

NEW YORK WEDDINGS

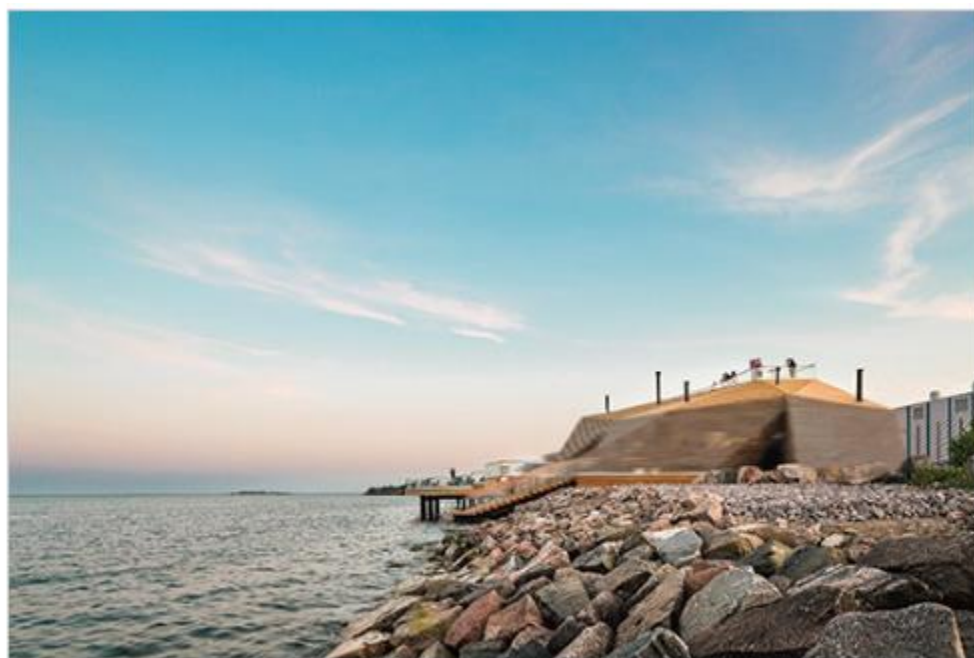
Honeymoon Times Two

Twelve countries, each done two ways.

By Fiorella Valdesolo

Finland

Helsinki + Lapland



Helsinki: Löyly

(Photo: Kuvio.com/Vourtesy of Löyly)

Copenhagen and Stockholm may get all the love, but for a corner of Scandi that still feels mildly undiscovered, there's Helsinki. Check in at the [Hotel St. George](#) (from \$214), a luxury property designed by Onni Tarjanne in a building dating back to the 1840s. It will open this October in time for celebrations of Finland's centennial. Get a handle on Helsinki's landscape with a hike around its surrounding archipelago — the unesco fortress of Suomenlinna, the little wood cabins of Seurasaari, and the recently opened to the public Vallisaari island. Or visit some of the architectural wonders that have earned the city design-capital status, like the serene, minimalist [Kamppi Chapel of Silence](#) or the Alvar Aalto-designed Finlandia Hall concert venue. Unwind as the Finns do with some sauna time — the futuristic-looking Löyly opened last spring — then sample avant local cuisine like turnip and whitefish, or potato and whey, at the Michelin-starred, pocket-size [Chef & Sommelier](#).



Lapland: Santa Claus Village in Rovaniemi 30

(Photo: Courtesy of Nordic Visitor)

Once you're stuffed, escape to the far north (daily flights leave from Helsinki on Finnair and Norwegian) to get a glimpse of one of the world's most magnificent natural phenomena: the Northern Lights. (They're usually visible from the end of August until the end of March.) Stay at the cozy (with faux-fur throws everywhere) Arctic Light Hotel (from \$300) in the Lapland town of Rovaniemi, a.k.a. Santa's hometown. There's hiking and catamaran cruising in the summer and, in the winter, snowmobiling and ice fishing.