



Three Countries Aurora Short Break



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group
VISITING: Finland, Sweden, Norway

BROCHURE CODE: 20032
DURATION: 4 nights

In Brief

Embark on an epic Aurora tour spanning across three Nordic countries. This 4-night trip takes you into the Northern Lights territories of Norway, Finland and Sweden, with an Aurora hunt by catamaran or dog sled, 3-borders snowmobiling, a night in a Glass Igloo and a stay at the world-famous ICEHOTEL® all included.

Our Opinion

“ *This short-break tour is a great way to experience the culture of Norway, Finland and Sweden. My favourite aspect is the contrast from the city of Tromso, to the wilderness of Finnish Lapland and the herds of roaming reindeer that surround the glass igloos. Ending at the ICEHOTEL® is such a special night too!* ”

Amy Hope



What's included?

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

- **Transfers:** all airport and destination transfers are included
- **Accommodation:** 2 nights in an en-suite double/twin hotel room, 1 night in a Glass Igloo and 1 night in an ice room at the ICEHOTEL®
- **Meals:** 4 breakfasts, 1 dinner
- **The following activities and equipment are included:** Northern Lights catamaran cruise or Aurora dog sledding safari (depending on departure date*), 3-border snowmobiling tour (the order of activities is subject to change)
- Experienced guides and instructors for all activities
- Cold weather clothing during activities only
- **A note on flights:** while flights are not included in the holiday price, our team will happily provide a quote and arrange them for you. Simply ask one of our Travel Experts for details of the available options
- **March dates:** if you are travelling between 13-30th March, the Northern Lights catamaran cruise will be replaced with an Aurora dog sledding safari

Trip Overview

From the Arctic fjords of Norway to the stunning wilderness of Finland and the incredible ICEHOTEL® carvings of Sweden, this short-break Northern Lights adventure packs in three Nordic countries, while also giving you the chance to stay in some of the most exceptional accommodation we offer: Glass Igloos and Ice Rooms!

In Norway, you'll discover the wonderful city of Tromsø. Known as the capital of the Arctic, it provides a brilliant introduction to the north, with plenty of time to explore the vibrant centre. As night falls, you'll embark on either a Northern Lights catamaran cruise or an Aurora dog sledding safari (depending on departure date), escaping the city lights and offering a special vantage point to search the dark skies.

Next, you'll journey into Finland and embark on an unbelievable snowmobiling adventure, visiting the

borders of each country featured on this trip. As darkness descends, you'll have the opportunity to stay in a Glass Igloo where you can hunt for the Northern Lights as you lay tucked up in your cosy bed! The igloos are situated on a reindeer ranch, so you may even have the added Lappish touch of seeing the herd walk by.

In Sweden, you'll finish your holiday in style with a night in the world's original ICEHOTEL®. This famous structure is made completely of frozen material, for one of the coolest nights you can experience. This is all metaphorical, of course, as you will be wrapped up warm in your Arctic-grade sleeping bag.

With the opportunity to Aurora hunt in three superb locations and the chance to stay in some of the most sought-after accommodation in the Arctic, this break may be short but it packs in some extremely bucket list-worthy moments.

Image credits: Ole C Salomonsen, Pukka Travels@AdamKlingeteg, Asaf Kliger/Icehotel



Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL IN TROMSØ

You'll arrive in the capital of the Arctic to begin your three-country Aurora adventure. After a transfer to your city centre hotel, you'll have time to get settled into your Nordic surroundings.

Make use of the onsite facilities such as the gym or take in the brilliant views from the hotel's sky bar. Alternatively, if you would like to add on a Northern Lights dog sledding activity tonight, please see our '[Personalise](#)' tab for more information.

Included Meals: None

DAY
2

FREE DAY IN TROMSØ AND NORTHERN LIGHTS CATAMARAN CRUISE OR
AURORA DOG SLEDDING SAFARI

Breakfast will be served in the hotel then you have a free day to explore the city. The hotel's ideal location means you're only a short distance away from the 'Paris of the North' as well as some

exceptional Arctic experiences such as dog sledding, snowmobiling and snowshoeing. See our '[Personalise](#)' tab for more information.

For those travelling up until 12th March, tonight you will board a catamaran in search of the Northern Lights. You'll cruise away from areas of light pollution to the very best Aurora viewpoints, determined by your guide who will use the most up-to-date forecasts. Warm clothing (if required), soup and hot drinks are included in this activity. You will be out for around 3 hours. The starting point for this activity is a short walk away from your hotel.

