

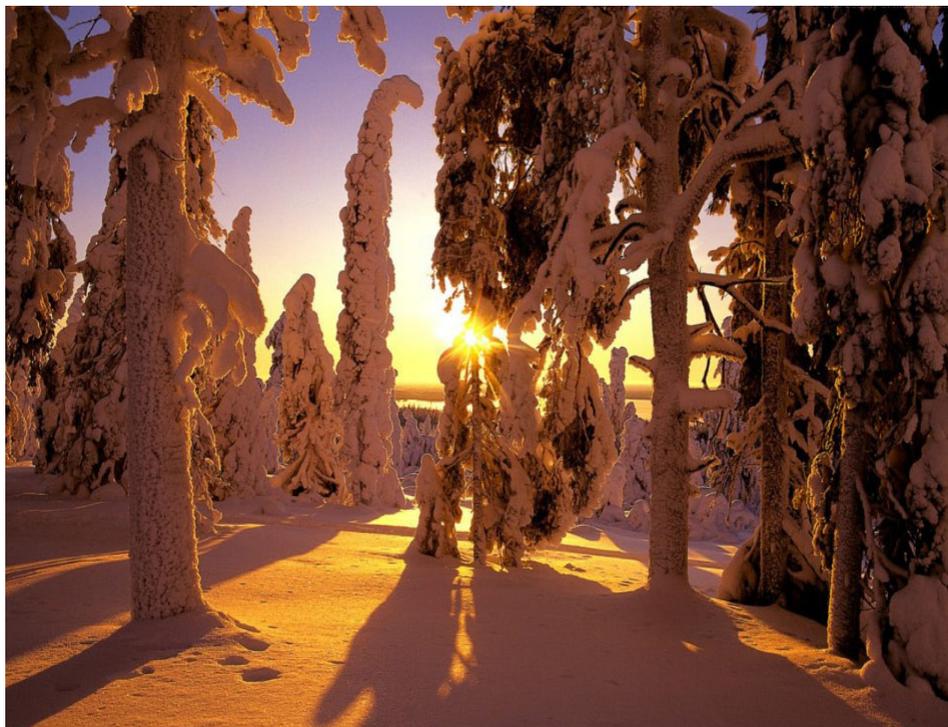
*Teresa Beall Expeditions presents*  
**“Ice, Ice Baby”**  
**Finnish Lapland Arctic Adventure**

**January 14-21, 2017**

**\$1339 pp (dbl occ) / \$1638 pp (sgl occ)**

(\* Land-only price; flights not included.

Currently fares from SFO/OAK are \$600-\$900 pp depending on airlines/routing, or you can use your airline miles.



On the edge of Europe’s last unspoiled wilderness lies Northern Lapland – the remote sanctuaries of indigenous peoples and intrepid explorers. Winter days in Finnish Lapland may be short, but they are merry and bright. On this winter wonderland expedition, enjoy the exhilaration of soaring across brilliant white landscapes on a snowmobile... feel the snow crunch under your shoes or skis... experience the thrill of driving a team of huskies through glistening winter vistas... learn the proper way to take a sauna (there are over 2 million of them in Finland, and over the years they have served as birthing places, operating rooms and a place to cure meat)... capture the spirit of ancient Sami traditions while guiding a reindeer sleigh... enjoy in a ceremonial joiku sing-a-long... and (if you’re lucky) watch the dance of the Northern Lights in nature’s spectacular light show. Along the way, you’ll stay in modest hotels – four nights at the Hotel Sirkantahti (Levi), one night at the Hotel Scandic Park (Helsinki), and a unique, adventuresome overnight at the Icehotel Luvattu Maa (Levi), all the while tasting regional specialties like reindeer soup, local berries and grilled game. Pack your silk long johns and down parka and come along.

**CALL, TEXT, OR EMAIL US FOR MORE INFORMATION!**

(\* Kirsti Maki will be hosting this group (not Teresa).

