



Muotka - Activity Pick and Mix



HOLIDAY TYPE: Pick and Mix
VISITING: Finland

BROCHURE CODE: 1906
DURATION: 3 or more nights

In Brief

Tailor the perfect winter activity and Aurora holiday for your family. Whether you want to focus on hunting the Northern Lights, experiencing the key Arctic activities such as dog sledding, or you simply want to spend time together in your cosy accommodation, this pick and mix holiday can provide it all. Muotka is a wonderful family destination for those who want to escape the every day and create some incredible memories together.

Our Opinion

“ Our pick and mix at Muotka is such a great option for families who have specific date restrictions or can only be away for a certain amount of time. It is also a wonderful way to make sure that everyone gets what they want from a holiday. We get loads of multi-generational bookings and this holiday means that everyone can be as active or relaxed as they like. If the grandparents just want some gentle activities with the family and the rest want an action-packed stay (or vice-versa, of course) then it can all be done at Muotka. ”

Joanna Robertson



What's included?

- **Flights:** return from London to Ivalo (via Helsinki). Flight routes are subject to change.
- **Transfers:** return scheduled group shuttle airport transfers
- **Accommodation:** a minimum of three nights in a standard hotel room
- **Meals:** full board
- Cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities
- 24/7 assistance from our UK based operations team and in destination support from our local partners

TAILOR YOUR TRIP

A selection of winter activities can be added to your trip at an additional cost. Once you have chosen when you want to travel and for how long (we recommend a minimum stay of three nights) you can select as many or as few activities as you wish from the extensive range on the "[Activities](#)" tab and tailor your trip as required. All activities are individually priced and our Travel Experts can assist you with your selection and will then provide a personalised itinerary quotation for you.

Trip Overview

Muotka is tucked away in the forests and fells of North-East Finland. It may be high above the Arctic Circle, but as you are in the heart of Lapland, you are assured of a warm family welcome.

The hotel is effectively surrounded by one big, snow-covered playground and this Pick and Mix holiday means that your family can sit down and choose how you want to explore it. We know from our experience that all families are different and will have different priorities so tailoring your time is a great way to please everyone.

It is all very simple, you choose the duration of your holiday (a minimum of three nights is required) and when you want to go. You then get to select the activities your family most wants to do and you build your own holiday together (with the help of our travel experts of course).

Whether your family is active and wants action-packed days or whether you are content just playing together in the snow, the choice is yours.

Your days can be filled with the likes of dog sledding, snowmobiling, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. There are reindeer encounters, sleigh rides and ice fishing trips to try too and that is just for starters.

At Muotka, it isn't just a case of filling your days, oh no, this is prime Northern Lights holiday country and so we can also arrange many different Aurora hunts for you at night. You can search in a car, visit a hidden Aurora Camp or set off on foot using snowshoes.

Muotka also offers families a choice of accommodation. There are cosy rooms and log cabins with panoramic windows to decide between, as well as the chance to spend a night in a glass-roofed Aurora Kota.

If you need any help with your decision making then our family travel experts will be on hand to help and will use their firsthand knowledge of Muotka to make life as simple as possible for you. We also take the hassle out of packing as all of your cold-weather clothing is provided.

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EUROPEAN UNION

Image credits: Anthony Oberlin, Markku Inkilä, Visit Finland

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL, TRANSFERS AND WELCOME

Included Meals: Dinner

DAYS
2 TO 3

DESIGN YOUR OWN HOLIDAY

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
4

DEPARTURE

Included Meals: Breakfast

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Aurora Camp

The team at Muotka know their area very well and they have set up a selection of Aurora Camps in the region's best Aurora viewpoints.

You will all travel to the camp together in a sleigh pulled by the guide's snowmobile. On arrival, a warming campfire will be lit and then you will wait and keep watch on the night sky. Warm drinks will keep you cosy and your guide will answer any Aurora questions you may have.

With a little luck, the conditions will be clear and you will enjoy a Northern Lights display.

Duration: approximately 2.5 hrs in total

©Markku Inkila

Other options

ACTIVITIES



Aurora Hunt by Minibus

This is a great family Aurora activity. You'll all board a minibus or car and head off with your guide in search of the Northern Lights. Your guide will lead the chase and determine the route based on the Aurora and weather forecasts.

Warm drinks will be provided.

Duration: approximately 3 hrs in total



Aurora Snowshoeing

Heading out into the forest after dark is a real adventure. Snowshoes will prevent you from sinking deep into the snow, as you will follow in your guide's footsteps.

The wilderness at night is an incredible place and when you reach the perfect viewpoint you will enjoy a warming drink as you watch the skies.

Seeing the Aurora dance across the sky is an unforgettable sight and if you are lucky enough to see

them as a family tonight, you'll never forget the experience.

Duration: approximately 2.5 hrs in total

©Markku Inkila



Aurora Snowmobiling

Travelling by snowmobile at night is totally different from any of the daytime safaris. The headlights illuminate the forest in unusual ways and it provides a real sense of adventure.

