

Erasmus+ course, 21st – 26th of April 2025 in Inari and Karasjok

Sami cultural heritage and current political priorities



The Finnish Sámi Parliament, located at Sajos Sámi Cultural Center in Inari.

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Erasmus+

The training course is supported by the Danish National Agency of the Erasmus+ programme of the European Union

The course frame

Course title: Sami cultural heritage and current political priorities

Time and place: The course takes place from Monday, 21st to Saturday, 26th of April 2025 at the heart of the Sami land, partly

- In Inari Village in Finland. See <https://visitinari.fi/discover-inari/>
- In Karasjok in Norway. See <https://thehiddennorth.com/destination/karasjok/>

The two places

The first two course days, we are in the village of Inari, which is placed 40 kilometres from the main city Ivalo (and Ivalo Airport). The village of Inari is a center of [Sámi](#) culture, known as the "capital of Sámi culture". Here we have the [Siida](#) museum and Northern Lapland Nature Centre. In 2024 Siida received the [European Museum of the Year Award](#). Inari village is also home to [Sajos](#), the Finnish Sámi Parliament and the Sámi cultural centre. Finland's largest [National Park Lemmenjoki](#) is partly located in Inari municipality, as well as [Urho Kekkonen National Park](#).

The last two course days, we are in Karasjok, which is the main centre for Sami culture in Norway with the [Sami parliament](#) being located here. Karasjok also have more Sami cultural heritage and arts museums, such as Sámi Museum, [Sapmi Park](#), and [Sami Center for Contemporary Art](#). Karasjok is allocated on the border of Norway's largest contiguous wilderness area, the Finnmarksvidda Plateau.

The nature conditions

During April there are long bright days. April 20, in inari, the sunrise is 5:00 and the sunset is 21:30 (Finnish time); and in Karasjok, the sunrise is 3:53 and the sunset is 20:44 (Norwegian time).

During early spring, March – April, the warmth of the sun and subzero night temperatures harden the snow, making its surface able to support more weight. The sun stirs people to live up after a long period of darkness, but still, before the snow and ice cover starts to melt in May and reveals the wet ground.

Early Spring and early Autumn are statistically the best times of year to view northern lights (auroras), partly due to lesser cloud coverage. The most likely times for seeing the auroras are the hours either side of midnight.

Type of event: A 6-day Erasmus+ training course, including travel days.

The course is part of an Erasmus+ mobility project

Context: The Erasmus+ training course is part of the Erasmus+ Mobility project, Aug 2024 – Dec 2025, entitled: "Insight into Europe's diverse cultural heritage and shared values", which the [Danish Erasmus+ Office](#) has granted to the Danish [NGO-Network for International cooperation](#).

Aim and objectives: The overall aim for this training course is to learn about the complicated relationships between the diverse European cultural heritage and a possible common European identity.

The learning objectives are to learn about the Sami communities and their culture, and especially their relationship to the national, Nordic and European communities they are part of.

Number and profile of participants: The participants are paid and voluntary staff that are active in member association of the Danish NGO-Network for International project cooperation.

Expected number of participants: 8

Flights, local transport, and accommodation

Flights:

A 6-days course from Monday, 21st to Saturday, 26th of April 2025, including travel days.

- Flight with Finnair from Copenhagen Airport (CPH) to Ivalo Airport (IVL) with transit in Helsinki. Monday, April 21, with departure 13:15 and arrival 17:55, Finnish time.
- Return flight with Finnair from Ivalo Airport (IVL) to Copenhagen Airport (CPH) with transit in Helsinki. Saturday, April 26, with departure 9:15 and arrival to Copenhagen, 12:35, Danish time.

Local transport:

The Danish group will rent a minibus for 9 persons at Ivalo Airport for the local transport to Inari (40 km) and to Karasjok (150 km) as well as local excursions in the area before we deliver the car again at Ivalo Airport before the flight back home.



Hotels:

Monday – Wednesday: We stay in double rooms at [Wilderness Hotel Juutua](#), Saarikoskentie 2, 99870 Inari, Finland. Nestled on the shores of Lake Inari, the largest lake in Finnish Lapland, Wilderness Hotel Inari provides cozy accommodations, restaurant, a variety of outdoor activities, and breathtaking landscapes year-round.

NB: The participants will be accommodated in pairs in large double rooms with separate single beds.

Wednesday – Friday: We stay [at Min Ája](#), Ávjovárgeaidnu, 9730 Karasjok, Norway. Situated 1 km from central Karasjok, this camping site offers cottages with a balcony and private kitchen facilities. Parking is free on site. The Karasjokka River is 400 metres away. See

NB: The participants will be accommodated in own rooms in either 2-rooms or 3-rooms houses.

Friday – Saturday: We stay at [Arctic River Resort](#), Näverniementie 17, 99800 Ivalo, Finland

NB: The participants can be accommodated in pairs or alone in double rooms.

Meals:

Free breakfast is included at the hotel. For the other main meals, the participants will at the start of the course receive meal-money by MobilePay, so they freely can order and pay for their meals as they find best.

