Phil Hoffmann travel

## 2025 IN SEARCH OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS WITH COLLETTE & VIKING







## LAND TOUR

#### INCLUDES

- Tour Helsinki alongside a local expert
- Immerse yourself in Sami cultural traditions over the course of a 3-night stay in the north of Finland
- Set out nightly across Lapland in search of the northern lights
- Spend a night in a glass igloo
- Most Meals
- Culinary Inclusions
- Cultural Experiences

#### Departs 4 March 2025

FROM \$6,519<sup>\*</sup> pp twin share FROM \$7,819<sup>\*</sup> single

> This land tour can be combined with the Search The Northern Lights cruise itinerary

#### 4 MARCH 2025 Helsinki

Hei Helsinki! Finland's vibrant capital, where history converges with architectural style and combines with a laid-back vibe across beautiful islands and pristine public parks, welcomes you. This evening, gather with new friends for a welcome dinner in the city centre. Hyvää ruokahalua! (Bon appetit!)

#### 5 MARCH 2025 Helsinki

Join a local expert for an engaging city tour. If Finland's heart beats in Helsinki, then Helsinki's core is in Senate Square, home of Helsinki Cathedral, the city's most iconic building. Walk the streets of empiricdesigned Tori Quarters before enjoying some free time in Market Square, the city's most famous international market. Become transfixed by the sprawling lawns, rocky cliffs, and ornate villas of Kaivopuisto Park. During your leisure time, explore more of Helsinki independently.

#### 6 MARCH 2025 Helsinki - Kakslauttanen

Escape to northernmost Finland's winter wonderland on board a flight to Ivalo and magical Lapland. Like a storybook come to life, Lapland's culture is steeped in myth and legend. Relish encounters with reindeer and

# **THE NORTHERN LIGHTS OF FINLAND**7 DAYS I HELSINKI TO HELSINKI

The search for the Northern Lights begins in Helsinki, the vibrant capital of Finland. Escape to the northern most part of Finland's winter wonderland and magical Lapland where we spend 2 nights in our unique Finnish log cabin in Kakslauttanen. Here we set off for the chase for the Northern Lights – so many opportunities to experience the best of Finland's unspoilt wilderness, culture and legends as you continue to search for the Northern Lights.

A complete lack of pollution and unstated nature makes this outpost a wonderful place to see the Aurora Borealis. Also, a chance to visit the home of Santa Claus, experience a reindeer safari, learn about the Sami indigenous culture and enjoy a night in a private glass igloo in the heart of the Lappish Wilderness.

The next day we fly to Bergen and for those opting to continue with Manuela, join the cruise journey Search the Northern Lights with Viking Cruises.

unspoiled views of the northern lights. At the breathtaking Kakslauttanen Resort, spend two nights in your very own Finnish log cabin indulging in your personal Finnish sauna and other unique fixtures. Trek north toward Inari on a chase for the Northern Lights. Stops along the way allow the chance for a front-row seat at nature's dazzling, electric light show.

#### **7 MARCH 2025** Kakslauttanen - Santa Claus' Home - Reindeer Safari

Hit the snow and mush to breakfast aboard an authentic Finnish sleigh. From Kakslauttanen, head to the home of Santa Claus, the epicenter of Christmas cheer. Among prancing reindeer, learn about Santa's origins during a meet and greet at his house. Under the Arctic moonlight, a reindeer farmer introduces you to some friendly Lappish reindeer that will escort you on an exhilarating reindeer safari through remote Kakslauttanen. Gain insight into the importance of reindeer herding to the Sámi indigenous culture. Sip warm berry juice, a Finnish tradition, under the cover of blankets in the surrounds of northern Finland's unspoiled wilderness as you continue the search for the elusive northern lights.

#### 8 MARCH 2025 Kakslauttanen - Husky Safari - Northern Lights Search

Breathe in the fresh Arctic air this morning and step into the role as leader of your own dog sled team. Zoom through the wilderness on a husky safari, driving your husky guides that are as fast as they are adorable. Spend some time getting to know these amazing dogs and learn about their different commands. You'll also be introduced to the equipment needed to experience this incredible Arctic adventure at its best. Enjoy your last night in the heart of the Lappish wilderness, nestled in your incredible – and private – glass igloo. You may even see the northern lights dancing overhead.

#### 9 MARCH 2025 Kakslauttanen - Helsinki

Say goodbye to enchanting Lapland and fly back to Helsinki. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure. Explore the city's central squares and get in tune with the latest Finnish trends at a collection of charming shops. Tonight, in downtown Helsinki, toast to grand adventures and new friends.

#### 10 MARCH 2025 Helsinki – Bergen

Finish your land tour in Helsinki where you'll have the option to end you journey here or fly straight to Bergen (Flight not included), where you'll have the option to carry on your journey searching for the Northern Lights with Manuela Kretschmer onboard Viking Venus for 13 days departing Bergen to London.

This land tour concludes today, but for those wanting to continue their Northern Lights journey, join Manuela on the 13 day Search The Northern Lights cruise with Viking Cruises. See next page >>



### CHOOSE ONE NORTHERN LIGHTS JOURNEY,



### CRUISE

#### INCLUDES

- 13 day cruise from Bergen to London
- · Shore excursion in every port
- Free Wi-Fi
- · Alternative restaurant dining
- 24-hour room service
- Beer, wine & soft drinks with lunch & dinner onboard the ship
- Spa & fitness center access

#### Departs 11 March 2025

TWIN SHARE PRICING FROM Deluxe Veranda **\$9,095**<sup>\*</sup>pp Penthouse Veranda **\$12,095**<sup>\*</sup>pp

#### 11 MARCH 2025 Helsinki – Bergen

Start your cruise onboard Viking Venus a modern, intimate small ship with no casinos, no kids and no more than 930 guests. Bergen will leave you lost for words as you are encircled by majestic mountains, fjords and glaciers, you'll quickly understand how its setting inspired the Viking Sagas. This evening mingle with the locals and dine ashore, as we will be spending the night in port.