If you are travelling from 13th March onwards, the Northern Lights catamaran cruise will be replaced with an Aurora dog sledding safari. In the late afternoon you'll be collected a short distance from your hotel and then transfer to the husky camp, where you'll have the chance to meet the friendly huskies and be shown how to control your sled and team of dogs. Riding 2 people per sled, you'll then set off on a safari lasting approximately 2 hours. When you return to the camp, you can relax around a campfire with warm drinks and snacks. You will be out for around 6 hours in total tonight.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY
3

TRAVEL TO FINLAND, 3-BORDERS SNOWMOBILE SAFARI AND A NIGHT IN A GLASS IGLOO

Today is an early start (approximately 7am) as you travel to Finland. Make sure to ask the hotel reception for a boxed breakfast this morning for you to take on your journey.

The scheduled bus transfer from Tromsø to Kilpisjärvi takes around 3 hours and you'll be accompanied by an English-speaking driver who will show you points of interest along the way. There are also hot drinks and snacks to enjoy on-board. The bus stop is only 100m from your hotel in Tromsø and if you prefer, we can arrange a private transfer to your accommodation in Finland for a supplement.

You will arrive in Kilpisjärvi, Finland at approximately 11am where you will meet your local guides and transfer to a nearby safari house to drop your luggage. You'll have time to get changed ahead of your snowmobiling adventure. After full instructions and a safety briefing, you'll take to the trails to explore the Finnish wilderness, on the edge of the breath-taking Malla Nature Reserve. Travelling across frozen Lake Kilpisjärvi, you'll journey to where the borders of Finland, Sweden and Norway meet. You'll travel 2 people per snowmobile, with a chance to swap drivers along the way, however, if you prefer, you can ride in a sled pulled by the guide's snowmobile. Please note, you must be at least 18 years old and hold a full driving licence to drive a snowmobile.

You'll return to Kilpisjärvi at approximately 2pm. After changing, you'll be dropped off in the village at a local restaurant for lunch (which is not included and is payable locally). There is also a supermarket nearby. You'll have approximately 1.5hrs to explore the village before being transferred a short 20-minute drive south to Vasara Reindeer Ranch where your Glass Igloo accommodation awaits.

Your accommodation is on the edge of a frozen lake, with rolling mountains in the background and it sits right in the heart of the reindeer ranch, so you may well see the iconic Lappish animals wandering around during your time here.

You'll have a free afternoon so you could add on an authentic reindeer experience where you can meet and feed the animals. See our '[Personalise](#)' tab for more information.

Enjoy dinner in the Kota restaurant and then as night falls, you can retire to your Glass Igloo for a night of Aurora hunting from the comfort of your cosy bed.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY
4

TRANSFER TO ICEHOTEL® SWEDEN

Enjoy breakfast in the hotel before your 4-hour transfer to Sweden for the grand finale of your holiday. There will be a rest stop along the way at a local café and supermarket, where you can break for a coffee or snack, should you wish.

You'll arrive at the ICEHOTEL® mid-afternoon and have plenty of time to admire the intricate details of the ice and snow sculptures. A guided tour is included as part of your overnight experience here. You can also add on a wilderness dinner tonight if you'd like to head out into the wintry landscape for a chance to see the Northern Lights. See our '[Personalise](#)' tab for more information.

Your Ice Room will be available to check-in from approximately 6pm onwards. You'll be provided with an Arctic-grade sleeping bag to keep you nice and warm as you sleep in this unbelievable structure. This really is the most fitting way to complete your winter adventure.

We can also arrange room upgrades if you wish to spend your last night in Sweden in one of the suites, please see the 'Accommodation' section for details.

Although lunch and dinner are not included at the ICEHOTEL®, we can arrange a table reservation for you at one of the nearby restaurants, please see the 'Accommodation' section for details, or speak to one of our Travel Experts.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY
5

DEPARTURE

Following breakfast, you will transfer to Kiruna Airport for your flight home or to the train station if you plan any onward travel.

Alternatively, if you would like to add-on extra nights at the ICEHOTEL® or perhaps even journey south to the famous Treehotel, this can be arranged too. Please speak to one of our Travel Experts for further information.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Northern Lights dog sledding safari (Tromsø)

Search for the Northern Lights as you glide across the snow, with your team of huskies leading the way; this is a true Arctic highlight.

You'll be collected a short distance from your hotel in Tromsø and transferred to the camp where you'll meet the friendly huskies and be shown how to control your sled and team of dogs, before heading off on an exciting safari lasting approximately 2 hours.

Returning to the camp, a campfire awaits, along with a warm drink and snacks. You'll then head back to Tromsø, arriving at approximately 11pm.

