



# The Ultimate Aurora Adventure



**HOLIDAY TYPE:** Small Group  
**VISITING:** Sweden

**BROCHURE CODE:** 26008  
**DURATION:** 8 nights

## In Brief

This grand 8-night Aurora tour of Swedish Lapland starts with incredible winter activities on the edge of a frozen archipelago, prior to a night at the exceptional Treehotel. A scenic train ride then takes you to the Aurora playground of Abisko for Northern Lights hunts and more activities before an unbelievable finale at the world-famous ICEHOTEL®!

## Our Opinion

“Wow, what an adventure! The activities alone in this itinerary are fantastic and combined with a stay in both The TreeHotel and The ICEHOTEL® you will have a wealth of memories to treasure from this holiday as well as being able to say that you have stayed the night in two of the most amazing architectural structures in Sweden. Spending so much time above the Arctic Circle also really maximises your chance of seeing the Northern Lights as many times as possible which would hopefully be the real highlight of this wonderful itinerary.”

Amy Hope



## What's included?

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

- **Flights:** return flights from London to Luleå (via Stockholm) outbound and inbound from Kiruna to London (via Stockholm) Regional and non-UK departures available on request. Routings are subject to change
- **Transfers:** return airport transfers, all destination transfers and train travel between Luleå and Abisko are included
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights winter cottage accommodation Brändön Lodge, 1-night Treehotel (any room other than The Cabin, Dragonfly, or 7th room, all of which require a supplement), 3 nights twin room at Abisko Mountain Lodge, 1-night ICEHOTEL® in an ice room. You can choose to upgrade your room at the ICEHOTEL® or spend your final night at Abisko (supplements/deductions apply)
- **Meals:** 8 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners
- **The following activities and equipment are included:** Northern Lights hunt by snowmobile-pulled sled, ice fishing experience, snowmobile forest tour, two Northern Lights snowshoe hikes, husky safari and Aurora photography evening (the order of activities is subject to change)
- Cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay at Brändön Lodge, Abisko Mountain Lodge and for activities only at the ICEHOTEL® and Treehotel
- Services of our expert local guides

## Trip Overview

The word 'ultimate' appears in the title of this holiday for good reason. This itinerary ticks so many bucket list boxes that it is hard to list them all here!

Starting at a lodge which looks out over the ice-bound archipelago around Lulea, you will head out on Northern Lights hunts as well as enjoy the delights of ice fishing and snowmobiling. You will stay in a winter cottage for your first three nights here and your fourth will be spent in a treetop room at the truly remarkable Treehotel, one of the most renowned architectural wonders in Sweden.

A stunning train ride then takes you north to the Aurora Mecca of Abisko. Three nights at the famous Mountain Lodge here will allow you to hunt the Northern Lights and enjoy the stunning landscape. This portion of the holiday will allow you to experience some of the Arctic highlights in a totally different environment, by snowshoes and dog sled. You will also enjoy an unforgettable Aurora photography evening, a favourite with all of our guests. Your holiday ends at the world famous ICEHOTEL® with an unforgettable night's stay.

Throughout this entire holiday, you will be in prime Aurora territory and many of your evenings will be dedicated to Northern Lights hunts with your expert guides.

This is an exceptional holiday which highlights the best experiences and adventures available in Swedish Lapland, all whilst providing outstanding Aurora viewing potential.

**Image credit: ICEHOTEL, Rob Harding, Timsam Harding, Asaf Kliger, Peter Grant & Magnus Skoglöf & imagebank.sweden.se, Chad Blakley, Graeme Richardson, Pier Rynback**

# Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY  
1

FLIGHTS, ARRIVAL AND NORTHERN LIGHTS HUNT VIA SNOWMOBILE-PULLED SLED

Upon arrival at the airport, you will be greeted by a driver who will transfer you to Brändön Lodge, your home for the next three nights.

You'll have some time to settle into your winter cottage before dinner in the main restaurant. We waste no time getting you out and about, though, so you will be straight out on your inaugural Northern Lights hunt.

