

NATURE, WILDLIFE, DESIGN & CULTURE IN THE LAND OF POLAR TWILIGHT

Footprints

ACROSS FINLAND



Visit Finland



Avanti
Destinations®

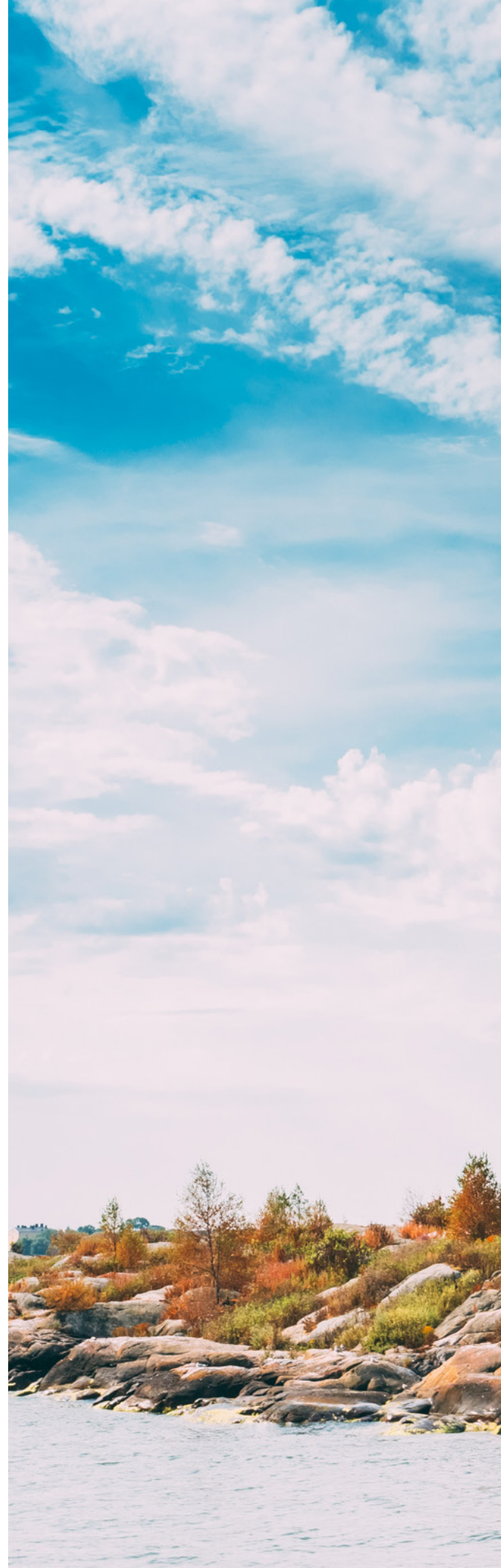
Footprints

ACROSS FINLAND

Tucked away in northern Europe lies magical Suomi, better known to most as Finland. No matter what kind of experience you are looking for, there is a gamut of travel options to sink your teeth into as you explore this beautiful Nordic country.

From white summer nights governed by the arctic 'Midnight Sun' to the spectacular dancing Northern Lights that playfully permeate the darkness of winter, Finland's remarkable year-round atmosphere makes it a must-visit destination regardless of the season.

Finland is home to gorgeous expansive wilderness, progressive cities renowned for impeccable design and technology, innovative cuisine, and a wealth of charming activities and attractions.





Helsinki

The capital of Finland, the country's sole metropolis, is a well-renowned city with an influential cultural scene that excels at design, architecture, music, and the culinary arts. Helsinki ranks as one of the most livable cities in the world, and this becomes increasingly evident the more you explore the progressive but laid back seaside capital and sample everything it has to offer.

Helsinki's reputation as a 'city of architecture' is based on two factors. The first is Finland's 800-plus years of architectural history that covered styles like Nordic Classicism, Art Nouveau, and Functionalism. Buildings like Helsinki Cathedral, the Government Palace, and Sederholm House reflect designs that are typically found in places like Sweden or Russia. The second factor is the modernist movement that heavily shaped Helsinki's electrifying urban-scape, exemplified by innovative works such as Finlandia Hall, Temppeliaukio Church, and the Amos Rex Museum.

