast, prepare for your overnight visit to the Sarmi Aurora Lodge. Transfer by snowmobile sled, which snakes its way through 9km of forest and frozen lakes. On arrival, the fire is lit and lunch is prepared. The afternoon is free for you to try mastering the traditional crafts of snow shoeing, cross-country skiing and if conditions allow, ice fishing. Enjoy an early evening sauna before dinner, served in the communal dining room.

After dinner, and having met your fellow guests, head to the Aurora Camp and enjoy hot drinks, and an open-fire whilst searching the skies for the Northern Lights. Return to Sarmi Wilderness Lodge for the remainder of the evening having immersed yourself fully in this amazing environment.

DAY 3 Nellim Wilderness Lodge Enjoy a hearty breakfast before returning (via snowmobile sled) to the relative bustle of Nellim Wilderness Lodge. Lunch is served before you take a 5-minute snowmobile sled transfer to the local husky farm for an afternoon in the company of four-legged furry friends. After instruction you will mush your team of Alaskan huskies (in pairs) on tracks through the surrounding pine forests. This is an exhilarating experience you will not want to end. Dinner is served back at the lodge. Enjoy your final evening in this incredible setting.

DAY 4 UK There is time for a leisurely breakfast and a morning at leisure before your transfer to the airport in time for your return flight to the UK.



Lapland Adventures under the Northern Lights

Price from **£1825**^{pp}
December – April

Muotka Wilderness Lodge was the second project undertaken by Jouko and Mari, who worked their magic so well at Nellim. Huddled amongst the pine, spruce and birch trees of the Taiga forest, close to Urho Kekkonen National Park, Muotka offers a tranquil escape from everyday life. Each window frames wild reindeer and snow-laden trees, whereas the communal sitting room, dining room and sauna are welcome havens after your Lapland adventure under the Northern Lights.

YOUR TOUR

- DAY 1 Ivalo** Fly to Ivalo (via Helsinki). Transfer to Muotka Wilderness Lodge. Check-in and collect your protective thermal clothing, before dinner at the lodge.
- DAY 2 Snowmobile & Reindeer Safari & Aurora Snow Shoe** After breakfast, snowmobiles will be waiting outside and, after full instruction, set off through the arboreal forest to a nearby reindeer corral. Here you will learn something of reindeer husbandry, before a leisurely reindeer safari. Return to the lodge having enjoyed a wilderness lunch. After dinner this evening, don a pair of snow shoes and head out into the surrounds, where your way may be lit by the Aurora.
- DAY 3 Snow Shoes and Aurora Camp** After breakfast, snow shoe through the Taiga Forest and winter landscapes adjacent to the lodge. Return in time for lunch. The afternoon is at leisure. This evening's excursion is to Muotka's Aurora Camp. Transported by snowmobile sled, you will be served hot drinks and cookies as you keep watch for the Northern Lights dancing across the Arctic sky in this fairy-tale location.
- DAY 4 Husky Safari & Northern Lights by Snowmobile** Today meet a pack of Alaskan huskies, whose kennels are just a short mini-bus transfer from the lodge. During the 3-hour husky safari, you will mush in pairs along a snow-carpeted trail, the silence only interrupted by your shouted commands. Stop for lunch by an open fire, Sami style, before returning to the lodge. This evening you will drive snowmobiles to a nearby Northern Lights hot spot and a final chance to catch the Aurora.
- DAY 5 UK** Breakfast and the morning is at leisure before your return transfer to Ivalo airport and your flight to the UK (via Helsinki).

YOUR LODGINGS

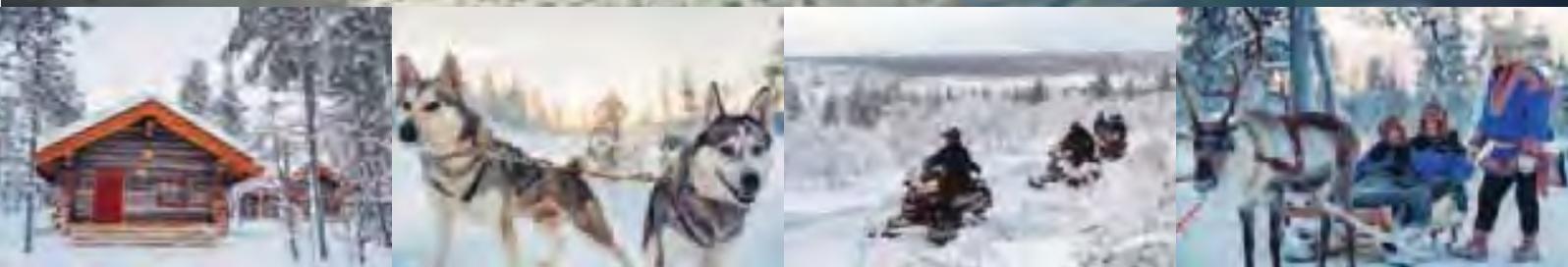
Muotka is ideal for families and couples, presenting a choice of 26 rooms and a riverside cabin, offering flexible accommodation in a rustic wilderness style. The restaurant and bar reflect Muotka's commitment to using local seasonal ingredients and menus are inspired by traditional Lappish cuisine. A sauna in the main building is heated daily for guests. Traditionalists can try the wood smoke sauna (charge applies) and leap into the lake after! Enjoy kick sleds and toboggans, which are on hand for children and adults alike to try.

UPGRADE TO AN AURORA BUBBLE

Overnight in a romantic Aurora Bubble, complete with heating, private eco WC and a comfortable double bed, from where you can view the star-lit sky. Your individual pod has a specially formulated clear curved ceiling, which allow you to watch nature unfold. The area surrounding Muotka has an impressive Northern Lights record, so should the conditions be right, you may be rewarded with your very own performance of the Aurora Borealis swirling above you. Upgrade from £35 pp per night.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights to Ivalo (via Helsinki)
- Return airport/hotel shuttle transfers
- 4 nights at Muotka Wilderness Lodge
- Lodging in twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner throughout
- Snowmobile, Reindeer and Husky safaris as per itinerary
- Protective outer thermal clothing for the duration of your stay



Snow Adventures in Kakslauttanen

Price from **£1745**pp

December – April

Kakslauttanen captured the world's imagination, introducing a concept of a heated glass igloo, enabling guests to watch the Northern Lights from a bed in stylish comfort. Add a village of pine log houses, scattered amongst a snow-clad forest and you have a picture-perfect postcard of Finnish Lapland. Log fires and steaming saunas are on tap, as well as snowmobile, reindeer and husky safaris and, although we can't guarantee the Northern Lights, we will maximise your chances of seeing this magical display.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Ivalo Fly to Ivalo (via Helsinki), located in the heart of Finnish Lapland. Transfer and check-in to your private log cabin and enjoy a hearty dinner at the resort restaurant.

DAY 2 Reindeer Safari After breakfast, you will learn about the life of a Sami reindeer herder, then set off on a leisurely 4-hour safari with these beasts of burden. Travelling in your own sled, you will have ample time to absorb the atmosphere of the Arctic forest, as you snuggle under the warm blankets. A picnic lunch in a wilderness cabin is served, before returning back to Kakslauttanen. Dinner is at the hotel restaurant. Be sure to look out for the Northern Lights before returning to your cosy cottage.

DAY 3 Northern Lights by Snowmobile Today is at leisure. Try tobogganing, snow shoeing, cross-country skiing, or even alpine skiing in Saariselka. Early evening, you will gather to receive a snowmobile induction, before heading out (driving in pairs), to a spot on the fells, known locally as being an Aurora hot spot. Return to Kakslauttanen for dinner.

DAY 4 Husky Safari and a Night under the Stars After breakfast today, you will enjoy a thrilling 4-hour husky safari. Travelling two to a sled, you each take it in turns to mush a six-team pack of huskies across the enchanting wilderness of the Urho Kekkonen Park. Lunch is al-fresco, around an open fire. On your return to Kakslauttanen, gather your belongings and head to your 'igloo'. Heated to 21°C and constructed with thermal glass, the star-studded night sky is always on display, should the dancing lights appear, the Aurora Borealis too.

DAY 5 UK Enjoy a sauna and breakfast before your shuttle transfer back to the airport in time for your return flight to the UK.

YOUR LODGINGS

Owner, Jussi Eiramo came to Kakslauttanen as a young man for a summer's fishing and has stayed ever since. Today, the resort has expanded into 2 villages (East & West), each with their own restaurant and activity centre, which safeguards the character of this resort.

There is accommodation to suit all tastes and family sizes. Rustic deadwood-pine log cabins sleep from 1-10 people. Saunas and log fires replace TV's and dishwashers. A night in a glass igloo is almost mandatory. Heated at 21°C and with reclining beds, you can enjoy a comfortable evening of stargazing. Even if the Aurora does not appear, it is a magical moment when viewing the Arctic sky and colours. The larger glass igloos have a shower cabin, smaller ones have a small basin/private WC. Everyone has access to the sauna and showers in a separate building. The Snow Igloos offer a different experience with beds of ice and temperatures of -5°C, but your snug sleeping bag and reindeer skins keep you warm. New for 2015 are Kelo Glass Igloos, combining a log cabin and glass igloo for the ultimate private hide-away.

Your cabin could be located some walking distance from the main lodges, in which case kick sleds are on hand to transport your luggage.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights to Ivalo (via Helsinki)
- Return airport/hotel transfers
- 3 nights in a Small Cabin and 1 night in a glass igloo in the East Village
- Breakfast and dinner throughout. 2 x lunch whilst on safari
- Reindeer, husky and snowmobile safaris as detailed in the itinerary
- Protective outer thermal clothing during excursions. Hire for the duration of the stay is available at a surcharge.



Adventures at Harriniva

Price from **£1195**^{pp}
Sun & Tue, January – April

Enjoy the informal hospitality of the Pietkainen family at one of Lapland's oldest wilderness hotels. Harriniva lies in the beautiful rolling fells of Western Lapland, where the hills and the forests typify a landscape untouched for thousands of years. Thrill at mushing your own huskies, take an exhilarating snowmobile ride and journey in a traditional reindeer sleigh. All this set against a backdrop of a wild, rugged beauty, where a lack of light pollution enhances the natural phenomenon of an Aurora Borealis show.

YOUR LODGINGS

Harriniva Wilderness Lodge stands alongside the frozen Muonio River, marking the border between Finnish and Swedish Lapland. Here, the Pietkainen family have offered hospitality for over 25 years to travellers, fishermen, skiers and adventurers.

Comfortable and versatile accommodation includes 46 pine-clad rooms, all with private WC/shower. In addition, there are 6 larger rooms with private saunas and 12 duplex, apartment-style rooms, ideal for larger families.

Harriniva's cosy bar offers a warm welcome after the day's exertions with coffee/tea and snacks served throughout the day. The lively restaurant has a wide choice of meals, and successfully combines local specialities with international cuisine, whilst the sauna is a perfect place to relax and recharge.

Harriniva is also home to the largest Siberian husky breeding kennels in Lapland. Situated a short walk from the lodge, the 400-strong pack are lovingly reared and all individually named. A tour of the farm often includes a visit to any new additions to the fold.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights to Kittila (via Helsinki)
- Return airport/hotel transfers
- 4 nights accommodation at Harriniva Wilderness Lodge
- Lodging in a standard twin room with private WC/shower
- Breakfast and dinner throughout
- All activities as per the itinerary
- Protective outer thermal clothing for the duration of your stay

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Kittila Fly to Kittila (via Helsinki), located in the heart of Finnish Lapland. Transfer to Harriniva Wilderness Lodge, your home for the next 4 nights. Dinner served in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 2 Husky Safari After breakfast, walk the short distance to the husky farm to meet the baying dogs. Meet your team, who are all keen to commence their morning run. With two to a sled, you will take it in turns to mush and be a passenger on this exhilarating 17km tour through the snow-clad forest, before returning to the hotel for a relaxing sauna and dinner.

DAY 3 Leisure Time and Northern Lights Reindeer Safari Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before a day of independent snow fun or the opportunity to book an additional excursion. Kick sleds and toboggans are readily available for you to enjoy or walk to and cross the border into Sweden. Later that evening, transfer a short distance by mini-bus to Torassieppi Reindeer Farm, Finland's oldest reindeer corral. A local reindeer herder will take you on a mystical safari through the night forest. Enjoy the ever changing colours of the Arctic sky and if you are lucky the amazing Northern Lights overhead.

DAY 4 Snowmobile Safari This morning is at leisure. Why not master the simple art of cross-country skiing or snow shoeing, both taking you out into the beautiful surrounds. After lunch, meet your guide for a briefing on how to drive your snowmobile. Riding in pairs and taking it in turns to drive, this 30km journey takes you through the frozen forests and mires that symbolises the perfect fell scenery of this area. Return to the hotel for a celebratory aperitif and dinner.

DAY 5 UK Breakfast and transfer to Kittila airport for your return flight home to the UK (via Helsinki).



Northern Lights & Sami Culture at Korpikartano

Price from **£1575**pp

December – March

Located in a small reindeer herding village, Korpikartano is situated in the Sami heartland. Set on the edge of Lake Menesjärvi and in the stunning surrounds of Lemmonjoki National Park, this former school has been converted into a haven for those wanting an unpretentious and authentic taste of Finnish Lapland. Delve into the life of a Sami herder, visit Siida, the Sami Museum and go in search of the mighty spectacle that is the Aurora Borealis.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Ivalo Fly into Ivalo (via Helsinki). Transfer to Korpikartano, where a warm welcome awaits from your hosts, Anne and Timo, along with a hearty evening meal in the former school gym.

DAY 2 A Day in the Life of a Reindeer Herder & Aurora Hunt After breakfast, a local reindeer herder will take you in search of his herd via snowmobile sled. Once found, feed and observe these animals in their natural habitat. Tall tales and coffee are served in the remote surroundings around an open fire.

Return to Korpikartano for lunch. Your afternoon is free to enjoy snow fun activities such as kick sledding, snow shoeing or tobogganing. Alternatively, choose one of the additional excursions detailed opposite.

Later that afternoon there is an hour Aurora photography workshop and, after dinner, you will venture out on a guided snow shoe trek into the wilderness. Timo is on hand to offer further photography assistance in capturing the Arctic sky and hopefully the Aurora.

DAY 3 Husky Safari, Sami & Snowmobile Today you head to a husky homestead. After being introduced to your pack, take control of your sled. Travelling in pairs, you both have the chance to enjoy the wonderful Arctic landscape as you slip silently through the forest and across frozen lakes.

After this thrilling adventure, visit Siida, the Sami Museum, a fascinating interactive exhibition of Sami history and culture. Lunch at the museum (own expense). Later, after dinner and instruction, head out (in pairs) on a guided snowmobile mission into the Lappish nature and a final opportunity to observe the Aurora.

DAY 4 UK Enjoy a final hearty breakfast before returning to the airport for your flight home (via Helsinki).

YOUR LODGINGS

Korpikartano offers a selection of simple yet cosy hotel rooms and apartments. On-site is a restaurant where menus are based on local produce and using hand-picked products such as berries and mushrooms. Enjoy the lake-side Lappish kota with open fire. For a special treat try the wood burning lake-side sauna and hot tub. For the brave there is always the lake!

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

GUIDED CROSS COUNTRY SKIING Under guidance, master the art of cross-country skiing. **Duration:** 1 hr. **Price from:** £59 pp

NATURE SKILLS & WILDERNESS LUNCH Enjoy a wilderness lunch before heading into the forest to learn about the Lappish nature and animals. **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £79 pp

HANDICRAFT WORKSHOP Craft leather straps using reindeer hide and create a pot or cloth using traditional Finnish knitting skills. **Duration:** 2½ hrs. **Price from:** £79 pp

TRADITIONAL BAKING Bake delicious cinnamon buns and gingerbread cookies. **Duration:** 2½ hrs. **Price from:** £65 pp

SAMI CRAFTS & CULTURE Visit a felt artisan and Sami craft master. Learn the stories behind the traditional costume and perhaps even enjoy a Joik with tea. **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £110 pp

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Ivalo and return airport/hotel transfers
- 3 nights at Korpikartano in a twin/double room with private WC/shower
- Breakfast and dinner throughout plus 1 lunch
- Excursions as per itinerary
- Electric sauna each evening & outer thermal clothing for the duration of your stay



Price from **£1845**^{pp}
Saturdays, January – April

Winter Week at Jeris

There is something for everyone in this action-packed small-group adventure week. Activities include snowmobiling, ice fishing, cross-country skiing, ice dining and spending a night in a wilderness cabin. Jeris nestles alongside Lake Jerisjärvi on the edge of Pallas-Ylläs National Park and offers a choice of accommodation as well as a lake-side sauna, spa and for the really brave, a 25m illuminated ice pool.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Kittila Fly to Kittila (via Helsinki), It is a mere 45 minute transfer to Jeris, in the heart of Finnish Lapland. Settle into your rooms, before a welcome dinner in the hotel restaurant and the chance to meet your fellow guests.

