



NORDICS ITINERARY

Finland

DAY 1

9 Jun

Welcome to Helsinki!

Your Finnish adventure begins in Helsinki with a GEA Happy Hour toast before dinner, the perfect opportunity to meet fellow travelers. Afterward, relax and unwind with your first optional Finnish sauna experience at Löyly, a state-of-the-art sauna located by the Baltic Sea. You'll spend the night in Helsinki, ready for the exciting days ahead.

Stay in Helsinki

DAY 2

10 Jun

Education and Exploration

The day starts with a lecture at the University of Helsinki, focusing on Finland's higher education culture and the happiness of Finns, followed by a session from the Ministry of Education & Culture on the Nordic way. Eat lunch at the farmers market and then take the ferry to Suomenlinna Fortress Island, a UNESCO world heritage site, for an afternoon of exploration. Embark on an optional tour of the Design District or enjoy Helsinki at your own pace before heading back to the hotel.

Stay in Helsinki

DAY 3

11 Jun

Helsinki Tour and School Visit, Monastery

Today's journey takes you through Helsinki's highlights, including the Lutheran Cathedral, Senate Square, the Sibelius monument, shore, and the central Oodi Library. You'll head to Pokrova Monastery for a tour and lunch. The day ends with a visit to a school, where you'll explore educational approaches focusing on happiness and relational trust, then return to Helsinki for a free evening.

Stay in Helsinki

DAY 5

13 Jun

Vocational Education and Sauna Night

Today begins with a quick stop to a community park in Helsinki, followed by a tour of a vocational School where you'll learn about the "no dead ends" philosophy and enjoy lunch. After lunch, you'll visit the award-winning Lippulaiva Library where you'll have a chance to connect with a recent graduate of the teacher training program. The day ends with a sauna night and potluck back at our accommodations at Nuuksio National Park!

Stay at Nuuksio National Park Hotel

DAY 6

14 Jun

Nature and Reflection

You'll explore the beautiful Haltia Nature Center, starting with an optional hike or forest bathing walk. After a lecture on outdoor education, enjoy a traditional Finnish buffet lunch and a reflective meeting to recap the Finland program. You have the option of visiting the Nuuksio Reindeer Park. This ends the main program. If you are joining us for the post-trip, you will continue to Sweden and will return to Helsinki's harbor to board a cruise ship for Stockholm, sailing through the scenic archipelago.

Stay on cruise ship

Sweden and Estonia Post-Trip

DAY 7

15 Jun

Stockholm, Sweden

Arriving in Stockholm, you'll take a walking tour of Old Town, and enjoy the Swedish tradition of fika. After lunch, visit the Nobel Museum and enjoy a scenic canal tour of the city. The evening wraps up with a traditional Swedish dinner of meatballs before settling in for the night at your Stockholm hotel in the heart of Old Town.

Stay in Stockholm

DAY 8

16 Jun

Exploring Museum Island

Spend the day exploring Museum Island, starting with a visit to the famous Vasa Museum. You'll have the freedom to explore other attractions, such as the Skansen Open Air Museum or the ABBA Museum. The evening ends with a Viking-inspired dinner at a Viking restaurant, offering a fun and immersive experience.

Stay in Stockholm

DAY 9

17 Jun

Swedish Education and Drottningholm Palace

Start the day with a visit to Fryshuset, a youth center and school dedicated to helping students find their passion. Afterward, you'll explore the grand Drottningholm Palace and its beautiful gardens. In the afternoon, you'll board a ferry for Estonia, enjoying a relaxing evening on the cruise ship as you sail across the Baltic Sea.

Stay on cruise ship

DAY 10

18 Jun

Welcome to Tallinn, Estonia

Upon arrival in Tallinn, visit Education Estonia for an introduction to Estonia's innovative digital education system. After checking into your hotel, enjoy a walking tour of Tallinn's Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site, before dinner at a traditional Estonian tavern. The evening is free to explore the city's boutiques and cafés.

Stay in Tallinn

DAY 11

19 Jun

School Visit and Estonian History

Begin the day with a visit to Tallinn Center School, where you'll learn about digital education in practice and discuss teacher and student well-being. Afterward, enjoy a stroll through Kadriorg Park and lunch before a guided bus tour exploring Estonia's past and present. The day ends with dinner at Olde Hansa, a medieval restaurant in Old Town, and a free evening to enjoy Tallinn.

Stay in Tallinn

Lapland Post-Trip

DAY 12

20 Jun

Return to Finland and Lapland Adventure

Begin your day with a final visit in Tallinn - the KGB Museum. From there, you will hop on a ferry that will take you back to Helsinki. You have now done a full circle from where you began! If you are not joining us for the Lapland portion, your journey ends here. For those who are continuing to Lapland, you'll fly to Rovaniemi for the final leg of the journey. Upon arrival, settle into cozy cabins under the midnight sun. You'll have the option to join an arctic yoga session to unwind in the peaceful setting of Lapland before resting up for an exciting day ahead.

Stay in cabins on Arctic Circle

DAY 14

21 Jun

Lapland Cultural Experience

Today is packed with Arctic adventures, starting with a visit to the Arktikum Museum and a local reindeer farm, where you'll participate in a traditional Lapland initiation rite. The day also includes a visit to a sled dog farm before you return to Rovaniemi for a free evening to explore and relax in the serene surroundings.

Stay in cabins on Arctic Circle

DAY 15

22 Jun

Sámi Art and Santa's Village

The final day begins with a visit to a Sámi artist's home, where you'll learn about the culture and sustainable arts practices of the Sámi people. Afterward, you'll head to Santa Claus Village for a festive lunch and a chance to explore the Arctic Circle. In the afternoon, you'll return to Helsinki by flight, marking the end of this unforgettable adventure.