Duration: 6 hours in total (Approximately, including transfers and depending on weather conditions. 2 hours of dog sledding).

Available: 4:45pm

Minimum 2 participants

Other options

ACTIVITIES



Snowmobile safari (Tromsø)

After transferring from Tromsø, this snowmobile safari will take you from the Arctic Sea to the stunning Lyngen Alps, giving you the chance to see some of the most breathtaking mountain scenery in Northern Norway.

Snowmobiles allow you to cover a lot of ground in a short space of time, therefore maximising how much of the landscape you can explore.

Following full tuition, you will set off on a safari lasting approximately 2.5 hours. You will travel two per snowmobile with the opportunity to swap drivers along the way. Please note, you must be at least 18 years old and hold a full driving licence to drive a snowmobile.

A light meal and warm drinks are included, along with pictures from the safari.

Duration: 7 hours in total (Approximately, including transfers and ferry ride. 2.5 hours of snowmobiling).

Available: 8:50am or 12:30pm

Minimum 2 participants



Snowshoeing (Tromsø)

Snowshoeing is a fantastic way to explore the wilderness and appreciate the calm of the Norwegian landscape.

This guided tour will take you through spruce and birch forests, stopping along the way for plenty of photo opportunities of the surrounding area. Designed for beginners, or those with little experience of snowshoeing, the route is relatively flat, with some small hills.

You will be collected from Tromsø and be transferred out of the city to the starting point. Hot drinks and snacks will

be served during the activity.

Duration: 2 hours in total (Approximately, including transfers)

Available: 10am

Minimum 2 participants



Daytime dog sledding safari (Tromsø)

During this safari, you'll be driven by an expert guide as you sit and relax in the sledge, giving you the perfect opportunity to enjoy the fantastic mountain scenery that surrounds you.

After being collected in Tromsø, you'll be driven to the husky camp where you will have the chance to meet the dogs and their puppies. Your expert musher will then take you on a safari lasting between 45-60 minutes, across the wintry landscape. Returning back to the camp, a warm meal around a campfire awaits.

Duration: 4 hours in total (Approximately, including transfers. 45-60 minutes dog sledding)

Available: Morning slots possible

Minimum 2 participants



Meet and feed the reindeer (Vasara Reindeer Ranch)

Although the reindeer may freely roam by your Glass Igloo, why not take the opportunity to learn more about the ranch and local area by enjoying a guided reindeer meeting and feeding activity, led by the reindeer herder.

After meeting the reindeer, you'll enjoy hot drinks and snacks while listening to the history of the ranch and the herders' way of life.

Duration: 1 hour in total (Approximately)

Available: On request

Minimum 2 participants



Wilderness Dinner (ICEHOTEL®)

Enjoy an authentic three-course wilderness dinner inspired by the season. You will head out in a minibus to a secluded camp with a guide who will tell you all about the characteristics of Sweden's eight seasons and the inspiration behind your meal tonight. You will also keep an eye on the sky as you enjoy your food, as the Northern Lights could make an appearance to really make your wilderness experience extra special.

Duration: 4 hours including transfers

Available: 7pm – 11pm Dec 1 – Apr 13

Included Accommodation

Clarion Hotel - The Edge (Nights: 1-2)



Situated right in the centre of Tromsø, the Clarion Hotel The Edge puts you in a prime location to explore the 'Paris of the North' and is an excellent base to transfer to your memorable activities.

Hotel Facilities

- Enjoy great views of the brilliant architecture of the city as it reflects in the waters just outside the hotel or head to the 11th-floor sky bar – the only one of its kind in the city – for a vista like no other
- The hotel puts great emphasis on being eco-friendly and is built with an environmental classification A.
- Keep up with your fitness in the onsite gym with stunning sea views
- Enjoy tastes of Manhattan made using Arctic ingredients in the 'Kitchen and Table' restaurant

Room Facilities

- Twin/Double Rooms: the hotel offers standard double rooms as well as a standard twin room (two single beds). All rooms are ensuite and come with WiFi, minibar, iron and ironing board.
- Deluxe Double/Junior Suite/Family Room: for larger groups, we can offer an upgrade to a deluxe double (sleeps up to 3 persons) or a junior suite or family room for 4 people.

NB: The hotel is cash-free. They take payment by credit or debit card and accept all major international cards.

Vasara Reindeer Ranch Glass Igloos (Nights: 3)



Get the full Lappish experience in the presence of the much-loved native reindeer when you stay on the Vasara Reindeer Ranch.

The ranch, situated in the heart of Sámiland, gives you an authentic insight into the local culture and the importance of reindeer herding.

