



King Eiders and the Wild North

- A Journey from Lapland to Varangerfjord

Destination: Varangerfjord, Norway
Focus: Arctic birds and mammals
Grading: Moderate walks only

Group Size: 4 – 6 photographers
Time: 19 - 25 February 2027
Price: 4885 €, single supplement 450 €

Photograph Arctic wildlife on snow

Join us on our brand-new winter photography tour to northern Norway at the perfect time for Arctic sea ducks. In February, the fjords around Båtsfjord still hold impressive flocks of wintering King Eiders together with Steller's Eiders and Long-tailed Ducks, creating exceptional opportunities for photography in beautiful Arctic winter conditions.

During two early morning sessions, we photograph from floating hides in Båtsfjord. Our main targets are the spectacular King Eider, Steller's Eider and Long-tailed Duck, often seen at remarkably close range in the calm Arctic light of midwinter.

The second half of the journey is dedicated to Mountain Hare photography in Kiberg, where we spend two nights at a well-known hare hide. Here we photograph these beautiful white hares in carefully arranged artificial light against the snowy Arctic landscape. In some years, even the elusive Arctic Fox has visited the site.

At the beginning and end of the tour, we also visit a private feeding site in Finnish Lapland, with opportunities to photograph Siberian Jays and Siberian Tits in winter conditions. February nights in the far north may also reward us with Northern Lights dancing above the Arctic wilderness.

This tour combines Arctic seabirds, winter mammals and atmospheric northern landscapes at one of the most beautiful times of the year.



Highlights

King Eider, Steller's Eider, Common Eider, Long-tailed Duck, Mountain Hare, Arctic Fox, Siberian Jay, Siberian Tit, Hawk Owl

For more information:

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Day 1 Arrival to Ivalo

Welcome to Finnish Lapland! Upon arrival at Ivalo Airport you'll be greeted by your Finnature guide and transferred to our nearby hotel. As fellow photographers gather from around the world, meet the group, go over the upcoming adventure, and settle in after your travels.

Keep an eye on the sky—if conditions are right, the **Northern Lights** may make their first appearance.

Overnight at Hotel Ivalo.



Day 2 - Into the North: From Lapland to the Arctic Coast

After breakfast, we begin our journey north, travelling through the vast, silent landscapes of Finnish Lapland. Our first major stop is in Kaamanen, where a private birdfeeder offers intimate photographic opportunities with boreal specialities such as **Siberian Jay and Siberian Tit**. These charismatic species, often at close range, are perfect subjects against the snowy forest.

As we continue towards the Norwegian border, keep cameras ready—**Northern Hawk Owl or Willow Grouse** may appear along the roadside, offering spontaneous chances for once-in-a-lifetime captures.

By evening, we reach Båtsfjord, our base for the first part of our Arctic adventure. Here, the snow meets the sea. After check-in at Hotel, we gather for a hearty dinner and look forward to the days ahead—perhaps with the Northern Lights shimmering over the fjord.

Day 3 King Eiders and Arctic Light

Before sunrise, we head to the harbour and our floating King Eider hides. As the Arctic light slowly reaches the fjord, we photograph King Eiders, Steller's Eiders and Long-tailed Ducks at close range. Warm harbour lights and the first morning colours create beautiful conditions for photography, and feeding King Eiders may gather right in front of the hide.

Depending on the weather, we either return to the hotel for breakfast or continue directly with a RIB boat excursion around the area. The boat gives excellent opportunities for different angles and more dynamic images of the sea ducks.

After a break at the hotel, we head out again for a second RIB boat excursion in the afternoon. Possible Northern Lights in the evening.





Day 4 Across the Arctic Coast

In the morning, we return once more to our floating King Eider hides for another session with Arctic sea ducks in the beautiful northern light.

After breakfast, we pack our gear and begin the journey across the open tundra towards Vardø and Kiberg. Along the way, we stop for photography whenever possible, depending on weather and bird activity.

After dinner, we head to our Mountain Hare hide for a very special Arctic photography experience. In the darkness of the northern winter, white Mountain Hares arrive at the feeding site around the hide, illuminated by carefully arranged artificial lighting. These late evening sessions offer excellent opportunities for striking images of hares in their winter coats against the snowy Arctic surroundings.

In some years, even the elusive Arctic Fox has visited the site, adding an exciting extra possibility to the evening.



Day 5 – Sea Ducks and Mountain Hares

In the morning, we visit the floating hide in Kiberg for another session with Arctic sea ducks. Here we once again have opportunities to photograph Steller's Eiders, Common Eiders and Long-tailed Ducks in beautiful winter conditions.

After a day break and dinner, we return to the Mountain Hare hide for another evening session. The white hares often arrive surprisingly close to the hide, offering excellent opportunities for atmospheric images in artificial light. As darkness settles over the Arctic landscape, we also hope for a visit from the elusive Arctic Fox, which has been photographed here in some years.





Day 6 – Back to Finnish Lapland

This morning we take it easy after several late evenings in the hides. Later in the morning, it is time to say goodbye to Norway and begin our journey back towards Finland.

As we drive through the Arctic landscapes back into Finnish Lapland, we keep our cameras ready for possible roadside encounters. Time permitting, we will also stop once more at the private feeding site to photograph Siberian Jays and Siberian Tits before returning to our hotel in the evening.

Day 7 – Departure from Ivalo

After breakfast, we transfer to Ivalo Airport for your homeward flights. Take with you not only a collection of Arctic images—but memories of wild encounters, crisp air, and the magic of the winter in North.

For more pictures: [Finnature's Flickr Gallery](#)

Price includes: All land transportation from Ivalo, full board, all accommodation, expert Finnature guiding, and use of professional photography hides.

Accommodation: Hotels in Finland and Norway.

Food: Local delicious dinners, Lunches/picnic lunches, breakfast.

Leader: Finnature photography guide throughout the tour.

Booking: shop.finnature.com

Recommended flights: We recommend to arrive AY 605 at 17.55 pm to Ivalo and depart from Ivalo with AY 604 at 13.15 am.

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

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Official Package travel trader (Organiser) and Travel agent Registration number: 1193/05/Mj

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