

**KAKSLAUTTANEN ARCTIC RESORT –
ENCHANTING ARCTIC EXPERIENCES SINCE 1974.**



Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort
Kiilopääntie 9, 99830 Saariselkä, Finland
Closest airport: Ivalo (IVL)
Open year round (except during May)

Take a virtual tour

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ENCHANTING ARCTIC EXPERIENCES SINCE 1974

Kakslauttanen Arctic Resort is an enchanting, otherworldly destination located 250 kilometres (150 miles) north of the Arctic Circle in Finnish Lapland, just a four-hour drive from the Arctic Ocean. Since 1974, our family-run hotel has been offering year-round magical experiences in the pristine arctic wilderness. We are world-renowned for our iconic Glass Igloos and the magical Northern Lights – but there are plenty of other arctic secrets to explore. We offer numerous unique excursions – from reindeer and husky adventures to meeting Santa or panning for gold – making any stay truly unforgettable. You will be surrounded by some of the cleanest nature in the world, with one of Finland's largest national parks, Urho Kekkonen National Park, right next door. The water is so pure that you can drink straight from the streams, the air is so fresh that you can feel it deep down in your lungs, and the harmonious sound of silence will soothe your soul. The region is steeped in the rich culture of the indigenous Sámi people. Kakslauttanen has a deep appreciation for this local heritage – nearly everything at the resort has been created right here by local craftsmen and artists over the past 40 years. We warmly welcome you to experience the magic of Lapland.

OUR STORY – OR HOW JUSSI RAN OUT OF PETROL IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE

In the summer of 1973, Jussi Eiramo was on a fishing trip in Utsjoki, Finland's northernmost village. He was just beginning his return trip when his car ran out of petrol – in the wilderness, miles from anywhere. Jussi had no choice but to camp out by the road and wait for help to arrive. This area was called Kakslauttanen. For some inexplicable reason, Jussi felt like he had come home. He didn't want to go back to the south, so he spent his first summer in a tent by the road. By the second year, a small cabin had been erected on the site, and Jussi opened a café to serve passers-by on their way to the North Cape. Little by little, year after year, Kakslauttanen has grown to become Finland's most internationally renowned travel business. To this day, Jussi is still very much involved in the everyday running of the resort. By the way, Kakslauttanen is the name of the area the resort is built in and the translations would be “two reindeer meat storages”.

ACCOMMODATION – SLEEPING UNDER THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

The home of the iconic Glass Igloos, unique Kelo-Glass Igloos and much more.

The iconic Glass Igloos – there's no better place to see the Northern Lights

Kakslauttanen is one of the best places in the world to wonder at the magical glow of the Northern Lights. Up here, the season is an incredible eight months long, from late August until late April. As long as it's dark and the skies are clear, there's always a chance to marvel at the miraculous aurora. What makes Kakslauttanen so special is that you can enjoy the most amazing viewing experience from our iconic Glass Igloos. The story of the igloos, now a global phenomenon, originated when our owner, Jussi Eiramo, wanted to give his guests the chance to admire the spellbinding glow of the Northern Lights and the arctic sky from the comfort of their own beds. He designed a prototype, the first igloos were built in 1999, and the rest is history. The igloos are made of thermal glass, so even though it might be icy cold outside, inside it's always deliciously warm. With no city lights to spoil the view, you can simply lie back and enjoy nature's very own firework display. Even without the Northern Lights making an appearance, a night under the arctic sky is still an unforgettable experience.

Kelo-Glass Igloos – combining the best of all worlds

Following our tradition of innovating amazing new ways to see the Northern Lights, we're proud to present the world's first Kelo-Glass Igloos. Kelo-Glass Igloos combine the comforting charm of our cosy log cabins with the sensational views of our world-famous Glass Igloos. They come with a private sauna, bathroom and fireplace, as well as various beautiful rustic details. Guests can take in the enchanting beauty of the Northern Lights and the Lappish wilderness from the comfort of their own private hideaway – an experience that can only be enjoyed at Kakslauttanen.

