

FINLAND



Eurolynx is proud to present a selection of tour options that focus on exploring Finland. These tours are all on quality coaches and are escorted by local Finish operators, providing genuine local knowledge.

TOUR OPTIONS:

<u>Tour name</u>	<u>Number of days</u>	<u>Price Guide from (NZD pp)</u>
North Cape Tour: <i>Helsinki, Rovaniemi, Kittila, Kautokeino, Alta, North Cape, Honningsvag, Saariselka, Tankavaara</i>	5	\$2,885
Saimaa Lake Tour: <i>Helsinki, Procoo, Ruotsinpyhtaa, Imatra, Savonlinna, Koli</i>	3	\$1,130
Scenic Finland Tour: <i>Helsinki, Porvoo, Ruotsinpyhtaa, Imatra, Savonlinna, Koli, Kuhmo, Kuusamo, Rovaniemi</i>	7	\$2,945

Please find following detailed information on each of these escorted tours. They are listed in alphabetical order.

Other tour options...

- There are a number of independent self-drive tours, where your arrangements are all organised in conjunction with using a rental car. Please contact Eurolynx for further information.
- There are tours that may be of interest if you would like to explore the region – maybe to St Petersburg, or the Baltic States. Please refer to our separate flyers for information on these tour options.

Additional services

- Eurolynx also has access to a wide range of other services including: accommodation, car hire, rail tickets, sightseeing excursions, ferry tickets, yacht hire, active tours (such as kayaking the coastline).

*Information and rates based on information as at December 2005.
Where given NZD rates are a guide only, and are subject to tariff and exchange variance.*

	<p align="center">Eurolynx Travel Limited Specialising in wholesale travel for Europe</p> <p align="center">P O Box 68637, Newton, Auckland 1032, New Zealand DX: CP29517 Tel.: 64-9-361 3661 Fax.: 64-9-361 3664 Email: info@eurolynx.co.nz Web: eurolynx.co.nz</p>	<p><i>Agent Stamp:</i></p>
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NORTH CAPE TOUR

5 days, 4 nights



Early flight brings you from Helsinki to Rovaniemi. Continue by private motor coach through some impressive Lapp scenery and along the Arctic Ocean until you reach the North Cape, Europe's northernmost plateau. You will experience many aspects of Lapp culture along the journey.

Departures

June 9, 16, 23, 29
July 6, 12, 18, 24, 30
August 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25

Duration

5 days / 4 nights

Meeting Point and Time

At Helsinki-Vantaa airport at the domestic terminal one hour prior to flight departure. Look for FTB assistant with North Cape Tour sign.

In North Cape, Norway, the sun is above the horizon from May 10 to July 25. However, you can experience the "White Nights" until mid-August, after which the days shorten rapidly.

Prices per person

• In shared twin room	EUR 1,560
• Single supplement	EUR 200
• Child under 12 years in extra bed sharing the room with two adults	EUR 1,315
• Extra bed for 3 rd adult	EUR 1,560

Tour Includes

- accommodation in twin-bedded rooms with bath/shower
- luggage handling in hotels
- 4 buffet breakfasts, 5 lunches, 4 dinners
- transportation by private coach
- sightseeing, visits, excursions and entrance fees according to the programme
- multilingual tour leader
- domestic flight Helsinki-Rovaniemi-Helsinki
- service charges and taxes on included items

Day 1: Helsinki-Rovaniemi-Särestö-Kittilä

Day 2: Kittilä-Harriniva-Hetta-Kautokeino-Alta

Day 3: Alta-Honningsvåg-North Cape-Honningsvåg

Day 4: Honningsvåg-Inari-Saariselkä

Day 5: Saariselkä-Tankavaara-Luosto-Rovaniemi-Helsinki

Note! You are welcome to continue on this tour after Scenic Finland Tour.

Day 1: Architecture in Lapland (L, D, flight, coach, 171 km / 106 miles)

Early morning flight brings you to Rovaniemi, the capital of Finnish Lapland. During the sightseeing tour you will see works designed by Finland's most famous architect Alvar Aalto. Crossing the magic line of the Arctic Circle is a great experience for any visitor. To make it truly exotic, you take part in a Lapp initiation ceremony. You will also enjoy lunch at the Arctic Circle, in a Lapp tepee. Continue northwards along the Ounasjoki River, and stop at the Art Museum of Reidar Särestöniemi, the most notable Lapp artist who found his motifs in Lapland's nature. His former studio and home, a complex of log houses, represent traditional Lapp architecture. Dinner and overnight at Hotel Sirkantähti or similar in Kittilä.

