

Local living Finland – working as a reindeer herder and wilderness activities by the Russian border

A week lasting summer package designed for those who want to do things **the local way, enjoy nature and get a closer look at the culture**. Families, couples, groups of friends and individual passengers will find this a nice combination of private comfort and spending time together as a group because while there's plenty of time to do your own thing, a daily group activity is included.

You'll truly **participate in a way of life as you will be looking after our newly born reindeer calves** and their mothers and **spending the nights at the Reindeer Lodge**. Reindeer husbandry has been an integral part of the local culture for centuries and it still is. Other daily tasks include participating in seasonally varying nature activities like **hiking, fishing and picking herbs, berries or mushrooms to supplement the daily menu, canoeing, visiting the must see-natural wonders of the Hossa area and enjoying the traditional wood-heated sauna**.

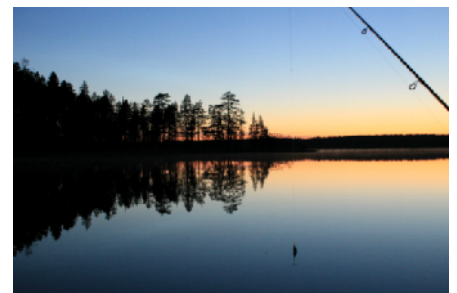
Tight schedules don't exist and there has consciously been left room for spontaneity and flexibility concerning weather conditions. You'll do just fine with moderate physical condition as the hikes and trails will be suited according to the group, thanks to the versatile possibilities of the Hossa area!

Day 1

Arrival to Kuusamo or Oulu airport and **transfer to Hossa**. During the transfer you'll get the idea how remote and sparsely-populated this area really is! We'll enjoy a welcoming dinner at the Reindeer Lodge, settle in, get familiar with the surroundings and with the reindeers of course. Depending on the schedule, we might take the fish traps to a nearby lake or pick some wild foods from our surroundings, hoping to get some **fresh fish and some wild edibles** for tomorrow. **Warm wood-heated sauna in the evening welcomes you to Finland**.

Day 2

After breakfast it's time to **feed the reindeers and carry water for them**. Then, after a short transfer, we will **take a hike in the aapa mires of the old growth forests**. The circular 15 km walk in this protected area is going to be a thing to remember. We'll be observing nature, **hike through varying terrain from moist mires into intense old coniferous forest**, enjoy a picnic lunch around open fire, get a closer look at the roots of modern Finnish society and let our eyes rest admiring one of the most astonishing landscapes of the whole area. Back in our basecamp, after feeding the reindeers and making sure they're ok, sauna and dinner will crown the day and make you fall asleep in your cozy log cabin.



Day 3

After the same morning routines, it's time to learn some fishing. With modern equipment and a guide who makes you familiar with the basics, it's enjoyable, relaxing and fun. At first you'll **learn how to fish with a spinning reel** and get to know the rest of the equipment, then it's time to head to a nearby lake to **try some fishing**, perches and pikes being the main target. We'll be fishing from shore and from small boats and enjoy some refreshments on the way. **Rowing the small boat and observing nature** on this remote lake is an experience in itself. The possible catch will be cooked in the evening and during this day, we'll also be **picking the seasonal wild foods that are found**. In the late afternoon we'll head back to our camp, take care for the reindeers, enjoy the löyly of the sauna and have dinner.



Day 4

First things in the morning are same as during the first two days but after that it's time to take a **boat ride** on a beautiful "Julma-Ölkky" canyon lake before we hike a round-trip of 8,5 km in total to explore Finland's northernmost and the most extensive stone-aged rock painting, the Colored Rock of Hossa. Seeing these two **natural wonders** is a must while visiting the area! The terrain and the landscapes on the hike are very different than on the hike on the second day. After having lunch, it's time for one of the highlights of the whole week, **observing wild brown bears in their natural habitat**. We'll spend five to six hours in a hide, admiring these **extraordinary animals**. After the excursion it's time to return to our base, heat up the sauna and have an evening meal. And of course we'll have to make sure that the reindeers are ok before we fall asleep!



Day 5

On the last day of the tour we'll go **canoeing on the pure and versatile waters of the Hossa area**. After breakfast and feeding the reindeer we'll be transferred to the starting point of our choice where we'll learn the basics and safety issues of canoeing and then off we go! Route is mainly paddling on lakes but there's a couple of small rivers suitable for beginners on the way too. We'll stop for a picnic lunch and after we've reached the endpoint, we'll have **dinner in one of the most special and authentic restaurants** that you'll ever visit. After the evening meal, we'll go back to our accommodation for sauna and a good night sleep.



Day 6

After breakfast it's time to say goodbye to the new-born calves and the rest of our small herd of reindeers and head to the airport.



Season	Sunday departures:	25 th May -17 th August 2014
Duration		6 days, 5 nights
Group size		2-8 persons
Price		In a group/family, first two persons 1025€/person, next two 925€/person and the rest up to the maximum of eight persons 825€/person.

What's included in my trip price?

5 nights at the Reindeer Lodge, all meals, all forms of transport, equipment rentals, sauna daily, admissions and the expertise of your local guide from the booking till the farewell!

NOT INCLUDED: Flights, personal travel insurance

Groups consisting of individual passengers/couples are charged with the same principle, price being determined by the final size of the group. If you're one of the first two to book and more people join afterwards, you'll get a refund according to the total amount of people.

So gather a group, tell a friend/relative to join and you'll all benefit!

Individual passengers are put together with the same sex and groups are filled in order of the bookings, defining whether it's a family group or a group consisting of individual passengers. Situation with the groups/departure dates is updated on the website.

Bookings and further details: Hossa Travel Ltd. hossatravel@gmail.com / +358 407 646 137 /