



Wilderness Hotel Inari - New Year Aurora Hunting Adventure



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group
VISITING: Finland

BROCHURE CODE: 22012
DURATION: 7 nights

In Brief

Your seven-night break to Wilderness Hotel Inari in Northern Finland puts you in prime Aurora viewing territory and we have dedicated night-time Northern Lights activities to make the most of it. During the day you'll meet reindeer, try dog sledding, go snowmobiling and much more.

Our Opinion

“ Wilderness Hotel Inari has an enviable location and there can be few nicer ways to see in a New Year than to stand on the ice of frozen Lake Inari and watch the sky for the Northern Lights. It will certainly be one to remember. This holiday combines some memorable activities with some amazing Aurora potential but importantly, there is still time to relax and unwind in between. You can head home ready to face the next twelve months, invigorated by your time in the Arctic. ”

Jono Archer



What's included?

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

- **Flights:** direct return flights are included from London Gatwick to Ivalo. Routes are subject to change
- **Transfers:** return airport transfers
- **Accommodation:** 7 nights in twin/double hotel room
- **Meals:** full board
- **Clothing:** cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- **The following activities are included in the holiday:** snowshoeing, Aurora workshop, snowmobile try-out, Aurora camp, husky safari, cross-country skiing, visit a reindeer farm, Aurora hunt by car, Aurora snowshoeing (order subject to change)
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities
- Aurora alert until approximately 1 am

Trip Overview

See in the New Year on the shores of Lake Inari in Finnish Lapland, gazing at the sky and keeping watch for the magnificent Northern Lights. This seven-night holiday provides excellent Aurora viewing potential in spectacular surroundings, as well as the chance to try some of the most popular Arctic activities.

The hotel's location means that the Aurora can often be seen by simply stepping outside but we include three varied adventures in the evenings to enhance your viewing opportunities. In the company of your expert local guides, you will hunt the lights on snowshoes, by car or minibus and will spend an evening on a Northern lights stake-out at a remote Aurora Camp tucked away from any light pollution.

This itinerary offers a great balance between free time and activities. You'll make the most of your holiday, take part in all the key activities, but will still have enough time to unwind so you return home feeling refreshed and revitalised.

Holiday highlights include dog sledding, a visit to a reindeer farm, snowmobiling and a cross-country skiing lesson.

During your free time, you can always explore the nearby village of Inari independently, enjoy some additional activities or perhaps relax in the glass-roofed Northern Lights sauna which is available for guests to use.

We can think of few places in which we'd rather celebrate New Year.

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.

Credit: Wilderness Hotel Inari, Inari-Saariselkä Tourism Ltd and Matt Robinson

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European Regional Development Fund



EUROPEAN UNION

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

WELCOME AND ARRIVAL

Upon arrival at Ivalo Airport, you will be greeted by your driver for your transfer* (approximately 40 mins) to Wilderness Hotel Inari.

Here you will check in and enjoy your first meal in the main restaurant which has panoramic windows facing Lake Inari.

You can then collect your cold weather clothing and your Aurora alert. Your hosts will also provide you with your final itinerary, as the order of activities is always subject to change and will be confirmed locally.

We do recommend taking a walk down on to the lake tonight, however, as it really does provide an excellent location from which to witness the Northern Lights.

* 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.

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

Included Meals: DinnerDAY
2

SNOWSHOEING AND AURORA WORKSHOP

Snowshoeing is the ideal way to get to grips with the peace and tranquillity of your new surroundings. Immersing yourself in the wilds of Lapland and exploring on foot is a real delight. Your walk will last for around four hours in total as your guide leads you at a leisurely pace. There will also be a break for lunch around a campfire (weather permitting), providing an ideal introduction to Finland's Great Outdoors.

This evening, you will take part in an Aurora workshop at the hotel. This is designed to give you a greater understanding of the Northern Lights as well as some hints and tips with regards to how to capture them on camera. Dinner will be served in the restaurant.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, DinnerDAY
3

HUSKY SAFARI

One of the most popular activities with our guests is dog sledding, and with good reason. Few activities are as synonymous with the Arctic, nor do they hold such a sense of adventure.

The dogs will be lined up in teams and waiting down on the lake for you. Your guide will give you full instructions and a safety briefing prior to meeting your dogs. You will travel in pairs with one person in the sled and the other driving, you will have the chance to swap halfway.

Once you meet the teams you will set off almost straight away as the dogs will be so eager to get going (they make a lot of noise at this point). Your guide will release your anchor and you'll hit the trails across the lake. Travelling under paw power alone across a frozen lake is not an experience which is forgotten quickly. The safari will last around 1.5 hours in total* and this will be some time at the end to meet the dogs and take photos.

Lunch will be served in the restaurant, either before or after your adventure, depending on final timings.

The remainder of your day and evening are free for you to relax and unwind. Dinner will be served at the hotel and you may want to head down to the lakeshore to keep an eye out for the Aurora before bed.

