



Lapland & the Far North

Includes ➔

Strömsund.....	270
Tärnaby & Hemavan	271
Arvidsjaur	274
Jokkmokk	277
Gällivare.....	280
Kiruna.....	282
Abisko.....	286
Kungsleden.....	288

Best for Northern Fun

- ➔ Icehotel (p285)
- ➔ Lights Over Lapland (p287)
- ➔ Snöfestivalen (p283)
- ➔ Jokkmokk Guiderna (p278)
- ➔ Lapland Lodge (p275)

Best for Sami Culture

- ➔ Nutti Sami Siida (p282)
- ➔ Båtsuoj Sami Camp (p276)
- ➔ Atoklimpen (p271)
- ➔ Ájtte Museum (p277)
- ➔ Risfjells Sameslöjd (p271)

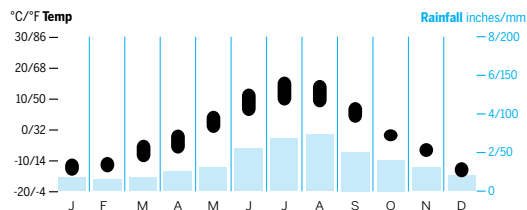
Why Go?

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 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 wraiths that are 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 & Feb Kiruna Snow Festival, Sami winter market in Jokkmokk and the northern lights.

Mar & Apr Warmer, longer days perfect for snowmobiling, dogsledding and ice-driving.

Jul & Aug Hit the trails in the national parks during the warmest and driest months.



Lapland & the Far North Highlights

- 1 Residing inside the **Icehotel** (p285), Jukkasjärvi's spectacular ice dwelling.
- 2 Checking out Sami crafts, reindeer races and revelry at the **Jokkmokk Winter Market** (p277).
- 3 Tackling the **Kungsleden** (p288), Sweden's longest hiking trail.

- 4 Driving on frozen lakes and going snowmobiling and husky sledding at **Arvidsjaur** (p274).
- 5 Driving the **Vildmarksvägen** (p272), Sweden's most beautiful road.
- 6 Flying over the Arctic tundra and mountains in a

helicopter from **Nikkaluokta** (p284).

- 7 Viewing the largest collection of Sami silver creations at the **Silverbuseet** (p276) in Arjeplog.

- 8 Descending into the bowels of the earth on a visit to Gällivare's impressive **mines** (p280).

Strömsund

☎ 0670 / POP 3589

North of Östersund along the E45, Strömsund is the starting point for the Vildmarksvägen (Rte 342, p272) and the first town of any size – a two-street affair sitting amid some extensive waterways popular

with kayakers. If you wish to break your journey here, **Hotel Nordica** (☎ 0670-61 10 00; www.hotelnordica.se; Ramselevägen 6; r Skr599; ☎) offers standard rooms in sedate creams, while its antler-festooned restaurant makes a good pit stop. The **tourist office** (www.stromsund.se; Ramselevägen 6; ☎ 9am-noon &