

#### Northern Lights Village Pyhä - Searching for Father Christmas and Snowy Safaris



**HOLIDAY TYPE:** Winter Activity Holidays **VISITING:** Finland

BROCHURE CODE: 5056 DURATION: 4 nights

### In Brief

A holiday in Pyha Northern Lights Village is a dream come true for children and a nostalgic delight for parents. The Arctic surroundings offer enchantment and festive cheer even before meeting Father Christmas. This package includes days filled with joyous activities, including a thrilling husky safari through the snowy fells and forests. Nights in glass-roofed Aurora accommodation will provide breathtaking views, with the possibility of witnessing the Northern Lights from your bed. This magical experience leaves lasting and cherished memories for all.









# What's included?

- **Flights:** return flights from London to Rovaniemi (either direct or via Helsinki). Flight routes subject to change
- Transfers: Return group airport bus transfers
- Accommodation: 4 nights in a Taiga Forest Cabin or Aurora Cabin
- Meals: 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 4 dinners
- Activities: the following activities are included in the holiday price: Searching for Father Christmas, 10km husky safari, 2 hour snowmobile safari, and a 25 minute reindeer sleigh ride (order of activities 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
- 24/7 assistance from our UK-based operations team and in-destination support from our local partners

# Trip Overview

Every child's dream is meeting Father Christmas, and every parent's delight is to see their children full of festive cheer whilst themselves taking a nostalgic sleigh ride back to their youth... A short break away in the immersive Arctic surroundings of Pyha Northern Light's Village will leave both parents and children feeling enchanted, merry, and bright, and that's before they meet the man in red! This festive holiday is a perfect blend of fun and relaxation for all family members. Whilst offering a purely magical and unforgettable Father Christmas experience for the kids, the holiday will promise nothing but nostalgia and serene moments of joy for older family members. Watch your children receive a gift from Santa as you take in the magical sky and surroundings this winter.

The gifts don't stop there! Meeting Father Christmas is just the tip of the iceberg... after a day of joyous activities and a cosy night under the mesmerising sky, it's time for a husky safari! On day 3 you will get to drive a team of huskies over the white, shimmering fells and forests, an experience that is almost mandatory during a trip to Lapland. The eager dogs run happily along and the sleigh glides effortlessly over the snowy trails. The husky



safari takes you on a magical trip through the Finnish wilderness; an experience that you will never forget!

After plenty of activity and adventure, relaxation is key and Pyha Northern Lights Village sure provides it! Let this magical holiday fill your hearts with the spirit of Christmas, leaving lasting smiles and treasured memories.

# Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change



After flying north, a scenic 1 hr 30 minutes journey\* (approximately) will whisk you away from Rovaniemi airport to the magical Northern Lights Village in the picturesque Pyhä region. After settling you're your cosy accommodation, whether it's an inviting Aurora Cabin or if you've upgraded to a Sky View Suite, the magic continues. Make your way to the buffet restaurant, where you will get your first taste of lovely local flavours and special delicacies from Lapland and the Barents Sea regions. After dinner, head back to your suite and get some rest before your first day of adventure tomorrow. Sink into plush bedding, and gaze upward with anticipation. With luck, you'll be serenaded to sleep by the dreamy dance of the Northern Lights.

\*Please note that the transfers included are shared and grouped together to meet similar flight arrival times.

#### Included Meals: Dinner



Today's the day! After a hearty breakfast, you will collect your cold weather clothing and then it's time to begin the hunt for Santa and immerse yourself in the spirit of Christmas at the Northern Lights Village.

The activity will begin by meeting Santa's cheerful Elves who will be your English-speaking guides for a morning of merry experiences, creating lasting memories. Start your magical journey with a heartwarming gingerbread baking session in the elves' cosy hut crafting delicious cookies (Santa's favourite!) Afterward, you'll follow the elves to meet Santa's magnificent reindeer, a dream come true for the children. Enjoy a short, yet thrilling sleigh ride, through the snow-covered forest (approximately 10 minutes) pulled by these majestic creatures. The adventure continues with a quest to uncover Santa's hidden cabin. Accompanied by an Elf on a snowmobile, your family will hop into the snowmobile-pulled sleigh and venture into the snow-coated forest. Upon finding the cabin, you'll receive a warm welcome from Santa himself! Engage in an intimate 10-minute conversation with Father Christmas and the children will receive a small gift. This magical



journey will certainly bring smiles to both young and old as you experience an unforgettable festive moment.

Following this 3-hour adventure you will have the rest of the day free to do as you please (refer to the 'personalise' section to pick an activity if you desire) Perhaps a relaxing session in a traditional Finnish sauna would be the perfect tonic to a day in the snow

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 3 HUSKY SAFARI

Today's highlight will be a 10km husky safari, which is open to all ages and is a must-do experience when visiting Lapland. The husky safari adventure kicks off with a short transfer to the starting point. This activity offers a thrilling and family-fun exploration of Lapland's untouched snowscapes, from the fells to the enchanting forests. Driving a team of eager huskies through the shimmering white fells is a truly unforgettable experience. The sheer enthusiasm of these magnificent dogs propels the sleigh forward, effortlessly gliding over the pristine snow. At key crossroads along your journey, the lead husky will look to you for direction – left, or right? With a hearty "Mush!", you guide your trusty team forward, this exhilarating expedition will be an everlasting memory, reminding you of the pure magic that Lapland's winter wonderland has to offer. You will usually travel two people per sled (one driving and one as a passenger in the sled).

