



Jeris – Winter Cottage Aurora Escape



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group

VISITING: Finland

BROCHURE CODE: 2219

DURATION: 7 nights

In Brief

When it comes to winter wonderlands, Mother Nature really got it right with Jeris. You'll spend seven nights in a winter cottage and can tailor your time with the range of snow-based activities on offer. We've included one Northern Light hunts, but at Jeris, it's often enough to simply step outside your cottage and gaze skywards.

Our Opinion

“ When I arrived in Jeris I was immediately struck by its idyllic scenes. Nothing says winter escape more than cosy cottages surrounded by untouched feathery-soft snow. The flexibility of this itinerary means you can design a personalised Arctic experience, whether you want to concentrate on adventure, the Northern Lights or simply enjoying the wonderful remote location. ”

Amy Walkington-Gray



What's included?

- **Flights:** return flights between London and Kittilä (either direct or via Helsinki depending on departure date). Flight routes are subject to change
- **Transfers:** return airport transfers
- **Accommodation:** 7 nights in Hotel Jeris Winter Cottage Type A (upgrade available to larger cabins)
- **Meals:** 7 breakfasts, 7 dinners
- **The following activities and equipment are included:** Northern Lights workshop, Aurora snowshoe safari, one-day cross-country ski or snowshoe rental and one entrance to the Arctic Elements Sauna World (**order subject to change**)
- Cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- Fully qualified wilderness guides and instructors during activities
- 24/7 assistance from our UK based operations team and in destination support from our local partners
- Aurora alarm until approximately 1 am

Trip Overview

This holiday provides you with the chance to tailor a week in Lapland and relax and unwind in your own cosy winter cottage, whilst giving yourself the chance to witness the amazing Aurora Borealis.

Jeris Winter Cottages are situated on the northern shoreline of Lake Jerisjärvi (Järvi means lake in Finnish). The nearest village (Muonio) is 20km away and the nearest town (Kittilä) lies 60km to the south-east. Basically, Jeris is remote, isolated and about as tranquil and serene a place as you could ever hope to encounter. What's more, the setting is quintessentially Lappish with snowy forests, a large frozen lake and rolling fells providing a Narnia-like backdrop which creates a playground for a range of activities. On a clear, blue-sky day, it's nothing short of idyllic and on a cloudless night, there is virtually no light pollution to sully your views of the Northern Lights.

We include one dedicated Northern Lights activity on your holiday and so you will enjoy a Northern Lights snowshoe hunt during your stay.

The days have been left free for you to choose from the wealth of additional activities available. Options include skiing, ice fishing, reindeer sleigh rides and, of course, a variety of Northern Lights activities. All of the options can be found in the 'Personalise' section of the holiday page.

We also include one day of cross-country skiing or snowshoeing equipment hire, ideal for those who would like to enjoy some independent exploration on the well-marked trails.

Of course, you may choose to simply take advantage of the Arctic Elements Sauna World - one entrance is included during your stay.

This is an incredible opportunity for you to tailor-your-own holiday in a remarkable location, whether that means you have an active or relaxed holiday, the choice is entirely yours.

Photography by Antti Pietikainen

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL AND WELCOME

You'll fly to Kittilä Airport where your transfer will take you to Hotel Jeris, approximately 45 minutes away.

You will be given your warm winter clothing for the duration of your stay and dine tonight in the restaurant. You'll also be given an Aurora alert to aid in you in your quest. We have to stress that the alert is only an aid and is operational until around 1 am only. However, if that alert pings then you might want to throw on some warm clothing and head out to soak in the views of the Arctic sky and hopefully the Northern Lights above. If you want to take your search further, see the 'Personalise' tab for information on our dedicated Aurora activities.

Included Meals: Dinner

DAYS
2 TO 7

FREE DAYS, AURORA SNOWSHOE AND NORTHERN LIGHTS WORKSHOP

Enjoy breakfast every morning in the restaurant and then the day is yours to explore the beautiful winter surroundings of Jeris. See our '[Personalise](#)' tab for more information on how you can complete your winter experience.

