



Wilderness Hotel Inari - Auroras by the Frozen Lake



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group
VISITING: Finland

BROCHURE CODE: 22007
DURATION: 4 nights

In Brief

Wilderness Hotel Inari sits on the shores of Lake Inari and enjoys breathtaking views, Narnia-esque landscapes and wonderfully dark skies. This 4-night break includes a range of dedicated Northern lights hunts, as well as popular winter activities such as dog sledding and a reindeer encounter.

Our Opinion

“ What immediately stood out for me when arriving at the Wilderness Hotel Inari was the spectacular location, literally on the shores of the frozen lake. It is an ideal setting for Aurora hunting as you do not have to venture far to escape light pollution. Inari itself is at the heart of Sámi culture and there are many myths and legends surrounding the Northern Lights. Having witnessed an immense display whilst on the edge of a winter wilderness, it was easy to understand why these legends exist. The dancing colours and deafening silence could certainly be considered spiritual. I just wished I'd spent more time watching the lights than fumbling around in my thick gloves trying to take a picture! ”

Amy Hope



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). Flight routes are subject to change
- **Transfers:** return airport transfers
- **Accommodation:** 4 nights in twin/double hotel room. Upgrade options available on request
- **Meals:** 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 dinners
- **Clothing:** cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- **The following activities are included in the holiday:** husky safari, reindeer farm visit, cross country skiing, Aurora snowshoeing, snowmobile safari, Aurora camp, Aurora hunting by car or minibus
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities
- Aurora alert until approximately 1 am

Trip Overview

Lake Inari is a mystical and spiritual place, particularly for the indigenous Sámi people. Wilderness Hotel Inari is located on its shores, and it is no surprise that some otherworldly Northern Lights displays have been witnessed here, which have contributed to the legends and myths surrounding the Aurora.

Scientifically speaking the location is ideal. It is 250km above the Arctic Circle and in an area of very little light pollution. The lake freezes in winter and the vast outlook offers unobstructed views of the northern sky. These conditions contribute to spectacular Auroral displays and we have made sure to include dedicated hunting opportunities with local and knowledgeable guides.

During your holiday you will hunt the Northern Lights from the cosy warmth of a minibus or car, enjoy a peaceful snowshoe walk and visit a strategically placed Aurora camp, which is located on the southern shores of the lake.

No trip to Lapland would be complete without exploring the pristine winter landscapes which

surround the hotel. Most of us have only seen snow like this on television, but in reality, nothing can prepare you for the crispness of the air and the magnificent sea of white which stretches out on the frozen lake. This picture-perfect, winter backdrop is an ideal setting for a host of our most popular winter activities.

Your daytime activities allow you to immerse yourself in the pristine winter environment with cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, reindeer encounters, and a thrilling dog sled safari all included in the holiday.

The activities outlined will all be included in your holiday, however, the order listed in the agenda is for guidance only, and your final timetable will be confirmed on arrival.

Image credits: Wilderness Hotel Inari, Inari-Saariselkä Tourism Ltd, Matt Robinson, Visit Finland and Jorma Luhta Leuku

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EUROPEAN UNION

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL

On arrival at Ivalo Airport, you will be met by your driver and transferred* to Wilderness Hotel Inari. It may well be dark when you arrive so keep an eye out for any flickers of light en-route!

Following check-in, you'll enjoy an evening meal in the restaurant. Cold weather clothing will be distributed either this evening or in the morning.

The remainder of the evening is yours to spend how you wish. The location of the hotel, close to the lake, is ideal for a short stroll and given that there is very little light pollution, you may be lucky enough to be welcomed to Lapland by an Aurora display.

Please note that the order of activities listed in this agenda is provided for guidance only, your final itinerary will be provided on arrival at your accommodation.

**Transfers are based on a scheduled group shuttle that may stop 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: DinnerDAY
2

DOG SLEDDING AND AURORA HUNT BY CAR OR MINIBUS

Dog sledding is one of our guests' favourite activities, not least because of the dogs themselves, but also for the experience of crossing a pristine winter landscape some 250km north of the Arctic Circle in such a time-honoured fashion.