With this expedition lasting 2 hours (with approximately 1 hour of sledding), if you want to get the most out of your trip to Lapland, you will have plenty of time for an extra activity today. We recommend engaging further with nature and heading out on a snowshoeing and ice fishing trip, one of the most authentic and wholesome activities Pyha has to offer; or maybe you'd prefer to try your hand at cross-country skiing (visit the personalise section for further details).

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 4 SNOWMOBILE SAFARI AND REINDEER SLEIGH RIDE

On your final day in Finland, you will embark on an exhilarating snowmobiling adventure! A must-do Arctic activity, snowmobiling is on most winter bucket-lists and what better way to experience the thrill in the hands of your expert guide? They'll give you a briefing and safety talk before heading out two people per snowmobile onto the snowy landscape. You stop along the way to take photos of you and your family and enjoy a hot drink by the fire. A great taster activity for first timers.

**Please note:** the driver of a snowmobile must be at least 18 years old and hold a valid driving licence. As a general rule, children (14 years and under) will travel in a sled pulled by the guide's snowmobile. Children 4 years and under must be accompanied in the sleigh by one parent. Older children (15 years and over) may be able to travel as pillion on the snowmobile, but this is at the discretion of the guide and the child must be at least 140



After lunch snuggle together in a cosy sleigh pulled by a majestic reindeer. Before snowmobiles, Laplanders would travel by sleigh pulled by reindeers. Get cosy and hold on tight as you travel two to four people per sled! Nothing epitomises Lapland like these magnificent creates and what a unique experience to get up close whilst taking in the enchanting wilderness. The reindeer ride starts from and end in the reindeer paddock in the Northern Lights Village and lasts approximately 25 minutes.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Sadly, your snowy getaway has come to an end. It's time to say farewell to the huskies and the reindeer and return to the airport for your flight home.

Included Meals: Breakfast

# Personalise this tour

### Our pick



#### Aurora Hunting in the Wilderness

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Step on board a minibus to a remote camp and get ready for a magical evening. Snuggle up together around the warming fire in a cozy hut with a delicious hot drink and a snack. Look up to the starry scene above and await the Northern Lights. Hopefully you'll see them twist and twirl across the night sky.

Duration: approximately 3 hours in total

Minimum age: 4 years and over



### Other options

#### ACTIVITIES



### Aurora Hunting by Heated Sleigh

#### Aurora Hunting by Heated Sleigh

Settle into a seat in the cosy heated sleigh as you glide through the breathtaking landscape. Your friendly guide will take you through the snowcapped forest and over the boundless wilderness. Once you reach your destination, your guide will build a fire and you can listen to Nordic tales whilst enjoying hot drinks. With a little bit of luck, the

Northern Lights will appear on the horizon and perform a dazzling display. Prepare to capture this phenomenon on camera or savour the experience in the moment.

Duration: approximately 3 hours in total

Minimum age: 4 years and over





# Kid's Snowmobiling

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Make your child's holiday unforgettable with this unique, once-in a lifetime experience. They'll find the activity both enriching and exhilarating and remember it for years to come. A 200-metre track offers a safe environment for children to drive their own snowmobile, that have been specially built for children.

**Please note**: Parents must supervise this activity and are responsible to ensure their child is following the guide's instructions safely. There is no age restriction, but children must be 100cm tall or above. Parents must assess whether this activity is suitable for their child's age.

Choose from a 30-minute or 60-minute session.

#### **Prices:**

30 minutes from £33 per child

60 minutes from £66 per child



#### Cross-country Skiing School

#### **Cross-country Skiing School**

From children to grandparents, you will see almost all Finnish people cross-country skiing and this activity gives your family the chance to try it out. It's a pursuit suitable for all ages and abilities. Your expert guide will teach you all the skills needed before you glide through the snow like a true Laplander.

Duration: approximately 2 hours in total

Minimum age: 4 years and over





#### Snowshoeing and Ice Fishing

#### **Snowshoeing and Ice Fishing**

Grab your snowshoes and your sense of adventure and head out into the shimmering forest to a nearby fell. You and your family will trek through the woodland and your guide will build a fire. Enjoy a hot drink while looking out for Siberian jay, a willow grouse, or a herd of reindeer roaming by. You'll then continue your trail over a frozen lake.

Here, your guide will teach you about the local wildlife and help you to drill a hole through the thick ice. You'll bait the hook and wait to see who can successfully catch the fish of the day. A great opportunity for some healthy family competition and a chance to experience another unique activity.