Day 2: Shooting the Rapids (B, L, D, coach, boat, 343 km / 213 miles)

Properly equipped with a rain gear and a life vest, you set off from Harriniva on board a pneumatic lifeboat on an exciting, yet comfortable and perfectly safe one-hour journey through seven rapids. As you come ashore, nothing will taste better than steaming hot soup served around a glowing campfire. You continue northwards via Kautokeino, the largest Lapp cultural centre in Norway. As you travel, you notice the rolling hills of Finnish Lapland changing into Norwegian tundra. At last you reach the Arctic Ocean and the fishing port of Alta. Dinner and overnight at Rica Hotel Alta or Hotel Aurora or similar.

Day 3: North Cape Panorama (B, L, D, coach, 254 km / 158 miles)

Alta is famous for its 5000 to 6000 year-old rock carvings, which are so prestigious that they have been included in the World Heritage List of UNESCO. During a visit to the

Alta museum there is a unique opportunity to experience the world of an ancient Lapp depicted in the rock carvings. Continue towards Honningsvåg stopping for lunch on the way. You reach the North Cape in the evening. In front of your eyes opens the Arctic Ocean and the endless scenery. Standing on Europe's northernmost plateau you celebrate this unforgettable moment with sparkling wine and local caviar. Dinner and overnight at Rica Hotel Honningsvåg or similar in Honningsvåg.

Day 4: The Past and Present of the Sami People (B, L, D, coach, 393 km / 244 miles)

Enjoy the last glimpses of the awesome northern landscapes, as you head back south driving along one of the most beautiful Norwegian fjords. Lunch will be en route in the little village of Karasjok. Back in Finland, you visit an open air Sami museum in Inari. Buildings and handicraft collected from different regions of Lapland give you a fascinating look into the life of the nomadic Samis or Lapps of yesterday.

While visiting a local reindeer herder at his home, you will have the opportunity to see how a present day Lapp family lives and treasures the ancient traditions. You will listen to joiku-singing, a chant in the Sami language, and hear the owner of the farm telling you about reindeer breeding. Dinner and overnight at Hotel Riekonlinna in Saariselkä.

Day 5: Gold Rush à la Tankavaara (B, L, coach, flight, 261 km / 162 miles)

The last stop in northern Lapland is the Tankavaara Gold Village. Relive the thrills of the Gold Rush that once attracted hundreds of men into the region in the hope of finding a gold nugget. Today you will also have the opportunity to try your luck in washing for gold. Lunch will be taken in Luosto on the way to Rovaniemi airport. Evening flight back to Helsinki.

SAIMAA LAKE TOUR

3 days, 2 nights

This short tour takes you to the heart of the Finnish lake district, where you see some beautiful lake scenery, which the country is famous for. Visit historical landmarks and learn about the eastern orthodox traditions on a monastery visit.

Departures

June 3, 10, 17, 23, 30

July 6, 12, 18, 24, 30

August 3, 7, 11, 15, 19

Duration

3 days / 2 nights

Meeting Point and Time in Helsinki

In front of the hotel's entrance at: Radisson SAS Plaza at 8.15 am, Sokos Hotel Vaakuna 8.30, Cumulus Seurahuone 8.30, Scandic Hotel Simonkenttä 8.45, and Scandic Hotel Continental at 9.00 am.