Surrounded by vast wilderness, complete with a rolling mountain and a stunning lake, you'll also be away from light pollution and in prime Northern Lights territory. Your accommodation in the onsite Glass Igloos makes the most of this opportunity with their half-glass roof providing brilliant views of the Arctic and if conditions are favourable, the Auroras may appear overhead.

FACILITIES

- The Kota restaurant serves traditional breakfast and dinners in a relaxing setting
- Relax in the onsite sauna and hot tub, with views of the surrounding mountains and lake (charges apply)

GLASS IGLOOS

There are currently four igloos at the reindeer ranch, situated on the shore of the frozen Lake Peerjärvi

and gazing out to the rolling mountains beyond.

The igloos are within the reindeer ranch, which means that the chances of roaming reindeer wandering by are high.

Each igloo has a king-sized bed, plus space for an extra bed. They have en-suite shower and toilet facilities, as well as hairdryer, minibar and a coffee machine.

The ICEHOTEL® (Nights: 4)



THE ORIGINAL

The [ICEHOTEL®](#) at Jukkasjärvi has the impressive claim of being the world's first ice hotel and was developed from a concept beginning in 1989. A local entrepreneur by the name of Yngve Bergqvist who ran a thriving tourism business in the summer decided to attract tourists in the winter by offering ice carving workshops and creating a small ice igloo as a gallery to showcase these designs.

This igloo grew in scale each year until one night a group of guests, equipped with reindeer skins and sleeping bags asked to spend the night, creating the concept of the ice hotel in the process!

Although [Ice and snow hotels](#) can be found across Lapland, the ICEHOTEL® remains the original.

What's more, 2018 saw the ICEHOTEL® become the first-ever Nordic Swan Ecolabel hotel made completely of ice and snow.

The certification process looks at all areas, from energy and water consumption to waste management; understandably, this presented many challenges when measuring a hotel whose rooms melt away at the end of each winter season!

The eco-label adds to a growing list of certifications for the ICEHOTEL® who is also certified a Sustainable Arctic Destination. Certification ensures guests are choosing environmentally conscious products and the ICEHOTEL® are – rightly so - very proud to receive such recognition.

ICEHOTEL 365

The hotel now boasts ICEHOTEL 365, a permanent structure, allowing it to be a year-round

destination to visitors who travel the world to sleep in a room of ice and snow. Containing deluxe rooms, art suites, an ice bar and a sculpture hall, this environmentally sustainable building is a construct of glass, metal and concrete, but with the same incredible standard and visual design of snow and ice on the inside, with cooling tubes to keep it at a temperature of around -5 at all times.

Alongside this is the classic ICEHOTEL® building, constructed purely of ice and snow and carefully crafted each December, utilising blocks from the nearby Torne River.

Home to ice rooms, winter suites and a chapel the structure is a marvel to see and, come summer, simply melts back into the river from which it came. Each year, architects, designers and artists submit designs for the hotel's features and a handful are chosen to go forward with their theme.

The hotel consists of several buildings including the main ice building and ICEHOTEL 365. We cannot guarantee which area our guests will stay in.

The rooms which are contained within the ice and snow building will not be available until after the 14th of December. Check-in time for the cold rooms is usually around 6 pm and for the warm rooms, it is approximately 3 pm. The ICEHOTEL® is open to members of the public for viewing between 10 am and 6 pm. You will check out after breakfast.

Hotel facilities

- The reception is in the main warm building which also houses the lounge area, warm bar, dressing room, luggage room, restaurant and gift shop which sells a selection of ICEHOTEL® themed gifts and locally sourced handicrafts
- Guests who are on a guided tour of the ICEHOTEL® will also visit the large warehouse where you can learn about how the hotel is constructed each season
- The restaurant serves breakfast lunch and dinner which include some wonderful Swedish favourites. The restaurant operates fixed dinner seating times and we highly recommend that you make a reservation in advance with us
- As an alternative, guests can eat at the Homestead Restaurant which is a smaller, rustic restaurant a short walk from the hotel
- The classic ICEHOTEL® building is connected to a warm building which houses the toilets, showers and sauna. There are also lockers in here in which to store your valuables and clothes overnight
- The warm building also has a small number of bunk beds in case you decide your ice room is not for you

Guest room types

The Cold Rooms: the inside of the cold rooms is kept at around -5°C but you will be equipped with arctic grade thermal sleeping bags so you will stay surprisingly warm!

Please take note that the cold rooms are accommodated in two separate buildings. ICEHOTEL 365 is a permanent building constructed of metal, glass and concrete with an ice and snow interior kept cool via cooling tubes. Some rooms are also in the classic ice building which is made wholly of ice and snow and constructed afresh each winter season. We cannot guarantee which

area you will stay in.