Log cabins and other unique accommodation options

In addition to our Glass and Kelo-Glass Igloos, we offer a host of charming cabins, cottages and rooms. Our love for Lapland's wilderness guided us in creating accommodation facilities where the region's nature and the essence of what it means to live in Lapland are strongly present. Most of the buildings in the resort, including our cabins, are built of large kelo pines – trees that once stood dead and dried out – and designed in a rugged style that fits perfectly with the wild surroundings. While guests won't find widescreen TVs or dishwashers inside, they can enjoy even better sources of entertainment in every cabin: a fireplace and a sauna.

Although our cabins and igloos are located in peaceful natural surroundings, they are all within walking distance of our restaurants and other services. Wi-Fi is available in the reception area, but not in the rooms – to help our guests relax fully, we want them to be able to enjoy a digital detox! We have approximately 170 accommodation units and a total capacity of approximately 450 beds. Log cabins are available year round while Glass and Kelo-Glass Igloos are available during the Northern Lights season, from 24th August to the end of April. Please see the detailed accommodation descriptions at the end of this document.

SEASONS – FROM MIDNIGHT SUN TO THE POLAR NIGHT

In Lapland, there are four distinct seasons, each with its own unique set of miraculous experiences to enjoy. The seasons range from the extremes of Polar Night, when the sun doesn't rise for weeks and the temperatures can hover around -30°C, to the nightless summer, when the sun never sets. There are few other places on earth where you can experience such contrast.

Autumn – the Northern Lights and nature's bounty

Autumn is a marvellous time for observing the Northern Lights, with the season starting around 24th August when the nights get dark again. That is also when we open the Glass Igloos and Kelo-Glass Igloos for our guests. Autumn is the perfect time for hiking and other outdoor activities which include everything from horseback riding to gold panning. For roughly the first three weeks of September, nature is ablaze in the colours of "Ruska", a Finnish word for the season of autumn leaves and autumnal colours. From August to October, the forests are filled with mushrooms and berries. Due to the high exposure to sunlight in a short period of time, the region's berries and mushrooms are both tasty and packed with vitamins. Travellers are free to help themselves to the natural treats provided by the forest and wetlands.

Winter – pure snow, soothing silence and Northern Lights

Up north, the winter is long and enchanting. There's snow on the ground from about mid-November until the end of April. In the heart of winter, from December to February, trees sag under the weight of the snow and there is little daylight. From early December until mid-January we even have the Polar Night, when the sun stays below the horizon for six weeks. However, rather than it being pitch black outside, there's a magical glow reflecting from the pure snow, which creates a unique light. In January and February, at sunrise and sunset the sky is painted with incredible shades of pink and purple, and just before the darkness arrives everything turns into a fairy-tale shade of blue. When the darkness settles, it creates the perfect canvas for the Northern Lights, framed by the thick layer of snow wrapping the viewer in a soft soothing silence.

Spring – the joys of winter continue as nature awakens

During spring, all the winter activities are still available but the days quickly grow longer. In March and April there are long hours of daylight and the brightness is intensified by the white snow. What could soothe the soul more than cross-country skiing on densely packed snow, or going for a reindeer sleigh ride in the crisp, bright spring sunshine? What's more, the Northern Lights can be seen right up until late April. In May Kakslauttanen is closed as nature transitions from spring to summer.

Summer – unforgettable experiences under the Midnight Sun

Summer brings about an almost surreal feeling, when the Midnight Sun lights up the sky 24 hours a day. Between mid May and early August, the sun never sets, but this doesn't mean scorching heat; rather, the weather is perfect for outdoor activities in the arctic landscape, which is filled with energy during the summer. Hiking, horseback riding or quad biking in the middle of the night under the glow of the Midnight Sun is an experience that will stay with you forever.

