



Harriniva - Best of the Northern Lights



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group
VISITING: Finland

BROCHURE CODE: 2222
DURATION: 7 nights

In Brief

This 7-night trip to Harriniva offers amazing opportunities to see the Northern Lights. You will be husky sledding, reindeer sleighing, snowshoeing and snowmobiling through the Arctic night. This means that your evenings are all about experiencing thrilling activities whilst chasing the magical Aurora.

Our Opinion

“ This holiday is perfect for anyone who is dedicated to seeing the Northern Lights and anyone who wants space for some freedom in their itinerary, as all of the activities are in the evening. Some of our best activities are included, like a husky safari, a reindeer sleigh ride, snowshoeing and snowmobiling, but all of them are experienced under the stars and, fingers crossed, the Northern Lights. Each activity ends with a hot drink around the open fire, so you can continue to admire the Arctic sky. There are a number of optional activities to choose from should you wish to add to your exciting itinerary. ”

Graham Hughes



What's included?

ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES LISTED BELOW ARE INCLUDED IN THE HOLIDAY PRICE

- **Flights:** return flights from London Heathrow to Kittilä (via Helsinki). Direct return flights from London Gatwick are available for a supplement on certain dates. Flight routes are subject to change
- **Transfers:** return airport transfers
- **Accommodation:** 7 nights in double/twin hotel rooms
- **Meals:** 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches*, 7 dinners
- **The following activities are included in the holiday:** Northern Light snowmobiling, Secret of the Northern Lights workshop, husky night adventure, reindeer Aurora experience, Arctic Elements Lakeside Spa visit and evening with a Shaman, Aurora snowshoeing, Aurora Snow train and daily hotel sauna (the order of activities is subject to change)
- Aurora App which you can download to your phone for the duration of the trip (normally works until 1 am)
- Snowshoe and cross-country ski equipment hire (subject to availability)
- Warm winter clothing for the duration of the trip
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities
- 24/7 assistance from our UK based operations team and in destination support from our local partners

* If you're travelling from the 27th February 2022 you will receive 6 lunches.

Trip Overview

This trip offers the ultimate Northern Lights experience. Set in Harriniva, amongst the beautiful fells of Western Lapland and surrounded by the wild, rugged landscape, this is an ideal location for a week of winter activities and Northern Lights hunting.

The nights of this trip are dedicated to optimising your chances of seeing the Lights, and each activity that is included takes place in the evening, to ensure that you can combine some spectacular experiences with the magic of escaping the light pollution and chasing the Aurora into the night. You

will speed over the fells on a snowmobile, reindeer sleigh ride through the forests and husky sled into the night, all in search of the Northern Lights. Also included in your holiday package is a guided snowshoe tour and an evening visit to the Arctic Elements Lakeside Spa with a unique shaman experience. You will certainly not be bored with the huge variety of Aurora hunting throughout your stay!

Routes and distances for your chases will depend on the weather and Aurora activity on the day, heightening your chances of spotting the enchanting Aurora Borealis.

The days have been left free for you to tailor your trip to suit your wishes and your budget. Staying in your cosy accommodation in Harriniva, you can use this time to unwind, utilising your free daily access to the hotel sauna, trying a traditional Finnish pastime while basking in relaxation. You may want to take yourself out and on to the rolling fells of Harriniva, making use of the day's snowshoeing and cross-country skiing equipment that is available to you.

Or you can choose from the wide range of optional activities that are offered on this trip ([see details under the 'Personalise' tab](#)).

This seven-night holiday promises many one-of-a-kind experiences in a stunning location and the best possible chance of viewing the phenomenal Northern Lights.

@Antti Pietikainen

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL AND WELCOME

You will arrive at Kittilä Airport and be taken on a one hour transfer to your accommodation for the week at Harriniva Wilderness Hotel.

Upon arrival, you will be greeted at reception and given your Northern Lights alarm and your cold-weather clothing. You are free to decide how to spend the rest of your day.

Dinner will be served in the main hotel and you can spend the evening settling into your cosy accommodation.