Your guide will use all of their experience and knowledge as they lead you on an Aurora hunt using a snowmobile-pulled sleigh. Your destination will be chosen based on the weather and solar conditions and you will spend your first hours in the wilderness of Lapland awaiting a potential display of the Northern Lights.

This is an excellent way to start the holiday and, for many guests, it can feel a tad surreal. You will have started today in a bustling airport and will end it out in the wilderness and peace of Lapland. This is a great way to kick start your holiday in style. The activity will last for approximately 2 hours.

Please note that the order of activities within your itinerary is subject to change and this agenda should be used as a guide only. The exact order of your agenda will be confirmed upon arrival at each hotel.

**Included Meals:** Dinner

DAY  
2

## ICE FISHING AND OPTIONAL HUSKY SAFARI

Today, you will enjoy the peace and quiet of the landscape during an ice fishing trip. This is a gentle way to spend some time absorbing your new surroundings and your guide will help you drill through the ice and drop your line into the waters below. Even if you do not land a catch, this is a delightful way to spend time in The Great Outdoors.

This afternoon has been left free for you to enjoy at your leisure. We find that some guests love to simply relax or enjoy a stroll. If you would rather be out and about, we can arrange a husky safari for you. Trying your hand at dog sledding is an unforgettable experience. Details can be found in the '[Personalise](#)' section of the holiday page.

Dinner will be served back at the lodge tonight. As you head back to your cottage, ensure that you keep an eye on the sky above, you never know when the Northern Lights may start to dance above you.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY  
3

## SNOWMOBILE TOUR OF THE FOREST, AURORA SNOWSHOE AND WILDERNESS DINNER

Today you will explore the forests surrounding the Luleå Archipelago on snowmobiles; an exhilarating experience.

After a full safety briefing, you will follow your guide and traverse the snow-laden landscape, making some stops en route to enjoy the incredible scenery and a hot drink. Snowmobiles give you the chance to journey further afield and gain a sense of the scale of the landscape which other means of transport cannot provide. Travelling in pairs you will each get the chance to drive and travel as the passenger so you can experience all that this activity has to offer (all drivers need a full driving licence and must be over 18). You will be out for approximately 2 hours today.

Your second Northern Lights hunt utilises snowshoes in order to give you access to remoter areas of the forest. Snowshoes allow you to walk on the deepest snow with greater ease and your guide will lead you to a prime Aurora viewpoint deep in the wilds. You will stop for dinner around a campfire which will be prepared expertly by your guide. You will sit on reindeer skins and soak up the very special atmosphere, hopefully, the Aurora will provide some post-dinner entertainment. You will be out for approximately 3 hours tonight.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY  
4

## NIGHT AT THE TREEHOTEL

After three nights it is time to bid farewell to Brändön and, following a relaxed breakfast, you will be transferred to the awe-inspiring Treehotel.

The rooms at the hotel are all entirely unique and each is completely individual. The architects involved were given free reign to make their most fantastical ideas a reality amongst the trees and the results are spectacular, room choices include The Bird's Nest, The Mirrorcube or The UFO to name but a few.

The rooms are suspended amidst the treetops (some are closer to the ground than others so please ask our Travel Experts so they can advise on the ease of access to each room - all room options are subject to availability) and each offers something completely different and totally unforgettable.

Today's lunch and tonight's evening meal will be served in the traditional guesthouse a short walk away from the tree rooms.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY  
5

## TRAIN TO ABISKO AND FREE EVENING

This morning you will awake in amongst the trees and enjoy the views from your room. After breakfast at the guesthouse, it is time to head to the train station for your train journey north to Abisko.

After your transfer, you will board the comfortable train for the 400km trip through Swedish Lapland. It takes around six and a half hours to reach your destination but the stunning fell and forest scenery will certainly keep you entertained as you head towards your next adventure. Lunch is not included today but you can pick up a light lunch and snacks near to the station or onboard the train.

Upon arrival at Abisko, it's just a short hop to the lodge with your guide. You will check into your rooms before a welcome dinner in the restaurant.

You will receive a briefing from your guide who will also hand out the cold weather clothing.

