



# Harriniva - Northern Lights Hunter



**HOLIDAY TYPE:** Small Group  
**VISITING:** Finland

**BROCHURE CODE:** 2007  
**DURATION:** 3 nights

## In Brief

Escape the somewhat hectic period between Christmas and New Year during this 3-night trip to Harriniva. Enjoy winter activities such as snowmobiling and dog sledding and at night, take part in dedicated Northern Lights hunts. A spectacular post-Christmas break.

## Our Opinion

“ After the hectic Christmas period, this trip is the perfect antidote – a short break in a perfect winter wonderland and the chance to try out some of the very best activities Lapland has to offer. After your holiday you will have tried husky sledding, snowmobiling, met some reindeer and hopefully hunted down the Northern Lights. ”

Caitlin Varley



## What's included?

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

- **Flights:** return flights between London and Kittilä (via Helsinki). Routings are subject to change
- **Transfers:** return airport transfers
- **Accommodation:** 3 nights in a double/twin wilderness plus room at Harriniva Wilderness Hotel with the option to upgrade to a suite
- **Meals:** 3 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 3 dinners
- **The following activities and equipment are included in the price:** visit to a reindeer farm, lunch in an ice restaurant, husky safari, Northern Lights workshop, Snow Train, snowmobile safari and Northern Lights snowshoe and campfire (order subject to change)
- Cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- Services of our expert local guide and representative
- Aurora alert mobile app until approximately 1 am

## Trip Overview

This holiday offers an active short break in search of the Northern Lights, departing after Christmas and providing the chance to relax ahead of New Year. It incorporates some unforgettable activities during the day and night, as well as idyllic scenery and great Northern Lights potential.

You will stay in the wonderfully cos wilderness plus rooms at Harriniva Wilderness Hotel, a delightful Scandinavian base in North West Finland, high above the Arctic Circle. The hotel enjoys a well-deserved reputation for its exciting activities and enthusiastic guides.

This holiday includes some real activity highlights. During one of the days, you will visit a reindeer farm. You'll get an understanding of the history of herding in this region as well as enjoying a reindeer-pulled sleigh ride through the forest. You'll also experience an Arctic favourite when you try your hand as musher and go dog sledding.

As you would expect from the name of this trip, evenings will be dedicated to seeking out the Aurora. Your excursions will take you by snowshoe and the hotel's brilliant Snow Train sled to remote regions

free from light pollution. Here you can sit under the vast Arctic sky and wait for a potential Northern Lights display; hopefully, your patience will be rewarded.

We can think of few better ways to spend some time over the festive period.

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.

Image credit: Antti Pietikainen

# Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY  
1

ARRIVAL

Upon arrival in Lapland, you will be welcomed by your driver before being transferred to your accommodation at Harriniva. Located in the far north-west corner of Finland, the backdrop here is a stunning array of forest-covered fells and frozen lakes.

When you arrive at the hotel, you can settle into your room before heading to the restaurant for dinner. You'll need a good night's sleep tonight ahead of the adventures beginning tomorrow.

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**Included Meals:** Dinner

DAY  
2

VISIT TO A REINDEER FARM, HUSKY SAFARI, NORTHERN LIGHTS WORKSHOP  
AND SNOW TRAIN

On your first full day in Lapland, you will have the chance to meet the animals that the region is most famous for as you head to a nearby reindeer farm and then enjoy a dog sledding adventure.

Reindeer are of great traditional and economic importance to the region and herding is intrinsic to the way of life here. A herder will take you through the skills and customs of herding and answer any questions you may have about the animals. You will also be shown how to throw a Lappish lasso and enjoy a short ride on a reindeer-pulled sleigh through the forest.

Whilst at the farm you will enjoy lunch in an ice restaurant at the nearby Torassieppi Winter Village. Please note, lunch in the ice restaurant is dependent on conditions. If the ice restaurant is not

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

After lunch, you will go to Harriniva's Arctic Sled Dog Centre. Here, the dogs will be eagerly awaiting your arrival and the chorus of excitable barks will demonstrate this. You will meet the musher who will give you a safety briefing and advise you on how to handle the sled, before setting off on your short but exciting safari. The sudden silence which surrounds you once the dogs begin to run offers a remarkably tranquil ride, as you glide along the trails in peace. You will cover around 6km in total and two people will share a sled.

This afternoon you will attend an Aurora workshop which will introduce you to the myths, legends and science behind this natural phenomenon. The workshop will be held in a 'kota' which is a traditional wooden Sámi building.

After dinner you will head out on an exciting Northern Lights hunt. Tonight's adventure is via Harriniva's Snow Train – a snowmobile pulled carriage expertly designed with an all-Perspex exterior to give you constant views of the night sky. You'll also stop in a prime location to enjoy hot drinks and continue your search. Your location will be chosen based on the local weather and Aurora forecast for the evening, giving you the best possible chance of ticking the Northern Lights off your bucket list.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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DAY  
3

## SNOWMOBILING AND AURORA SNOWSHOE

This morning after breakfast you will be back on snowmobiles to explore the stunning landscape in the daylight hours. Covering approximately 20km, you'll travel two per snowmobile with the option to swap drivers if you are both over 18 and hold a full driving licence. Full instruction and a safety briefing will be provided before your departure.

