



## TOP 10 Sustainable winter experiences in Finnish Lakeland

### *Experience sustainable winter activities in the lesser-traveled winter region of Finland*

When the first snow falls, Finland's Lakeland region turns into a magical winter wonderland. Becoming even more quiet than in the summer - winter in Lakeland is the perfect time to relax completely undisturbed.

Home to most of Finland's 188,000 lakes, Lakeland offers exquisite views of clear, icy lakes, as well as piles of snow for winter sports and plenty of peaceful silence. Unwind in a cozy cabin, or a comfortable city hotel, after an active day enjoying the crisp fresh winter air.

Below, find 10 of the best locations that have been awarded the Sustainable Travel Finland label to spend your winter holidays like the locals in Lakeland:

1. **Take a journey into the [quiet and darkness](#).** Have you ever experienced real darkness and felt its calming effect? In Finland, during the winter season, there are plenty of places to experience darkness and starry nights – no light pollution is guaranteed. Wandering in the dark forest will give you unforgettable experiences, as well as help you develop your mind control.
2. **Catch your own food under the ice.** During the colder months of the year, Finns go fishing. [Hotelli Kaleva](#) in Kuhmo takes guests right on the lakes to try fishing with nets and a jig – all through a hole in the ice. Lunch is included in the excursion, and travel will be done on snowshoes, skis, or on foot. The hotel also specializes in LGBTQ-friendly excursions.
3. **Ride a zero-pollution snow scooter.** Guided winter adventures on electric snow scooters are available in [Puumala](#). The 1.5-hour excursion will allow you to silently glide along the wintry shores of Lake Saimaa, taking in the scenery and enjoying the peace and quiet of the surroundings. While you stop for a hot beverage, the guide will let you in on the secrets of Lake Saimaa before hopping back on the eLYLY, the world's first electric snow scooter.
4. **Feel weightless in a winter meditation.** [Lake Saimaa](#) offers plenty of options for relaxing in a conscious way along its beautiful shore. Year-round dry suit floating will take you on a safe, relaxing journey on the gentle flow of River Vuoksi or the clear waters of Lake Saimaa.
5. **Hop in the heat, followed by an icy dip.** There are around three million saunas in Finland, and if you ask any locals – they will tell you the best way to experience the heat of one is by a lake. [The Sahanlahti Resort](#) in Puumala offers electric and traditional smoke saunas around the year but in winter, a sauna made from ice guarantees the ultimate encounter with Finnish wellness culture.  
<https://www.sahanlahtiresort.fi/en/saunas>

6. **Glide on a frozen lake.** It is a known fact that Finns love the game of ice hockey, but many also love to engage in skating during wintertime. So why not do it like the locals and take part in an [ice marathon](https://www.finlandicemarathon.com/https-www-finlandicemarathon-com-in/) organized annually in the city of Kuopio? And if endurance isn't for you, skating under the moonlight is also available to take in the perfect winter feels. <https://www.finlandicemarathon.com/https-www-finlandicemarathon-com-in/>
7. **Engage in a national sport.** Along with ice hockey and ice skating, Finns do love to engage in cross-country skiing. Why not explore the wintry landscapes on a pair of skis and take in the sights at your own pace in [Äksyt Ämmät Oy](#)? The Finnish Lakeland offers hundreds of kilometers of well-maintained trails that are often even floodlit. Enjoy group excursions from guesthouse to guesthouse on the countryside of North Karelia.
8. **Spend a winter wonder week with your family.** [Wild Taiga](#) organizes activities for families in the Hossa National Park. The activities range from husky rides to silent snowshoe hikes, cross-country ski trips, and learning exciting wilderness skills. There is also the chance you might experience the spectacle of the Northern Lights as a finale to your day.
9. **Lavish on a night in nature.** [The Panorama Landscape Hotel](#) in Tahko opened its doors on the 1st of November 2023 with its season lasting through the winter. The hotel suites are located on the slopes of the Tahko mountain – at the edge of the vastness, by the most astonishing forest and lake views. This is a hotel experience that will blow you away but also allow you to pause.
10. **E-bike around the snowy trails.** The [cycling trails](#) of National Parks Hossa and Martinselkonen offer more than 150 km of cycling joy, even in the winter! Bikes with thick tires perform perfectly on well-maintained routes and since they are electrically assisted, they offer a new way to have outdoors in the sun and snow!

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