



Muotka - Tailor Made



HOLIDAY TYPE: Tailor Made

VISITING: Finland

BROCHURE CODE: 20005

DURATION: 3 or more nights

In Brief

Tailor your short break and set a pace that suits you in the forests and fells of Finnish Lapland. The wintery surroundings of Muotka, provide you with the perfect playground to enjoy as many activities as you wish and of course, hunt for the Northern Lights.

Our Opinion

“ When Jouko first told me he had bought another hotel in Lapland I did have my concerns... Nellim (the other hotel he owns) has always been a bestseller for us and a real personal favourite destination. These were some very big shoes to fill! However, I think the beauty of Muotka is in its contrast to Nellim. It is located deep in the snowy Taiga Forest which looks like a scene straight from a postcard. The hotel's proximity next to Urho Kekkonen National Park also means that it has a very exclusive feel and it is rare to see another person during activities (except for the odd Finn enjoying the network of cross-country ski trails). If you want to get away from it all then this is the perfect wilderness destination and the flexibility of tailor-made allows you to create your own perfect itinerary during your stay. ”

Amy Hope



What's included?

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

- **Flights:** return flights from London to Ivalo (via Helsinki) are included. Flight routes are subject to change.
- **Transfers:** return scheduled group shuttle airport transfers
- **Accommodation:** twin or double room at Muotka Wilderness Lodge (minimum of three nights stay)
- **Meals:** full board is included
- Cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- The services of our local guides
- 24/7 assistance from our UK based operations team and in destination support from our local partners

TAILOR YOUR TRIP

A selection of winter activities can be added to your trip at additional cost. Once you have chosen when you want to travel and for how long (we recommend a minimum stay of three nights) you can select as many or as few activities as you wish from the extensive range on the "[Activities](#)" tab and tailor your trip as required. All activities are individually priced and our Travel Experts can assist you with your selection and will then provide a personalised itinerary quotation for you.

Trip Overview

Muotkan Maja Wilderness Hotel nestles amongst the forests and fells of Finnish Lapland and offers guests a truly peaceful retreat for a tailor-made holiday.

You can enjoy as few or as many activities as you wish during your stay and can vary the duration of your holiday to suit your needs (a minimum of three nights is required). If you are part of a group of people who would like to enjoy varying levels of activity then this option really does provide you with the perfect solution.

There is a range of exceptional Lappish experiences on offer at Muotka and the friendly and welcoming guides ensure that all guests really get the most of their time here. There is an array of Aurora hunting options available to ensure that you can maximise your chances of viewing the Northern Lights whilst also enjoying some unforgettable activities.

The details of the activities available here can be found on the '[activities](#)' section of the holiday page and include highlights such as snowmobiling, reindeer encounters, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and dog sledding. The Aurora activities available include various hunts on foot, by snowmobile or minibus as well as visits to dedicated Northern Lights camps deep in the wilds.

Guests can also upgrade to spend the night in one of the unique Aurora Kotas here at Muotka for an unforgettable night.

Our standard base package at Muotka includes: return flights from London to Ivalo, return airport transfers, 3 nights' accommodation on a full board basis in one of the cosy hotel rooms, cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay and the services of our local representative and experts guides.

©Wilderness Hotel Muotka, Jouko Lappalainen & Markku Inkila

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL, TRANSFER AND WELCOME

Included Meals: Dinner

DAYS
2 TO 3

DESIGN YOUR OWN HOLIDAY

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
4

DEPART OR EXTEND YOUR STAY

Included Meals: Breakfast

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Reindeer Farm Visit

Today, you will gain an insight into the traditions of a reindeer herder. You will be transferred to a reindeer farm and during your visit, you will learn about the importance of the reindeer to a rural economy and enjoy a short reindeer sleigh ride.

Duration: Approximately 2 hours in total

Image credit Matt Robinson

Other options

ACTIVITIES



Ice fishing trip with snowmobile-pulled sleigh ride

On this excursion, you will hop into a sleigh and your guide will pull you along behind his or her snowmobile.

Once you reach the lake and your guide has chosen an ideal spot for fishing, you will stop there and your guide will set up. After showing you how to drill a hole in the ice and use the equipment, you will wait patiently in the hope of a catch.

After fishing, you will also enjoy hot drinks and lunch around a campfire; hopefully, you will be eating fresh fish!

Duration: approximately 4 hours in total

Image credit: Juho Kuva and Visit Finland



Gentle Snowshoeing

This activity is a gentle introduction for complete beginners to a popular activity in Finnish Lapland. Your guide will give you full tuition and help you fit your snowshoes before you head out to explore around the hotel along a trail which really shows how remote this hotel is. There is something really special about exploring the pristine winter wilderness under your own steam before heading back to the hotel for a well-deserved rest in the cosy lounge area.

Duration: approximately 2 hours in total



Snowmobiling try out

Whilst full instruction is provided on all safaris, this activity is ideal for those who have never driven a snowmobile before as well for anyone that simply wants to enjoy a short trip, prior to a longer safari later in their stay.

