



Torassieppi - Autumn Auroras and Glamping in Lapland



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group
VISITING: Finland

BROCHURE CODE: 2205
DURATION: 3 nights

In Brief

Escape the winter crowds during this 3-night autumn break to breathtaking Finnish Lapland. Torassieppi is a wilderness region away from light pollution and with an excellent Aurora track record. During autumn, you could be lucky enough to see the Northern Lights reflect off the unfrozen Lake Torasjarvi.

Our Opinion

“ My stand out memory of visiting Torassieppi during autumn was sitting by a campfire underneath the dark, starry sky, awaiting a potential Aurora display. The silence was so profound that you could almost hear it and it was only ever disturbed by the gentle sounds of wildlife. The anticipation of witnessing the Northern Lights created a sense of excitement amongst the camp and my neck was in a state of disrepair as I was constantly looking towards the sky. The first flickers of green were so quick that I wasn't sure if it was my mind playing tricks, but the dance that followed was spectacular. ”

Amy Walkington-Gray



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). Flight routes are subject to change
- **Transfers:** return transfers from Kittilä Airport
- **Accommodation:** 2 nights hotel room accommodation and 1 night in an Aurora Dome
- **Meals:** 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners
- **Activities:** Northern Lights workshop and Aurora campfire, Aurora hunt by horseback (this can be changed to Northern Lights hunt by minibus, if preferred), Aurora glamping and husky hike (**order subject to change**)
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities

Trip Overview

Torassieppi enjoys an idyllic setting close to the borders of Pallas Ylläs National Park in the north-west corner of Finnish Lapland. Autumn here is a time of change. The landscapes transform into vibrant colour, wildlife becomes more active as it prepares for the long winter, and the nights draw longer following 24 hours of daylight during the summer. This combination makes for the perfect Aurora hunting escape, as not only can you potentially witness captivating displays, but you can also enjoy 'Ruska', which is a local word used to describe the changing colours of the leaves which takes place for around two-three weeks each year (timing varies, depending on the weather).

A Northern Lights display in autumn can rival those of winter, particularly given the location of the accommodation at the edge of Lake Torasjarvi. You can potentially get two displays for the price of one here, as the dancing lights flicker off the unfrozen lake. Torassieppi is at the heart of the Aurora Zone and the lack of light pollution due to the surrounding wilderness makes for prime Aurora viewing conditions.

An Aurora camp is a fantastic introduction to the scientific elements behind the Northern Lights and this is the first of your dedicated activities. An informative workshop will be followed by a campfire, where you will cook pancakes at the edge of the lake, awaiting a potential Northern Lights display. On

your final night, a horse riding safari in search of the Aurora allows you to venture further out into the wilderness surrounding Torassieppi. Alternatively, you can choose to change the horseback safari for a Northern Lights minibus hunt, free of charge. You'll then spend a night in an Aurora Dome, situated on the banks of the lake. The insulated domes contain a large Perspex north-facing window, which provides their inhabitants with the best possible views of the night sky. Imagine the sudden appearance of ethereal colours from the comfort of your accommodation.

The dramatic changes of the Finnish 'Ruska' season are reflected in the forest and the growth of seasonal produce. You will get the chance to enjoy the amazing colours up close as you head out on a leisurely hike through the rich autumn terrain, with huskies at the helm.

This autumn holiday to Torassieppi offers a peaceful escape, away from the winter crowds. It is specifically designed for seeking out the Aurora but we have also made sure to include a fantastic day-time activity which will introduce you to the cultural aspect of Lapland and the vibrant changes of the autumn season.

Image credits: Antti Pietikainen, Jeremy Janin and Visit Finland

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Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL

After arriving into Kittilä Airport you will be transferred to Torassieppi Reindeer Farm in north-west Finland. Your accommodation lies on the edge of Lake Torasjarvi and offers a breathtaking outlook towards the Pallas-Yllästunturi National Park, which is the third largest national park in the country.

This is a charming retreat during the Finnish 'Ruska' and has a particularly rustic restaurant with a cosy log fire from which to enjoy your evening meal.

Torassieppi has very little artificial light and is ideal for Aurora hunting, tonight you could step outside your accommodation and search the skies for your first glimpse of the Northern Lights.

Included Meals: Dinner

DAY
2

NORTHERN LIGHTS WORKSHOP AND AURORA CAMPFIRE

After your first night in Lapland, you will undoubtedly awaken with an eagerness to explore your new surroundings. Today has been left free for you to enjoy as you wish. You may choose to relax by the lakeside, or perhaps you'll want to take part in an optional reindeer farm visit, only a short walk away from your accommodation; it's a fascinating way to find out more about the local culture and history of the area. Please see our '[Personalise](#)' section for further details. Today's lunch will be served in the hotel's restaurant.

