IN SEARCH OF
The Northern Lights

ARCTIC FINLAND

MARCH 10 − 19, 2022

WITH MELODY BROWN BURKINS
DIRECTOR OF THE
INSTITUTE OF ARTIC STUDIES

SPECIAL PAYMENT TERMS
For peace of mind, your payments are 100% refundable until December 10, 2021
See inside for more details*
DEAR ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS OF DARTMOUTH,

Explore the winter wonderland of Arctic Finland, while venturing in search of the northern lights, or aurora borealis, a spectacular natural phenomenon caused by the interaction of particles from the sun with the upper atmosphere near the North Pole. Discover the charms of Helsinki, then fly north to the Arctic Circle to meet native Sámi in Finnish Lapland and learn about how they have adapted to life at some of the northernmost points on earth since before the last ice age—herding reindeer, using sleds pulled by dogs, and handcrafting exquisite clothing and footwear from animal products.

With regards from Hanover,

Robin K. Albing, Tu'81
Director, Lifelong Learning and Advancement Special Projects

Patrick Bedard
Assistant Director of Lifelong Learning Alumni Relations
Melody Brown Burkins, is the Director of the Institute of Arctic Studies at Dartmouth. With over 30 years of experience as a polar scientist working in academia and governance, she is an advocate for policy-engaged scholarship, experiential education, and the support of science policy and diplomacy initiatives advancing sustainability, inclusion, and gender equality in the Arctic and around the world. Burkins’ work in both academic and policy leadership roles has led to multiple international appointments by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. In 2016, she was the first woman to chair a U.S. delegation to an International Geological Congress (34th IGC, South Africa) and created the first majority-female delegation of U.S. geoscience leaders. A “science diplomat” for Arctic and global issues, Dr. Burkins is Chair of the U.S. National Academies’ Board on International Scientific Organizations (BISO) and serves on the UN Office of Disaster Risk Reduction Global Assessment Report (UNDRR-GAR) Advisory Board and the 15-Member UNESCO Global Independent Expert Group on Universities and the 2030 Agenda (EGU2030).

Born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska, Dr. Burkins’ strong personal and professional connections to the North also inform her work to connect Dartmouth students and faculty with opportunities for Arctic scholarship, cooperation, and engagement. Committed to the support of next generation thought-leaders in sustainability and inclusion, she believes the work requires prioritizing and incentivizing academic reciprocity and collaboration, respecting Indigenous Peoples’ rights and diverse knowledge systems, and promoting efforts by knowledge holders to advance the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and thriving communities.
**ITINERARY**

**Thursday & Friday, March 10 & 11**

**U.S. / HELSINKI, FINLAND**

Take overnight flights to Helsinki, arriving on Friday. Enjoy a city tour on a privately booked vintage electric tram, including a stop at the Temppeliaukkio Church, also known as the Rock Church for its design carved out of solid granite, with interior walls left in their rugged rock form and topped with a copper-lined dome. This evening, gather for a welcome reception and dinner at a traditional restaurant with décor inspired by Finland’s forests and lakes. HOTEL HAVEN (D)

**Saturday, March 12**

**HELSINKI**

Travel into the countryside for a morning meeting with a Finnish earl at his home, Castle Malmgården, including a tour of the estate, complete with an ecological farm and small local brewery. After lunch and a beer tasting, continue to Porvoo, one of the great treasures of Finnish architecture from the Middle Ages, with age-old wooden warehouses at the harbor where salt and other products were imported in medieval times. Enjoy private use of a traditional Finnish sauna at a manor formerly owned by members of the Romanov family, related to the Russian tsars. En route back to Helsinki, visit renowned Finnish architect Alvar Aalto’s former home and studio, which he designed himself in 1955. Dinner is on your own this evening. HOTEL HAVEN (B,L)

**Sunday, March 13**

**HELSINKI / ROVANIEMI**

This morning fly to Rovaniemi, the capital of Lapland, Finland’s northernmost province, sitting astride the Arctic Circle and surrounded by a river delta and stunning nature. Begin your exploration of this magical winter wonderland straight away, traveling from the airport by your choice of reindeer sled or private motorcoach to Santa Claus Village for a guided visit of this fairytale setting with ice and snow structures, cheerful lights, and the unique Santa Claus Main Post Office. Local shops boast a range of Finnish design and exclusive Lappish reindeer handicraft and jewelry pieces. Our hotel is conveniently located in the city center of Rovaniemi. HOTEL SANTA CLAUS (B,D)

