



# Wilderness Hotel Inari – Active Aurora Short Break



**HOLIDAY TYPE:** Small Group

**VISITING:** Finland

**BROCHURE CODE:** 22009

**DURATION:** 3 nights

## In Brief

This 3-night break to Wilderness Hotel Inari puts you in spectacular surroundings and dark night skies for Northern Lights viewing. We've included activities such as dog sledding and snowmobiling as well as dedicated Aurora excursions. This is a wonderful Arctic short break.

## Our Opinion

“ A short break in the Arctic is a completely different experience than anywhere else in the world. In just three nights, I was able to tick off some unbelievable bucket list moments which made me feel like I'd been away from home much longer. It still didn't make leaving any easier though! ”

Amy Walkington-Gray



## What's included?

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

- **Flights:** Return from London to Ivalo (via Helsinki). Flight routes are subject to change.
- **Transfers:** Return airport transfers
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights in twin/double hotel room. Upgrades can be arranged subject to availability and supplements.
- **Meals:** Full board
- **Clothing:** Cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- **The following activities are included in the holiday:** Reindeer farm visit, snowmobile try-out safari, Aurora camp, husky safari, Aurora snowshoe (the order of activities is for guidance only, and your final itinerary will be confirmed on arrival)
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities
- 24/7 assistance from our UK based operations team and in destination support from our local partners
- Aurora alert until approximately 1 am

## Trip Overview

Sitting on the edge of one of the largest lakes in Finland, Wilderness Hotel Inari delivers some real wow factor. When you enter the main restaurant and reception building to check-in, you can't help but get excited about spending the next three nights in such surroundings. The panoramic views of the lake are worth it alone!

This short break is ideal for those who are short on time and do not want to miss out on experience as it incorporates some favourite activities into a short space of time. You also will spend two nights making the most of the hotel's prime location in the Aurora Zone, searching for the lights in the company of expert guides.

Your stay includes an insight into local culture with a visit to a local reindeer farm as well as popular activities such as snowmobiling and dog sledding.

Whilst one of the best viewpoints for witnessing the Northern Lights is indeed the lake just by the hotel (ideal for when you aren't out on the activities), we have also included two evening trips which are designed to help maximise your chances of catching a display.

Your first activity will see you visiting one of the Aurora Camps which the guides have created in prime territory and the second of the activities will see you hunting the lights via snowshoes with an expert local guide. Our guides are hugely passionate and knowledgeable, and they will use their expertise, experience and the latest forecasts to give you the best possible chance of witnessing the Aurora dancing in the sky.

We also include the hotel's innovative Aurora Alarm system for all guests and this operates until around 1am. It is a wonderful aid when hunting the lights (please note that this is not a guarantee and you should also keep an eye on the sky yourself).

Wilderness Hotel Inari is a very special place and this holiday means that everyone can enjoy the destination and all it has to offer, even if they only have time for a short trip.

Please note that the activities outlined will all be included in your holiday, however, the order of activities listed here is for guidance only, and your final timetable will be confirmed on arrival.

Please note: If you are travelling over Christmas or New Year, you will enjoy a festive dinner and celebrations on the 24<sup>th</sup> and the 31<sup>st</sup> of December (traditionally in Finland, Christmas is celebrated on Christmas Eve).

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Photography by Matt Robinson, Wilderness Hotel Inari & Inari Saariselka Tourism

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## Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY  
1

ARRIVAL AND WELCOME

Today you will arrive at Ivalo Airport in the depths of North East Finland. Your driver will be waiting to take you to Wilderness Hotel Inari\*. Here you can check in to your comfortable accommodation before you receive your cold weather clothing and Aurora alarm.

Dinner will be served in the hotel's wonderful restaurant this evening and then you really should head down to the lake to check the sky for any displays before heading to bed.

The order of activities listed in this agenda is provided for guidance only, your final itinerary will be provided on arrival.

*\*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

VISIT TO A REINDEER FARM, SNOWMOBILE SAFARI AND VISIT TO AURORA CAMP

Things get started in style today with a fabulous range of activities.

First up is a visit to a local reindeer farm. After you transfer, the herder will greet you and will provide an insight into their fascinating way of life, before you meet the animals and can enjoy a short reindeer-pulled sleigh ride. In total this activity lasts around 2.5 hours.

After lunch, you will get ready for your next adventure, snowmobiling along the wintery trails. Your guide will provide a full safety briefing and instructions on how to handle the machines as well as a driving lesson, so you'll be comfortable before you set off travelling two people per snowmobile. This 'tryout' is an ideal introduction to snowmobiling and in total it lasts around 2 hours. To drive a snowmobile, you must be over the age of 18 and hold a full driving licence.

This evening, dinner will be served in the hotel restaurant ahead of your first Northern Lights activity; a visit to an Aurora Camp.