After dinner, you will head out on your final Northern Lights excursion - a snowshoe hunt for the Aurora led by your guide. The snowshoes will give you access to a remote area where the views of the night sky are unobstructed and, with some luck, you will have the chance to witness the Northern Lights in all their glory. You'll keep warm by the campfire as you gaze up at the sky.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY  
4

## DEPARTURE

Today you will bid farewell to Harriniva as you return to the airport for your flights home.

**Included Meals:** Breakfast

# Personalise this tour

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## Our pick



### Stay in an Aurora Dome

The remarkable Aurora Domes are situated at both Torassieppi and Jeris, a location just a short transfer away, and offer a unique experience for overnight guests. These dome-shaped tents are filled with cosy features and are simple in style, with fantastic views looking out to the frozen lake beyond. The domes have been designed so that one wall is see through and therefore provides views of the night sky and, with luck, the Northern Lights.

The domes are equipped with a double bed and a wood burning stove, as well as an electric heater. Although the stove and heater will keep the dome in a warm state, we do recommend keeping additional layers to hand, in case you find yourself in need of extra warmth should the fire burn out. The toilet, shower and sauna facilities are located a short walk away (50-100m, approximately).

Clients may be allocated to either destination on arrival. Any required transfers and breakfast are included. 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 as well.

At both locations, you will check-out after breakfast.

**Please note:** the price shown is based on your spending the first or final night of your stay in a dome and therefore not requiring a hotel room or cottage. Should you wish to spend an alternative night glamping then additional supplements will apply. Please contact one of our team for a quote.

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Image credit: Antti Pietikäinen

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## Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

### Harriniva Wilderness Hotel (Nights: 1-3)



Ideally located in the north-west corner of Finland, high above the Arctic Circle and in the very heart of the Aurora Zone, Harriniva Wilderness Hotel serves as a perfect base for your adventure holiday.

Owned and run by the Pietikäinen family, the hotel has developed a growing reputation for its warm ambience and a large range of enjoyable activities on offer.

## Hotel facilities

The hotel has a range of facilities that have been designed to make your stay here as enjoyable as possible.

- There is free Wi-Fi throughout the main building for guest use, in our experience, we have found it works best in the main reception and dining area
- The hotel restaurant has a lively, buzzing atmosphere as people excitedly discuss the adventures they have taken part in that day. The meals are served in a buffet style with two or three choices for each course. The food here is hearty and wholesome
- The hotel also has a pub serving a range of beers, wines and spirits - this is the perfect place to unwind and relax with your fellow guests in the evening
- Tea and coffee are available free of charge throughout the day in the hotel restaurant / bar area.
- In the main reception area of the hotel, you will find a small gift shop selling a range of postcards, soft toys and handcrafted products. There is also a selection of snacks that can be purchased
- A sauna is available for guest use with separate facilities for men and women. This is free of charge and is heated every evening for around three hours
- The hotel also has an Aurora Wellness Centre (situated a short walk away on the riverbank), where you can enjoy a range of therapies such as facials or massages. A real treat after a day of soaking up the pristine wilderness! During peak periods, we would strongly recommend booking therapies in advance through reception (all payable locally and we recommend booking in advance if possible)
- Snowshoes and cross country skis are available to hire for a small charge and there are marked trails surrounding the hotel for those with some experience. For those interested in downhill skiing, reception will be able to arrange a taxi to the nearby ski resort of Olos (payable locally)

## Room types

## Wilderness plus rooms

Decorated in traditional Scandinavian style, these bedrooms were refurbished in 2018. The rooms include double/twin beds and an unfolding sofa suitable for 1 adult or 2 children. All rooms have an en-suite shower room and a hairdryer, as well as a small seating area.

## Double/twin rooms

Harriniva has 64 guest bedrooms which consist of twin or double rooms. Triple rooms are also available on request. Decorated in traditional Scandinavian style, all rooms have an en-suite shower room and a hairdryer.

## Wilderness Suite

Spacious wilderness style room, decorated in traditional Scandinavian style, these rooms were refurbished in 2018. Located on the ground floor, close to reception these rooms include double/twin beds and an unfolding sofa suitable for 1 adult or 2 children. All rooms have an en-suite shower room and a hairdryer, as well as a small seating area.

## Safari House

For those travelling on our longer husky or snowmobile experiences, your nights at the hotel will be spent in shared accommodation in one of Harriniva's Safari Houses. Each has sleeping facilities, a shower room, toilet and a sauna. Some safari houses are on site, whereas others are located 3km from the hotel. If you are staying off-site, you will be transferred to and from the hotel for meals.

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Image credits Emmi Kähkönen - Harriniva Hotels & Safaris

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# Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

## Harriniva Riverside Cabins



Set in a picturesque, riverside location and ranging from 39m<sup>2</sup> to 47m<sup>2</sup>, Harriniva's Riverside Cabins are ideal for larger groups, or those wanting a little more space and privacy during their trip. Each cabin sleeps five people in total, with a main bedroom for two people, a lower ceilinged loft area (accessible by a steep ladder) sleeping a further two people and a pull out sofa bed in the lounge. Fully-equipped with kitchen facilities, including a stove, dishwasher and fridge, and with a cosy living room, you can relax and enjoy your own space in complete comfort. Each cabin even has its own private sauna, perfect for keeping warm after a long day out in the cold.

Credit: Antti Pietikainen

## 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

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 [www.activitiesabroad.com](http://www.activitiesabroad.com).

## 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>