



## Brändön Lodge - Pick and Mix



**HOLIDAY TYPE:** Pick and Mix  
**VISITING:** Sweden

**BROCHURE CODE:** 1912  
**DURATION:** 3 or more nights

### In Brief

Looking over a beautiful frozen bay, Brändön Lodge is a magical place to get a taste of Swedish Lapland. Put together your very own family holiday, choosing the best winter activities from our fantastic selection. There's everything from riding husky sleds and snowmobiles to searching on snowshoes for the Northern Lights.

### Our Opinion

*“ A warm wooden lodge, splendid winter cottages, and its very own frozen bay – Brändön is a lovely, family friendly location that is perfect for a break in Swedish Lapland. Better still, you get to pick the activities yourself! I definitely recommend trying husky sledding, which is a favourite with everyone. Kids will love meeting the excited dogs, and the whole experience is simply thrilling! ”*

Ali Mclean



## What's included?

- **Flights:** return indirect flights from London to Luleå (via Stockholm). Flight routes are subject to change
- **Transfers:** return airport transfers from Luleå Airport
- **Accommodation:** minimum 3 nights in winter cottage accommodation at Brändön Lodge
- **Meals:** 3 breakfasts, 3 dinners (3 courses)
- Cold-weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities
- **Please note:** a mandatory New Year's Eve dinner supplement is required if staying on 31<sup>st</sup> December

### TAILOR YOUR TRIP

In our '[Activities](#)' tab, you can see the exciting range of outdoor fun on offer for this holiday. Choose from a selection of must-try winter activities, including snowmobiling and husky sledding through the white wilderness, learning how to ice fish like a local, and picking up winter skills like a real explorer. Brändön is well-placed for Northern Lights displays, so you can take a sled tour in search of the Aurora or go looking for them on snowshoes.

## Trip Overview

Create the Swedish Lapland getaway in the stunning region of Lulea that your family has been dreaming of with this 'Brändön Lodge Pick and Mix' activity holiday. You will be based in a cosy winter cottage overlooking the frozen Bay of Bothnia. This is an enchanting location, with white landscapes all around! The lodge is a welcoming wooden building with a comfy lounge area and you will enjoy your meals in the lovely restaurant upstairs.

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picking up winter skills like a real explorer. Brändön is well-placed for Northern Lights displays, so you can take a sled tour in search of the Aurora or go looking for them on snowshoes.

This is also an excellent location to have a Christmas break, or a New Year holiday – a festive getaway like no other! Both periods feature wonderful celebrations with Christmas and New Year feasts. Not that you have to visit at these specific times for a fun food experience that the whole family will enjoy. Book an Aurora Hideaway dinner and enjoy a tasty three-course meal in a cosy wooden cabin, which sits on top of the frozen sea!

Included in your holiday are transfers, half board and Arctic-grade cold-weather clothing which will be yours to keep for the duration of your stay and expert guides leading the way on all activities.

Simply decide when you want to travel and for how long (we recommend a minimum stay of three nights) then match your stay to the activities listed in the 'Activities' tab. Please note that all accommodation and activities are subject to availability at the time of booking.

We are also offering the chance to extend your stay and visit the world-famous ICEHOTEL® in Kiruna. This is done by a scenic train journey even further north into Swedish Lapland before being transferred to The ICEHOTEL® for a tour and an overnight stay in either the warm or cold accommodation on offer there.

**Please note:** Activity schedules are subject to change. Duration of activity includes transfer times and breaks, and all distances are approximate. Some activities require a minimum number of participants to operate and are subject to availability.

Husky safaris: All decisions are made on the day of the safari by the lead guide as to any guest's suitability to drive their own sledge. As a general rule, those aged 15 and over are normally able to drive their own team of huskies but the guide's decision on the day will be final. On certain safaris, children under the age of 15 will either travel in a sledge driven by the guide or an accompanying adult. There is also the option to enjoy a shorter safari on a sled for 4-5 people, which will be driven by an expert guide.

Snowmobile safaris: The driver of a snowmobile must be 18 years old and hold a valid driving licence. Children will travel in a sled pulled by the guide's snowmobile on selected safaris where this is offered, older children may be able to travel as pillion on the snowmobile (supplements may apply) but this is at the discretion of the guide.

Single snowmobiles: All snowmobile safaris are based on two people sharing. If this is not possible in your party then you will be paired with someone else taking part in the activity. If you wish to guarantee your own snowmobile you must pay the single supplement - please ask our Travel Experts for a quotation.

