



Lapland & the Far North

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Best Places to Eat

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- » Camp Ripan Restaurang (p304)
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Best Places to Stay

- » Icehotel (p306)
- » Båtsuoj Sami Camp (p296)
- » Hotel Arctic Eden (p303)
- » Tärnaby Lapland B&B (p293)
- » Abisko Fjällturer (p307)

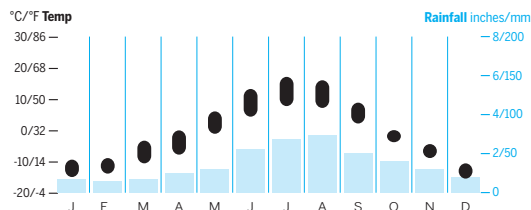
Why Go?

Lapland is Europe's last true wilderness. With a grand mountain range, endless forest and countless pristine lakes as your playground, it's your chance to be a true explorer. Its great swathes of virgin land are dotted with reindeer – this is Sami country still, and your chance to delve into the reindeer herders' centuries-old way of life.

Travelling in the far north of Sweden can draw you into an unusual rhythm. The long, lonely stretches between towns are epic, and often completely deserted apart from the ever-present reindeer. Extreme natural phenomena are at their strongest here – in summer you'll be travelling under the perpetual light of the midnight sun, in winter under the haunting colours of the northern lights. During the colder months Lapland is a different country: a white wilderness traversed by huskies and snowmobiles and punctuated with colourful Sami winter markets.

When to Go

Kiruna



Jan Snow sculpting, ice-skating competitions and dogsled races at the Kiruna Snow Festival.

Feb Shop til you drop at Lapland's biggest winter market in Jokkmokk.

Aug Hit the trails in the national parks during the dependably warmest and driest month.

Strömsund

☎0670 / POP 3516

North of Östersund (p266) along the E45, Strömsund is the first town of any size – in this case, a two-street affair sitting amid some extensive waterways popular with kayakers. The **tourist office** (☎164 00; www.stromsund.se; Storgatan 6; ☎10am-6pm Mon-Fri, to 3pm Sat late Jun-mid-Aug) provides informa-

tion on the Vildmarksvägen (Route 342). If you wish to break your journey here, **Grand Hotel** (☎611 00; www.hotelnordica.se; Bredgårdsgatan 6; s/d Skr550/800; ☐) has spacious, modern rooms inside an early 20th-century building and serves a good weekday buffet lunch.

Bus 45 passes by daily on the Gällivare-Jokkmokk-Arvidsjaur-Sorsele-Storuman-Östersund route.



Lapland & the Far North Highlights

1 Check out Sami crafts, reindeer races and revelry at the **Jokkmokk Winter Market** (p298)

2 Hike **Kungsleden** (p308), Sweden's longest hiking trail

3 Reside inside the **Icehotel** (p304), Lapland's

spectacular ice dwelling, in Jukkasjärvi

4 View the largest collection of Sami silver creations at the Silvermuseet in **Arjeplog** (p296)

5 Sample Northern Sweden's culinary delicacies

at Sanninggården in **Klippen** (p294)

6 Drive **Vildmarksvägen** (p291), Lapland's most beautiful road

7 Experience the Sami way of life at **Båtsuoj Sami Camp** (p296)