

ROVANIEMI - CLOSE TO NATURE

***3 NIGHTS, 4 DAYS IN ROVANIEMI**



Rovaniemi is the lively capital of Finnish Lapland and embraces two major rivers right on the Arctic Circle. This international city is developing constantly and has always been a gateway to Lapland. Here, modern services join cultural and natural elements to form a unique totality. The wilderness of Lapland is a mere ten minutes from the city center, beckoning adventurers to come to its untouched expanses.

Day 1 - Welcome to Lapland, reindeer safari and accommodation in Glass Igloos

Upon arrival at Rovaniemi airport meet & greet by a safari guide.

Outfit delivery to the airport, to a special dressing room.



Reindeer-drawn sleds are the most traditional form of transport in Lapland. The excursion begins directly from the airport, you will first be equipped with winter clothing and off you go, two persons sharing one reindeer sleigh. Safari takes you through wintry forests to a local reindeer farm where lunch will be served. Before continuing to the glass igloos by bus, Arctic Circle crossing ceremony with personal certificate is performed by the host of the farm.

Duration of the reindeer safari 30- 45 min. Total program duration appr. 2 hours.

After reindeer safari and lunch coach transfer (15 minutes) to glass igloos.

Dinner is served at an amazing wilderness Lodge **KARHUNPESÄ, BEAR'S DEN**. Built in 1967 Bear's Den is a wilderness-spirited, high-grade log house 30 kilometers (ca. 19 miles) from the city of Rovaniemi. Its history is written by many remarkable visitors, one of whom was Urho Kekkonen, the President of the Republic of Finland 1956-1981.

Dinner of 3-courses is served.



After dinner 10 minutes transfer to Glass Igloos to overnight.

You can admire the sky from the glass roof of your igloo. Each of the igloos have own toilet and twin beds. You don't need to stay awake for the whole night, to be able to see Northern Lights as hotel has an special "aurora alarm" button on in the igloo. Beeping sound will wake you up in the middle of the night in case we find aurora borealis dancing in the sky!

Day 2 - Full day Snowmobile safari with ice-fishing and outdoor lunch

Finnish buffet breakfast is served in a restaurant.

Meet your safari guides and shortly after briefing of driving technique and safety rules you start your day with snowmobile safari. Two persons share one snowmobile, taking turns in driving. This is a modern way of moving in the snow-covered woods and has become also a part of everyday life for the Lapps.



Departure for a snowmobile safari through the wilderness. Arrival to the wilderness lake, where everybody can try their luck in ice-fishing. The catch will be prepared as a delicious snack by an open fire.



In winter time fishing is not so easy when rivers and lakes are frozen. Fish is, however, delicious and nice dish to enjoy also during the winter. First you have to make a hole in the ice with a help of a drill, then drop the line with hook and bait through it and wait for the catch with patience. While fishing it's important to keep the hole open that it won't freeze up. If that happens the line gets stuck, and you will end up with nothing but an empty stomach.



Outdoor lunch + coffee

Continuing snowmobile safari towards town of Rovaniemi. Program duration 5 hours.

Accommodation at magical Arctic Light Hotel. Hotel's room are well-equipped with warm and impressive design, something very different, out of normal.

In the evening there will be private coach transfer (15 minutes) to the **SNOWLAND**

The village is lighted with fires and lanterns and the dinner is served in a real Igloo restaurant. Guests are sitting on benches covered with reindeer pelts and the dinner is served on tables made of ice. The roof of the igloo is like a starry sky. Dinner + coffee



Day 3 - Visit to Husky farm and Arktikum

Finnish buffet breakfast is served in hotel restaurant. Meet with the guides at the hotel lobby. Today you will first visit a local **HUSKY FARM** where friendly huskies welcome to the group. Everyone can enjoy a husky ride in a sledge hauled by the husky team.



For centuries, people living in the Arctic have relied on a strong and tenacious partner; the Arctic sled dog, the husky to transport the catch of the hunt or medicines in harsh condition across inaccessible terrain. This visit gives you opportunity to experience something unique; the ties between the musher and the dogs formed on a joint expedition into the wilderness. You soon learn that behind its icy-blue gaze is a friendly canine character who works closely with people.

Traditional Lappish lunch is served at the farm in Kammi restaurant.



Program duration 4 hours.

Transportation back to the hotel. Time to relax.

In the afternoon meet your guide in the hotel lobby. A short walk to the **ARKTIKUM MUSEUM**. Arktikum is a science centre, museum, unique architectural sight and a meeting and conference centre. Arktikum focuses on the Arctic regions and presents life, natural habitats, history, customs and cultures of the peoples living north of the Arctic Circle.

The building itself is an unique architectural sight, opened in 1992 and designed by architects Bonderup and Lehtipalo. The glass-roofed passageway, its' most visible structure, is 174 metres long and cut off by a 30-metre wide section of the highway.

The visit and guided tour takes approximately 1,5 h.



In the evening meet with the guide at hotel lobby. Coach transfer to **VILLAMARIA** for the dinner



The unique Villa Maria is a traditional log-built farmhouse on the shores of the Ounasjoki River. Beautifully cherishing Finnish traditions, the venue provides a cosy setting for the dinner.

After dinner transfer back to the hotel

Day 4 - Goodbye to Lapland!

Finnish buffet breakfast is served at hotel restaurant.

Check-out.

Transfer to a local **HANDICRAFT ATELIER**. Reindeer antler has always been a raw material for Lappish utility and decorative articles. Reindeer antler is an ecological material as the reindeer sheds its antlers every year. By visiting the atelier, you can see how reindeer antler is worked, and you too will have the opportunity to make your own souvenir from Lapland's typical raw material.

Using example articles, owners of the atelier tell of established traditions and the reindeer antler work currently being produced, as well as reindeer antler working in general. After the presentation everyone will have the opportunity to make their own souvenir from reindeer antler. At the same time, visitors may familiarise themselves with a Lappish log-built home and have a cup of coffee at a real Finnish home! Duration of the program 2,5-3 hours.

Lunch.

After program and lunch there will be a transfer to the airport.

Farewells to your guide.

END OF PROGRAM

For more information on Lapland tours, please contact: nina@abelita.fi