Later this evening, you'll enjoy dinner in the restaurant before embarking on your first dedicated Northern Lights Hunt. Your activity will begin with an informative Northern Lights workshop which will give you an insight into the science behind this natural phenomenon. You will then make for the camp, which is ideally located away from any artificial light, on the edge of the lake. Your local guide will make a fire and you can simply sit beneath the starry night sky savouring the silence and await a potential show. The lakeside location of the camp is a particular highlight. It may be possible to witness two Aurora displays for the price of one as the lights reflect off the dark waters.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
3

HUSKY HIKE, AURORA HUNT BY HORSEBACK OR MINIBUS AND AURORA GLAMPING

A particular highlight of the Finnish 'Ruska' is the constant change. The dark nights grow steadily longer and the summer colours transform into autumn shades. A rewarding way to explore the colourful wilderness is hiking with huskies, which are much-loved animals in the Arctic.

Traditionally used for dog sledding when the snow arrives, hiking with huskies in the autumn gives you the opportunity to get closer to nature and really appreciate the beautiful surroundings. The dogs love the fresh air and walking and you'll have a companion as you take to the trails. The hike will take approximately three hours and you will enjoy picnic snacks along the way.

Following the hike, you will return to the hotel with the remainder of the afternoon to enjoy at your leisure. The two lakeside saunas are a fantastic way in which to unwind whilst also enjoying the tranquil nature of the autumn season. Saunas are central to Finnish culture and are a must for anyone visiting Lapland. Alternatively, if you would rather take part in a Lappish Foodie experience, instead of the husky hike, you can upgrade to do this – please see the '[Personalise](#)' tab for further details.

During the evening, you will enjoy dinner at the restaurant before heading out for your final Aurora experience.

Travelling by horseback (or minibus if you'd prefer - a minimum of two people per activity is required. Please let your Travel Expert know at the time of booking), you'll venture further into the wilderness and on the hunt for Mother Nature's mesmerising display. Though your journey ends back at Torassieppi, your search for the Northern Lights will continue as you spend the night glamping in an Aurora Dome equipped with a see-through wall, so you have a clear view of the Arctic sky at all times. Stay cosy in your bed as you warm by the fireplace and look out into the night where hopefully, the

Northern Lights will finish your holiday in spectacular fashion.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
4

DEPARTURE

Following breakfast, admire the breath-taking surroundings and take any last-minute photographs before being transferred to Kittilä Airport. You will hopefully be leaving Torassieppi with some unforgettable memories.

If you would like to break your journey in Helsinki on the way home then please let us know as we can arrange a tailored city break for you. See '[Personalise](#)' section of the holiday page for details.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Aurora Hammock

Spend a night suspended off the ground, searching the sky for the Northern Lights as you're tucked cosily away in a Tentsile tree tent.

Whether you choose to sleep under the open Arctic sky, with the mosquito net or under the water proof cover - this is a true back to nature experience and an unforgettable way to admire the autumnal wilderness and Auroras, if conditions are favourable.

You'll be in the heart of nature but ideally situated only 50-100m away from the nearest sauna, toilet and shower facilities.

Other options

ACTIVITIES



Lappish Foodie Experience

If you prefer, you can swap the husky hike to a delicious Lappish foodie experience for an immersive insight into the local foods on offer. During this activity, your guide will take you into the wilderness to choose from nature's kitchen. You will help pick ingredients and wild foods according to the season such as berries, mushrooms and herbs and then use them to prepare a tasty traditional meal over an open fire.

A minimum of 2 people are required to run this activity.

Duration: 3 hours



Visit a Reindeer Farm

Close to where you are staying lies one of the oldest reindeer farms in Finland. During this guided tour, you will learn all about the reindeer herders' way of life, as well as enjoying a tour of the farm and its museum. You'll also get to meet and feed the reindeer. This activity lasts for approximately 1.5 hours and requires a minimum of 2 people to operate.

TRIP EXTENSIONS



Helsinki city break

With our destinations being so remote, the majority of flights to Finnish Lapland are operated by Finnair and therefore involve connecting through Helsinki Airport. Many of our guests choose to extend this stop and spend some time in the Finnish capital, either at the start or end of their holiday.

We can arrange a wide variety of city centre hotel accommodation for guests to choose from and some options closer to the airport should you prefer. We know that everyone tends to be looking for something different

so please contact our Travel Experts for their opinion on the hotels which may best suit you and your party.

Located on the peninsula of the Baltic Sea, Helsinki enjoys a charming coastal location and has much to offer its guests. This thriving city has a rich culture and arts scene with many museums and galleries to enjoy alongside the exciting gastronomy.

Despite its cool urbanism and a reputation for cutting-edge design, Helsinki also retains its charm and visitors will enjoy this city's very friendly atmosphere.

In the city itself, Senate Square is the main feature, showcasing neoclassical architecture and offering easy access to the surrounding shops. With Helsinki once part of the Duchy of Russia, it offers similar striking architecture, with wide streets and bold facades. For those looking for more of an insight into the city's past, we would suggest visiting the Ateneum Art Museum which houses over 20,000 pieces of art or the Helsinki Design Museum which showcases the history of design in the country from traditional folklore to postmodernism.

