



Charter bus and Incoming Tour Operator Services in Northern Finland



# Saaga Travel -Your Partner in Northern Finland

Our primary operating areas are Oulu Region and Lapland in Northern Finland, but we can start a tour from any point in Finland.

Oulu is an ideal starting point for any tour in Northern Finland and Northern Scandinavia due to its great accessibility.

Oulu airport is the second biggest in Finland with several daily flights from Helsinki. Flight duration is 1 h. All trains from Helsinki to Lapland make a stop in Oulu.  $\checkmark$ 



# Our Charter Fleet

(m)



## VIP sedans and minibuses for up to 18 pax Trailer available for large luggage







# 48–63 seater tourist buses

All buses have USB charging plugs, Wi-Fi, wireless microphones, fridge, and WC



79-seater double decker

SAAGATRA

NAUTI MATKASTASI

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First Class

S 431 TD

SAAGATRAVEL















# **Incoming services**

Our DMC / incoming tour operator services build on our strong foundation in passenger transport services, on top of which we build our own high-quality and distinctive travel packages.

We focus on

- DMC services for groups staying in Oulu Region
- · day trips from Oulu to nearby destinations, and
- round trips in Northern Finland and Northern Scandinavia

In our own tours, our main target customer group is small highend leisure groups, including families (8-15 pax). However, we work with all kinds of groups, including leisure, business and youth groups; leisure and business FITs with private car and driver service; and technical and educational visit groups.

We have our own ready-made round trip itineraries which we can customize to your needs. We can also make completely customized packages based on your needs.

# Tour and Package Examples

# 6D5N In Search of Sources of Finnish Happiness – Live Like a Finn

Finland has been ranked #1 in the UN's 2020 World Happiness Report. On this tour we will look for the sources of modern Finnish happiness. Highlight of the tour are the encounters with real Finnish people, who will illustrate by their concrete examples what the Finnish happiness is based on.

Season: summer/autumn

Group size: 8-15

Route: Oulu - Hailuoto island - Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark - Oulu

Total driving distance: 300 km

Themes: Cultural tourism; Cornerstones of Finnish happiness including Family & society; Culture and arts; and Unique nature relationship of the Finnish people

Highlights: Meeting Finnish career women and Visit to Finnish grandma's place; exotic Hailuoto island; day at Finnish summer cottage; outdoor activities at Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark







6D5N In Search of Sources of Finnish Happiness



#### DAY 1 ARRIVAL IN OULU, NORTHERN FINLAND

Check-in at a hotel located in the center of Oulu. Over welcoming dinner we learn from our guide about the key factors behind Finnish happiness.

#### DAY 2 FAMILY AND SOCIETY

Today we learn about the roles of Finnish welfare society, good education system, gender equality, role of women, and balance between working life and family life as the societal foundations of the Finnish happiness. We meet local women who have succeeded in reconciling their family and working lives, and we pay a visit to a Finnish home for a traditional afternoon coffee. During the visit we hear more about the Finnish lifestyle, home, and family values.

#### DAY 3 CULTURE, ART, AND TRADITIONS

Transfer to Hailuoto, the largest island on the Bothnian Bay. This sparsely populated island with only 1000 inhabitants is known for its strong cultural heritage, In Hailuoto we learn about the sense of community, importance of traditions and roots, and the role of arts and culture as a source of one's sense of belonging and happiness. We will also visit Finland's first organic brewery. We stay overnight in the small fishing village at the far end of the island.

#### DAY 4 THE UNIQUE NATURE RELATIONSHIP OF THE FINNISH PEOPLE

Transfer to Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark. Finnish people are known for their special relationship with the nature. We spend a day at a Finnish summer cottage, taking part in normal cottage chores with our hosts and learning about the importance of nature in Finnish people's everyday lives. Accommodation at wilderness hotel next to Rokua National Park.

#### DAY 5 DEEPENING THE RELATIONSHIP WITH NATURE

By today we have already settled in the Finnish mood of enjoying the nature. Just like the Finns, we will continue to deepen our relationship with the nature in the most preferred way for each one of us. Today we are free to explore the unique Rokua nature by hiking, biking, fishing, picking seasonal berries and mushrooms or just staring at the lake surface – guided or self-guided. In the afternoon before dinner, we will have the traditional Finnish sauna experience to give you the ultimate feeling of relaxation and happiness.

#### DAY 6 TRANSFER BACK TO OULU, END OF TOUR

## FAM TRIP: In Search of Sources of Finnish Happiness – Live Like a Finn

- Oulu-Hailuoto-Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark
- 22.-27.8.2021 or
  29.8.-3.9.2021 (time will be decided 21.5.2021)
- For Tour Operators and influencers
- You need to pay your own travel costs to and from Oulu
- During FAM Trip all costs are covered by organizing partners
- Invitations will be sent in May
- Contact: johanna@saagatravel.fi



# Customized biking roundtrips in Northern Finland

We organize mountain biking round trips in Northern Finland to destinations in Oulu, Kainuu, Ruka-Kuusamo and Lapland regions. Itineraries can be tailored to your wishes.