**Interreg**  
**Nord**

European Regional Development Fund



EUROPEAN UNION

**Image credits:** Tomas Jönsson, Graeme Richardson

## Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY  
1

ARRIVAL, TRANSFER AND WELCOME

**Included Meals:** Dinner

DAYS  
2 TO 3

DESIGN YOUR OWN HOLIDAY

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

DAY  
4

DEPART OR EXTEND YOUR STAY

**Included Meals:** Breakfast

## Personalise this tour

### Our pick



### Aurora Hideaway Dinner

If you'd like to experience an extra-special night on the sea ice, this is the perfect evening activity.

You'll be taken by snowmobile-pulled sleigh into the wilds and across the frozen sea ice, towards the glowing cabin in the distance. This is no ordinary cabin, however, as it is moved around the archipelago on skis, pulled by a snowcat. This means that it can be put in the best possible location for Aurora hunting, based on the day's

wind, weather and ice conditions.

Nestled inside, the log-burning stove will keep you nice and warm as your guide prepares a three-course dinner for you on the fire outside. You will be served a drink of your choice on arrival (either wine, beer or a hot drink, and any further drinks can be added to your room bill to be paid at checkout). The first course will be a delicious, hot soup, followed by a main course and dessert.

Between courses, be sure to pop outside and search the skies for the Northern Lights. There will also be snowshoes available for you to use if you'd like to go for a short walk close to the cabin, as your next course is prepared.

**Duration:** 3 hours (approximately)

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**Credit Graeme Richardson**

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## Other options

### ACTIVITIES





## Northern Lights Snowmobile Tour

This trip combines the best of both worlds. Experience an exciting snowmobile adventure through the Arctic night, leaving the Lodge and all artificial light behind you which also increases your chance to see the Aurora! The wintry landscape will be illuminated only by your headlights reflected by the snow, and of course the moon and stars above.

Snowmobiling is the best way to travel in the snow-covered landscape of Swedish Lapland. You don't need to head far out onto the sea ice or into the forest to embrace the feeling of being in the wilderness. This Northern Lights snowmobile tour takes you to some of the best viewing locations in the area for potential Northern Lights.

You will share a snowmobile between two (if you wish you can drive your own for a supplement) as you navigate your way through the dark winter landscape accompanied by your experienced guide. The guide will frequently make short stops to tell you about the Northern Lights as a phenomenon, how it occurs, and for you to watch and have time to take your own pictures.

Anyone wishing to drive a snowmobile must be at least 18 years old and in possession of a full driving licence. Children will typically travel in a sled pulled by the guide's machine.

**Duration:** 2.5 hours



## Husky sledding (self-drive) 1.5-hours

Husky sledding has to be one of the most popular activities in this part of the world and a huge favourite with kids and grown-ups alike. You will be taken to a local husky farm where you will meet the excited dogs and learn how to control a sled. Following your expert guide, you will ride two people per sled, with a chance to swap drivers along the way.

This activity is 1.5 hours in duration (including transfers and preparation) and promises a great time out on the snow.

**Duration:** 1.5 hours

**Availability:** 17th Dec to 04th April 2025

Credit: Antti Pietikainen



## Sámi reindeer experience

Your family holiday to Lapland wouldn't be complete without seeing some reindeer and during this experience, you'll get to meet and feed the animals as well as gain an authentic insight into their cultural significance.

Starting at Brändön Lodge, you will meet with Henrik Andersson, a local Sámi man who knows all about reindeer. Together, you will enjoy a short walk to the enclosure as Henrik tells you about his culture and way of life, as well as the life of these

wonderful animals.

You will meet the reindeer who will then join you in a walk into the forest towards a Sámi tent where you can enjoy a hot drink around an open fire.

You can talk more with Henrik about life in the Arctic as lunch is prepared over the fire using fresh and traditional ingredients.

**Duration** 2.5 hours starting at 10 am

**Available:** 17th December to 04th April 2025



## Full-Day Dog Sledding Self-Drive

This tour is for adults only, so if you fancy something more active, then this full-day dog sledding tour certainly offers that.

You'll transfer to a husky farm, approximately 1 hour away, where you will be given expert guidance and tuition on how to control your team of dogs and how to drive the sled. You'll ride two people per sled, with several chances to swap

drivers along the way, travelling through snow-covered forests and frozen lakes.