You will find it easy to explore the compact central area by foot, and be rewarded with the abundance of attractions that include museums, quality restaurants, bars, shops, and other interesting establishments; many of them within walking distance from each other. If you find yourself in a bar, a concert, or any type of social situation, you will quickly discover that the amiable Finns do love to party—even if they may seem initially quiet and reserved.

For outgoing travelers who are pining to experience more of Finland's vast and pristine natural environment, Helsinki is a fantastic place to start and end adventures. The surrounding areas of the capital are home to sprawling national parks, lush forests, gorgeous lakes, and a coastline dotted by numerous islands—all of which are conveniently accessible from every part of the city and offer plenty of outdoor activities and relaxation options regardless of the season. There is definitely something for everyone to enjoy each day of the year.




'Sauna' is the only Finnish word that has been internationally recognized and adopted in other languages. Saying that sauna is an intrinsic part of Finland's culture and heritage is a massive understatement. In Finland, more important decisions are made inside a sauna than in a boardroom! With more than 3 million saunas in the country, relaxing inside one is a great way to chat with the locals and is arguably the best way to understand Finland and the daily life of its people.



Finland's cuisine has always been about locally sourced, seasonal, farmed, and foraged ingredients—long before such parameters became the benchmark of haute cuisine that countless chefs aspire to emulate. Typical dishes involve wild game, fish, mushrooms, or berries. Local specialties are a blend of innovative concepts, traditional techniques, and long-standing principles. Events like the Helsinki Street Food Festival showcase the best of what Finnish flavors can offer to discerning and adventurous palates.

A full-page photograph of the Helsinki Cathedral, a neoclassical building with a large green dome and white columns. In the foreground, there is a large stone staircase leading up to the entrance, flanked by ornate black lampposts. A large green statue of a man in military uniform stands on a pedestal in the center of the steps. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

The Famous Helsinki Cathedral



Helsinki is a vibrant economic and social hub that effectively straddles the line between technology and nature, progress and tradition, as well as the old and the new.

Defined by its striking multi-era architecture, strong design foundation, vibrant cultural pulse, and reputation as an ideal place to live, Helsinki distinguishes itself from other cities along the Baltic Sea. The pocket-sized capital has a lot to offer to travelers—an array of memorable experiences tempered with the city’s steady and relaxed pace, stark seasonal contrasts, and influential aesthetic sensibilities.

The Design Walk: Due to 20th century luminaries such as Alvar Aalto, Finland is a leading light on contemporary design—and Helsinki figures prominently as the creative hub. Experience firsthand how Finland’s functional and stylish signature extends beyond visual aesthetics and integrates seamlessly into everyday life. You will explore relevant places such as the aptly named Design District, with a visit to Helsinki’s excellent Design Museum. Stroll through this beautiful area lined with art galleries, workshops, and boutiques that offer unique items.



Biking in Helsinki

Do as the Finns do and explore the capital by bike. Accompanied by a private guide, roam freely around Helsinki’s well-planned cycling paths, allowing you to leisurely check out well-known attractions and hidden gems one pedal at a time. Bike through superb green areas, well-maintained parks, and downtown Helsinki to notable venues like Finlandia Hall and the Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art.



Sauna Experience

Choose between two unique and authentic Finnish sauna experiences—one is by bike; the other is set in a popular communal establishment.



Distillery Tour

Finnish spirits are a part of the country's culture. Tour a popular distillery and sample their offerings like aquavit or gin.

Helsinki



Helsinki Regional Highlight

4 Days / 3 Nights

Discover Finland's culture and explore all its capital has to offer. Bike around the city like a local, stroll through the Design District, learn about and taste Finnish spirits.

- ◆ 3 Nights Accommodations
- ◆ Helsinki Card - 72 Hours
- ◆ Private Helsinki by Bike Tour
- ◆ Private Distillery Experience with Tasting
- ◆ Daily Breakfast



Connect the Capitals

4 Days / 3 Nights

Take in the vibrant energy of two scintillating Scandinavian capitals—Helsinki and Stockholm—and an overnight stay on a well-equipped modern cruise ship.

- ◆ 1 Night Helsinki & 1 Night Stockholm
 - ◆ Overnight Cruise
 - ◆ Daily Breakfast
- *Can start either from Helsinki or from Stockholm



Lapland

More than just fairytales

Rovaniemi

Just beyond the Arctic Circle, Rovaniemi is the ultimate winter holiday destination, ideal for both families and solo adventurers. Surrounded by the stunning northern tundra, this is the gateway to exciting adventures involving husky or reindeer safaris, snowmobiles, and the iconic aurora borealis!