The Northern Lights or Aurora Borealis

The Northern Lights or Aurora Borealis is one of the most fascinating natural phenomenon on the planet. The bright dancing lights of the Aurora are actually collisions between electrically charged particles from the sun that enter the earth's atmosphere. The lights can be seen above the magnetic poles of the northern and southern hemispheres. Kakslauttanen is one of the best places in the world to see the nature's most spectacular light show. The Glass Igloos and Kelo-Glass Igloos provide the best possible viewing experience from the comfort of your own bed. Also, we provide various evening excursions where you can hunt for the Auroras in a reindeer, husky or horse sled or by riding a snowmobile or a quad bike. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee that you will see them – but we can give a few tips on how to maximise your chances. The Northern Lights can be seen from late August until late April, usually starting around midnight and making their way across the whole sky. They can last for five minutes or they can last the whole night. So, if you are not staying in a Glass Igloo or a Kelo-Glass Igloo, you can and should go outside when it gets dark – just remember to put on warm clothes. There is an online service from the Finnish Meteorological Institute that has real-time information and forecasts for the Northern Lights at http://Aurora.fmi.fi/public_service/

Seasons (all are approximate and subject to weather and natural fluctuations)

Midnight Sun season: beginning of June to end of July

Northern Lights season: late August to end of April

“Ruska” – autumn leaves season: early to mid September

Snow: mid November to end of April

The resort is closed throughout May

Average length of day:

Early January: Polar Night – no sunrise

Early February: sunrise 9.30am, sunset 3.30pm

Early April: sunrise 6.30am, sunset 8.30pm

Early June: Midnight Sun – no sunset

Early August: sunrise 3.30am, sunset 11pm

Early November: sunrise 8.30am, sunset 3.30pm

Average temperatures (average):

January: -15°C / 5°F

April: -3°C / 26°F

July: 15°C / 59°F

September: 6°C / 42°F

November: -5°C / 23°F

You can check the weather forecast on the Finnish Meteorological Institute’s website:

<http://en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/weather/inari/saariselka>

ACTIVITIES AND EXCURSIONS – FROM ADVENTURE TO SOOTHING HARMONY

With dozens of authentic arctic experiences on offer, we provide our guests with a truly unforgettable stay, whatever the season. Most of the activities take place conveniently within the resort or close by. During their outdoor adventures, guests can also learn about the local nature and culture from our experienced guides.

Adventures in the snow in winter and spring

In winter and spring you can immerse yourself in the arctic wilderness while it is dressed in pure white snow. How about a daytime adventure in the wintery forest, or an Aurora hunting trip by night on a sleigh pulled by reindeer, huskies or horses, or even on a snowmobile or snow tank? Guests can also try traditional Finnish ice fishing or visit the reindeer farm. The area is also known for its world-class cross-country skiing – there are 200 kilometres of tracks through stunning scenery in the neighbouring Urho Kekkonen National Park. Gliding through the forest surrounded by the silence and beauty of the wintery nature is almost a spiritual experience.

Summer and autumn adventures when the snow has gone

During the summer and autumn the area offers fantastic opportunities for activities like hiking, biking, gold panning, horseback riding and canoeing in the arctic wilderness. An excursion into the unique Lappish landscape and its all-enveloping mellow silence is an unforgettable experience. Selected activities can be enjoyed under the Midnight Sun or with added Aurora hunting, making them even more memorable.

Year-round adventures

There are several activities available throughout the year at Kakslauttanen.

Santa’s home – At the edge of Kakslauttanen, in the heart of the forest, awaits Santa's realm. A visit is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for the whole family. Our most famous residents, Santa Claus and Mrs Claus, welcome visitors to their home whatever the season.

Arctic art – Our vast collection of local art, from sculptures to paintings and tapestries, makes a walk around the resort an experience in itself. We even organize a yearly Arctic Art Week event, where we invite young artists from around the world to Kakslauttanen to create pieces of art that will stay at the resort for guests to admire. When talking of art we should also mention our lamps, which are all handmade from clay or reindeer antlers.

