

ATLANTIC TRAVEL & TOURS

NORTHERN EUROPE

PET-FRIENDLY TRAVEL

**DISCOVER NORWAY, SWEDEN, FINLAND AND THE
NETHERLANDS WITH YOUR PET: RELAXATION AND FUN
WITHOUT LIMITS**



WWW.VISITATLANTICTRAVELTOURS.COM

FROM THE CEO - FOUNDER

Dear travelers,

Imagine a journey where you are never alone: your four-legged companion walks beside you every step of the way, sharing every discovery, every city view, and every corner of nature. Each experience becomes a moment to enjoy together, filled with authentic emotions and companionship, with the joy of exploring side by side.

Picture peaceful walks along quiet beaches, sunlit waterfronts, parks, and scenic trails immersed in nature, **where your pet can move freely and safely**. Imagine charming small towns, cafés, and local markets welcoming both you and your dog or cat, **creating memories that will forever remain part of your story**.

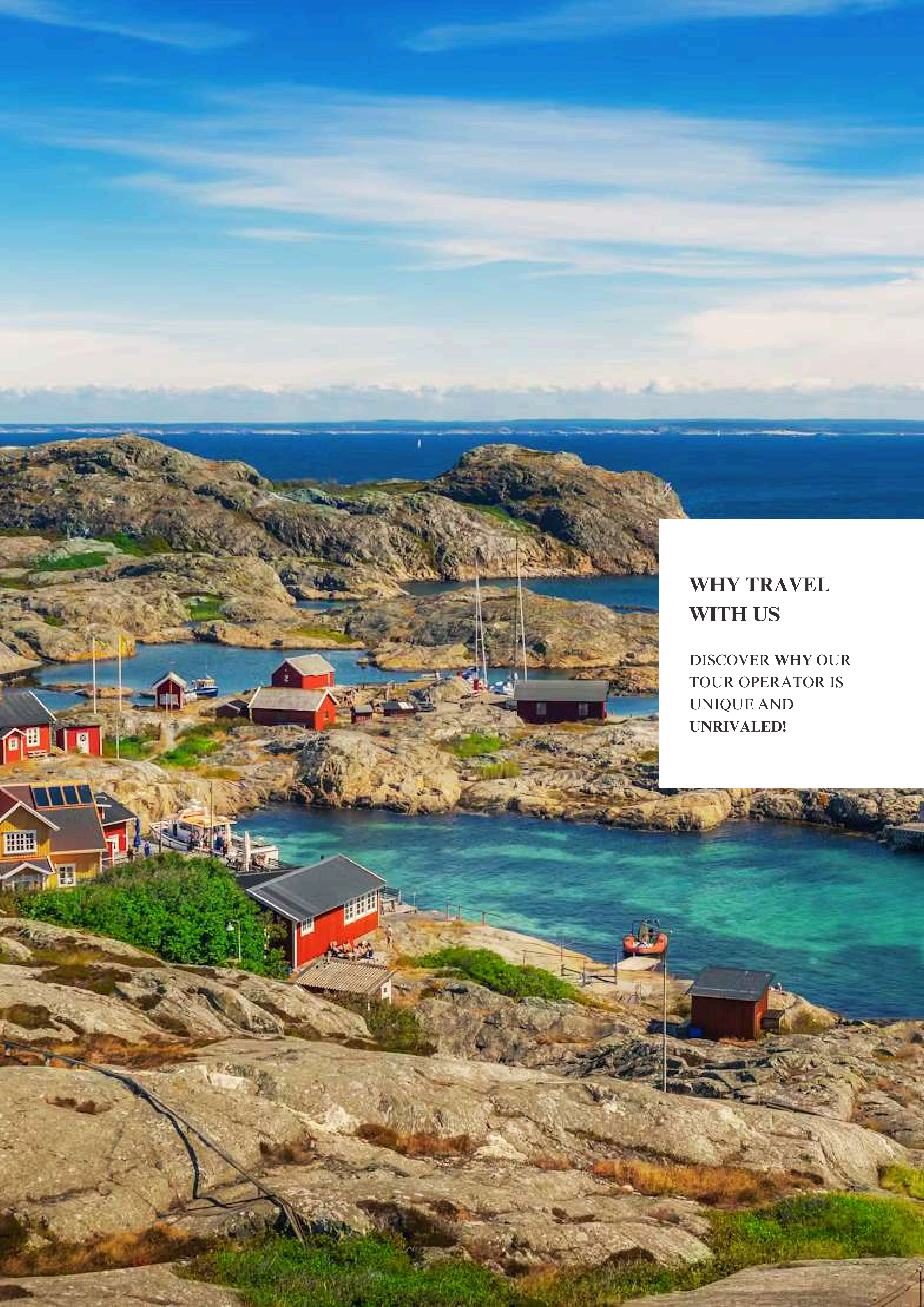
This brochure is an invitation **to explore, to be inspired**, and to imagine every experience as a special moment to share together. Each page offers atmospheres, ideas, and carefully selected details designed to make you feel **free, comfortable, and fully immersed in the beauty of each destination**.

Open these pages, **let yourselves be carried away by emotion**, and begin planning a pet-friendly journey that belongs as much to your companion as it does to you — an unforgettable adventure to experience together.



Steve Tabacchi

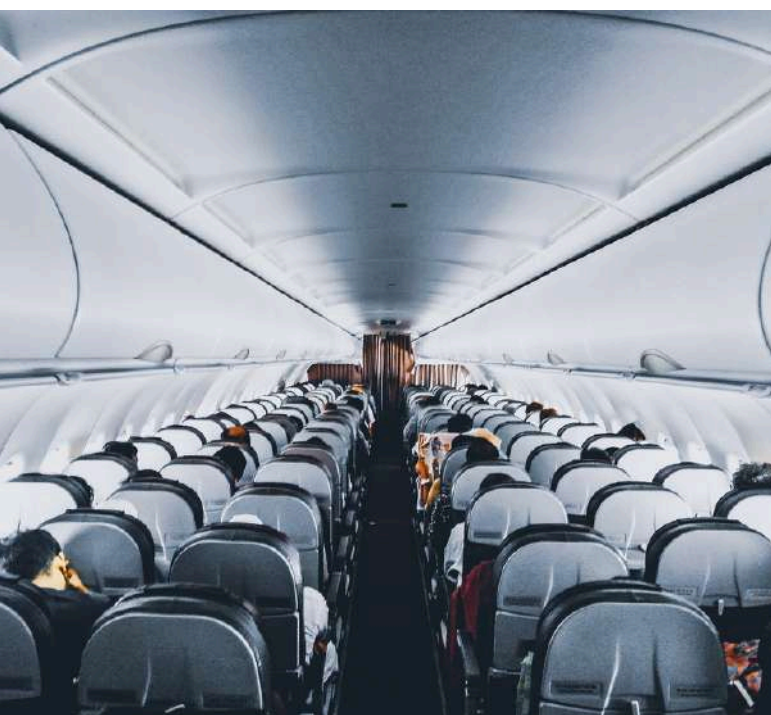
DR. STEVE TABACCHI
CEO - FOUNDER
ATLANTIC TRAVEL & TOURS



WHY TRAVEL WITH US

**DISCOVER WHY OUR
TOUR OPERATOR IS
UNIQUE AND
UNRIVALED!**

BESPOKE TRAVEL FOR EVERYONE



OUR TRAVEL ITINERARIES

We exclusively curate itineraries for innovative and original travel experiences that diverge from the conventional paths of mass tourism. Our aim is for each customer to be the protagonist of their own journey.

OUR TRAVEL CLASSES

We arrange travel for the following categories:

- **FIRST**
- **PREMIUM**
- **ECONOMY**

WE ORGANIZE ITINERARIES USING THE FOLLOWING TRANSPORTS



CAR

- ✓ RENTAL



VAN

- ✓ RENTAL
- ✓ SCHEDULED TOURS WITH DRIVER



COACH

- ✓ RENTAL WITH DRIVER
- ✓ SCHEDULED TOURS WITH DRIVER



MOTORHOME

- ✓ RENTAL



MOTORCYCLE

- ✓ CHARTER SERVICES
- ✓ TAILOR MADE TRAVEL ITINERARIES

PRIORITY CHECK-IN AND CHECKED BAGGAGE

Bid farewell to lengthy check-in queues! With our priority check-in service, you can swiftly obtain your boarding pass and check in your baggage. We are consistently prepared to provide this option, contingent upon airline availability, to enhance your travel experience, whether you are flying in premium or economy class. **Do not squander time; opt for comfort!**



NO QUEUES AT THE AIRPORT WITH THE FAST TRACK SERVICE



We understand the frustration of enduring lengthy waits at airport security. Therefore, we consistently incorporate fast track access into our travel packages, allowing you to bypass the queue and enjoy a stress-free experience.

The service is contingent upon the availability at each airport, thus we cannot assure its constant accessibility. Nevertheless, we are pleased to announce that it has been implemented in the majority of the airports we utilize. **Seize this opportunity!**





COMFORT IN AIRPORT LOUNGES

Once reserved solely for business and first-class passengers, airport lounges are now available to travelers in other classes as well. We provide the highest level of comfort and luxury to ensure your airport experience is memorable. In our travel packages, we consistently strive to include access to these exclusive areas at both departure and arrival points (subject to airport and airline availability). Relax, indulge in culinary delights, savor fine beverages, and enjoy refreshing showers, all within elegant and tranquil settings. **Seize this exceptional opportunity!**



OTHERS SERVICES

OUR EXCEPTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS WITH DIVERSE SUPPLIERS ENABLE US TO PROVIDE OUR CUSTOMERS WITH THE FINEST OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES

ADVANCED LUGGAGE SHIPPING
TOURIST VISAS
CURRENCY EXCHANGE
INSURANCE POLICIES



	AUD	7.01
	NZD	5.05
	JPY	0.0913
	GBP	11.23
	EUR	9.71
	SGD	5.35
	CHF	7.00



ALWAYS TRAVEL WITH A PREMIUM DISCOUNT!



