

SWEDEN "COLORS OF LAPONIA" TOUR
August 23 – September 11, 2017
B, L, D, F (fika)...Meals provided in cost of tour

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take... but by the moments that take our breath away"!

- Wednesday, Aug 23 Leave Mpls at 7:30pm on Icelandair flight #656 to Keflavik, Iceland. Arrive Keflavik at 6:30am on Thursday. Depart Keflavik for Stockholm at 7:35am on flight #306.
- Thursday, Aug 24
D Arrive at Arlanda Airport at 12:30...(from now on, time we'll be on the 24hr clock). After changing money, we will drive to Järvsö, Hälsingland. Stay at Järvsöbaden for 2 nights. "First night in Sweden" dinner at the hotel. Time to relax...there's an outdoor pool..."simbasäng".
- Friday, August 25
B, L, D Järvsö area—sightseeing...Guided tour of Växbo Lin, a traditional linen weaving mill. For hundreds of years, Hälsingland has been known for its tall and beautiful flax...its landskap flower is the "Lin". Lunch at Växbo Krog. We'll also have a guided tour of Karlsgården, a typical Hälsingegårdar (Hälsingland farmhouse). Hälsingland's decorated farmhouses became one of UNESCO's World Heritage sites in 2012. Dinner at the hotel.
- Saturday, Aug 26
B, L, D To Sundsvall, Medelpad. We hope to visit a group of friends of ours, "Scendraget", for lunch...a very special treat! We'll continue on to Nordmaling, Västerbotten, crossing the Högakustenbron (high coast bridge) on our way. Modeled after the Golden Gate Bridge, it is the world's longest suspension bridge. Stay at Levar Hotell for one night...the oldest inn in Västerbotten with a history back to 1635. Dinner at the hotel.
- Sunday, August 27
B, D Today we continue further north to Luleå, Norrbotten. On our way we'll visit Stenstugan in Norrfjärden, to see (and purchase if you want) beautiful wood handcraft, stone jewelry, etc. from Norrbotten, handcrafted by Hans-Erik and Birgitta Öster. We can also have "fika" (coffee and a treat) while we're there (on our own). This afternoon or tomorrow morning we'll have a tour of Gammelstad in Luleå (also on UNESCO'S World Heritage List)...Sweden's largest and best-preserved church town with 408 cottages surrounding Gammelstad Nederluleå Kyrka, the largest medieval church in Norrland and built in the 15th century. Stay at Hotell Ornviken for one night. Dinner at the hotel.
- Monday, August 28
B, D Today we'll be crossing the Arctic Circle on our way to Lappesuando, Lappland. On our way we'll visit the Arctic Moose Farm in Överkalix ...we'll see moose for sure! When we cross the Arctic Circle we'll have a photo stop to commemorate the event. ☺ Keep on the lookout for reindeer! Stay at Lappis Lodge for 2 nights. Dinner at the lodge.
- Tuesday, August 29
B, D This morning we'll go to the village of Jukkasjärvi, home of the famous ICEHOTEL. After lunch at the Old Homestead, we'll learn more about historic Jukkasjarvi on a guided tour of the Museum and boat ride on the Torne River, followed by a tour of the "Ice Hotel"—actually, it's melted ☺, but we will see where they've stored the ice for this winter's hotel, and also hear how it is built each winter. We will also visit Jukkasjärvi Kyrka, the oldest church in Lapland (1607), famous for it's front altar scene by Bror Hjört, and for it's pipe organ displaying beautiful Sami craftsmanship with it's stops, keys, etc. in reindeer horn. Dinner at the lodge.

