

Torassieppi - Lakeside Auroras



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group VISITING: Finland BROCHURE CODE: 2202 DURATION: 7 nights

In Brief

Torassieppi resides in the wonderfully remote forestedfells of Finland. A 7-night stay in this secluded spot gives you an excellent chance of seeing the Northern Lights and our itinerary even includes a night in an Aurora Dome. You'll also take part in brilliant daytime activities to complete your holiday.

Our Opinion

I love the mixture of activities in this holiday. I feel it provides the perfect combination of gentle daytime activities and Northern Lights searches, all wonderfully complemented by the quaint and traditional feel of Torassieppi. The remote location means that you are in the prime spot to enjoy the stunning Lappish scenery or perhaps even the Northern Lights as they light up the night sky. Torassieppi has become one of our most popular location and this is one of our most sought

after longer trips.

Amy Hope







What's included?

ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES LISTED BELOW ARE INCLUDED IN THE HOLIDAY PRICE

- **Flights:** return flights from London Heathrow to Kittilä (via Helsinki). Direct return flights from London Gatwick are available for a supplement on certain dates. Flight routes are subject to change.
- Transfers: return airport transfers
- Accommodation: 6 nights hotel room accommodation (winter cottage upgrades are available subject to availability and supplement), 1 night in an Aurora Dome
- Meals: 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 7 dinners
- Tea and Coffee throughout your stay
- The following activities and equipment are included: visit a reindeer farm and 3km sleigh ride, Aurora campfire, 15km husky safari, local cookery course, local skills, Aurora Snow Train, snowmobile safari to sled dog centre, snowshoe hike with Arctic Elements Sauna World (the order of activities is subject to change)
- Cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- Services of expert local guides
- Services of our dedicated local representative
- Local carbon offsetting included in tree planting project nearby

Trip Overview

This holiday offers guests an escape to Lapland, a wonderfully varied schedule containing exceptional experiences, along with excellent Northern Lights viewing opportunities.

Your base will be the delightful Torassieppi Reindeer Farm and Winter Cottages. Here you will spend six nights in their hotel room accommodation (or upgrade to a cosy winter cottage) and one unforgettable night in an Aurora Dome, where you can keep watch on the sky from the comfort of your bed.

During the days you will enjoy a wonderful variety of experiences and activities. There will be adventures such as a dog sled safari and a thrilling snowmobile adventure. You will gain an insight



into local culture and life in the North during a visit to a reindeer farm, a cookery lesson, an evening with a shaman and an introduction to some local skills such as ice fishing. There will also be a snowshoe hike in the famous Pallas Fell area and a chance to relax in the Arctic Elements Sauna World.

Torassieppi's location is ideal for any Aurora hunter as it sits in a pristine lakeside location, far from any light pollution. Within moments of the hotel, you can be gazing skywards at the Northern Lights in all of their glory. You will enjoy an Aurora campfire experience and a magical Aurora Snow Train ride to aid your viewing and your night in an Aurora Dome will also provide incredible opportunities.

This holiday gives you the opportunity to see Lapland at its best, during both the night and day.

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change



Upon arrival at Kittila Airport, you will be greeted and transferred to Torassieppi, where you can check in to your accommodation. This holiday is based on staying in one of the rooms, but winter cottage upgrades are also available.

This evening you will dine in the main restaurant, where local produce is used in the dishes where possible.

Included Meals: Dinner



After a hearty breakfast, your holiday will start with a stroll to the reindeer farm, adjacent to your accommodation. Here you will meet the herder, and they will provide an insight into the lives of the animals and the role they play in the local area. Your reindeer encounters will culminate with a sleigh ride covering around 3km.

During your visit, you will also be able to explore the small on-site museum and the farmhouse which dates back to the 1800s. You'll capture a sense of what life must have been like in the Arctic before motorisation brought transportation links to this remote corner of Europe.

Your lunch will be served in a traditional wooden kota (tepee) around the fire.

There will then be some free time and the chance to explore Torassieppi Winter Village should you wish to do so. You can take in the ice bar, restaurant and rooms, which are all constructed from scratch each winter.



Dinner will be served back in the main restaurant this evening.

After your warming meal, your guide will provide you with an introduction to the Northern Lights, including some of the science and myths behind them. They will then lead you to a nearby Aurora viewpoint where you will build a fire, toast marshmallows and enjoy hot chocolate. Should conditions be favourable, you will be in a prime location for witnessing a display, and regardless, this is a wonderful way to spend an evening in the Arctic.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Today is sure to be a day of holiday highlights, as first up on your agenda is a husky safari.

Your guide will introduce you to your teams of eager huskies and will provide you with full instruction on how to handle a sled. You will then set off on the trails, travelling two people per sled, for a thrilling adventure covering around 15km. You'll cross frozen lakes, swamps and travel through the forests on your adventure and there will be the chance for your to swap drivers during the trip. Lunch will be served back at Torassieppi.