-20%

- **ACTIVE YEAR-ROUND**
- **FOR ALL CATEGORIES OF TRAVELERS**
- **NO MINIMUM SPENDING THRESHOLD REQUIRED**



TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER

FOR AN UNFORGETTABLE TOUR
FOREVER



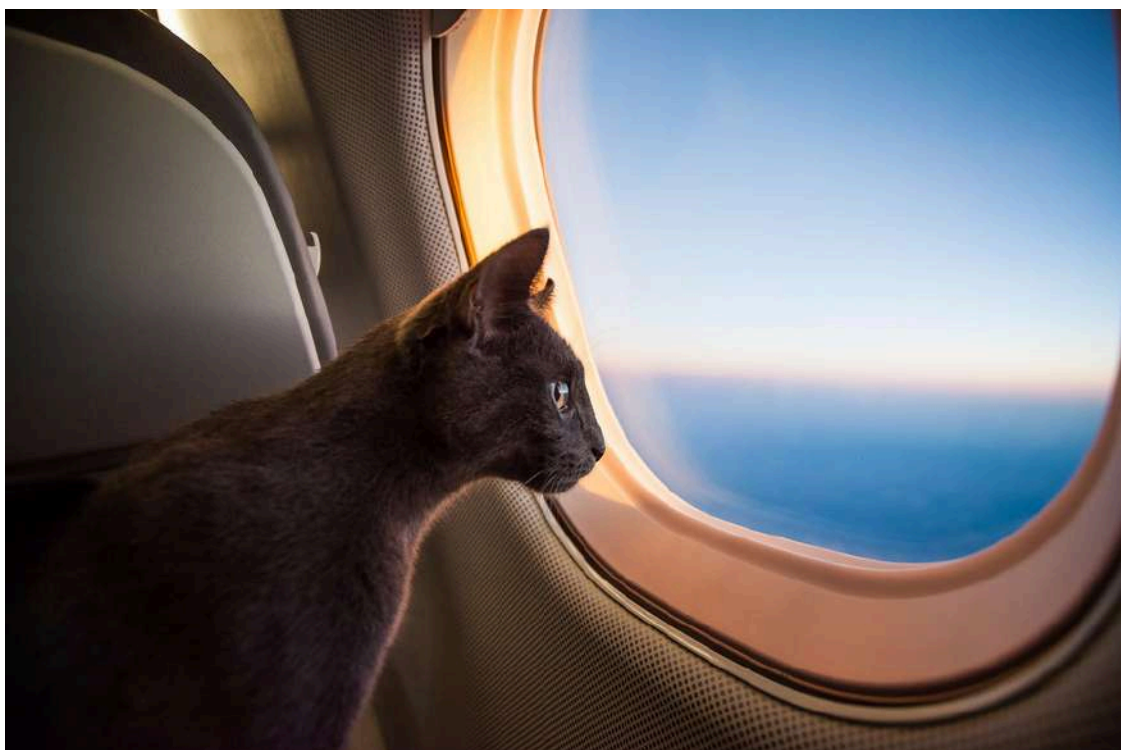
Certain journeys hold a unique significance: a honeymoon, a wedding anniversary marked by the renewal of vows, or cherished moments spent with close friends or family. Such beautiful occasions will be immortalized through professional photography and videography. Should you wish to incorporate this option into your upcoming trip, we are pleased to provide assistance with photographers who can transform your experience into a lasting memory.



ONE FREE INDIVIDUAL FOR EVERY 15 PAYING CUSTOMERS

Take advantage of our **perpetually active** promotion. If you can gather a **minimum of 15 individuals**, one person will receive a **complimentary** trip. Consider anyone who might be interested among family, friends, colleagues, or others. Additionally, if you require a tour leader or tour guide to assist you and your group throughout the entire tour, we can provide this service as well

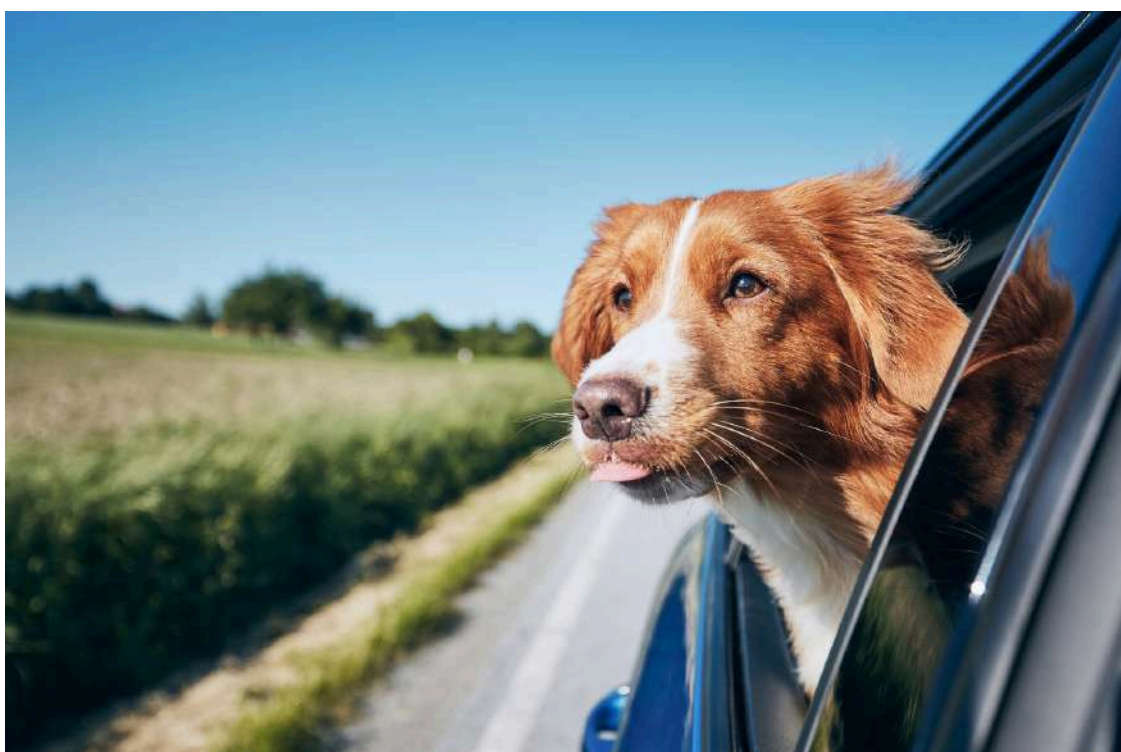
TRAVELING WITH PETS

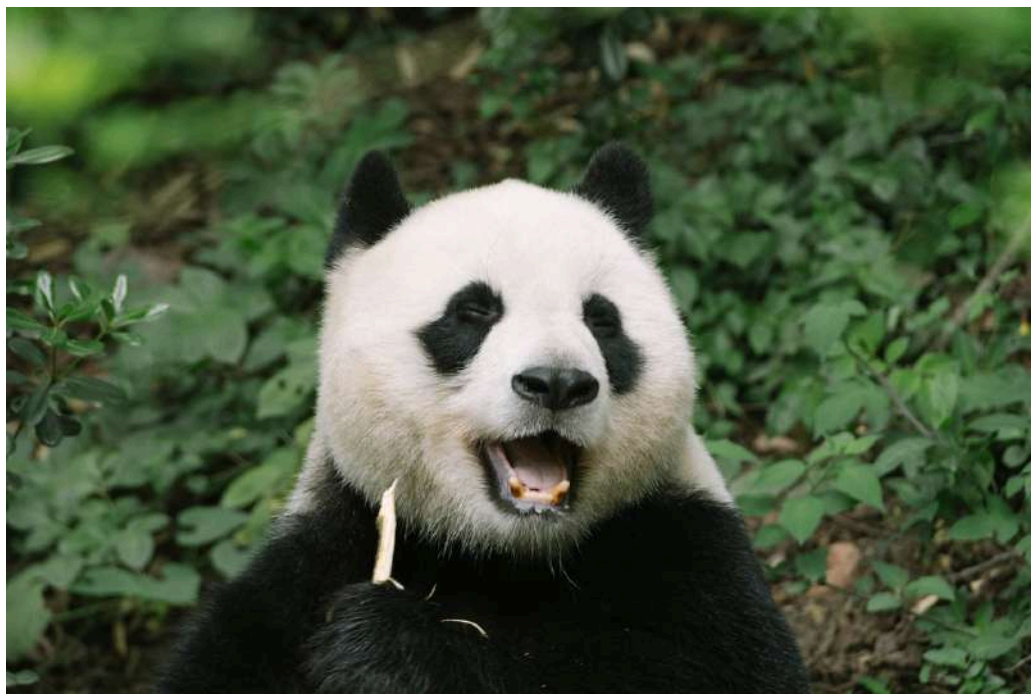


Do you wish to travel but are uncertain about who to entrust your four-legged companion to? Why not bring him or her along for the adventure? After all, he or she is an essential member of your family. We also arrange customized trips for this specific situation.

SERVICES OFFERED

- **TRANSPORT**
- **ACCOMMODATION**
- **PET SITTING SERVICE**
- **TRAVEL INSURANCE FOR ANIMALS**

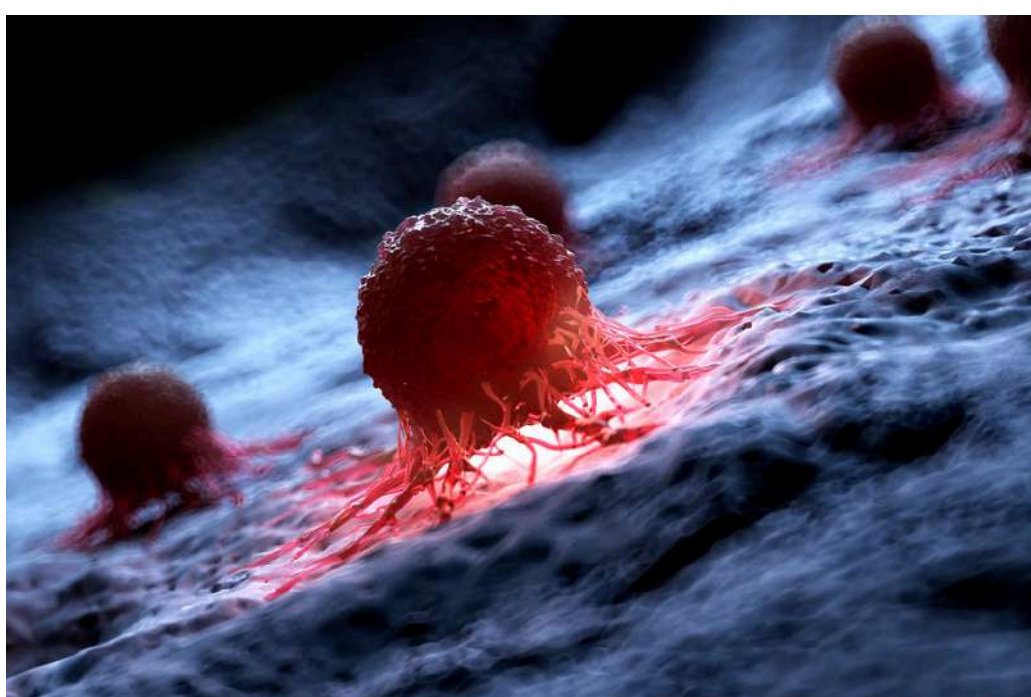




OUR COMMITMENT TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CANCER RESEARCH



THROUGH OUR TRIPS, WE AIM TO PROVIDE OUR CUSTOMERS WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO **SUPPORT** NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS DEDICATED TO ADDRESSING THE FOLLOWING GLOBAL CHALLENGES.



