



Harriniva - Summit Snowmobile



HOLIDAY TYPE: Small Group
VISITING: Finland

BROCHURE CODE: 5004
DURATION: 6 nights

In Brief

We recommend previous snowmobiling experience to take on this six-night adventure through some of the best of the Finnish landscape including up the highest mountain in Finland, Halti. Before then, you'll learn how to handle these powerful machines before you set off to reach otherwise out of bounds places.

Our Opinion

“ This is an epic snowmobile adventure offered by our friends at Harriniva. It takes you deep into the Arctic for a thrilling safari in some of the most spectacular wilderness in Europe. Visiting the 'three country meeting point' and reaching the top of Halti are real highlights. The driving distances are pretty long and so you do need a good level of fitness for this holiday but the rewards are awesome. Riding a snowmobile in deep powder is unforgettable once you've mastered it. ”

Ali Mclean



What's included?

- **Transfers:** return airport transfers to meet scheduled flights
- **Accommodation:** 2 nights shared safari houses (for 3 - 4 people sharing), 2 nights Palojärvi, 2 nights Kilpisjärvi cabin
- **Activities:** 5-day snowmobile safari driving your own snowmobile (you must have a valid driving licence and some previous snowmobiling experience)
- **Meals:** 6 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 6 dinners
- Cold weather clothing for the duration of your stay
- Fully qualified wilderness guides and instructors during activities
- **A note on flights:** whilst flights are **not** included in the holiday price, our team will happily provide a quote and arrange them for you. Simply ask one of our travel experts for details of the available options from your preferred departure airport. Direct flights are available on some dates and our team will offer you the best available flights and fares.

Trip Overview

You need to be over 18 years old and in good physical condition to undertake this snowmobile safari into the remote wilderness. A full driving licence is required and you must have previous experience of snowmobiling for this holiday.

You will follow your knowledgeable local guide on breathtaking trails to Kilpisjärvi – a mystical and remote region steeped in Sámi tradition and folklore. Admire the incredible views of frozen lakes and snow-covered mountain peaks along the way through the wildest corner of Finnish Lapland.

Before February, the weather is too hostile to travel from Muonio to Kilpisjärvi. But we are ready to take you there as soon as the time is right and the weather improves to reveal one of Finland's best-kept secrets. The locals agree that this is one of the most beautiful places in all the country.

When snowmobiling came to this area in the 1960s it transformed the lives of the local people; communities could keep in contact in the dark winter months and it made the tough existence of the Sámi reindeer herders easier. For guests here today, snowmobiling is about Arctic adventure that allows you to fully appreciate the beauty and the scale of the wilderness.

You will travel to the place where the borders of Finland, Sweden and Norway meet, as well as driving to the summit of Halti, Finland's highest mountain.

At the end of your holiday, we can arrange for you to spend the final night of your stay in an Aurora Hut for an unforgettable night.

Image credits: Antti Pietikäinen & Steve Cushing

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY
1

ARRIVAL AND TRANSFERS

From the airport, you will be transferred to your shared accommodation for the first night of your holiday. This will vary depending on availability but could be at any of the Pietikäinen family's three hotels or a safari house located near the Harriniva Wilderness Hotel (max distance of around 5km). If you are staying in one of the hotels then you will enjoy your evening meal in the hotel restaurant; if you are staying in one of the safari houses the hotel will provide a minibus to take you to dinner. You will be provided with full information regarding your accommodation for the first and final nights of your stay upon arrival.

For an extra special start or end to your holiday, it is possible to upgrade to an Aurora Hut. Please see the personalise section for more details.

Included Meals: Dinner

DAY
2

SAFARI TO PALOJÄRVI

After breakfast, you will meet with your snowmobile guide for a briefing and introduction on what the days ahead will bring. You will be kitted out with your cold weather gear (warm overalls, boots, socks, hat, mittens, gloves and helmet) and be given instruction in correct snowmobile handling and safety etiquette which your guide will show you how to put into practise.

Then, it is time to turn the key and start your engines. Your previous experience of snowmobiling and good physical fitness are called upon straight away. Covering around 100km of winter terrain, your journey through forests and across frozen lakes against the stunning backdrop of Lapland.

There is a picnic lunch stop before continuing the drive to Pajojärvi close to the Norwegian border which is your base for the night.

Following dinner, you will enjoy a well-deserved night's sleep in a shared log cabin or simple

apartment.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
3

SNOWMOBILE TO KILPISJÄRVI

Following a satisfying breakfast, you enter the treeless mountain area of North West Finland. The weather here can change rapidly with bright sunshine one minute and a snow blizzard the next so it is imperative that you follow the guide's instruction as they know the trail better than anyone.

Today's route covers around 140km and ends at the small village of Kilpisjärvi where you will spend the night in cabins. You should take the opportunity to walk down to the lake here for a view to remember.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
4

ASCENT OF HALTI

The driving distance today is a little shorter (around 120km) but the challenges are tougher! This morning your snowmobile ascent of the highest mountain in Finland, Halti, offers spectacular views of the Norwegian mountains. In the afternoon, you will ride out to the famous point where the countries of Finland, Norway and Sweden meet.

