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Northern Lights, Ice Hotels & Huskies

# **Experience Lapland in the Arctic Circle**

### Go reindeer sledding through the snowy wilderness and stay in the extraordinary ICEHOTEL

Join us in the Arctic Circle, Lapland, and meet the Sami people, drive a reindeer sled, enjoy huskie rides, snowshoeing and at night time, drive your snowmobile on a safari to dine in a cabin in the forest wilderness. Jump on an icebreaker ship and do a 'dry suit' swim in the frozen Baltic Sea. Stay in Santa's cottages, Kemi's extraordinary Glass Villas and an amazing Ice Hotel. Visit an Ice castle, dine in an Ice restaurant and gaze in awe at the Aurora Borealis – the Northern Lights - dancing a slow ballet above you... what an adventure!

- This tour has a baggage restriction of 23kg per person checked baggage and 8kg per person hand luggage due to the internal flights that form part of this tour. Any excess baggage is to be paid locally per flight by the traveller directly and is subject to the carriage conditions of the airline. Albatross Tours is not liable for any additional luggage costs incurred while travelling Travel in a first-class air-conditioned touring coach
- Welcome drink in Helsinki and at the ICEHOTEL
  18 meals including buffet breakfast daily (B), 2 lunches (L) and 8 evening meals (D)
- Free WiFi at most hotels (where available) 8 nights authentic, specially selected hotel accommodation as described Hotel porterage of 1 bag per person (where available)
- ALL tips for your Tour Manager, Driver and Local Guides Local guides as described in the itinerary Fully escorted by our experienced Tour Manager
- $\red{S}$  All excursions, internal flights, drives, sightseeing, activities and entrances as described



### Helsinki – meet your fellow Arctic Adventurers

Day 1

Original Sokos Hotel Vaakuna



Your tour commences this evening in the cosmopolitan city of Helsinki. Before dinner, enjoy a welcome drink in the hotel with your Tour Manager and fellow Arctic Adventurers.

## Rovaniemi and Santa Claus Holiday Village

Day 2

Santa Claus Holiday Village



Today we fly north to Rovaniemi – the gateway city to Lapland. After 'My Time' to explore Rovaniemi, we visit the award winning Arktikum Museum of Science and Lapland Culture to learn about the mysterious Aurora Borealis and the indigenous Sami people. We spend the next two nights in Santa Claus' village, located literally on the Arctic Circle. Far from corny, this is such a great place to stay and here you will be amazed to discover a whole township of shops, wooden cabins, bars, restaurants. Dinner tonight is included.

## Reindeer rides, Snow Shoe walking on the Arctic Circle

Day 3

Santa Claus Holiday Village

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Dressed in Arctic weather clothing – rather like big quilted boiler suits, boots, hats and mittens – we visit the Arctic Reindeer Centre. Sitting beside a log fire in a large wooden igloo you will enjoy a warm drink and a 'reindeer' talk before learning to drive your own sleigh (two people per sleigh) on a circuit through the snow-covered woods. Later you will put on snow shoes and step out and trek over deep snow through the nearby woods. It is so easy, and the quietness when walking over such light snow is wonderful. The rest of the day is free in the Arctic Circle complex. Time for a warming mulled wine or Akvavit? Dinner tonight is included.

### Kemi, an Ice Castle dinner and Glass Villas

Day 4

Kemi Seaside Glass Villas, Finland

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First stop will be in the centre of Kemi, located on the frozen Baltic Coast. Later we settle into our amazing Glass Villas which are set beside the frozen Baltic Sea! Make sure you take a walk out over the ice sheets, across to one of the frozen islands. Next it is time to visit and explore the Ice Castle with its snow hotel. Later we enjoy a unique dining experience starting with appetizers by the ice tables inside the all-year-round SnowExperience365 built completely out of snow & ice. Dinner continues in the warmth of the Seaview Restaurant Lumihiutale.

## Ride on a Baltic Ice Breaker and swim with icebergs

Day 5

Kemi Seaside Glass Villas, Finland

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Your morning is free to relax and explore. Subject to daily availability, you may be able to arrange ice fishing or for the thrill seekers, Ice Karting. Later we board an Ice Breaker cruise to carve a path out through the thick sea ice. A buffet lunch is included onboard. Way out at sea, the ship will smash an open water pool. Time for a swim! Putting on 'dry suits' you can jump in the water to float and swim amongst the broken ice flows. Your dry suits are incredibly warm, and you actually put them on over your clothes. Snug as a bug, they are incredibly buoyant, and you do not even need to swim as you can just lay back and float amongst the ice chunks like 'Teletubbies'. A stunning experience.

### The Jukkasjärvi ICEHOTEL and Sámi village

Day 6

ICEHOTEL, Jukkasjärvi, Sweden



Entering Sweden's vast forested wilderness we arrive into Jukkasjärvi, which means 'meeting by the water'. For centuries the local Sámi tribes have come together here and at the Nutti Sámi Siida culture and reindeer park we take a guided walk through the reconstructed village and cultural centre. Next stop, our incredible ICEHOTEL! Why do we choose to stay in this particular 'ICEHOTEL'? It's easy – Time Magazine listed this ICEHOTEL among the top 100 places to see on our entire planet! That's why! Each year when the wild River Torne freezes deeply, they cut out the clear Arctic ice to build an absolutely astonishing ice complex. Each summer the ice melt flows naturally back into its source.

Set in a picturesque winter wonderland setting, with dry powdery snow drooping off laden branches of birch and fir trees, the landscape promises winter walks along forested pathways and amazing adventures on frozen lakes and rivers. In this complex you will also discover wooden cabins, reception areas and restaurants. In the Riverside Lobby with its open fire, changing rooms and saunas, we collect our full Arctic weather clothing, complete with ice boots, balaclavas and mittens, which you will wear on your adventures over the next two days.