Prices per Person

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| • In shared twin room | EUR 610 |
| • Single supplement | EUR 116 |
| • Child under 12 years in extra bed sharing the room with two adults | EUR 507 |
| • Extra bed for 3 rd adult | EUR 610 |

Tour Includes

- accommodation in twin-bedded rooms with bath or shower
- luggage handling in hotels
- 2 buffet breakfasts, 2 lunches and 2 dinners
- transportation by private coach
- sightseeing, visits, excursions and entrance fees according to the programme
- multilingual tour leader
- domestic flight Joensuu-Helsinki
- service charges and taxes on included items

Day 1: Helsinki-Porvoo-Ruotsinpyhtää-Langinkoski-Imatra

Day 2: Imatra-Punkaharju-Savonlinna-Valamo-Koli

Day 3: Koli-Joensuu-Helsinki

Day 1: Tracing the Czar's Footsteps (L, D, coach, 270 km / 168 miles)

Your journey through the Finnish Lakeland starts as you depart by coach for Porvoo, the second oldest town in Finland. Situated on the banks of a river, the old part of the town is famous for its charming red warehouses, cobblestone lanes and handicraft shops. It was in the medieval cathedral of Porvoo that Czar Alexander I declared Finland an autonomous Grand Duchy of Russia in 1809, the first step on the way to independence.

Lunch will be enjoyed in the old Ruotsinpyhtää ironworks village, dotted with red 18th-century workers' dwellings.

On the way to Imatra you will stop to admire the Langinkoski rapids. Czar Alexander III had an imperial fishing lodge built on the shore of the roaring rapids, and the court in St. Petersburg was provided with salmon caught by the czar's fishermen.

Dinner and overnight at Rantasipi Hotel Valtionhotelli in Imatra.

Day 2: The Land of Thousands of Lakes (B, L, D, coach, 270 km / 168 miles)

We approach the Retretti Art Exhibition via the Punkaharju esker ridge, an isthmus between two large lakes. The sub- and superterranean exhibition halls of Retretti house an exhibition of classical as well as contemporary visual arts.

After lunch in Punkaharju you head to Savonlinna. On a small island in the centre of the town stands the best-preserved medieval fortress in the Nordic countries, Olavinlinna Castle. Founded in 1475, the castle and its three magnificent towers have seen the Swedes rowing through the straits, the Russians skiing across the ice and the Finns building a bridge over the troubled water. Every summer it turns into the scene of one of the oldest music festivals in Europe, the Savonlinna Opera Festival.

The eastern orthodox monastery of Valamo still bears the name of the island in Lake Ladoga from where it was transferred to Heinävesi in 1940. In the Valamo Monastery, tea is brewed in the traditional style in a massive silver samovar, sweetened with raspberry jam, and served in tea glasses. The tea is accompanied by old-Russian delicacies.

Continue to Koli Hills, one of Finland's best-known places of natural beauty. From the highest hilltop there is a spectacular view over forests and lakes. Dinner and overnight at Sokos Hotel Koli in Lieksa.

Day 3: Homeward-Bound (B, flight)

Breakfast at hotel. Transfer to Joensuu airport and flight to Helsinki. The flight schedule varies from one departure to another, the return flight may even be in the evening.



SCENIC FINLAND TOUR

7 days, 6 nights



See places of great natural beauty and gain insight into the Finnish heritage. Visit the Saimaa lake district and continue through Karelia, a borderland between East and West where eastern Orthodox traditions are part of everyday life. From the untouched wilds of Kuusamo, you go on to Rovaniemi, the capital of Finnish Lapland on the Arctic Circle.

Departures

June 3, 10, 17, 23, 30
July 6, 12, 18, 24, 30
August 3, 7, 11, 15, 19

Duration: 7 days / 6 nights

Meeting Point and Time in Helsinki

In front of the hotel's entrance at: Radisson SAS Plaza at 8.15 am, Sokos Hotel Vaakuna 8.30, Cumulus Seurahuone 8.30, Scandic Hotel Simonkenttä 8.45, and Scandic Hotel Continental at 9.00 am.

Note! It is possible to join the North Cape Tour in Rovaniemi.

Prices per Person

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|--|----------|
| • In shared twin room | EUR 1510 |
| • Single supplement | EUR 310 |
| • Child under 12 years in extra bed sharing the room with two adults | EUR 1250 |
| • Extra bed for 3 rd adult | EUR 1510 |

Tour Includes

- accommodation in twin-bedded rooms with bath/shower
- luggage handling in hotels
- 6 buffet breakfasts, 6 lunches, 6 dinners
- transportation by private coach
- sightseeing, visits, excursions, and entrance fees according to the programme
- multilingual tour leader
- domestic flight Rovaniemi – Helsinki
- service charges and taxes on included items

