



Nangu - Lake Inari Auroras



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group
VISITING: Finland

BROCHURE CODE: 2915
DURATION: 4 nights

In Brief

Escape to the wilderness of Finnish Lapland on this activity-filled, 4-night break to Wilderness Hotel Nangu. This adults-only hotel positions you in a remote destination, ideal for searching for the Northern Lights. You will also experience snowmobiling, a husky safari and two Aurora camps.

Our Opinion

“ *Hotel Nangu was renovated in 2017 and is the epitome of everything that we strive to offer our clients at The Aurora Zone. It oozes elegance, tradition, and cosiness, and has a stylish restaurant that offers a great selection of local dishes. The real draw, though, is the hotel’s location, as its position by Lake Inari leaves a vast expanse of darkness at night that makes it a successful Northern Lights viewing destination.* ”

Ali Mclean



What's included?

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

- **Flights:** return from London to Ivalo (either direct or via Helsinki depending on departure date). Regional and non-UK departures available on request (flight routes are subject to change)
- **Transfers:** return airport transfers
- **Accommodation:** 4 nights in a twin/double hotel room
- **Meals:** full board
- **The following activities are included in the holiday:** dog sledding, Lake Inari snowmobile safari, two visits to Aurora camps, Aurora snowmobile safari (order subject to change)
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities
- Cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay

Trip Overview

If you were to close your eyes and think of the perfect winter setting, what would you visualise? A snow-carpeted landscape, a location that feels almost in the middle of nowhere, warming hot drinks, toasty open fires, and cosy log buildings? If you spend a winter break at Wilderness Hotel Nangu, this idyll will be converted into reality...

Wilderness Hotel Nangu sits on the remote southern shores of Lake Inari, perfectly positioned in a wintry haven that offers the ideal combination of relaxation, activities and Northern Lights viewpoints. Our four-night itinerary includes all of this, as we have rolled all the best activities into just three days. There's time to enjoy your accommodation in between, and three Northern Lights hunts in the evenings.

By day, you will find yourself speeding over the frozen expanse of Lake Inari by snowmobile and guiding your own team of huskies. By night, you will, of course, be on the look-out for the Aurora Borealis. Twice you'll travel by snowmobile-pulled sleigh as you venture towards a dedicated Aurora Camp, where a warming campfire waits for you. The third will be by snowmobile, so you can search further afield, hopefully escaping any localised cloud cover that might obscure the dazzling colours

and formations of the lights.

Your base for the duration is owned by, Jouko and Mari, who already oversee three of our most popular hotels which are in North East Lapland. We've worked with them for years and we know that they have been desperate to make their boutique hotel dreams a reality. Hotel Nangu was newly renovated in 2017, and offers elegant rooms, with the option to upgrade to superior rooms with panoramic windows. Not only does the hotel offer ultimate comfort, but it is open to adults only (16+) over winter for added tranquility.

So, make a dream a reality this year and experience a winter that you thought only your imagination could conjure up.

Photography by Anthony Oberlin and Markku Inkila

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL AND WELCOME

After arriving at Ivalo Airport, you will be greeted by your driver who will take you to Hotel Nangu, your boutique base for the next four nights. Heading north towards the Russian border, you get a real sense of the scale of the wilderness.

After around thirty minutes, you will arrive in the grounds of your very special hotel, welcoming you with its cosy and warm ambience.

Upon arrival, you will be greeted by a guide and you will receive your cold weather clothing that you will keep for the duration of the trip. Then, you can enjoy your first delicious meal in the hotel restaurant which offers views out across the lake.

Be sure to head outside and keep a lookout for a potential Northern Lights display before you head to bed though, as the Aurora can be seen from right outside the hotel.

Please note that if you are on a later flight then a chilled supper will be waiting for you and you will be kitted out in the morning.

* Transfers are based on a scheduled group shuttle that sometimes stops at a few nearby hotels. If you would prefer to upgrade to private taxi transfers please ask our Travel Experts for a quotation.

Included Meals: Dinner

DAY
2

DOG SLEDDING IN NELLIM AND EVENING AURORA CAMP

After breakfast, you will take an approximately forty to fifty-minute car transfer to Nellim.

At the start of the dog sledding your guide and expert musher will greet you and you will then receive a thorough safety briefing and lesson on how to guide your own team of huskies and control a sled. All the while, this will be accompanied by impatient yaps and barks in the background, as the dogs wait to begin their run.

Bursting with energy, the dogs will set off on the trail, following your guide who will lead the way, and you will travel two people per sled. You will travel over part of Lake Inari, which is thick with ice at this time of year and offers the perfect open space for a husky safari. Along the way, you will take a break so that you have the chance to swap drivers if you wish. Then, the ever-eager dogs will take you back to the farm.