Included Meals: Dinner

DAY
2

FREE DAY AND AURORA SNOWMOBILING ADVENTURE

After breakfast, the day is completely free. You might want to book an optional safari or activity (details for these can be found under the '[Personalise](#)' tab for this trip). Or you could take yourself over the snowy fell tracks on the available cross-country skis. Lunch will be served in the hotel restaurant.

After dinner, it is time to head out and hunt for the lights by snowmobile on an Aurora Adventure. You will drive two per snowmobile (assuming both are over 18 years old and have a valid driving licence). Should there be clouds then the snowmobiles will give you the best possible chance to get to a place where you may be able to see the Northern Lights, should they appear.

Warm drinks are included and you will be out and about for around two hours in total.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
3

SECRETS OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS AND HUSKY NIGHT ADVENTURE

Today you will have breakfast and lunch in the hotel and in the afternoon, you will join your local guides in a kota to enjoy some delicious snacks around an open fire. The guides will give you information about the hotel, activities and the local area, answering any questions you may have. Then, you will have your 'Secrets of the Northern Lights' workshop, where guides will explain the science behind the fascinating phenomenon of the Aurora Borealis.

After dinner, the adventure continues with an exhilarating night-time husky safari. You will visit a local husky farm to meet the energetic dog team you will be driving during this safari. You will travel with one person standing on the runners at the back of the sledge whilst the other sits and then you will have the chance to swap over. You may be lucky enough to ride beneath the Northern Lights and, once the safari is over, you will enjoy a hot drink and snacks around an open fire while you keep warm and keep a lookout for a display.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
4

FREE DAY AND REINDEER AURORA EXPERIENCE

Today, you will eat breakfast and lunch as usual in the hotel, then you will be left to your own devices once again, allowing you to tailor your day to suit your wishes and preferences.

Dinner will be served as usual and your next hunt for the Northern Lights will begin – this time, via reindeer sleigh. You will visit a local reindeer farm, where you will begin your quiet and peaceful sleigh ride through the enchanting forest, gradually arriving further and further away from the light pollution and enhancing your chances of seeing the Northern Lights.

On your return, you will enjoy hot drinks and snacks around the fire, as you gaze at the stars and potentially continue to appreciate the mystical Aurora. In total, this activity will last around one and a half to two hours including transfers.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
5

ARCTIC ELEMENTS LAKESIDE SPA AND EVENING WITH A SHAMAN

Once again, you will finish breakfast and tailor your day as you wish - you may wish to simply relax and enjoy the hotel sauna. As usual, lunch will be served in the hotel's restaurant.

After dinner, you will head to the Arctic Elements Lakeside Spa in Jeris, approximately 30 minutes away. Here, you can unwind in the four saunas, each one inspired by one of the elements; earth, air, fire and water and named after Finnish gods and goddesses. The facilities include a traditional smoke sauna and plenty of areas for relaxation in the lakeside setting. There is also a special fifth sauna upgrade available, which will be of particular interest to the Aurora enthusiasts. The Northern Lights sauna offers exceptional views of the dark night sky for one of the most relaxing ways to search for the wonderful display! Talk to our Aurora Travel Experts about an upgrade. For the brave (and healthy) you can also take a dip in the ice pool - a traditional part of the Finnish sauna experience.

Following your spa time, drinks will be served and you will participate in a unique experience with a local shaman. Around an open fire, they will perform a ceremony to mark your time in the Arctic and snacks will be served around an open fire. This activity lasts around three to four hours in total including transfers.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
6

FREE DAY AND AURORA SNOWSHOE

After breakfast and lunch, you will enjoy another free day, so you can decide how you would like to spend it. If you enjoyed your husky safari last night, you could spend your morning on an even longer, 25km safari, with one person per sled, rather than two. Or, you could have another try at snowmobiling and book the snowmobile panorama safari, which takes you through the collection of fells around Harriniva.