DAY 2 Husky Safari and Snowmobile Wilderness Adventure Enjoy a leisurely breakfast in the hotel restaurant. This morning is free for you to explore the immediate surrounds. After lunch, transfer to a local husky farm for a short tour and the opportunity to meet the dogs. Half the group will set off by husky. Adults travel in pairs, taking it in turns to sit in the sled or mush. The remainder of the group receive their snowmobile instruction and, also driving in pairs, head off into the surrounding frozen landscape. Children travel in respective sleds behind the fully qualified guide.

The eventual destination is a lake-side wilderness cabin. This will be your shared accommodation for the evening. Jeris has a number of wilderness cabins and traditional Lappish houses with an assortment of sleeping arrangements, scattered throughout the region.

Try ice fishing, before your guide cooks a hearty Finnish dinner for the group. Relax with a traditional Finnish wood sauna or simply appreciate the surrounding silence and magical night skies. If the conditions are right, you may even be rewarded with an appearance of the Northern Lights over this prime position.

DAY 3 Husky Safari and Snowmobile return A communal breakfast is served before departing back to Jeris. Those who arrived by husky, will travel back by snowmobile and yesterday's snowmobilers will experience the thrill of husky mushing.

Return related to Jeris, where lunch is served and the afternoon is free for you to try out the spa or book an extra activity. Dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 4 Cross-country skiing, Kota lunch and snow shoeing Today's adventure starts with a cross-country skiing lesson on the tracks next to the hotel. A picnic lunch will be cooked over an open fire in a Kota. The afternoon is spent mastering the simple yet effective art of snow shoeing. Return to the hotel and enjoy a warming sauna and dinner.

DAY 5 Snow Castle and Reindeer Corral After breakfast today, it's a 10-minute bus transfer to Torassieppi Winter Village and Reindeer Farm. Visit the 100 year old Lappish farmhouse and museum, try your reindeer herding skills with lasso-throwing and a short reindeer safari (3km) through the forest. Lunch is served in the ice restaurant of the Snow Castle, which is adorned with impressive ice sculptures. Replenished, head back to Jeris and an afternoon at leisure. Dinner is served in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 6 Day at Leisure and farewell dinner Spend today as you wish. Venture out to Muonio or Levi for the day. You can opt for lunch at the hotel or a packed lunch to take on your travels. A farewell dinner complete with delicious Finnish specialities is served to celebrate the completion of your Arctic adventure.

DAY 7 UK Breakfast and return to Kittila airport in time for your flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights to Kittila (via Helsinki)
- Return airport/hotel transfers
- 5 nights at Jeris in a standard twin/double room with private WC/shower
- 1 night in a wilderness cabin with shared facilities
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner throughout
- Outer winter thermal clothing for the duration of your stay
- 1 Jeris sauna & spa visit. Excursions and activities as described in the itinerary



Wilderness Wellbeing Weekend

Price from **£1125**pp

Selected Fridays, January – March

The neighbouring Pallas-Ylläs National Park provides a stunning backdrop for Torassieppi, a small resort with a personal touch, located in the heart of Finnish Lapland. This programme includes a selection of nature based outdoor activities, a touch of local culture and an Arctic wellness programme. In addition, the area is renowned for its pure air and lack of light pollution, enabling you to easily leave behind the stresses of everyday life and maximise your chances of spotting the Northern Lights.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Kittila Fly to Kittila (via Helsinki). On arrival, transfer to Torassieppi Reindeer Lodge, which is less than an hour's drive from the airport. Check-in and familiarise yourself with the gorgeous surroundings. A tasty evening meal, comprising of traditional Finnish ingredients is served in the hotel's restaurant. You will be issued with your Aurora alarm so that you can head to your cosy room or cabin, safe in the knowledge that you won't miss the opportunity of catching the Northern Lights, should they appear.

DAY 2 Reindeers & Huskies After breakfast (served in the hotel's restaurant), you will visit Torassieppi Reindeer Farm, the origins of which date back to 1847. Here, meet and feed the reindeer, learn to lasso-throw and discover about the life of a reindeer herder in the small museum. After a gentle 3km reindeer safari through the silent forest, lunch will be served in a nearby Kota. The afternoon can be spent around the Winter Village, with its impressive snow rooms, ice bar and restaurant.

Later that evening meet up with some four-legged friends. After instruction, you will embark on a 9km Northern Lights Husky Safari. Driving in pairs, you will take it in turns to mush and keep an eye out for the Aurora above.

DAY 3 Arctic Spa & leisure This morning is at your leisure. Choose to relax in resort and try the cross-country skis or snow shoes that are on hand. Alternatively transfer to Harriniva for a 30km snowmobile safari. The afternoon is spent in the Arctic Spa, just a short drive away. Here you get the chance to swim in the 25m ice pool in Lake Jeris and warm up in one of 2 heated pools and the traditional Finnish wood smoke sauna. Dinner is served back at Torassieppi.

DAY 4 UK There is time for breakfast, before check-out and departure to Kittila airport for your return flight home.

YOUR LODGINGS

Niina Pietkainen vowed as a child that the last thing she wanted to be was a reindeer herder, so when the Pietkainen family took over Torassieppi Reindeer Farm, she set about turning it into something more: a winter village complete with the original farmstead, lakeside cottages, restaurant, snow village and ice chapel.

The 8 cabins are situated alongside Lake Torasjärvi. Each has two bedrooms, living room with logwood fire, kitchen facilities and private WC/shower. Selected cabins have additional clothes drying cupboards and electric sauna. There are also 8 twin rooms spread amongst 2 cabins, each with en-suite WC/shower and private entrances.

The kitchen in the on-site restaurant is proud to offer menus sourced from locally produced organic food.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights to Kittila (via Helsinki)
- Return airport/hotel shuttle and resort transfers
- 3 nights at Torassieppi Reindeer Lodge
- Lodging in twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- Breakfast and dinner throughout
- Reindeer Experience including 3km safari and lunch
- 9km Northern Lights Husky Safari
- Northern Lights alarm service
- Entry to the Winter Village
- An afternoon in the Arctic Spa at Jeris
- Outer thermal winter clothing for the duration of your stay



Fjell Fun & Skiing at Iso-Syöte

Price from **£750**_{pp}
January – April

Play on and around the foothills of one of Finland's most picturesque fjells, surrounded by the dense pine of the Syöte National Park, marked in winter with snow sculptures clinging to the trees in elaborate formations. Iso-Syöte's unique position on the southern borders of Lapland makes it the ideal 'ski-plus' destination, where you can mix and match all manner of ski and safari activities. Options include, but are not limited to, high-speed snowmobiling or reindeer caravanning; cross country or alpine skiing and snow shoeing or husky mushing. Ideal for a couple who want to try everything or a family whose every member has a different agenda.

YOUR LODGINGS

Sitting on top of Lapland's southernmost fjell is the village of Iso-Syöte, which is cloaked throughout the winter in deep, white snow. At its heart is the Iso-Syöte Hotel, complete with panoramic restaurant, Arctic Spa and bar.

Flexible accommodation is the order of the day. Choose from simple standard twin rooms or picturesque and cosy 1-bedroomed Kelo pine cottages. The hotel also boasts modern 2-storey fjell top cottages which can sleep up to 8. Finally consider spending a night in the snow igloo or upgrade to the magnificent Eagle View Suite, where the walls and roof are made of glass allowing uninterrupted views of the surrounding hills and a chance to view the Northern Lights in comfort and style.

The hotel has created an 'Arctic Spa' complete with two spacious saunas, a swimming pool with massaging hydrojets and, for the ultimate experience, two outdoor Jacuzzi's, which enjoy uninterrupted views of the snow-covered trees and starlit sky. There is a range of Arctic Spa Body & Beauty treatments also available.

Running down the side of the hotel are no fewer than 12 illuminated ski slopes. There are also half and quarter pipes, a snowboard park, children's slopes and sledding hill. In other words, facilities for just about every level of experience.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Iso-Syöte Fly to either Oulu, Kuusamo or Rovaniemi (via Helsinki) and transfer to Iso-Syöte. Check-in to your chosen accommodation before dinner in the hotel restaurant.

DAYS 2-4 At leisure at Iso-Syöte During your stay here you can take in any number of snow adventures, see page 45 for our favourites. Snowmobile across fells and over frozen tundra and lakes. Mush your own team of dogs in the surrounding National Park, hunt for the elusive Aurora, go ice-fishing, kick sledding or visit a reindeer farm.

Those wishing to enjoy the Iso-Syöte ski area, SnowPark and SnowWorld, can buy ski passes and rent equipment locally.

DAY 5 UK After breakfast, transfer back to your chosen airport for your return flight to the UK.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights to Oulu, Kuusamo or Rovaniemi
- Return airport/hotel transfer
- 4 nights hotel accommodation at the Iso-Syöte Hotel
- Lodging in twin room with private WC/shower. Upgrades available
- Breakfast and dinner throughout
- Guide services and protective thermal clothing on chosen safaris
- Supplements apply to other accommodation types

SNOWMOBILE WILDERNESS SAFARI

Set off from Iso-Syöte and head downhill across frozen lakes and over heavily snow-laden trees. Stop by an open campfire for hot drinks whilst admiring the picturesque landscape. After a short break start your engines ready to drive back up the Iso-Syöte mountain. **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £80 pp



SNOWMOBILE & HUSKY COMBINATION

Travel by snowmobile to a nearby husky farm and mush a team of huskies. Travelling in pairs, you take turns to drive the snowmobile and mush your eager dogs. The safari takes you through snowy forests and ice-covered swamps and enables you to appreciate the wonderful landscape and light that bathes the Syöte area. **Duration:** 3-4 hrs. **Price from:** £140 pp

NORTHERN LIGHTS SNOWMOBILE SAFARI

Drive your snowmobiles out into the frozen landscape in search of the Northern Lights. Stop by a campfire for drinks, to gaze up at the star-studded night sky, and perhaps see a colourful display of the Aurora Borealis.

Duration: 3 hrs. **Price from:** £99 pp

SNOWMOBILE & ICE FISHING

In this classic combination you will drive your snowmobile (2 per machine) through the snow-covered forest. When reaching the frozen lake, drill a hole, lower your line, and wait. A catch isn't guaranteed, but spectacular views and landscapes are. **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £95 pp

SNOWMOBILE & REINDEER FARM

A 35km snowmobile safari through the forest to a reindeer farm. Here you will have a tour of the farm and an introduction in reindeer herding before heading off on your reindeer sleigh ride. Hot drinks and 'Pulla' included.

Duration: 3 hrs. **Price from:** £100 pp

FULL DAY HUSKY SAFARI

Transfer to a local husky farm where the good-natured hounds eagerly await your instruction. Travelling in pairs you will take turns to mush and be a passenger whilst enjoying the journey through the snowy forests and ice-covered lakes. A sandwich lunch is provided by the campfire.

Duration: 4-5 hrs. **Price from:** £199 pp



HUSKY SAFARI AND FARM VISIT

After being transferred to the husky farm you are met by a team of dogs who are eagerly waiting for visitors. After an introduction to the dogs you begin your 12km husky safari through the snowy forest and frozen lakes surrounding the farm. **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £120 pp

OLD FASHIONED REINDEER SAFARI

Try this relaxing mode of traditional transport, sitting in a sled that forms part of a reindeer 'caravan'. Coffee and snack are served in a Lappish Kota.

Duration: 2.5 hrs. **Price from:** £80 pp



VISIT TO A REINDEER FARM

Transfer by car to Virkkunen's traditional reindeer farm. Learn more about the culture and history of the area and the art of reindeer breeding. Meet his herd and join him at home for coffee, homemade cakes and sandwiches.

Duration: 3 hrs. **Price from:** £59 pp

SNOW SHOE HIKE

After personal instructions on how to use your snow shoes, set off through the deep snow covering the hilltop of Iso-Syöte. Along the hike enjoy the beautiful snow sculptures made by nature and discover marks and tracks of the arctic animals. Hot drinks and cookies are provided.

Duration: 2 hrs. **Price from:** £35 pp

KICKSLED GLIDE & RIDE

Learn the art of kick-sledding, an easy and convenient Finnish mode of transport enjoyed by all ages. Your efforts will be rewarded with a warming coffee and 'Pulla' served in a kota with open campfire, before returning to the hotel. **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £40 pp



ICE FISHING

Enjoy an ice fishing trip by a beautiful frozen lake whilst admiring the snowy landscapes. Hot drinks and snack provided. **Duration:** 2-3 hrs. **Price from:** £59 pp

All durations include any applicable transfer times. Appropriate clothing and equipment is provided on all excursions. Start times vary according to your travel date and will be reconfirmed on arrival.



Brief Encounter with Reykjavik

Price from **£440**^{pp}
September – April

It may be one of Europe's smallest capitals, but it puts many others to shame with its wealth of year-round attractions. In close proximity are geysirs, caves, hot springs and glaciers. The city centre, with its many galleries and museums, reflects the cultural and creative diversity of Iceland's tiny population. Dining is a delight, and the plethora of restaurants pride themselves on crafting culinary delights from an abundance of locally sourced products. Add a display of Northern Lights and you will have bagged bragging rights on an extraordinary winter break

YOUR HOTELS

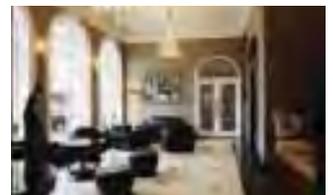
THE CENTRUM HOTEL

A stylish modern hotel with an exterior sympathetically in keeping with the surrounding clapboard buildings. It is located in a quiet enclave in the heart of the old city close to restaurants and shops. During construction of the property the remains of a Viking longhouse from the Settlement period, along with Iceland's oldest human remains, were found. These now form part of an exhibition in the hotel.



HOTEL BORG

Hotel Borg has quickly become one of Reykjavik's landmark properties. Originally built in 1930, the hotel pays homage to its Art Deco past and oozes elegance and charm. Original features are blended with contemporary fittings. Award-winning chef Volundur Volundarson, presides over the kitchen, which serves breakfast, lunch and dinner and is a favourite for its flavourful and fresh cuisine.



HOTEL HOLT

The wood panelled walls, original Icelandic art, leather Chesterfields, wine cellar, library and bar give this small family-owned hotel an eclectic and homely feel. Just a few minutes from the city centre, it has a deserved reputation for personal service and fine dining. Breakfast is a communal affair with the dining room setting encouraging you to swap and share your Iceland experiences.



PLAZA HOTEL

This modern hotel is in a great location just minutes' walk from all the major attractions and close to the National Gallery. Representing excellent value, the 180 rooms are furnished with simple contemporary oak furnishings and all have private WC/shower. Relax in the Plaza Bar with floor to ceiling windows. Buffet breakfast is served on site and there are a myriad of restaurants, bars & cafés within walking distance for dining later.



YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Reykjavik Fly from a wide choice of regional airports direct to Keflavik airport. Transfer with airport shuttle bus (or upgrade to a private transfer) and check-in at your chosen hotel.

DAY 2 & 3 Optional Excursions Take your pick from our extensive range of Reykjavik excursions. There is plenty for both first time and returning visitors. Page 49 illustrates a small selection of our most popular tours. Ask for more details.

DAY 4 UK Enjoy last minute shopping or stop off at the Blue Lagoon on the way to the airport in time for your return flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return international flights from a choice of regional UK departures
- Return airport/hotel shuttle bus transfer
- 3 nights accommodation in your chosen hotel
- Lodging in twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- Breakfast throughout
- Private airport transfers and Blue Lagoon visit on arrival/departure are available at a supplement

BLUE LAGOON & KEFLAVIK TRANSFER

The perfect way to make the most of your last few hours in Reykjavik. The shuttle bus picks you up at your hotel and transfers you to the Blue Lagoon, where you can spend a relaxing morning luxuriating in its warm, milky blue waters, before heading by scheduled shuttle bus to Keflavik airport for your flight home. Entry to the Blue Lagoon included. Luggage storage facilities and towels available for a small fee (pay locally)

Available: Daily. **Hotel pick-up:** 08.30, 10.30, 12.30 **Price from:** £55 pp.

REYKJAVIK SIGHTSEEING

This is an ideal orientation to the capital including the little fishing village of Hafnarfjordur. Visit the cosmic-looking Perlan, nestling on a hill, overlooking the city. Continue to Hafnarfjordur via the Presidential Residence and fish market, then on to Hotoi, the Lutheran Cathedral and Hallgrim's Church.