You could relax in the Arctic Elements Sauna World (one entrance is included) to enjoy the four saunas, each inspired by the elements; earth, fire, water and air. Or you could head outside to discover the magic of the landscape. You cannot fail to notice the myriad of cross-country ski trails

which are located all over the area. The sport is something of a national obsession in these parts and so it would really be rude not to let you have a go! A day of equipment hire (either cross-country skis or snowshoes) is included and so if you have any prior experience the hotel will provide you with trail maps so you can explore independently. For novices, we advise the addition of a cross-country skiing lesson before your day of hire (details can be found in the 'personalise' section of the holiday page).

Dinner is included every evening and as darkness falls, your location opens up a plethora of Northern Lights activities. We have included one dedicated activity on this holiday, designed to provide both insight and Aurora viewing opportunities.

On snowshoes, you can venture over deeper snow without sinking in the snow. The guide will most likely lead you into the silent forest before finding a clearing where you can gaze skywards. The activity lasts for approximately two to three hours and a hot drink is included.

Also included in the holiday is a Northern Lights workshop. You will join an expert guide for a workshop on the Northern Lights. This one-hour session will provide you with a better understanding of the science and mythology which surround the Aurora Borealis. A hot drink and snack are included.

Whatever you decide to do, during a seven-night stay, there is always a good chance that you will see the Northern Lights. Don't forget to keep checking the sky from time to time once darkness falls. The Aurora can be very fickle and can sometimes come and go in a matter of minutes while on other occasions it can fill the sky for hour upon hour.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY
8

DEPARTURE

Sadly, it's time to return to the real world. Leaving Jeris can be difficult but leave you must and today you'll be transferred back to Kittilä Airport for your return flights.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Tour de Torassieppi

Visit the Arctic Sled Dog Centre and meet the team of dogs that will be taking you on a 15km (approximately) dog sledding adventure.

After a full safety briefing and instructions, you'll take to the sled and drive your team of dogs through snow-covered forests to see the best of the winter wonderland.

Two people will ride per sled and we recommend taking it in turns so you can sit back and enjoy the ride.

Duration: 2.5 hours in total including transfers (approximately)

Minimum group size: 2 people

Suitable for: aged 5 years and over

Available: Monday at 10 am and Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 2pm

Other options

ACTIVITIES



Panorama Safari

After a full safety briefing and instructions, you will drive your snowmobiles through the Lappish winter landscape (2 people per snowmobile)

This sightseeing tour lasts for around 2 hours (30km) as you move across the snow to reach incredible lookouts.

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

Duration: 2 hours (approximately)

Minimum group size: 2 adults

Suitable for: aged 4 years and over (children can ride in a sled pulled by the guide's snowmobile).

Available: Tuesday and Wednesday at 2pm and Sunday 10am



Local Culture

Reindeer herding is intrinsic in Lappish culture. During this activity, you will gain an authentic insight into this tradition at one of the oldest reindeer farms in Finland.

You will learn all about the fascinating history of the family who used to live here and visit the museum on site.

You will also meet the animals as they pull you in a traditional sled through the forest.

Lunch is served in a traditional Lappish Kota around an open fire. You will also see the impressive Winter Village Snow Hotel which is situated next to the farm.

Duration: 3-3.5 hours (approximately) including lunch

Minimum group size: 2 adults

Suitable for: Aged 4 years and over.

Available: Monday, Wednesday and Saturday at 11am



Reindeer Aurora Experience

Go in search of the Northern Lights on a traditional reindeer sleigh ride. Wrapped up warm in blankets, you'll enjoy a peaceful sleigh ride and get to witness the wonderful winter surroundings at night.

Though the mystical woodland is incredibly enchanting in the dark, make sure you keep your eyes on the sky as you might just be able to see the Northern Lights.