The tour involves approximately 4 hours of dog sledding, with breaks along the way, covering between 30-50km, depending on conditions. The tour also includes a wilderness lunch, cooked over an open fire and you will also get to spend some time with the dogs during and after the tour; a great photo opportunity!

Please note that the price does not include the cost of the transfer – please speak to one of our Travel Experts for a full quotation.

**Duration:** 6 hours in total (including transfers), approximately 4 hours of dog sledding (including lunch break)

**Available:** from 17th December until 4th April 2025

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Credit Graeme Richardson





## Cross-Country Skiing

Have some family fun in the snow as you learn how to travel across the frozen wilderness just like the locals do! During this cross-country skiing activity, you'll explore the winter wonderland surroundings of Brändön Lodge and get a real back-to-nature experience of the Lappish landscape.

Your local guide will teach you all the techniques needed to use the cross-country ski equipment. Then, once you are fitted with your skis, you and

your family will follow your guide along the snowy trails.

The weather and snow conditions will determine which route you will take - either along the solid-frozen sea, through the enchanting forest or gliding across the specially-carved snowmobile tracks. You will also stop to warm up with hot drinks along the way and enjoy the peaceful surroundings.

**Duration:** 2 hours

**Suitable for:** aged 7 years and older

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Credit Quinten Elpers



## Ice Fishing

Ice fishing is a much-loved hobby in Sweden, and taking part can be a family tradition for many. You and the children can get a feel for this pastime with this activity. You will be taken to a specially chosen fishing spot in a snowmobile-pulled sled.

Here, your guide will show you how to drill through the ice and assemble a fishing line. As you wait for a catch, you can relax with a hot drink and a sweet snack. Species that can usually be caught include perch and occasionally pike.

**Duration:** 2 hours

**Available:** 15 Dec - 07 Apr 2025 (start and end dates depends on ice conditions)



## Northern Lights Snowshoe Walk with Wilderness Dinner

Snowshoes make it very easy to walk in areas of deep snow. You and the children will greatly appreciate this when snowshoeing in search of the Northern Lights because they will help you get to less accessible wilderness areas where it is easier to spot the Aurora.

After walking through the snow-covered forest, your guide will prepare a fire and begin cooking your evening meal, as you discuss the science behind the Aurora and learn about the local area. Hot drinks will keep you nice and warm as you look to the skies in search of the Northern Lights.

**Duration:** 3 hours including outdoor dinner

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**Credit:** Markku Inkila



## Northern Lights Sled Tour

This is a fast and comfortable way to go looking for the Northern Lights. Sit back on warm reindeer pelts in a cosy sled as your guide pulls you along with their snowmobile. Moving out over the frozen sea, you will move between islands as you search for the Aurora above. You'll make a stop for warm drinks and snacks around an open fire, as you search the skies for the Aurora.

**Duration:** 2 hours

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**Credit - Antti Pietikainen**



## Snowmobile Forest and Nature Tour

The snow-covered forests and the frozen sea and lakes around Brändön look magical, so it is a real treat getting to explore them on snowmobiles. You will receive full instructions on how to drive the vehicles before heading off with your guide, two people per vehicle. You can also upgrade to drive one person per snowmobile. Anyone wishing to drive must be at least 18 years old and in possession of a full driving licence. Hot drinks are

included along the way.

Children will typically travel in a sled pulled by the guide's machine.

We have a two-hour tour and a longer four-hour tour which you can choose between. Stops will be made for tea and coffee along the way, with the four-hour tour also including lunch.

**Duration:** 2 hours

**Duration:** 4 hours including lunch (available from 15th December until 7th April)



## Snowmobile tour to the Luleå Archipelago Pack Ice

This is an exciting adventure that takes you around the islands of the Luleå Archipelago. You will have a full briefing on how to use the snowmobiles before following your guide into the beautiful landscape. You will travel two people per snowmobile with the chance to swap the roles of driver and passenger; you can also upgrade to driving one person per vehicle for an uninterrupted thrill. Anyone wishing to drive a snowmobile must

be at least 18 years old and in possession of a full driving licence.

If conditions are favourable, your destination will be the island of Brändöskär, with its quiet fishing village surrounded by stretches of incredible pack ice and snow. Along the way, you will stop for hot drinks and lunch will be cooked over an open fire, and you will snowmobile back to Brändön Lodge.

