

*Lapland - Finnmark*



*Beauty of Silence*





## Lapland - Finnmark

There's a reason for why people travel long distances to get to the arctic. Many of them feel they find complete peace and tranquility. At north a person finds the time to enjoy, pamper all senses, to do pleasant things. A person finds the time for her or himself and the close-ones. Lapland and Finnmark intrigue with their uniqueness. They offer simple things that matter. The beauty of the clear outlines of the scenery, the brightly glittering clean water in the ice-cold fjeld stream or in the confidently swaying sea. The soft moist moss or the dry crackling heather under the foot. The scent of the fog in the morning, the brightness of the light in the summer night. The splash of a fish next to your boat, a curious gaze of a bird on a branch of a pine tree.

The clean arctic air is full of sounds and scents. Ripple and gurgle, song of birds, swish of you moving, and the hum of the wind. The scent of the pine, scent of the sea, scent of the swamp, scent of the crust of snow. And suddenly, it's all quiet. You're surrounded by complete silence. The confusing calm of the nature. That's when the moment pauses. The nature does it. Everyday life is so far away.



People leave the arctic all relaxed. Some of them chose the active vacation with fishing, hiking, driving, experiencing and taking part. The other one just sat there, enjoyed, listened, smelled, watched, tasted the local cuisine. Rested. And both of them leave with a smile on their face. They got something. They relaxed.





# Seasons of Nature

The north welcomes you anytime! The nature doesn't cease to amaze any time of the year. What kind of the north do you want to experience? Is it the spectrum of the million shades of colour in the autumn? The time of picking berries and collecting the mushroom, time of hunting, fishing, hiking, boating. Or does the clean bright whiteness of the winters day intrigue you more, is it the coal-black night in the blaze of the fireplace that would fulfil your dreams? Would you like to crosscountry or slalom ski, snowboard, drive a snowmobile or slide on a sleigh of a shy reindeer or a brisk husky?

Then again, the arctic light might be the most essential experience in the north. The miraculous light, that silently awakens the smallest flowers of the fjeld, opens the first leaves of the birch, picks up every plant of the soil from the ground in the spring. That light doesn't leave the nature all summer... does anyone need to sleep at all? A fox runs across the road, a reindeer fumbles the ground with its snout looking for lichen in the forest, an elk stands still on the side of the field observing the horizon. A mother bird takes care of its family, a fish leaves rings behind after a jump.

The arctic has four captivating seasons. Every one of them unique. Every one of them has so much to do, to see, to enjoy.







# Eastern Route

**Time: 10. May – 31. July**

- Day 1** Visit to a reindeer farm in Saariselkä, (Hotel Kieppi). (18)
- Day 2** Salmon fishing in the Tana River, (Comfort Hotel Tana). (14)
- Day 3** King Crab Fishing in Varangerfjord, Traditional smoke- sauna and outdoor woodheated bathtub (Nobile Hotel). (13)
- Day 4** Visit the fortress of Vardø. Check in at the Coastal Steamer at 16.30, departure Vardø at 17.00.
- Day 5** Arrival Honningsvåg 05.30 am. Visit the North Cape, Hiking to Kirkeporten (Nordkapp Turisthotell). (10)
- Day 6** Visit the Magic Theatre in Sápmi, Karasjok, (Hotel Ivalo). (16)





# Western Route

**Time: 13. January - 15. April**

- Day 1** Huskyfarm visit and short husky drive. Saariselkä, (Hotel Kieppi). (18)
- Day 2** Juhs! Silver Gallery, traditional sami silver and modern design, dinner in a traditional Lavvo (Sami tepee). Traditional joik performance after dinner. (Kautokeino Villmarksenter). (15)
- Day 3** Visit "Igloo Hotel" an ice hotel with bar, rooms and arts made by pure ice. (Quality Hotel Vica/ Nordlys Hotel Alta). (1, 2)
- Day 4** "Hammerfest" visit the world's northern most town (Quality Hotel Hammerfest/ Hotell Skytterhuset/ Repparfjord Hotel Skaidi). (7, 8, 5)
- Day 5** The North Cape. Check in at the Coastal Steamer at 06.30 am, breakfast on board, arrival Honningsvåg 11.45 am. Visit North Cape by bus, (Olderfjord hotel - Russenes Camping). (6)
- Day 6** On our way back to Ivalo we visit the magic theatre Sápmi in Karasjok (Hotel Ivalo). (16)







# Mid Route

**Time: 1. August – 30. September**

- Day 1** Gold Panning Saariselkä (Hotel Kieppi). (18)
- Day 2** Stabbursnes National Park and Information Centre (Olderfjord Hotell Russenes Camping). (6)
- Day 3** Deep sea fishing in Havøysund. (Havøysund Hotell- og Rorbuer). (9)
- Day 4** Departure with the Coastal Steamer 09.30. Visit North Cape by bus 11.45-15.15. Arrival Kjøllefjord. Visit Slettnes lighthouse (Hotel Nordkyn/ Mehamn Arctic Hotel). (11, 12)
- Day 5** Guided trip to Trollholmsund, beautiful white dolomite formations called the Troll. (Lakselv Hotell /Porsanger Vertshus). (3, 4)
- Day 6** Visit Siida, Inari (Hotel Ivalo). (16)