- Wed. August 30
B, D Going further north, we'll stop in Kiruna to tour LKAB, the iron ore mine. Then traveling along Lake Torneträsk, we'll experience more of the beauty of Lapponia on our way to Abisko National Park, and Bjorkliden. Stay in Bjorkliden for 1 night. Dinner at Restaurang Lappporten.
- Thurs. August 31
B, D After breakfast we'll drive to Riksgränsen on the border of Sweden and Norway. Stay at Lappis Lodge again for 1 night. Dinner at the lodge.
- Friday, Sept 1
B, D After breakfast we start heading further south to Jokkmokk, where the Sami Marknad is held the first weekend in February. We'll visit Jokkmokks Tenn, famous for their beautiful pewter and silver handcraft...a guided tour of Ajtte, the Swedish Mountain and Sami Museum...visit Duodji, the Sami Handcraft Association, where we'll see many examples of beautiful Sami handcraft (available for purchase). Free time to shop/explore on your own...Gamla Apotek and Hantverksbutiken both have handcraft by local artists. Stay at Hotel Jokkmokk for 2 nights. Dinner at the hotel.
- Saturday, Sept 2
B, L, D Jokkmokk and Vuollerim, Lapland. At 12:00 – 13:00 we'll have another special Lapland experience and treat...a guided picking of lingonberries and lunch. Dinner at the hotel.
- Sunday, Sept 3
B, D Today we continue down the Inlandsvägen (the Inland Road)...crossing the Arctic Circle again, before stopping in Arvidsjaur for a guided tour of Lappstaden—world's largest preserved Lapp church village with more than 80 Lapp wooden huts. Our destination is Vilhelmina, Västerbotten in South Lapland. Stay 1 night in the Kyrkstaden Vandrarhem, experiencing the small cottages and alleys of a historic church town. Dinner at Hotel Vilhelmina. (Also breakfast tomorrow morning).
- Monday, Sept 4
B, D Today we drive to Östersund, Jämtland. Stay at Wikners Persåsen Hotel in Öviken. The Wikner family is famous for their beautiful handmade wood items...from candleholders to furniture. Dinner at the hotel. After dinner we'll have a special tour and see their handcraft.
- Tuesday, Sept 5
B, D Leave early to drive to Tällberg, Dalarna—Lake Siljan area. We'll stop on the way in Nusnäs to visit Nils Olsson—guided tour to see how the Dalahäst (horse) is made. Have your name and the year painted on a horse, making a special remembrance! Stay at Tällbergsgården 3 nights...an old hotel rich in tradition and folklore in an idyllic town with marvelous views and a lovely setting by Lake Siljan. Dinner at the hotel.

“Being in Dalarna and not seeing Tällberg, is like being at a wedding and not seeing the bride!” author unknown

While in Tällberg, take some time to enjoy this beautiful hamlet ...experience the beautiful sunsets from Tällbergsgården's balcony...walk down to Lake Siljan...relax in the “milieu” (ambience) of drinking coffee in one of the sitting areas at the hotel.

Fika Today or Thursday, we'll try to have a special “Swedish” treat...“våfflor med grädde och hjortronsylt” (waffles with whipped cream and cloudberry) ...or some other treat...at Dalmål Kafe, upstairs of the Tällberg Hemslöjd.

Wed. Sept 6
B, L, D After breakfast, we will drive to Sundborn...touring Carl Larsson-gården (Carl Larsson's home) at 10:10. We may be divided into 2 groups, but either before or after our tour, you have time to visit the

“gift shop” to buy prints, etc. You should also walk up to the Sundborn Kyrka and to the church cemetery, where the Larsson gravesites are located. We will have lunch at Hyttstugan (next to Carl Larssongården). Next we'll visit Karlsbyhedens Krukmakeri...beautiful “keramik”, made in Sundborn by Monica and Bjorn. Dinner at the hotel.

- Thursday, Sept 7
B, D Lake Siljan area...Leksand...visiting and seeing Swedish handcraft at places such as Käck och Hedby's Blacksmith...Jobs Handtryck ... Sätergläntan's Folkhögskola...Leksand Hemslöjd, etc...and as time allows. And possibly a surprise, a special Swedish experience. Dinner at the hotel.
- Friday, Sept 8
B, D Leave for Stockholm. Stay at the Birger Jarl for 3 nights. Dinner at Michelangelo's in Gamla Stan.
- Saturday, Sept 9
B, D Touring of Stockholm in the morning. Free time in the afternoon.
*Dinner at _____
- Sunday, Sept 10
B, D Touring of Stockholm in the morning. Free time in the afternoon.
*Dinner at _____
- Monday, Sept 11
B Depart for home on Icelandair flight #307 at 14:20 to Keflavik, arriving at 15:30. Depart for Mpls on flight #657 at 16:45, arriving home at 6:05pm.

TOUR COST = \$4,260 per person in double occupancy (single supplement = \$596)

Tour Group: Minimum 10 people Limited to 14 people

Tour cost includes—Land Transportation—All lodging—Sightseeing entrances/guiding—Tunnelbana/Bus pass in Stockholm—Meals as indicated: 18 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 18 dinners, 1 Fika.

Tour cost does NOT include—Transatlantic air flight from USA to Stockholm and Stockholm to USA—Lunch & coffee times not indicated as included—Some beverages at meals (you will be informed at each meal)—Tips—Personal expenditures.

*We've had dinner at so many fabulous and historic places with lots of ambience in Sweden, so where it says “dinner at _____” we're still choosing restaurants for those dinners. If you join us for this trip, the final itinerary will say where we'll be eating.

If you need assistance in booking your flight, you can contact us...or we recommend you contact Borton Overseas 612-822-4640 1-800-843-0602