



Apukka - Father Christmas and Snow Fun Short Break



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group
VISITING: Finland

BROCHURE CODE: 1101
DURATION: 3 nights

In Brief

Travel to Lapland, just outside the capital city and Father Christmas' official hometown, to find the breathtaking Finnish wilderness and the family-friendly resort of Apukka. Your itinerary makes the most of the brilliant winter wonderland surroundings with a whole day of snow-fun activities, including husky and reindeer safaris. You'll also journey to the Santa park, where magical Christmas experiences await.

Our Opinion

“ The thing I loved about Apukka was that, at just 15 minutes from the airport, you're able to start your family winter adventure almost straight away! Though it sits close to the city, the Apukka Resort is everything you'd expect from Finnish wilderness - snowy surroundings, frozen lakes and brilliant winter experiences. It is an ideal family-friendly base that will most definitely have you creating cherished memories! ”

Katharina Rogalski



What's included?

- **Flights:** return direct flights from London Gatwick to Rovaniemi. Flight routes are subject to change.
- **Transfers:** return airport transfers and return transfers to Santa Park
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights in a 3 bedroom holiday home. Upgrades available for the duration of your stay at an extra charge.
- **Meals:** 3 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners
- **Activities:** Snow fun and entrance to Santa Park
- Cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- Free use of cross-country skis, snowshoes and fat bikes

Trip Overview

Just 15 minutes from Rovaniemi, the capital of Lapland and Father Christmas' official hometown but in true Finnish winter wonderland surroundings, the Apukka Resort is a brilliant family-friendly introduction to the Arctic.

Though easily accessible, the resort sits far enough away from the city to feel like a wilderness retreat, complete with frozen lake and snow-capped trees. During this 3 night stay, you'll have plenty of time to explore the snowy surroundings with free use of the fat bikes, snowshoes and cross-country skis. We've also included a snow fun day to make the most out of the wintry conditions. You'll meet the much-loved animals of Lapland, reindeer and huskies, for short safari rides across the snow. You can also try mini snowmobiles and ice sculpting to really complete your winter experience.

As you are so close to Rovaniemi, the official hometown of Father Christmas, your time in Lapland wouldn't be complete without meeting the man himself. We've included a trip to the Santa Park where elves will greet you, Ice Princesses will show you around their frozen home and Father Christmas is waiting to hear all of your wishes!

What makes this location even more special is its Northern Lights potential. If conditions are favourable, walk down to the resort's frozen lake and look to the skies. There are also plenty of dedicated Aurora activities to choose from to increase your chances - see our '[Personalise](#)' tab for more information.

For a family-friendly introduction to Lapland in Finnish wilderness surroundings, the Apukka Resort is an ideal location for a festive family break.

Image credits: Apukka Resort, Santa Park - Arctic World, Jani Kärppä, Flatlight Films And Visit Finland

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL

You will arrive at Rovaniemi airport and be met and transferred just 15 minutes to reach the Apukka resort.

Get settled into your new surroundings when you check into your holiday home or apartment accommodation before dinner in the restaurant this evening. Don't forget, you are now in prime Northern Lights territory, so keep an eye on the sky for a potential display.

Included Meals: Dinner

DAY
2

SANTA PARK

Enjoy breakfast in the restaurant then it's time to get festive with a visit to Santa Park in Rovaniemi. After a short transfer (approx 15 minutes) you will reach the park where a whole host of Christmas fun awaits. You will meet with elves and earn your diploma at elf school. You'll also travel underground to cross the magical Arctic Circle line and then meet the Ice Princess in her frozen home. The main event, however, is meeting Father Christmas in his official hometown - a memorable encounter for the whole family!

If you prefer, you can upgrade your Father Christmas experience to the Dream of Joulukka activity - details of which can be found in our 'personalise' tab.

Following your festive day, you will return to the hotel to relax as you please. Dinner will be served in the hotel restaurant as usual.

Santa Park is open from 10 am to 6 pm. As we want your family to decide how much time you want to spend there, transfer times haven't been arranged. Please speak to the reception the day before to arrange your preferred drop-off and pick up times.

If you wish to visit Santa Park in the late afternoon - additional activities can be found in our '[Personalise](#)' tab.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

DAY
3

FUN IN THE SNOW

Today following breakfast, it's time to make the most out of the snowy surroundings with a taste of all the must-do winter activities in the company of your local expert guide. From short reindeer sleigh rides and dog sledding (each approximately 500 metres. Please note that you will need to cross a road, but a guide will be with you at all times to help you cross) to learning how to cross-country ski and snowshoe, you'll travel how the locals do and get a fun insight into life in Lapland. You'll also get creative when you try ice sculpting and see who is the fastest when you race in toboggans. There's also the brilliant opportunity to let the children take to the driver's seat on mini snowmobiles. Finally, with all the materials around you, you'll also be in store for a fantastic snowball fight! The total duration of the activity is four hours and lunch will be served in the restaurant.