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*"Travel is more than the seeing of sights: it is a change that goes on, deep and permanent, in the ideas of living." – Miriam Beard*

## Snapshot Overview

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A top-of-the-world adventure awaits you on this Lapland expedition. The journey will recharge your spirit for exploration in the surroundings of spectacular scenery and warm friendly people. Think modern Finland with high-rises, bustling restaurants, modern railways and upscale shopping malls. Then imagine the remote north with snow and ice for as far as you can see, magical landscape and color flashes overhead that add new meaning to the term “skylights“. Carefully chosen accommodations vary from urban to modest inns and even an overnight at the Icehotel. Prepare to be captivated by this mystical frozen land on this once-in-a-lifetime trip.

This exclusive journey begins with touch down in Helsinki before connection up to **FINNISH LAPLAND**. Above the arctic circle, snow clad scenes, grazing reindeer and tall pines trees provide the frosty setting for this Lapland adventure. Amidst this enchanting landscape you will find a world where winter truly comes to life. Experience a wonderful adventure of festive magic upon your snowmobile, reindeer sleigh, husky dog sled. Cool down in snow caves and log castles and warm up in local saunas, and then keep your eyes peeled under the Arctic night sky in the hope of encountering the fabled aurora borealis (AKA Northern Lights). We cannot guarantee that you'll see this spectacular and mysterious natural phenomenon, of course, but you'll certainly have every chance to experience an unforgettable encounter.

**NEXT STOP:** One of the world's most northern and coolest (both in temperature and style) modern cities, **HELSINKI, FINLAND**. On one hand, the city exudes an atmosphere that is tranquil, reserved and nostalgic. The streets are clean and safe and trams travel across cobblestone (and snow covered) avenues, while street musicians play Bach. On the other hand, Helsinki is sleek, efficient and modern with trendy nightclubs and the highest rate of Internet users in the world. Finnish design has been leading the way for decades, and now the capital's stylish new bars and cutting-edge restaurants make it a hot weekend destination, even when it is cold.



## Tentative Schedule

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- Jan 14 / Sat Depart the USA
- Jan 15 / Sun Arrive in **HELSINKI**. Connect to the short flight to Kittila and transfer to **Hotel Sirkantahti**, located in the small village of Sirkka at the foot of Levi Mountain. There will be plenty of time to stroll the streets of this quaint resort village, but first you should take a traditional Finnish sauna (there is a private one in every room). It is one of the best ways to refresh after a long trip. A welcome drink and dinner in the hotel is included to complete your first Lapland day. (D)
- Jan 16 / Mon A full buffet breakfast is included to get you ready for a day of adventure. Boot and snowsuits will be provided for your **SNOWMOBILE** and **REINDEER SAFARI**. Ride through the beautiful snow covered forest and over frozen lakes. Meet Rudolph and Blitzen on a reindeer sleigh ride. Local Sami (Lappish) guides will sing typical “joiku” songs and perform a traditional ceremony. There will be many photo opportunities, so be sure to bring your camera. (B)
- Jan 17 / Tue Buffet breakfast is included. Today, you’ll take a short ride to our favorite husky dog farm for a 10 KM **HUSKY DOG SLED SAFARI**, complete with a tour of the kennels. It is interesting to learn how “retired” doges teach the little puppies. Experience the amazing thrill of mastering your own dog team or just sit back and let the experts do all of the work. Afterwards, the rest of the afternoon is yours free to enjoy a swim, sauna, or a spa treatment. You can also try cross-country or downhill skiing. There are 17 ski lifts and a complete equipment rental office just a few minutes away. Several trendy spots are open nightly for tango or disco, or take a walk in the moonlight in search of the Northern Lights. (B)
- Jan 18 / Wed After an included buffet breakfast, your adventure includes a day trip to Rovaniemi at the Arctic Circle. See the famous ski jump hill at Ounasvaara and ride along the Lumberjack’s Candle bridge. Visit the Arcticum Museum where exhibitions illustrate how people, animals and nature can adapt to the extreme conditions of the Arctic areas. Watch a video show of the Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis). Next, stop in Santa’s Village to meet the real Santa Claus, pose for photos with him and mail a letter from his own post office. Santa’s helpers answer thousands of letters from around the world each year. The charming shops offer a variety of beautiful glassware, jewelry and clothing items for gifts and for you. Highlight tonight is an **OVERNIGHT ICE HOTEL STAY** at the **Icehotel Luvattu Maa**. (B)
- Jan 19 / Thu Enjoy the included buffet breakfast at leisure, and the rest of the day is free on your own. Join Kirsti on the **GONDOLA RIDE** to the top of Levi Mountain to admire the beautiful view, have lunch and then hike/walk down to watch a breathtaking sunset. Otherwise, there are a variety of optional activities available: horseback riding, snowshoeing, skiing (downhill or cross country), taking a sauna, or try out the new swimming pools (enjoy being in the warm pool watching the skiers on the slopes). (B)
- Jan 20 / Fri After the included buffet breakfast, say farewell to Levi. A short flight will take you back to Helsinki. Enroute on the transfer between the Helsinki airport and the **Scandic Park Hotel**, enjoy a drive-by **CITY HIGHLIGHTS TOUR** (Daughter of the Baltic, Senate Square and Cathedral, open-air Marketplace (yes, it is open, even in the winter), Parliament Buildings, Atheneum, Kiasma – Modern Art Museum, and the Sibelius Monument). Visit the Temppeliaukio Church carved into the natural rock with its magnificent copper dome. A farewell dinner is included at Kirsti’s favorite, **Mamma Rosa Restaurant**. (B, D)
- Jan 21 / Mon After breakfast, you’ll have a little time to explore downtown Helsinki and Stockman’s Department Store before returning to the Helsinki airport for your flight departure back to the USA.