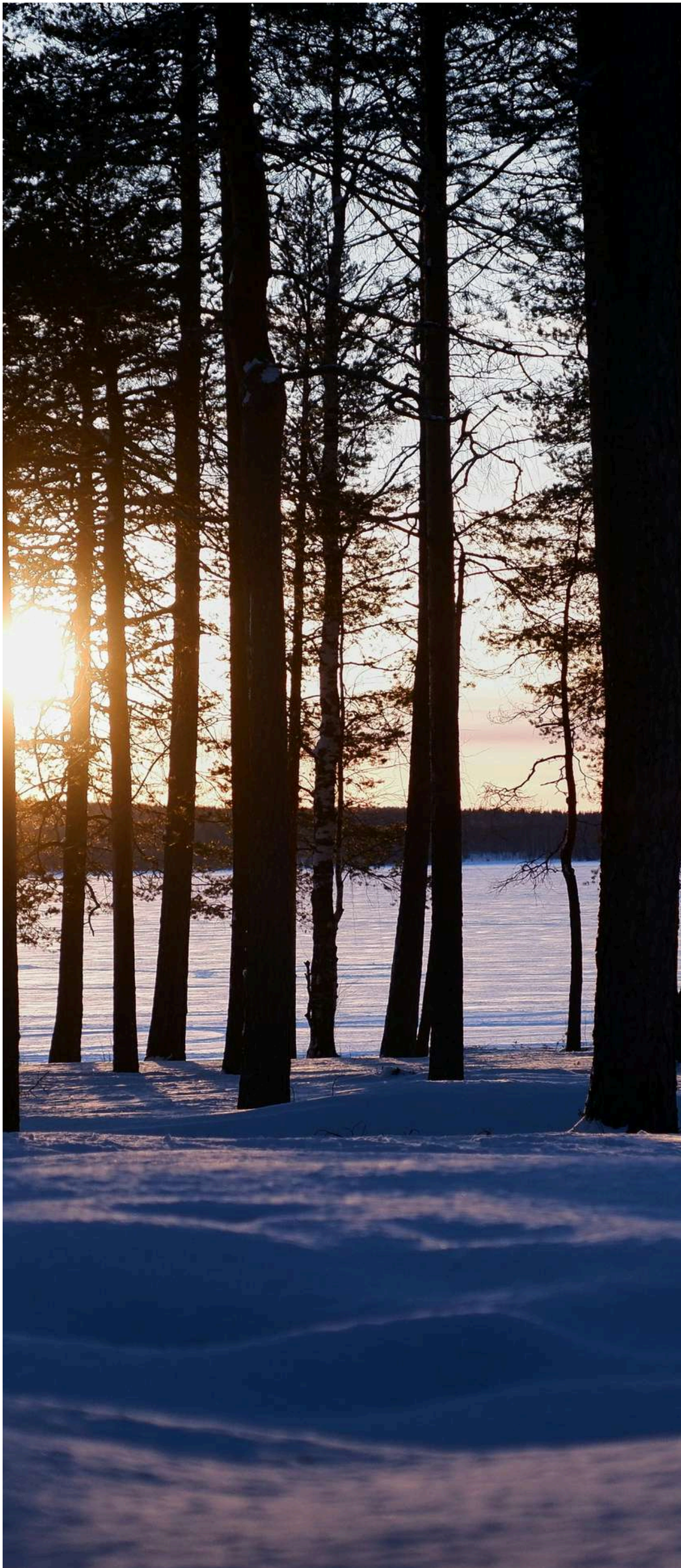
- **CONSERVATION OF PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE**
- **GLOBAL WARMING**
- **CANCER RESEARCH**



WHY CHOOSE A PET-FRIENDLY JOURNEY IN NORTHERN EUROPE

DISCOVER NORWAY, SWEDEN, FINLAND AND THE NETHERLANDS TOGETHER WITH YOUR FOUR-LEGGED COMPANION AND LET YOURSELVES BE INSPIRED TO CREATE A TAILOR-MADE, EXCLUSIVE JOURNEY BEYOND THE USUAL PATHS OF MASS TOURISM

PET-FRIENDLY NORTHERN EUROPE: TRAVELING WITH YOUR PET AS PART OF THE FAMILY



Traveling with a pet isn't just a logistical choice, but a different approach to travel: more mindful of daily routines, more flexible, and above all, built on ongoing sharing. A dog or cat isn't a constraint, but a companion that positively influences the way you explore places. Pet-friendly travel requires destinations where the presence of animals is not only accepted, but integrated into daily life, with adequate space, clear rules, and easily accessible natural environments.

Northern Europe—including Norway, Sweden, Finland, and the Netherlands—stands out for a particularly open culture toward pets and a high availability of natural spaces and organized services.

In Norway, the vastness of its natural environments allows for a truly unrestricted travel experience: coastal paths, wooded areas, and scenic routes offer endless opportunities for nature walks, often without major restrictions. Many accommodations, especially outside the main centers, welcome pets with great ease, allowing for flexible stays.

In Sweden, the balance between nature and organization makes travel particularly easy: vast forest areas, national parks, and well-maintained trails offer ideal settings for traveling with your pet. Even the cities, thanks to the presence of widespread green spaces, allow for easy management of the daily routine of the trip.

In Finland, the relationship with nature takes on an even broader dimension: forests, lakes, and open spaces create an environment where animals can share outdoor experiences in complete harmony with the surrounding environment. Accommodation facilities, often nestled in the landscape, are accustomed to hosting guests with animals, ensuring comfort and simplicity.

In the Netherlands, the presence of large urban parks, flat countryside, and a network of cycling and walking paths makes daily travel extremely easy. Even the cities, thanks to their orderly and compact structure, allow you to easily integrate the presence of animals into your travel routine, with walks along the canals and well-distributed green spaces.

A key aspect of these destinations is the ease of managing travel with pets: efficient transportation, clear signage, and a widespread cultural awareness of living with pets reduce organizational stress and allow you to focus on the experience.

Pet-friendly travel in Northern Europe is therefore not a compromise, but a natural and fluid form of exploration. It's a way of traveling that values time outdoors, ease of travel, and the opportunity to share every moment with your pet, transforming your vacation into a seamless, dynamic, and authentic experience.

WHY CHOOSE NORTHERN EUROPE FOR A PET-FRIENDLY TRIP

AN AREA WHERE THE PRESENCE OF ANIMALS IS A NATURAL PART OF THE JOURNEY

Traveling with a pet in Northern Europe means entering an environment where coexistence with animals is culturally integrated into daily life and public spaces. Norway, Sweden, Finland, and the Netherlands offer tidy and well-organized environments, where pet-friendliness is not an optional extra, but a natural part of the travel experience, especially in outdoor areas and less urbanized settings.

OPEN SPACES, ACCESSIBLE NATURE AND SHARED FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

The value of traveling to this region lies above all in the opportunity to experience vast natural spaces together with your pet without complications.

In Norway, coastal paths, plateaus, and scenic routes allow for slow, continuous hikes in close contact with nature.

In Sweden, forests and lake areas offer extensive, peaceful routes, ideal for long walks in quiet surroundings.

In Finland, the connection with nature is even more direct, with forests and lakes stretching for miles, creating an ideal setting for a shared journey in the open air.

In the Netherlands, countryside, nature parks, and waterfront paths allow for easy, regular travel in well-maintained, accessible environments.

TRAVEL STRUCTURES AND RHYTHMS THAT PROMOTE DAILY COEXISTENCE

A distinctive feature of Northern Europe is the widespread presence of pet-friendly accommodations, particularly in rural and natural areas. Cottages, lodges, and accommodations immersed in the landscape allow for flexible management of the stay, without sacrificing quality. Travel is also easy to organize, thanks to an efficient transportation network and a widespread culture of respect for shared spaces. The result is a seamless journey, where the pet's daily rhythm naturally integrates with that of the couple or family, transforming the experience into a form of continuous, relaxed, and authentic exploration.





TAILOR-MADE TRIPS TO NORTHERN EUROPE WITH YOUR PETS

A trip to Northern Europe can be truly special when shared with your four-legged friends. Pet-friendly holidays allow you to explore unique landscapes, authentic villages, and natural attractions with your pets, without sacrificing comfort, safety, and relaxation.

For this reason, it should never be a standard package, but a carefully and attentively designed experience, designed for you and your four-legged travel companions.

Our approach to creating pet-friendly travel is based on a fundamental principle: each itinerary must be unique, accessible, and tailored to the needs of your pets, ensuring safe and enjoyable experiences for everyone.

We listen to your desires, understand your pace and travel style, and create an itinerary that makes every stage of your shared adventure special.