Available: Daily. **Hotel pick-up:** 08.30 **Duration:** 2½ hrs. **Price from:** £35 pp.

SOUTH COAST, WATERFALLS & GLACIER HIKE

A tour showcasing the best of South Iceland's coast. Stop at the Seljalandsfoss and Skógafoss waterfalls, the black sand beach and basalt columns of Reynisfjara and take an easy hike on the ancient ice of Sólheimajökull glacier. On a clear day you may have a good view of the famous volcanoes, Hekla and Eyjafjallajökull, as well as the Westman Islands, rising steeply from the ocean just a few kilometres off the coast.

Available: Daily. **Hotel pick-up:** 08.00 **Duration:** 11 hrs. **Price from:** £119 pp.

NORTHERN LIGHTS HUNT BY BUS

Spend an evening in search of the Northern Lights. This tour takes you away from the city and explores some of the best places to see this wonderful natural display where, when the Aurora Borealis does appear, the colourful lights dance and swirl across the clear, winter sky.

Available: 01 Sep-15 Mar. Daily. **Hotel pick-up:** Between 18.30-20.30 depending on date. **Duration:** 3-5 hrs. **Price from:** £45 pp.

GOLDEN CIRCLE CLASSIC

An all-day, scenic extravaganza. Admire the landscapes of Thingvellir National Park. Continue to Gullfoss, whose foaming, thundering waters are often overarched by a rainbow in summer, or stunningly frozen in mid-air, in winter. Continue to the Geysir area with its spouting water and bubbling mud pots. Lunch (payable locally). Return to Reykjavik via the cathedral at Skálholt, the Kerid crater and the greenhouse community at Hveragerdi.

Available: Daily. **Hotel pick-up:** 08.00/10.00 **Duration:** 8½ hrs. **Price from:** £55 pp.

NORTHERN LIGHTS BY BOAT

Cruise offshore for one of the best chances Reykjavik offers of seeing the Northern Lights showing against a mountain backdrop. The Rosin offers a 360° vista of the night sky with which to catch the Aurora, however fleetingly they appear. Waterproof clothing and hot coffee, cocoa and tea included.

Available: Sep-Apr. Daily. **Hotel pick-up:** between 20.30-21.30 depending on date. **Duration:** 2½ - 3 hrs. **Price from:** £49 pp.

WHALE WATCHING

An educational and interactive whale watching excursion on board 'Andrea', the biggest whale-watching boat in Iceland. She provides ample comfortable seating inside, with wide panoramic windows and extra-large viewing decks where everyone can find a place by the railings. There is an onboard café. Protective thermal overalls are available too.

Available: Daily. **Hotel pick-up:** from 12.00 **Duration:** 3-3½ hrs. **Price from:** £49 pp.

SUPER JEEP GOLDEN CIRCLE CLASSIC

Experience Iceland's nature, geology and history on a thrilling guided Super Jeep tour. You will see Thingvellir National Park, the Geysir geothermal area and Gullfoss waterfall. Drive on to Langjökull glacier for the opportunity to take an exhilarating snowmobile ride. (Supplement applies). The tour finishes with an off-road experience before returning to Reykjavik.

Available: Tue, Thu, Sat. **Hotel pick-up:** 08.30 **Duration:** 8-9 hrs. **Price from:** £199 pp. **Optional snowmobile safari** £129 pp.

NORTHERN LIGHTS SEARCH BY SUPER JEEP

Your guide transports you away from the city lights into surrounding countryside where the modified Landrover Defenders takes you through spectacular landscapes; providing an ideal backdrop as and when the Northern Lights appear. Your guide is on hand to help you capture this spectacle on film and should the lights not appear, you are welcome to try another night free of charge.

Available: 01 Sep-15 Apr. **Daily. Hotel pick-up:** 20.00 **Duration:** 3-4 hrs. **Price from:** £110 pp.

GAME OF THRONES REVISITED

Prepared in conjunction with an Icelandic extra who appeared in the 'Game of Thrones', this tour takes you 'on location' to see where some of scenes were shot for this gripping TV series including the gorge of Thingvellir, the stomping ground of the White Walkers; as well as Thjórsárdalur and the "Settlement Era Viking lodge", the site of the greatest battle of the series so far.

Available: Tue, Thu, Sat **Hotel pick-up:** 12.30 **Duration:** 6 hrs. **Price from:** £49 pp.

INTO THE GLACIER

Iceland's newest attraction is taking ice cap exploration to a new level. Explore a glacier inside and out at Europe's largest man-made ice cave. Depart Reykjavik by bus and head to Langjökull glacier, where you board an 8-wheel monster truck that takes you to the entrance of the cave. 550m long and 30m below the surface, there are 5 ice chambers to explore and more.

Available: Year round. **Depart:** Day & pick-up times vary according to season **Duration:** 9 hrs. **Price from:** £155 pp **Super Jeep option from:** £298 pp.

GEOHERMAL HELICOPTER TOUR

A helicopter tour gives you a view of Iceland's volcanic landscape like no other. Its subterranean energy is on full view as you fly over geothermal hot springs, colourful mountain ranges, power plants, lava fields and craters. You land far away from the crowds and make a brief stop to witness the raw, primeval forces rising up from the earth beneath. On the return journey you'll flyover Reykjavik for an aerial overview of the city.

Available: Daily (min 3 people Sep-Apr). **Depart:** Reykjavik Domestic Airport **Duration:** 40-75 mins. **Prices from:** £245 pp.

ARCTIC TRUCK EXPERIENCE

Get behind the wheel of a specialised 4x4 super truck in this guided self-drive tour. After being introduced to the basic skills and techniques you need to tackle different off-road terrains and snow conditions, take the wheel (with an accompanying guide) for the Hellisheidi plateau, crossing streams along the 1000 Rivers Road and on to the black sandy beaches of the South Coast. Round-up the trip by visiting a lava cave to view some of the magnificent lava formations that the volcanic activity has created.

Available: Daily. **Hotel pick-up:** 08.30 **Duration:** 5 hrs. **Prices from:** £175 pp. Fuel extra. Optional helicopter tour on Hengill £269 pp.

THE LAVA TRAIL ON HORSEBACK

This guided horse trek takes you along lava fields and hillside tracks. It is particularly suitable for novices or those with rusty equestrian skills as the Icelandic horse is famed for its even temper and unique gait which gives a particularly smooth ride. You will be supplied with riding hat, boots, waterproof outdoor wear and tack.

Available: Daily **Hotel pick-up:** 08.30/12.45 **Duration:** 3 hrs. **Price from:** £49 pp.



Glaciers, Waterfalls & Northern Lights

Price from **£775**pp
September – April

By day soak up South Iceland's unique cocktail of sights; the falling water curtains that are the Skógafoss and Seljalandsfoss waterfalls, the foam pounding on Dryrholaey's black sand beaches and Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon. By night fine dine, soak in a hot tub under the starlit sky, and perhaps the Northern Lights, whilst enjoying the countryside charms of the Hotel Ranga.

YOUR LODGINGS

Set in lush meadowland against a backdrop of Mount Hekla and Eyjafallajökull in the distance is Hotel Ranga. Just under 1½ hours easy drive from Reykjavik, this ranch-style hotel is ideal for those desiring luxury, charm and comfort in the heart of the countryside.

The acclaimed gourmet restaurant prides itself on using the finest, locally sourced ingredients including fish from Iceland's finest salmon river. The cosy and amply-stocked bar is ideal for an aperitif and snug seating areas offer a place to unwind, read a book, play a board game or billiards.

A wide choice of accommodation includes standard rooms with private WC/ bathtub and shower, larger deluxe rooms with a sofa, tea/coffee making facilities and indoor Jacuzzi baths, and finally, junior and master suites named after the 7 continents showcasing artwork from these destinations.

All rooms have views of the river or Mt. Hekla volcano and access to the hotel's outdoor hot tubs, where you can relax under a star-lit sky, free of urban light pollution. The hotel operates a personal Aurora Alarm system, ensuring you are advised of sightings.

WHAT TO SEE

The Hotel Ranga is well situated to explore South Iceland and its major attractions year-round.

Attractions include Seljalandsfoss, a dramatic cliff-side cascade you can walk under. At Skógafoss, admire the rainbow or in deep winter, the giant stalactites. The Golden Circle of Gullfoss, the Geysir area and Thingvellir National Park is an Icelandic must-do. Venture to Jökulsárlón Lagoon, a full day's drive through dramatic volcanic landscape and where luminous blue icebergs are trapped for several years before finally working their way out to sea.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Hella Arrive at Keflavik airport, collect your hire car and drive to Hella and the Hotel Ranga for a 3-night stay. Celebrate your arrival with a gourmet dinner (payable locally).

DAY 2 South Iceland and Optional Private Super Jeep Tour Explore the area independently or opt for a Super Jeep safari where your private guide will introduce you to the key attractions of the region with off-road driving.

DAY 3 South Iceland After breakfast you could take a drive along the outwash plains to Jökulsárlón Lagoon, try horse riding or take the ferry to Vestmannaeyjar Islands – the Pompeii of the North.

DAY 4 South Iceland and the Golden Circle Drive up to the Geysir geothermal area with its bubbling mud pits, then Gullfoss and continue to Thingvellir National Park before driving on to Reykjavik, overnighing at the Hotel Centrum for your final night.

DAY 5 UK Explore the historic centre of Reykjavik or drive to the Blue Lagoon for a relaxing soak in the warm, milky blue waters before your return flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return international flights from a choice of regional UK departures
- 3 nights at the Hotel Ranga and 1 night at the Hotel Centrum
- Lodging in standard twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- Breakfast throughout
- 4 days (4x24hrs.) Group A car hire including unlimited mileage, theft protection, CDW and all applicable taxes.
- Free GPS navigation system and road map
- Additional car hire insurance is available including SDEW, windscreen, ash and sand protection.



A Taste of Luxury under the Aurora

Price from **£920**pp

September – April

Soak up some of Iceland's most iconic sights whilst enjoying the comfort of one of its most luxurious properties. The tumbling waterfalls of Skógafoss and Seljalandsfoss are but a short, easy drive away, as are Dyrholaey's black sand beaches edged by crashing, white foaming waves. Explore the trio of sights known as the Golden Circle and catch the best view of Langjökull Glacier there is to be had from a snowmobile. By night enjoy the gastronomic delights and tranquil surroundings of your elegant abode.

YOUR LODGINGS

Hotel Grimsborgir is Olafur Laufdal and Kristin Ketilsdottir's homage to Nordic chic and design. Each hotel room and apartment has been individually crafted by the couple and staying there is akin to being invited into their home.

Just 1½ hours' drive from Keflavik International Airport, the hotel is set in splendid isolation on the banks of the River Sog. The unassuming exterior conceals an absolute gem, which has deservedly won TripAdvisor's Certificate of Excellence three years in a row. Each designer room benefits from its own deck and has access to a number of hot tubs. Upgrade to a 2-bedroomed deluxe studio or 4-bedroomed villa and you will have your own kitchen/diner, 'grounds' and private hot tub. Where possible, Olafur even ensures that your national flag is flying outside your abode.

The restaurant menu focuses on locally sourced products including salmon, trout and cod and there is often musical entertainment that reaches through into the bar area, complete with open fireplace and wing-backed chairs.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return international flights from a choice of regional UK departures
- 3 nights at the Hotel Grimsborgir and 1 night at the Hotel Centrum
- Lodging in standard twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- Breakfast throughout
- 4 days (4x24hrs.) Group A car hire including unlimited mileage, theft protection, CDW and all applicable taxes.
- Free GPS navigation system and road map

Additional car hire insurance is available including SDEW, windscreen, ash and sand protection.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Grimnes Arrive at Keflavik airport, collect your hire car and drive to Hotel Grimsborgir, lying in the shadow of Mount Hengil and your home for the following 3 nights. Dine at the hotel restaurant before retiring to look out for the Northern Lights on your deck or in a hot tub.

DAY 2 South Coast After a hearty breakfast, we suggest driving along the south coast to Dyrholaey and on to the promontory from where you will have views of the Reynisfjall cliffs and black sand beaches. Return via Skógafoss and Seljalandsfoss, two of Iceland's picturesque waterfalls, one of which you can walk under. Continue to Eyrarbakki with its weatherboard houses and perhaps a lobster supper at Vid Fjorubordid before returning to the welcoming arms of the Hotel Grimsborgir.

DAY 3 Golden Circle Take a short walk around the 3,000 year old Kerid crater before heading to the Geysir area. Here Strokkur spouts impressively every 5-10 minutes and there are steaming fumaroles and hot springs bubbling alongside. On to Gullfoss where the glacial river Hvita powers down a staircase of falls eventually plummeting down a 32m drop. Fill your afternoon with some glacier snowmobiling on Langjokull or visit Thingvellir National Park, Iceland's ultimate historical, cultural and geological site.

DAY 4 Reykjavik After an unhurried morning drive back to Reykjavik you will have ample time to enjoy the city's museums and galleries or perhaps an evening Northern Lights excursion. Overnight at the Hotel Centrum.

DAY 5 UK Make the most of your last morning in Iceland and stop off at the Blue Lagoon for a relaxing soak in the milky blue waters, before returning your car at the airport in time for your flight home.



Romantic Iceland

Price from **£860**pp
September – April

Head for the diverse and magical landscape of the Snæfellsnes Peninsula, home to the towering Snæfellsjökull Glacier, and a magnificent coastline with exceptional geological formations. This area provided the inspiration for Jules Verne’s novel, *Journey to the Centre of the Earth*, and on the coast and in the heart of the Snæfellsjökull National Park, lies the luxurious Hotel Budir, living in harmony with its unique natural surroundings.

YOUR LODGINGS

HOTEL BUDIR

This beautiful countryside hotel sits in a lava field on the edge of the Snæfellsnes Peninsula in West Iceland. Offering stunning views out across the Snæfellsjökull Glacier and the Budir Estuary, the hotel offers a choice of charming deluxe and loft rooms. Each one is unique in style and décor, mixing modern essential conveniences (Wi-Fi and private en-suite WC/ bathtub and shower) with an eclectic mix of countryside chic furnishings, creating the perfect ambience for a romantic break.

The hotel’s kitchen has long been renowned as a ‘Mecca’ of Icelandic cooking with the restaurant serving up a stunning collection of fish dishes, original starters and desserts. Mahogany bookcases, Chesterfields, walls laden with framed pictures, an open fired sitting room and a candle-lit restaurant servicing up elegantly presented food, – this is about as good as it gets.

WHAT’S INCLUDED

- Return international flights from a choice of regional UK departures
- 4 days (4 x 24hr) Group F (Toyota RAV4) car hire including unlimited mileage, theft protection, CDW and all applicable taxes. Free GPS navigation system and road map.
- 1 night accommodation at the Northern Light Inn
- 3 nights at the Hotel Budir
- Lodging in twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- Breakfast throughout

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Keflavik Fly to Keflavik from a choice of regional airports and collect your hire car. Drive the short distance to the Northern Light Inn or stop off along the way at the Blue Lagoon, where a relaxing soak in the milky blue waters will be a perfect start to your romantic break. You may even spot the Northern Lights from the rooftop Aurora lounge at the Northern Lights Inn.

DAY 2 Snæfellsbaer After a leisurely breakfast set off for the Snæfellsnes Peninsula. It is a 3-hour scenic drive with plenty to see along the way so allow plenty of time. Near Organes there are lava caves and remarkable rock formations as well as natural, warm springs. See the imposing basalt columns at Gerduberg before arriving at Hotel Budir, the base for your romantic retreat. Dine in the candlelit restaurant and perhaps be treated to a dazzling display of the Aurora before you retire in this haven of peace and tranquillity.

DAY 3-4 At leisure Your itinerary and sightseeing options will be determined by when you travel as well as local weather conditions. Snæfellsjökull Glacier, Hellnar plays host to spectacular rock formations and lava caves, whilst Kirkjufell and its waterfalls are believed to be the most beautiful mountain in Iceland. In winter Kolgrafafjordur becomes a sanctuary for wildlife seeking the sustenance given by the migrating herring. Overnight Hotel Budir.

DAY 5 UK Following breakfast depart for Keflavik airport, returning your hire car in time for your return flight home.



Winter Magic in North Iceland

Price from **£1355**pp

September – April

Enjoy a journey off the beaten track in North Iceland, a region of large contrasts and small distances. Natural adventures include hot springs, geothermal baths, amazing lava formations and Dettifoss, Europe's most powerful waterfall. Lying 300m above sea level, Mývatn enjoys auspicious conditions for the Northern Lights, which can illuminate the dark night sky, along with the distant red glow of Holuhraun lava field, and where winter brings its own set of pursuits.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1-2 Reykjavik On arrival, transfer by shuttle bus to the Hotel Plaza for 2 nights. Enjoy historic Reykjavik and dine at one of the many restaurants. Choose from a wide range of excursions. (See page 49).