**Duration:** 4 hours including lunch

**Available:** from 08 January until 07 April 2025



## Nordic Winter Skills

Strap on snowshoes and get ready to learn about the wilderness like a real explorer. A guide will lead you on a three-hour adventure on the trails near Brändön Lodge. They will point out the tracks of animals and teach you about the fauna and flora that can be found here. Stopping along the way, you will be taught how to start a small fire and rustle up a hot drink in the outdoors. For lunch, you will sit in a native-style tent for a traditional meal cooked up over a fire. This is a wonderful way to get familiar with your surroundings.

**Duration:** 3 hours





## Arctic Astronomy

After an early dinner at Brändön Lodge, you will have a short transfer to the nearby home of Ulf Jonsson, an amateur consultant of aviation, space and photography who has built his own small, but fantastic, observatory.

Ulf will take you through the range of binoculars and telescopes on offer. Then, the roll-away roof will reveal the night sky and you'll get a brilliant view of the wonders overhead.

Ulf will point out constellations and explain how different cultures perceive the stars. If the moon is visible, you can track along the surface to observe the craters and mountain ranges. Of course, the real highlight in this part of the world is the Northern Lights and if conditions are favourable, you may get one of the most detailed views of this wonder. Should the Auroras appear, Ulf will also help you with your camera settings to capture this special moment.

**Duration:** 3 hours, including transfers

**Available:** from 15th December until 07th April 2025

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Credit Juo Foto

### LITTLE EXTRAS





## Cross-Country Ski Hire

If you'd like to have a go at independently exploring the tracks as a family and at your own pace, then this is a fantastic way to spend some free time. You should speak to the lodge to discuss routes and trail conditions before you leave. Please ensure that you take the hotel number and your mobile phone with you and leave details of your route before departure.

**Duration:** 1.5, 3 and 6-hour rentals are available

**Available:** from 15th December until 7th April 2025

**Prices:**

1.5 hours - £25 per person

3 hours - £37 per person

6 hours - £53 per person

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**Image credit:** Quinten Elpers



## Fatbike Hire

Fat bikes offer a great way to explore further than you may get with cross-country skis or snowshoes, whilst still being able to appreciate the peace and quiet of this winter wonderland. The fat bikes have extra-wide tyres, which provide far better grip than a traditional bike would get in the snow. This activity is not guided and therefore you must speak to the team at reception to discuss routes and conditions before you set off. Helmets will be provided.

Please ensure that you take the lodge number and your mobile phone with you and leave details of your route before departure.

**Duration:** 1.5, 3 and 6-hour rentals are available

**Available:** from 15th December until 7th April 2025

**Prices:**

1.5 hours - £33 per person

3 hours - £49 per person

6 hours - £73 per person

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**Credit Quinten Elpers**



## Snowshoe Hire

Hire snowshoes to explore the trails independently as a family and at your own pace. This is a great way to spend some free time enjoying the peace and quiet of your wintery surroundings. You should always consult the lodge regarding trail conditions, maps and the weather before you leave.

Ensure you take the lodge number and your mobile phone with you and leave details of your route before departure.

**Duration:** 1.5, 3 and 6-hour rentals are available

**Available:** from 15th December until 7th April 2025

### Prices:

1.5 hours - £25 per person

3 hours - £37 per person

6 hours - £53 per person

## Included Accommodation

Brändön Lodge (Nights: 1-3)



Brändön Lodge is located on the edge of the frozen sea and looks out towards the ice-locked islands of the Luleå Archipelago which sit waiting for the thaw.

This is a wonderful accommodation option for families with its combination of cosy cabins, scenic surrounding wilderness and plentiful opportunities for adventure.

## Hotel facilities

- The lodge consists of a central restaurant and reception building with 15 detached cabins situated within five minutes' walk from the main building
- You will have your breakfast and evening meal in the main restaurant where you will also find the lodge reception area. Here you can take in the cosy atmosphere whilst enjoying your evening meal. The food here is typically two courses and served as a buffet in the evenings. You will get to enjoy some local foods, as well as more international dishes during your stay
- There is also a sauna and hot tub available for guests to use which is located in a separate building a short walk from the main lodge (fees apply).

## The cabins

The cabins provide the perfect family base and each consists of a living area, kitchenette, en-suite shower room, toilet and two bedrooms (both with twin beds). Each cabin also has a small porch that looks out across the frozen sea.

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Image credit: Graeme Richardson

## 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 10 people for our flight allocation. Maximum 25 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

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.

## 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**