Now is the perfect time to meet the huskies properly and take some pictures, as they will be far more relaxed after their run.

Following this, you will enjoy lunch at Wilderness Hotel Inari.

Overall, you will be out for around five hours, so you'll be ready for dinner tonight back at Nangu.

There is also a relaxing Aurora activity tonight, to finish off a jam-packed day, as you head out in search of the Aurora by snowmobile-pulled sleigh and head to an Aurora Camp.

Once you arrive at the camp, specifically chosen for its previous success in Northern Lights spotting, the fire will be lit to warm you as you patiently watch the skies. While you rest and enjoy a hot drink, your guide will tell you myths, facts, legends and tales about the Aurora Borealis.

If the lights do make an appearance, you can treasure this magical and mystical moment, as no amount of research or science can detract from the eerie, other-worldliness of this natural phenomenon. Watching the Aurora dance is an experience that is never forgotten.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
3

FREE DAY AND EVENING AURORA SNOWMOBILE SAFARI

After a busy itinerary thus far, you will have time to pause and relax as the whole day has been left free.

Why not take a look at the '[Personalise](#)' tab on this trip, as cross-country skiing and snowshoeing are on offer if you fancy upping the ante today? Simply contact our travel experts to add one of these additional activities to your trip.

Alternatively, you can curl up with a book by a window with spectacular views, enjoying the smug

feeling that being cosy indoors can provide when it's cold outside.

Lunch and dinner will be served in the hotel restaurant, before your second Northern Lights excursion commences.

Tonight, you will try your hand at snowmobiling, a thrilling and popular pastime here in Finland. You will receive a thorough safety briefing from your guide, followed by a lesson in how to drive the vehicles.

Once the guide is confident that the group is ready to depart, you will head out into the night, using the snowmobiles' headlights to guide the way, adding an extra thrill to the experience. Of course, the moonlight may lend a helping hand, and hopefully the Aurora Borealis will shimmer and glisten as well.

Overall, this activity will last for around 2.5 hours, including a break for hot drinks. Two people will share a snowmobile, and you must hold a valid driving licence in order to drive. There will be the chance to swap drivers if you wish to do so.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
4

LAKE INARI SNOWMOBILING AND EVENING AURORA CAMP

The order of activities is always subject to chance and so regardless of whether you have already tried snowmobiling the previous night or whether that is yet to come, you will receive full snowmobile driving instructions today.

After your lesson in snowmobiling, you will return to Lake Inari for the drive. This time it will be in daylight (or blue light if you are travelling in mid-winter), so you can appreciate the distant views of rolling fells and snow-laden pine trees that would have been obscured last night. Two people will share a snowmobile, and you must hold a valid driving licence in order to drive.

The excursion will last for around four hours in total, and along the way you will stop for a filling lunch around an open fire.

When you return to the hotel, you can enjoy a relaxed afternoon, packing and preparing for your flight home tomorrow as you will spend tonight on your final Northern Lights activity.

We have included a second Aurora Camp this evening, as this is your final chance to see the Northern Lights before you begin your journey home.

As you sit around the fire and reminisce about your trip, we hope that the Aurora makes an appearance tonight. Your guide will advise you on how to photograph the illusive lights and tell you some interesting facts about them as they, hopefully, dazzle and amaze you.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
5

DEPARTURE

Today, after your final breakfast, it is time to depart. You will bid Wilderness Hotel Nangu farewell and take your transfer in time for your flight home. If you are on an early flight, a packed breakfast will be provided. If you depart on a later flight, you will have breakfast in the restaurant.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Snowshoeing

This activity will take you deep into the wilderness that surrounds Nangu. Your snowshoes will be provided, and you will strap them to your winter boots prior to setting off on the trail.

Your guide will take you through the stunning winter scenery, while you appreciate the peace and quiet as the snow deadens any sound and only the crunching sound of your feet on the ground is audible. While you walk, your guide will share information and stories about the area's nature and wildlife.

During this activity, you will stop for hot drinks and lunch around a campfire.

Duration: 4 hours including lunch

Other options

ACTIVITIES



Cross-country skiing

Cross-country skiing is a traditional Finnish winter sport, and a "must-try" when you are here in Finnish Lapland!

Do not worry if you have never skied before, as you will be given a full safety briefing and lesson which will include tips and techniques that will help you along. Even those experienced downhill skiers will find this a completely new experience, so the group can muddle along together until everyone finds their feet. Then, your guide will take you out on the trail, keeping to a pace and route that is suitable for the group.