DAY 3 Lake Mývatn Self-transfer to Reykjavik domestic airport for the short flight to Akureyri, where you will be met on arrival. Your guided transfer includes a stop at Godafoss, where during the winter, frozen tentacles adorn the edge of the horseshoe-shaped falls. Check-in to Sel Hotel Mývatn, before an afternoon of sightseeing, which includes the knotted tangle of the Dimmuborgir lava fields and the bubbling mud pools at Hveraleira. After dinner, keep watch for the Aurora in the hotel's Northern Lights shelter.

DAY 4 At leisure Head off on an action-packed optional excursion, our favourites are illustrated. Dine at the hotel. If the Northern Lights show, you can turn the street lamps off, intensifying your experience.

DAY 5 Super Jeep tour to Dettifoss Travel by Super Jeep to see nature at its most powerful. The Dettifoss waterfall assaults the senses. The drive also takes you to Selfoss and the basalt canyon of the river Jökulsá.

DAY 6 At leisure Today is free for your chosen activity. We suggest Mývatn Nature Baths, where the rich combinations of natural minerals are sure to revitalise and rejuvenate. Dine at the hotel.

DAY 7 Reykjavik After breakfast, return to Akureyri for the early afternoon flight back to Reykjavik. Self-transfer to the Hotel Plaza for a final evening in Iceland.

DAY 8 UK Transfer back to Keflavik airport in time for your flight home.

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS:

SNOWMOBILE TOURS Enjoy a ½ hour introductory snowmobile tour or a 1-hour snowmobile tour of the pearls surrounding Lake Mývatn.

Price from: £85/£125 pp (2 people sharing)

OFF ROAD & HIDDEN WONDERS Super Jeep tour of the hidden gems of Mývatn including the craters of Lúdent. **Duration:** 3-4 hrs. **Price from:** £165 pp

NORTHERN LIGHTS HUNT Set out for an evening adventure in search of the Aurora. Cake and hot chocolate included.

Duration: 3 hrs. **Price from:** £99 pp

MÝVATN NATURE BATHS Soak in the milky aquamarine waters of this natural geothermal pool. **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £25 pp

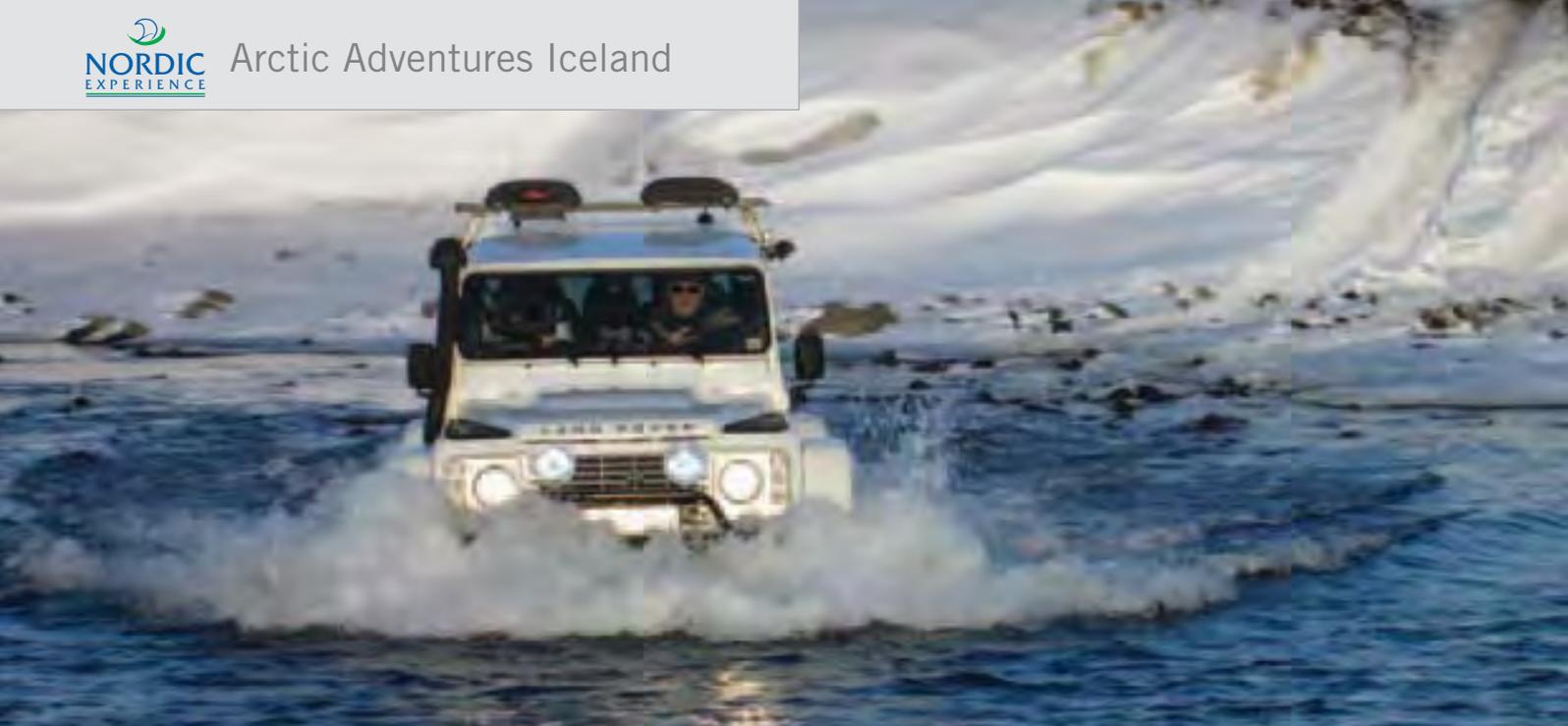
HORSE RIDING WITH THE HORSEMAN OF ÁLFTAGERDI A gentle 1-hour trek into the natural surroundings. **Duration:** 45 minutes **Price from:** £50 pp

CULTURE TOUR Gain insight to the Icelandic way of life. Visit a folk museum & the whale museum at Húsavik. **Duration:** 5 hrs. **Price from:** £120 pp

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING Master the art of cross-country skiing with this 1-hour introductory lesson. **Duration:** 1 hour **Price from:** £45 pp

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return international & domestic flights from UK to Keflavik and Akureyri
- Return airport/hotel shuttle transfers from Keflavik International Airport and Mývatn
- 3 nights at Hotel Plaza, Reykjavik including breakfast
- 4 nights at Sel Hotel, Mývatn including breakfast and evening meal
- Super Jeep excursion to Dettifoss



Iceland's Ultimate Family Adventure

Adult price from **£1835**^{pp}
 Child price from **£1755**^{pp}
November – April

Iceland is a thrilling geological theme park and this is a tailor-made VIP visit to see the natural wonders of this vast playground. Your base is a luxury 3-bedroomed villa with outdoor hot tub in a Northern Lights hot spot. On hand is a Super Jeep with private driver-guide, who has a programme of bespoke tours that will fast-track you to Iceland's most iconic attractions and experiences, giving the whole family bragging rights on this break.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Selfoss Your Super Jeep and driver-guide will be waiting for you on your arrival at Keflavik International Airport, ready to transfer you to the Grimsborgir Hotel just 90 minutes away.

Check-in and make yourself at home in your villa, complete with fire-place, private hot-tub, fully equipped kitchen, patio and BBQ. There are uninterrupted views of the surrounding countryside and the villas panoramic windows and hot-tub are ideal spots from which to keep an eye out for the Northern Lights. Dinner can be taken in the a-la carte restaurant in the main lodge.

DAY 2 Golden Circle Today you will visit three of Iceland's most iconic sights, Thingvellir National Park, where the early Vikings set up the world's first parliament and where the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates are clearly visible. On to the Geysir area with bubbling mud pools and Strokkur, who spouts 100 ft. plumes of steam every 5-10 minutes. Finally there is the impressive Gullfoss waterfall with its unique 90° turn.

This is no ordinary excursion, you will be driving off-road, crossing glaciers, splashing through rivers and experiencing Iceland's challenging terrain. There is also the opportunity for a snowmobile adventure (supplement applies). Lunch is taken en-route (payable locally) alternatively packed lunches can be arranged. Dinner and overnight at the Grimsborgir.

DAY 3 South Coast Today's adventure takes you along the diverse landscape of the South Coast, including striking waterfalls (you can walk behind Seljalandsfoss and climb to the top of Skógafoss). Whereas the black sands at Vik allow for some exciting beach action.

We also recommend taking a family trek on the sweet natured Icelandic horse (supplement applies). Choose to return to the Grimsborgir for dinner or dine at a restaurant recommended by your guide.

DAY 4 Freedom of Choice Each day is crafted to suit you and today is no exception. Your Super Jeep guide is at your disposal and the options endless. Visit the capital, Reykjavik, where you can take a helicopter ride for aerial views of the cinematic landscape. Visit the new 'ICECAVE', where a tunnel has been hewn into the deep blue and white ice, you can even stand on a bridge spanning a crevasse. Say the word and you could be soaking in the warm waters of a natural spring or delving deep into the troll heartland on the Snaefellsnes peninsular.

DAY 5 Blue Lagoon and UK After bidding a reluctant farewell to the Grimsborgir, head to the airport, stopping en-route at the Blue Lagoon, where you can immerse yourselves in to the soothing milky blue water, ensuring a stress-free return to the UK.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return international flights from a choice of regional UK departures.
- Super Jeep and services of a private driver-guide for 5 days.
- 4 nights at the Grimsborgir Hotel in a 3-bedroomed deluxe villa
- Breakfast throughout. Half-board and lunches can be arranged at a supplement
- Entry, towels, drink and skin-care sample at the Blue Lagoon
- Supplements apply to some additional activities mentioned such as snowmobile, horse-riding and helicopter excursions.



Arctic Truck Experience

Price from **£1995**pp
October – April

Enjoy a unique adrenaline weekend behind the wheel of an Arctic Truck. As you take command of these specially modified vehicles, you will be taught and accompanied by the team behind both Top Gear's trip to Magnetic North Pole in 1997 and Prince Harry's 'Walking with the Wounded' expedition to the South Pole. Choose from a selection of adventures.

YOUR ARCTIC TRUCK EXPERIENCE

Each Arctic Truck programme starts with the team teaching you how to drive in different off-road conditions including airing down the tyres, driving through rivers and on glaciers. You take the wheel but are accompanied by a guide at all times. There is a maximum of 4-5 people in the car.

Vehicles used include the Toyota Hilux AT38, which has tackled the most demanding terrains known to man. It has been used in the Icelandic Highlands for decades and has travelled to the magnetic North Pole, traversing over sea-ice, bolder fields and small islands.

Included in this experience is a 1-night pre & post hotel accommodation in Reykjavik, however whilst 'on tour' you will be lodging in wilderness huts or tents with limited/shared facilities. Appropriate equipment is provided as is breakfast, lunch and dinner. You bring warm clothes, suitable footwear, swim suit, driving license, snacks and a camera.

The Long Weekend tour Arctic Truck Experience is just one of a number of bespoke tours that we can arrange. Please call for further details.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return international flights from a choice of regional UK departures
- 1 night each, pre & post tour at the Hotel Centrum, Reykjavik in twin room(s) with private WC/shower.
- Return airport/hotel shuttle bus transfer
- Your chosen Arctic Truck experience including accommodation as specified
- Services of qualified guide
- Breakfast throughout. Lunch and dinner during the Arctic Truck Experience
- Fuel is additional.

ARCTIC TRUCK EXPERIENCE – A LONG WEEKEND

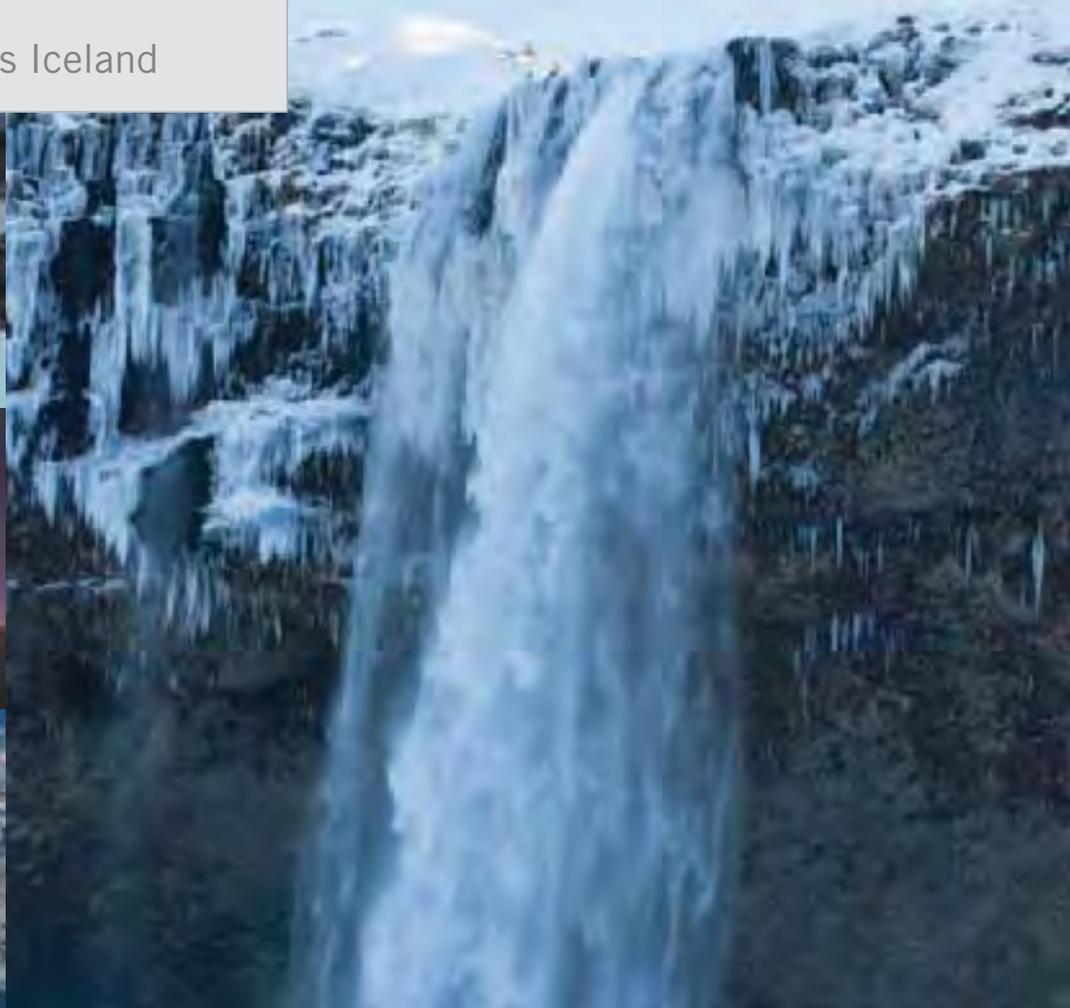
DAY 1 Reykjavik On arrival at Keflavik International Airport, transfer to the Centrum Hotel, where the remainder of the day is at your leisure to enjoy this vibrant city.

DAY 2 Golden Circle After breakfast you will be picked up by your guides for a 3-day adventure driving modified Toyota Hilux or Toyota Land Cruiser. After your induction, you will head to Thingvellir National Park, where you will enjoy magnificent views. Next is Haukadalur, home of the Geysir, Strokkur. Thereafter is the magnificent Gullfoss waterfall. On Langjökull Glacier you can ride a snowmobile (supplement applies). Overnight in cottages where you will enjoy a BBQ dinner and relaxing hot tub.

DAY 3 Landmannalaugar This morning drive to Mount Hekla and Landmannalaugar, a highland paradise which takes you through breath-taking mountain ranges. This is the ultimate 4X4 terrain, deserted tracks combined with stunning rugged surroundings. Your second night in the wilderness is spent in a cabin, where you can bathe in the natural hot river that borders it. BBQ dinner and a chance to view the Aurora before retiring.

DAY 4 Eyjafjallajökull Today you head to the foot of Eyjafjallajökull passing small Icelandic farms lying in its shadow. You drive between two glaciers on rutted tracks and crossing unbridged glacier rivers before arriving at Þórsörk valley at the foot of Mýrdalsjökull glacier and Katla volcano. Finally steer across the black sand beaches of the South Coast before a stop at the waterfall Seljalandsfoss. Arrive back in Reykjavik late afternoon and check-in to the Centrum Hotel, where there is plenty of time to reflect on your adventure and enjoy the charms of Reykjavik on your final evening in Iceland.

