

Northern Lights Village Levi - Father Christmas & Aurora Hunting



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group VISITING: Finland BROCHURE CODE: 1125 DURATION: 3 nights



In Brief

Enjoy a fun-filled short break staying in one of our magical Aurora Cabins located in the heart of Finnish Lapland. With glass roofs looking out onto the northern sky, watch the Northern Lights dance above your head. We have included a visit to meet Father Christmas and his elves, a husky safari, snowmobile ride and even a reindeer sleigh ride. There is a great range of activities on this trip, making the most of your magical

Our Opinion

There is normally an element of compromise when travelling with young kids but this holiday ticked every box for us. We loved the sophistication and elegant design of the main building but also how cosy and welcoming it felt for us and the kids. The food was of really high standard with plenty for fussy kids to choose from. All of us staying in the same Aurora cabin felt like a fun sleep over and the glass roof meant we could look out for the Northern Lights long after the kids

had fallen asleep. 🖊

Amy Hope



What's included?





- **Flights:** Return flights from London to Kittila (direct or via Helsinki depending on departure date). Flight routes are subject to change
- Transfers: return group airport bus transfers
- Accommodation: 3 nights in a glass-roofed Aurora Cabin
- Meals: full board
- Activities: Searching for Father Christmas, 5km Husky safari, 2-hour snowmobile safari, and a 25-minute reindeer sleigh ride (order subject to change)
- Aurora alert service which you can set to alert you throughout the night or end at a specific time
- Cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities
- Services of our expert local guides

Trip Overview

When choosing a holiday with children an element of compromise can be required to find something everyone will enjoy. This holiday is about everybody, young and old and delivers something for everyone in the family creating a truly memorable short break which you will be discussing months later.

The Northern Lights Village in Levi opened in 2019 and received fantastic reviews since The striking and elegant design of the main building achieves the perfect compromise of being effortlessly stylish but also welcoming and very cosy. The Aurora Cabins are extremely comfortable and a really fun and exciting place for kids and adults alike to stay.

As you drive from the airport through the ski resort of Levi you will see all the lights, buildings, shops, restaurants and general bustle of this small but extremely busy town. As the majority of the coaches stop at the hotels and hordes of people get off, you will continue down the road and away from the town. It's not long before the urban setting becomes a winter wilderness especially as you turn onto a smaller road and eventually a snowy track through the forest. By the time you arrive at reception, you will feel like you have found a hidden gem surrounded by a pristine winter wilderness and a million miles away from busy Levi.

Packed with fun, this holiday will take you husky sledding, snowmobile riding, on a visit to the elf kitchen to bake gingerbread cookies, to enjoy a reindeer sleigh ride, and finally go in search of Father Christmas's secret cabin hidden in the snowy forest. Each family will enjoy a short, private meeting with Father Christmas himself and receive a small gift before returning to the main village via snowmobile-pulled sleigh. The whole experience is designed to be as relaxed and personal as possible – no one will be trying to sell you souvenirs or key rings with your picture on them. Just enjoy the precious family time and create some treasured memories together.

Image credits: Northern Lights Village Levi, Teemu Moisio & Visit Levi





Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY 1 FLIGHTS, ARRIVALS AND TRANSFERS

After your journey north, you will retrieve your bags and make your way to the transfer vehicle waiting for you outside the airport. Then it is just a short 25-30 minute journey to your home for the next few days. At check-in, you will be provided with all the information about your upcoming stay and also be issued with your cold weather clothing which is yours to keep for the duration of your holiday.

Dinner will be served in the hotel restaurant this evening which is just a short walk from even the furthest Aurora cabin. This means that you don't have to dress up in all the thermal gear whenever you head over to the restaurant. After dinner, you can settle into your cabins before the excitement begins tomorrow.

Importantly, there is a tablet located in each cabin which you can set to alert you if the aurora is seen in the surrounding area. We do suggest you also keep an eye out and even take a short walk to explore the Northern Lights Village to give yourself the best chance of seeing the Northern Lights.

Please note that the order of activities within your itinerary is subject to change and the agenda below should be used as a guide only. The exact order of your agenda will be confirmed upon arrival at the hotel.

Included Meals: Dinner



After breakfast, you will gather all your cold weather clothing and head to reception to start your adventure. Santa's elf will meet your small group and together you will bake some gingerbread cookies – what could be more festive? Following this, it is time to get all wrapped up and head outside to meet Father Christmas's very own reindeer. You will take a short (approx. 10 minutes) reindeer pulled sleigh ride through the snowy forest – a magical family experience.

Finally, you will travel by snowmobile pulled sleigh ride deeper into the forest to look for Father Christmas's secret cabin. The excitement grows as you glimpse twinkling lights through the trees and you are you invited inside for a short meeting with Father Christmas himself. Your children can share their hopes and dreams for the year ahead, listen to stories and take that all-important picture to remind you all of the time you met the real Father Christmas! Each child will be given a small gift before returning to the restaurant for lunch. The whole experience lasts around 3 hours.



