

# THE TRIP OF MY DREAMS



## FINLAND, AURORA BOREAL AND SANTA CLAUS

*We present to you the best selection of activities linked to the Northern Lights where you can see the phenomenon at its best: FINLAND, a parliamentary and democratic republic, a member of the United Nations since 1955, as well as the European Union since 1995. The Finnish economy is one of the most prosperous in Europe, based on important service sectors, as well as manufacturing sectors and has a highly democratic policy with extremely low levels of corruption.*

*Finland is becoming an important tourist destination in northern Europe. One of Finland's most demanded destinations is Lapland, with ice and snow in winter. It is well known Rovaniemi, the largest city in the area, rebuilt under the direction of Alvar Aalto after World War II, very close to the Arctic Circle. Nearby is the well-known Santa Claus' House, the city's biggest attraction. And these are our goals on the journey we propose. Once in Lapland, we'll start our activities including a Huskies' sled safari and touring part of the Arctic forests. Another safari with reindeer-drawn sleigh, a visit to Ranua's Arctic Zoo, and an afternoon on Europe's longest Toboggan complete our adventure. In addition, you will have a free day to do the activities you prefer, snowshoeing, snowmobile, ice fishing, visit to the Arktikum museum, shopping in Rovaniemi, Finnish Sauna and much more.*

*Of course, every day we will have the opportunity to see the Northern Lights, the goal of our visit. Our guides will take us to places where we can see the aurora in all its splendor and explain this phenomenon very much on detail.*

*At the end of the trip of our dreams we will visit Helsinki, the capital of the country, where many cruises on the Baltic Sea arrive. This city includes Senate Square and the Suomenlinna Fortress.*

### **DAY 1 (Saturday, October 30) ARRIVAL IN FINLAND** Hunting auroras borealis

After your international flight and local connection, arrive at Ivalo Airport, transfer to Star Arctic Hotel in Saariselka and time to relax or enjoy the hotel facilities. At night, around 08:00 p.m, a Northern Lights hunting will begin for 3 hours. The exact duration and routes may vary depending on the weather. The safari begins and ends at the hotel reception and includes outdoor thermal clothing and equipment, the visit of the Northern Lights observation sites by vehicle and many photo stops. A hot drink is also included. Return to the hotel for the night.

### **DAY 2 (Sunday, October 31) HELSINKI - IVALO - SAARISELSKA** Finn horses

Breakfast at the hotel. Saariselkä is Finland's northernmost ski resort, as well as the centre of many Lapland winter activities. In the morning you will have a free time to enjoy this special area where you can observe the stunning Northern Lights at any time of the day. After lunch at the hotel, we will take you out to explore the beautiful Arctic nature peacefully in a saddle. Finn horses are the national race of Finland. These noble and quiet horses are wonderful to ride, also for those who have no previous experience. After arriving at the stables, you will receive your riding equipment and an introductory tour of the stables. Here you will also receive your winter equipment with helmet, a hot drink and explanation of how to ride horses (suitable also for beginners). Then it's time to go to the winter forest. This quiet ride will take you so close to the harmony of nature that you can imagine. After the ride we thank our horses and head to the indoors to taste a hot drink and receive a gift. Return to the hotel to enjoy the rest of the day. Accommodation **(B) (L)**

**PRICE PER PERSON  
IN DOUBLE OCCUPATION  
USD 2.390.- EUR 1.975.-**

**Surplus single room  
USD 688.- EUR 568.-**

**SET DEPARTURE 2021  
October 30 through  
November 6**

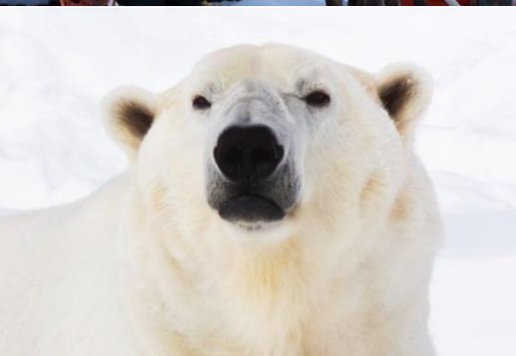
#### INCLUSIONS

- ✚ Local flight Rovaniemi - Helsinki
- ✚ Airport-Hotel- Airport Transfers
- ✚ 7 nights in selected hotels with breakfast.
- ✚ 2 lunches, 1 dinner
- ✚ Museum Tickets and Excursions as described in the program.
- ✚ English-speaking tour escort throughout the tour.
- ✚ Special price for children sharing a room with their parents on demand.
- ✚ Payment of porters in hotels.

#### NOT INCLUDED

- International and/or domestic flights not mentioned in the program.
- Services not mentioned on the program or not described as optional.
- Meals that are not described here.
- Tips for tour escort, tour guides and drivers.
- Personal expenses.