Your guide will lead you into the forest, with adults travelling two people per snowmobile, and children riding in a sleigh pulled by the guide's machine. The destination for tonight is an Aurora viewpoint with excellent views of the night sky but, if conditions are

promising, you will stop off along the way too.

A full snowmobile driving lesson will be included before you set off and you must be 18 years or older and hold a full driving license to drive a snowmobile.

Duration: approximately 2.5 hrs in total

©Markku Inkila



Cross-country skiing

Now, this is likely to be one of the activities which the children find much easier than the parents.

Finnish kids can ski pretty much as soon as they walk. Little people's flexibility and relaxed nature just mean they tend to be really good at it. We are sure that Mum and Dad will pick it up too though as full tuition is provided. You don't need to have tried any other form of skiing to enjoy this activity and it is really a lovely way to glide around the forest trails of Lapland.

Duration: approximately 2 hrs in total



Gentle snowshoeing

You will very quickly notice an issue if you try and walk either side of the trails in Lapland, as you will end up waist-deep in snow. That is where snowshoes come in! They mean that you can explore the forests and fells with greater ease. It's also an activity which lets you get closer to nature, and your local guide will point out all kinds of animal tracks and fun facts about the region as you go.

Duration: approximately 2 hours in total

©Anthony Oberlin

Reindeer day with snowmobile



This is a great combination activity. Travelling on thrilling snowmobiles you will make your way to a local reindeer farm. Snowmobiles are one of the most popular modes of transport in the Arctic and they are great fun. However, as they are powerful vehicles and the trails are classed as highways, you must be over 18 years old and have a full driving license to drive a snowmobile. Children will typically travel in a sled which is pulled behind the

guide's snowmobile. A full safety briefing and driving instruction will be provided for the adults before you set off.

On arrival at the farm, you will meet with the herders who will explain how important the reindeer are in Lapland. It is fascinating to learn about the lives of the herders themselves. The fun then really starts when you all have a go at lassoing a reindeer and enjoy a short reindeer-pulled sleigh ride.

Warming soup will be served for lunch before you get back on the snowmobiles and return to Muotka.

Duration: approximately 4 hrs including lunch

©Anthony Oberlin



Husky Safari

This is always one of the most popular activities we feature. There is nothing quite like travelling in a sleigh pulled by a team of huskies, it is incredible.

When you meet the dogs they are always hugely excited to see you and they make a fair amount of noise at first. As soon as they get going though, they fall silent and focus on pulling the sled.

After a short transfer, full instruction will be provided before you set off on a one-hour (approximately) husky safari. Children under the age of 16 are generally too small to drive a sled (the ability to drive is always at the guide's discretion regardless) and so they will travel in a larger sled pulled by the guide's team normally, or on occasion, they may travel with a parent.

Duration: approximately 3 hrs in total (including transfer).

©Anthony Oberlin



Ice Fishing by Snowmobile-Pulled Sleigh

You will always see local people dotted around the ice on the thousands of lakes in Lapland and you may wonder what they are doing, the answer - ice fishing.

This is one of the most popular pastimes in Lapland and it is a great family activity.

Travelling in a sleigh pulled by your guide's snowmobile you will set out on a fishing mission. You'll base yourself on one of the frozen lakes close to the hotel and your guide will select a prime spot. You'll need to drill through the ice to get to the water below and then use your small (they are tiny!) rod and line to try and tempt a fish. There is an element of patience required but the thrill of landing a catch is brilliant and you can even cook it on the campfire and supplement your outdoor lunch if you like.

Duration: approximately 4 hrs in total including lunch

©Juho Kuva and Visit Finland



Snowmobile Safari

This activity is good for families who only want to experience a short safari.

Full instruction and a driving lesson will be provided before you set out on a short tour on easy trails with your guide. Children will ride in a sleigh pulled by the guide's snowmobile.

You must be over 18 and hold a full driving license to drive a snowmobile.

Duration: approximately 2 hrs in total

©Anthony Oberlin

SPECIAL NIGHTS



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 a night of your holiday in this unique accommodation and not keeping your original accommodation. If you would like to keep your accommodation, supplements will apply. Please speak to our Travel Experts for a full quotation.

©Anthony Oberlin

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Muotka Wilderness Hotel (Nights: 1-3)



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.

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 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 contact our Travel Experts for a quotation.

Image credits: Muotka Wilderness Hotel

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

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.

Muotka TM - Must book at least one activity

Minimum number of activities

Please note that you must book at least one activity to secure accommodation at Muotka Wilderness Lodge.

Cancellation terms - Muotka Pick and Mix

Additional payment and cancellation terms that supersede our standard terms

If you are travelling between and including the dates of 17.12-08.01, the following cancellation terms apply:

Cancel prior to 28.09 – loss of deposit (including the full cost of the flights or other services where paid at the time of booking)

Cancel 29.09 up until departure date – 100%

For all other travel dates that do not include 17.12-08.01, the following cancellation terms apply:

- 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 45 days prior to departure - 40%
- 44 to 31 days prior to departure - 60%
- 30 to 16 days prior to departure - 80%
- 15 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>