If you would like to book additional activities – such as a husky safari or cross-country ski lesson then please view our personalise section for more information. We would suggest different durations of activity depending on the ages of your children. Five-hour snowmobile safaris in sub-zero temperatures and four-year-old children just don't mix so please seek our advice if you have any questions.

Today, you will also head out on a dog sledding excursion, a must do activity in the arctic. Nothing beats the feeling of gliding over snowy trails with your trusty team of dogs leading the way. Chances are when you first meet the sled dogs, they will be excitable and barking, ready to get going on their adventure. You'll find though, as soon as you set off and they settle into their pace, the only sounds you'll hear is soft panting and paws on the snow. You will usually travel two per sled (one driving and one as a passenger in the sled). Children will ride as passengers. The sled ride will last approximately 30 minutes, allowing 30 minutes also, to meet the huskies and get familiar with the sleds.

This evening you will enjoy dinner in the hotel restaurant and, as darkness settles there is another chance to enjoy some stargazing and hopefully see the Northern Lights.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Enjoy breakfast before heading out into the snow and revving up your engines. A thrilling snowmobile safari awaits, a vital form of transport in Lapland but to you, it offers an exciting family adventure to explore the snowy surroundings. Adults will ride two per snowmobile and children will sit wrapped up in a sleigh pulled by the guide's snowmobile.

You will stop along the way to take photographs of the stunning scenery and there will also be time to warm up with hot drinks and snacks.

Please note, you will travel two per snowmobile with the option to swap drivers however, you must be at least 18 years old and hold a full driving licence to drive a snowmobile. Children aged 13 and under will travel in a sleigh pulled by the guide's snowmobile. Children who are 13-14 years old and 140cm tall can choose to travel pillion on their parent's snowmobile but will be charged as an adult.

It wouldn't be a trip to Lapland without seeing some reindeer. Today's fun continues with a short reindeer sleigh ride giving you a taste of how people have traversed here for centuries. A reindeer sleigh ride is an experience that can be hard to comprehend until you do it.

After a day filled with adventure, head back inside for a hearty dinner this evening.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4 DEPARTURE





Unfortunately, it's time for your festive family short break to come to an end. If you don't have time to enjoy breakfast in the restaurant, we'll box it up for you before transferring you to the airport.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Levi Northern Lights Village (Nights: 1-3)



Located in the far north of Finland, 16km away from the centre of Levi and approximately 14km away from the ski resort, the Northern Lights Village sits tucked away in a brilliant location for a family holiday.

The village is made up of 40 Aurora Cabins, which you'll have for the duration of your stay. Each cabin comes equipped with a half-glass roof for the incredible opportunity to see the Northern Lights right from your bed!

All cabins are within walking distance of the restaurant which serves local food and Lappish delicacies.

Facilities

The village restaurant, Buffet is designed to look like a traditional wooden Finnish tipi and serves local food and special delicacies.

Breakfast is a buffet of continental options and some hot dishes. Evening meals are a buffet with starters of soups and salad, and then a choice of local meat or fish will follow. Dietary requirements are all well-catered for as long as we are informed at the time of booking.

All activities start from The Northern Lights Village (except the husky safaris and art gallery) to make your holiday as easy as possible.



Aurora Cabins

All Aurora Cabins face north and out into the wilderness to increase your chances of seeing the Northern Lights through the half-glass roof. The windows are also laser heated to melt the snow so that you have clear views at all times.

Inside, you'll find twin beds which can be made into a double and there is also a sofa bed (suitable for an additional adult or two children). There is a shower room, toilet and luggage storage area (please note that hot water is limited). You also have tea and coffee making facilities, a hairdryer, minibar and unlimited Wi-Fi.

Cabins are not cleaned between arrival and departure unless requested from reception. Additionally, towels can be exchanged at reception if required.

Image Credit: Neil Walton & Levi Northern Lights Village

Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

Levi Northern Lights Village - Aurora Suite



If you are travelling with children or as a family and are looking for more space or simply want the added luxury of a private sauna then why not consider upgrading to one of the Northern Lights Village's Aurora Suites.

Brand new for winter 2023, with the same innovative design and laser-heated glass as the standard Aurora Cabins but with a bigger footprint (approximately $44m^{2}$), the suites can accommodate 4-5 people depending on the make-up of your group, although please note that the sleeping space is all in one room.



Within walking distance of the restaurant and activity meeting point, each suite has its own private sauna, air conditioning and heating, a hairdryer, a minibar (charges apply locally), safe and tea and coffee-making facilities.

Please speak to one of our Family Travel Experts for more details.

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 30 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.

Specific Payment and Cancellation Terms -Northern Lights Villages

Please note that the following cancellation terms supersede in part those mentioned in Section 7 of our general booking terms and conditions.

- Up to balance due date (This is normally 12 weeks prior to departure however some holidays differ. If this applies to your holiday you will be advised at the time of booking) - Loss of deposit (including the full cost of flights or other services where paid at the time of booking)

- between balance due date and 43 days prior to departure 50%
- 42 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: <u>https://www.activitiesabroad.com/booking-conditions</u>

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

