



Arctic Ecology Cross-country Skiing Adventure

Aurora Retreat



Dates: Jan 12-16, 19-23 and 26-30, Feb 2-6, 16-20 and 23-27, Mar 1-5 2012

Extra days and activities can be added. The trip can be tailor-made

Price: 9000 SEK per adult, 6500 SEK per child (12- 15 years old)

Includes accommodation in double room, activities on itinerary, equipment and outdoor clothing, meals and snacks from dinner Day 1 to Breakfast Day 5, transfer from Kiruna or Gällivare.
Single room supplement: 800 SEK

Explore the amazing crystallised landscape of winter Lapland on traditional wooden cross-country skis. This kind of cross-country skiing is without pre-made tracks. You will travel in real wilderness, creating your own tracks through untouched snow.

Together with your expert local guide, weave through forests and around lakes discovering the local plants, birds and mammals native to this part of the Arctic. You'll investigate this complex ecosystem and develop an understanding of the local people's relationship with it.

If you would like to extend your stay, you have the option to add on another day of guided skiing or activities such as dog-sledding, snow/igloo building, ice-fishing, overnight in the wilderness, or experiencing the Sámi culture.

At the end of each day's adventure, return to your comfortable accommodation, a historic vicarage that has been restored with sustainable living in mind. This extraordinary, beautiful and cosy home away from home is located in a small village surrounded by expansive forests, pristine lakes and untouched rivers. All meals are prepared artfully from scratch with whenever possible local, seasonal and organic ingredients. Meals at the guesthouse are mainly vegetarian. Your hosts happily cater to any special requests.

Each day's ski tour is about 6-7 hours. Lunch with local wild meat or fish is prepared on tour beside a campfire. The ski tour lengths are generally 3 to 10 km and the tours are adjusted according to group member's abilities. You will be outfitted in comfortable and warm outdoor clothing and boots.

Itinerary

- Day 1** **Transfer** from airport or train station in Kiruna or Gällivare to Aurora Retreat. Welcome supper. Outdoor clothing outfitting
- Day 2** **Introduction to skiing.** Your guide will teach you all the basics for skiing with traditional wooden skis. By the end of the day you will be fully prepared for the rest of your holiday
Evening Northern Lights night tour. This tour will be made on the night of the trip with the best conditions for viewing the Northern Lights. Take your skis on a tour through an amazing night landscape, thousands of shades of blue reflecting on the snow. By a campfire you'll sit on a reindeer skin and enjoy a warming drink. With luck the Northern Lights dance above
- Day 3** **Tracking animals.** Explore the wilderness and learn about animals. Your guide will explain how the animals live and how the ecosystem works. Possible tracks include moose, reindeer, fox, hare, and, more rarely, pine marten or lynx
- Day 4** **Peace of mind in the magic old forest.** Ski in Naakajärvi Ecological Park. The ancient trees groan under the snow, whispering their life stories as you quietly explore this old forest area, absorbing the magical atmosphere
- Day 5** **Transfer** to departure airport or train station in Kiruna or Gällivare.

Financial Security

Your holiday with us is protected by a travel guarantee lodged with the Swedish Legal, Financial and Administrative Services Agency

Sustainable Travel? Naturally! Check our website for more details of our sustainability practices

Information and booking

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