Finnish sauna experience – Traditional smoke sauna bathing is something innately Finnish. Everyone should experience the combination of the soft warmth of the sauna and a refreshing dip in the ice pool in the winter or river in the summer. We have five smoke saunas, one of which is the biggest in the world. A stay at Kakslauttanen will leave guests rejuvenated and inspired.

Sámi culture – Guests can learn about the fascinating culture of the Sámi, the only indigenous people of the European Union. We work with many Sámi entrepreneurs who can tell spellbinding stories about their history and culture. We also organize trips to the Sámi museum, Siida, and Sámi art is on display all around the resort.

Read more about our [winter activities](#) and [summer/autumn activities](#), or check out the descriptions at the end of this document. We highly recommend that you book your activities before arriving at Kakslauttanen in order to guarantee availability. Please note that all activities are dependent on weather conditions.

RESTAURANTS AND VENUES – FROM SMOKE SAUNA TO GLASS IGLOO BAR

Kakslauttanen might be situated in the wilderness, but that doesn't mean guests should expect to rough it when they arrive – quite the contrary, in fact. We have several restaurant and venue options at the resort, all offering guests a different arctic ambiance.

Restaurant Aurora (with Glass Igloo bar) and Restaurant Kelo (with piano bar)

Restaurant Kelo in the East Village and Restaurant Aurora in the West Village offer local Lappish cuisine and are open daily for guests. Aurora is one of the biggest log restaurants in the world and is home to our Glass Igloo bar where up to 50 guests can enjoy their drinks under the arctic sky. Restaurant Kelo was our first restaurant, and has a charming, rustic feel. Both restaurants are decorated with beautiful pieces of Lappish art and have separate rooms for private events.

Santa's Celebration House is Finland's largest log building and accommodates up to 300 guests for dining, celebrating a wedding or enjoying a concert. For corporate clients, the Celebration House provides an excellent setting for customer events with a real wow factor. The elevated floor section makes it ideal for impressive product launches for everything from perfumes to sports cars. Although built out of logs in the traditional way, the building is fitted with state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment. Santa's Celebration House must be booked in advance.

Restaurant Korsu, which means underground in Finnish, was designed by the owner Jussi Eiramo and young Lappish artist Essi Korva. Here, guests step into a mystical forest, admire the incredible fairy tale-like decorations – including lanterns made of reindeer skin – and relax in front of an impressive fireplace made up of seven smaller fireplaces. Korsu is located in the middle of the woods, and guests can, if they wish, be taken there from the reception on a horse-drawn sleigh. The restaurant accommodates 150 people and must be booked in advance.

Smoke sauna restaurant lets you dine in a magically rustic environment by Kakslauttanen river, before a visit to the world's largest smoke sauna and a refreshing dip in the arctic water. If you would like to visit the smoke sauna restaurant, please make your booking in advance.

The Snow Chapel is the ultimate venue for celebrating arctic love. Every year during January, the coldest month of the year, this fairy-tale chapel is carved from snow and ice by a Lappish artist. Thus every year it is a unique piece of art that can be only seen until it disappears as the seasons change. Stepping inside, you enter a frozen wonderland with detailed carvings and sculptures made of ice and snow. The beautiful altar is made of ice and the wooden benches on both sides of the aisle are covered with reindeer hides. The chapel is a dreamlike venue for weddings, vow renewals or other romantic celebrations. It can be decorated according to the couple's wishes and there is also an ice shelf where arctic drinks can be served. After the ceremony, the couple and their guests can move next door to

the Glass Tipi to continue their celebration. If there is no bigger celebration in sight, a tour of the unique Snow Chapel is still highly recommended while visiting Kakslauttanen – just book with us in advance.

Glass Igloo tower

In 2017, we will open our 30-metre-high Glass Igloo tower, the only one of its kind in the world, where visitors will be able to enjoy breath-taking views of the surrounding arctic wilderness and get even closer to the magical arctic sky.

Other venues

We also offer several other options for events and gatherings, including traditional Lappish huts, private rooms and our magnificent Glass Tipi. There are also souvenir stores on site where you can shop for local crafts and other gifts.

