

Finland's Northern Lights in Autumn **04N 05D**

Day 01 Helsinki



Helsinki

Arrive at Helsinki Airport in the afternoon, after immigration find Finnair City Bus at stop number 10 just outside Arrival Level at Terminal 02. The bus will take you to **Elielinaukio Square** at Helsinki Central Station (approx. travel time 35 mins).

A short 10 minute walk to your first class downtown hotel, we will confirm your hotel after your booking. After a short rest at your room we suggest a

refreshing walking tour in the surrounding downtown area.

Around 7:00 PM your dinner will be served at a Finnish country side style restaurant **Zetor** in **Kaivopiha Square** tucked away in the very heart of the city. The restaurant is decorated with old time articles of the North and their three course set menu consists of traditional and beloved Finnish dishes made of salmon, reindeer, potatoes and wild berries. You can choose between three alternatives on each course and one drink (soft drink or Finnish beer) is included.



Zetor



Solo Sokos Hotel Tornii

Afterwards we recommend a short stroll to **Solo Sokos Hotel Tornii** at the corner of Kalevankatu and Yrjönkatu streets. From the roof top bar and viewing terrace there is a picturesque view of downtown Helsinki to the sea and nearby islands. This is a great place for a night cap or a nice cup of something warm. Entrance is free but drinks are not included. Overnight Helsinki.

Day 02 Helsinki – Ivalo

Enjoy buffet breakfast in the comfort of your hotel, check-out and store your luggage at the front desk, take a morning stroll from your hotel to the Esplanade street through the main shopping area to the Market Place, **Kauppatori** by the harbor. Visit the old restored **Market Hall** or have a look at **Senate Square** and **Helsinki Cathedral** just one block north.



Helsinki Cathedral



Sibelius Monument

At 10:45 AM show your city tour ticket to the attendant at the tourist bus stop on **Fabianinkatu Street** in the middle of the Esplanade Park next to the Kappeli Restaurant. At 11:00 AM your audio guided (several languages including English, Chinese and Japanese) **Helsinki Panorama Sightseeing City Tour** starts from Fabianinkatu street tourist bus stop. During your 90 minute tour you will drive past the main sights of Helsinki and hear interesting stories.

There will be a short stop at the famous **Tempeliaukio Church** and the **Sibelius Monument** before the tour ends at **Esplanade Park**. The comfortable double decker tour bus is air conditioned and heated (winter) and has a free wi-fi.

Around 12:30 PM take a short break at the charming old **Café Esplanad** at Pohjois-Esplanadi 37. Taste a typical Finnish “*Korvapuusti*” cinnamon bun with a cup of coffee or tea. This might be the most traditional sweet bread in Finland! Walk to the hotel for your luggage and transfer to the railway station.



Café Esplanad

At 2:00 PM take the Finnair City bus from Elielinaukio Square (platform 30) to the airport (approx. travel time 35 mins). Check the schedule beforehand to arrive to the airport latest 90 mins prior to flight departure. Use the self service check-in machines at Terminal T2 and leave your checked baggage to the drop desks before continuing through the security control to the departure hall with plenty of shops and cafeterias. Please be present at the departure gate latest 30 mins before departure for boarding.

Depart AY559 at 1625hrs arrive Ivalo 1800hrs (approx. flying time 01hrs 35 mins) coffee/tea and blueberry juice will be served on-board.



Glass Igloo

Your driver will meet you at the Arrival Hall, transfer to **Kakslauttanen Resort** (approx. 30 mins)

Check-in at the hotel main reception from where you will be directed to your glass igloo. The small igloos are for 1-2 persons with two single beds and a private toilet. The igloos are heated during cold seasons.

Enjoy the peace of nature as there is no television or music devices in the cottages. The showers, saunas and luggage storage are located in the main building

within walking distance (outdoors). The Kakslauttanen Resort occupies a large area divided to East and West Villages, there is some walking time between the accommodation and public areas, like the two restaurants and the Igloo Bar. Instructions and maps are available, overnight Ivalo.