On our guided IceHotel tour, we will explore the giant white hallways with frozen pillars and ice chandeliers, the wedding chapel with its ice pews, and the bedrooms and suites lovingly carved by Ice Artists. One might have a giant gorilla bursting out of the wall, another frozen jelly fish dangling above you, some... the list goes on! Time for a welcome drink in the fantastic ICEBAR, with glasses made of ice, of course! Tonight, dinner is in a delightful warm, wooden cabin which is ranked in the top 3 restaurants in Swedish Lapland. To fully appreciate this unbelievable hotel, go to www.IceHotel.com

#### Please note for our 2 night stay at ICEHOTEL:.

First night, you sleep in the frozen ICEHOTEL. A fabulously surreal experience where you will be 'snug as a bug' in very warm Arctic thermal sleeping bags (tested to -40°C). Your bed is an ice platform insulated with reindeer pelts to keep you warm in your -5°C to -7°C room. It is actually warmer inside your room than outside! In the morning you are awakened with a steaming cup of lingonberry juice.

Second night, enjoy your stay in the excellent Kaamos (warm) hotel rooms, housed in wooden single floor houses. \*Please note: There is no power supply in the Ice Rooms at the ICEHOTEL.

#### Husky Ride and Northern Lights Snowmobile Safari

This morning it is time to say farewell as your winter wonderland adventure ends.

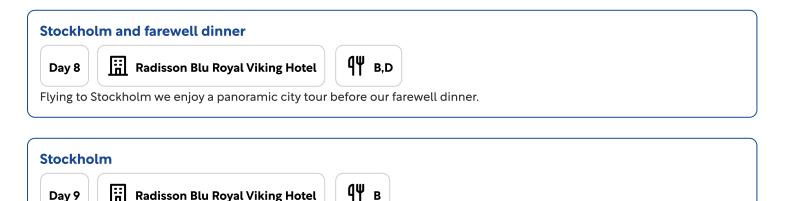
Day 7

ICEHOTEL, Jukkasjärvi, Sweden

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This morning we ride with huskies into the wilderness. Climbing aboard – 4 four people to a sleigh – we chase along the frozen River Torne and into the unspoiled wilderness. Their breath billowing like smoke in the sub-freezing morning air, we follow forested pathways twisting this way and that and then stop at a small wooden igloo where a fire is built for our coffee and biscuits.

After lunch, your afternoon is free back at the hotel. Relax and enjoy 'My Time'. Tonight we will enjoy an escorted night time snowmobile safari chasing the Aurora Borealis. With two people per snowmobile, we drive deep into the wilderness, far away from any civilisation or light pollution. Stopping regularly, your expert 'Northern Lights' guide will talk about this remarkable phenomenon and the surrounding pristine countryside. Dinner will be in a wooden cabin in the forest. What a terrific farewell to Lapland.



#### Hand Selected Experiences

These are just a few of the very special hand selected experiences that will really make your touring experience exceptional and unique, and don't forget, with Albatross they are always included.



Aurora Borealis Go Aurora spotting



Arctic Reindeer Centre Go reindeer sledding



Snow Shoe Walk Through the Local Countryside



Ice Breaker Cruise Baltic Ice Breaker & swim with icebergs



Sámi Village Visit the Sámi Village Cultural Park



Jukkasjärvi Stay in the famous ICEHOTEL



ICEHOTEL Ice Bar Enjoy a drink in the famous Ice Bar



Husky Ride Ride with huskies in the Swedish wilderness



**Snowmobile Safari** Enjoy an escorted night time safari

### **Dates and Prices**

Correct as of 22:22 on 29th July 2025

Start Date	End Date	Twin Price	Solo Price	
13 Mar 2026	21 Mar 2026	AUD\$11,987	AUD\$14,987	Space Available

\* Dates, prices, itineraries and hotels shown may be subject to change on specific departures. Please contact our European Tour Specialists for further details.

#### **Tour Suitability**

- Qur Christmas, New Year and Northern Lights tours travel throughout the European winter months. The weather can get cold, and roads and pathways can be slippery. When outdoors, please take extra care when navigating slippery surfaces.
- We recommend sturdy waterproof shoes with good grip (hiking shoes, rather than sneakers), thick socks, a woollen beanie, thermal underclothes, gloves and sunglasses. Walking poles can be helpful to give you more confidence, if desired. Layering some light clothes is advisable, as you will often come in from the picturesque cold to warm spaces inside, so layering enables you to adjust to each environment for your optimal comfort. You will also be very comfortable when travelling as your modern touring coach is fitted with heaters and double glazed windows. Once you arrive at your hotel you will be greeted with a warm and comfortable atmosphere.
- The 'Northern Lights' are absolutely at the behest of nature. We will be staying virtually a week in the north of Scandinavia and at some of the very best Aurora spotting locations to be found. We even go on an Aurora snowmobile safari. The chances of catching a wonderful display are very high however, as you will understand, cannot be guaranteed.
- Due to the nature of some of the included excursions on these tours, this tour may not be suitable for anyone with mobility limitations. On these tours you may encounter deeper snow fields, uneven surfaces and icy pathways. These tours are are not suitable for travellers who are unable to walk without assistance.

Yelease contact our European Tour Specialists to discuss your specific needs.

Please refer to our Tour Suitability section for more information.

#### **Terms & Conditions**

 Information provided is true and correct at time of issue. Airfares not included. For further details please contact your consultant or full terms and conditions may be found at www.albatrosstours.com.au/booking-conditions. Albatross Tours ABN 45 010 585 143. ATIA Accreditation No: A11341. CATO Accreditation No. 69562707