DAY 5 UK Breakfast and transfer to Keflavik airport in time for your return flight.



Aurora Nights & Iceland's Natural Wonders

Price from **£845**^{pp}
 Selected departures,
 October – March

Sit back on this exciting guided tour and spend days discovering Iceland's legendary natural wonders and nights under a canopy of stars in search of the Aurora Borealis. Take in the geyser that gave the world the name; Gullfoss, the golden waterfall; Jökulsárlón, the iceberg lagoon and Eyjafjallajökull, which erupted with such spectacular consequences in 2010.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 UK – Reykjavik Fly direct to Keflavik from a choice of regional airports. Transfer on arrival and check-in to the CenterHotel Plaza. Acquaint yourself with the historic city centre and enjoy dinner in any number of local restaurants. Don't forget to sign up for the Northern Lights wake-up alert before retiring.

DAY 2 Golden Circle After breakfast you will meet your qualified, local guide and like-minded travellers, before heading to see the trio of sites known as the Golden Circle. Thingvellir National Park was the location for Iceland's first parliament and where you can see the dramatic rift valley caused by the movement of the American and Eurasian tectonic plates. Stop at the Geysir area where, amongst the bubbling fumaroles and hot springs, Strokkur spouts impressively every 5-10 minutes. Onwards to Gullfoss, the waterfall that plummets 32m before twisting and tumbling on down a steep canyon.

Along the way you will stop at a stud farm breeding the easy-going 5-gaited Icelandic horse. Alongside is a tomato farm which utilises the ample supply of geothermal water to produce tomatoes year-round, before arriving at your country accommodation, the Hotel Katla, your base for the next 2 nights. After dinner (pay locally) you will enjoy an aurora presentation and head out into the local surrounds in search of the Northern Lights.

DAY 3 Glacier Lagoon After breakfast you will drive further along the south-east coast across bridges fording dramatic outwash plains, interspersed with black sand beaches and lava fields, to Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon. The luminous blue icebergs float in the lagoon for several years, gradually

sculpting themselves into varying shapes before finally working their way out to sea. Return to Vik via Skaftafell National Park on the southern edge of the mighty Vatnajökull Glacier. Dinner and Aurora search at Hotel Katla.

DAY 4 Volcanos and Waterfalls Today you will return along the south coast, stopping at two of Iceland's plunge waterfalls. Seljalandsfoss, which spills straight off the cliffs of the former coastline and Skógafoss, which often welcomes you with a rainbow. Pausing at Eyjafjallajökull Visitor Centre, you can view a short 20-minute movie demonstrating the fortitude of local farmers in the aftermath of the 2010 eruption. The last call of the day is the Blue Lagoon and a bathe in the soothing milky blue waters before bidding farewell to your travel companions. Overnight at the CentreHotel Plaza.

DAY 5 UK Time to browse Reykjavik and do some last minute shopping before your transfer back to Keflavik and flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return international flights from a choice of regional UK departures
- 4 nights hotel accommodation as specified in the itinerary
- Lodging in superior room at CenterHotel Plaza and standard room at Hotel Katla
- All rooms with private WC/shower
- Breakfast throughout
- Fully escorted tour from AM on Day 2 until PM on Day 4 with services of local guide
- Entry to and bathing in the Blue Lagoon
- Return airport/hotel shuttle bus transfers
- Northern Lights presentations and searches as specified on Day 2 and 3



Northern Lights Around Iceland

Price from **£1695**pp

Selected Sunday departures,
October – March

Join this small-group escorted tour travelling to the North, East and South of Iceland in pursuit of the Northern Lights. Explore Akureyri, Lake Mývatn and the East Fjords. Visit Vatnajökull glacier and Jökulsárlón ice lagoon and enjoy the Golden Circle classics. Delve into hot springs, walk through volcanic landscapes and observe Arctic wildlife. Each overnight stop has been hand-picked to maximise your chances of catching a glimpse of the awesome Aurora.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Reykjavik Fly to Keflavik International Airport and transfer to the Fosshotel Baron, located in the heart of Reykjavik. The remainder of the afternoon and evening is at your leisure to sample the delights of this vibrant city.

DAY 2 Akureyri & Lake Mývatn Meet your guide and fellow travellers, before an early transfer to Reykjavik domestic airport and the short 45-minute flight to Akureyri, the capital of North Iceland. After exploring this charming town, it is on to Goðafoss, Europe's most powerful waterfall. Next stop is Lake Mývatn, stopping off to walk through the bizarre lava formations at Dimmuborgir. Overnight and dinner is at Sel Hotel Mývatn, where the evening is spent learning about the Northern Lights and relaxing at Mývatn Nature Baths.

DAY 3 East Iceland Today's adventure starts after breakfast with a visit to the Mývatn bird museum and the hot spring area of Námaskarð, with its bubbling mud pools. East Iceland beckons as you cross the uninhabited highlands and navigate the moonlike surroundings, home to the Arctic fox and reindeer. Dinner and overnight at Hotel Hallormmstaður, located in Iceland's largest forest, a perfect setting for hunting the Aurora.

DAY 4 Meet the locals After a walk through the arboretum, you will head to the charming sea-side village of Eskilfjörður. Here, you will visit a seaman's lodge and, subject to strong stomachs, taste the locally produced shark meat, dried fish and Brennivin schnapps. Later, Ms Oskarsdottir, a local Aurora specialist, will regale you with her Aurora encounters and, if the conditions are favourable, lead you to her favoured Northern Lights spot, just outside the village. Dinner and overnight at Fosshotel Fáskrúdsfjörður.

DAY 5 Glaciers & Ice Today's journey winds through dramatic fjord landscapes and tiny fishing villages, before arriving at Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon, filled with sculpted floating icebergs. Continue through Vatnajökull National Park before arriving at the Fosshotel Núpar. This remote location is a renowned Aurora area, so be sure to keep a watch for a swirling display of lights.

DAY 6 South Coast Marvel at the varied landscapes of the South Coast, including black sand beaches, mountainous cliffs and some of Iceland's most impressive waterfalls. A visit to the Eyjafjallajökull Information Centre is an enlightening experience. Overnight at the Grimsborgir Hotel, where after dinner, you can keep an eye out for an overhead dancing display of the Aurora from the hotel's outdoor hot tubs.

DAY 7 Golden Circle Today you will visit a trio of Iceland's most iconic sights. First the Geysir geothermal pools, then Gullfoss waterfall and on to Thingvellir National Park. This is followed by the highlights of Reykjavik, before overnighting at the Fosshotel Baron and dining at one of the many local restaurants (payable locally).

DAY 8 UK Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before returning to Keflavik International Airport for your return flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return international flights from a choice of regional UK departures.
- Flight from Reykjavik domestic airport to Akureyri
- Return airport/hotel shuttle transfers
- 7 nights accommodation lodging in twin rooms with private WC/shower
- Breakfast throughout, 5 x 2-course dinners and 5 x midnight refreshments
- Entry to Mývatn Nature Baths and Bird Museum at Lake Mývatn
- Meet the locals tour and tastings



Winter Images of Ilulissat

Price from **£2395**^{pp}
Thursdays, November – March

Greenland is a unique destination and a winter break is always going to be an intense experience. At this time fjords and bays freeze over and everyday life adapts to the season. Boats are swapped for huskies and snowmobiles, the Midnight Sun for Northern Lights. Travel to Ilulissat, 250 km north of the Arctic Circle and perched on the edge of a UNESCO World Heritage icefjord. View this breathtaking environment and gain an insight into the lives of the Greenlandic people.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Copenhagen Fly to Copenhagen and overnight at the Hilton Copenhagen Airport. There is a direct metro link from here that whizzes you into central Copenhagen in a mere 13 minutes, should you wish to sample some of the city's delights.

DAY 2 Ilulissat Take the morning flight to Kangerlussuaq then onwards to Ilulissat. Both flights can offer amazing views of the icy landscape and illustrate the sheer scale, barren wilderness and challenges that face the tiny population of Greenland. On arrival, meet your local guide, transfer to the Hotel Arctic for check-in and an information meeting. In order to familiarise yourself with your surroundings there is a guided walk of the town. Return to the Hotel Arctic for a welcome dinner.

DAY 3-5 Ilulissat We have left these days free for optional excursions (see page 61). Activities will be dependent on ice and weather conditions, so an adaptable approach may be needed. Open water is expected until late November, but could last all winter. Snow is expected from early December. The Northern Lights are visible from September – March.

Your local guide is on hand to assist should any pre-booked options need rescheduling. On your final night in Ilulissat there is a farewell dinner, and an opportunity to share your experiences with fellow guests.

DAY 6 Copenhagen After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your return flight to Copenhagen (via Kangerlussuaq) and overnight once again at the Hilton Copenhagen Airport.

DAY 7 UK Breakfast and choose your return flight home to suit any further shopping or sightseeing requirements.

YOUR LODGINGS

The 4* Hotel Arctic is located on a rocky headland with uninterrupted views over the town and the UNESCO World Heritage site of the Ilulissat Icefjord. Erik Bjerregaard has, over the years, extended the original property which now offers a wide choice of accommodation. The standard Puisi rooms with Philip Stark bathrooms, enjoy views of the town and harbour. Upgrade to the contemporary and elegant Umiaq deluxe rooms that enjoy Bang & Olufsen TV's, original Greenlandic art work and guaranteed views of the sea and bergs.

This property is full of surprises and delights and nowhere more so than in the kitchen. Restaurant Ulo is recognised as one of the best in the country. Café Ferdinand is a light and easy alternative offering tea/coffee, cake and what has to be the wildest 'bar menu' where even the bread incorporates seawater from the Icefjord.

Hotel Arctic has hosted dignitaries and statesmen from the world over and you too are assured of a VIP experience.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Ilulissat (via Copenhagen and Kangerlussuaq)
- 2 nights accommodation at the Hilton Copenhagen Airport
- 4 nights accommodation at the Hotel Arctic, Ilulissat
- Lodging in standard twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- Breakfast throughout. Welcome & Farewell Dinner at the Hotel Arctic
- Return airport/hotel shuttle transfers in Ilulissat
- Services of a local guide in Ilulissat



THE ICEBERGS OF SERMERMIUT

Take a leisurely walk along the UNESCO designated Ilulissat Icefjord to Sermermiut, where traces from three old Inuit cultures can be seen. Dependent on the season you may encounter a carpet of snow or wildflowers, berries and heather surrounding the boardwalk. The ever-present icebergs provide the backdrop. Refreshments included.

Duration: 2-3 hrs. **Price from:** £45 pp.

HUNTER'S SETTLEMENT RODEBAY

Travel to the small settlement of Rodebay (Oqaitsut), which is only accessible by boat or dog sledge. The settlement has just 40 inhabitants, who are entirely dependent on fishing and hunting, in contrast to life in Ilulissat. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant and time to stroll around in the village. This excursion is operated by boat when there is open water. If the fjord is frozen then the village is only accessible by dog sledge – please see full day excursion by dog sledge option. Lunch included.

Duration: 6 hrs. **Price from:** £145 pp.

ICEBERG CRUISE BY BOAT

Ilulissat is world famous for its icebergs and this cruise provides the perfect opportunity to get close to these gigantic monoliths sculptured by nature. It is a truly mesmerising experience. Excursion only operated when there is open water. **Duration:** 2½ hrs. **Price from:** £69 pp.



SNOW SHOE WALK

Enjoy the most exclusive views of the Kangia and its gigantic, famous icebergs. This is a comfortable and safe snow shoe walk with an experienced local guide, following the trail from the power plant around the point, to enjoy the panoramic view of the Sermermiut valley, the icebergs and the Disko bay. No previous experience is required, and everybody can learn how to move safely in the winter terrain with the snow shoes.

Available: Jan – Apr **Duration:** 2 hrs. **Price from:** £69 pp



SNOW SHOE ADVENTURE

This guided tour follows the trail along the icefjord, also known as the blue trail. It starts from the quarry, passing through a dramatic cleft. After 1 hour ascending between walls covered with snow and thick ice, you reach a view point from where you can enjoy the panorama view of the “dog sledge highway”. After a small break to refresh and take some pictures, descend to the frozen lake and river bank. Continue along the rocky coast, passing Holms Bakke where, on 13th of January, the inhabitants of Ilulissat meet to celebrate the sun reappearing on the horizon after 6 weeks of absence. Lunch is at this incredible view point. You will then see Nakkaavik, the cliff where, in past times of famine, the women killed themselves with their children by jumping to the water. Finally the walk will stop at the abandoned settlement, Sermermiut. After a full day out in the beautiful nature we return to reach the old heliport at Ilulissat.

Available: Jan – Apr **Duration:** 5 hrs. **Price from:** £105 pp.

DOG SLED ADVENTURE

In a town where the dogs almost outnumber the human population, dog sledding is a way of life. It is a skill practiced by the Inuit for over 2,000 years, and more recently, any number of polar explorers. Leave the civilized world behind and enter an Arctic wonderland of low ridges and ice-covered fjords that have trapped gigantic icebergs in its frozen waters. The only sound is the runners of the sledge moving over the ice and the shouts of encouragement your driver makes to control his dogs. Excursion operated when there is snow. Rent of fur clothes included.

Duration: 2 or 3 hrs. **Price from:** 2 hrs. from £89 pp/3 hrs. from £125 pp.

NORTHERN LIGHTS TREK

Join a short evening walk, where we hope to get a view of the Northern Lights. Starting at the old heliport and adorned with headlights, the guide will lead the way to Holms Bakke by the icefjord. The hike takes about 20-30 minutes. During the hike the guide talks about this phenomenon. Greenlandic coffee is included. **Duration:** 1½-2 hrs. **Price from:** £50 pp.

DELUXE FLIGHT OVER ILULISSAT ICEFJORD

A remarkable sightseeing flight and photo safari in a 5-seat, quiet and comfortable aircraft. Your pilot flies at low altitude to the very end of Ilulissat Icefjord. After cruising above the glacier front and getting as close to it as safety allows, you head towards the underwater moraine in front of Ilulissat, where you can enjoy breathtaking views of huge icebergs and sky-blue lakes on the top of them. Window seats are guaranteed for the best photo opportunities and every passenger is provided with an Active Noise Reduction Headset. A shorter 35-minute option is available, which takes you to the outer area of Ilulissat town and the underwater moraine at the mouth of the Icefjord and where huge icebergs are stranded whilst waiting to get further out into Disko Bay. **Available:** From February onwards **Duration:** 35 mins or 1 hr. **Price from:** 35 mins. £225 pp/1 hr. £335 pp.



Reykjavik New Year Fire & Ice

Price from **£985**pp
29 December 2015

Celebrate New Year in spectacular style. Travel to Iceland's capital, Reykjavik, and ring in the New Year in the land of Fire & Ice. The Icelandic celebration attracts visitors from around the world, not least because of the 500 tons of fireworks unleashed by the capital's population into the dark night sky. Before joining the party at the Grand Hotel experience the history, culture and geographical phenomena that this island has to offer.

YOUR TOUR

29 Dec Reykjavik Board your flight to Keflavik. Transfer via airport shuttle bus to the Grand Hotel in Reykjavik for 4 nights.

30 Dec At leisure Today is free for your choice of adventure. Please see page 51 for a selection of excursions. Take a Super Jeep tour across ice fields, visit the Golden Circle (a trio of iconic Icelandic sights), snowmobile across glaciers or take a thrilling helicopter ride. An evening Aurora cruise and Northern Lights search takes you away from the city landscape and light pollution. Of course, you may simply wish enjoy the abundance of museums, galleries and restaurants that this vibrant city offers.

31 Dec New Year's Eve Icelanders have developed a legendary reputation for enjoying themselves on this special night. You have plenty of time to prepare and the evening will unfold as follows:

- 19.00** Gather for a sparkling wine and strawberry reception.
- 19.30** Enjoy a 4-course dinner accompanied by Icelandic folk entertainment.
- 23.45** Ascend to the hotel's 4th floor balcony, which has one of the city's best views for watching the firework displays and midnight countdown.
- 00.30** Continue the party with dancing and live music in the hotel's Gullteigur Festive Hall
- 02.00** To bed or continue the celebrations in the hotel bar.

01 Jan At leisure Enjoy a leisurely breakfast. The remainder of the day is free for further activities and sightseeing (see page 45).

02 Jan UK Time for some last minute shopping before your transfer back to the airport for your return flight home. You could also choose to sweep away any excesses with a soothing bathe in the milky waters of the Blue Lagoon. Supplement applies and pre-booking is essential.