A 15-minute ferry ride from the main city is the UNESCO-listed Suomenlinna Sea Fortress which was constructed in 1748. As well as being a unique monument, it is also a lovely day trip, as the island has numerous shops and parks to explore.

Helsinki's food scene has seen a recent evolution, with a growth in street food which showcases the city's multicultural population. Helsinki is famed also for its specialist dishes of seafood and Russian cuisine so there is much to sample!

Finland is famed for its coffee consumption so you can be sure of a thriving café culture here. Be sure to include an obligatory stop for a coffee and a cinnamon roll during your explorations!

Whether you add your city break onto the start or the end of your holiday, spending a night or two in Helsinki is not something that you will regret.

Please contact our Travel Experts for a full quotation. All city breaks are subject to flight availability.

Image credit: Visit Helsinki & Jussi Hellston

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Torassieppi Reindeer Farm (Autumn) (Nights: 1-2)



Located on the edge of Lake Torasjarvi, and bordering the Pallas Ylläs National Park, Torassieppi Reindeer Farm is situated in one of the most picturesque wilderness areas in Finland.

The farm building dates back to 1847 making it one of the oldest in the area. Today it has been lovingly renovated and accommodation has been added nearby so that guests can stay in this spectacular spot.

Torassieppi Reindeer Farm was listed by [National Geographic Travel](#) as one of the places to visit in 2017.

Hotel facilities

- Torassieppi has a central restaurant and reception building which is a short walk from the rooms and winter cottages. A roaring fire accompanies the evening meals which include as much local produce as possible. Typically they are served in a buffet format and include traditional Finnish ingredients such as reindeer (of course dietary requirements are also catered for).
- There is no bar but alcohol can be purchased from the restaurant so it can be enjoyed with your evening meal.
- The reception building also has a small gift shop area which sells a variety of local crafts, including reindeer hides and traditional carved Kuksa cups.
- Tea and coffee are available free of charge throughout the day in the hotel restaurant / bar area.
- There are two lakeside saunas at Torassieppi which are both heated in the evenings for guests to use. Separate facilities are provided for both men and women.
- There is free Wi-Fi in the main restaurant building.
- You may also choose to add a night of Arctic glamping in one of the famous Aurora Domes, which are only a short walk away from the main building and available all year round. Please

see our personalise section for further details.

- A perfect spot to search for the Aurora, there are also a few wooden benches on the edge of the frozen lake, which are ideal for enjoying the expansive wilderness and hopefully a Northern Lights display or two.

Room types

DOUBLE/TWIN ROOMS: Torassieppi has only eight rooms which are located a short walk from the main building. There are two rooms to each small cabin building. Each room is completely independent with their own en-suite bathroom and entrance but some rooms can be interconnecting at the guest's request. The rooms can be made up as either twin or double bedded rooms and are really cosy with all the facilities you will need to enjoy your stay including tea and coffee making facilities and hairdryers.

Image credit: Antti Pietikainen, Harriniva Hotel and Safaris

Aurora Dome (Nights: 3)



These incredible structures are found at both Torassieppi and Jeris and they offer a rather different overnight experience for guests. Shaped like domes, these tents have pleasant, cosy décor, with one wall designed to be see-through, allowing you to gaze at the night sky in search of the Northern Lights.

Each dome has a double bed and wood-burning stove. Toilet, shower and sauna facilities are just a short walk away (around 50-100 metres).

Depending on availability, you will either stay at an Aurora Dome in Torassieppi or Jeris. 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. Any required transfers and breakfast are included.

Image credit: Antti Pietikainen and Harriniva Hotel and Safaris

Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

Torassieppi Winter Cottages



Torassieppi offers 8 detached winter cottages to which you can upgrade. The cottages are ideal for those who want more space or for larger groups of people. Located close to the main restaurant, they are only a short walk away through the snow-laden trees and close to the frozen lake beyond.

The smaller cottages contain a fireplace, living room area, toilet, shower, hairdryer and kitchenette. There are two bedrooms, one with twin beds and another with three beds (including a set of bunk beds). These can accommodate two to five people, we feel they are ideal for 3 or 4 adults.

Torassieppi also has some larger cottages and these have their own sauna in addition to the fireplaces. The larger cottages offer a living room area, toilet, shower, hairdryer and kitchenette with a kettle. They have two bedrooms which have twin beds and a sleeping alcove with bunk beds. Whilst they can sleep up to 6 people, we feel that they are most suited to 4 or 5 adults.

Please contact our Travel Experts for a quotation if you would like to upgrade to a winter cottage.

The Specifics

Holiday group size (approximate)

Minimum 2 and maximum 24 people (approximately)

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>

CANCELLATION TERMS

Please note that the cancellation terms below supersede those mentioned in section 7 of our booking terms and conditions:

- More than 63 days prior to departure - Loss of deposit (including the full cost of flights or other services where paid at the time of booking)
- 63 to 43 days prior to departure - 40%
- 42 to 31 days prior to departure – 60%
- 30 or less days – 100%