ARCTIC WEDDINGS AND HONEYMOONS

Over the years, Kakslauttanen has become a popular destination for weddings and honeymoons. Many people also like to come to us to renew their vows. We tailor our services according to our guests' wishes, creating an authentic Lappish venue for the celebration – whether for a small circle of close friends or the entire extended family. Being hopeless romantics ourselves, we have designed and built a number of our accommodation facilities with love-struck couples in mind: our luxurious and romantic wedding chamber, Kelo-Glass Igloos and queen suites are just a few of our favourites. There's plenty of room for guests too, either with us or at the hotels in nearby Saariselkä.

A winter wedding surrounded by snow makes for a magical event. Our romantic Snow Chapel and Tieva log chapel, set in the middle of the forest, are both ideal settings for your special day. Should you wish, the bridal couple can ride to the wedding venue on a sleigh drawn by a reindeer or horse. In the summer, the Midnight Sun casts an unforgettable glow over the ceremony. In the autumn, during the "Ruska" period of autumnal colours, it's as if all of Lapland's nature is joining in with the exhilarating wedding atmosphere, with leaves and ground flora ablaze in shades of red, orange and yellow. During both summer and autumn, in addition to the log chapel, wedding ceremonies can be organised in the beauty of the national park, on top of the nearby Kaunispää fell, or on the sacred Sámi island of Ukko on Lake Inari. A unique experience awaits at the gold-panning site, where the happy couple can pan for gold nuggets to bring them luck.

GOOD TO KNOW

How do I get to Kakslauttanen?

Even though we are located on the edge of the world, reaching us is easy. Ivalo airport (IVL) is just 30 minutes away by road and we can arrange a convenient transfer to the resort. There are daily flights from Helsinki international airport (HEL) to Ivalo operated by Finnair and Norwegian (please check availability for your selected dates as it varies by season). Some airlines also operate direct flights to Ivalo from selected German and UK cities. You can also reach us by bus from Rovaniemi airport. The bus stop is 100 metres from our reception; timetables can be checked at www.matkahuolto.fi/en (use Kakslauttanen as your destination). If you are driving, our address is Kiilopääntie 9, Saariselkä, Finland – enter it into your sat nav and once you are here, you can't miss it. We offer free parking next to all our cabins and there are also plenty of spaces in front of our reception. If you wish to do a more extensive tour while you're here, a visit to Kakslauttanen can easily be combined with other Nordic or European destinations.

How should I dress?

In the summer and autumn, the most important thing to wear is good boots, with hiking boots particularly recommended. If you are planning to go berry or mushroom picking or fishing, a pair of rubber boots will be useful. These can also be rented from the hotel. In the summer and autumn you will want to wear something light during the day and something warm like a pullover in the evening. It is also a good idea to bring a waterproof jacket and a hat to protect you from both the sun and insects. In the late autumn and winter, the most important thing is to dress in layers. Start with good thermal long underwear, then another layer of something warm like wool or fleece. On top you will need a good quality coat, which should preferably be water and wind proof. Now you should be totally covered from head to toe. You can also rent winter outerwear from the hotel. Read more about [how to dress right and enjoy the winter](#).

Is there an internet and mobile connection?

We like to think that once you are here in the wilderness, you will also take a break from technology and the internet – but we also understand the need to get online and be in touch with friends and family. This is why we offer complimentary Wi-Fi in our reception and restaurant area. We also have a limited number of rentable 3G mobile hotspots for use with your own wireless devices in your cabin or igloo. There is mobile reception at Kakslauttanen for most networks.

Can you tell me more about Lapland?

Lapland is a vast geographical area in the far north of Scandinavia, crossing four different countries: Finland, Russia, Norway and Sweden. It is a magnificent land of fells, reindeer, Northern Lights and Midnight Sun, with a population density of about two people/km² – making most of Lapland untouched wilderness. Finnish Lapland is 98,937 km², which is 30% of Finland's total land area. Of this area, 93,057 km² is land and the rest is water. Lapland's highest peak is Halti at 1328 m.