* 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

FREE DAY AND AURORA SNOWSHOEING

Today has been left free for you to tailor your time. You can relax at the hotel, take a walk into Inari or book additional activities locally. All meals will be served at the hotel as normal.

This evening, the Aurora hunting continues with a snowshoe walk into the Arctic night. The snowshoes help you walk over the deep snow with ease so you can appreciate the silence and beauty of the wilderness at night. You will follow your guide along snowy trails to reach a brilliant Northern Lights vantage point. Here, you will warm by the fire and enjoy hot drinks as you look up to the sky where hopefully, the Auroras will start to dance. You will be out for around two and a half hours tonight.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
5

SNOWMOBILE TRYOUT, NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATIONS AND AURORA CAMP

Snowmobiles are a vital form of transport in these remote regions and are also an extremely thrilling way to explore more of the wilderness. Today after breakfast, you'll get to experience these powerful machines with a snowmobiling tryout session. You will be given full safety instructions and a driving lesson before following your guide out onto the surrounding snowy trails. You must be over 18 and hold a full driving licence in order to take the controls. You will travel two people per snowmobile and the activity lasts around two hours in total.

After a delicious New Year's Eve meal in the restaurant this evening, the celebrations will continue as you will head out with your guide to one of the Aurora Camps. The camps have been erected in prime Aurora territory by the local team here, who know all the best viewpoints. You will travel to the camp either by snowmobile sleigh or car and the destination will be selected based on the conditions. Warm drinks will be served around a campfire and you can gaze up at the sky in the hope of witnessing a display. This activity will last around 2.5 hours.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
6

CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AND AURORA HUNT

Cross-country skiing is one of the most popular pastimes in Finland, and as soon as kids can walk, they are taught how to ski. It seems fitting therefore that you should also give this activity a try. No form of prior experience is required as a full lesson will be given. Once you have all mastered the basics, you take a trip on some of the trails close to the hotel. In total, the activity will last around two hours.

After dinner this evening you will enjoy a minibus/car hunt for the Northern Lights. Using a vehicle means that the guides have the chance to try and outrun any localised cloud cover and find clearer skies. They will consult the local weather and solar activity forecasts and plan the route accordingly. This may mean travelling to an Aurora Camp near the hotel or travelling further afield, depending on

conditions. All in all, you will be out for around two and a half hours.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
7

REINDEER FARM VISIT AND FREE EVENING

Reindeer herding was, and is, a very important part of the local economy and culture.

Today you will meet a local reindeer herder who will introduce you to their herd and explain what life is like for a modern-day herder. This activity offers a fascinating insight into this unique way of life. The experience will last for around two and a half hours.

Back at the Wilderness Hotel this evening you will enjoy your final dinner in the restaurant. Tonight is free to spend as you please. If the Northern Lights conditions are favourable, we recommend walking to the frozen lake to see a dazzling display. Alternatively, you might like to add in additional Aurora activities or perhaps enjoy a special Sámi culture themed evening meal, please see the 'Personalise' section for details.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
8

DEPARTURE

Today you must head home but hopefully, you'll have a head full of incredible memories to help counter any January blues.

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: 1-7)



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)

This holiday requires a minimum of 2 people to run, however, on some dates we require a minimum of 8 people for our flight allocation. Maximum 24 people (approximately). Please speak to our Travel Experts for further information.

Group Size

We always try to provide an approximation of the group size you can expect to be with for the duration of each of our holidays. It may be that you are joined by others for parts of your holiday (such as transfers and particular activities) but the above number reflects those you can normally expect to be with from beginning to end. If group size is something which is particularly important to you, please speak to our Travel Experts and they can suggest the best holidays for you.

Tailor-made holiday group sizes will vary for all activities as will the group size for any additional activities you book.

Minimum numbers required for a holiday to operate

Some of our holidays require a minimum number of participants to operate (as listed in the 'Group Size' section). If your holiday departure has not yet reached the minimum number, you will be told at the time of booking. In the unlikely event that your chosen date is not guaranteed by nine weeks

before your scheduled departure date, we will contact you to discuss the available options as per our [booking conditions](#).

Minimum and maximum age

If a specific minimum age applies to this holiday, it can be found in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page.

Unless otherwise stated in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page, the minimum age for participation in an Aurora Zone holiday is typically 12 years old (there may be younger children in some destinations who have booked with other companies). If an adult-only environment is important to you, then please contact our Travel Experts and they will advise on the best dates and destinations for you. If you are looking for a holiday designed specifically for families then please see our sister company www.activitiesabroad.com.

Itinerary amendments

The order of activities listed in this agenda is provided for guidance only, your final and detailed itinerary will be provided either with your final travel documents (which are uploaded into your online account around a week prior to departure) or upon arrival.

Terms and Conditions

Our full booking terms and conditions can be found on our website: <https://www.theaurorazone.com/booking-conditions>