Following dinner, you will put on your snowshoes tonight for your Northern Lights hunt and head out on a peaceful walk through thick blankets of snow and beneath the dark, star-lit sky. Your walk will end with a hot drink and, with any luck, the lights will put on a show, dancing and swirling above you. You will be out and about for around two to three hours in total.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
7

AURORA SNOW TRAIN

Following breakfast, this is your final day to choose from a number of spectacular activities. You may decide to try the national obsession of ice fishing, a relaxing and rewarding activity – particularly if you make a catch. Or, you could learn more about the indigenous Sámi community on a Sámi Culture day,

visit a local museum and have another chance to experience a reindeer sleigh ride.

After dinner, you will head out on an exciting Northern Lights hunt for your last night. Tonight's adventure is via Harriniva's Snow Train – a snowmobile pulled carriage expertly designed with an all-Perspex exterior to give you constant views of the night sky. You'll also stop in a prime location to enjoy hot drinks and snacks by an open fire. Your location will be chosen based on the local weather and Aurora forecast for the evening, giving you the best possible chance of ticking the Northern Lights off your bucket list. This activity will last around two hours in total.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
8

DEPARTURE

Today, you will bid your holiday farewell as you are transferred to the airport in time for your flight home.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Overnight in an Aurora Dome

The remarkable Aurora Domes are situated at both Torassieppi and Jeris, a location just a short transfer away, and offer a unique experience for overnight guests. These dome-shaped tents are filled with cosy features and are simple in style, with fantastic views looking out to the frozen lake beyond. The domes have been designed so that one wall is see-through and therefore provides views of the night sky and, with luck, the Northern Lights.

The domes are equipped with a double bed and a wood-burning stove, as well as an electric heater. Although the stove and heater will keep the dome in a warm state, we do recommend keeping additional layers to hand, in case you find yourself in need of extra warmth should the fire burn out. The toilet, shower and sauna facilities are located a short walk away (50-100m, approximately).

Clients may be allocated to either destination on arrival. Any required transfers and breakfast are included. For December dates at Torassieppi, you will have dinner at your hotel, prior to transferring

to your dome at approximately 8:30/9pm; from early January onwards, you will check-in at approximately 4 pm and have dinner at Torassieppi. If you are staying at an Aurora Dome in Jeris, check-in is approximately 4 pm throughout the season and you will have dinner at Jeris as well.

At both locations, you will check out after breakfast.

Please note: the price shown is based on your spending the first or final night of your stay in a dome and therefore not requiring a hotel room or cottage. Should you wish to spend an alternative night glamping then additional supplements will apply. Please contact one of our team for a quote.

Image credit: Antti Pietikäinen

Other options

ACTIVITIES



Panorama Safari (30km Snowmobile Safari)

This safari lets you get familiar with the surrounding region, taking you through the fells around Harriniva. Travelling two people per vehicle, you will have the opportunity to swap the roles of driver and passenger during a break on the way.

Anyone wishing to drive must have a full driving licence and be over the age of 18. The total distance covered will be around 30 kilometres.

Activity level: Low

Minimum: 2 people

Available: Monday, Tuesday & Friday at 1.30 pm and Sunday at 10 am

Duration: approximately 2 hours in total

Image credit: Antti Pietikainen



Who's the Meister (9km husky safari)

Say hello to the friendly huskies at the Arctic Sled Dog Centre and pick up the art of driving a dogsled. You will then test your skills on a nine-kilometre trail. Travelling two people per sled, you will have the chance of swapping the roles of driver and passenger halfway. This activity is ideal for those who wish to get a taste of dogsledding before going on a longer husky safari later in their holiday.

You will be out for around one-and-a-half to two hours.

Activity level: Low

Minimum: 2 people

Available: Wednesday at 10.30am

Duration: approximately 1.5 to 2 hours in total

Image credit: Antti Pietikainen



It's a husky day (25km husky safari)

Reaching the Arctic Sled Dog Centre, you will receive full instructions on how to drive a husky sled before heading off on a 25km husky safari, going one person per sled. This adventure will give you a real sense of the trail, as you will be out for around four to five hours.

Picnic lunch included.

Activity level: High

Minimum: 2 people

Available: Thursday at 10.30am

Duration: approximately 4 to 5 hours in total (including lunch)

Image credit: Antti Pietikainen



Lapland snowmobile safari (on request)

This is the ultimate one-day snowmobile safari, covering a total distance of 60 to 80 kilometres, with a stop for hot drinks and a picnic lunch. You will drive your own snowmobile and will be out for between five and six hours.