Enjoy dinner in the restaurant tonight ahead of an evening free to spend as you please.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
4

DEPARTURE

Unfortunately, today it is time for your short break in Lapland to come to an end.

Enjoy your last afternoon before being transferred to the airport ahead of your flight home. Your luggage can be stored at the reception.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Dream of Joulukka

Journey to the secret forest with Father Christmas' very own elves leading the way. This enchanting experience starts with a short transfer to Santa Park, followed by a transfer deep into the snow-laden forest to immediately set the scene for your magical experience. Here you will meet with the elves, who are excited to show you around their wintry home. They will teach you all about what it takes to be Santa's helper and after gingerbread making and some training, you will even receive your very own Santa's helper diploma!

After some outdoor fun in the snow, you will walk to find Father Christmas' secret cabin in the woods. Then, one family at a time, you will have a private meeting with the famous man in red, who will tell you all about life in Lapland and you can tell him your Christmas wishes! Each child will also receive a small gift to have something to take home from this truly magical encounter.

Duration: 3.5 - 4 hours in total including transfers

Prices:

Adults £134 per adult

Child (3-12) £104 per child

Child (2 years) £130 per child

Please note: This activity is not available for all of the departure dates. Please speak to a Family Travel Expert for more information.

Image credits: Santa Park - Arctic World

Other options

ACTIVITIES



Aurora Hunt on the Snowtrain

All aboard the Snowtrain for a unique way to hunt for the Northern Lights.

After dinner, it's time to head inside one of the cosy Snowtrain carriages and cross the stunning snowy landscape, searching the skies as you go.

You'll arrive at a traditional Lappish 'kota' tepee in a beautiful wilderness setting, where your guide will teach you how to build a fire. Once lit, you will gather around to enjoy snacks and hot drinks, looking up at the skies to search for the Northern Lights. Your expert guide will also help you with your camera settings, should the Aurora start to appear.

Duration: approximately 3 hours in total

Available: Daily from 8:30pm

Credit Apukka Resort



Meet the Arctic Animals – Ranua Wildlife Park Visit

Get up close to some of the most famous Arctic animals during a visit to Ranua Wildlife Park.

After approximately an hour's transfer, you'll arrive at the wildlife park where over 50 different species live. See polar bears, moose, wolves, bears and much more in their snowy surroundings and learn all about how these animals live in Lapland. Lunch is included today.

Duration: 5 hours in total (including transfers and lunch)

Available: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday at 8.45am

Image Credit: Gulo Gulo Holiday Village



Ice Fishing like a Finn

Ice fishing is a popular Finnish pastime and is a relaxing way to enjoy the wintery surroundings.

Help the local guide pack the fishing gear and choose the right lure to attract the fish. Then you and the family will make your way down to the frozen lake and help to drill a hole in the thick ice, before lowering the bait.

As you wait to see who might get the catch of the day, keep warm by the fire and enjoy the stunning

environment around you.

Duration: approximately 2.5 hours in total

Available: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday at 12:00

Image Credit: Apukka Resort



Peek to the Wilderness by Snowmobile

Snowmobiles are widely used as a form of transport in these regions but for those of us who don't use them day-to-day, they are a brilliant adventure to see more of the snowy surroundings.

This activity is the perfect introduction into snowmobiling, as adults get to experience driving and children ride in a sled pulled by the guide's snowmobile.

After full instructions and a safety briefing, you'll set off along the trails. You'll drive through the pine tree forests and across frozen marshlands, stopping along the way to enjoy a warm drink in the wilderness.

You will drive two per snowmobile. Please note, you must be at least 18 years old and hold a full driving licence to drive a snowmobile.

Duration: approximately 2.5 hours in total

Available: Daily at 14:00 and Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday at 12:00

Image Credit: Apukka Resort



Reindeer Night Safari

Ride through the Arctic night on a reindeer-pulled sleigh as you go in search of the Northern Lights.

This tranquil journey will take you through the wintery forest and to a traditional Lappish kota tepee. Here, you can enjoy warm drinks and snacks as your expert guide tells you all about the life of a reindeer herder and stories of the magical Auroras.

Everyone will be keeping their eye on the sky and if conditions are favourable, you'll get to witness a Northern Lights display out in the wilderness.

Duration: 3 hours

Available: Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 20:30

Image Credit: Apukka Resort



Apukka Reindeer Journey

Travel through the forests on a magical reindeer sleigh ride – a peaceful way to complete your Lapland experience.

Along the way, the local guide will tell you all about the life of a reindeer herder and their animals in Lapland. Your ride will last for approximately one hour and you will enjoy a hot drink and snack.

sleigh ride)

Available: Daily at 10am and 2pm

Duration: approximately 2 hours in total (1 hour

Image Credit: Apukka Resort



Aurora Husky Tour in Apukka

Combine your Northern Lights quest with an adventurous evening husky safari.