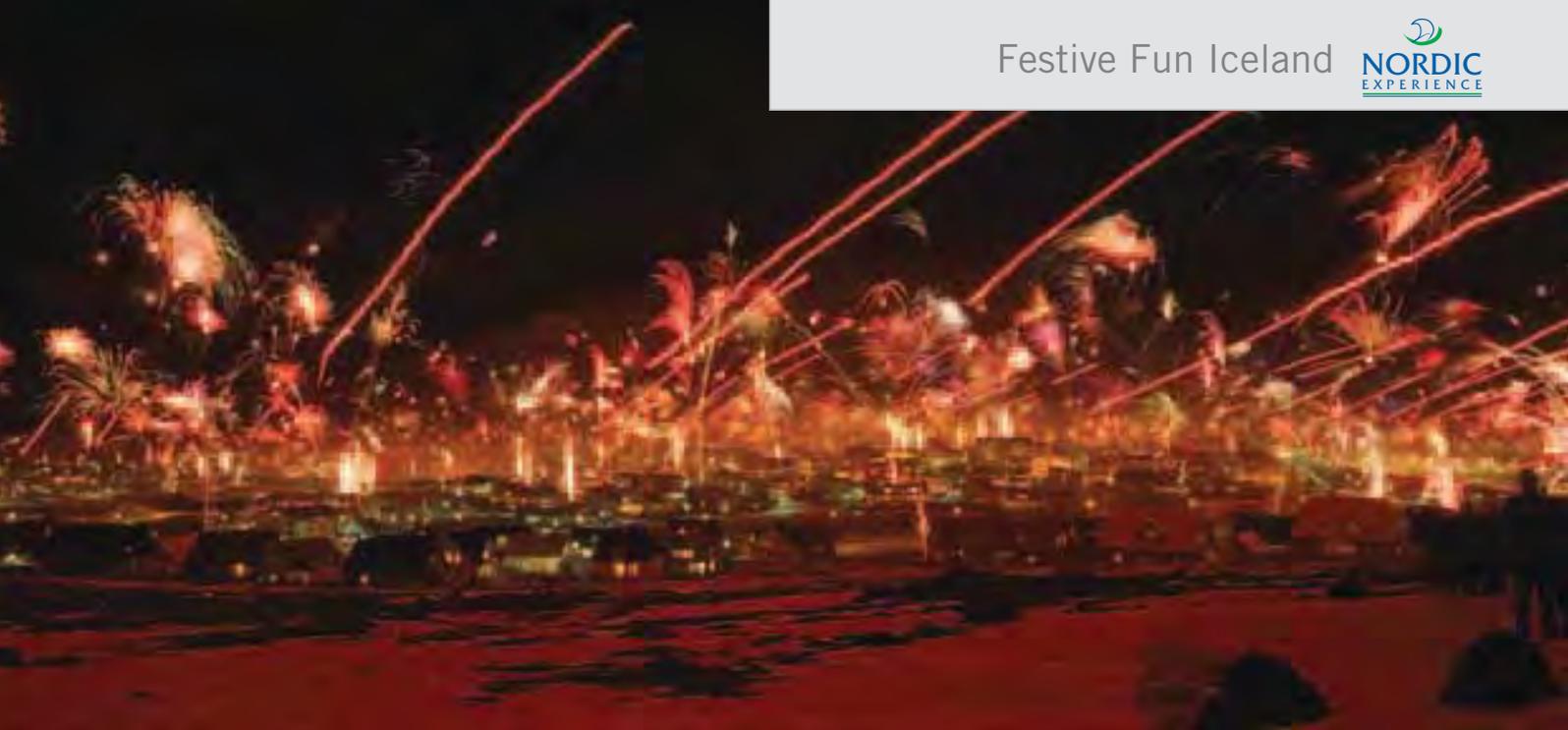
UPGRADE TO REYKJAVIK NEW YEAR FIRE & ICE DELUXE

VIP your visit to Reykjavik and enjoy private return airport/hotel transfers as well as a Northern Lights Search by Super Jeep, where you depart the city lights in modified Landrover Defenders in search of the Aurora Borealis.

Also included is the New Year's Eve Deluxe Gala programme which includes a 5-course dinner with selected wines and a guided tour to one of the biggest celebratory bonfires in Iceland. Ease into the New Year with a New Year's Day Festive Evening Buffet encompassing a smorgasbord of international and local dishes and finally bathe in the milky blue waters of the Blue Lagoon, with pre-booked entry and towel, before your return flight home. **Supplement from:** £400 pp

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Reykjavik
- Return airport/hotel shuttle bus transfers
- 4 nights accommodation at the Grand Hotel, Reykjavik
- Lodging in executive twin room(s) with private WC/shower
- Breakfast throughout
- New Year's Eve Buffet Dinner and programme as per itinerary.



New Year, Northern Lights, Volcanoes and Glaciers

Price from **£1060**pp
28 December 2015

A special New Year trip to Iceland with a small group guided tour of the South. Discover a land of icy landscapes, smoking geysers, volcanic craters, glaciers and waterfalls and the thrilling possibility of viewing the splendid Northern Lights dancing above the landscape. Return to Reykjavik and celebrate New Year's Eve as only the Icelandic's can.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Reykjavik Fly direct to Keflavik and take the airport shuttle bus to the Fosshotel Baron, Reykjavik, where you will spend one night. Explore the capital on your own and dine in one of the city's many restaurants.

DAY 2 The Golden Circle Breakfast before meeting your tour guide and fellow travellers at 08.30. The tour starts with a short introduction to Icelandic geology including a striking movie documenting the eruptions of Eyjafjallajökull and Fimmvörduháls in 2010, as well as a chance to view pieces of pumice, ash and lava from Icelandic volcanoes.

Depart for Thingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and Iceland's prime geological, historical and cultural centre. It is also here that the tectonic plates of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge meet. The faults and fissures of the area make evident the rifting of the earth's crust.

Visit the hot springs at Geysir. Strokkur bubbles away, finally exploding in a plume of water high in to the air. The next geological sensation is Gullfoss, a double waterfall that tumbles 34 metres into the Hvítá River. After settling into your simple Arhus Cottages, you will enjoy a 2-course dinner and hear about the Aurora Borealis from your tour guide. Naturally, once darkness falls, you are out in the garden waiting for the Northern Lights.

DAY 3 Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon Experience a world of glaciers, ice and icebergs. Jökulsárlón Glacier Lagoon is filled with floating icebergs and you may even spot seals swimming in the arctic waters. There is time to walk on the black sandy beach, where large icebergs get stranded. Then on to Vatnajökull National Park, Europe's largest National Park. Here you will find Iceland's highest mountains and Europe's largest glacier.

Tonight is spent at the Fosshotel Nupar with dinner and a movie presentation about Northern Lights. In this remote and quiet location you may just get one more chance of seeing the Northern Lights shimmering and dancing across the night sky.

DAY 4 Beaches, Waterfalls and New Year's Eve Today begin crossing the Laki lava field to the village of Vík and a stroll on the black lava beach and along the bird cliffs at Reynisfjara beach.

Passing the infamous volcano Eyjafjallajökull to Skógafoss and Seljalandsfoss, two of Iceland's iconic waterfalls, you arrive back in Reykjavik in good time for a celebratory New Year's Eve dinner with your fellow travellers at Kopar restaurant. Step out at midnight and observe first-hand the local's lighting up the sky with festive fireworks that welcome in the New Year. Overnight at the Fosshotel Baron.

DAY 5 UK Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before your transfer to the airport in time for your flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from a choice of regional UK departures
- Return shuttle bus airport/hotel transfer
- 3-day escorted tour with English speaking guide
- 4 nights accommodation in simple tourist class hotels and cottages as described
- Lodging in twin room(s) with private WC/shower and breakfast throughout
- 2 x 2-course dinner and 2 x midnight refreshment on Day 2 & 3
- Celebratory dinner in Reykjavik on New Year's Eve
- Excursions as specified in the itinerary and use of Northern Lights explorer equipment incl. simple non-slip snow grippers for shoes and flashlight for night walks.



New Year at Camp Ripan

Price from **£2240**pp
29 December 2015

Welcome in the New Year at Camp Ripan, where the magic is not confined to New Year's Eve. There is a whole host of Lapland adventures to enjoy including husky, snowmobile and snow shoe safaris. Relax in the Aurora Spa, dine at the ICEHOTEL and enjoy a sumptuous New Year's Eve banquet. The cosy accommodation is in a spectacular setting, a stone's throw from Abisko National Park. This is an Aurora hot spot where it is not just fireworks that can light up the Arctic sky.

YOUR TOUR

29 Dec Kiruna & Aurora Spa Fly to Kiruna (via Stockholm). On arrival, transfer to Camp Ripan, just 15 minutes away. Check-in to your comfortable 1-bedroomed apartment. We have arranged entry to the Aurora Spa complete with Sauna Bucket. You can enjoy the winter-white landscape through panoramic windows, dip between the warm pools and cold, inside and out. The facility is open until 10pm, so enjoy either before or after your 2-course dinner.

30 Dec Husky & Snow Shoe Safari After breakfast, you will be taken to the nearby husky kennels, where you will meet a team of dogs, all eager for their morning run. After instruction, mush in pairs taking it in turns to speed through the frozen landscape. Stopping en-route, lunch will be served at a wilderness hut, before you don a pair of snow shoes for a short foray into the surrounding forest, looking out for Arctic wildlife along the way. Return to your husky team and mush, ever confident, back to the kennels and Camp Ripan. A 2-course evening meal is served in the restaurant. If conditions are right then you may be rewarded with an evening show of the Northern Lights.

31 Dec Snowmobile excursion & New Year's Eve Enjoy a leisurely breakfast as this morning is at leisure. The afternoon is for you to get to grips with Sweden's most common form of transport (after the Volvo). Following full instruction and driving in pairs you will head out on your snowmobile into the low mountain areas nearby. A light snack will be served in a Lavvu surrounding an open fire, before swapping drivers and heading back.

You will arrive back at Camp Ripan in good time to prepare for the evening's 7-course gourmet dinner. At midnight raise a glass of champagne in front of a roaring fire. Camp Ripan does not do fireworks, but hope for a stunning display of the Northern Lights to light up the sky and welcome in the New Year instead.

01 Jan At leisure Today has been set aside for you to decide how active you wish to be. There are a whole host of excursions on offer, including moose and horseback safaris and Aurora excursions. Please refer to our website or speak to one of our consultants. A 2-course dinner is served in the restaurant.

02 Jan Snowmobile excursion to the ICEHOTEL Today's Arctic adventure is a snowmobile safari to Jukkasjärvi, and home to the ICEHOTEL. First, travel across frozen marshland and through boreal forests before enjoying a tour of the world-famous ICEHOTEL and the spectacular ice carvings therein. Lunch is at the ICEHOTEL restaurant, after which you return fortified to Camp Ripan, where there is every chance, weather permitting, of catching a view of the Northern Lights.

03 Jan UK Breakfast before bidding a reluctant farewell to this enchanted place. Transfer to Kiruna airport in time for your return flight to the UK.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Kiruna (via Stockholm)
- Return airport/hotel shuttle transfers
- 5 nights accommodation at Camp Ripan
- 1-bedroomed Giron apartment with private WC/shower & kitchenette
- Breakfast and 2-course dinner throughout
- Festive 7-course New Year's Eve dinner
- Aurora Spa entry & Sauna Bucket
- Husky & Snow Shoe Safari with Wilderness Lunch
- Snowmobile excursion into the forest including snack
- Snowmobile excursion to ICEHOTEL including lunch



Christmas at Malangen Resort

Price from **£1785**pp
21 December 2015

Spend a memorable Christmas in Northern Norway at this fjord-side residence in the heart of the Lyngen Alps. Stunning scenery, exceptional activities and traditional festive fare are hallmarks of the intimate surroundings designed to deliver an exceptional break.

YOUR TOUR

21 DEC Tromsø Fly to Tromsø for a night in the 'Capital of the North'. Transfer to the Clarion Collection Hotel With. A light buffet supper is served until 9pm.

22 DEC Tromsø & Malangen Resort Plenty of time to enjoy this vibrant University City. Take an excursion (see page 9) or simply enjoy the plentiful museums on hand. The transfer to Malangen Resort departs at 6pm. The hour drive hugs fjords and crosses mountain plateaus. A warm welcome and briefing awaits, as does a delicious dinner. Afterwards you are invited to the Ice Bar at Camp Nikka where you can enjoy a celebratory disgestif.

23 DEC Husky Safari & Outdoor Challenge The morning is free to enjoy the stunning views and tranquil surroundings. In the afternoon head to Camp Nikka, where a group of eager huskies are waiting to be taken on their afternoon run. After instruction, set off, driving in pairs, across the frozen landscape. Swop driver's half-way. On your return to the lodge a number of Arctic 'challenges' await – the details of which are revealed nearer the time. Enjoy a delicious buffet dinner before a relaxing evening in this laid back location.

24 DEC Snowmobile Safari & Christmas feast Morning at leisure. The excursion starts with a 15 minute drive into the mountains. After receiving instruction, head off on an unforgettable journey through the wilderness. Driving in pairs, you do get the chance to swop drivers half way through. Christmas in Norway is celebrated on Christmas Eve, and the kitchen will be busy creating a smorgasbord of tempting dishes for this evening's gala dinner. There is every chance a special visitor will drop by, and you can choose to retreat to the hotel's lakeside Naust 'pub' to continue the festivities.

25 DEC Sami workshop & Northern Lights Search There is ample time to recharge the batteries before this afternoon's Sami workshop introducing you to the culture, myths and magic of the indigenous people. The kitchen will have prepared a wonderful Christmas buffet. Later, go in pursuit of the Northern Lights, should the Aurora appear, experienced guides will ensure you are able to capture this natural phenomenon on your camera.

26 DEC UK It will be difficult to say good-bye but an early departure see's you transferring back to Tromsø airport in time for your return flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights London to Tromsø (via Oslo) & return airport/hotel/resort transfers
- 1 night at the Clarion Collection Hotel With in Tromsø on a half-board basis.
- 4 nights at Malangen Resort on a half-board basis
- Lodging in standard room(s) with private WC/shower. Upgrades available
- Festive programme, guides and excursions as detailed at Malangen Resort

New Year at Malangen Resort

Price from **£1495**pp
29 December 2015

Welcome in the New Year far from the madding crowds at the stylish Malangen Resort near Tromsø, Northern Norway. There is no compromise on quality at this impressive Aurora escape and plenty of activities on hand should you wish to explore the striking Arctic surrounds.

YOUR TOUR

29 DEC Tromsø Fly to Tromsø, the self-styled Northern Lights hub. Transfer to the Clarion Collection Hotel With, A light buffet supper is served until 9pm.

30 DEC Malangen Resort & Snowmobile Safari Enjoy a hearty breakfast before the morning transfer to Malangen Resort. The scenic drive winds round frozen fjords and across the mountain plateau. On arrival the traditional red 'Rorbu' present a picture postcard vision against the pristine white snow.

Settle into your chosen accommodation before an afternoon snowmobile safari. A short transfer takes you further into the wilderness and after full instruction, drive in pairs, across the varied terrain. A hot snack and warming drink are served en-route. Swop drivers before heading back to Malangen Resort for a delicious dinner with your fellow guests. You may be lucky and see a show of the Aurora through the panoramic windows.

31 DEC Snow Shoe lesson & New Year's Eve Celebrations Enjoy a leisurely breakfast, before taking a lesson in snow shoeing. This is an easy skill to master and enables you to access area's normally off bounds. Return to the lodge for lunch (payable locally) and an afternoon of leisure.

The evening celebrations start with a 5-course sumptuous gala dinner, accompanied by fireworks and live music. The icing on the cake would be a dancing Northern Lights display to further light up the sky.

01 JAN Sauna & Husky Safari Enjoy a leisurely breakfast and revitalising sauna, before an afternoon in the company of some four legged friends. The eager huskies can't wait for their afternoon run, and having received instruction you will mush in pairs through the frozen landscapes. It is a splendid activity, serving to illustrate the delightful surroundings you are in and the remarkable stamina of the dogs.

Dinner is served at the lodge. There is the opportunity to join a Northern Lights hunt, venturing out by mini-bus in search of the Aurora (supplement applies).