And Sámi culture?

The Sámi are indigenous people of Lapland, and it is still common to hear people speaking a Sámi language here, or see someone wearing traditional Sámi clothes or jewellery. Sámi culture, language, traditional clothing, handicraft and music are distinctively different from other ethnic groups in Scandinavia and can be seen distinctly in everyday life in Lapland. Though the Sámi originally had no racial or linguistic relationship to the Finns, over the years the two cultures have mixed. Reindeers are still fundamental to Sámi culture and society, even though the majority of the Sámi population now pursue other careers. However, most Sámi have a family member or relative who is in some way involved with reindeer herding. The traditional Sámi singing – *joiku* – can still be heard on many occasions and even traffic signs in Lapland are duplicated in Sámi. Although they are few in number, the Sámi culture is a true gem of northern Lapland. To find out more about the Sámi, check out the website of [Siida – Sámi Museum and Northern Lapland Nature Centre](#).

A summary of our [FAQs](#)

ACCOMMODATION DETAILS

There are approximately 170 accommodation units and 450 beds at Kakslauttanen. Please download the accommodation fact sheet [here](#).

Glass Igloos

Our two-person igloos include a toilet and optional extra bed. Shared saunas and showers are available in a separate building close to the igloos. The four-person igloos include their own toilet and shower. We have 65 Glass Igloos in total: 53 two-person and 12 four-person igloos. We usually recommend combining one or two nights in a Glass Igloo with two or three nights in a log cabin. Glass Igloos are available during the Northern Lights season, from 24th August until the end of April.

Kelo-Glass Igloos

Our 40 Kelo-Glass Igloos combine the comforting charm of our cosy log cabins with the sensational views of our world-famous Glass Igloos. Sleeping up to six and featuring a private sauna and bathroom, fireplace, kitchenette, and a bedroom with a stunning glass roof, they are made from Lapland's unique kelo pinewood. Guests can take in the enchanting beauty of the Northern Lights and the Lappish wilderness from the comfort of their own private hideaway. Kelo-Glass Igloos are available during the Northern Lights season, from 24th August until the end of April.

Log cabins

Our 64 log cabins are made of impressively large kelo pines, trees aged up to 700 years that once stood dead and dried out. Inside, everything from the lamps to the furniture is handmade by local craftsmen in a rugged style that fits perfectly with the wild surroundings. While guests won't find widescreen TVs or dishwashers inside, they can enjoy even better sources of entertainment in every cabin – a fireplace and a sauna with bathroom. There are different sizes of cabins with max capacities from 2 people up to 6 people. Cabins are available all year round.

Queen suites

Our truly unique suites for lovebirds. These five spacious 60-m² log cabins, made of kelo pinewood, feature a well-appointed bathroom with conveniences like a bathtub and sauna. On the terrace, there's an outdoor hot tub for relaxing whatever the season. Queen suites are available all year round.

Snow igloos

A night in one of our snow igloos is an unforgettable experience. Rarely do you get the chance to sleep as cosily as you do in an ice-cool igloo that shields you from all outside noise. Even if the mercury dips to -40°C outside, the temperature inside is a consistent -3°C to -6°C so you can enjoy a cosy night in your down sleeping bag. We recommend you dress in thermal underwear. Showers and saunas are available in separate buildings, with separate facilities for men and women. We will provide you with woollen socks, a hat and the cosy sleeping bag. It is a good idea to exercise a little just before climbing into the sleeping bag, and eating something like chocolate to give energy. The construction of the snow igloos depends on the weather – they usually open from the beginning of February.

Wedding lodge

Earth lodges (kammi in Finnish) have been used as residences in Finland since ancient times. Their turf roofs conceal them in the landscape, as if forest trolls had built them. It's hard to imagine a more perfect hideaway than the Kakslauttanen wedding lodge. And why rush out? After all, couples have a sauna and a great bathroom with bathtub all to themselves. The wedding lodge is available all year round.