The trips are made by minibuses. We have a closed trailer built specifically to transport the bikes. The capacity of the trailer is 16 bikes.

Recommended seasons: June-October and February-April

Group size: Max 15 pax

Bikes: Rental fatbikes. You can also bring your own bikes. We use the same bikes throughout the tour.

Guiding: tours can be done both guided or non-guided.

Highlights: Combining several biking denstinations including national parks to one tour; well-maintained winter biking trails; relaxing sauna after day's biking







7D6N Biking Round Trip, Example Itinerary (Summer)



DAY 1 ARRIVAL IN OULU, transfer to Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark.

#### DAY 2 BIKING IN ROKUA UNESCO GLOBAL GEOPARK

Trails through varied terrain, featuring boreal forest, lakes, river valleys and points of interest such as sightseeing towers and natural attractions in scenery formed by the last ice age.

#### DAY 3 BIKING IN UKKOHALLA (KAINUU)

Transfer to Ukkohalla; biking a nice route along fantastic needle trails and admiring beautiful hilly landscapes typical of Kainuu region. Accommodation at Ukkohalla Ski Chalet apartments. Admission to the Ukkohalla sauna world is included in the package.

#### DAY 4 HOSSA NATIONAL PARK

Today we experience the beautiful ridge paths of Hossa National Park, the clear waterways and the paths along their edges, as well as the needle paths running in the pine forests. The cycling routes offer varied and exciting terrain as well as great scenery.

#### DAY 5 HOSSA-SYÖTE

In the morning a cruise in beautiful canyon lake Julma Ölkky. Transfer to Syöte area. On the way stop at Jalavan Kauppa, the oldest shop in Finland. In the afternoon, we will cycle the classic Syöte Tour around Iso-Syöte fell. We get to test the Pärjänjoki boulevard and experience the great ridge landscapes of Pytkynharju.

#### DAYS 6 FULL DAY BIKING EXCURSION IN SYÖTE

Today we are doing a longer ride that offers tight climbs, fun descents and mostly single track trails - Syöte at its best! We enjoy a picnic lunch during the day. In the evening relaxing at the Arctic Spa and farewell dinner at Restaurant Hilltop, admiring the view over the beautiful landscape.

#### DAY 7 SYÖTE – OULU

Transfer back to Oulu and end of tour. From Oulu you can take the one-hour flight to Helsinki and catch any connecting afternoon flight back to the destination of your origin.

# 8D7N Southern Lapland Highlights Winter Roundtrip

This example itinerary can be customized according to the needs of the customer. This itinerary takes advantage of the good accessibility of Oulu airport and the short distances between the destinations in Southern Lapland, offering customers the full Lapland experience without strenuous, long hours of travel.

Season: Mid-Dec-March (note: ice conditions may affect availability of activities)

Group size: 10-18 (larger groups also possbile)

Route: Oulu - Kemi - Rovaniemi - Ranua - Syöte

Total driving distance: 600 km

Highlights: Frozen sea in Oulu; SnowCastle and icebreaker Sampo in Kemi; Arctic Circle and Santa Claus in Rovaniemi; Ranua Zoo and glass igloos in Ranua; hilltop design hotel and husky and reindeer safaris in the magical winter landscape of Syöte.







**8D7N** Southern Lapland Highlights Winter Roundtrip



DAY 1 ARRIVAL IN OULU, Welcoming dinner

## DAY 2 THE WONDER OF THE FROZEN SEA AND EXPLORING OULU, THE LARGEST CITY IN NORTHERN FINLAND

Adventure on the frozen sea and free time to explore the city.

#### DAY 3 SNOWCASTLE AND SAMPO ICEBREAKER IN KEMI

Transfer to Kemi; SnowCastle and cruise on Sampo icebreaker. Transfer to Rovaniemi.

#### DAY 4 ROVANIEMI HIGHLIGHTS: ARCTIC CIRCLE AND SANTA CLAUS

Highlights of Rovaniemi, the Official Hometown of Santa Claus: Arktikum museum and science centre, Arctic Circle and Santa Claus. Transfer to Ranua, accommodation in lakeside glass igloos with own private sauna.

#### DAY 5 RANUA WILDLIFE PARK

Visit to Ranua Wildlife Park to see Finland's only polar bears as well as 50 other arctic and northern animal species. Transfer to Syöte, Finland's southernmost fell area with magnificent snow-covered trees landscapes. Accommodation in stylish design hotel on top of the fell.