Every detail is carefully studied:

- Choice of destinations, from nature parks with pet-friendly trails, to quiet beaches and scenic islands, to pet-friendly villages and hamlets**
- Pace of the itinerary, to enjoy every experience without rushing and without stress, leaving space for the needs of your animals**
- Experiences along the way, such as scenic walks, visits to pet-friendly museums and attractions, nature excursions and moments of relaxation together**
- A selection of the most welcoming facilities, with dedicated services for pets and comfortable spaces for a peaceful stay**

The result is an authentic, safe, and deeply personal journey, designed to offer unforgettable moments with your pets, discovering places far from mass tourism and creating precious memories shared with those you love.

EXPERIENCES THAT MAKE NORTHERN EUROPE IDEAL FOR A PET-FRIENDLY TRIP



A CULTURAL CONTEXT WHERE ANIMALS ARE PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE

In Northern Europe, traveling with pets is part of a cultural context already predisposed to their presence, not as an exception but as a widespread norm. Norway, Sweden, Finland, and the Netherlands offer an environment where public spaces, services, and outdoor areas are generally organized to make living with animals simple and unproblematic, especially in rural and natural settings.

OPEN SPACES AND PATHS THAT ENCOURAGE SHARED TRAVEL

The most meaningful experiences for those traveling with pets are found primarily in natural environments and less densely urbanized areas. In Norway, the network of coastal paths and scenic routes allows for exploration of expansive, uncongested landscapes. In Sweden, extensive forests and lake areas offer continuous, tranquil settings, with long, nature-filled routes. In Finland, the widespread presence of forests and lakes creates an environment particularly suited to a slow, steady pace of travel. In the Netherlands, tidy countryside and waterside paths allow for simple, steady travel in open, well-maintained spaces.

FLEXIBILITY-ORIENTED TRAVEL STRUCTURES AND ORGANIZATION

A distinctive feature of Northern Europe is the availability of accommodations and tourist services that are accustomed to accommodating the presence of animals, especially outside of major urban centers. Accommodations immersed in nature, small hotels, and independent lodgings allow for flexible travel. The transportation network, generally efficient and well-organized, also facilitates travel without any particular complications. The result is a trip that allows for a balance between exploration, comfort, and daily life, where the presence of the animal is naturally integrated into the overall experience.

WHEN TO GO ON A PET-FRIENDLY TRIP TO NORTHERN EUROPE



Spring in Northern Europe marks a progressive transformation of the landscape, with rapidly lengthening days and landscapes returning to their former glory after the colder months. Norway, Sweden, Finland, and the Netherlands demonstrate an interesting balance between resurgent nature and the tranquility of tourist flows. Lakes still partially frozen, revitalizing forests, and more livable cities make this the ideal time for a slow, gradual journey.

Summer is the most fluid time for traveling in Northern Europe, with more stable weather and a wide range of routes and connections. In Norway, the fjords are fully explored, in Sweden and Finland, lakes and archipelagos dominate the landscape, while in the Netherlands, cities and countryside are seamlessly and easily connected. The very long days allow for flexible planning and a more relaxed travel pace.

Autumn ushers in a noticeable transformation in the landscape, with warmer hues and a softer light that changes the perception of places. In Norway and Sweden, forests are tinged with intense colors, in Finland nature takes on a quieter and more profound character, while in the Netherlands, the rural and urban landscapes settle into a more orderly and tranquil dimension. It is a season that favors a more essential and less crowded experience.

Winter in Northern Europe is characterized by short days, cold temperatures, and low light that profoundly alters the atmosphere. In Norway, Sweden, and Finland, the landscape becomes simpler and more intimate, with snow, forests, and small towns. In the Netherlands, however, the season maintains a more urban and functional dimension, with cities always accessible and organized. It is the most essential time of year, when travel takes on a slow and contemplative pace.

10 PET-FRIENDLY TRAVEL EXPERIENCES THAT ONLY EXIST IN NORTHERN EUROPE

In Northern Europe—between Norway, Sweden, Finland, and the Netherlands—there are experiences that don't depend on the major tourist itineraries, but on territories that are still surprisingly accessible in their most authentic form. These are places and situations that arise from the encounter between water, forests, archipelagos, and spaces planned with a different logic than traditional tourism: slower, more widespread, quieter.

Among the most suggestive:

- Traverse Sweden's hidden archipelagos, past inhabited islands and remote lighthouses. Off the beaten track, the Stockholm archipelago stretches across hundreds of smaller islands, connected by small local ferries. Here, you can reach communities like Sandhamn or Möja, where life still follows the rhythm of the sea, amid wooden harbors, red houses, and rarely traveled coastal paths.
- Sleeping in a roadless lakeside cabin in Central Finland - In the Finnish lake district, far from Helsinki and the beaten track, there are isolated cottages accessible only by dirt roads or small local connections. In areas like Saimaa, daily life is marked by a private sauna, absolute silence, and water as far as the eye can see, often with no other dwellings visible.
- Drive along forgotten Norwegian scenic roads through villages and secondary fjords - In addition to the most famous fjords, Western Norway offers routes such as the Sognefjellet Scenic Route or lesser-traveled stretches of the Nordfjord, where the road passes through deserted plateaus, glacial lakes and small farming villages suspended between the mountains and the sea, with very little traffic even in high season.
- Traveling the coastal region of Helgeland between islands and fishing villages - In northern Norway, the Helgeland region is less frequented than the tourist circuits of Lofoten. Here, the coastline is fragmented by islands, fishing villages, and local sea connections, with landscapes dominated by mountains rising directly from the water.
- Navigating the backwater canal systems of rural Holland - In the Netherlands, beyond Amsterdam, regions such as Giethoorn and the Overijssel countryside allow you to travel by electric boat along narrow canals between thatched houses and pedestrian bridges, away from the main tourist flows.
- Driving through the inland forests of Värmland, Sweden - In Sweden, the Värmland region is characterized by continuous forests and interconnected lakes, where villages are far apart and secondary roads run through miles of undeveloped nature.
- Explore Dalarna among traditional villages and rural culture - Also in Sweden, Dalarna preserves a rural landscape of red wooden houses, lakes, and forests. It's one of the most authentic areas to observe traditional Swedish culture off the beaten track.
- Crossing the artificial islands of Flevoland in the Netherlands - In the Netherlands, the Flevoland region represents a territory entirely reclaimed from the sea. Here, you travel among dikes, geometric fields, and planned cities built on land reclaimed from the sea.
- Travel the less touristy Lofoten region in inland Norway - In Norway, some inland areas of the Lofoten archipelago, far from the main centers like Reine, offer smaller villages, secondary roads and landscapes still linked to fishing and sea conditions.
- Following the rural coasts of Western Finland - In Finland, the coastal strip of the Gulf of Bothnia alternates small villages, seasonally inhabited islands and stretches of undeveloped nature, where the connection between land and sea is continuous but little frequented by international tourism.

Taken together, these experiences tell of a secondary and authentic Northern Europe, made up of local connections, peripheral territories, and landscapes experienced in their everyday dimension, far from the most beaten tourist routes.





THE MOST CHARMING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR A PET-FRIENDLY TRIP

A trip to Northern Europe isn't defined solely by the destinations, but also by the places you stay, where the connection with the landscape becomes a continuous and integral part of your daily experience. Between Norway, Sweden, Finland, and the Netherlands, accommodations aren't just bases, but different ways to experience the light, water, forests, and cities.

In Norway, many accommodations are located directly along the fjords or in small coastal villages like those in the Geirangerfjord and Sognefjord areas. The wooden lodges and panoramic cabins are designed to be completely open to the outdoors, with large windows that allow the landscape to be ever-present, including deep water, mountains, and silence.

In Sweden, off-the-beaten-path accommodations are often found in the archipelagos or in inland regions like Dalarna. Here, you'll find lakeside cottages, traditional red houses, or small boutique hotels nestled in the woods, where water and forest are always just steps away and set the tone for your stay.

In Finland, especially in lake regions like Saimaa, accommodations are often secluded and integrated into the landscape. Wooden cottages, minimalist villas, and private saunas overlooking the water allow for a direct connection with nature, where the boundary between inside and outside is almost imperceptible.

In the Netherlands, your stay spans waterfront cities and landscaped countryside. Beyond Amsterdam, you'll find boutique hotels along the canals, renovated historic homes, and contemporary structures in rural villages, where bridges, dams, and waterways are part of everyday life.

In Northern Europe, accommodation is never separated from the landscape: it becomes an extension of the landscape itself. Whether it's a cabin on a fjord, a house on a lake, a forest retreat, or a canalside home, every choice influences the way you experience your trip, making your stay an active part of it.

MISTAKES TO AVOID WHEN ORGANIZING A PET-FRIENDLY TRIP TO NORTHERN EUROPE



OVERLOADING THE ITINERARY WITH TOO MANY DESTINATIONS

One of the most common mistakes is trying to combine Norway, Sweden, Finland, and the Netherlands into a single trip in just a few days. Norway, Sweden, Finland, and the Netherlands offer very different landscapes: fjords, forests, lakes, and cities on the water require real exploration time. An itinerary that's too fragmented easily turns into a series of transfers, reducing the time to truly experience the places.

UNDERESTIMATING DISTANCES, SEASONS AND INTERNAL CONNECTIONS

In Northern Europe, transportation is an integral part of the journey. In Norway, many fjord areas require ferries or long, scenic drives; in Finland, distances between towns pass through forests and lakes; in Sweden, some connections are made between archipelagos with local ferries; in the Netherlands, despite being more compact, water and infrastructure can influence travel times. Careless planning risks fragmenting the experience.

SETTING A SCHEDULE THAT IS TOO RIGID

Climate and light in Northern Europe change rapidly throughout the day and with the seasons. In Norway and Sweden, light can completely transform the perception of fjords and forests; in Finland, the condition of lakes and forests varies between morning and evening; in the Netherlands, the weather influences the livability of canals and open spaces. An itinerary that is too rigid reduces the ability to adapt to these natural variations.

LIMIT YOURSELF EXCLUSIVELY TO CAPITAL CITIES

Oslo, Stockholm, Helsinki, and Amsterdam are essential starting points, but they don't represent the entire experience. The most authentic Northern Europe is often found outside the capitals: in the secondary fjords, lakeside villages, archipelagos, and countryside crisscrossed by water and forests.

