



Kuhmo Arts Centre



Lentua Hall



Hotel Kalevala



Danel Quartet



Audience in the church



Bear family



Lake Lammasjärvi



Culinary delicacies

CULTURE AND MUSIC IN KUHMO, FINLAND

Kuhmo, a town on the eastern border of Finland, 600 km North of Helsinki, is widely known for its world-class chamber music festival, the Finnish national epic Kalevala and wild brown bears. On this trip you can experience all of those along with enjoying interesting works of visual arts, history and culinary treats. The daily programme will contain one to three Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival concerts, a visit to a cultural site and a nature excursion.

Our cosy hotel is located by the shore of Lake Lammasjärvi, three kilometres from the centre of Kuhmo. The distance between town centre and the hotel will be covered daily by bicycles or by prearranged transport. The hotel has 50 individually decorated rooms, a restaurant, and terrace and sauna department.

During your staying in Kuhmo at a hotel you will be able to enjoy the beauty and delights of the Finnish summer. That will call for not only attending scheduled programme, but also spontaneous plunges into the fresh lake, sauna bathing and marvelling the white nights.

This travel programme is designed to be applied during the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival from 9th to 22nd July 2017 and it is aimed at groups of 10 persons minimum.

Itinerary:

Day 1 – Arrival

Arrival at the Kajaani airport, transfer to the Hotel Kalevala (appr. 1.5 hours).
Check in, dinner at hotel's terrace. Time for independent exploring of the hotel surroundings.

Day 2 – Concerts, history, art exhibition, saunas and culinary delicacies

Breakfast

09.00– Bike ride to the centre of Kuhmo (3 km)

11.00–12.00 Kuhmo Chamber Music concert at the Kuhmo Church

12.00– Guided tour at the Kuhmo Arts Centre

You'll learn about the history of the Arts Centre, the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival and events around the year. The festival's art exhibition at the Arts Centre will show graphic arts by Pälvi Hanni.

Return to the hotel

14.00–16.00 Guided tour: Story of the Wind, Ice and Water

The tour will take you amidst 10 000 years old primeval scenery that was formed during the Ice Age. It will uncover you the fascinating story of how the topographic forms of this area, lakes and special fossil sand dunes were created. You will take a short barefoot walk on the sand and along the waterline, see skylarks nesting in sand walls, and learn the story behind this river landscape.

Return to the hotel, saunas with indoor and outdoor Jacuzzis.

18.00–20.00 Evening concert at the Kuhmo Arts Centre

20.00– After the concert, a three course dinner in the pop-up restaurant Salakamari

Salakamari is the place where audience and artists meet after the concerts. This festival restaurant is renowned for its gourmet menu and festival wines.

Day 3 – Concerts, Kalevala, saunas (& bears)

- 10.00– Breakfast, bike ride to the centre of Kuhmo
Heart of the Day in Salakamari
Presentation of the festival day by a festival artist.
- 11.00–12.00 Kuhmo Chamber Music concert in the Church
- 12.15–13.00 Visit to Juminkeko, the Information Centre of Kalevala
Exhibitions and a multimedia programme on Finland's national epic, the Kalevala. The summer exhibition will display drawings and sketches by a famous Finnish artist Akseli Gallen-Kallela devoted to the decorated Kalevala, the Great Kalevala and Kuhmo. Juminkeko also owns one of the largest collections of various editions of the Kalevala in the world.
- 14.00–15.00 Afternoon concert of the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival
Return to the hotel
- 16.00 **Optional:** Meeting at the hotel lobby and transfer to the bear-watching night (with extra charge 135 €/person).
Return back to the hotel in the morning.
Sauna and Dinner à la Kalevala for those who stay at the hotel.
Enjoy an authentic Dinner à la Kalevala, taste local delicacies in the old times atmosphere.
- 21.00 – 22.00 Evening concert of the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival

Day 4 – Concerts, Finnish predators, church boat tour, saunas

- Breakfast
- 9.00–10.00 Visit to the Petola Visitor Centre
Guided tour to the exhibition of large carnivores – brown bear, wolf, lynx and wolverine. Film show on Kuhmo nature and wildlife in the auditorium.
Transfer from Petola to the centre
- 11.00–12.00 Kuhmo Chamber Music concert in the Church
- 14.00–15.00 Kuhmo Chamber Music concert at the Kontio School
- 15.15– Guided church boat tour
The tour will start from the Kuhmo Arts Centre and the group will row their way back to the hotel along the lake. Bonfire picnic at the Kota "teepee" by the lakeside right next to the hotel.
Sauna bathing.
- 19.00 Dinner at the hotel
- 21.00–22.00 Evening concert of the Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival

Day 5 – Bye, bye

- Breakfast, free time
- 11.00– Transfer back to the Kajaani airport

Prices/person:

- 1009 €/in double/twin room
1189 €/in single room

Including:

- Transfers Kajaani airport—hotel—Kajaani airport
- 4 nights with breakfasts in Hotel Kalevala
- Bicycles
- 2 x dinner at the hotel, Dinner à la Kalevala, dinner in Salakamari
- Bonfire picnic at Kota
- Guided tour *Story of the Wind, Ice and Water*, incl. transfers
- Entrance to Juminkeko
- Entrance to Petola, English speaking guide
- Guided church boat tour from the town centre to the hotel, incl. transfer to Kuhmo
- Tickets to the concerts mentioned in the programme

For extra charge:

- bear night, 135 €/person
- tickets to other concerts, 18.50 - 37 €/concert/person
- taxi transportation between the hotel and the centre 15 €/one way

Festival programme: www.kuhmofestival.fi

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