Guides, instruction and equipment included.

You must be over 18 and hold a full driving licence to drive a snowmobile.

Activity level: High

Minimum: 2 people

Duration: approximately 5 to 6 hours in total (including lunch)

Available: Harriniva, Jeris and Torassieppi Friday at 10am

Image Credit: Antti Pietikainen



Traditional Finnish ice fishing

A national obsession in Finland, ice fishing is a must-try activity in this part of the world. You will be taking to a local fishing spot on a frozen lake. Here, you will be shown how to drill through the ice and arrange a line. As you wait for the fish to bite, you can take in the scenery with a hot drink in hand.

Activity level: Low

Minimum: 2 people

Available: Tuesday at 10 am; Sunday at 1 pm

Duration: approximately 2 hours in total



Tour de Olosvuoma (15km husky safari)

You will receive full instructions from the Arctic Sled Dog Centre on how to drive a husky sled. You will then head off on a 15km husky safari, travelling two people per sled. This is an ideal safari for those who wish to try out a longer dogsledding experience with the chance to switch between driver and passenger.

Activity level: Medium

Minimum: 2 people

Available: Monday & Tuesday at 1 pm, Friday & Saturday at 10.30 am

Duration: approximately 2.5 hours in total

Image credit: Antti Pietikainen



Ski like a Finn!

Cross-country skiing is a much-loved activity in the Nordic Countries. Training in the basics will be provided, so it is an ideal session for those who have never tried the sport before.

Guides, instruction, and equipment included.

Activity level: Low

Minimum: 2 people

Duration: approximately 2 hours in total

Available:

Harriniva: Monday at 10am & Thursday and Sunday at 2pm

Jeris: Tuesday and Friday at 10am

Torassieppi: Tuesday at 10am & Friday at 2pm

Image credit: William Lynds



Local Culture and Short Reindeer Safari (3km)

Learn about the culture of the original Lappish reindeer herders at one of the oldest farms in Finland. On this activity, you will head to a local reindeer farm and find out about the herder's way of life, take a tour of the on-site museum to discover more of the history, and enjoy an enchanting reindeer sleigh ride. Lunch is served in a traditional Lappish 'kota' around an open fire.

From late December, you will then enjoy a tour of the nearby Torassieppi Winter Village which features snow rooms, ice sculptures and a very cool restaurant (weather permitting!).

Activity level: Low

Minimum: 2 people

Available: Monday, Wednesday & Saturday at 10.20 am

Duration: approximately 4 to 4.5 hour in total (including lunch and transfers)

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Harriniva Wilderness Hotel (Nights: 1-7)



Ideally located in the north-west corner of Finland, high above the Arctic Circle and in the very heart of the Aurora Zone, Harriniva Wilderness Hotel serves as a perfect base for your adventure holiday.

Owned and run by the Pietikäinen family, the hotel has developed a growing reputation for its warm ambience and a large range of enjoyable activities on offer.

Hotel facilities

The hotel has a range of facilities that have been designed to make your stay here as enjoyable as possible.

- There is free Wi-Fi throughout the main building for guest use, in our experience, we have found it works best in the main reception and dining area
- The hotel restaurant has a lively, buzzing atmosphere as people excitedly discuss the adventures they have taken part in that day. The meals are served in a buffet style with two or three choices for each course. The food here is hearty and wholesome
- The hotel also has a pub serving a range of beers, wines and spirits - this is the perfect place to unwind and relax with your fellow guests in the evening
- Tea and coffee are available free of charge throughout the day in the hotel restaurant / bar area.
- In the main reception area of the hotel, you will find a small gift shop selling a range of postcards, soft toys and handcrafted products. There is also a selection of snacks that can be purchased
- A sauna is available for guest use with separate facilities for men and women. This is free of charge and is heated every evening for around three hours
- The hotel also has an Aurora Wellness Centre (situated a short walk away on the riverbank), where you can enjoy a range of therapies such as facials or massages. A real treat after a day of soaking up the pristine wilderness! During peak periods, we would strongly recommend booking therapies in advance through reception (all payable locally and we recommend booking in advance if possible)
- Snowshoes and cross country skis are available to hire for a small charge and there are marked trails surrounding the hotel for those with some experience. For those interested in downhill skiing, reception will be able to arrange a taxi to the nearby ski resort of Olos (payable locally)