## Selected Accommodations



### **HOTEL SIRKANTAHTI (Levi)**

3+ star Snow Resort / 70 guestrooms

\*\* 4 nights w/ daily breakfast and one Welcome Dinner \*\*

Levintie 1630, 99130 Sirkka / +358 (0) 16 323500

[www.laplandhotels.com](http://www.laplandhotels.com)

Located in the center of Levi village, right next to the slopes and local interesting events and activities, this modest property offers a private sauna in every room. Guestrooms also have the standard amenities of a hairdryer and satellite TV as well as a small fridge and hot water kettle. Wi-Fi is available for 2€/day. They have an onsite cafe and restaurant.

### **ICEHOTEL LUVATTU MAA (Levi)**

Levi Ice Gallery, Bar & Hotel

\*\* 1 night w/ breakfast \*\*

Akantie 180, 99130 Sirkka / +358 (0) 40 7400925

[www.luvattumaa.fi](http://www.luvattumaa.fi)

Each year, on the banks of Ounajoki river (7 km from Levi), the Ice Hotel Luvattumaa is built anew using thousands of truckloads of snow and ice. The complex changes shape and size every year with a new design, but is always unique in ice artistry and breathtaking construction. It melts to the ground in late spring and is rebuilt from scratch the following winter. The 10,000 square meter structure comprises a snow hotel, a snow chapel, an ice bar and an ice/snow art gallery. Energy-friendly led lights are used to create an evocative lighting within the castle. This once-in-a-lifetime, unique experience allows guests to stay overnight inside the ice hotel with temperatures of minus 5° celsius. Warm showers, toilets, a sauna and shared heated living space are attached to the ice building. It is here where you must walk to use the facilities or warm up, even in the middle of the night. You'll be provided with proper bedding and sterile sleeping bags (but you'll need to wear long johns and empty your bladder before crawling inside). The complex also has a snow-free (heated) Lappish hut restaurant and their River Spa is open throughout the year.



### **SCANDIC PARK HOTEL (Helsinki)**

4 star City Digs / 523 rooms

\*\* 1 night w/ breakfast \*\*

Mannerheimintie 46, Helsinki / +358 (0) 9 47371

[www.scandichotels.com/hotels/finland/helsinki/scandic-park-helsinki](http://www.scandichotels.com/hotels/finland/helsinki/scandic-park-helsinki)

This property is situated in a beautiful setting, 2 km away from city center and near museums, the opera house and the fortress. Guestrooms have everything you need – hair dryer with toiletries, phone, TV/radio/CD player, desk/chair, mini-bar, and free Wi-Fi. The full service hotel also has a bar, coffee shop and restaurant, pool, sauna, Jacuzzi, concierge, gift shop, and much, much more.

(\* Available for additional nights (not included in price) – please ask!