Kemi

Historically an industrious port town, Kemi has emerged as a key winter destination in Finland, thanks to its gorgeous surroundings, abundant snow, and numerous attractions such as the Snow Castle or the Sampo Icebreaker. Connected to Helsinki by both plane and train, Kemi has become a convenient escape into a culturally rich Lapland.

Saariselka

The northernmost ski resort in Finland, Saariselka is the gateway to Urho Kekkonen National Park. This lush region is surrounded by pristine national parks, attracting visitors with many outdoor activities and an insider's look into the culture of the area. Enjoy the winter wonderland or visit during summer, when the sun does not set for two whole months.

Ivalo

For a truly off-beat Finnish destination, set out to Ivalo, a quiet town with a genuine charm. Travel to the Inari district is ideal for marveling at the Northern Lights, enjoying snow activities, or interacting with the Sami culture, which continues to thrive in these lands. Just a short flight from Helsinki, Ivalo is certainly worth the detour.



Sami Culture

The only indigenous culture of Europe, the Sami people live a unique lifestyle in the northern tundra covering areas of Finland, Sweden and Norway. Reindeer husbandry is still the primary occupation in Lapland, and the deep bond between the Sami and these creature goes back centuries. With a unique language, customs, and crafts, it is a privilege to sit amongst them and learn their ancient traditions.



Snow Activities

Skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling: Winter in Lapland starts in November and can last up until May, making it ideal for many winter activities. Set out skiing, snowshoeing through the Lappish tundra, or ride a snowmobile during one of the different safaris. Bring life to the vacation with these active adventures while spending quality time in the frozen lands of northern Finland.



Santa Claus Village

Visiting Santa has never been so easy! Just a short drive away from Rovaniemi, Santa Claus' village is a magical place right on the edge of the Arctic Circle. Children can personally meet Santa Claus and enjoy a variety of activities, while adults can stop by Christmas exhibitions, restaurants or the famous Christmas Post Office. A unique experience, bound to reawaken the passion for the holiday spirit.



Aurora Borealis

In Finnish folklore, it is said that the arctic fox would run so fast that sparks would rise up and create blazing colors dancing in the night sky, the Northern Lights. A must-see for any traveler at least once in their lifetime, Lapland offers various expeditions and accommodations to hunt for this unique spectacle. Venture past the Arctic Circle and marvel at this majestic natural phenomenon, shrouded in legend.

Rovaniemi & Kemi

Rovaniemi

As the provincial center of Lapland and home of Santa Claus, Rovaniemi enjoys the attention of visitors from all over the world. Just on the edge of the Arctic Circle, it is a lively university town and gateway to the northern lands, where travelers can enjoy a variety of winter activities such as dog sledding, and snowshoeing, along with the opportunity to witness the majestic Northern Lights.

Kemi

Kemi is an exciting Lappish destination with a unique appeal due to its industrious character. A perfect family retreat regardless of the season, this city shines the brightest during winter. Each year, the Snow Castle steals the spotlight with more elaborate sculptures, designs, and architecture. Kemi is an ideal place to enjoy snow activities while delving into the authentic Finnish lifestyle.



Rovaniemi



Rovaniemi Regional Highlight

3 Days / 2 Nights

Enjoy the Christmas spirit year-round, with husky and reindeer sledding in winter, and the midnight sun or berry picking during summer.

- ◆ Private Transfers
- ◆ 2 Nights Accommodations
- ◆ Midnight Sun Experience
- ◆ Summer Santa Claus Safari by Boat
- ◆ Daily Breakfast

Monday - Saturday, June - September





Northern Lights

At nightfall, explore the idyllic tundra in search of a unique natural phenomenon. An orchestra of color that can appear and shy away at any moment, the Northern Lights have been the subject of legends and myths for centuries. Embark on your aurora hunt by car or by snowmobile, or even husky sled. Learn more about Lapland over a cozy fire and wait patiently under the starry sky.



Ice Breaker Sampo

Head out to the frozen seas of the Gulf of Bothnia, aboard the steel giant known as Icebreaker Sampo. Experience the impressive battle between metal and ice, visit the engine room along with the captain's bridge, and get the dare to jump into the freezing water while wearing a high-tech waterproof suit. An exciting afternoon aboard the vessel that literally carved the way for countless merchant ships.