CONSIDER ACCOMMODATIONS AS SIMPLE LOGISTICAL SUPPORTS

In Northern Europe, sleeping is part of the experience. A lodge on the fjords of Norway, a cabin on a lake in Finland, a house on the archipelago of Sweden, or a boutique hotel along the canals of the Netherlands profoundly influence the way you experience the region. Choosing accommodations that aren't integrated into the landscape means missing out on an essential component of the trip.

DON'T BUILD THE TRIP ON YOUR OWN IDEA OF EXPERIENCE

Northern Europe is not a uniform destination: it can be contemplative in the Norwegian fjords, silent in the Finnish forests, sprawling in the Swedish archipelagos, or orderly and aquatic in the Netherlands. Applying a standard framework risks flattening these differences. A well-planned trip should instead adapt to the rhythm and nature of each individual country, enhancing what makes it unique.



QUALITY AND SERVICE UPDATES

The experiences and services presented in this brochure have been selected based on qualitative criteria focused on comfort, accessibility, and the personalization of the travel experience.

As operational conditions, dedicated services, and policies may be subject to updates or changes over time, each proposal will be reviewed and confirmed at the quotation stage, in order to ensure full alignment with the traveler's specific requirements and the expected quality standards.



NORWAY – A GEOGRAPHICAL SYSTEM BUILT BETWEEN OCEAN AND LAND, WHERE THE HISTORY OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC IS INTERTWINED WITH FJORDS, ARCHIPELAGOS AND ANCIENT SETTLEMENTS



Located in the western part of the Scandinavian Peninsula, Norway is one of the European territories where physical geography and human history are closely intertwined. First, the country's structure is defined by an extremely rugged Atlantic coastline that extends from the Oslofjord to the northern Arctic regions, including deep fjords, archipelagos, and island systems that have historically determined settlement patterns. To understand Norway's identity, it is necessary to begin with the first traces of human settlement dating back to the post-glacial period, when retreating ice allowed the formation of coastal communities along areas such as the Trondheimsfjord and Rogaland. Subsequently, between the 8th and 11th centuries, the Viking Age developed, a period during which centers such as Trondheim (Nidaros) and the areas of Vestlandet became key hubs for exploration, trade, and raids along the North Atlantic routes. During this period, the first connections with the North Atlantic islands, including the present-day Faroe Islands and Iceland, also emerged, consolidating the country's maritime vocation. Over time, between the 14th and 19th centuries, Norway entered into various forms of political union: first with Denmark (Danish-Norwegian Union), during which centers like Bergen assumed a key role in the Hanseatic League's trade, and subsequently with Sweden through the Swedish-Norwegian Union (1814–1905). During this period, coastal cities like Bergen and Trondheim continued to grow as maritime hubs, while the interior of the country remained less populated due to the difficult orographic conditions associated with mountains and plateaus.

With independence in 1905, Norway structured itself as a modern state divided into strongly identified geographical regions:

- ØSTLANDET – SOUTHEASTERN AREA INCLUDING OSLO AND THE OSLOFJORD, MAIN POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CENTER
- SØRLANDET – SOUTHERN COASTAL STRIP WITH KRISTIANSAND AND THE COASTAL ARCHIPELAGOS OF SKAGERRAK
- VESTLANDET – REGION OF THE GREAT FJORDS, WITH THE SOGNEFJORD, THE HARDANGERFJORD AND THE GEIRANGERFJORD
- TRØNDELAG – CENTRAL AREA WITH TRONDHEIM AND THE TRONDHEIMSFJORD
- NORD-NORGE – THE NORTHERN ARCTIC REGION WITH TROMSØ, ALTA, NORDKAPP AND THE ARCHIPELAGOS OF LOFOTEN, VESTERÅLEN AND SVALBARD

Regarding the main entry points into the country, the Norwegian airport network is structured to directly connect the different regions:

- Oslo Gardermoen Airport – Main international hub and gateway to the Oslofjord area
- Kristiansand Airport Kjevik - Access to the south coast and Skagerrak resorts
- Bergen Airport Flesland – Gateway to the Westfjords
- Trondheim Airport Værnes – Access to Central Norway and the Trondheimsfjord
- Tromsø Airport – Gateway to Arctic Norway and northern areas
- Longyearbyen Airport – Main gateway to the Svalbard archipelago

In short, Norway is a continuous territorial system in which fjords like Sognefjord, archipelagos like Lofoten and Svalbard, and cities like Oslo, Bergen, and Tromsø are not isolated elements, but rather parts of a single geographical and historical structure. It is precisely this continuity between sea, land, and history that defines the country's identity and its strong recognizability within Northern Europe.

PET-FRIENDLY ITINERARIES THROUGH OPEN NATURE, CONTROLLED SPACES AND ACCESSIBLE COASTAL PATHS

PLACES AND EXPERIENCES FOR A TRIP WITH YOUR FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS OFF THE BEATEN PATH

A trip to Norway with pets takes place in a context where the presence of animals integrates naturally with the environment, thanks to vast accessible natural areas, a network of well-maintained trails, and a widespread culture of coexistence in public spaces. The experience is built primarily through slow movements and frequent stops in open spaces, where the landscape becomes an active part of the journey.

From a natural perspective, some of the most suitable areas are located along the coast and in less urbanized fjord systems. The Hardangerfjord offers long scenic stretches along the Hardanger Scenic Route, with green areas and natural rest stops around Ulvik and Kinsarvik, where you can easily explore coastal paths and rural trails. The island of Senja is also one of the most suitable destinations, thanks to the Senja National Tourist Route and points like Tungeneset, with open spaces, direct access to the coast, and unfenced natural areas.

The size of smaller villages and towns allows for easy management of daily travel. In the Lofoten region, towns like Reine and Svolvær offer direct access to piers, coastal paths, and open spaces along fjords and inlets, where the connection with the water is continuous and immediate. Even in the Vesterålen region, with towns like Andenes, urban and natural spaces are less congested and easily navigable.

Culturally and environmentally, Norway offers a landscape where respect for shared spaces and the widespread presence of natural areas encourage mobility with pets. Inland areas like the Gudbrandsdalen valley, riverside paths, open meadows, and small settlements like Lillehammer allow for a seamless experience between nature and urban centers without significant interruptions. Northern regions, such as the Helgeland area, with islands like Vega, Lovund, and Træna, along with rugged coastlines and smaller fjords like those opening towards Ranfjorden, also offer linear paths and open spaces ideal for shared enjoyment of the landscape.

In this context, traveling with pets in Norway means exploring a territory designed to embrace the natural dimension of travel, where fjords, islands, and valleys are not separate environments, but continuous spaces that allow for free, safe, and integrated enjoyment of the landscape.





DID YOU KNOW?

In Norway, the landscape is not only scenic, but is the direct result of glacial erosion, which during the last ice ages carved out deep fjords, shaping one of the most rugged coastlines in the world. In some areas of Vestlandet, such as the Sognefjord and Hardangerfjord, sea depths often exceed 1,000 meters, while mountains emerge directly from the water. A little-known aspect concerns the presence of post-glacial uplift phenomena along the northern Norwegian coast: in some areas of Lofoten and Vesterålen, the coastline continues to slowly change, creating new rocky surfaces and micro-islands over time.

The capital Oslo is one of the few cases in Europe where a fjord extends directly into the city center: the Oslofjord penetrates deeply into the metropolitan area, creating a direct relationship between the urban environment and the marine system.

In the north of the country, the city of Tromsø lies above the Arctic Circle and is one of the main observation points for the Northern Lights, while prehistoric rock carvings, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, have been discovered near Alta, testifying to human presence in the Arctic region dating back thousands of years.

One of the least intuitive aspects for those visiting is the relationship between population and space: with a very large surface area and one of the lowest population densities in Europe, large areas of the territory remain almost completely uninhabited, especially in the mountainous regions of Innlandet and in the more inland areas of Troms og Finnmark, where villages can be located tens of kilometers from each other.

A surprising aspect concerns mobility: many internal connections are not via continuous roads, but through an extremely complex network of tunnels, bridges, and maritime connections. In the Lofoten area in particular, some villages are connected by suspension bridges and underwater tunnels that replace traditional land infrastructure, making the landscape an integral part of the transportation system.

Another little-known fact concerns the presence of sandy beaches of tropical origin in the Arctic environment: places like Haukland Beach in Lofoten have pale sand and turquoise waters, even though they are located well above the Arctic Circle, thanks to the particular combination of ocean currents and subarctic climate.

A lesser-known historical element concerns the city of Bergen, which was one of the main centers of the Hanseatic League in Northern Europe: the historic Bryggen district still preserves colorful wooden buildings dating back to the medieval period, built along the commercial port.

In the cultural sphere, the city of Trondheim is home to Nidaros Cathedral, built over the supposed burial place of St. Olav and considered one of the most important Gothic buildings in Northern Europe, which made the city a historic center of medieval pilgrimage and religious and political power.

A surprising fact concerns energy production: Norway generates almost all of its electricity from hydroelectric sources thanks to the presence of thousands of waterfalls and mountain rivers, such as those in the Nordland region, transforming the Alpine conformation of the territory into a widespread natural energy resource.

Finally, a very characteristic phenomenon is the management of light in northern cities: in places like Longyearbyen in the Svalbard Islands, people live for months without direct sunlight during the winter and with continuous light in the summer, creating a perception of time completely different from that of the temperate regions of Europe.



