



Osprey

Ospreys and Brown Bears

Destination: Kuusamo, Finland

Focus: Osprey and Brown Bear photography

Grading: short day walks

Group size: 4 – 6 photographers

Time: 7 – 11 August 2019

Price: 1990 € per person, single supplement 155 €

Photography in the Finnish autumn – Ospreys and Brown Bears are preparing for Winter

This tour takes place near Russian border in Finland and combines Osprey and Brown Bear photography. August is a very attractive time for both species since both are preparing for winter: Ospreys for their long migration to Africa and Brown Bears for their hibernation over winter. The young Ospreys learn to fish on their own and the adult birds start stocking food for their long journey over continents, and this provides an average of 15-30 strikes per day, at a distance of only 5-30 metres. Other possible species from the hides: White-tailed Eagle, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Black-headed Gull, Herring Gull, Raven, Short-eared Owl.

Brown Bears visit the feeding site actively in August and sometimes have their cubs with them. The Bears prepare for the winter and fatten themselves to survive until next spring. Several White-tailed Eagles visit the feeding site as well and offer photo opportunities while flying in front of the hides. Night in a Brown Bear hide is definitely an experience that you will not forget!



Brown Bear

Highlights

Osprey fishing at a fish pond

Brown Bears preparing for winter

For more information:

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ITINERARY

Day 1 Arrival to Kuusamo

Arrival to Kuusamo in the afternoon. Pickup from the airport and transportation to the accommodation. After early dinner, drive to professional Osprey photography hides where we photograph fishing Ospreys until sunset.

The local fish farm where the hides are located was established in the late 1960's and Ospreys have visited the site ever since. The fish ponds provide easy source of food for Ospreys which is essential to successfully raise their young. Due to the long history of the site, the Ospreys have gotten used to people working here. Therefore it is possible to change hides even in the middle of the session to get different shooting angles or light on the birds.



Day 2

Start early in the morning at 4.00 and drive to the Osprey pro-hides for morning light and action. Return to the hotel for late breakfast between 9.00-10.00.

After breakfast, it is time for a well-earned rest and to download images. After early dinner at 16.00, we head to professional Brown Bear hides for evening session until sunset. We stay in the hides overnight so we are ready in the morning for morning action. In the middle of the night it is dark and you can sleep 4-5 hours.



Day 3

Bear photography will continue until 7.00. Return to the hotel for a proper breakfast - normally around 8.00-9.00. A well-earned rest after breakfast.

After early dinner at 15.00, we head back to Brown Bear pro-hides for photos until twilight hours. Staying in the hides overnight.



Day 4

Bear photography will continue until 7.00. Return to the hotel for a proper breakfast - normally around 8.00-9.00. A well-earned rest after breakfast.

After early dinner, drive to Osprey pro-hides where we photograph fishing Ospreys until sunset.

Day 5 Departure from Kuusamo

Early morning start on your last day in pro-hides for fishing Ospreys. After the last Osprey photography session around 14.00 transportation back to the hotel for dinner and packing your luggage. Tour ends at Kuusamo airport in the evening.

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

Price includes: Finnature guiding throughout the journey. Use of professional photography hides. All meals and accommodation. All land transportation from Kuusamo airport. For extra price transportation from Oulu (bigger airport) if needed.

Accommodation: Sokos Hotel Kuusamo; please note that two nights are spent in bear hides

Food: Local restaurants and picnic lunches



Leader: Finnature guide

Possible extensions: Red-Throated Diver in Kuusamo, Wolverine and Wolf photography in Kuhmo

Booking: www.shop.finnature.com

Recommended flights: We recommend to arrive to Kuusamo in the afternoon and to depart from Kuusamo in the evening.

Please notice: The itinerary might change due to weather conditions or bird 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 Registration number: 1193/05/MjMv

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