



# Harriniva Wilderness Lodge Hotel

The Pietikainen family's Wilderness Lodge at Harriniva stands alongside the frozen Muonio River marking the border between Finnish and Swedish Lapland and is home to the largest husky kennels in Lapland.

The glow from the windows lights up the pine, the Lodge and its adjacent giant Aurora Kota and illuminates the snowy landscape. Once inside, a comforting cauldron of warmth instantly wraps you up with an 'at home' feeling and, with huskies barking in the background, it's as if Harriniva is saying 'let the magic begin'.

The hotel's cosy rooms are all clad in local pine and simply furnished with traditional crafted fabrics. Each has a private WC and shower. There is a choice of room types and many of the standard hotel rooms sleep up to 2 adults and 2 children with either a twin and bunk beds or a double with a sofa bed. You can even have a room with your own private sauna - choose from a sauna suite sleeping up to 4 (with a double bed and a double sofa bed)

or a sauna room sleeping 5 or 6 people (in a double and sofa beds).

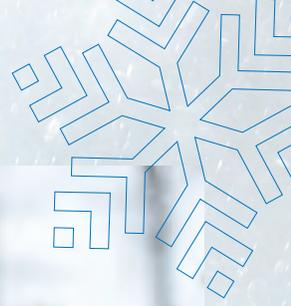
In the indoor public areas there is a bar serving soft drinks, snacks and coffee/tea throughout the day; a bar often with informal local entertainment and 3 dining areas, one of which has an open fireplace.

It's a very friendly place and wherever you are, you will find someone - either a member of the family or someone who has worked for them for years - to look after you.

## ACCOMMODATION

- ✘ Sauna Suites (2-4 adults/children)
- ✘ Sauna Rooms (2-6 adults/children)
- ✘ Standard Room (2-4 adults/children)

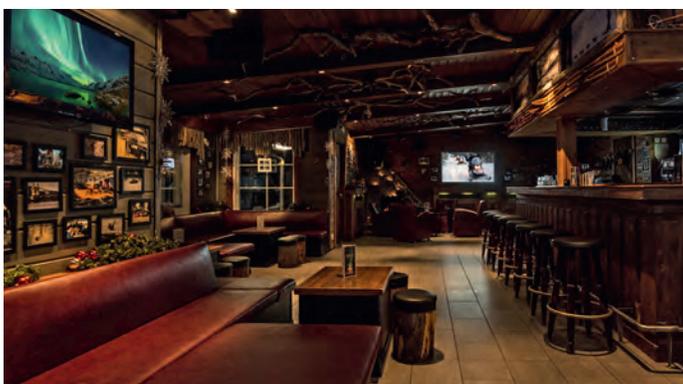




## AROUND AND ABOUT

A stone's throw from the hotel's front door are Harriniva's very own husky kennels, one of the largest kennels in Finland, which means that there are invariably puppies available for a cuddle or two.

Down by the river bank that marks the border with Sweden there is the 'Mutteri' Kota with open fire (traditional Sami wooden shelter), igloos and a sauna.



Up from the river and behind the hotel there's a toboggan ramp, snowmen and even a snow playground where you can have lots of fun with the children, whenever you have a spare moment.

Along a track running by the side of the husky kennels is a reindeer corral where Rudolph lives with his reindeer friends. It's here in a Kota where a Shaman tells tales of old Lapland and how Rudolph learnt to fly.





# Harriniva

## Our 'Dancing with Elves' Dream

### 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. Dinner this evening is served in the main restaurant.

### Day 2

#### Reindeer, Snow Fun & Father Christmas

This morning the families will split into two, half will visit Santa's reindeer, whilst the others have fun in the snow, and after lunch they will swap. 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. In addition there is a short fairy-tale ride through the forest in a reindeer sleigh. You are later awarded a reindeer driving license and 'Crossing the Arctic Circle' certificate to mark the event.

After lunch, it's an afternoon of snow fun. Try cross country skiing and test your balancing skills whilst snowshoeing. There are mini snowmobiles for the children to try, whereas the toboggans and kick-sleds runs are enjoyed by people of all ages. If weather permits, 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 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 bake traditional gingerbread cookies,

decorate gingerbread houses and make some Christmas decorations. Tonight dinner will be a festive Christmas spread.

### 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. Return 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 enthusiastic calls of the musher. On returning to the kennels, the children get the chance to mush their own sled too.

Later, we will head to a traditional Kota to make wooden elves, make Christmas wishes and toast marshmallows, whilst enjoying hot chocolate and delicious cake.

This evening, after having tucked into a festive Finnish buffet in the atmospheric setting of the Aurora Borealis Kota, you hear the sound of bells jingling through the trees and discover an ancient Sami spirit has told Santa where you are. We can take the opportunity to sing Santa a song and should he approve, children and adults may be rewarded with a small present to take home as a special reminder of his visit.

### Day 4

#### Back to the UK

After breakfast, if there's time, enjoy a quick last toboggan or snowball fight before transferring to the airport for your return flight home.



### DEPARTURE DATES

13<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Adult: **£1745** per person  
Child: **£1445** (aged 3-12)

16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Adult: **£1795** per person  
Child: **£1445** (aged 3-12)

19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2018

Adult: **£1795** per person  
Child: **£1445** (aged 3-12)

Prices are 'from' and are subject to availability.