#### DAYS 6-7 WINTER ACTIVITIES IN SYÖTE FELL RESORT

Time to enjoy nature and winter activities of your choice (husky, reindeer or snowmobile safaris, or skiing, snowshoeing or winter biking along the well-maintained trails in the Syöte National Park). After the daily dose of fresh air, you can enjoy the luxury of Arctic Spa saunas and pools.

#### DAY 8 SYÖTE – OULU

Transfer back to Oulu and end of tour. From Oulu you can take the one-hour flight to Helsinki and catch any connecting afternoon flight back to the destination of your origin.

# 6D5N Teacher Training Course: How to Teach Sustainability

Do you want to learn how to make sustainable development studies at schools more meaningful? If you answer yes, this course, designed by education professionals for education professionals is meant just for you!

Season: during Finnish school year

Group size: 10-20

Target group: teachers, principals, other education professionals

Destinations: Oulu City and Syöte, Northern Finland

Highlights: school visits; practical, interactive exercises that teachers can adapt to their teaching; concrete examples of designing lessons and materials; outdoor learning activities

Optional add-on: seasonal free time activities such as husky and reindeer sled rides and Aurora hunting; Visit to Rovaniemi: Arctic Circle, Santa Claus, Arktikum Museum







6**D**5N **Teacher** Training Course: How to Teach **Sustainability** 



#### TEACHER TRAINING COURSE

#### DAY 1 ARRIVAL IN OULU

Check-in at a hotel in city center of Oulu. Dinner.

#### DAY 2

Presentation: Finnish Core curriculum of basic education; workshop on transversal competences in actin at Finnish schools; visit to a local basic education school

#### DAY 3

Presentations on Agenda 2030, sustainable development curriculum path and multidisciplinary approaches to teaching; workshop on designing lesson plans on Agenda 2030/environmental sustainability; visit to local basic education school

#### DAY 4

Visit to Nature school of Oulu and example programs teachers can carry out in their own school; visit to Hirsikampus, world's largest log school; transfer to Youth and Leisure Center Pikku-Syöte in Syöte fell region

#### DAY 5

Familiarize yourself about youth centers and their pedagogic way of doing school camps. Lesson example: wilderness skills; visits to local elementary school and Syöte National Park visitor center. Final reflection, discussion and certificates of attendance.

#### DAY 6

Transfer back to Oulu airport. Alternatively, possibility to prolong the stay in Syöte region enjoying seasonal free time activities or to continue to Rovaniemi and Arctic Circle.

Download the course brochure: <u>https://saagatravel.fi/wp-</u> content/uploads/2021/05/Brochure\_How-to-teach-sustainability\_General.pdf

# 8D7N Camp School: Strengthening Entrepreneurial and Working Life Skills

Oulu Region is the leading educational and technical visits destination in Finland. In this program the students learn about entrepreneurship by developing and presenting their own business ideas in teams. Afternoons are reserved for fun and educating activities.

Season: winter camp in Jan, Feb, March and summer camp in May, Aug, Sept

Group size: 10-30

Age of participants: 12-18 years

**Destination: Oulu City** 

Highlights: hands-on experience of the methods of the world-famous Finnish education system; possibility to broaden one's perspective about future career orientation; experiencing the Finnish lifestyle and nature

Optional add-on: Visit to Rovaniemi: Arctic Circle, Santa Claus, Arktikum Museum







**8D7N Camp School:** Strengthening **Entrepreneurial** and Working Life Skills



#### SUMMER CAMP

#### DAY 1 ARRIVAL IN OULU

Check-in at the chosen accommodation: hotel in the Oulu city center or cottage accommodation; Welcoming dinner

#### DAY 2

Introduction to entrepreneurship; Lunch; Innovation & building a team; Dinner; Outdoor program: wilderness skills, exploring and observing the nature; Evening snack by open fire

#### DAY 3

From an idea to a business idea; Lunch; Getting familiar with the city & nature: walking city tour and visit to science center Tietomaa; Dinner; Free evening

#### DAY 4

Creating a minimum viable product and validation; Lunch; Cooking course at Lappish hut by open fire. Self-made dinner; Free evening

#### DAY 5

Creating a minimum viable product and validation continues; Lunch; On the footsteps of tar rowers: excursion to Turkansaari outdoor museum and tar boat rowing along Oulujoki river; Dinner at historic mansion, traditional Finnish games; Optional: Finnish sauna experience

#### DAY 6

Business idea feasibility; Lunch; Pitching of the business ideas; Dinner; Free evening

#### DAY 7

Final presentations and reflection; Lunch; Dinner; Free evening.; Optional: farewell party

#### DAY 8

Free morning; Lunch; Safe travels back home





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