SWEDEN – A CONTINUOUS TERRITORY BETWEEN THE BALTIC, ARCHIPELAGOS, GREAT LAKES AND ARCTIC REGIONS, WHERE PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY AND HUMAN HISTORY DEVELOP AS A SINGLE INTEGRATED SYSTEM



Located in the eastern part of the Scandinavian Peninsula, Sweden is one of the European territories where the continuity between seas like the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Bothnia, islands like the Stockholm Archipelago and the Gothenburg Archipelago, inland lakes like Vänern and Mälaren, and vast forested areas like the regions of Värmland and Dalarna directly defines the country's geographical structure and historical development. Island systems distributed along the entire eastern and western coasts, such as the islands of Öland and Gotland, profoundly influence settlement patterns and connectivity between regions. To understand Sweden's identity, it is necessary to start from the first phases of human occupation after the Ice Age, when retreating ice made the Baltic coastal areas and inland basins like Lake Mälaren habitable. In this context, the first stable communities of Mesolithic hunter-gatherer populations developed in the northern Baltic, belonging to the prehistoric cultural groups of post-glacial Scandinavia (not identifiable with modern ethnonyms), with settlements along the emerging coasts and lake areas that exploited fishing, hunting, and inland waterways. Subsequently, between the Iron Age and the Viking period (8th–11th centuries), the regions of present-day central Sweden became part of the Baltic trade networks and the waterways to Eastern Europe, with centers such as Birka, located right on Lake Mälaren, among the first urban and commercial hubs in Scandinavia. Continuing in time, between the Middle Ages and the modern era, the Kingdom of Sweden consolidated and the role of Stockholm, strategically located between Lake Mälaren and the Baltic Sea, strengthened. The city gradually became the country's main political, administrative, and maritime center, while port cities on the west coast, such as Gothenburg, assumed a key role in connections with the North Sea and European trade routes. Between the 17th and 18th centuries, Sweden also experienced the period of the Swedish Empire, during which control of the Baltic Sea further strengthened the importance of coastal cities and maritime systems. With the loss of Finland in 1809 and the subsequent constitutional evolution, Sweden transformed into a modern and stable state, with a strong integration of urban development, internal natural resources, and coastal infrastructure.

In this framework, the contemporary state is divided into well-defined geographical macro-areas:

- GÖTALAND – SOUTHERN AREA INCLUDING SCANIA, SMÅLAND AND THE WEST COAST UP TO GOTHENBURG, INTEGRATING COASTAL SYSTEMS ON THE KATTEGAT AND SKAGERRAK AND ARCHIPELAGOS SUCH AS BOHUSLÄN AND THE ISLANDS OF THE SOUTHWEST COAST
- SVEALAND – CENTRAL REGION THAT INCLUDES STOCKHOLM, THE MÄLAREN SYSTEM AND THE ENTIRE STOCKHOLM ARCHIPELAGO, ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST COMPLEX IN THE BALTIC SEA, WHERE CITIES, ISLANDS AND COAST FORM A UNIQUE SYSTEM
- NORRLAND – A VAST NORTHERN REGION CHARACTERISED BY BOREAL FORESTS, RIVERS AND A FRAGMENTED COASTLINE ON THE GULF OF BOTHNIA, WITH CITIES SUCH AS LULEÅ AND SPARSELY DEVELOPED NATURAL SYSTEMS
- SWEDISH LAPLAND (ARCTIC AREA) – NORTHERN PART OF NORRLAND INCLUDING KIRUNA AND ABISKO, WITH SUBARCTIC LANDSCAPES, ANCIENT RELIEFS AND EXTREME CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

With regard to the main entry points into the country, the Swedish airport network is structured according to its north-south extension and the distribution of macro-areas:

- Stockholm Arlanda Airport - Main international hub and gateway to central Sweden and the Stockholm archipelago
- Gothenburg Landvetter Airport - Gateway to Western Sweden and the Götaland region
- Malmö Airport - Access to southern Sweden and the Øresund system
- Kiruna Airport - Gateway to Swedish Lapland and the Arctic regions

In short, Sweden is a continuous territorial system in which the Baltic coast, archipelagos like Stockholm, large inland lakes like Lake Mälaren, boreal forests, and Arctic regions are not separate elements, but rather interconnected parts of a single geographical and historical structure. It is precisely this continuity between sea, islands, interior, and Arctic that defines the country's identity within Northern Europe.

AMONG SILENT ARCHIPELAGOS, ACCESSIBLE FORESTS AND ANIMAL-FRIENDLY LAKE LANDSCAPES

AMONG SILENT ARCHIPELAGOS, ACCESSIBLE FORESTS AND ANIMAL-FRIENDLY LAKE LANDSCAPES

A trip to Sweden with pets takes place in a context where nature and public spaces are often seamlessly integrated, thanks to the widespread presence of green spaces, coastal paths, and sparsely populated rural areas. The experience is built on a slow pace and itineraries where movement with animals is a natural part of the journey, without constraints or significant structural limitations in the main outdoor areas.

From a natural perspective, some of the most interesting experiences are found along the western archipelagos and inland lake regions. In the Gothenburg archipelago, islands like Styrösö and Brännö offer flat coastal paths, small, traffic-free villages, and accessible piers where the connection to the sea is direct and continuous. Further north, the Bohuslän region, with towns like Smögen, combines smooth cliffs, wooden walkways, and harbor areas where walking pets is part of everyday life.

The size of the lakes and inland forests is another key factor. Lake Siljan, in the Dalarna region, offers open spaces, waterside trails, and traditional villages like Rättvik, where the natural setting is easily accessible and sparsely populated. In the Småland region, Åsnen National Park represents one of the most balanced lake and forest systems, with trails nestled among birch forests, inland islands, and regular rest areas along the water.

The cultural and territorial dimension integrates naturally with daily life in small towns and scattered museums. In the Småland region, the Glasriktet connects towns like Kosta and Boda Glasbruk, where artisanal traditions and forest landscapes coexist in a widespread system that can be visited at a flexible pace. In the Stockholm archipelago, islands like Vaxholm offer walks along historic piers and coastal areas that are easily accessible, even with pets.

In this context, traveling in Sweden with your pet means exploring a region structured around accessible nature and human-scale centers: archipelagos like Gothenburg and Stockholm, lakes like Siljan, and forest systems like those of Småland allow for a seamless experience, where the animal's presence integrates naturally with the landscape and the pace of the journey.





DID YOU KNOW?

In Sweden, there are little-known geographical phenomena related to the slow uplift of the land, called post-glacial rebound, which continues to alter the coastline of the Gulf of Bothnia today: in some areas of the Kvarken archipelago, between the coast of Västerbotten and Finland, new islands gradually emerge from the sea over the course of generations, measurably changing the local geography.

Another unique aspect concerns the system of cities built on islands and canals: the capital Stockholm is not only overlooking the water, but is spread across 14 islands connected by over 50 bridges, with a constant balance between the freshwater of Lake Mälaren and the saltwater of the Baltic Sea, a rare hydrological condition for a European capital.

In the north of the country, the city of Kiruna has become known for a unique urban development: the entire city center is being progressively relocated due to the expansion of one of the world's largest iron ore mines, resulting in a planned relocation of historic buildings and public facilities to a new site.

From a cultural perspective, the Skansen open-air museum is considered the first of its kind in the world: it brings together historic buildings from different regions of Sweden, reconstructing traditional rural and urban environments without resorting to copies, but preserving original structures transferred to the site.

Another peculiarity concerns the light: in the northernmost regions, such as around Abisko, the winter sky is considered among the clearest in the world for observing the Northern Lights, thanks to dry climatic conditions and the geographical position protected by the surrounding mountains.

Finally, Sweden is one of the countries with the highest percentage of forests in Europe, but what is often surprising is that many of these areas are freely accessible thanks to the legal principle of "Allemansrätten," which allows anyone to roam through nature, pick berries, and cross uncultivated land while respecting the environment and private property.



FINLAND – A TRANSITIONAL TERRITORY BETWEEN THE BALTIC, INLAND LAKES AND SUBARCTIC REGIONS, WHERE THE GEOGRAPHICAL STRUCTURE HAS DIRECTLY GUIDED THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL FORMATION OF THE COUNTRY



Located in the northeastern part of Fennoscandia, Finland is a region where the relationship between sea, lakes, and forests is the dominant structural element. The country is defined primarily by the coastline of the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Finland, but above all by a unique inland system in Europe: an expanse of thousands of interconnected lakes, including Lake Saimaa, the country's largest, and Lake Päijänne. These, together with the vast boreal forests of the Karelia region and central Finland, define the country's environmental structure.

To understand Finland's identity, it is necessary to begin with the earliest phases of human occupation after the Ice Age, when retreating ice made the Baltic coastal areas and inland lake regions habitable. In this context, communities of Mesolithic Finno-Baltic hunter-gatherer populations developed. These populations cannot be identified with modern ethnic groups but are linked to the region's post-glacial cultural complexes. Their settlements were distributed along the coasts, forests, and lake basins, based on fishing, hunting, and seasonal mobility.

Subsequently, between the Iron Age and the Early Middle Ages, Finland gradually entered the cultural and commercial orbit of both the Baltic world and the Scandinavian and Eastern regions. The coastal areas of the Gulf of Finland and the Gulf of Bothnia became trading hubs, while the inland regions remained characterized by scattered settlements and local systems. During this period, sites such as Turku emerged, which would later become one of the country's main historical centers.

During the Middle Ages, between the 13th and 16th centuries, Finland was gradually integrated into the Kingdom of Sweden, a process that led to the founding and development of administrative and religious centers along the southwestern coast and inland waterways. Turku assumed the role of administrative and episcopal capital, becoming the main urban center of the Finnish territory.

Contemporary Finland is divided into well-defined geographical macro-regions:

- SOUTHERN FINLAND – INCLUDES THE HELSINKI AREA AND THE GULF OF FINLAND, WITH CITIES SUCH AS HELSINKI AND ESPOO, CHARACTERISED BY A RUGGED COASTLINE AND ARCHIPELAGOS
- WESTERN FINLAND – COASTAL STRIP ON THE GULF OF BOTHNIA WITH CITIES SUCH AS TURKU AND ISLAND SYSTEMS SUCH AS THE TURKU ARCHIPELAGO
- CENTRAL FINLAND – AREA OF THE GREAT INLAND LAKES, WITH LAKE SAIMAA AND LAKE PÄIJÄNNE, AS WELL AS VAST BOREAL FORESTS
- EASTERN FINLAND (FINNISH KARELIA) – FOREST AND LAKE REGION BORDERING RUSSIA, CHARACTERIZED BY LOW POPULATION DENSITY
- NORTHERN FINLAND (FINNISH LAPLAND) – SUBARCTIC AND ARCTIC AREA EXTENDING TO THE ARCTIC CIRCLE, WITH CITIES SUCH AS ROVANIEMI

The Finnish airport network reflects the geographical distribution of the country and directly connects the main macro-areas:

- Helsinki-Vantaa Airport - Main international hub and gateway to Southern Finland
- Turku Airport - Gateway to Southwestern Finland and the archipelago
- Tampere-Pirkkala Airport - Access to Central Finland and the Lake District
- Rovaniemi Airport - Gateway to Finnish Lapland and the Arctic regions

Finland is a territorial system strongly influenced by water and forest, in which the Baltic coast, archipelagos, inland lakes, and Arctic regions form a geographical continuum. Its historical identity, from post-glacial communities to integration into the Scandinavian world and the formation of the modern state, is directly linked to this environmental structure.