### **DAY 3 (Monday, November 1) SAARISELSKA Tobogan at Saariselska Sky and Resort Park**

After breakfast, enjoy the morning at the hotel in your room or in the spa/sauna. Lunch at the hotel. In the afternoon, we will take you to Saariselkto Ski & Sport Resort by private transport. Its Winter Park is a great choice for you who want to try Finland's longest Toboggan with 1800m and the one located furthestmost north in the hemisphere. The activity that will last two hours begins with a chairlift ride to the top of the Kaunisp Fall, from where the lights of the city of Saariselka open in front of your eyes like a sea of bright lights. Descent on the Toboggan that now has an art of lights. On the descent you only have to follow the lights of the aurora that will guide you back to the valley. You can go up and down as many times as you can according to your scheduled time. After that, we'll go back to the hotel. **(B) (L)**

### **DAY 4 (Tuesday, November 2) SAARISELSKA – ROVANIEMI**

#### **Husky Safari and Reindeer Safari with Farm Visit**

After breakfast check out from the hotel. In the morning, an arctic adventure awaits you with the Huskies! The guide will pick you up from the hotel around 09:00 and will provide thermal suits once we arrive at the Husky Farm. Then it's time to meet these friendly dogs who are eagerly waiting in front of the sleds. Husky dogs love to run and can't wait to get on motion! The guide will give you instructions on how to stop, turn and drive the sled pulled by various husky dogs. The sled is for two people unless you want to have a sled just for you (for an additional cost). One person is sitting on the sled, the other is standing and driving in the back, you can change drivers halfway. You will enjoy walking in the winter forest as much as dogs! After arriving at the farm and thanking your dogs for the adventure together, it's time for a hot drink and some husky stories. Continuation to Rovaniemi and check-in at the hotel located inside the Village of Santa Claus, located in the Arctic Circle. There we will meet Santa Claus, visit his post office where we can send some postcards with Santa's stamp. In this magical world, you can also buy typical handicrafts and locally designed products. On this video you can see what has Rovaniemi and the hotel to offer: <https://youtu.be/i-juf0T4HOK>

In the afternoon, around 1:30, you will start your tour on the reindeer farm! This is the best way to experience the authentic working environment of reindeer breeders. You'll have a great opportunity to learn more about reindeer grazing followed by a reindeer sledding ride in the middle of the polar forest for about 25 minutes. Enjoy this beautiful getaway along the way! Thermal clothing included. Return to the hotel to relax and enjoy the beautiful Santa Claus Village Park. **(B)**

### **DAY 5 (Wednesday, November 3) ROVANIEMI Ranua Zoo**

Breakfast at the hotel. We will start today's guided tour at 10:00 a.m. Meeting point at the reception. If meeting a bear roaming freely in the wild doesn't sound tempting, Ranua Wildlife Park is the right place to see them as well as other Arctic animals. Located about an hour's drive away, Ranua Zoo is home to around 50 species of wild Arctic animals and 200 animal specimens. All animals live in an environment as natural and Arctic as possible, ensuring that animals feel at home. You will return to the hotel at approximately 3:00 p.m. The rest of the day is for relaxing, seeing the Northern Lights from the hotel complex or shopping on your own. **(B)**

### **DAY 6 (Thursday, November 4) ROVANIEMI Free day**

Breakfast at the hotel. Today you will have the day off to rest, schedule a new boreal light hunting, go shopping in Rovaniemi or enjoy some other adventure at the North Pole. Some of our suggestions are a ride with the snowmobile that will take you through extraordinary landscapes of the Arctic Forest. Or you'll be able to go ice fishing by starting to make your own hole and trying to catch Nordic fish in the frozen lake.



Interested in a quieter and more relaxing day? We offer you the possibility of enjoying a Finnish sauna, a fundamental part of the culture of this country. The sauna is always accompanied by a dip in the icy waters of a lake. Or you can go to the city of Rovaniemi, the capital of Lapland in the north that is known as the "official" residence of Santa Claus to do your Christmas shopping, to visit some museums or just to walk through its picturesque streets. You can also stay at the hotel waiting for one of Santa Claus's elves to let us know where we can see the Northern Lights. These activities are not included in the price, and we will gladly send you a proposal according to what you want to do. Return to the hotel where we will have dinner and share our experiences with the rest of the group. **(B) (D)**

#### **DAY 7 (Friday, November 5) ROVANIEMI - HELSINKI**

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer at the agreed time to Rovaniemi airport for your flight to Helsinki. Upon arrival, transfer to Scandic Simonketta 4\*\*\*\* hotel. In the afternoon, we will take you to discover Helsinki, known as "the pearl of the Baltics". Our guide will take us on a walking tour to the train station square, right next to one of Helsinki's most beautiful romantic buildings, the National Theatre. From there, we continue the walk through central Helsinki to get an idea of its vibrant streets, mostly built in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Next, we follow the main shopping street, Aleksanterinkatu, towards the main square of the city, Senate Square. At the central point of the square is Helsinki's magnificent cathedral, built in 1852 when Finland was part of the Russian Empire. Stop at the nearby Finnish government headquarters and the main building of the University of Helsinki. We continue to the Katajanokka Peninsula, stopping at Uspenskii Cathedral, a beautiful Orthodox cathedral on top of a hill. We will go up to the hill and the cathedral terrace to enjoy beautiful views over Helsinki. We explore the market square (Kauppatori), where you can find souvenirs from Finland and taste local specialties. We walk through the Esplanade Park and Helsinki's main street, Mannerheimintie, before passing through the parliament building, the National Museum and the Finnish Hall, a concert hall and congress designed by the famous Finnish architect Alvar Aalto. After a walk through the Tolo district, visit the unique rock church, carved on a rocky hill. Then we are a short bus ride from the park and monument dedicated to the most famous Finnish composer, Jean Sibelius. We finish the tour at the impressive central granite train station, where almost a quarter of a million passengers pass every day. Accommodation at Scandic Simonketta Hotel or similar. Overnight **(B)**

#### **DAY 8 (Saturday, November 6) HELSINKI AIRPORT - RETURN**

The day is at your disposal for private activities. Go back in the city and stroll once more its streets and make the last shopping. On time transfer to the airport for your flight back home. End of our services.

**(B)** Breakfast **(L)** Lunch **(D)** Dinner