This afternoon you will have some time to relax and enjoy your surroundings.

Early in the evening, you will join your guide in the on-site kota for a memorable cookery lesson, where you will be shown how to cook some traditional local dishes. These will be served alongside the rest of your dinner menu, in the kota tonight.

Tonight is when, in most cases, guests will spend the night in their incredible Aurora Dome accommodation. The domes offer Aurora glamping at its best and are equipped with a double bed, wood burner and an electric heater. Toilet facilities are a short walk away. The raison d'etre of the domes, however, is that one of the walls is see-through, so you can admire the views of the night sky in comfort. Your dome night will be confirmed at the time of booking. If you spend a mid-week night in the dome, then you will keep your standard accommodation, should your stay be on your final night, then you will check out of your room/cottage in advance of checking in to the dome.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



This morning you will have some free time either for additional activities, independent exploration (cross-country skis and snowshoes can be rented locally) or simply in which to relax. Breakfast and lunch will be served in the restaurant as normal.

In the afternoon it is time to learn how to live like a local. You will be shown how to build a fire, make real Finnish coffee (it's rustic but great!), sample some local food and drink, and try your hand at a traditional game played by the locals.



Dinner will be served back in the restaurant.

Tonight you will head out for a magical horse-drawn sleigh ride. Travelling through the silent wilderness, you can gaze up at the sky above you and keep watch for the Northern Lights.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



A thrilling trip awaits today, as you travel by snowmobile to Torassieppi's sister hotel Harriniva, to visit the husky centre.

Snowmobiling is an ideal way to explore this region and get a real sense of the scale of the wilderness. Travelling in pairs, you will be given full instruction and a safety briefing before setting off, covering around 40km in total throughout the day.

On arrival at Harriniva, you will be given a tour of one of the largest sled dog centres in the world where you can meet the eager dogs and hear about the lives of the animals and their mushers.

Lunch will be served at Harriniva before you return to Torassieppi on your snowmobiles. Please note that you must be over 18 and hold a full driving licence to drive a snowmobile. Those under 18 will typically sit in a sled pulled by the guide's snowmobile (depends on age and height).

Dinner will be served back at Torassieppi this evening.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



This morning you will need a good breakfast ahead of an active morning of snowshoeing. You will transfer into the Pallas Fell area with your guide, a place known for its wild beauty and exceptional views. There will be a break at a local nature centre where you will gain some background knowledge about the flora and fauna, before taking to the trails on your snowshoes. Your guide will point out any animal tracks and points of interest along the way.

Next, you will head to another of Torassieppi's sister hotels, at Jeris. Here lunch will be served in the restaurant before you enjoy some well-earned relaxation in their Arctic Elements Sauna World. Visit the four saunas, each inspired by the four elements; fire, air, water and earth and named after Finnish gods and goddesses. The facilities include a traditional smoke sauna and the very brave (and healthy!) can also try a dip in the ice pool should they wish.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



DAY 7 FREE DAY

Today you can relax and unwind or choose to continue exploring (whichever you prefer). Additional activities may be available to add in locally, or you might prefer to head off on cross-country skis or snowshoes independently. The equipment can be hired locally. Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be served as normal in the restaurant.

Should you wish to end your holiday with another unique form of accommodation (this can be done on any night during your stay) then we can also arrange for your spend the night in one of the snow rooms at Torassieppi Winter Village (see the personalise section for details).

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Sadly, today you must bid farewell to Lapland, and you will be transferred to the airport for your return flight home.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Overnight at Torassieppi Winter Village

Spend a memorable night in a traditional snow igloo room within Torassieppi Winter Village. Snow structures and igloos have been used for centuries as a form of protection from the Arctic weather and whilst the outside temperatures can plummet, inside they remain more moderate.

Your surroundings may be made of snow and ice, but the thick sleeping bag and mattress will ensure a warm night.

Any required transfers, sleeping bag, hot drink and breakfast are all included. You will enjoy your



evening meal at your hotel prior to transferring to your snow igloo room in the evening at approximately 8:30/9pm. The toilet and sauna facilities are approximately 200 metres' walk away. You will check out after breakfast

Available: Monday to Sunday at 8.30/9pm

Please note: that as activity schedules can be subject to change we may be unable to confirm the exact night that you will spend at Torassieppi although every effort will be made to accommodate specific requests they cannot be guaranteed. Your final itinerary including confirmation of the date of your stay at Torassieppi will be confirmed upon arrival in Finland.

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.

Image credit: Antti Pietikäinen

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Torassieppi Reindeer Farm (Nights: 1-2,4-7)



Located on the edge of Lake Torasjarvi, and bordering the Pallas Ylläs National Park, Torassieppi Reindeer Farm is situated in one of the most picturesque wilderness areas in Finland.