Dinner at Sky Ounasvaara Panorama Restaurant

Indulge in an exquisite 3-course menu of modern Lappish cuisine in one of the most awarded restaurants in Lapland. With a bit of luck, the Aurora Borealis will appear during dinner for an opportunity to view the natural light display from the rooftop terrace.

Snowmobiling

Whether hunting Aurora Borealis or on the Santa Claus Safari, a snowmobile ride is always an exciting adventure. Ride over frozen lakes to a typical reindeer farm, taking in the magic of these fairytale lands, seldom seen by Americans. No matter the route, a divine silence reclaims the surroundings once the snowmobile engines are off.



Go 365: Winter in Rovaniemi 4 Days / 3 Nights

Meet Santa Claus, engage on exciting husky or snowmobile safaris and learn more about the unique Sami culture. All of this and more in exciting Rovaniemi!

- ◆ Private Transfers
- ◆ 3 Nights Accommodations
- ◆ Shared Santa Claus Safari
- ◆ Shared Husky Safari
- ◆ Daily Breakfast



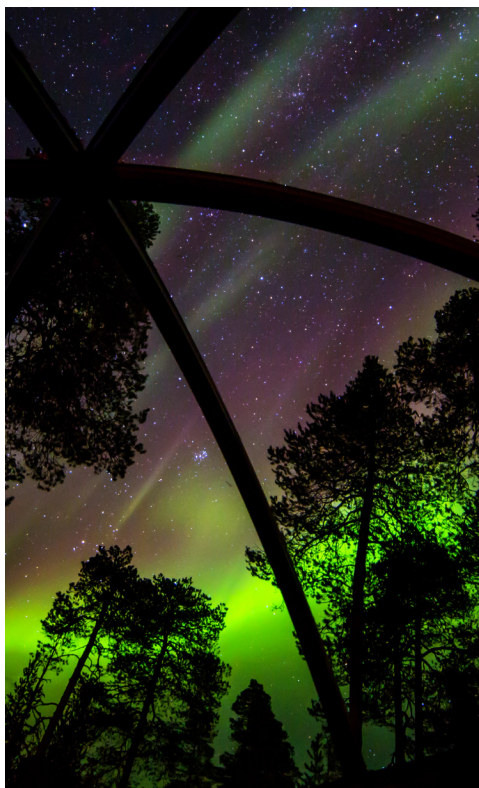
Inari, Saariselkä & Ivalo

Saariselkä



Northern Lights Village

Witness the magic of the Northern Lights from the comfort of your own aurora cabin. The Milky Way stretches over the large roof window while you relax in a warm bed, waiting for the sky to set ablaze with color.



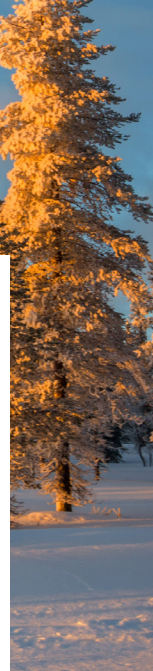
Nellim Wilderness Lodge

In a rustic lakeside hotel in the small village of Nellim explore the unspoilt nature and enjoy the Northern Lights on a tour and from the Aurora cabins.



Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort

Only 30 minutes away from Ivalo Airport, this family owned hotel is an idyllic retreat, perfect to enjoy the beauty of the Lappish wilderness. Stargazing from the specially designed glass igloos and cabins has never been better.



Sami Culture

Includes Reindeer Experience

Discover the Sami culture, rich in subsistence lifestyle and traditions. Ride a snowmobile over Lake Inari to visit a picturesque church or stop by Ivalo with the Siida Museum, showcasing the history and lifestyle of this unique culture.



Special Inclusions:

Nellim Wilderness Hotel:

Includes half board, outdoor clothing rental, and one activity per stay.

Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort:

Includes half board, one activity per night, and a mandatory 3 night minimum during holiday season.

Reindeer and Husky Safaris

Explore the Lappish wilderness in the most authentic way possible. Learn how to maneuver either the reindeer or husky and set out into the frozen tundra, past the Arctic Circle. The Sami people have shared a deep bond with these majestic animals, and travelers can immerse themselves in the authentic cultural responsibility at their reins.