Day 1: Helsinki-Porvoo-Ruotsinpyhtää-Langinkoski-Imatra

Day 2: Imatra-Punkaharju-Savonlinna-Valamo-Koli

Day 3: Koli-Joensuu-Kiihtelysaara-Tuopovaara-Ilomantsi-Koli

Day 4: Koli-Vuonismahti-Lieksa-Kuhmo **Day 5:** Kuhmo-Kuusamo

Day 6: Kuusamo-Rovaniemi **Day 7:** Rovaniemi-Helsinki

Day 1: Traces of the Past

(L, D, coach, 270 km / 168 miles)

Depart by coach for Porvoo, the second oldest town in Finland. The old part of the town is famous for its charming old warehouses, cobblestone lanes, handicraft shops and the medieval cathedral. Lunch will be enjoyed in the old Ruotsinpyhtää ironworks village, dotted with red 18th-century workers' dwellings. Next stop will be at Langinkoski rapids where you see the imperial fishing lodge that Czar Alexander III had built on the shore of the roaring rapids. Dinner and overnight at Rantasipi Hotel Valtionhotelli in Imatra.

Day 2: Stunning Finnish Countryside

(B, L, D, coach, 270 km / 168 miles)

Drive through the beautiful Punkaharju esker ridge, an isthmus between two large lakes, and continue to Retretti Art Exhibition featuring classical and contemporary collections, housed partly in an underground cave. After lunch in Punkaharju you head to Savonlinna to pay a visit to Olavinlinna Castle, the venue of the annual Savonlinna Opera Festival. In the afternoon you visit the eastern orthodox monastery of Valamo in Heinävesi and have a cup of tea brewed in the traditional style in a silver samovar, sweetened with raspberry jam and accompanied by old-Russian delicacies. Continue to Koli Hills, Finland's best-known spot of natural beauty. From the highest hilltop there is a spectacular view over forests and lakes. Dinner and overnight at Sokos Hotel Koli in Lieksa.

Day 3: Karelian Heritage

(B, L, D, coach, 330 km / 205 miles)

Today's excursion will acquaint you with Karelian culture and traditions. On a visit to a local farmhouse you will experience the friendly hospitality that the Karelians are famous for. See fine examples of wooden architecture and visit exhibitions of local arts and crafts, listen to music played on Kantele, the Finnish folk music instrument, and savour Karelian specialities. Dinner and overnight at Sokos Hotel Koli in Lieksa.

Day 4: Art and Adventures

(B, L, D, coach, 250 km / 155 miles)

On the way to Kuhmo you will stop in Vuonismahti to see the studio and the little log chapel of sculptress Eva Ryyänen, who had a unique talent for making sculptures out of wood. In the Ruunaa wilderness close to the Finnish-Russian border, you have a chance to shoot the rapids on a long wooden boat, steered by local fishermen. After lunch by a crackling fire, tour proceeds to Kalevala village, which offers a fascinating look at the old traditions of the Karelian people as they were in the 19th century, a period when the ancient poems of Finland's national epic, the Kalevala, were collected. Dinner and overnight at Hotel Kalevala in Kuhmo.

Day 5: Impressive Landscapes

(B, L, D, coach 290 km / 180 miles)

After guided tour of the village, continue northwards. You see the North-Karelian landscape of hills, lakes, and lush green meadows change to steep cliffs, streams, and wild forests. Lunch en route. In Kuusamo, stop to admire a natural sight of astounding beauty, Julma Ölkky, the deepest canyon lake in the area. Dinner and overnight at Spa Hotel Kuusamon Tropiikki in Kuusamo.

Day 6: Where Santa Claus is at Home

(B, L, D, coach, 200 km / 124 miles)

After breakfast you set off for an excursion to Lake Kitka. Sitting in a rowing boat or standing on the shore, you can watch local fishermen seine-fishing. If the catch is good, it will be prepared for lunch. On the way to Rovaniemi, you pay a visit to the coffee cup museum. See the key sights of Rovaniemi and visit Santa's Workshop at the Arctic Circle, meeting the jolly old man in person, and taking part in a Lapp ceremony. Dinner and overnight at Hotel Rantasipi Pohjanhovi in Rovaniemi.

Day 7: Goodbye to Finland

(B, coach, flight)

Transfer to Rovaniemi airport for morning flight to Helsinki.