After the sleigh ride, you'll warm up with a hot drink by the fire.

Duration: 1hr-1.5hrs (approximately) including transfers

Group size: Minimum 2 people; 2 people per sled

Suitable for: Aged 12 years and over

Available: Tuesday and Thursday at 8:40 pm



Aurora Adventure by Snowmobiles

For an adventurous way to search for the Northern Lights, hop onto a snowmobile and drive through the Arctic night (2 people per snowmobile).

This form of transport takes you to the best location for spotting the Aurora and you will also enjoy warm drinks as you search the sky.

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

Duration: 20km (approx. 2 hours)

Minimum group size: 2 adults

Suitable for: Aged 12 years and over (children can ride in a sled pulled by the guide's snowmobile).

Available: Monday and Saturday at 9 pm



Skiing in Wonderland

After a lesson on cross-country skiing, you will be guided on a skiing trip through the winter wonderland surroundings.

Not only is this a great form of exercise and popular pastime, but it's also a great way to up close to the nature around you.

Duration: 2 hours (approximately)

Minimum group size: 2 adults

Suitable for: Aged 4 years and over

Available: Tuesday and Friday at 10 am



Snowshoes Trip to National Park

This tour starts with a short transfer to the Pallas fell area, the largest fell area in western Lapland. It is renowned for its breath-taking scenery and you'll be in and amongst it as you strap on your snowshoes and hike around.

Snowshoes allow you to walk across the deep snow with ease, so you can spend your time admiring the incredible views. Lunch is included and will be enjoyed back at the hotel.

Duration: 4 hours in total (approximately) including transfers and lunch

Minimum group size: 2 people

Available: Tuesday at 10 am



Ice Fishing

See who can get the catch of the day during ice fishing. You'll be provided with all the equipment as well as an introduction to winter fishing. This trip also includes a hot drink and if you catch a fish, the kitchen will prepare it for you.

Duration: 2 hours (approximately)

Minimum group size: 2 adults

Available: Thursday and Saturday at 10 am

Photography by Juho Kuva Visit Finland



Snow Train

Step inside the cosy Snow Train carriage for an Aurora hunt into the wilderness.

Pulled along by your expert guide on a snowmobile, the Snow Train has been cunningly designed with an all-Perspex exterior to give you constant views of the night sky. As you journey further into the darkness, keep your eye out for a potential display.

You'll also stop in a prime location to enjoy hot drinks and continue your search. 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.

Duration: 2 hours

Minimum group size: 2 people

Available: Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday at 9pm

SPECIAL NIGHTS



Arctic Firefox Lodge

For an exclusive experience, guests can choose to upgrade to the exceptional Arctic Firefox Lodge at Jeris for a night during their stay. This lakeside retreat offers panoramic views across Lake Jerisjarvi. You can spend your evening unwinding in your very own private sauna, before heading upstairs to your cosy bed, where unobstructed views of the night sky and the Arctic wilderness await. You can snuggle up in bed and gaze at the sky above you and if the Northern Lights appear above you, it really will top off this magical night. Your stay in this very special accommodation includes entry to

Arctic Sauna World, bathrobes and slippers.

Prices vary depending on dates and availability. Please speak to our Travel Experts for a quotation.

Credit Harriniva Hotels and Safaris

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.



Hotel Jeris and Winter Cottage Type A (Nights: 1-7)

Hotel Jeris occupies an enviable location which is 20 kilometres from the nearest village and is located directly on the shores of Lake Jerisjärvi. It is this remote position that makes the hotel an enchanting forest retreat.

The hotel is owned and run by the Pietikäinen family, who also manage the neighbouring sister hotels of Harriniva and Torassieppi. Their hotels are some of our most popular accommodation options in Finland, having

received high praise for their knowledgeable guides and exciting activity options.

The hotel consists of a central building and 32 winter cottages in the adjacent forest.