**Monday, March 14**

**ROVANIEMI**

Learn about Arctic culture during a morning visit to a local artisan’s workshop and home, with design pieces from Lappish natural materials that demonstrate traditions
and craftsmanship that has passed from generation to generation. Also visit Arktikum, a museum and science center focused on the northern regions of the world, and view an informative multimedia presentation about the northern lights. Dinner this evening is at a riverside restaurant specialized in traditional Lappish dishes. **HOTEL SANTA CLAUS (B,L,D)**

**Tuesday, March 15**

**ROVANIEMI**

This morning receive specialized winter outerwear (thermal overall, boots, woolen socks and mittens) and set out on a reindeer sled ride, the region’s traditional mode of transport, used by the Sámi people for both personal transport and to carry goods and supplies. Stop at a reindeer farm and meet local herders to learn about their lifestyle, then try your hand at ice fishing at a small wilderness lake, stopping for a campfire snack before returning to the reindeer farm for lunch. Cap off the day with a visit to a nearby farm where huskies are bred and trained as Arctic sled dogs. Learn to mush (drive) your own sled, passing through silent winter landscapes, before returning to the hotel this evening. **HOTEL SANTA CLAUS (B,L,D)**

**Wednesday, March 16**

**ROVANIEMI / LUOSTO**

This morning transfer by private motorcoach to Luosto, a tiny resort located in the middle of Finnish Lapland, surrounded by pristine nature and popular among Northern Lights enthusiasts due to its low levels of light pollution. The surrounding wilderness fells are also home to the precious Lampiwaara Amethyst Mine, where gems formed about two billion years ago are mined by hand. Take the unique Pendelino snow transport vehicle up to the top of the fell and admire some of the most beautiful landscapes of the area before heading into the mine to dig your own gem stone. Gather for a guest lecture from a Aurora Borealis Institute researcher before dinner. **Accommodations for the next two nights include private saunas in each room; a limited number of glass igloo accommodations are available on a first-come, first-served basis.** **SANTA’S HOTEL AURORA (B,L,D)**

**Thursday, March 17**

**LUOSTO**

Set out this morning on a snowmobile safari on forest trails around the edge of Luosto Fell to Keskä-Luosta Fell, with magnificent panoramas. Vehicles used are gentle on the environment, and the driving feel is totally different than driving a vehicles with tires; the tour will start slowly to allow all to get used to the feel. Stop for coffee and treats in a Kota (cozy traditional wooden cabin) by a campfire, with panoramic views. After an early dinner, learn about the Northern Lights during a multimedia show then accompany a skilled specialist guide on a hunt to see nature’s most magnificent light show, choosing the most suitable spot near scenic lakeside Ahvenlampi to set up and take pictures, with camera stands available as well as hot drinks by the campfire. **SANTA’S HOTEL AURORA (B,L,D)**

**Friday, March 18**

**LUOSTO / ROVANIEMI**

This morning, transfer back to the Rovaniemi area for a a snowshoe hike, taking in the small miracles of nature like hanging moss on the trees, snowdrifts creating fairy tale figures, and winter birds. The hike ends at a nice kota hut, where a simple but tasty camp site lunch is served. Check in to the hotel for some time at leisure then gather for a special Lappish heritage feast at a forest restaurant, with commentary from the chef about the ingredients and preparation. **HOTEL SANTA CLAUS (B,L,D)**

**Saturday, March 21**

**ROVANIEMI / HOME**

Transfers to Rovaniemi Airport for flights home. **(B)**
TRIP INFORMATION

Program Rates Include
8 nights of hotel accommodations • 8 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 7 dinners • Welcome and farewell receptions • Internal flight Helsinki/Rovaniemi • Bottled water on motor coaches • Gratuities to guides, drivers, porters and wait staff for all group activities • Full program of briefings, lectures and presentations • Airport transfers • Baggage handling on program arrival and departure days

Program Rates Do Not Include
Airfare between home and Finland • Medical expenses and immunizations • Airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days • Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour • Excess-baggage charges • Travel and trip cancellation insurance • Meals not specified in the itinerary; food and beverages not part of the included meal • Personal items such as telephone, internet, fax, laundry, room service, alcoholic or other beverages not specified as included

Group Size
This program is limited to 32 participants.