# Arctic Ocean Tour

**Time: 13. January - 14. April**

- Day 1** Huskyfarm, visit and short husky drive. Sauna (Hotel Kieppi). (18)
- Day 2** Visit Siida sami museum in Ivalo, Juhls Silver Gallery in Kautokeino. (Kautokeino Villmarkssenter). (15)
- Day 3** Snowmobile safari and visit to the Igloo Hotel (Nordlys Hotel, Vica Hotel Alta). (2, 1)
- Day 4** Visit to the The Northern most City in the world; Hammerfest (Hotel Skytterhuset, Quality Hotel Hammerfest, Repparfjord Hotel Skaidi). (8, 7, 5)
- Day 5** The world's most beautiful voyage Hurtigruten cruise to North Cape (departure 06.45 arrival Honningsvåg 11.45). Wine tasting, wine made of the local black crowberry (Lakselv Hotell, Porsanger Vertshus, Olderfjord Hotell). (3, 4, 6)
- Day 6** Visit Sápmi in Karasjok on your way back to Ivalo (Hotel Ivalo). (16)







## Summer Activities

The light. The water. The forest. The fjelds. These are the things that make Lapland-Finnmark area special. The summer activities are planned to bring out the best in these features. They give the visitor unforgettable experiences in the nature.

A lot of people come to Lapland-Finnmark area to fish. And this part of north is every bit worthy of all the high expectations. Just the variety of different types of fishing is impressive. That is because the area includes it all: rivers, lakes, ponds and seashore! You can choose to fish from the shore of the ocean or from a bank of the river, you can take a rowboat to catch salmon or bass or get aboard on a Norwegian fishing vessel for cod or saithe. Lapland-Finnmark area offers the ideal surroundings for a keen fisher. One can angle in freshwaters one day and do saltwater fishing by rod the next. The salmon rivers of the area are well-known among the fishermen and the Barents Sea is a source of livelihood for many locals because of its versatile offerings. So get your boots and tackle and head for the water! Catching king crabs is an adventure itself. It takes place in the autumn, when the winds are chilly but fresh.

Fish or crabs aren't the only animals that draw people to this area. Some are interested in hunting on the dry land and some rather do bird watching. The surroundings are perfect for both. Naturally the clean vast wild is perfect for various animals. Hunters pack their backpacks and take their weapons and go look for wild ducks or elks or hares. After walking hours in the fresh forest air it's wonderful to make a fire, sit down and enjoy a meal or a warm cup of coffee. It's not the kill that counts, it's the relaxing feeling that takes you over after a day of excitement in the woods.

There's also gold in Lapland-Finnmark area. Goldpanning is a very old craft that is still alive today. Goldpanning events gather big crowds every year. Professionals and first-timers. Goldpanning is an interesting and most certainly a different way to spend time in the fresh nature. We'll take you there; you can try how it feels to search for the treasure. Beautiful clear rivers and excitement makes everyone imagine: "what if..."

The nature is the inspiration for all of the activities that Lapland and Finnmark have to offer. Some of them are already presented, but there's still so much to do in summertime in these unique surroundings. You can hire boats, canoes, bicycles and of course cars and plan your own program just the way you like it.





# Winter Activities

Winter in Lapland-Finmark area is something else. Beautiful white snow everywhere, rivers and lakes covered by ice, untouched wilderness and small villages live their wintertime peacefully. But a visitor might be surprised: there's so much to do!

Snowmobile is essential in the north. You'll notice that they are used for going shopping as well as for travelling long distances in the wilderness. It's only natural that snowmobile safaris are very popular among the visitors. When you leave for a safari in the morning and come back in the evening, or after a few days, you've experienced something you'll never forget. The nature takes your breath away with its perfect lights and shapes. What completes these safaris are the stops that are made. They include a delicious meal or a hot drink to warm up the red cheeks, and give you an opportunity to stretch your legs and listen to the silence, breath in the fresh air. And naturally enjoy the view.

Another enchanting way to travel is a husky safari. Those perky little dogs are eager to take their sleighs across the woods. They melt everyone's hearts with their thick beautiful fur and button-like eyes. Don't underestimate their speed either; a team of dogs is very strong when it gets the ok to go. If you feel brave enough, you might be able to try the driving yourself, standing on the skid of the sleigh; but sitting on the sledge wrapped in warm fur isn't bad either...

When you come this far north, you must try driving a reindeer too. It makes you feel... a bit like the original Sami people. There's something authentic about the rugged boat-shaped sleigh that you're sitting in. The reindeer are much more serene than the dogs, but when they get running, you'd better know how to use that bridle...! Snow flies around and the winter sceneries run by.