Traditional house

In the almost century-old traditional house, guests can immerse themselves in the authentic Lapland lifestyle of old. The hectic, modern rat race will feel like a distant memory as they relax in the rocking chair. And naturally, it features a sauna as well. The traditional house is available all year round.

Gold digger's cabins

How about staying on the banks of the golden river, in peace and quiet? Our three idyllic cabins have their own kitchenette, sauna and bathroom and are located a bit further from the reception and other cabins. They are still within comfortable walking distance – or sledding distance during winter – of the reception and restaurant. In these cabins, available during the winter season, you can easily imagine you're a gold miner in the arctic wilderness.

YEAR AROUND ACTIVITIES

Visit Santa's home

A visit you won't want to miss! Mrs. Claus will greet you by the reindeer fence and take you into Santa's cosy and beautifully crafted home – with a Christmas tree, of course. There you will meet Santa Claus himself, in a moment both children and grown ups will remember forever. Remember to take lots of pictures! After getting to know Santa, you will head to the magical Celebration House for a warming hot drink. Keep your eyes open – along the way you might see some elves as well!

Traditional sauna experience

Bathing in the sauna is an essential part of any holiday in Finland. The sauna has always been a fundamental part of Finnish culture. The heat will help you relax and unwind, relieving your physical and spiritual stress. All our cabins are equipped with a sauna. There are also several smoke saunas in the area that you can book just for yourself or a bigger group, all with a fireplace in the dressing room. We also boast the largest smoke sauna in the world. The brave can also take a dip in the refreshing water of the Kakslauttanen river!

WINTER/SPRING ACTIVITIES

Reindeer safari

Reindeer are Lapland's most iconic animals, and a reindeer sleigh is the traditional Sámi means of transport. The gentle speed of the sleigh makes these trips suitable for all ages. A reindeer ride is a magical trip into nature, hosted by local Sámi reindeer herders who will tell you about their way of life in the wilderness. We offer safaris of various lengths, with the longest including an outdoor lunch. Aurora hunting is also available as an option.

Husky safari

There are two large husky farms located next to Kakslauttanen. It doesn't take long to get a feel for steering huskies, and before you know it you'll be sledding through the wilderness drawn by eager and friendly dogs. No petrol fumes, no rumbling engines – just you and the wild. We offer a number of different safari options, including aurora hunting.

Horseback riding and sleigh rides

Winter horse riding is well worth a try, even for children or those without any previous experience. The Finnish Christmas comes to life in a special way when riding a sleigh, with the snowy forest around you, the sound of bells tinkling in your ears, and the comfort of warm blankets covering you. We offer a number of different safari options, including aurora hunting.

Snowmobile safari

This is the fastest and most adrenaline-pumping way to get around in Lapland's nature. On our snowmobile safari, we'll ride down the fell into the snowy forest, enjoying some of the best scenery the region has to offer. One option is an exciting night-time ride in the wintery forest; if you're lucky, the Northern Lights will also make an appearance.

Cross-country skiing

It has been scientifically proven that a cross-country ski trip in untouched nature cleanses both body and mind, leaving you feeling euphoric. The Kakslauttanen region has frequently been ranked as one of the world's best cross-country skiing destinations. The ski season is long: tracks are usually available from October or November, and you can ski right through into May. The diverse network of ski tracks runs for almost 200 kilometres among the stunning scenery of Urho Kekkonen National Park.

Snowmobiling and ice-fishing safari on Lake Inarinjärvi, and a visit to the Sámi museum

How about going ice fishing with a local guide on Finland's third biggest lake? Guests also get to take part in searching for and emptying the winter nets (juomus in the regional dialect). After a lunch prepared over an open fire, you'll ride a snowmobile to a church in the wilderness at Pielpajärvi, and then, after returning to Inari, you'll travel onwards to Siida, the museum of the Sámi people.