Hotel facilities

- Your meals will be served in the hotel restaurant, which offers a rustic menu of traditional and local Finnish dishes. Meals are served buffet-style with one or two options for each course. Guests can enjoy local delicacies, such as salmon and reindeer. The hearty food here is ideal for setting you up for your adventures in the snow
- There is a small lounge area where guests can relax in the evening and take advantage of the hotel's free Wi-Fi.
- Tea and coffee are available free of charge throughout the day in the hotel restaurant/bar area.
- A significant feature of Hotel Jeris is the wonderful Arctic Elements Lakeside Spa. Renovated for winter 2019/20, the spa is the first of its kind in Finland, with strong eco-credentials, thanks to its use of entirely renewable electricity and geothermal heating generated from the Jerisjärvi lake. There are four saunas here each inspired by an element; earth, fire, water and air and each named after Finnish gods and goddesses. Included is a traditional smoke sauna and plenty of areas for relaxation. Spa area entry is included in the majority of our trips (see what's included for details), but if not you can book entry via the reception for a daily fee. For the Aurora enthusiasts, there is also an upgrade option to the special Northern Lights sauna which offers panoramic views of the night sky. If conditions are favourable, this could be one of the most relaxing ways to see this fantastic light display. For the brave (and healthy) you can complete your sauna experience with a dip in the ice pool - a Finnish tradition.
- A small selection of souvenirs are available for guests to purchase (including postcards and local handicrafts and snacks) in the reception area

Winter Cottages

The Type A Winter Cottages (36 square metres) are generally located around a 10-minute walk from the main hotel building. The cottages are ideal for couples looking for a private retreat.

The cottages can vary slightly in size but all can sleep two to four people. They consist of one spacious room with a sleeping alcove for two people and a pull out sofa bed for two more. All the cottages are privately owned; consequently, the decor and style can vary. Each cottage contains a cosy wood-burning stove, a kitchenette, a television, a shower room and a private sauna.

Cabin guests will receive a small 'starter pack' of firewood. Further wood supplies can be purchased locally for approximately 10 euros.

Please note: a limited number of hairdryers are available to borrow from reception.

Please contact our Travel Experts for a quote.

Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

Jeris Winter Cottage Type B



The Type B Winter Cottages (63 square metres) are situated around a 15-minute walk from the main hotel building and we would recommend these for groups of four or more adults.

The cottage consists of a bedroom for two people and a loft area which can sleep up to four more. The cottages can vary slightly in size but every cottage is equipped with a kitchenette, a wood-burning stove, a shower room, a toilet and a private sauna. All the cottages are privately owned; consequently, the style and decor can vary. Each cottage offers a comfortable and welcoming retreat.

Cabin guests will receive a small 'starter pack' of firewood. Further wood supplies can be purchased locally for approximately 10 euros.

Please note: A limited amount of hairdryers are available from reception.

Please contact our Travel Experts for a quote.

Credit Emmi Kähkönen Harriniva Hotel And Safaris

Jeris Winter Cottage Type C



Perfect for groups of five to seven people, the Type C Winter Cottages (70 square metres) are the largest available. These cottages are situated around a 20-minute walk from the main hotel building.

Although the size of the cottage can vary slightly, each cottage has two bedrooms (each bedroom will sleep two people.) The loft of the cottage has a sleeping alcove, which will sleep a further three people. As they are privately owned the cottages vary in decor and style but each has the same facilities. These include a kitchenette, a wood-burning stove, a shower room, a toilet and a private sauna.

Cabin guests will receive a small 'starter pack' of firewood. Further wood supplies can be purchased locally for approximately 10 euros.

Please note: A limited amount of hairdryers are available from reception.

Please contact our Travel Experts for a quote.

The Specifics

Holiday group size (approximate)

This holiday requires a minimum of 2 people to run, however, on some dates we require a minimum of 8 people for our flight allocation. Maximum 24 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>