Day 03 Ivalo

Enjoy breakfast buffet served at one of the restaurants. Today you will have activities to explore the wild nature. Please confirm the timings of your program at the front desk.

A sightseeing tour will take you to the **House of Santa Claus** and the huge wooden Celebration House. See the new Kelo-Igloo area and Aurora Restaurant before continuing to a **Sami Village** with reindeers that you are able to feed. The Sami people are the original inhabitants of Lapland with their own culture, language and way of life. Many still run reindeer farms. The tour includes transportation and light refreshment, around 90 mins. During the day you will have a one hour excursion to the Husky Farm to see strong northern dogs loving the snow and fresh air as well as their puppies. This excursion may be organized alternatively on the next morning. Please, check with the front desk for the exact timing.

The **Aurora Hunting** by horse carriage will be organized in the evening, weather permitting, around 90 mins. During cloudy skies the aurora is not visible. Please check the front desk for the exact timing. The hotel offers a wide variety of other activities and excursions with extra charge. Please consult the front desk for availability and prices or check the web pages in advance.



Glass Igloo

On your leisure time you are able to try light hiking on the surrounding paths to the forest or to the nearby fells. There is a crystal clear mountain river in which you may bath or swim. The public sauna bath for hotel guests is open daily from 17.00 until 22.00 hrs.

Around 7:30 PM your three course dinner is served at one of the restaurants. Please check at front desk in advance. Overnight Ivalo.

Day 04 Ivalo – Helsinki

Enjoy breakfast at one of restaurants, check-out, deposit your luggage at the front desk. You will have a full day for private activities and hiking in the nature. More information about excursions and prices from the front desk.

At 4:30 PM transfer from Kakslauttanen Resort to Ivalo airport (please check the exact timing from the front desk) and check-in for your flight AY559 departing Ivalo 1830hrs arriving Helsinki 2050hrs (approx. flying time 02hrs 20 mins) – some flights make an ntermediate stop at Kittilä (30 mins). Take the Finnair City Bus at stop number 10 just outside arrival level at Terminal T2. The bus will take you to **Elielinaukio Square** at Helsinki Central Station (35 mins). A short walk to your first class downtown hotel, confirmed after your booking. Overnight Helsinki.

Day 05 Helsinki

Hotel breakfast, check-out, deposit your luggage at the front desk. Free time to explore Helsinki in accordance to your flight schedule.

Finnair buses leave Elielinaukio Square (platform 30) every 15-20 mins for the airport (journey takes approx. 35 mins). Check your flight departure time in advance to choose an optimal bus journey; we suggest to arrive to the airport at least 90 mins prior to departure even if you have already checked-in.

Show your boarding pass at the security control to access the international departure area. Please remember the security rules for hand luggage. There is a good choice of shops and restaurants in the departure area. Please check all flight schedules from your domestic flight ticket as there is some variation during the season. The above itinerary is for informative purposes and will be re-confirmed personally. Depart Helsinki.

Package Includes

Two return tickets for the Finnair City Bus

Two overnights (1+1) at a downtown Helsinki hotel in a standard guest room, breakfast buffet

One 3-course dinner at restaurant Zetor in Helsinki including one drink

Cinnamon bun and a cup of coffee or tea at Café Esplanad

Panorama City Sightseeing Tour by bus in Helsinki

Finnair flights Helsinki – Ivalo – Helsinki in economy class

Two overnights in a two bed glass igloo at Kakslauttanen Resort in Lapland, breakfast buffet

Two 3-course dinners at Kakslauttanen (drinks not included)

Aurora hunting excursion on a horse carriage (weather permitting)

Sightseeing tour of Kakslauttanen and Sami Village

Visit to the Husky Farm

Extra activities and excursions are available at Kakslauttanen Resort for an extra charge

Package Does Not Include

Alcoholic beverages / drinks, travel insurance, extra meals

Spending of a personal nature (eg: *laundry, tips, phone calls etc.*)

Anything else not mentioned under Package Includes section