#### 12 MARCH 2025 Bergen

Take in more of Bergen's Norwegian charms today. In the city's Old Town, explore narrow cobblestone lanes and peer into shop windows. You'll find this Hanseatic haven to be a walker's delight.

## **13 MARCH 2025** Sail the Norwegian Sea

As you sail the scenic coast of Norway, delve into the Nordic-inspired amenities of your ship. Treat yourself to a traditional Norwegian waffle at Mamsen's gourmet deli. Tour your ship with the Viking Art App and learn about the onboard Scandinavianinspired art and streamlined design. Perhaps take in an engaging lecture or attend a Viking Historian roundtable discussion.

#### 14 MARCH 2025 Narvik, Norway

Home to a former Viking settlement, Narvik is situated on the innermost shores of the Ofotfjorden. The small town enjoys a dramatic backdrop, encircled by mountains in every direction and the glacier that spills right to

## SEARCH THE NORTHERN LIGHTS 13 DAY CRUISE I BERGEN TO LONDON (TILBURY)

Cruise far north in Norway's winter and witness what few others see! Experience a land where dawn and twilight merge on the edges of the long Arctic night. Cruising far north in Norway's winter onboard Viking Venus, witness what few others see: wondrous snow-dusted landscapes, cities hushed in slumber and the luminous aurora borealis dancing in the sky. Sami legends, a sled dog ride and mysterious rock carvings bring you close to your destination. Join us on this truly illuminating cruise.

the water's edge. You might also enjoy the wilderness during a sleigh ride or meet the native Sami people.

#### 15 MARCH 2025 Alta

Resting on the shores of Altafjord, Alta is the gateway to some of Europe's most magnificent natural beauty. Its frequent clear skies make it an ideal locale from which to view the northern lights. Fascinating rock carvings tell stories of primitive cultures. You may opt to visit the nearby Sami community of Máze for an authentic local lunch and an exciting ride in a reindeer-drawn sleigh.

#### 16 MARCH 2025 Alta

Enjoy another day amid the breathtaking setting of Alta. You may wish to explore the town, visit the Northern Lights Cathedral or venture to the spectacular Sautso, a canyon carved over millennia by the Alta River.

#### 17 MARCH 2025 Tromsø

Enjoy the lovely setting of Tromsø's historic centre, surrounded by snow-capped peaks. On an included tour along heated sidewalks, installed to keep the snow at bay, admire its blend of wooden structures and neoclassical buildings. You'll see the stunning Arctic Cathedral with its striking triangular shape, the city's most recognizable symbol. In winter, the spectacular surroundings can be explored by sled, pulled by reindeer or dogs. Learn about this tradition at the Tromsø Wilderness Center, home to more than 100 huskies.

#### 18 MARCH 2025 Tromsø

Another day to immerse yourself in the natural beauty and rich culture of Tromsø. You might set off into Norway's pristine wilderness on a glacier trek in the Alps, learn about the aurora borealis and indigenous cultures of northern Norway at the Tromsø University Museum, or pay a visit to the world's northernmost brewery.

#### 19 MARCH 2025 Narvik, Norway

The small town of Narvik enjoys a dramatic

backdrop, bordered by mountains and a glacier that spills right to the water's edge. Spend the day in the Narvik War Museum and discover Narvik's role in World War II during a visit to the Narvik War Museum. Board your coach and embark on a city drive to the Narvik War Museum, passing the local fish market.

#### **20 MARCH** 2025 Scenic Sailing: Norwegian Inside Passage

As you sail the scenic coast of Norway, delve into the Nordic-inspired amenities of your ship. This evening, savour a romantic dinner at Manfredi's Italian Restaurant.

#### 21 MARCH 2025 Sail the North Sea

Cross the North Sea, where Vikings sailed as they established colonies on Scottish islands, coastal France and beyond. As you sail, explore our well-curated library, tucked in a private alcove of The Living Room, and select from a broad range of titles. Read a book by the Main Pool, a calming oasis in any weather with its retractable roof, allowing for yearround swimming.

## **22 MARCH 2025** Amsterdam (limuiden), The Netherlands

Amsterdam, just 11 miles from ljmuiden, is famed for its patchwork of charming waterways, elegant gabled houses and splendid museums. The legacy of the Dutch Golden Age lives on in gilded manses and in the lush paintings of Rembrandt and other Dutch masters that adorn the Rijksmuseum. Wind through the canals via one of the city's famous glass-topped canal boats admiring some of Amsterdam's loveliest buildings.

#### 23 MARCH 2025 London (Tilbury)

Awake in Tilbury, Situated on the north bank of the Thames, Tilbury is steeped in history. The town is most famous as the site of a fortress built by Henry VIII to defend London from invasion by ships coming up the Thames. Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport. Or explore more with Viking and spend time in London.

#### OR COMBINE THEM BOTH!



 Dil Hoffmann

 travel

 1300 748 748 pht.com.au

 Barossa Valley | Gawler | Glenelg | Hyde Park | Modbury | Norwood | Semaphore | Stirling | Victor Harbor

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\*Conditions Apply: All pricing subject to change and availability. Pricing correct at time of printing. Advertised prices are per person twin share unless stated otherwise. Offers may be withdrawn at any time. Itineraries are subject to change. Flight from Helsinki to Bergen not included and at additional expense. Booking conditions and the Phil Hoffmann Travel Bookings Conditions and advisory services apply E&OE // MAR 2025 EDITION.