02 JAN Depart for the UK Breakfast before a relatively early departure for Tromsø airport in time for your return flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London to Tromsø (via Oslo)
- Return airport/hotel and resort transfers
- 1 night at the Clarion Collection Hotel With in Tromsø on a half-board basis.
- 3 nights at Malangen Resort on a half-board basis
- Lodging in standard room(s) with private WC/shower. Upgrades available
- Festive programme and excursions as detailed at Malangen Resort
- Services of local guides at Malangen Resort



New Year in Harriniva

Price from **£1695**pp
29 December 2015

Welcome in the New Year in fabulous Finnish style. Informal and intimate, Harriniva provides the perfect setting for a fun-filled celebration break amid an endless snow filled playground. As well as thrilling snowmobile and husky safaris, go in search of the Northern Lights, take a cross-country skiing lesson and try some (gentle) wilderness survival skills. A visit to Finland's oldest reindeer corral kicks off the New Year celebrations, which include a gala dinner and fireworks.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Fly to Finnish Lapland Take the late afternoon flight from Heathrow to Kittila (via Helsinki), in the heart of Finnish Lapland. Transfer by private coach to Harriniva, a family owned wilderness lodge belonging to the Pietikainen's. A late light supper will be served on arrival.

DAY 2 Snowmobile Safari & Northern Lights Search by Snow Shoe This morning familiarise yourself with your surroundings, you can either relax in the lodge or take a short walk and cross the bridge to Sweden!

After lunch, embark on an exciting snowmobile journey through the frozen landscape. Travelling in pairs and taking it in turns to drive, you break half-way for a hot drink and to admire the beauty of the surrounding snow-covered scenery. You can only feel that you have woken up in an enchanted world. Batteries replenished you continue across a frozen lake and back to the hotel.

Dinner is served in the lodge and later you will go in search of the Northern Lights. Donning snow shoes you head out with your guide into the snow-covered wilderness for your Aurora Borealis hunt. Hot drinks will be served around a camp fire as you watch out for the colourful dancing display.

DAY 3 Reindeers & New Year Celebrations Take a short trip to Torassieppi reindeer farm, dating back to 1847. Learn about the Sami reindeer herders, visit the old house and museum, master the art of lasso throwing and feed the reindeer. You will also be taken on a short reindeer drive and receive a reindeer driving license.

You will then depart for the winter village to view the Ice Hotel with its sculpted bar and ice rooms. A lunch will be served in the unique ice restaurant. Suitably replenished head for Jeris Spa, the perfect place to relax. The brave can also go ice-swimming. Warm up in an electrically heated sauna or test the real Lappish wood heated smoke sauna. Returning to Harriniva there is time

to relax before the evening's festivities.

Welcome in the New Year with a gala dinner complete with Lappish specialties. This is followed by fortune telling, fireworks and a complimentary glass of wine at midnight to welcome in the New Year after which the revelry continues.

DAY 4 Husky Safari & Cross-Country Skiing After breakfast meet the 400-strong Harriniva husky family, who live just a short walk from the lodge. After instruction, you will mush a team of dogs, all eager for their morning run.

As you and your co-driver journey through forest the silence is only broken by the panting dogs and fervent shouts of your instructions.

Lunch will be served in a Kota back at Harriniva, after which you will be given a cross-country ski lesson. Once mastered, it won't be long before you trailing through the countryside. Return to the lodge for afternoon, where drinks and pastries will be served.

A farewell dinner with Finnish specialties will be served in the main restaurant this evening.

DAY 5 UK Breakfast at the hotel before your return transfer to Kittila airport in time for your return flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Kittila (via Helsinki)
- 4 nights accommodation at Harriniva Wilderness Lodge
- Lodging in twin/family room/apartment accommodation with private WC/shower
- Full Board for the duration of your stay
- Safari excursions & New Year celebrations as per itinerary
- Complete set of protective outer clothing for the duration of your stay



Festive Fun in Finnish Lapland

Price from **£1495**pp
27 December 2015

This festive break is perfect for those with Christmas and New Year commitments but still want to get away between these dates. Harriniva is one of the very few remaining family-owned hotels in Lapland, providing an ideal setting for some festive fun. Enjoy thrilling snowmobile and husky safaris, search for the Northern Lights, be served coffee and cakes in a snow igloo and relax at a lakeside sauna and spa.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Fly to Finnish Lapland Fly from London Heathrow (via Helsinki) to Kittila in the heart of Finnish Lapland. Meet your guide and take an hour coach transfer to Harriniva, a privately owned wilderness lodge belonging to the Pietikainen family. A late night snack will be served on arrival at the lodge.

DAY 2 Snowmobiles and Huskies After breakfast and following instruction, you will embark on an exciting snowmobile safari through the frozen landscape to a Sami encampment, where you will be served drinks by a camp fire. As you sip your hot berry juice you can only admire the beauty of the surrounding snow-covered scenery and feel that you have woken up in an enchanted world. Batteries replenished you continue on across a frozen lake and back to the hotel for a warming lunch.

It is then time to meet some of Harriniva's very own 400-strong husky family, who live just a short walk away. Following an induction on how to drive and steer your team of dogs, you will mush in pairs behind your Lapp guide in a thrilling Arctic adventure. As you journey through forest, the silence is only broken by the panting dogs and eager shouts of the musher's instruction.

On your return to the lodge, take a soothing sauna before evening dinner. Later don snow shoes and go in search of the Northern Lights. Your guide leads you into the snow-covered wilderness for your Aurora Borealis hunt. Hot drinks will be served around a camp fire as you watch out for the colourful, dancing sky spirits.

DAY 3 Reindeer ride, Sauna's & Spa's Set off on a short, morning walk from the hotel to visit the Sami reindeer herders. Whilst gathered round a traditional tepee, an ancient mystical Shaman will appear and tell you a

magical story, before performing a 'Crossing the Arctic Circle' ceremony. Afterwards you will be taken on a short reindeer ride and awarded your license.

After lunch, you will be taken to a nearby winter village and served coffee and cakes in the ice bar of their snow igloo. Suitably replenished, you head for the Spa, the perfect place to relax. The brave can also go ice-swimming. Warm-up in an electrically heated sauna or test the real Lappish wood heated smoke sauna.

Evening dinner is around an open fire in a charming wooden Kota, enjoying a traditional Sami Christmas buffet. During the evening you may hear the distant sound of sleigh bells followed by a knock on the door – an ancient Sami spirit has told Santa where you are. Led by a herder in traditional Sami costume, Santa will deliver a small present to everyone.

DAY 4 UK Enjoy a leisurely breakfast and there may be time for a quick last toboggan before you have to return your snow suits. Board the transfer back to Kittila airport in time for your flight back to the UK.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Kittila (via Helsinki)
- 3 nights accommodation at Harriniva Wilderness Lodge
- Lodging in twin/family room/apartment accommodation with private WC/shower.
- Full Board for the duration of your stay
- Safari excursions as per itinerary
- Complete set of protective outer clothing for the duration of your stay



Adult price from **£1495**pp
 Child price from **£1295**pp
 27 December 2015

Santa's Festive Fun

Experience a festive Christmas for all your family at the Pietikainen family's Wilderness Lodge at Harriniva. The glow from the windows lights up the pine lodge and ice-sculpted snowmen and elves are scattered around its entrance. Once inside, a comforting cauldron of warmth instantly wraps you up with an 'at home' feeling. It's as if Harriniva is saying 'let the magic begin'.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Fly to Finnish Lapland Travel on the late afternoon flight from London Heathrow to Kittila in the heart of Finnish Lapland. Your guide will transfer you by private coach to Harriniva Wilderness Lodge. A late supper will be served on arrival.

DAY 2 Snowmobiles and Huskies After breakfast you will go on an exciting snowmobile journey through the frozen landscape. Adults drive in pairs and children are wrapped up under reindeer skin rugs on a special sleigh behind your guide. Follow a trail through the winter landscape before stopping to play in the deep snow. It is then back to Harriniva for a warming buffet lunch.

It is time for a husky-driven adventure as you meet Harriniva's 400-strong pack. The grown-ups will mush 2 per dog team whilst children ride separately in husky sleds behind an experienced Lapp guide. As you journey through forest the silence is only broken by the panting dogs and eager shouts of the musher's instruction. Relax before evening dinner, which will be served in the Aurora Borealis Kota.

DAY 3 Reindeer's and Santa Time to meet Santa's reindeer, who are looked after by Sami herders. Whilst gathered round a traditional teepee and campfire, an ancient mystical Shaman will appear and tell you a magical story. He performs a 'Crossing the Arctic Circle' ceremony and awards you with a diploma for doing so. Afterwards you will be taken on a short reindeer ride and be granted your very own reindeer driving license.

After lunch, enjoy an afternoon of snow fun. Write a Christmas wish and toast marshmallows over an open fire. Try your hand at cross-country skiing, tandem-skiing or snow shoeing. There is the thrill of a toboggan ride and kick-sledding, enjoyed by people of all ages, as well as mini-ski-doods for the

children to try. Just watch out for a possible stray snowball too!

Later each family takes a once in a lifetime journey out into the forest and along a secret trail, marked by lanterns hanging in the trees. Discover the Old Lady of the Woods, sheltering in her teepee with some of Santa's Elves. They will guide you to a giant log cabin where Santa lives – the rest is a secret until you meet him.

Whilst waiting for your sleigh to arrive, help decorate a Christmas tree, bake traditional gingerbread cookies and enjoy some traditional Christmas crafts.

Later that evening you will enjoy a festive Sami Christmas buffet. A distant sound of sleigh bells is followed by a knock on the door – an ancient Sami spirit has told Santa where you are! Santa will deliver a small present to everyone, grown-ups and children alike.

DAY 4 UK Breakfast at the lodge and a chance to have one last quick play in the snow before it is time to return your snow suits. Transfer back to Kittila airport in time for your flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Kittila (via Helsinki)
- Twin/family room/apartment accommodation with private WC/shower
- Full Board
- Individual family snowmobile sleigh ride to visit Father Christmas
- Evening visit from Father Christmas
- Exclusive 'Smuggle Santa your own present' facility
- Small present for everyone (children and adults)
- Safari excursions as per itinerary
- Reindeer driving license and 'Crossing the Arctic Circle' certificate
- Complete set of outer thermal clothing for the duration of your stay



Dancing with Elves

Adult price from **£1495**^{pp}
 Child price from **£1295**^{pp}
10 & 19 December 2015

Harriniva Wilderness Lodge is set in the heart of Finnish Lapland. Nestled by the banks of the frozen Muonio River. Wrapped in a cloak of pristine white snow this informal, friendly family run lodge welcomes you with open arms. A warming glow lights up the pine lodge and surrounding ice sculptures. This is a fairy-tale setting for a magical Santa experience.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Leave for Lapland Fly from London Heathrow to Kittila (via Helsinki). On arrival, transfer to Harriniva and head straight for your room, where your thermal clothing will be ready. There should be time to play in the snow before enjoying a buffet supper served in the hotel restaurant.

DAY 2 Reindeer, Snow Fun & Santa This morning meet some of Santa's reindeer resting at their corral. A herder welcomes you to his traditional kota, where a Shaman arrives to tell a tale from ancient folklore. There is a time-honoured 'Crossing the Arctic Circle' ceremony and you will be awarded with a diploma to mark the event. In addition there is a short fairy-tale ride through the forest in a reindeer sleigh, after which you are awarded a reindeer driving license. After lunch, it's an afternoon of snow fun. Begin by toasting marshmallows, moving on to cross-country skiing and testing balancing skills whilst snow shoeing. There are mini-snowmobiles for the children to try, whereas the toboggans and kick-sleds runs are enjoyed by people of all ages. Try your luck at ice-fishing or start a competitive ice-hockey game.

Later, each family will take a once in a lifetime journey out into the forest. Here you will meet the Old Lady of the Woods who, along with her elves, directs you along a trail marked by lanterns, to a giant log cabin where Santa lives. The rest is a secret until you meet him. Whilst waiting for your sleigh to arrive, help to decorate a Christmas tree, bake traditional gingerbread cookies and make some Christmas decorations.

That evening, after having tucked into a festive Finnish Christmas buffet, you hear the sound of bells jingling through the trees and discover an ancient Sami spirit has told Santa where you are. Santa then delivers a small present to children and grown-ups alike.

DAY 3 Snowmobile & Huskies Today the whole family will enjoy a thrilling snowmobile ride into the Arctic fells and forest. Adults drive in pairs whilst the children are wrapped up under reindeer skin rugs on a special sleigh behind the guide. Break half-way to play in the waist deep snow before returning to the lodge for lunch.

This afternoon you will meet the excited Harriniva huskies. This 400-strong family each have their own name and are eager to start their afternoon run. Grown-ups mush 2 per dog team, whilst children ride in sleds behind the guide. The only sounds that break the snowy silence are the panting of the dogs and the enthusiastic calls of the musher. On returning to the kennels, the children get the chance to mush their own sled too. Dinner this evening is served in the atmospheric setting of the Aurora Borealis Kota.

DAY 4 UK After breakfast you'll have time for a quick last toboggan or snowball fight before transferring to the airport for your return flight home.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Kittila (via Helsinki)
- 3 nights accommodation on a full board basis
- Private Father Christmas visit and 'Smuggle a present to Santa' facility
- Second Father Christmas visit with a present for all
- Excursions, reindeer driving license & 'Crossing the Arctic Circle' diploma as per itinerary
- Return airport/hotel transfers & set of outdoor protective clothing for the duration of your stay
- Services of a Nordic Experience tour guide



Lapland Wilderness Adventure

Adult price from **£1395**pp

Child price from **£1195**pp

11, 14, 17 & 20 December 2015

Enchanting and charming, Nellim is the definition of a hidden gem. Located on the shores of Lake Inari, this wilderness lodge is as quiet and beautifully remote a spot as you will find anywhere in Finnish Lapland. The owners, Jouko and Mari Lappalainen, have painstakingly converted what was once the local school into an authentically crafted home. Adding to the magical atmosphere is the chance of spotting the Northern Lights in this Aurora hot spot and a sensational hidden Santa secret.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Finnish Lapland Depart London Heathrow for Ivalo (via Helsinki). On arrival you will meet your local guide for the 1 hour private coach transfer to the magical Nellim by Lake Inari. At the hotel make straight for your accommodation, where your thermal clothing will be ready. Then head straight out into the powdery pristine snow-covered playground before a welcoming buffet supper.

DAY 2 Santa Surprise and Snowmobiling This morning starts with a wilderness adventure – a safari by snowmobile. Follow your guide along a forest trail amongst the pine and spruce bordering the shoreline of Lake Inari. Grown-ups are paired together, taking it in turns to drive, whereas the children enjoy their own ride, wrapped up under warm reindeer skins in a specially built sleigh and driven by your Lapp guide.

Return to the lodge for a hearty lunch. Spend the afternoon on the frozen lake with tobogganing, ice fishing, snow shoeing and cross-country skiing.

Later, each family is given a secret undertaking. You will board a snowmobile sleigh, which will transport you and your family deep into the forest to a destination only known to your guide. Once you've arrived at this enchanted place, a friendly elf will reveal a sensational secret - Santa is waiting! Santa will listen to everyone's wishes, which both he and the Sami Spirits of Inari will try to make come true. Return to Nellim for an evening of cookie baking and dinner.

DAY 3 Husky Safari & Reindeer Farm After breakfast it is time to embark on a husky safari. After greeting the excited howling hounds, adults take

charge of a sled and mush in pairs. Children have their own special ride.

Lunch is served back in the hotel, before travelling to the local reindeer farm to meet some of Santa's hard working herd. On your return to Nellim you will decorate a Christmas tree before a traditional Sami Christmas buffet supper. Later you hear the distant sound of Nellim's school children calling in the wind amongst the trees and discover they have told Santa where you are. Santa has returned to deliver a small present to grown-ups and children alike.

DAY 4 UK After breakfast, time at leisure for last minute tobogganing and snow shoeing at the lake's shore before transferring to Ivalo for your return flight to London Heathrow.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Ivalo (via Helsinki)
- 3 nights accommodation in a hotel room/apartment/cabin with private WC/shower
- Full Board
- Individual family snowmobile sleigh ride to visit Father Christmas
- Evening visit from Father Christmas
- Exclusive 'Smuggle Santa your own present' facility
- Small present for everyone (children and adults)
- Safari excursions as per itinerary
- Complete set of protective thermal clothing provided throughout
- Services of Nordic Experience and local guide



Fjell Fun with Father Christmas

Adult price from **£1450**pp

Child price from **£1195**pp

11, 14 & 17 December 2015

The mountain-top village of Iso-Syöte is cloaked throughout winter in deep white snow and has breathtaking views of a landscape littered with snow-laden conifers and frozen mires. At the village's heart is the Iso-Syöte Hotel with its panoramic view restaurant, Arctic spa, outdoor hot tubs, swimming pool, sauna and bar. Your adventure include snowmobiles, huskies and reindeer plus a very special encounter with Father Christmas.

YOUR TOUR

DAY 1 Iso-Syöte Leave from London Heathrow on a scheduled flight via Helsinki to Rovaniemi or Oulu on the edge of the Arctic Circle. On arrival travel by private coach to Iso-Syöte, a snow-clad fjell on the edge of the Syöte National Park. On arrival make straight for your cottage before a buffet supper in the hotel's panoramic restaurant.