Ice Rooms (in classic ice building) (only available after 14 December): the ice rooms are the simplest designed rooms which are usually booked as standard. These are made of ice and snow and each contains a mattress topped with reindeer skins and also some ice furniture and carvings. They are closed off from the corridors via thick curtains as opposed to doors, but the thick walls of ice and snow allow for great sound insulation. There are usually around 15 rooms available for guests.

Art Suites (in classic ice building) (only available after 14 December): these are uniquely and beautifully designed by chosen artists around the world each year and offer a wide variety of themes and include intricate sculptures and carvings to reflect this. As with the ice rooms, these have curtains instead of doors and there are around 15 in total for guests to book.

Deluxe Suites (in permanent ICEHOTEL 365 building): the unique and enchanting Deluxe Suites 365 are individually themed and hand-carved by artists commissioned throughout the world, with the designs changing each year. To spend a night amidst the lifelike and exquisite carvings is a surreal and magical experience. You are awoken by sparkling colours which reflect from the ice and cup of hot lingonberry juice at your bedside table. A sauna session then awaits you before you enjoy a delicious breakfast. The Deluxe Suites are part of the new concept ICEHOTEL 365, available all year round thanks to a new specially designed building which is run on solar power. There are three different types of Deluxe suite available.

Deluxe Suite Hilla: the Hilla Suites are beautifully decorated suites available throughout the year. They contain a bathroom, two comfortable armchairs, a shower and a sauna, which is directly connected to the bedroom. A comfortable bed decorated with reindeer hides and inclusive of a thermal sleeping bag lies at the centre. The design is a mixture of local culture and history created by Marjolein Vonk and Pia Sandgren. A heated relaxation area is available which provides storage for your belongings and the suite has doors which lock for your privacy.

Deluxe Suite Jáuvre: these majestic suites are furnished with comfortable Carpe Diem beds covered in reindeer hides and inclusive of a thermal sleeping bag. Inside the room, there is a bathroom, two comfortable armchairs, a shower, sauna and a bathtub. Similarly, to the other suites, the Jáuvre suites are designed with a combination of local culture and history by Marjolein Vonk and Pia Sandgren and they have a heated relaxation area from where you can store all your belongings and the suite has doors which lock for your privacy.

Deluxe Suite Johka: this spacious suite contains a comfortable double bed, a connecting bathroom, two comfortable armchairs and double waterfall showers, which are directly connected to the room. The design features a combination of local culture and history and was created by Marjolein Vonk and Pia Sandgren. A heated relaxation area provides storage for your belongings and the suite has doors which lock for your privacy.

Art Suites 365 (in permanent ICEHOTEL 365 building): these offer the same amenities as the art suites in the classic ice building but being part of the permanent building allows them to have a proper door. Each is independently and artistically designed by chosen artists and architects to reflect new carefully chosen themes each year. There are 12 art 365 suites in total.

The Warm Rooms: for those less keen on sleeping in low temperatures, the ICEHOTEL® also has a number of warm accommodation options:

Kaamos Hotel Room (standard): light and airy, these en-suite rooms have modern décor and furnishings. Each has a double bed or twin beds and TV.

Kaamos Hotel Room (superior): these rooms have the same amenities as the standard Kaamos rooms, however, they have recently been updated and decorated in a contemporary style.

Nordic Hotel Chalet: these are designed to accommodate up to four people. Each has one double/twin bedroom and one room with bunk beds, making them ideal for families or small groups of friends. Each has an ensuite bathroom with shower, small living room with a fridge and kettle and TV.

Arctic Chalet: these have a double and a single room so are best suited to three people. Each chalet is en-suite and has a shower room, a small living area, fridge, kettle, TV and telephone.

Image credits: ICEHOTEL, Jose Carlos, Cabello Millan, Javier Alvaro, Colomino Matassa & Asaf Kliger, Tjasa Gusfors, David Andren, AnnaSofia Maag, Anna Katrin Kraus, Hans Aesch, Rob Harding, Timsam Harding, Luc Voisin, Mathieu Brison, Petros Dermatas, Ellie Souti, Nicolas Triboulot, Cedric Alizard, Sebastian Scheller, Kristina Mockel, Jose Carlos, Cabello Millan, Javier Alvaro, Colomino Matassa, Peter Grant & Magnus Skoglöf & Martin Jakobsson & Imagebank.sweden.se

The Specifics

Holiday group size (approximate)

Minimum 2 people; max group size 25 (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>