



Muotka - A Family New Year in Lapland



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group
VISITING: Finland

BROCHURE CODE: 1904
DURATION: 4 nights

In Brief

Celebrate the New Year in style during this 4-night family break to Muotka. Situated high above the Arctic Circle and in the heart of Lapland, this winter wonderland is an ideal setting with unbelievable experiences including dog sledding, snowshoeing and searching for the Northern Lights.

Our Opinion

“ Muotka is a really great base for families, aside from the fact it looks like a picturesque winter wonderland it also has the most wonderful cosy and welcoming atmosphere too. Seeing in the New Year here feels like you are celebrating with a group of friends who are equally grateful to be sharing in this special experience. All of the activities we have chosen show the real highlights of Lapland and my daughter still talks about how much better at Snowshoeing than me she was during our lesson, a really special family memory. ”

Andy Marshall



What's included?

- **Flights:** return indirect flights from London Gatwick to Ivalo (via Helsinki). Flight routes subject to change.
- **Transfers:** return scheduled group shuttle airport transfers
- **Accommodation:** four nights in a standard wilderness room (2 adults sharing with 1 child on extra bed.) (**Please note:** the hotel can usually accommodate your bed set up preference but this can't be guaranteed. Upgrades available on request.)
- **Meals:** full board
- **Activities:** gentle snowshoeing, Aurora camp, Snowmobile safari to reindeer day, husky safari (the order of activities is subject to change).
- Cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities
- Aurora alert

Trip Overview

Travel high above the Arctic Circle to the family-friendly Muotka, a frozen playground filled with exceptional snow-based activities. This 4-night winter break is unforgettable in its own right, but pair it with new year celebrations and you have the opportunity to create some cherished family memories.

We've included some of the must-do winter activities to explore the pristine surroundings. From dog sledding through the wilderness to enjoying a magical reindeer sleigh ride, you'll get the full Lapland experience. You'll also take a walk over the deep, soft powdery snow with ease during a snowshoe tour to see the local flora and fauna.

As darkness falls, your adventure continues with a visit to a nearby Aurora camp. Here, with your local expert guide, you'll search the skies in hopes for a display of dazzling green lights. What's more, you'll receive an Aurora alert system to use for the duration of your stay, to help you tick this brilliant phenomenon off your family bucket list.

With a winter wonderland setting, snow-based activities for the whole family and the chance to see the Northern Lights, Muotka offers an unforgettable way to welcome in the new year.

Image Credits: Markku Inkila, Anthony Oberlin & Wilderness Hotel Muotka

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL

Upon arrival at the airport, you will be met and transferred* to Muotka where you will check into your hotel accommodation.

Enjoy a welcome meal in the restaurant and spend the evening settling in to your wintery surroundings. You will also be given an Aurora alert which will sound if the Northern Lights are present in the area.

*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 Family Travel Experts for a quotation.

Please note the order of the activities listed in the agenda is just for guidance and is subject to change.

Included Meals: Dinner

DAY
2

REINDEER DAY AND NEW YEAR'S EVE

After breakfast, you'll get the full Lappish experience when you visit a local reindeer farm via snowmobile.

Once you have received a full briefing and instructions, you'll take to the frozen trails for a snowmobiling adventure. Adults will drive the snowmobile (two per machine) while children will ride in a sled pulled by the guide's snowmobile.

Upon arrival at the reindeer farm, you will meet with the local herders who will introduce you to their animals and tell you all about their significance here in Lapland. You will get to try your hand at lassoing before enjoying a wonderful sleigh ride with warm snacks served afterwards. Please note you must be at least 18 years old and hold a full driving licence to drive a snowmobile.

Tonight you will enjoy a special dinner in the restaurant to celebrate New Year's Eve. Keep an eye on your Aurora alert system as the Northern Lights may be there to add to your festivities.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
3

HUSKY SAFARI AND NEW YEAR'S DAY

Fill up on breakfast before starting the new year with the must-do Arctic experience of dog sledding.

You'll hear the huskies before you see them as they will be barking eagerly to get going. Children will be tucked safely in the guide's sled and adults will ride two per sled (one driver and one passenger with the option to swap). You'll receive a full briefing and instructions on how to handle the sled before you set off into the wilderness. The dogs will soon quieten down as you cruise along the trails and you can admire the winter wonderland scenes around you.