The farm building dates back to 1847 making it one of the oldest in the area. Today it has been lovingly renovated and accommodation has been added nearby so that guests can stay in this spectacular spot.

Torassieppi Reindeer Farm is also listed by <u>National Geographic Travel</u> as one of the places to visit in 2017.



Here they offer guests a choice of accommodation, in winter cottage rooms or in detached winter cottages.

Facilities

- Torassieppi has a central restaurant and reception building which is a short walk from the rooms and winter cottages. A roaring fire accompanies the evening meals which include as much local produce as possible Typically they are served in a buffet format and include traditional Finnish ingredients such as reindeer (of course dietary requirements are also catered for).
- There is no bar but alcohol can be purchased from the restaurant so it can be enjoyed with your evening meal.
- The reception building also has a small gift shop area which sells a variety of local crafts, including reindeer hides and traditional carved Kuksa cups.
- There are two lakeside saunas at Torassieppi which are both heated in the evenings for guests to use. Separate facilities are provided for both men and women.
- There is free Wi-Fi in the main restaurant building.
- Tea and coffee are available free of charge throughout the day in the hotel restaurant / bar area.
- During the winter months, the nearby Torassieppi Winter Village is carved out of snow and you can personalise your stay by adding an overnight in one of the amazing snow igloos. You may also choose to add a night of Arctic glamping in one of the famous Aurora Domes, which are only a short walk away from the main building and available all year round. Please see our personalise section for further details of both options.
- A perfect spot to search for the Aurora, there are also a few wooden benches on the edge of the frozen lake, which are ideal for enjoying the expansive wilderness and hopefully a Northern Lights display or two

Room types

DOUBLE/TWIN ROOMS: Torassieppi has only eight rooms which are located a short walk from the main building. There are two rooms to each small cabin building. Each room is completely independent with their own en-suite bathroom and entrance but some rooms can be interconnecting at the guest's request. The rooms can be made up as either twin or double bedded rooms and are really cosy with all the facilities you will need to enjoy your stay including tea and coffee making facilities and hairdryers.

Image credits Harriniva Hotels & Safaris

Aurora Dome (Nights: 3)





These incredible structures are found at both Torassieppi and Jeris and they offer a rather different overnight experience for guests. Shaped like domes, these tents have pleasant, cosy décor, with one wall designed to be see-through, allowing you to gaze at the night sky in search of the Northern Lights.

Each dome has a double bed and wood-burning stove. Toilet, shower and sauna facilities are just a short walk away (around 50-100 metres).

Depending on availability, you will either stay at an Aurora Dome in Torassieppi or Jeris. For December dates at Torassieppi, you will have dinner at your hotel, prior to transferring to your dome at approximately 8:30/9pm; from early January onwards, you will check-in at approximately 4 pm and have dinner at Torassieppi. If you are staying at an Aurora Dome in Jeris, check-in is approximately 4 pm throughout the season and you will have dinner at Jeris. Any required transfers and breakfast are included.

Image credit: Antti Pietikainen and Harriniva Hotel and Safaris

Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

Torassieppi Winter Cottages





Torassieppi offers 8 detached winter cottages to which you can upgrade. The cottages are ideal for those who want more space or for larger groups of people. Located close to the main restaurant, they are only a short walk away through the snow-laden trees and close to the frozen lake beyond.

The smaller cottages contain a fireplace, living room area, toilet, shower, hairdryer and kitchenette. There are two bedrooms, one with twin beds and another with three beds (including a set of bunk beds). These can accommodate two to five people, we feel they are ideal for 3 or 4 adults.

Torassieppi also has some larger cottages and these have their own sauna in addition to the fireplaces. The larger cottages offer a living room area, toilet, shower, hairdryer and kitchenette with a kettle. They have two bedrooms which have twin beds and a sleeping alcove with bunk beds. Whilst they can sleep up to 6 people, we feel that they are most suited to 4 or 5 adults.

Please contact our Travel Experts for a quotation if you would like to upgrade to a winter cottage.

The Specifics

Holiday group size (approximate)

Approximate group size: 2-24. Please note the trip will not be private and you may be joined by others during the activities.

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 <u>booking conditions</u>.

Minimum and maximum age

If a specific minimum age applies to this holiday, it can be found in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page.

Unless otherwise stated in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page, the minimum age for participation in an Aurora Zone holiday is typically 12 years old (there may be younger children in some destinations who have booked with other companies). If an adult-only environment is important to you, then please contact our Travel Experts and they will advise on the best dates and destinations for you. If you are looking for a holiday designed specifically for families then please see our sister company <u>www.activitiesabroad.com</u>.

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.theaurorazone.com/ booking-conditions