There will be some time for you to relax and catch your breath this afternoon after a packed few days. The saunas at Abisko always provide a welcome retreat for guests and there is also a hot tub which can be booked privately (this must be arranged and paid for locally).

There is no specific Aurora activity tonight, however, the beauty of Abisko is that if the conditions are conducive to a display you won't have to venture far to catch a great view of the Northern Lights. If you would like to include an additional Aurora hunt then we can arrange for you to search for the Northern Lights in a snowmobile-pulled sleigh, or journey up the mountain behind the lodge via cable car to visit the Abisko Sky Station. Please see the '[personalise](#)' section for details of the available options.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

DAY  
6

## HUSKY SAFARI AND AURORA SNOWSHOE

Dog sledding is so popular with clients that we felt we had to include an outing with the huskies.



Today's trip takes place in the stunning terrain that surrounds Abisko. Your expert musher will take charge of the sled and show you how it's done. The benefit of travelling in the sled is that it gives you the chance to enjoy the surroundings and capture the experience on camera if you wish to do so. The safari will last for around 2 hours, including preparation time and stops.

After lunch and dinner at the lodge, tonight, you will head out in search of the Northern Lights on snowshoes once more. The guides here at Abisko are Northern Lights obsessed and will use all of the latest forecasts to determine the best possible route for tonight's hike. If conditions are favourable it is unlikely that you will have to venture too far to witness a display at its best. You will be out for approximately 2.5 hours tonight.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY  
7

## FREE DAY AND AURORA PHOTOGRAPHY

Today is yours to spend however you wish to do so. You can relax in the hot tub (this must be arranged and paid for locally) or enjoy additional activities. You may want to try your hand at ice fishing one more time or enjoy another thrilling snowmobile tour (see '[Personalise](#)' section for more information).

This evening you shall be led on an unforgettable Aurora hunt in the capable hands of a talented Aurora photographer. We know how many people delight in the idea of capturing a display of the Northern Lights on camera and tonight will give you the best possible chance. You will be provided with excellent camera equipment, all set to photograph the Northern Lights, so all you have to do is provide an SD memory card on which to store the pictures.

Your guide will spend almost every night of the Aurora season out hunting the Northern Lights with their camera and so you really could not be in more expert hands. You will be out for approximately 2.5 hours tonight, including transfers.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY  
8

## THE ICEHOTEL®

After breakfast, you will head south to the world famous ICEHOTEL®.

Lunch will be served in the warm restaurant before you are shown around the suites and communal areas in this stunning snow and ice construction. Make sure you have a good camera at the ready to capture the ice sculptures, the ICEBAR®, the wedding chapel and the real highlight, the amazing and intricately carved Art Suites.

This holiday includes a night in an Ice Room and we can arrange room upgrades if you wish to spend your last night in Sweden in one of the suites, please see the '[personalise](#)' section of the holiday page for details. Although dinner is not included we can arrange a table reservation for you at one of the nearby restaurants, please see the 'accommodation' section for details. Please note that your room

will be available to check-in from approximately 6 pm onwards.

If you would prefer to spend your last day and night at Abisko Mountain Lodge instead this can be arranged for you.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

DAY  
9

DEPARTURE

Following this epic Swedish adventure, it's time to transfer to the airport and catch your return flights home.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast

## Personalise this tour

### Our pick



#### Abisko - Aurora sleigh ride

An excellent addition for those who want to really maximise their time at Abisko and spend another evening enjoying an Aurora excursion.

Travelling in a snowmobile-pulled sleigh, your guide will lead you on a hunt for the Northern Lights during a safari lasting around two and a half to three hours.

This is a relaxing activity, as all you have to do is sit back and keep a close watch on the sky for any potential sight of the Aurora. Your guide will select a spot, deep in the

mountains, where the light-free skies are ready to provide the perfect backdrop to any potential display of the Northern Lights.

Warm drinks will be enjoyed as you all await the Aurora.

### Other options

## ACTIVITIES



## Aurora Sky Station

The Aurora Sky Station is a wonderful Northern Lights viewing base located on Mount Nuolja, 900 metres above sea level in Abisko. To reach the summit you will travel via chairlift and, on a clear night, you can enjoy spectacular views across the mountainous landscape.