Today will be provided with a full safety briefing, as well as tuition on how to drive the sled before you meet the dogs. If you have a dog and have experienced their excitement when you return from work, multiply it by ten and you may begin to understand the enthusiasm of a sled dog when you arrive for the safari.

After the sled's anchor is released, the dogs will soon settle into a comfortable pace. Travelling two per sled, with one person driving and one-person sitting as a passenger, you can simply admire the serene and silent winter landscapes as they unfold before you. You can then swap over at the halfway point. The safari will last approximately 1.5 to 2 hours* including some time at the end for you to meet with the dogs and mushers and take some photographs. Lunch will be served at the hotel either before or after the safari in the hotel restaurant.

You'll have some free time to relax during the day before dinner at the hotel. This will be followed by your first Aurora hunt with an experienced, local guide.

Your inaugural hunt for this natural light show will be in the warmth of a car or minibus. This allows you to cover greater distances and hopefully outrun any localised cloud cover. Inari has a fantastic Northern Lights record, so keep an eye out for any flickers of green in the night sky.

* 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 in our holiday).

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, DinnerDAY
3

REINDEER FARM VISIT AND SNOWMOBILE SAFARI AND AURORA CAMP

Enjoy breakfast before getting into your cold weather clothing for another exciting day of winter fun.

Your first tour of the day will give you an insight into Lappish culture as you visit a local reindeer farm. Reindeer are synonymous with Lapland and they have contributed to the survival of the indigenous Sámi people during the long Arctic winters for generations. The tour of the farm will also include a short reindeer safari.

Next, you will enjoy a lesson in snowmobiling, which is perhaps the most effective mode of transport in this part of the world. This try out session is an ideal introduction to snowmobiling. After a safety briefing and a driving lesson, you will follow your guide to see more of the wintery landscape. You will travel two people per machine, and you must be 18 years and over and hold a full driving licence to

drive a snowmobile. The activity will last for around two hours.

During the evening you will enjoy a meal in the restaurant before embarking on a second hunt for the Aurora.

Lake Inari is an ideal location for Aurora viewing. The expansive frozen lake offers unobstructed views of the night sky and it is at the heart of the Aurora Zone. Naturally, it has a fantastic Northern Lights record and our expert guides have various Aurora camps which are set up on the lake's shores. Tonight, you will visit one of these.

Keep your eyes directed towards the night sky and search for any flickers of colour. No two displays are the same, but either way, it can be mind-blowing and entirely otherworldly. Hot drinks are included and you will travel to the camp on a sled pulled by your guide's snowmobile.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
4

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AND AURORA SNOWSHOEING

One of the most popular pastimes with the Inari locals is cross-country skiing. Today it is your turn to enjoy the freedom of the local trails with a cross-country skiing lesson and a short ski trip with your guide. In total the activity will last around two hours. Should you get hooked on this sport, then equipment can be rented at the hotel if you want to explore independently.

During your free time, we highly recommend taking a walk to Inari Village which is around 45 minutes away from the hotel on foot. Here you will find some souvenir shops, as well as the famous Siida Sami Museum. The museum depicts the history of the region, its cultural roots and the local flora and fauna through a variety of fascinating displays. You do not need to book in advance as tickets can be purchased on entry.

After this evening's dinner you shall venture out on your final Aurora hunt. You will strap on a pair of snowshoes and make your way through the peaceful wilds, with your guide leading the way to some excellent vantage points. With a little luck the lights will appear above you and bid you farewell.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
5

DEPARTURE

Following breakfast, it is time to head home but you will have hopefully had an absolutely wonderful winter break in Finnish Lapland, with memories of a special Aurora show. You will be transferred back to the airport in preparation for your flight.

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 34m² 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.

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Wilderness Hotel Inari (Nights: 1-4)



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.

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 30m² 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).

Image credits: Inari Wilderness Hotel, Matt Robinson

Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

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 - 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 34m² 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.

Credit: Wilderness Hotel Inari, Matt Robinson

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 70m² and the loft area offers an additional 20m².

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.

Image credits: Matt Robinson

The Specifics

Holiday group size (approximate)

Minimum 2. Maximum 24 (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.

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>