Room types

Wilderness plus rooms

Decorated in traditional Scandinavian style, these bedrooms were refurbished in 2018. The rooms include double/twin beds and an unfolding sofa suitable for 1 adult or 2 children. All rooms have an en-suite shower room and a hairdryer, as well as a small seating area.

Double/twin rooms

Harriniva has 64 guest bedrooms which consist of twin or double rooms. Triple rooms are also available on request. Decorated in traditional Scandinavian style, all rooms have an en-suite shower room and a hairdryer.

Wilderness Suite

Spacious wilderness style room, decorated in traditional Scandinavian style, these rooms were refurbished in 2018. Located on the ground floor, close to reception these rooms include double/twin beds and an unfolding sofa suitable for 1 adult or 2 children. All rooms have an en-suite shower room and a hairdryer, as well as a small seating area.

Safari House

For those travelling on our longer husky or snowmobile experiences, your nights at the hotel will be spent in shared accommodation in one of Harriniva's Safari Houses. Each has sleeping facilities, a shower room, toilet and a sauna. Some safari houses are on site, whereas others are located 3km from the hotel. If you are staying off-site, you will be transferred to and from the hotel for meals.

Image credits Emmi Kähkönen - Harriniva Hotels & Safaris

Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

Harriniva Riverside Cabins



Set in a picturesque, riverside location and ranging from 39m² to 47m², Harriniva's Riverside Cabins are ideal for larger groups, or those wanting a little more space and privacy during their trip. Each cabin sleeps five people in total, with a main bedroom for two people, a lower ceilinged loft area (accessible by a steep ladder) sleeping a further two people and a pull out sofa bed in the lounge. Fully-equipped with kitchen facilities, including a stove, dishwasher and fridge, and with a cosy living room, you can relax and enjoy your own space in complete comfort. Each cabin even has its own private sauna, perfect for keeping warm after a long day out in the cold.

Credit: Antti Pietikainen

The Specifics

Holiday group size (approximate)

This holiday requires a minimum of 4 people to run, however, we require a minimum of 8 people for our flight allocation. Maximum 22 people (approximately). Please speak to our Travel Experts for further information.

Group Size

We always try to provide an approximation of the group size you can expect to be with for the duration of each of our holidays. It may be that you are joined by others for parts of your holiday (such as transfers and particular activities) but the above number reflects those you can normally expect to be with from beginning to end. If group size is something which is particularly important to you, please speak to our Travel Experts and they can suggest the best holidays for you.

Tailor-made holiday group sizes will vary for all activities as will the group size for any additional activities you book.

Minimum numbers required for a holiday to operate

Some of our holidays require a minimum number of participants to operate (as listed in the 'Group Size' section). If your holiday departure has not yet reached the minimum number, you will be told at the time of booking. In the unlikely event that your chosen date is not guaranteed by nine weeks before your scheduled departure date, we will contact you to discuss the available options as per our [booking conditions](#).

Minimum and maximum age

If a specific minimum age applies to this holiday, it can be found in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page.

Unless otherwise stated in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page, the minimum age for participation in an Aurora Zone holiday is typically 12 years old (there may be younger children in some destinations who have booked with other companies). If an adult-only environment is important to you, then please contact our Travel Experts and they will advise on the best dates and destinations for you. If you are looking for a holiday designed specifically for families then please see our sister company www.activitiesabroad.com.

Itinerary amendments

The order of activities listed in this agenda is provided for guidance only, your final and detailed itinerary will be provided either with your final travel documents (which are uploaded into your online

account around a week prior to departure) or upon arrival.

Terms and Conditions

Our full booking terms and conditions can be found on our website: <https://www.theaurorazone.com/booking-conditions>