At the station, guests can enjoy a lookout tower with panoramic windows, in addition to a Northern Lights exhibition, a café and a souvenir shop.

Abisko, as an Aurora Zone location, is renowned for its frequently clear night skies, as the prevailing winds and surrounding mountains help to break up cloud cover. This should hopefully ensure that should conditions be right, you will enjoy a wonderful view of the sky, given the minimal light pollution at the station.

Guests should be aware however that the chair lift to get to the station is not covered (you will be provided with warm overalls) so should the weather be unfavourable then the lift will not operate. On these occasions, you will remain in the Aurora Lounge at ground level and enjoy a Northern Lights film and talk. Unfortunately, refunds are not possible.

The popularity of the Sky Station means that we would strongly advise you to book your visit in advance to ensure availability. Please note however that once your date is booked it cannot be cancelled or rearranged should the Aurora and weather conditions be poor.

You will be transferred to the Sky Station at approximately 20:40 and there are three return transfer times available: 22:45, 00:15 and 01:00.

**Image credit: Katie Lane**



## Brändön husky safari

You will head out for a two-hour safari (approximate duration), which will take you through snow-covered forests and across frozen lakes, offering stunning views all around. At the kennels, you will meet with the expert mushers and after a safety briefing, you will be assigned your team of enthusiastic dogs.

Travelling two people per team, you will then head out onto the trails. Back at the kennels, there will be plenty of time to make a fuss of the dogs and take photographs.





## Abisko - snowmobile safari

One of the many highlights of Abisko is that it is surrounded by spectacular and untouched wilderness and one of the best ways to explore is to set off by snowmobile. These thrilling machines let you cover a great deal of ground more quickly.

Before departure, you will be given full instructions and a safety briefing on how to handle the snowmobiles before setting of two people per snowmobile across frozen lakes and along wide mountain trails.

You will need a full driving licence to drive a snowmobile and should be over 18. You can swap between driver and passenger during the trip. The activity will last for approximately 2 hours.

**Image credit: Lindsay Correa (client)**



## Abisko - ice fishing

Ice fishing is a much loved Scandinavian pastime in this region and has developed from a food-gathering necessity into a very enjoyable sport.

On this excursion, you will be led to one of the many nearby lakes, which can be topped with frozen ice up to a metre thick. Your guide will assist you in drilling through the ice with a traditional hand drill and then all you need do is drop down a line and wait.

Patience is the key here, but a highlight of the activity is being out in the open wilderness and enjoying the serene beauty of your surroundings as you wait for a fish to bite. This activity lasts for approximately 2 hours.

# Included Accommodation

Brändön Lodge (Nights: 1-3)



Brändön Lodge is located on the edge of the sea that freezes around the Luleå Archipelago each year. It is a remarkable sight to see such a vast frozen mass of water each morning as you step out of your cosy cottage for a day of activities.

## Hotel facilities

- Your meals are all served in the restaurant in the main building. You will enjoy a variety of local dishes and more international cuisine in the evening menus (which are typically two courses and served as a hearty buffet). Breakfasts are typically Scandinavian in style and provide you with the fuel that you need for a day of adventure
- The restaurant is situated on the upper floor of the main hotel building and offers panoramic views over the frozen bay while you tuck into your delicious meal
- The lodge also has a fully stocked bar and pretty impressive wine cellar for any enthusiasts staying
- A short walk from the restaurant building, there is also a sauna for guests to enjoy. Indulging in a sauna, after an exhilarating day in the great outdoors is just the perfect way to unwind! This is bookable locally and charges apply

## Guest room types

**Winter cottages:** Brändön Lodge consists of individual winter cottages. Each homely cottage is detached, allowing guests the space to unwind and relax in comfort and having all the added benefits of the main building within walking distance.