Your guide will lead the way as you travel either in a sleigh pulled by their snowmobile or by minibus depending on the location of tonight's camp. On arrival, you will enjoy the silence of the wilderness whilst watching the sky from an ideal Aurora viewpoint. Warm drinks will be served around a fire as you wait and watch. Hopefully, the conditions will be favourable, and your efforts will be rewarded.

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

DAY  
3

HUSKY SAFARI AND AURORA HUNT ON SNOWSHOES

There are few activities which provide the same sense of anticipation and adventure as dog sledding. Today it is your turn to feel the excitement as you take to the trails in the company of an eager team of huskies and travel across the ice of Lake Inari.

You waste no time travelling today as your musher will come and meet you at reception, before leading you down towards the lake. You will hear the dogs long before you can see them! Firstly, you will be given a full safety briefing and instruction on how to handle the teams, prior to being allocated a sled. As the dogs will be so keen to get going, the time for pictures is saved until after the safari and you'll head straight out for your adventure.

Travelling two people per sled, one of you will ride in the sleigh and the other will take the controls.

You will have the chance to swap halfway. The route will be determined by the conditions but the experience will last around 1.5 hours\*.

At the end of the trip, there will be time for you to ask as many questions as you like about the dogs and spend some time with your team taking photos.

Lunch will be served at the hotel either before or after the safari.

There will be some free time today and you may like to take a walk into Inari Village where there is a souvenir shops and a few local cafes to enjoy. You can walk along the lake or take the footpath directly from the hotel.

Tonight, after another lovely meal, you will strap on a pair of snowshoes and be led on an Aurora hunt with an expert guide. Your route will be selected to provide the best chance of clear skies and you will follow a trail to enjoy the peaceful atmosphere of the Arctic night. If the solar conditions are favourable then hopefully you will be able to track down a display and witness the magic of the Northern Lights.

\* Please note that this safari is sometimes described locally as being 3 hrs in duration, but this duration includes lunch (which we include as standard of course).

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

DAY  
4

DEPARTURE

Sadly, all good things must come to an end and so today it is time for you to head home. You will leave safe in the knowledge that you have really made the most of the last few days.

You will be transferred back to Ivalo for your return flights home.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast

## Personalise this tour

### Our pick





## A night in an Aurora Kota

The Aurora Kotas combine a cabin structure with glass tepee elements, providing a large glass roof above the sleeping area, allowing guests to lose themselves in the magic of possible night-time Northern Lights displays from the comfort of their bed.

Each Kota contains a double bed and it has room for a third person on a sofa bed. These cosy cabins come with twin beds (which can be pushed together), a sofa or armchairs in the small living area and an ensuite shower room (toiletries and hairdryer are provided). You will also have coffee and tea making facilities. Some of the cabins will also accommodate an extra person on a sofa bed. The cabins are 34m<sup>2</sup> in size. The Wi-Fi signal isn't as strong in the cabins so you may need to use the main restaurant, or use the time to switch off!

The cabins are between 20 and 50 metres from the main building.

**Please note:** prices are based on you spending the first or last night of your holiday in this unique accommodation and not keeping your original accommodation. If you would like to do this on any other night during your holiday you will need to keep your accommodation and supplements will apply.

Please speak to our Travel Experts for a quotation

## Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

### Wilderness Hotel Inari (Nights: 1-3)



Situated on Lake Inari's shores, Wilderness Hotel Inari is one of the most spectacular destinations we feature. Offering excellent levels of comfort and some serious 'wow factor', it is the latest addition to the Wilderness Hotels owned by our good friends Jouko and Mari Lappalainen.

Importantly it is also slap, bang in the middle of the world's best Aurora hunting territory and the hotel has implemented some innovative Northern Lights features to help maximise your viewing potential.

Wilderness Hotel Inari is ideally located around 40 minutes' drive from Ivalo Airport and just five minutes from Inari Village, which is the centre of Sámi culture in Finland.

There is a variety of accommodation on offer here, including cabins, Aurora cabins and hotel rooms, all of which are separate to (but within very easy reach of), the central restaurant building.

The hotel provides modern accommodation with décor which combines both comfort and charm. A huge amount of thought has gone into creating this very special place to stay.