Lunch and dinner will be served in the restaurant.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
4

GENTLE SNOWSHOEING AND AURORA CAMP

After breakfast, it's time to head out and explore your surroundings. You will strap on a pair of snowshoes and follow your local guide out into the wonderful Taiga forest. The snowshoes will help you walk over the deep snow with ease so you can admire the local wildlife that the guide will point out along the way. You'll also hear all about life in Lapland before enjoying lunch by the open fire.

Following dinner in the restaurant, you'll sit inside a cosy sled and go out into the night to search for the Northern Lights. Pulled along by the guide's snowmobile, you will all keep an eye on the sky as you journey to a nearby Aurora camp - ideally chosen based on the weather and Northern Lights forecast for the evening.

You'll arrive at a camp in the wilderness where you will keep warm by the open fire and enjoy hot drinks. Your guide will tell you all about the Northern Lights while you wait in hopes for a display. You will be out for approximately 2.5 hours tonight.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
5

DEPARTURE

Today it is sadly time for your New Year's family adventure to come to an end. Enjoy breakfast in the restaurant before being transferred to the airport for your flight home. If you have an early flight time, we'll box up breakfast for you.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Sleep in an Aurora Kota

Muotka is renowned as an Aurora viewing destination and so the hotel has created a selection of Aurora Kotas for guests to enjoy.

These part-cabin and part-glass tepee buildings are self-contained and situated a short distance from the hotel. The idea is that you can hopefully watch the Northern Lights from the comfort of the bed.

The Kotas are all 25m² with their own private sauna, double bed and en-suite bathroom. There is also room for two extra beds for children.

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. Please contact our Travel Experts for a quotation.

Image credit: Anthony Oberlin

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Muotka Wilderness Hotel (Nights: 1-4)



Around 40km away from Ivalo Airport, and tucked neatly in the forests and fells of North East Finland, families will find Muotka Wilderness Hotel.

Owned by our friends Jouko and Mari, the hotel offers the same warm welcome as its sister property at Nellim.

The landscape around the hotel is stunning and offers families an easily accessible escape from the every day.

There are two main buildings, one contains the majority of the rooms and the other houses the reception, restaurant and the remaining cosy bedrooms. They are just moments from each other so there are no long walks for meals. There are also superior sauna rooms in separate buildings and some very special cabin options too, again, only a short distance from the hotel's main restaurant.

Hotel facilities

- All meals are served in the hotel's restaurant. Typically this is a buffet of options from which to choose. There tends to be a mix of international dishes alongside some local favourites. Dietary requirements can all be catered for as long as we are informed at the time of booking.
- There is a sauna in the main building which is heated daily for guest use. Saunas are not the reserve of grown-ups in Finland and so this can be a family affair.
- Free Wi-Fi is available in the main building
- Standard rooms do not have tea and coffee making facilities but tea and coffee are available free of charge in the restaurant area

Room types

STANDARD ROOMS

All standard rooms are en-suite with shower room, wardrobe, hairdryer and nightstand and can be made up as either a double or twin. We can request adjacent rooms for you if available.

Please note: the hotel can usually accommodate your bed set up preference but this can't be guaranteed. Upgrades available on request

Image Credit: Matt Robinson

Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

Muotka Wilderness Hotel - Superior Sauna Rooms



These sauna rooms are a great upgrade and can accommodate two adults and up to two children on extra beds. The rooms are located in separate buildings (each containing four sauna rooms) and are just a short distance from the main restaurant building. Each room is 34m².

Please note: the hotel can usually accommodate your bed set up preference but this can't be guaranteed. Upgrades available on request

Please contact our Travel Experts for a quotation.

Image credits: Muotka Wilderness Hotel

Muotka Wilderness Hotel - Panorama Log Cabins



These cosy log cabins are a wonderful treat for families. They have large glass windows on one side so you can look out across the landscape and hopefully up at the sky, where the Northern Lights often appear. The cabins are very well equipped and have an en-suite shower room, private sauna, and log burning stove.

There is a queen size bed in each and space for two extra beds for children. There is a small kitchenette and kettle provided and hairdryers are available at reception if needed.

The cabins are just a short walk from the main restaurant building and are around 50 m² in size.

Please note: the hotel can usually accommodate your bed set up preference but this can't be guaranteed. Upgrades available on request.

Image credits: Muotka Wilderness Hotel

The Specifics

Holiday group size (approximate)

Minimum 4 people and maximum 28 (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.

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