All the winter cottages have an open plan living and dining area with kitchenette. We recommend taking tea and coffee provisions with you. They have two bedrooms (both furnished with twin beds – in some cases these can be moved together), an en-suite shower room, hairdryer and toilet. Recent room refurbishment leaves the cottages with a modern yet authentic Scandinavian feel. One of the nicest features of the cottages are the terraces, where in the morning you can step out and inhale the cool, crisp air and marvel at the view of the frozen sea and snow-covered forests that stretch before you.

Image credit: Graeme Richardson, Andream Walitalo

## The Treehotel (Nights: 4)



The Treehotel is not only special and unique but also quite surreal. Spending a night in a treetop is an experience that we highly recommend.

Several renowned architects have ensured that the outlandish, yet cutting edge designs fit perfectly in the untouched Lappish forests. All rooms were designed with their location in mind.

Some of the rooms even blend in so well that you can be standing beneath them without realising that they are there.

The accommodation can only be described as 'exclusive', as there are only seven rooms. Given that all the rooms are completely different in design, we thought it would be helpful to provide a more detailed description of each. They all provide a remarkable experience with their own quirks. All include an incinerator toilet and have a supply of water. Drinking water is also supplied. As standard, we include overnight accommodation in either The Bird's Nest, The UFO, The Mirror Cube, or The Blue Cone. The Cabin, Dragonfly and 7th Room, all require a supplement.

### Guest bedroom types

**The Bird's Nest:** One of the most well-known rooms here, the Bird's Nest is camouflaged within the forest. The Bird's Nest has two separate sleeping areas – one double room and then bunk beds, which means that it is suitable for friends or couples. It has a very light interior, with small circular windows. From the outside, the windows are nearly invisible. The nest is accessed by a narrow retractable staircase, therefore, you need to have some confidence with heights to stay here and a level of agility. We recommend taking only the essentials to your rooms and leaving the rest stored securely at Britta's Pension.

**The UFO:** One of the most spectacular creations at The Treehotel and considered to be a 'big kid's dream'. To stumble across such a modern spacecraft in the forests of Lapland is surreal. Imagine turning the key to release the access ladder and the ladder descends to a puff of smoke. You would genuinely expect a form of alien life to appear.

Despite being modern in décor, the UFO is very comfortable. It has the capacity to sleep up to five people with a double bed and three singles. There is a living area and your very own computer game to complete the childhood dream.

Access to the UFO is by a retractable and narrow metal ladder, therefore, we recommend this for those who are comfortable with heights and agile. We also suggest taking only the essentials to the room and storing the rest of your luggage at Britta's Pension.

**The Mirrorcube:** As the room name suggests, the entirely mirror clad exterior means that the room disappears in a camouflage created by the reflection of the landscape in the walls. The cube has been clad in an infra-red film, in order to prevent birds from flying into it. It is a four-metre cube with a birch-clad interior. There are six windows which create an incredible amount of light. Couples can enjoy relaxing in the double bed. The lounge area of the rooftop terrace can be accessed by a ladder. Accessed by a 12-metre long bridge walkway this is one of the most easily accessible rooms.

**The Blue Cone:** Yes, this is the bright red building. This traditional wooden structure is constructed of laminated birch wood. It has a minimalist interior with reindeer skins accenting the timber clad walls. The views from this room are magnificent and can be enjoyed from the seating area. There is a double room and then a loft sleeping area (which is accessible by ladder) with two single beds. This is one of the most accessible rooms as there is a bridge providing access. It is ideal for those who want to experience staying in a tree room without being too far off the ground.

**The Cabin:** The interior is a real favourite with guests. It offers a romantic tree top retreat for couples and stunning views across the Luleå River Valley. It is one of the larger rooms at 24 metres square. There is a large double bed, a tree top terrace, which is ideal for soaking up the views. The interior is simple and light. The Cabin is easily accessed via a horizontal bridge. The cabin has a real elegance and the small terrace area is a wonderful place to sit and enjoy the panoramic views of the valley below.

**The Dragon Fly:** The Dragon Fly is not only the largest room but also the newest addition. It can form a unique meeting venue or an excellent suite for those with a larger party to accommodate.