## Hotel Facilities

- The focal point of the hotel is the main reception, bar, lounge and restaurant building. There will be gasps of delight from the moment you walk in and are confronted with exceptional views out towards the lake.
- All meals are served in the restaurant and the quality of the food has been excellent in our experience.
- Breakfast offers a continental selection of meats, breads, cheese, fish and pastries as well as hot options including bacon and eggs. There are fresh fruit and yoghurts to compliment
- A.t lunch and evening meals, an array of fresh salads and a soup is followed by a choice of two main dishes prepared by the chefs. Options will typically include some local flavours as well as international dishes. In the evening these are accompanied by a pudding. Tea, coffee and water are included in your stay and any additional drinks can be added to your bill.
- The restaurant is beautifully decorated, with local art and woodwork creating a great atmosphere. The fantastic north facing panoramic windows running the length of the room offer views out onto Lake Inari. We certainly expect a few evening meals to be abandoned as the Aurora becomes visible during dinner (the chefs get used to it)!
- The bar area is fully stocked so you can enjoy a drink with your meal or relax in the lounge area by the roaring fire.
- Free Wi-Fi is available in the main hotel building and rooms (it is less strong in the Aurora cabins and the log cabins but 3G reception should work on your phone).
- The crowning 'Northern Lights glory' here is the glass-roofed sauna which is housed by the lake in a modified Aurora Cabin. Guests can book the sauna at the reception in hour long slots for private use (free of charge) and so if you strike lucky, you can witness the Northern Lights from inside, which is a very special experience.

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## Room Type

### HOTEL BEDROOMS

The bedrooms are located in two separate buildings around 50 metres from the main building.

Each room has been decorated in a traditional Arctic style with inspiration taken from the local environment. They are around 30m<sup>2</sup> and have either a queen-sized bed or twin beds. Coffee and tea making facilities are provided in your room as well as either a comfortable sofa or two armchairs. If you can't face being detached from the "real world", the rooms also come with free Wi-Fi. Every bedroom is en-suite and comes complete with hairdryer and toiletries.

These rooms are designed for two people to share but a third person can be accommodated on a camp bed or pull-out sofa (supplements apply).

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**Image credits:** Inari Wilderness Hotel, Matt Robinson

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## Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.



### Wilderness Hotel Inari - Aurora Cabins

With the potential of seeing the Northern Lights above, you won't want to take your eyes off the Arctic sky. Luckily, with the Wilderness Hotel Inari's Aurora Cabins, you won't have to. These amazing structures are all equipped with an expansive heated glass roof to give you unobstructed views of the northern skies at all times. Whether you want to lie back in your bed or on the sofa, you can go on the hunt for the Aurora right from the comfort of your accommodation.

These cosy cabins come with twin beds (which can be pushed together), a sofa or armchairs in the small living area and an ensuite shower room (toiletries and hairdryer are provided). You will also have coffee and tea making facilities. Some of the cabins will also accommodate an extra person on a sofa bed. The cabins are 34m<sup>2</sup> in size. The Wi-Fi signal isn't as strong in the cabins so you may need to use the main restaurant, or use the time to switch off!

The cabins are between 20 and 50 metres from the main building.

Please note that this accommodation option requires an upgrade supplement. Please contact our Travel Experts for a quotation.

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**Credit:** Wilderness Hotel Inari, Matt Robinson



## Wilderness Hotel Inari - Arctic Chalets



These semi-detached, designer chalets, are a new addition to Inari's range of impressive accommodation options. They are designed to offer couples an air of Arctic luxury in their own holiday hideaway.

The modern interiors are sleek and beautifully designed. Each features a bedroom with an en-suite shower, private sauna room and king size bed. The separate living area is well equipped with a warming log fire, ideal following a day of adventures and the stunning landscape is framed by full-height windows, offering views towards the lake. Each also offers a sofa bed which can sleep an additional two people, but we recommend keeping these chalets for just the two of you.

Please note that this accommodation option requires an upgrade supplement. Please contact our Aurora Experts for a quotation.

Image credits: Wilderness Hotel Inari

## Wilderness Hotel Inari - Log Cabins



These cosy cabins are built in the traditional way, with walls constructed from huge logs and plenty of space inside. The ground floor covers 70m<sup>2</sup> and the loft area offers an additional 20m<sup>2</sup>.

On the ground floor, you'll find a spacious dining/living room, comfy seating, and a wood burning stove which can be turned to face where you are sitting. There is also the main bedroom with a queen-sized bed. There is also a kitchenette and dining area, although all your meals are provided in the restaurant. The cabins also provide free Wi-Fi although the signal is not strong in all of them. It can, however, be used in the lounge area of the main building if needed.

The bathroom and toilet (hairdryer and toiletries are provided) are also on the ground floor and the cabin comes with the luxury of a private sauna.

The loft area upstairs can accommodate three more single beds and, thanks to the pull-out sofa in the living area, the capacity of these cabins ranges from two to six people (although we would recommend a maximum of 4 adults). They are ideal for couples looking for a very romantic hideaway or for small groups of friends or family.

The cabins are between 15m and 100m from the main building.

Please note that this accommodation option requires an upgrade supplement. Please contact our Travel Experts for a quotation.

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Image credits: Matt Robinson

## 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](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>