

The Land of the Midnight Sun's Winter Delights More Accessible; Finnair Increases Lapland Flights



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The untamed wilderness of Lapland may be as close as reality gets to those who dream of a winter wonderland. At least that’s how the Finns describe the region known for a range of seasonal activities like Northern Lights spotting, ice fishing, skiing (with everything from kid runs to black slopes) reindeer sleigh rides and visits to Rovaniemi, the capital of the region considered Santa’s hometown.

Travelers drawn to such dark Arctic winter delights are in luck. It will now be a lot easier to get to Finland’s northernmost region.

Last week, Finnair announced plans to increase capacity to several Lapland airports for the winter 2017 season due to the continued demand.

“Lapland has been attracting hundreds of thousands of international tourists every year and the interest continues to grow steadily,” Juha Järvinen, chief commercial officer at Finnair, said in a statement. “The past winter seasons have been particularly successful and we have increased our winter capacity to Lapland by nearly 140,000 seats over the past four years.”



(courtesy of photographer Riku Pihlanto and Visit Finland)

Winter hiking in Lapland, Finland

On more than 200 nights a year in the region, visitors can witness the Aurora Borealis, or Northern Lights, while snowshoeing, cross-country skiing or in a snowmobile or sled dog sleigh. Indoorsy types can partake of the wonders from the cozy comfort of glass igloos and luxury suites.

The region also offers the opportunity to learn about the culture and endangered language of the Sámi, an indigenous people who live in the Northern parts of Finland, Norway, Sweden and North-Eastern Russia.

Finnair connects travelers to five Lapland airports via Helsinki, with timetables “designed to support smooth connections from Europe, Asia and North America.”



(Image courtesy of photographer Riku Pihlanto and Visit Finland)

A snow village in Lapland, Finland.

During the winter 2017 season, Finnair will also operate new non-stop flights to Lapland airports from London Gatwick, Paris and Zurich. In total, Finnair will be adding about 57,000 seats to its winter capacity compared to the winter 2016 season.

For more information about Finland and Lapland, click [here](#) and [here](#); to learn more about Finnair flights, click [here](#).