On returning to your accommodation in Kilpisjärvi you can use the sauna to soothe any tired muscles and unwind, in true Scandinavian style.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
5

SNOWMOBILING IN THE FELLS

By now you will be feeling confident driving your snowmobile when you head back to Palojärvi. Clock up another 140km or so today using skills you've learnt so far. If the snow conditions allow, you will learn new skills from your guide on how best to handle your snowmobile in deep, powdery snow. You have a picnic lunch en route today with dinner served in your overnight accommodation.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
6

FINAL LEG - THE VICTORIA TRAIL

After breakfast, the last part of your snowmobile safari follows part of the Victoria Trail between

Finland and Sweden. This 140km run back to Muonio is an absolute thrill. Back at the safari houses, you can enjoy a well-deserved sauna and a farewell dinner of Lappish delicacies to reward your achievement of completing this challenging snowmobile safari.

If you would like to spend the final night of your trip somewhere pretty unique then we can arrange for you to sleep in an Aurora Hut. Please see the 'personalise' section of the holiday page for details.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY
7

DEPARTURE

Today your adventure draws to a close and you will be transferred back to the airport for your return flights home.

If you would like to stop off in Helsinki on your way home then we can arrange for you to enjoy some time in the city on your way home. See the 'personalise' section for details or simply speak to one of our travel experts.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Personalise this tour

Our pick



Suomenlinna Sea Fortress.

Helsinki City Break

The majority of our remote destinations in Finland can only be accessed by flights that connect through the Finnish capital city of Helsinki so a stopover here is a popular choice.

In Helsinki you can enjoy some world class restaurants, a rich culture and a beautiful coastal location on the Baltic Sea. Some of our favourite experiences include a tour of the Ateneum Art Museum, stopping off at one of the city's many coffee shops and taking a ferry ride out of the main city to visit the incredible UNSECO listed

Please note that the included flights will not always allow for a stopover but we shall do what we can to meet your requirements. We would advise getting in touch with our Travel Experts to discuss all of the options available and they will happily provide a quotation for you.

Image credit: Visit Finland

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Harriniva Adventure Resort (Nights: 1,6)



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

Welcoming guests for over 50 years now, the hotel has developed a growing reputation for its warm ambience and the 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 for guest use, in our experience, we have found it works best in the main reception and dining area
- The hotel restaurant consists of three separate dining areas. 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 sapping up the pristine wilderness! During peak periods, we would strongly recommend booking therapies in advance through reception (all payable locally)
- 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, the reception will be able to arrange a taxi to the nearby ski resort of Olos (payable locally).

Room types

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.

Safari House: For those travelling on our longer husky or snowmobile experiences, your nights before and after setting out on your adventure you will stay either at one of the Pietikäinen family's three hotels (in a shared room) or a safari house located near the Harriniva Wilderness Hotel (max distance of around 5km). If you are staying in one of the hotels then you will enjoy your evening meal in that hotel restaurant, if you are staying in one of the safari houses the hotel will provide a minibus to take you to dinner. You will be provided with full information regarding your accommodation for the first and final nights of your stay upon arrival. If you are staying in one of the Safari Houses then each has sleeping facilities, a shower room, toilet, hairdryer and a sauna.

Wilderness plus rooms: These recently renovated rooms include double/twin beds and an unfolding sofa suitable for 1 adult or 2 children. Decorated in traditional Scandinavian style, all rooms have an en-suite shower room and a hairdryer, as well as a small seating area

Image Credits: Matt Robinson, Emmi Kähkönen, Harriniva Hotels & Safaris

Palojärvi (Nights: 2,5)

Situated close to the Norwegian border, Galdotieva Fell Centre Palojärvi is a spectacularly isolated spot on the route to Norway, which will play a significant part in your wilderness adventure. With very few cars or people passing this way, the vast landscape will take your breath away.

The shared cabins have a perfect position to capture remarkable views across the frozen wilds with nothing else in sight so you can experience uninterrupted views of the Northern skies and the possibility of exceptional Aurora viewing.

Kilpisjärvi (Nights: 3-4)



Kilpisjärvi may not have five-star accommodation facilities, but it is in a five-star location; this is a stunning area of Finland that is well off the tourist trail and one that few people will ever get to experience.

Accommodation in this remote village is limited and so depending on availability you will stay in either simple apartments or cabin accommodation on the village outskirts. The bedrooms are typically all shared, as are the bathroom facilities.

Kilpisjärvi is a favourite holiday destination with many of our guides across Scandinavia and you are sure to discover why!

Image credits: Gareth Hutton, Antti Pietikäinen

Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.



Jeris and Torassieppi Aurora Huts

The unique Aurora Huts at Jeris and Torassieppi offer a rather different overnight experience for guests. These huts have pleasant, cosy décor, with floor to ceiling windows on one wall, allowing you to gaze at the night sky in search of the Northern Lights. The Aurora huts at Torassieppi are located close to the lakeshore, whereas the huts at Jeris are located in the woods. The exact location of your dome will be confirmed upon check-in at your hotel.

Each hut has a double bed, a composting toilet and a small sink with running water. Shower and sauna facilities are just a short walk away (around 50-150 metres). There is space for one extra bed in the huts, but space will be very limited when added.

The Specifics

Holiday group size (approximate)

Approximately 4 - 16 people.

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 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 in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page, the minimum age for participation in an Artisan holiday is typically 8 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

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.artisantravel.co.uk/booking-conditions>

Minimum travellers 10, Maximum travellers 20