AMONG UNFENCED FORESTS, SILENT ARCHIPELAGOS AND PRISTINE LAKES

PLACES AND EXPERIENCES FOR A TRIP WITH YOUR FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS OFF THE BEATEN PATH

A trip to Finland with pets takes place in a context where nature is extremely accessible and continuous, thanks to the widespread presence of open spaces, forest trails, and lakes with little human intervention. The Finnish landscape, characterized by low population density and vast natural expanses, allows for seamless travel with pets without the need for complex infrastructure.

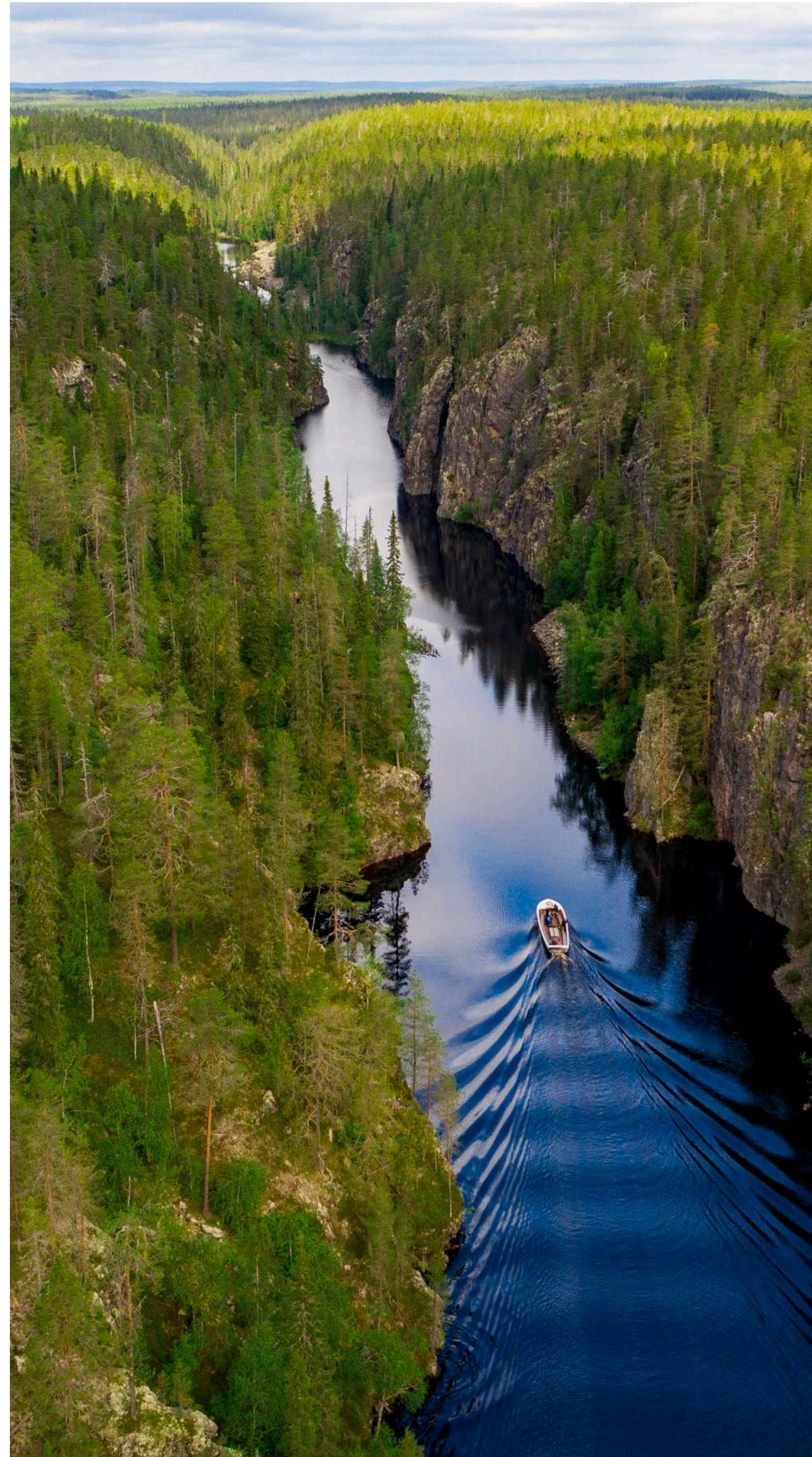
From a natural perspective, some of the most interesting experiences are found in the large forest and lake systems of central and eastern Finland. Lake Saimaa, near Puumala, offers a landscape of tranquil bays, pine forests, and unpaved coastal paths where the presence of domestic animals is natural and widespread. In the Linnansaari National Park area, small local ferries allow access to wooded islands where the trails are linear and rarely used.

The forested landscape also extends to the northeast. In the Kainuu region, areas like Hossa National Park offer trails among clear lakes, boreal forests, and wooden bridges suspended over the water, in an environment where walking with domestic animals is an integral part of the hiking experience. The North Karelia region, with Koli National Park, also combines rolling hills, continuous forests, and open views of Lake Pielinen.

The island dimension represents another particularly suitable context. In the Archipelago Sea, islands such as Houtskär and Iniö are connected by local ferries and feature small villages, low-traffic roads, and easily navigable rocky coastlines. The Åland Islands, particularly Föglö, also offer a peaceful and uncluttered environment, with large natural spaces and coastal paths suitable for animal-friendly use.

The cultural dimension integrates discreetly yet coherently with the landscape. In the Småland region (a southwestern Finnish area with a strong forest and lake continuum), small rural towns and scattered museums narrate traditional life tied to wood and nature. In Rauma, the historic center of Old Rauma offers compact, walkable wooden streets, where the urban dimension remains contained and easily navigable even with pets.

In this context, Finland stands out as a naturally pet-friendly destination: lakes like Saimaa, parks like Koli and Hossa, and island systems like the Turku archipelago and Åland offer a seamless experience, where nature, small towns, and forest landscapes intertwine without barriers or set paths.





DID YOU KNOW?

In Finland, the relationship between humanity and nature unfolds on a territorial scale dominated by water and forests, in a balance that makes the country one of the least densely populated in Europe and at the same time one of the richest in lake ecosystems. One of the most distinctive features is the presence of approximately 188,000 lakes, distributed mainly in the southeastern and central regions, which have influenced settlement and communication patterns for centuries. Among the most significant are Lake Saimaa, the country's largest, and Lake Päijänne, connected to river systems and canals that still support cities and villages today. The structure of the territory is closely linked to the so-called "Finnish Lakeland," an area extending between cities such as Savonlinna, Mikkeli, and Jyväskylä, where water and coniferous forests alternate in a continuous landscape shaped by the last glaciation. This geological process also left behind the presence of smooth rocks, moraines and thousands of lake islands.

A particularly significant historical element is the bond between Finland and Sweden, which lasted over six centuries until 1809, the period during which the country's first urban and administrative structures developed. Cities like Turku, one of Finland's oldest urban centers, still represent this historical legacy today, with an urban layout that retains traces of medieval times and later Nordic influences.

From a cultural and identity perspective, Finland is strongly linked to the language and national tradition that emerged in the 19th century, particularly through the work of the epic poem Kalevala, collected by Elias Lönnrot, which contributed to the definition of modern Finnish cultural identity.

Another distinctive feature is the midnight sun phenomenon in northern regions, particularly in Lapland, where during the summer the sun doesn't set for weeks, while in winter the opposite phenomenon occurs, the long Arctic night. This profoundly affects the rhythm of daily life and traditional activities.

Finally, Finland is one of the countries with the highest integration between nature and sustainable energy: most of its electricity comes from hydroelectric, nuclear, and bioenergy sources, while the country's vast forests, covering over 70% of the territory, represent one of the country's main economic and environmental resources, managed according to some of the most stringent sustainable forest management criteria in the world.



NETHERLANDS – A TERRITORY BUILT BETWEEN THE SEA, LANDS RECLAIMED FROM THE WATER AND A POLYCENTRIC URBAN NETWORK, WHERE HYDRAULIC GEOGRAPHY HAS SHAPED HISTORY, SETTLEMENTS AND NATIONAL IDENTITY



Located in the northwestern part of continental Europe, the Netherlands represents one of the world's most significant examples of continuous interaction between the natural environment and human intervention. First, the country is characterized by a structural relationship with the North Sea and the Rhine, Meuse, and Scheldt river systems, which over time have shaped a low-lying coastal plain, partly below sea level, complemented by dikes, canals, and reclaimed land (polders). The territory is thus defined by a dynamic balance between water and land, in which cities, ports, and countryside develop on artificially consolidated soils. The main urban areas are distributed along a continuous system known as the Randstad, which connects cities such as Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague, and Utrecht, forming one of the most integrated urban concentrations in Europe.

To understand the identity of the Low Countries, it is necessary to begin with the first communities settled in the Rhine and Meuse river deltas, where already in pre-Roman times, groups of northern Germanic peoples settled on marshy lands subject to periodic flooding. In Roman times, these areas came under the Empire's influence as frontier regions of the Rhine Limes. Subsequently, between the Early Middle Ages and the 12th century, small feudal settlements and coastal communities developed, gradually beginning to build embankments and drainage systems. During this period, centers such as Utrecht and the commercial areas of the future North and South Holland emerged, while maritime activities began to connect the delta with the North Sea and the Hanseatic League. Between the 16th and 17th centuries, during the Dutch Golden Age, the Low Countries became one of Europe's leading commercial and naval powers. Cities like Amsterdam established themselves as global financial centers, while Rotterdam grew as a strategic port in the Rhine delta. This period also saw the consolidation of the first major hydraulic works, with the systematic construction of dams, canals, and polders that allowed for the expansion of habitable and agricultural land. The structure of the modern state thus arose directly from a continuous process of water management.