DAY 2 Father Christmas & Huskies After breakfast take to your snowmobile. Adults drive in pairs, taking it in turns to steer through the surrounding landscape. The children are wrapped up beneath reindeer skin rugs and pulled on a special sleigh behind the Lapp guide. Wind down the fjell across frozen mires and lakes to a clearing in the forest alongside which stands a Kota with a welcoming open wood fire.

Dismount from your snowmobile before meeting and making friends with a pack of excitedly barking huskies. After the customary cuddling, mush your way along a trail marked out on a pure white blanket of snow with only the sound of the sleigh's runners to break the silence of the winter air.

A welcoming lunch is served in the Kota and the afternoon filled with snow fun games set up in the surrounding wilderness. There is the simple art of kick sledding and snow shoeing to master and mini-snowmobile rides for the children.

During this time each family will make a secret pilgrimage along a candle lit track to a cabin – barely visible in the woods. A knock on the door reveals Santa's secret hideaway, as well as the man himself. The rest is hush-hush until you meet him, but it is safe to say it will be a magical encounter.

Return to Iso-Syöte by snowmobile; take a sauna or splash in the hotel pool before a traditional buffet supper in the restaurant. Make sure you keep an eye out for the Northern Lights from the restaurants panoramic windows.

DAY 3 Reindeer and a Shaman's Magic Today's snowmobile safari takes you to a nearby reindeer corral. The Sami herder greets you and tells of his life raising reindeer. Introduce yourself to Santa's herd, afterwards taking the reins of a sleigh to sit your reindeer driving exam.

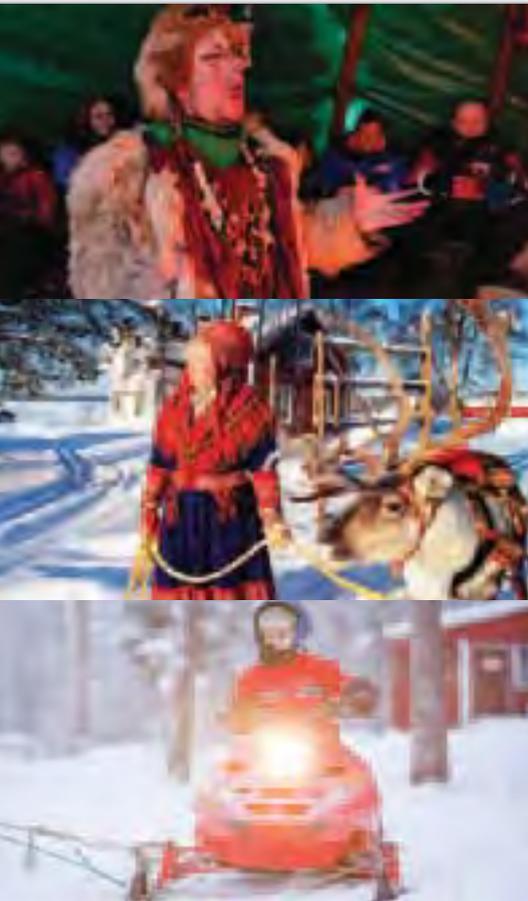
Celebrate your success over a mug of warming coffee in a traditional Kota where you will catch the sound of drum beat breaking through the frosted air. This announces the arrival of the Shaman who formally greets you with a demonstration of his centuries old mystical powers, the details of which are a carefully coveted secret.

Snowmobile to a local restaurant for lunch before returning to your cabin. Help the children find a Christmas tree to decorate, bake cookies before a traditional festive buffet dinner where you are joined by a very special visitor.

DAY 4 UK Time for some quick last minute tobogganing after breakfast before transferring to Rovaniemi or Oulu airport ready for your scheduled flights back to the UK.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Finnish Lapland (via Helsinki)
- 3 nights accommodation in a Fjell Top Cottage on a full board basis
- Welcome pack and cleaning services
- Individual family visit to Father Christmas and 'Smuggle Santa your own present' facility
- Evening Father Christmas visit and small present for adults & children
- Safari excursions as per itinerary
- Set of protective outer clothing for the duration of your stay
- Services of a Nordic Experience and local tour guide.



Adult price from **£1885**^{pp}

Child price from **£1465**^{pp}

22 December 2015

Christmas in Harriniva

Informal and intimate, Harriniva provides the perfect setting for a fun-filled Christmas break. Located in the heart of Finnish Lapland, this picturesque pine-clad lodge is the ideal location for the whole family to enjoy some Finnish festive fun. Meet the Harriniva Huskies and snowmobile through glistening snow-white forests. Marvel at your kick-sledding, tobogganing and ice-fishing skills. Harriniva is also home to a very special Santa secret, just waiting for you to discover.

YOUR TOUR

22 DEC Kittila Fly from London Heathrow to Kittila (via Helsinki). Transfer to Harriniva Wilderness Lodge, where dinner awaits.

23 DEC Ice Fishing & Snowmobile Safari After breakfast, there is a treasure hunt in the unspoilt surroundings of the lodge followed by the chance to try your hand at ice fishing on the frozen river. After lunch you will be instructed on how to drive a snowmobile before setting out through the frozen forest surrounding Harriniva. Adults drive in pairs, whilst children are wrapped-up and pulled on a special sled behind the guide. Halfway along the snowy trail, you'll stop and play in the waist deep snow. Head back to Harriniva where there is time for a sauna before dinner that evening.

24 DEC Snow Fun & Santa Toast marshmallows over an open fire then, try your hand at cross-country skiing and snow shoeing. A tunnel toboggan run is a fun challenge for all, as is remaining upright on a fast moving kick-sled. The children can also try a mini snowmobile.

Late afternoon each family will undertake a hush-hush mission to find Santa. A snowmobile sled takes you deep into the forest to find the Old Lady of the Woods. Once found, her elves direct you along a candlelit path to a giant log cabin and the home of Santa. The rest is a secret until you meet him.

Whilst waiting for your sleigh to arrive, help to decorate a Christmas tree, bake gingerbread cookies and enjoy some traditional Christmas crafts.

A celebratory festive Finnish Christmas buffet is served in the atmospheric Aurora Borealis Kota, where during the evening, a surprise visitor returns to deliver a small present for everyone.

25 DEC Husky Safari After breakfast, take a short walk to the Harriniva husky kennels, where a 400-strong family of dogs are eagerly awaiting their morning run. Adults will mush (in pairs), whilst the children set off on their own ride in a sled behind an experienced guide. This is a magical experience with only the sound of panting dogs to break the snowy silence. On their return, the children get their chance to mush too. Lunch is back at the lodge before an afternoon at leisure with pastries and drinks on hand to enjoy before dinner.

26 DEC Torassieppi Reindeer Farm & Jeris Spa Torassieppi Reindeer Farm dates back to 1847. Learn about the Sami herders, master the art of lasso throwing and take a short reindeer drive through the forest. Lunch is served around a warming campfire, before a mystical Shaman tells a tale of ancient folklore and performs a 'Crossing the Arctic Circle' ceremony. Diplomas are then awarded to commemorate this morning's events. Spend the afternoon at Jeris Spa. Relax in two heated pools and sauna. For the really adventurous there is also a 25m ice-pool. Return to Harriniva where dinner is served in the restaurant.

27 DEC UK You will have on last chance to play in the snow before the return transfer to Kittila airport and your flight back to the UK.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Kittila (via Helsinki)
- 5 nights full board at Harriniva. Excursions & activities as per itinerary
- Private family visit to see Santa & smuggle Santa your own present facility. Further evening visit and small gift for children and adults
- Return airport/hotel transfers, service of local guide & outer clothing



Christmas by Lake Inari

Price from **£1995**pp

22 December 2015

Lake Inari is infused with the mysticism of Sami culture and the village of Nellim lies at its very heart. Here, in this most tranquil of settings, an Inari Sami family have created a warm and magical atmosphere from where you can enjoy the yuletide festivities. The snow-white landscape reflects roaring log fires, twinkling fairy-lights, starry skies and the Northern Lights, which are all fitting backdrops for the exciting winter activities on hand. This break has Christmas all wrapped up.

YOUR TOUR

22 DEC Ivalo Fly from London Heathrow to Ivalo (via Helsinki). A short one hour transfer transports you to Nellim, an enchanting wilderness lodge in the heart of Finnish Lapland. A programme briefing, dinner and cosy accommodation awaits.

23 DEC Cross-Country skiing & Aurora Camp Enjoy a hearty breakfast before you are taught the art of cross-country skiing. Most Finns learn this after taking their first steps, so it won't be long before you head out, with your guide, onto the trails surrounding Nellim. Return to the lodge for lunch and an afternoon at leisure. Locally sourced products and a proud Sami culture are reflected in this evening's dinner, after which you head by snowmobile sled to Nellim's Aurora Camp. Here you can look out for the Northern Lights from the comfort of a heated cabin, whilst hot drinks are served to keep you warm.

24 DEC Husky Safari After breakfast it is time to meet Nellim's pack of Alaskan huskies, whose kennels are a short snowmobile sled ride away. You can hear their eager howling as you approach. Meet your team, then with adults driving in pairs, head off along a snow-carpeted trail into the Arctic wilderness. Lunch is served back at the lodge and the afternoon is at your leisure. This evening's dinner is a festive Finnish affair, with the distinct possibility of a VIP visitor.

25 DEC Reindeer Farm Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before a visit to a local reindeer farm. Arriving by snowmobile sled, you are greeted by a Sami herder, who has been busy tending his herd. Learn about his life in the Arctic wilderness and test your skill at lassoing. After helping to feed the

herd you return to Nellim for lunch and the afternoon is free for you to relax in this winter wonderland.

Dinner is served in the restaurant. Be sure to keep an eye out for a festive sprinkling of the Northern Lights in the starry sky above.

You could choose to make Christmas Day even more special by overnighting in one of Nellim's romantic Aurora Bubbles. Here you can view the Arctic sky through a specially treated glass ceiling and from the comfort of a double bed (supplement applies).

26 DEC Northern Lights by Snowmobile Today is free for you to choose how you would like to spend your last day in Lapland. There are a number of additional excursions to choose from, please see website for details. After dinner embark on a final quest for the Aurora Borealis. This time (after full instruction) you will be heading out on a snowmobile (driving in pairs) to a special spot by the lake to stake out the Northern Lights. If the conditions are right, a dancing performance of the Aurora will make a fitting finale to this magical Christmas break.

27 DEC UK Breakfast then transfer to Ivalo airport for your return flight back to the UK.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Return flights from London Heathrow to Ivalo (via Helsinki)
- Return airport/hotel transfers
- 5 nights accommodation at Nellim Wilderness Lodge on a full board basis
- Excursions and activities as per itinerary
- Outer protective clothing for the duration of your stay
- Spend a night in a Nellim Aurora Bubble at supplement of: £35 per person

1. BROCHURE DESCRIPTIONS

The descriptions of areas and hotels in this brochure have been compiled as a result of inspection by our staff or agents and checked to ensure they are accurate. However, changes may occur after the date of publication. In addition there may be occasions when accommodation owners, proprietors of facilities etc. may decide to withdraw some of the facilities. These are regrettably beyond our control and we therefore reserve the right to change the particulars at any time before we confirm your booking. We will inform you of any such change at the time of booking, or, if you have already booked, you will be contacted before your departure if there is time. Public holidays particularly Christmas, New Year and religious festivals may also affect the availability of centre and hotel facilities.

2. MINIMUM NUMBERS

Certain tours require a minimum number of people to enable them to operate. We will check whether these minimum numbers have been reached no later than ten weeks before the relevant tour departure date. We shall inform you immediately if the minimum number necessary has not been reached for your tour and in that event we reserve the right to cancel your holiday and refund all monies which you have paid to us.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

If you make your booking through a travel agent, all communications between you and Nordic Experience must be through that travel agent. If you book your tour direct with us we will send all correspondence direct to you. Please quote the reference number shown on your invoice in any communication.

4. HEALTH, VISAS AND DOCUMENTS

a) You must ensure that you and all members of your party have a valid passport and visas and any inoculations and health certificates for all countries to be visited. Your passport must be valid for at least six months following your arrival at your foreign destination.

b) We will offer reasonable assistance and advice as to how to arrange such items, but we cannot in any circumstances be responsible if any member of your party is not permitted to enter any country. You should therefore make necessary arrangements well in advance of your departure date. For FCO advice contact www.gov.uk/knowbeforeyougo or ABTA Consumer Helpline on 020 3117 0599.

5. SPECIAL REQUESTS

If you have any special request, (e.g. dietary requirements or a need for special assistance), please inform us. We will always do our best to meet such requests but cannot guarantee to do so, and in no circumstances will any such request be accepted by us so as to form part of our contractual agreement.



6. ACCOMMODATION

The nature, style and standard of accommodation we use for our tours varies according to country, location and itinerary.

We do not endorse any local star rankings since they do not, in our opinion, provide an accurate reflection of style, atmosphere or location. Please note the description double room often refers to two twin beds secured together with two separate duvets and that a shower rather than a bathtub is the norm throughout Scandinavia.



7. CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

Many of the tours in this brochure depend on suitable climatic and weather conditions both prior to and during operation.

Air temperature, sea state, cloud cover, rainfall and terrain conditions are just some of the factors that can affect the operation of excursions, visibility of natural phenomena and sightings of wildlife. Tour validity and excursion/safari dates are given in good faith based on our experience and that of our suppliers. However we, or our agents, may have to change itineraries or cancel excursions at any time prior to departure or during a tour. If we do so, it is with your interest in mind and we regret the necessity of having to point out that we do not accept any liability for compensation in respect of such changes or cancellations.



8. CLOTHING

Temperatures in the Nordic countries and Northern Europe can vary considerably from day to day or even in a day and conditions can change unexpectedly and rapidly; the terrain is often hazardous and ground conditions frequently difficult.

You should take suitable clothing with these conditions in mind particularly good quality wind/rain proof outerwear; strong walking shoes or boots, gloves and sufficient and varied clothes to enable you to 'layer up'. If you're in any doubt as to what to take, we're always happy to talk it through with you.

9. YOUR TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

We will normally send all your travel documents and itineraries to either yourself or your travel agent approximately two to three weeks before your departure.

PLEASE check them carefully. In some cases, the timings may have changed from those on your holiday confirmation, and the correct timings will appear on the tickets themselves, or on accompanying documentation. Please note that all excursion durations include any applicable transfer time.

10. TOUR PRICES

Full details of what is included in the price of your tour are shown in the panel at the base of the relevant tour page and will be reconfirmed at the time of booking by way of a Confirmation Invoice. Prices include all applicable taxes and mandatory charges. This brochure was published in 2015 and prices shown are valid for departures in 2016/16 subject to availability and any post-publication notifications.

11. SNOWMOBILE HIRE

To drive a snowmobile a full and valid driving license is required. This will need to be presented if requested. There is a zero tolerance approach to drink driving. You are often asked to sign a Damage Waiver form and an excess is payable for damage, irrespective of severity. Safety helmets must be worn at all times. As a general rule, all children 15 and under will travel in a sleigh pulled by the guide's snowmobile. Children 12-plus can sometimes ride as a passenger behind a responsible parent/adult, however this is physically demanding and will be assessed by the local guide on the day. This is at the guide's discretion, their decision being final.

12. INSURANCE COVER

We have an obligation under legislation covering the travel industry to ensure your travel is covered by comprehensive travel insurance that protects your safety and travel enjoyment. If you already have such insurance, or prefer to buy it from a third party then all we ask is that you notify us of the name of your insurer when you complete your booking form. Please note that adequate travel insurance is vital. The destinations that we offer can present certain risks, particularly in the winter and you should ensure that your insurance covers all your personal requirements including medical expenses and repatriation in the event of accident or illness. Please remember to advise your insurers of any activities that you may be taking part in as part of your tour, particularly in the case of snowmobile safaris, to make sure that you are fully covered.

If you would like further information or wish to obtain cover for your trip, please feel free to contact specialist insurance brokers, Campbell Irvine, for a quote.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

To arrange cover or get a quote online visit

www.campbellirvinedirect.com/nordicexperience

or contact
Campbell Irvine
t: 020 7938 1734
e: info@campbellirvine.com

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13. BOOKING CONDITIONS

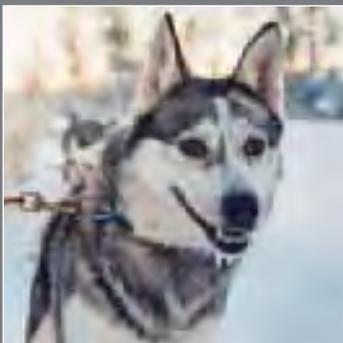
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