You can feel the beauty of silence uniquely in the middle of the nature. When you're all alone or with a friend there's nothing to distract the sensation of fresh breeze on your face, the humming of the trees in your ears. The silence, the cleanness, the simple peacefulness take you over. Skies, snowshoes, slalom skies or even a snowboard take you there. You can choose cross-country skiing on the flat terrain, find yourself in the pine forests or on the vast plains of the fjelds. Or you can choose steep slopes and enjoy the view from the top of the mountain. Main thing is that you can take your time, do things on your own pace and really take in the winter nature.





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2   
**Nordlys Hotell**  
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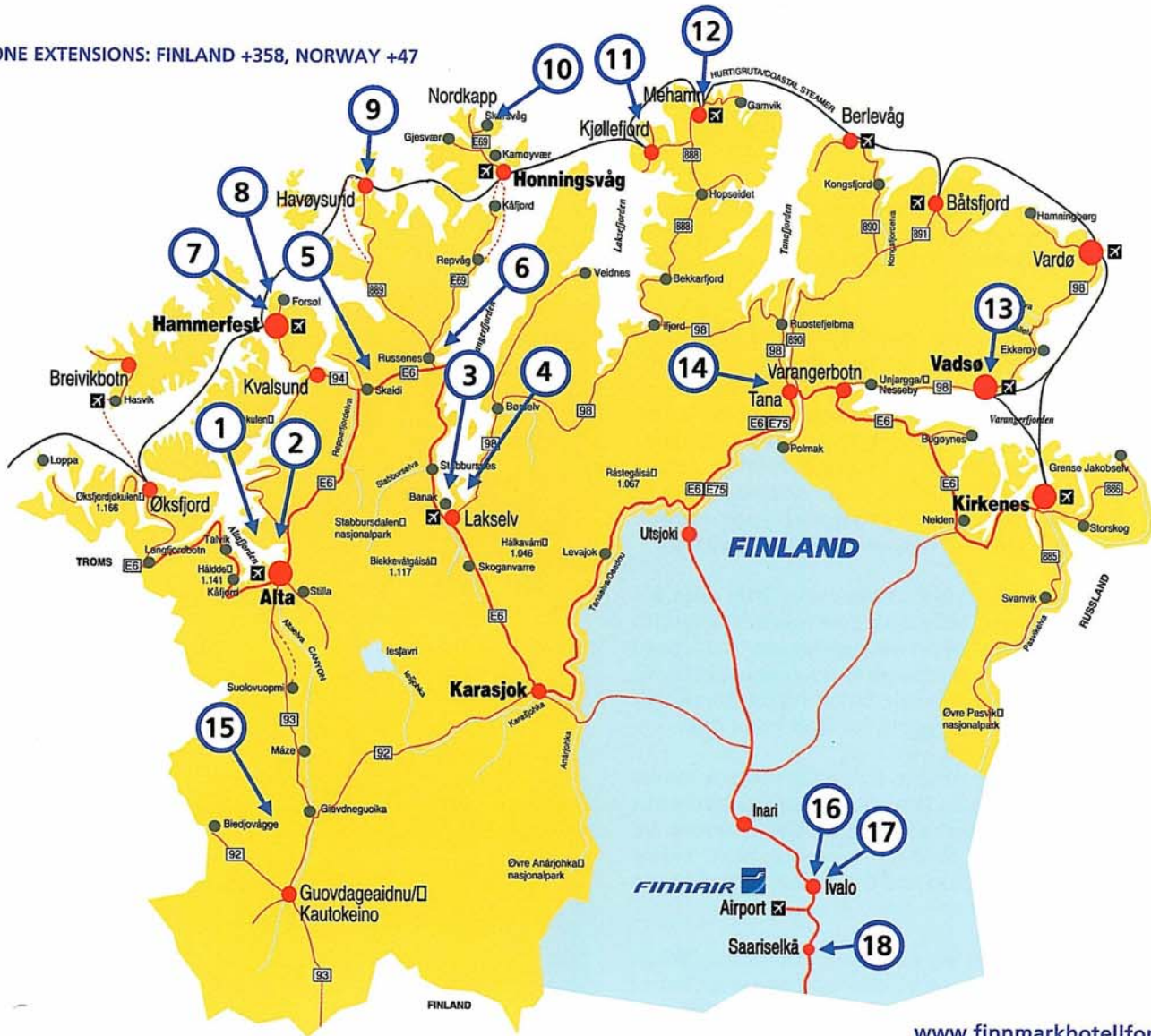
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 Hotell  
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**VERTSHUS**  
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5 **Repparfjord**  
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16   
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15 **Kautokeino**  
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14   
**Comfort Hotel Tana**  
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[www.finnmarkhotellforening.no](http://www.finnmarkhotellforening.no)

7   
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