Air Arrangements
U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

What to Expect:
Distances covered on foot will all be under one mile, usually just ¼ mile or so, and will frequently be on snowy or icy paths; be sure to bring warm, waterproof boots with good traction. Husky sleds and snowmobile rides will be in the open air; safety orientations and instruction are provided, along with insulated body suits, boots, gloves, and headwear for use during the rides. March is an ideal time of year to both seek out the elusive Northern Lights and to enjoy Finland’s majestic winter landscapes. With the unpredictability of winter weather, the itinerary will by necessity be subject to change, if weather conditions, road conditions, and other factors beyond our control dictate. Participants should expect an adventurous travel experience with accommodations that are more comfortable than lavish, and must be physically fit, active and in good health. We’ll be avoiding the coldest periods of the Finish winter, but hours of daylight will still be relatively short (10-12 hours per day). The Gulf Stream makes the region warmer than other parts of the world at these latitudes, but temperatures in March are still usually below freezing on most days, typically in the 20s and 30s F, and rarely dropping below zero degrees F (similar to Hanover, NH). No experience is required for the husky sled and snowmobile rides.

Insurance
Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.

The Sámi People
Learn about how they have adapted to life at some of the northernmost points on earth since before the last ice age.

Finnish Saunas
For Finnish people the sauna is a part of life.

PROGRAM RATES

Double occupancy per person .................................$7,995
Single occupancy per person .................................$8,995
HOTEL AURORA GLASS IGLOOS

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Reservations & Payments
A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. You may complete the reservation form included in this brochure and mail it with your check or credit card information to Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR 97005. Or you may fax the completed reservation form to (650) 560-6400. If you have questions, please call (888) 328-2089 or email res@criteriontravel.com. Final payment deadline is December 10, 2021 and can be made by check or bank transfer. All prices quoted in this brochure are based on tariffs, costs, and exchange rates of the United States dollar that were in effect at the time of publication.

Cancellations & Refunds
Upon payment of the $1,000 per person deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by Criterion Travel. Payments are 100% refundable if written notice of cancellation is received before December 10, 2021. Cancellations after December 10, 2021: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. NOTE: Neither Dartmouth Alumni Travel nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of non-refundable tickets.

Itinerary Changes
The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Dartmouth Alumni Travel and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Dartmouth Alumni Travel and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

California Seller of Travel Program
CST #2088800-40

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For more information or to register by phone (preferred method of registration), please call Criterion Travel at (888) 328-2089. Or, return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel. Mail to: Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR 97005.

CONTACT INFORMATION (please print)

NAME #1

NAME #2

STREET ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP / POSTAL CODE

HOME PHONE   BUSINESS PHONE   CELL PHONE   E-MAIL

PAYMENT INFORMATION

☑ Enclosed is my check for $_________ ($1,000 per person, payable to Criterion Travel), to reserve ______ place(s) on Arctic Finland.

OR

☑ Charge my deposit to: ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AMEX ☐ DISCOVER

NAME ON CREDIT CARD      CREDIT CARD #

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE                EXP . DATE                SECURITY CODE

ACCOMMODATIONS

Bed preference in hotels (not guaranteed): ☐ KING/QUEEN ☐ TWINS

SINGLE TRAVELERS (choose one)

☐ I prefer to have single accommodations.

☐ I will share accommodations with:

☐ I am willing to share with another participant (not guaranteed).

I am a ☐ Smoker / ☐ Non-smoker. I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of December 10, 2021, I will pay the single rate.

☐ I/We have read the General Information section of the brochure and agree to the Terms and Conditions stated therein.

SIGNATURE     DATE

SIGNATURE     DATE

I understand that the detailed statement of limitations and exclusions of liability will be sent to me for signature after registration, and is available for review prior, upon request.
Alumni Travel

6068 Blunt Alumni Center, Suite 112
Hanover, NH 03755

Helsinki’s modern architecture and the surrounding forested countryside: visit Alvar Aalto’s former home and studio, be welcomed by the owner at a castle estate, and experience a Finnish sauna at a private manor.

MEET reindeer herders in their remote wilderness homes and gain an authentic sense for this traditional way of life in Lapland. Feed the reindeer by hand, ride a reindeer-pulled sled, and learn about traditional handicrafts.

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