Duration: approximately 3 hours in total

Minimum age: 4 years and over

# Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Pyhä Northern Lights Village - Taiga Forest Cabin (Nights: 1-4)



One of our very favourite partners, Northern Lights Village launched their brand-new destination in Pyhä in 2023. We have been privileged enough to watch this awesome team create two of our most popular destinations from the initial concept stage right through to the professional operation to which we send hundreds of happy guests each month during the Autumn and Winter seasons.

The small village of Pyhä is around 130km North of the Arctic Circle and around 90



minutes from Rovaniemi airport. The Northern Lights Village is located about 5km from the nearby downhill ski resort. The village is set in a beautiful, picturesque snowy forest and just a very short walk away you can find the frozen Lake Pyhäjärvi.

### Facilities

There is a restaurant and reception building on site where all your meals will be served. At a safari house you will be issued cold weather clothing, and this is the meeting point for your activities. Please note that hot water is limited in all the accommodation types.

There will be four types of accommodation when this new destination opens in 2023.

- Just a short walk from your accommodation, you'll find the resort's brand-new
  restaurant serving up mouth-watering local flavours and special delicacies from
  Lapland and the Barents Sea regions. With a continental-buffet style breakfast,
  there's something for everyone. From nutritious fresh fruit, muesli and yoghurt to
  sweet treats like pancakes, Karelian pastries and croissants. Lunch and dinner are
  equally as delicious and varied and there's plenty of options for those with dietary
  requirements. Enjoy quality family time around the table surrounded by stylish
  interiors and luxury furnishings.
- Your friendly guides will be ready to welcome you at the meeting point for all activities in the reception of the main building. Throughout the programme, your guide will also take photos of your family; a special touch offered by the Northern Lights Village to ensure these precious moments are captured forever. Copies of your photographs can be purchased from reception.
- The small village centre is located nearby if you need to purchase any extra items and there's a ski resort located 5km away. If you and your family are feeling particularly active and want to take to the slopes, the team on reception will be more than happy to organise a transfer for you.
- To alleviate packing and ensure each family member is properly kitted out for the duration of your stay, there is an onsite clothing storage providing cold weather clothing which can be collected after checking in at reception.
- For an extra charge (booked privately) you can relax in the sauna and hot tub after your day exploring the Arctic. If you're feeling especially brave, there's also the Ice Pool for you to plunge into.

### Taiga Forest Cabin

These two-bedroom idyllic log cabins are nestled amongst the snowy forest. They are ideal for larger families and offer 2 bedrooms and space for 2 more guests to sleep in the lounge area on a sofa bed. There will be 10 in total.

These spacious suites are 60m<sup>2</sup> and have their own private sauna and electric fireplace. There are fewer places we can imagine being cosier to return to after one of the exciting activities available during your stay.

These cabins effortlessly combine traditional Finnish construction with stylish and modern



Scandinavian style. Just steps outside the front door and you can breathe in the crisp forest air and enjoy the peace and tranquillity which is so hard to find in modern life.

Look no further for the epitome of the cosy cabin to be your base for your once-in-alifetime holiday to Lapland.

(Please note: The image chosen is to give an indication of the type of cabin. The finished renovation may vary). Image credit: Marijke Jansen-Peper

## Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

#### Pyhä Northern Lights Village - Aurora Cabin



The tried, tested and eternally popular Aurora Cabins feature here as at all Northern Lights Villages.

Each of the 15 cabins is 29m<sup>2</sup> and has a double or twin bed under the heated glass ceiling. Some of the cabins also have a sofa bed which allows up to 4 guests in each cabin (we would recommend a maximum of 3 adults – 4 adults would be very cosy!)

The Aurora cabins have an en-suite toilet and shower room. They have tea and coffee making facilities and a hairdryer.

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

Image Credit: Northern Lights Village

### Pyhä Northern Lights Village - Sky View Suites







These are an exciting and innovative new room type for Northern Lights Village Pyhä. Their distinctive design sets them apart from traditional accommodation.

There are 10 in total and at 35 m<sup>2</sup> they are more spacious than the Aurora Cabins. They have a large, panoramic sloped glass roof looking to the Northern sky which is also heated to melt any snowfall, as well as an electric fireplace.

There is a double or twin bed situated under the glass windows and a sofa bed for 2 additional people. The suites also have a kitchenette and dining table, although all meals are served in the hotel restaurant. They have an en-suite bathroom with shower.

### Pyhä Northern Lights Village - Aurora Suites



There will be 10 Aurora Suites hidden amongst the snowy forest scenery in Pyhä. These suites are more spacious at 44m<sup>2</sup> and sleep a maximum of 5 people (we would recommend a maximum of 4 adults – 5 adults would be very cosy!). They are being newly built for the Northern Lights Village's grand opening in December 2023. They will have the iconic glass roof to allow you to (hopefully) lie in bed and enjoy the Aurora dancing overhead.

Complementing the celestial magic, the Aurora Suites provide abundant space and comfort, making them perfect for families seeking an extraordinary getaway. Accommodating up to 5 people and featuring a private sauna, these suites blend luxury and practicality



# The Specifics

### 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: <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