You will be given an introduction to these machines and you will travel two people per snowmobile as you do during the other trips on offer so you can get to grips with the handling, etc if you are less confident.

Please note that you must be at least 18 years old and hold a full driving licence to drive a snowmobile.

Duration: approximately 2 hours in total



Aurora hunt by minibus

During this activity, your guides will use their local knowledge, as well as the Aurora and weather forecasts to lead you to a prime Aurora viewpoint. Your guide will impart some of the extensive knowledge and you will enjoy an evening out in wilds, hopefully gazing at the Northern Lights.

Duration: approximately 3 hours in total



Aurora snowmobiling

Searching for the Northern Lights by snowmobile is great fun as the landscape takes on a totally different atmosphere after darkness falls. The machines provide you with the mobility to hopefully evade any localised cloud cover and your guide will lead you to the best possible location for a potential sighting of the Northern Lights.

You will travel two people per snowmobile throughout and there will be the chance to swap drivers (the driver must be at least 18 years old and hold a valid driving licence) and you will stop along the way for a hot drink.

Duration: approximately 2.5 hours in total



Aurora snowshoe

During this Aurora snowshoeing activity you will walk through snowy forests away from light pollution in search of the Northern Lights. Your experienced guide will lead you to a nearby camp where you can enjoy a hot drink whilst waiting for the Northern Lights to appear.

Duration: approximately 2.5 hours in total

Image credit: Markku Inkila



Aurora Camp

The Aurora Camp at Muotka is situated deep within the forest, which makes it a remote place and far away from any light pollution. This location creates the perfect spot from which to gaze skywards in the hope of seeing the Northern Lights.

You will travel to the camp in a snowmobile-pulled sleigh and you will be offered warm drinks and snacks during your Aurora stake-out.

Duration: approximately 2.5 hours in total



Snowmobiling in the fells

After a full safety briefing and instructions on how to drive and handle the snowmobile, you will head out for a snowmobile safari lasting approximately four hours (including outdoor lunch).

You will travel two people per snowmobile and journey through snow-covered forests and over fells during this thrilling and exciting snowmobile tour.

Please note: you must be at least 18 years old and hold a full driving licence to drive a snowmobile.

Duration: approximately 4 hours in total (including outdoor lunch)



Husky safari

A husky safari is almost a 'must-do' activity when staying at Muotka.

After a short transfer, you'll arrive at the husky farm to meet the dogs. You will hear their excitement before you will see them! They are always so eager to get out and onto the trail so they can run.

You will be shown how to handle the sled before heading out on your safari which will take you through the beautiful wintery forests.

Two people will share a husky sled, allowing you to try both controlling the sled and relaxing as a passenger. You will travel for roughly one hour with the dogs. Lunch will be enjoyed at the hotel.

Duration: approximately 3 hours intotal (including transfers and time for lunch at the hotel)



Cross-country skiing lesson

Cross-country skiing is one of the most popular Scandinavian activities and this is your chance to learn the basic skills. You will be taught the fundamentals before heading out on a ski tour on the local trails.

Duration: approximately 2 hours in total



Snowshoeing

Snowshoeing allows you to explore the remote forest areas around the hotel in peace and tranquillity and gives access to areas of the forest which remain out of bounds to those who travel without them.

Your experienced guide will provide you with warm drinks and snacks en route. Lunch by an open fire is included.

Duration: approximately 4 hours in total

©Markku Inkila



Snowmobile safari to reindeer farm

Adventure and tradition are combined during this activity as you travel by snowmobile to a reindeer herder's farm and gain an insight into the Sámi culture.

After full instruction and a safety briefing, you will set off on your snowmobiles (travelling two people per machine) and journey to meet with the reindeer herder.

After an introduction to the reindeer, you will enjoy a short sleigh ride and be shown how to lasso a reindeer, a tradition which remains part of herding today. You will

have the chance to ask questions throughout and are sure to gain an understanding of the importance of the reindeer and the role which they play in Lapland.

The total duration of this activity is 4 hours and a soup lunch is included.

Please note that you must be at least 18 years old and hold a full driving licence to drive a snowmobile.

Duration: approximately 4 hours in total (including soup lunch)

Image credit: Matt Robinson

LITTLE EXTRAS



Cross-Country Ski and Snowshoe Hire

During your free time, you might like to take advantage of the local ski and snowshoes trails. Equipment can be rented locally, and reception can provide you with the necessary maps.

If you are exploring independently, please ensure you are properly equipped and have your phone and the hotel's contact details with you just in case.

£19 per day per set of equipment and subject to availability.



Aurora alert

An 'Aurora Alert' is an excellent addition for any keen Northern Lights hunter and can be arranged on arrival at your destination. Effectively, this is a buzzer which sounds when the lights have been spotted outside. When you hear an alert, it is time to put your cold weather clothes on and get away from any lights to watch the dark skies.