Ruka-Kuusamo

A retreat for the soul, the untouched wilderness
captivates with an immense beauty.



Summer Adventures

The short summer season in Ruka-Kuusamo depicts the area in a whole new light. Days are long, temperatures are pleasant, and the countryside radiates beautiful shades of green. Active travelers can look forward to nature expeditions such as fishing, berry picking and quad bike rides. For those looking to relax, exquisite local dinners can be enjoyed outdoors, on a river cruise or at a panoramic restaurant, admiring the midnight sun.



Winter Activities

During the winter, Ruka-Kuusamo is a hub of snow activities from November to May. Eager travelers in search of the Northern Lights can venture out by snowmobile, reindeer or husky sleds. Children are excited about the winter activities, and many look forward to a peaceful retreat in the heart of the wilderness. For the curious visitors, Finland does not disappoint.



Oulanka National Park

Hike on some of the most beautiful trails of Oulanka National Park. Choose between Myllykoski Rapids and Small Bear's Trail and soak in the area's rugged and peaceful beauty. Stripped from a fairytale, the nature captivates its visitors with every step taken along roaring waters or over suspended bridges. Let the surrounding silence take over and enjoy a day through the Finnish paradise.



A Finnish Wellness Experience

Sauna plays a crucial role in Finnish culture, with the insight of an expert guide, visit a certified, traditional sauna for an authentic experience. Visitors can also enjoy the outdoor Jacuzzi, and the brave and daring can attempt a dip in the ice hole! A well-deserved traditional Lappish buffet awaits after this revitalizing experience.



Fantastic Finland

10 Days / 9 Nights

Book the complete Finland experience, from the exciting capital to northern Lapland!

- ◆ Private Roundtrip Transfers
- ◆ 3 Nights Helsinki, 2 Nights Ruka or Kuusamo, 2 Nights Rovaniemi & 2 Nights Kemi
- ◆ Helsinki Card - 48 Hours
- ◆ Private Helsinki Walking Tour
- ◆ Ice Fishing or Sauna Experience
- ◆ Santa Claus Safari
- ◆ Icebreaker Cruise with Snowmobile Safari
- ◆ Daily Breakfast



Lappish Dinner

Enjoy a traditional dinner like no other at an intriguing underground restaurant hidden in the forest. Arrive at Kontioluola (Bear's Cave), and sip on a welcome drink at the ice bar (seasonal), before indulging in an authentic Lappish meal. Dinner is made with only local ingredients, such as local fish, berries, and Lapland-style reindeer for a delicious taste of Lapland.



Bear Watching

A great opportunity to cross bear watching off the bucket list. This tour will take you to a safe hut in a beautiful Lappish forest, where you can admire this imposing animal in its natural habitat, along with other creatures such as wolverines, elk, and eagles. Snacks are available during the experience while nature continues its course, despite the curious eyes.



Finland is an eye opener to a different kind of travel.
Genuine, stimulating, unique.



Snowmobile Safari



Finland Adventure - Winter **5 Days / 4 Nights**

A collection of the best Lappish experiences that will captivate any eager adventurers.

- ◆ Private Roundtrip Transfers
- ◆ 4 Nights Ruka or Kuusamo
- ◆ Choice of Northern Lights Tour by either Snowshoe or Sled
- ◆ Snowmobile Safari
- ◆ Ice Fishing or Sauna Experience
- ◆ 1 Lappish Dinner Experience
- ◆ Daily Breakfast



Oulanka National Park



Finland Adventure - Summer **5 Days / 4 Nights**

This retreat in the gorgeous nature of Lapland is ideal for both families and solo travelers.

- ◆ Private Roundtrip Transfers
- ◆ 4 Nights Ruka or Kuusamo
- ◆ Hiking Tour in Oulanka National Park
- ◆ Choice of River Rafting or Berry Picking and Baking
- ◆ Bear Watching Experience
- ◆ Daily Breakfast

A scenic landscape of a Finnish lake. In the foreground, a calm body of water reflects the sky and the surrounding forest. On the left, a cluster of trees shows vibrant autumn foliage in shades of orange and yellow. The background is a dense forest of tall, dark green coniferous trees. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

Footprints

ACROSS FINLAND



Visit Finland

NATURE, WILDLIFE, DESIGN & CULTURE IN THE LAND OF POLAR TWILIGHT