Snow tank safari

A snow tank is the perfect way to experience the beauty of Finnish Lapland's snowy fells and forests. From the warm, comfortable panoramic cabin with a glass roof and large side windows there's an amazing view of the arctic nature. If you're lucky you might also see the Northern Lights! There are great photo opportunities during the trip from inside the cabin, and we'll stop along the way to give you a chance to step outside and experience the arctic wilderness.

Icebreaker Sampo

An icebreaker cruise from the town of Kemi is one of Finland's most popular travel attractions, and this nautical experience is within easy reach of Kakslauttanen. Over the course of the day-long trip, guests also have the opportunity to take a dip in the icy sea – in a dry suit, of course. The period for icebreaker cruises extends from mid-December until the end of April, depending on the weather.

SUMMER/AUTUMN ACTIVITIES

Enjoy the Midnight Sun

Lapland's nightless night is magical and we organise a wide range of adventures under the Midnight Sun. You can admire the bright, magical nights on horseback or in a horse-drawn carriage. If you prefer motors to horses, jump on one of our quad bikes and simply head towards the sun. We'll even organise a car ride straight to the peak of Mount Kaunispää, if that's what you'd prefer.

Hiking and biking

No matter where you go in northern Europe, you won't find a better place for hiking or trekking than Kakslauttanen. You can walk straight into Urho Kekkonen National Park – one of Finland's largest natural conservation areas – from behind our cabins, and Lemmenjoki National Park is just down the road. The environment here is so clean that you can drink straight from the mountain streams, and there are dozens of kilometres of well-marked biking routes for beginners and active cyclists alike.

Husky hiking

What could be better than hiking in the untouched Lappish wilderness with a husky as your hiking companion? These friendly dogs are the best possible company on a guided tour that also teaches you about arctic nature and animals. A coffee break by an open fire completes the experience.

Cruise down the Lemmenjoki river and visit the Sámi museum

Many people in Lapland say that Lemmenjoki National Park is the most beautiful area in the province. On a riverboat cruise, guests get acquainted with the Sámi village of Lemmenjoki and make a stop at the Ravadas waterfall. Over lunch on the shore by the fire, the guide will tell tales of gold mining, local reindeer herding and the Sámi culture. On the way back you'll visit the Sámi museum Siida in Inari.

Quad bike safari

For those with a need for speed, we offer adventures with all-terrain vehicles. The vast, open landscapes and deep forests make these safaris truly exceptional and captivating experiences. Also, there's an evening safari option where you can ride under the Midnight Sun in summer and of hunt the Auroras in autumn.

Horseback riding and horse cart rides

We have our own horse stables with calm, friendly Finnhorses, a breed originating in Finland. Beginners and experienced riders alike will enjoy exploring the untouched nature on horseback. A horse cart option is also available for Midnight Sun watching in summer and Aurora hunting in the autumn.

Gold panning

Gold mining has taken place in the area surrounding Kakslauttanen for centuries, and there are still several professional gold miners in the area. The first gold rush happened in the 1870s, before Alaska's gold rush of the 1890s. There is so much of this precious metal in the ground that many have been overcome with a gold-rush fever and ended up staying in Lapland for the rest of their lives. At the gold-panning site, guests get to try their luck – and get to keep what they find!

Mushroom and berry picking

After the Northern Lights and the Midnight Sun, Lapland's best-known national treasures are berries and mushrooms. The impact of the nightless night on nature is extraordinary. Due to the high exposure to sunlight in a short period of time, the region's berries and mushrooms are both tasty and packed with vitamins. The cloudberry is a local delicacy; people come from the far corners of the world to pick and enjoy this wonderful berry. Travellers are free to help themselves to the natural treats of the forests and wetlands, which include delicious porcini mushrooms.

Travelling to the Arctic Ocean by rental car

Kakslauttanen serves as an excellent base for those thinking about visiting Norway – for example, the North Cape. It takes about three hours to drive from the resort to Norway. If you're flying in, you can pick up a rental car at Ivalo Airport or, alternatively, at the resort.