These alerts will generally operate until around 1 am but we always advise that you confirm with hotel staff as the times may vary.

The alerts are designed to be an aid to Aurora hunting and whilst every effort will be made to issue a text message to you should the weather and solar conditions seem conducive to a display, this cannot be guaranteed. The situation can change very quickly so you should keep an eye on the sky yourself and not rely solely on them.

Image credit: Markku Inkila

SPECIAL NIGHTS



A night in an Aurora Cabin

As ever, Muotka leads the way in Aurora viewing innovation and we are therefore proud to offer our guests the chance to spend the night in one of only 20 magnificent Aurora Cabins. These stunning, part-cabin, part-glass tepee buildings, offer guests an exceptional overnight Aurora hunting experience.

Guests get the space and feel of a cabin during the day and the Aurora viewing benefits of a glass igloo at night, as you sleep under a glass tepee. This means that you are provided with the most wonderful views of the night sky

from the comfort of your bed.

These part-cabin and part-glass tepee buildings, are self-contained and situated a short distance from the hotel, next to the annexe. They combine the space and atmosphere of a cosy cabin with a glass roof above the bed. Each cabin faces north so ideal for guests to gaze upon the night sky every night of their holiday, from the comfort of their duvet. The cabins are all 25m² with double bed and en-suite bathroom, making them an excellent base (most of them have a private sauna).

Please note: prices are based on you spending a night of your holiday in this unique accommodation and not keeping your original accommodation. If you would like to keep your accommodation, supplements will apply. Please speak to our Travel Experts for a full quotation.

Credit: Anthony Oberlin and Minttu Mantynen

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Wilderness Hotel Muotka (Nights: 1-3)



Muotkan Maja Wilderness Hotel resides around 40km from the main town of Ivalo, tucked away in the corner of North-East Finland. Recently renovated and restored it is owned and run by the same couple as the popular Nellim Wilderness Hotel, Mari and Jouko Lappalainen. They run the hotel with the same hard-working ethos and it exudes the same warmth and charm for its much-welcomed guests.

The hotel boasts some wonderful scenery, tucked away in the forested-fells with roaming reindeer frequently seen amongst the trees. It consists of two main accommodation buildings, one with the majority of the bedrooms and another with hosts additional bedrooms, the main restaurant and the reception area.

Hotel facilities

- The focal point of the main building is the restaurant which is where you will have the majority of your meals. Food will be served buffet style with a variety of continental and cooked food for breakfast and the choice of two or three options for each course at dinner. The menu has been designed with a focus on both traditional and international cuisine using fresh, locally-sourced ingredients
- There is a bar which is usually open until 1 am and serves a variety of spirits, wines and beers and a lounge area with comfortable armchairs to relax in during your free time
- There is a sauna in the main building which is heated daily for guest use
- Free Wi-Fi is available in the main building (at the bar and in the restaurant)
- In the main building, you will also find two fireplaces, games and books, which makes it a perfect place to relax
- The rooms do not have tea and coffee making facilities but tea and coffee are available free of charge and available in the restaurant area
- Hairdryers are available from the main hotel reception

Room types

There are 12 double and twin rooms in the main building and 11 in the additional building just across the courtyard. All rooms are en-suite with shower room, wardrobe, hairdryer and nightstand and can be made up as either a double or twin. They have also been recently renovated and offer lovely Scandinavian décor and charm.

Image credits: Jouko Lappalainen, Markku Inkila

Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

Wilderness Hotel Muotka - Superior Sauna Rooms



Muotka Wilderness Hotel has 16 Superior Sauna rooms, located a short distance from the main hotel building. These rooms are designed to offer rustic luxury and are ideal for small families and groups or those that simply wish for more space to relax in during their stay at Muotka. The rooms are approximately 33m² and each separate building has four superior sauna rooms inside. Please contact our Aurora Experts for a quotation.

Facilities

- All rooms will contain their own private sauna, sofa and an electric kettle to make your stay as comfortable as possible
- Each has a queen-size bed within and space for 1-2 extra beds
- All meals will be served in the hotel restaurant which is just a short walk away
- Hairdryers are available from the main hotel reception

Wilderness Hotel Muotka - Log Cabin



Situated not far from the main hotel, the 10 log cabins at Muotka are a wonderful upgrade option for those looking for a little more space during their stay or if you are travelling as a small group or family.

Each log cabin is approximately 50m² and is fully equipped to make your stay cosy and comfortable. Please contact our Aurora Experts for a quotation.

Log cabin facilities

- All cabins have their own log burner and private sauna - ideal for warming up after a day in the snow!
- Each has a double bed and space for 1-2 extra beds
- All cabins have a small kitchenette and a kettle
- The log cabins are equipped with large north-facing windows so you can easily keep watch for a potential Aurora display
- All meals will be served in the hotel restaurant which is just a short walk away
- Hairdryers are available from the main hotel reception

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>