Duration: 2 hours

SPECIAL NIGHTS



Aurora Huts

Immerse yourself in the spectacular Finnish wilderness and spend an unforgettable night hunting the Northern Lights from a unique Aurora Hut.

The Aurora Huts are the very latest in Aurora accommodation, and their innovative design makes them a wonderful addition to any holiday at Nangu. They are completely mobile and can travel across ice, snow and can even float on water. The expert local team will situate them in a prime Aurora location on the edge of frozen Lake Inari, so you will be away from any artificial light

pollution.

The huts allow you to spend the night surrounded by the pristine landscape of Lapland and the floor to ceiling windows provide exceptional views of the night sky. As darkness falls, you can relax in your cosy double bed and gaze up at the Arctic firmament as you keep watch for the Northern Lights.

Because they need to be easy to move by snowmobile, the huts are compact, but they have electricity, miniature kitchenette and Wi-Fi. The clever designers have also managed to fit in a small composting toilet for convenience. You'll only be a short distance from Nangu so you can utilise your room's shower facilities the next morning before breakfast.

Please note: the price is based on a per person per night basis.

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Wilderness Hotel Nangu (Nights: 1-4)



Wilderness Hotel Nangu is an adult-only (16+), boutique hotel tucked away in a secluded spot close to the shores of Lake Inari in North East Finnish Lapland. This is the ideal place for those wanting to escape to a real haven of peace and quiet which just oozes rustic style, charm and comfort. Think handmade wooden furniture, sheepskins, stunning log architecture, comfy chairs and roaring fires; all with a view over snow-laden trees and a vast frozen lake beyond.

The central log-built restaurant and reception building is a spectacular spot in which to dine and unwind and the elegant wooden buildings which contain the bedrooms are around 20-50 metres away.

The hotel was transformed in 2017 by our longstanding friends and partners Jouko and Mari and they have really put their heart and soul into making Wilderness Hotel Nangu the grown-up retreat that it is.

In prime Aurora territory and just a minute's walk from the shores of Lake Inari, this is really an incredible place in which to hunt the Northern Lights.

There are only 34 bedrooms here and so there is also a real exclusivity about this place and we would really recommend booking early to avoid disappointment.

Hotel Facilities

- The wonderful main log building contains the reception, dining area and lounge where a roaring log fire and tasteful décor makes for a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere
- We think the food at Nangu is delicious and the setting for your meals could not be more delightful. Breakfasts and lunches are both varied buffets with local and international flavours. Evening meals are served at your table (except for Christmas and New Year's Eve) and guests are provided with two or three choices each evening
- There is a large sauna situated in one of the bedroom buildings and this is available for guests to reserve during their stay. The ideal way to relax after a day of activities
- Free Wi-Fi is available in the public areas at Nangu, but really, other than checking the Aurora forecasts, we recommend that you just switch off from the outside world

Room types

STANDARD WILDERNESS ROOM (DOUBLE OR TWIN)

All rooms at Nangu are comfortable and elegantly decorated with a cosy and rustic, wooden interior, offering a traditional yet stylish Finnish ambience. The standard rooms accommodate two people, have a large window, an en-suite shower and toilet with a hairdryer. They also include tea and coffee making facilities. Single rooms are also available which are slightly smaller and accommodate solo travellers.

Image credits: Matt Robinson

Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

Superior room with view



These rooms provide extra space and are all equipped with double beds. They each have their own private entrance and a large panoramic window offering views towards Lake Inari. This means that it

might even be possible to witness the Aurora from your room (although the views are much better outside!). All rooms are en-suite and equipped with a hairdryer and tea and coffee making facilities.



Aurora Log Cabin

There's nothing cosier than staying in a log cabin during a winter escape to the Finnish wilderness. With an Aurora Log Cabin, you get the same cosy feeling but with the added benefit of a panoramic window for clear views of the night sky as you lay in bed. This is Northern Lights hunting in ultimate style and comfort. Equipped with a king-size bed, fireplace, shower and toilet, you'll have everything you need inside your peaceful cabin.

Sleeps 2 people

Panorama Log Cabin



These luxurious log cabins are the perfect place to come back to after a day in the wilderness. Warm up by the fireplace or stare out of the huge panoramic windows facing Lake Inari, a spot where you could quite comfortably search for the Northern Lights. There's also the chance to relax as the Finns do in your private sauna, or in the outdoor Jacuzzi on the terrace (supplement applies). The cabins also come with a fully equipped kitchenette.

Sleeps 2 people

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 30 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>