The Netherlands is divided into the following areas:

- **RANDSTAD (WESTERN URBAN AREA) – CONTINUOUS URBAN SYSTEM THAT INCLUDES AMSTERDAM, ROTTERDAM, THE HAGUE AND UTRECHT, THE ECONOMIC AND INSTITUTIONAL HEART OF THE COUNTRY**
- **NORTH (NOORD-NEDERLAND) – REGIONS OF GRONINGEN, FRIESLAND AND DRENTHÉ, CHARACTERISED BY AGRICULTURAL PLAINS, COASTS ON THE NORTH SEA AND INLAND LAKE AREAS SUCH AS THE FRISIAN LAKE SYSTEM**
- **EAST (WEST NETHERLANDS) – AREA OF GELDERLAND AND OVERIJSEL, WITH RIVERS SUCH AS THE RHINE AND IJSSEL AND RIVER AND FOREST LANDSCAPES**
- **SOUTH (ZUID-NEDERLAND) – REGIONS OF NOORD-BRABANT AND LIMBURG, WITH STRONG RIVER INFLUENCE OF THE MEUSE AND CONNECTIONS TO BELGIUM AND GERMANY**
- **NORTH SEA ISLANDS – ARCHIPELAGO OF THE WEST FRISIAN ISLANDS (WADDEN ISLANDS), INCLUDING TEXEL, VLIELAND AND TERSCHELLING, A DYNAMIC NATURAL SYSTEM BETWEEN SEA AND LAND**

In support of the territorial structure, the airport network of the Netherlands is highly centralized but functionally distributed:

- **Amsterdam Airport Schiphol - Main international hub and access to the Randstad system**
- **Rotterdam The Hague Airport - Access to the Southwest and the North Sea Coast**
- **Eindhoven Airport - Access to the industrial and logistical south of the country**
- **Groningen Airport Eelde - Access to the North and Rural Regions**

The Netherlands is a highly anthropized territorial system in which the North Sea, river deltas, polders, cities, and hydraulic infrastructure form a single geographical entity. The country's identity stems precisely from this continuous relationship between water and land, which has guided its historical, urban, and economic development right up to its present-day configuration.

BETWEEN COASTAL DUNES, NORTH SEA ISLANDS AND BARRIER-FREE LAKE LANDSCAPES

PLACES AND EXPERIENCES FOR A TRIP WITH YOUR FOUR-LEGGED FRIENDS OFF THE BEATEN PATH

A trip to the Netherlands with pets takes place in a region naturally suited to pet-friendly travel, thanks to open spaces, widespread plains, continuous coastal paths, and a deeply rooted outdoor culture. The experience is best explored outside the major urban centers, where sea, dunes, and countryside intertwine seamlessly and without complex infrastructure.

From a natural perspective, one of the most suitable environments is the North Sea coastal system. In De Hoge Veluwe National Park and the Veluwezoom National Park, forest trails and open spaces allow for long walks through woodlands, heathlands, and clearings, with well-marked and wide paths. Further north, the Friesland region offers an ideal lake and rural landscape, with canals, open meadows, and small villages like Grou and Sneek, where the pace is slow and natural spaces are easily accessible.

The island dimension is one of the most attractive elements for those traveling with pets. The Wadden Islands, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, offer vast, sparsely populated natural environments: islands like Texel and Vlieland are characterized by dunes, extensive beaches, and coastal paths where the presence of pets is integrated into daily life. Terschelling also offers a diverse landscape of forests, dunes, and open beaches. The southwest coastline adds another layer of variety. In the Zeeland region, the Oosterschelde National Park and towns like Domburg offer wide beaches, accessible dikes, and seaside paths where animals can roam freely in open, controlled spaces.

Even the inland lake areas contribute to this type of experience. The IJsselmeer, with towns like Enkhuizen and Medemblik, offers flat lakesides, quiet harbors, and green spaces where the presence of animals is natural and widespread. Ferry connections between towns also allow for simple and straightforward travel.

Culturally and historically, even smaller urban centers offer animal-friendly environments. In Haarlem, the canals and historic squares form a compact, easily navigable layout. In Leiden, the canals and Hortus Botanicus Leiden provide a green space integrated into the city, while in Utrecht, the Oudegracht canal system creates a continuous, open urban environment.

In this context, the Netherlands is a particularly suitable destination for traveling with pets: islands like Texel and Vlieland, parks like Veluwe and Veluwezoom, and lake areas like IJsselmeer create a continuous territorial system made up of open spaces, nature trails, and easily accessible urban centers, without barriers and without significant interruptions between nature and settlements.





DID YOU KNOW?

In the Netherlands, the relationship between people and land is one of the most closely intertwined and engineered in the world, so much so that a significant portion of the country lies below sea level and is constantly protected by an advanced system of dikes, barriers, and hydraulic works that have transformed water from a threat to a structural element of the landscape. Much of the current territory is, in fact, the result of centuries of land reclamation and polders, areas of land reclaimed from the sea or lakes and made habitable through a complex drainage system. This context also includes the Afsluitdijk, the large dam that separated the Zuiderzee, transforming it into the present-day IJsselmeer, radically altering the geography of the north of the country. Another iconic element is the Delta Works system, considered among the most complex coastal defense systems in the world, designed to protect the southwestern regions after the great flood of 1953. In these same areas, the landscape alternates between dikes, artificial islands, and nature reserves such as the Oosterschelde, where the water remains subject to the influence of the tides to this day.

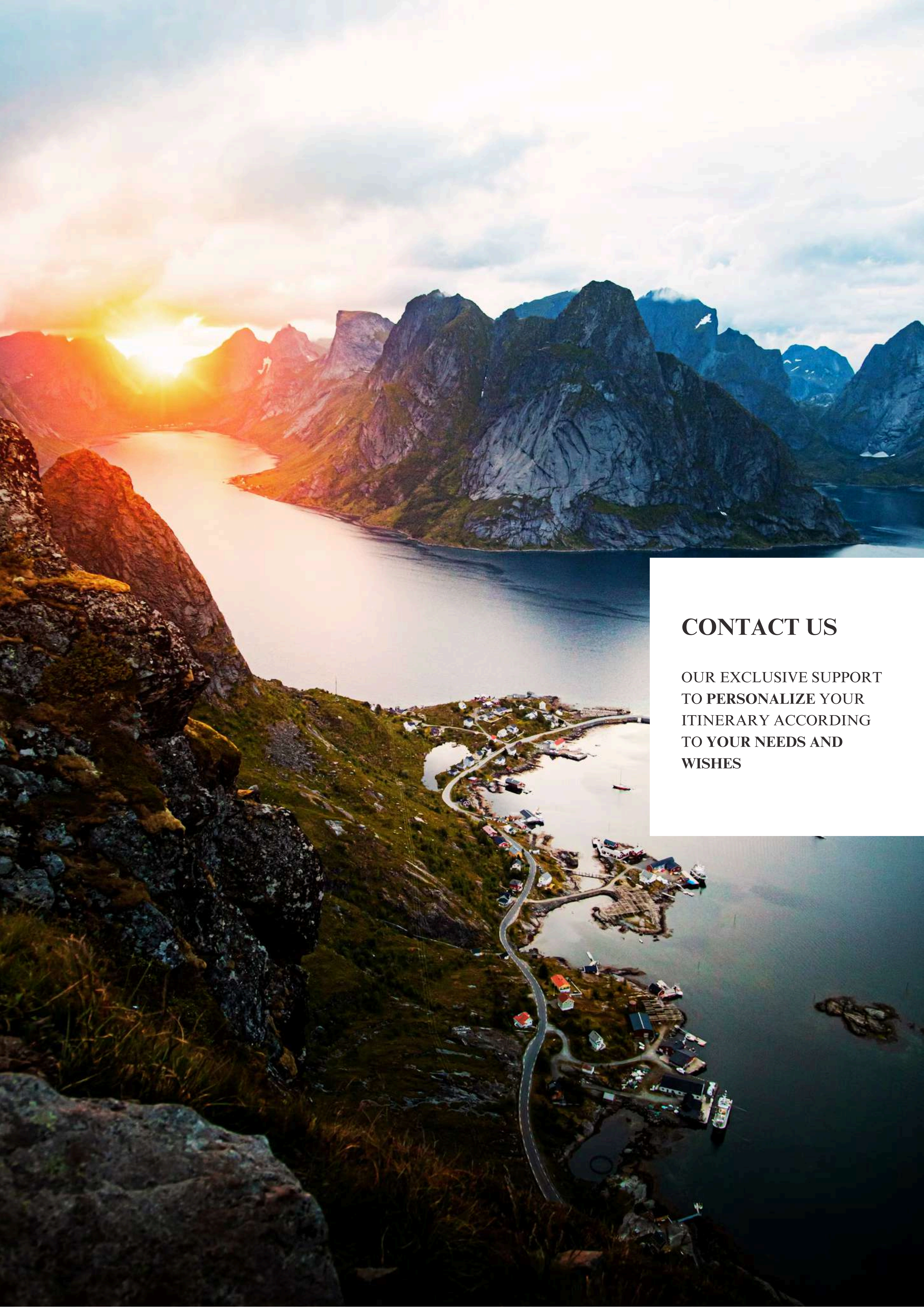
The Netherlands is also one of the most cycle-friendly countries in Europe, with an extremely extensive network of cycle paths and dedicated infrastructure that seamlessly connects cities, villages and natural areas, making cycling one of the main means of daily travel.

Historically and economically, the country played a central role in global trade routes between the 16th and 17th centuries, thanks to the Dutch East India Company (VOC), one of the first major multinational companies in history, which contributed to the development of port cities such as Amsterdam and Rotterdam and the creation of intercontinental trade networks.

Some cultural elements have become internationally recognizable symbols, such as the Kinderdijk windmills, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site, originally part of the water management system, or the cheese markets of Alkmaar and Gouda, which reflect a still-living commercial tradition linked to the historic city centers.

Floriculture also plays a central role in the country's identity, with the Aalsmeer flower market representing one of the sector's main global hubs, while the tulip fields that bloom between spring and early summer transform some regions into geometric and colorful landscapes.

Finally, the relationship with water has also influenced the shape of cities: Amsterdam, with its UNESCO-recognized system of concentric canals, and Rotterdam, rebuilt in a modern style after the Second World War, represent two different interpretations of the same fundamental element, water, which continues to define the country's overall identity.



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