There is a 15-metre long ramp which provides relatively easy access. The panoramic windows bring the stunning landscape inside. You can sit at the large seating area and absorb the breathtaking views of the valley. The Dragon Fly is equipped with air conditioning and Wi-Fi. There are two rooms here and so it can easily accommodate two couples. A supplement is required when reserving The Dragon Fly, so please see pricing for further details.

**The 7th room:** The 7th Room is the newest and largest tree room and offers guests a Scandi-style log cabin experience 10 metres up in the air. The inside space consists of two double bedrooms, a sofa bed, lounge and bathroom, which has been furnished in a light and airy style. Outside, guests can climb out onto a net which provides patio space which provides views over the stunning Swedish valley below.

## Other Facilities

- The Tree Sauna –this is an exhilarating experience, where you can pay locally for a two-hour visit to the sauna and relaxation area. A hot tub is also available for rental at an additional charge
- Showers are located in a separate building a couple of minute's walk from the rooms
- Your meals will be served at Britta's Pension (guesthouse). The cosy dining area is full of



character furniture and quirky charm. All meals are full of local home cooking. Hearty and warming meals enhance the welcoming atmosphere at Britta's

- It is around a 10-minute walk uphill from Britta's to the area which houses the tree rooms. Britta's Pension also serves as the reception for The Treehotel. Britta and her husband Kent own the Treehotel. The guesthouse is Britta's pride and joy and it is easy to see how passionate both Britta and Kent are about the local area and their wonderfully unique, innovative and quirky accommodation.

**Please note:** Prices are based on you staying in either The Bird's Nest, The UFO, The Mirror Cube, or The Blue Cone.

Image credit: Graeme Richardson and Treehotel

## Abisko Mountain Lodge (Nights: 5-7)



Residing 100km from Kiruna, the small and friendly Abisko Mountain Lodge can be found in the wilderness of Swedish Lapland, offering mountain views and a warm welcome. Your hosts, Dick and Mina Johansson are so passionate about the environment in which they live and have made a huge success of this very special lodge.

The lodge is around 4km from Abisko National Park, famed for its hiking trails in the summer and ski trails in the winter. The beautiful natural scenery of Northern Sweden is just a short walk away.

## Hotel facilities

- The lodge consists of one main building and a handful of smaller outer buildings. In the main building, you will find 20 rooms, the reception lounge, restaurant and the bar area
- The chefs here take great pride in the food, making great use of local and seasonal produce and traditional Swedish recipes. Breakfast is served buffet style, whilst lunch and dinner are set menus (lunch can also be provided to take with you on your daytime excursions)
- The lounge area in the lodge offers comfortable seating and a TV; perfect for socialising and relaxing in the evening. The bar area is located nearby, serving a range of beers, wines and spirits
- In one of the outer buildings, guests can make use of the sauna which is heated daily. Free Wi-



Fi is available throughout and there is also a drying room for guests to store outdoor clothing

## Guest room types

**Twin and double rooms:** There are 20 rooms in total at Abisko which are simple and modern, mainly providing twin beds, en-suite shower room and clothes hooks. There are only a handful of double rooms at the lodge with the remaining rooms offering twin beds only (it is not possible for these beds to be made up as double due to the shape of the room). There are no televisions in the rooms as all guests are encouraged to gather in the communal areas in the evenings. The package price is based on a twin room; if you would like to upgrade to a double room, a supplement will apply.

**Superior rooms:** The lodge also has a small collection of superior rooms, which are located opposite the main lodge building, only a short walk away. The superior rooms are larger and slightly more modern in style, enjoying all of the same amenities as the standard double or twin rooms, as well as tea and coffee making facilities. Superior room upgrade prices are available on request.

**Winter Cottages:** The Mountain Lodge also has four cottages which guests can book. These are a short walk from the main building and are simply furnished. Each has a mezzanine sleeping level which sleeps up to four people in single beds and there is also a double sofa bed downstairs along with a kitchenette and sitting area. The cottages have a toilet and a sink, but no shower facilities. Guests staying in the cottages have access to the showers in the nearby sauna building. These are open to all guests and not private to those staying in the cottages.

## The ICEHOTEL® (Nights: 8)



### 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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.

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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 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](http://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%