



Black Grouse

Birds & Mammals in Autumn Colours

Destination:	Oulu - Kuhmo-Oulu	Group size:	4 - 6 photographers
Focus:	Wildlife and landscape photography	Time:	27 September – 4 October 2023
Grading:	Moderate walks only - max 500m one way	Price:	3775 € per person, single supplement 165 €

Autumn is a great season for wildlife photography in Finland!

Autumn is an attractive season: even though nature is slowing down, the **Black Grouse** are lekking actively, and the **Golden Eagle, Sparrowhawk, Brown Bear, Wolverine** and **Wolf** visit the feeding sites while preparing for winter. The colours in nature are breathtaking – the wide range of red, yellow and green are booming both on the ground and in the trees, and this tour is timed carefully for the brightest autumn colours. Also, there are good chances that **Aurora Borealis** might present themselves, with opportunities to get beautiful water reflection photos as the lakes are not frozen yet. This tour includes two days with **Golden Eagle, Brown Bear, and Wolf** and two mornings with **Black Grouse**.

Highlights: Golden Eagle, Sparrowhawk playing with Eurasian Jay, Brown Bear, Wolf, Wolverine, Black Grouse, autumn landscapes, Aurora Borealis. Other possible species e.g. Great-, Crested-, Willow and Blue Tit, Bullfinch, Great Spotted and Grey-headed Woodpecker, Sparrowhawk and Red Squirrel.



Sparrowhawk



Brown Bear

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Aurora Borealis

ITINERARY

Day 1 Arrival to Oulu

Arrival at Oulu airport at 17:00 and transportation to the cozy Villa Finnature for dinner and accommodation. Throughout the tour, we will check for **Aurora Borealis** activity, and go out to photograph them if the conditions are right. This tour takes place near equinox. In northern countries it is well known that the Aurora Borealis are stronger around equinoxes because of the planet's position and angle in relation to the sun. So fingers crossed!

Days 2 - 3

After very early breakfast at Villa Finnature, departure to our Eagle hide. We spend two full days in our premium Eagle hide photographing **Golden Eagles**.

While waiting for Golden Eagles to come we will photograph **Sparrowhawks playing with Eurasian Jays** - great show we can witness only for a short period in autumn!

Great, Blue, Willow and Crested Tits, Eurasian Jays, Great-spotted Woodpeckers and Red Squirrels from the feeder. We might see also **Sparrowhawk** visiting in front of the hides.

Finnature's new Golden Eagle hide is really comfortable with a great heating system, standing height and good office chairs. This luxurious hide is only available for the Finnature's photography groups and brings your hide experience to the new level!

Departure from the hide takes place at dusk around 19:00. Drive back to Villa Finnature for dinner and accommodation. Good time to charge batteries and empty memory cards in the evening.

Day 4 Oulu - Kuhmo

After breakfast we drive to Kuhmo (about 4 hours) to our base in Viiksimo for two days. During the next days, we photograph **Brown Bears**, colourful autumn landscapes and lekking **Black Grouse**.

In the afternoon around 16:00, departure to the Brown Bear hides where we stay until dark (around 20:30). An evening snack will be waiting when we get back to the accommodation.



Golden Eagle



Sparrowhawk and Eurasian Jay



Black Grouse

Day 5 Kuhmo

Early morning starts with an amazing experience at **Black Grouse** lek. There is a lekking site on a bog next to a picturesque pond. Photography takes place from plywood hides, located about 400 meters from the road. If the weather is cold, frosty grass and rising mist from the pond create a perfect stage for the Grouse lek! After the photo session breakfast is waiting for us. During the day a time for a good rest and photo editing. Early dinner and departure to **Brown Bear** hides takes place again around 16:00. Dinner and accommodation at the lodge.

Day 6 Kuhmo

Another early morning at **Black Grouse** lek. After breakfast we drive towards our next destination. Our last destination is famous for Wolves and especially interaction between Wolves and Brown Bears. Here you might also see Wolverines.

In late autumn Wolves are preparing to winter so fur is thick and beautiful. After check-in we will head to hides for the evening. The first evening we will spend in bog hides. Bog is a good place to get also photos of interaction between different species. Dinner and accommodation at the lodge.

Day 7 Kuhmo

Today we will have our last session at the hides. After breakfast we will head to forest hides for the last day of our tour. Again great changes for Wolves, Brown Bears and Wolverines but in very different setting than in previous day. Dinner and accommodation at the lodge.

Day 8 Kuhmo - Oulu

Departure after breakfast from Kuhmo to Oulu (4 hours drive) to catch the afternoon flight at 16:05 back home from Oulu airport.



Black Grouse



Sparrow Hawk



Wolverine

More photos in our [Finnature's Flickr Gallery](#)

Price includes: land transportation from Oulu airport to Oulu airport, all meals, accommodation, Finnature guiding and use of professional photography hides.

Accommodation: Clean and comfortable Villa Finnature Guesthouse and lodge accommodation with double occupancy and with shared facilities.

Food: Local delicious dinners, picnic lunches in the hide, breakfast

Guide: Finnature guide

Bookings: [shop.finnature.com](#)

Recommended flights: We recommend to arrive to Oulu at 16:55 (AY440) and to depart from Oulu at 16:05 (AY440).

Please notice: The itinerary might change due to weather conditions or unexpected wildlife situation. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee any of the species, but our expert Finnature guides do their utmost to ensure the best possible photography opportunities during the tour.

Official Package travel trader (Organiser) and Travel agent
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