As you sit on the sled, your expert guide will drive your pack of dogs into the wilderness and to a prime lookout location. Here, your guide will make a fire to sit around and enjoy some hot drinks and snacks.

As you wait for a potential display, the guide will tell you stories about the Northern Lights and life in Lapland.

Duration: approximately 3 hours in total

Available: Tuesday, Thursday to Saturday at 8:30pm

Image Credit: Apukka Resort



Husky Adventure

Meet with the Apukka pack and go on a dog sledding adventure to discover why this is one of the most sought-after winter experiences.

Upon arrival at the husky camp, you'll meet with an expert musher, who will tell you all about the lives of the dogs and give you full instructions on how to drive a dog sled.

Then it's time to step onto the sled and let the dogs lead the way as you embark on a 5-10km safari. The adults will mush with the children riding as a passenger in the sled, admiring the winter scenes as they unfold around you.

Upon your return, you'll have time to thank the dogs and take some photos with your loyal team.

Duration: approximately 2 hours in total

Available: Daily at 10am, 12pm and 2pm

Image Credits: Apukka Resort



Aurora Hunt by Car

Hop into a cosy warm car with a knowledgeable guide and go in search of the Northern Lights. Using the mobility of the car to your advantage, you can travel further distances which can help outrun any localised cloud cover.

As you travel to a prime lookout location, your guide will tell you all about life in Finland and help you search the skies for a potential Aurora display. Don't worry if you don't have a camera with you, your guide will share their photos of the

night (charges may apply). A hot drink and a snack are included.

Duration: approximately 3 hours in total

Available: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday at 20:30

Image Credit: Apukka Resort

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Apukka Aurora Borealis Resort (Nights: 1-3)



The Apukka Resort is the perfect place to shake the snow off your shoes and relax after a day exploring the Arctic.

Hotel Facilities:

- Fuel up on breakfast in the hotel restaurant before each Arctic activity and return for your evening meal to discuss the day's epic adventures.
- Take some of your holiday of a lifetime home with you when you visit the Apukka souvenir shop which is full of Finnish treasures.

Room Types:

APUKKA AURORA CABIN

Return from your adventures in the Arctic to a cosy Aurora Cabin where you can search for the Northern Lights right from the comfort of your bed.

With a heated glass roof to give you a brilliant look out to the dark sky, this will be one of the few places where the kids will be allowed to stay up late – especially if the Auroras start to appear!

Double Room with Convertible Sofa:

The Aurora Cabins are equipped with a double bed and a convertible sofa for two children. Everything is in one place with your own private ensuite bathroom with shower and toilet, mini fridge, hairdryer and complimentary Wi-Fi. Make sure you download the Aurora app so you'll know if you can expect to see the Northern Lights above your bed (a charge applies).

Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

Apukka Aurora Cabin



Return from your adventures in the Arctic to a cosy Aurora Cabin where you can search for the Northern Lights right from the comfort of your bed.

With a heated glass roof to give you a brilliant lookout to the dark sky, this will be one of the few places where the kids will be allowed to stay up late – especially if the Auroras start to appear!

Room types

Double Room with Convertible Sofa:

Sleeps 2+2 persons: There are 30 Aurora Cabins on site equipped with double bed and convertible sofa for two children. Everything is in one place with your own private ensuite bathroom with shower and toilet, mini fridge, hairdryer and complimentary Wi-Fi. Make sure you download the Aurora app so you'll know if you can expect to see the Northern Lights above your bed (a charge applies).

You can also upgrade to one of the superior Aurora Cabins, which are located closer to the lake and offer a lake view. Please contact our Travel Experts for a quotation.

Image Credit: Apukka Resort

Apukka Apartments



After a day playing in the snow, the Apukka Apartments are a relaxing home away from home for the whole family to unwind in.

There is one bedroom with twin beds and three fold-out sofa beds, making it ideal for larger groups.

The apartments come equipped with dining and kitchenette facilities including a kettle, microwave, oven, electric stove and fridge. There is also a flat-screen TV and Wi-Fi. Some apartments have lakeside views.

Image Credit: Apukka Resort

The Specifics

Holiday group size (approximate)

Minimum 2 people; maximum 35 approximately. Please note the minimum group size for Joulukka is 4 people and maximum group size is 60 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

The minimum age for this holiday can be found in the 'Key Facts' section of the holiday overview.

Younger family members may be able to participate but may not be able to take part in all activities. Please contact one of our Travel Experts if you have any questions.

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.

Cancellation terms - Apukka Christmas

PAYMENT AND CANCELLATION TERMS

Please note that the following cancellation terms supersede in part those mentioned in sections 7 of our general 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 30 days prior to departure - 60%
- 29 to 15 days prior to departure - 80%
- 14 or less days - 100%

Terms and Conditions

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

Please note: our payment and cancellation terms will be unique to each booking - they will be confirmed with you at the time of quotation. The terms listed above are noted as a guide only