The day-to-day programme: 21st – 26th of April 2024

Monday, April 21: Arrival to village Inari

- 11:00 We meets in Copenhagen Airport in Terminal 2 in front of Finnair's check-in desk
- 13:15 Departure and transit at Helsinki Airport
- 17:55 Arrival to Ivalo Airport (Finnish time)
- 19:00 Departure from the Airport to Inari in rented minibus (40 km drive)
- 19:45 Check-in at [Wilderness Hotel Juutua](#), Saarikoskentie 2, 99870 Inari, Finland
- 20:30 Dinner at the hotel

Tuesday, April 22: Sami Culture and history in Inari, Finland

- 10:00 – 11:45 **Sámi Regional Education Centre** (850 meter from the hotel, 10 min walk)
Introduction to Sami culture and history and current political key questions.
- 12:00 – 13:00 Lunch at [Restaurant Sarrit](#) at Siida Museum (750 meter from the hotel, 10 min walk)
- 13:00 – 14:00 Guided tour at [Siida – the Sami museum and nature centre](#),
- 14:00 – 16:00 Free time to visit [Siida Open-Air Museum](#), Inarintie 46, 99870 Inari, Finland
- 19:00 - 20:30 Dinner in the city
- 22:00 - Possible drive / walk to see northern lights

Wednesday, April 23: Sami society & policy in Inari, Finland

- 10:00 - 11:45 Visit [Sami Culture Centre, Sajos](#) (300 meter from the hotel, 4 min walk)
including a guided tour at Finnish Sámi Parliament to learn about Sajos, Sámi culture and the activities of the Sámi Parliament.
- 12:00 - 13:00 Lunch in the city or just free time
- 13:00 – 14:00 Visit the [tourist bureau](#) (materials and souvenirs), Inarintie 46, 99870 Inari, Finland
- 14:15 – 17:00 Get luggage at the hotel and drive from Inari Village to Karasjok in Norway (117 km; 1,5-hour drive plus stops), including stops on the way
- 17:00 – 17:30 Check-in at [Min Ája](#), Ávjovárgeaidnu, 9730 Karasjok, Norway
- 19:00 – 20:30 Dinner in the city
- 22:00 - Possible drive / walk to see northern lights

Thursday, April 24: Sami culture and policy in Nordic Sami region, Norway

- 10:00 – 11:45 Visit [Sapmi Park](#), Leavnnjageaidnu 1, 9730 Karasjok
- 12:00 – 13:00 Lunch
- 13:00 – 14:30 Guided tour at [the Sámi Parliament](#), Ávjovárgeaidnu 50, Karasjok
- 15:00 – 16:00 Nature excursion outside Karasjok
- 19:00 - 20:30 Possible dinner at the hotel or just free time
- 22:00 - Possible drive / walk to see northern lights

Friday, April 25: Sami culture and arts, Norway

09:30 - 12:00 Visit [Sámi Museum in Karasjok](#), Mari Boine geaidnu 17, NO-9735 Kárašjohka-Karasjok
Including guided tour

12:00 -13:00 Lunch

13:30 – 15:00 Visit [Sami Center for Contemporary Art](#), Suomageaidnu 14, 9730 Karasjok
& [tourist bureau](#) (materials and souvenirs), Leavnnjageaidnu 1, 9730 Karasjok

15:30 – 18:00 Get luggage at the hotel and drive to Ivalo (155 km; 2,5 hours' drive with stops)

18:00 – 18:30 Check-in at [Arctic River Resort](#), Näverniementie 17, 99800 Ivalo, Finland

19:00 - 20:30 Dinner at the hotel

21:00 - **Course evaluation** at the hotel and possible drive / walk to see northern lights

Saturday, April 26: Travel home

06:45 Departure from the hotel to Ivalo Airport (9 km, 9 minutes' drive)

07:00 - 07:30 Deliver the rented minibus at Ivalo Airport and check-in

09:15 Departure with Finnair from Ivalo Airport (direct flight to Copenhagen)

12:35 Arrival to Copenhagen Airport (Danish time)

The host organisation and the sending organisation

The host association



Finnish Settlement Association - see <https://setlementti.fi/>
Sturenkatu 11 A, 4th floor, FI-00510 Helsinki

Contact: Junias Kanyinda, Communication Officer
junias.kanyinda@setlementti.fi * (+358) 50 596 4507

The Finnish Settlement Association is the central organization of the Finnish settlement movement and a non-governmental organization whose area of activity covers the entire spectrum of life, from educational work to social services. Our members are 32 local associations, or settlements. Our activities are politically and religiously non-aligned.

The basic mission of the Settlement Association is to promote activities in accordance with settlement values, support settlements with expert services, and coordinate national projects. We increase dialogue between influential figures in society, business decision-makers, the media, and citizens.

The Settlement Association's income consists of general grants (STEA, OKM and OM), STEA grants, other grants, operating income and fundraising.

The sending association



NGO-Network for International project cooperation,
Lille Havelsevej 86, 3310 Ølsted, Denmark
info@ngo-netvaerk.dk / [Website](#) & [Facebook](#)

Contact: Hans Jørgen Vodsgaard, tour leader and chief executive, [Interfolk](#)
hjv@interfolk.dk * (+45) 51 300 320

The NGO Network was founded in March 2021. The purpose of the association is to develop a forum where active members of the Danish civil society can exchange experiences, disseminate knowledge and support each other in developing transnational activities that can strengthen a free and democratic associational life in the Nordic and European civil societies.

The activities may include knowledge sharing and exchange of experience, mentoring, courses and conferences, debate activities, publications and development work, both in the Danish Commonwealth (including Greenland and the Faroe Islands), the other Nordic countries, the Baltic Sea region, the European Union and wider international contexts.

In August 2022 – July 2023, the network had two Erasmus+ courses with focus on “the relation between social and green sustainable activities”, respectively:

- October 2022 to Riga and Rite in Latvia with Rite Folk High School at host, and
- June 2023 to Helsinki with the Finnish Settlement Association as host.

In August 2023 – July 2024, the network had two Erasmus+ courses with focus on “sustainable NGO activities”, respectively:

- September 2023 to Rite Folk High School in Latvia, and
- March 2024 in Palamos, Spain to learn about “Social eco-literacy, think global & act local”.

In August 2024 – December 2025, the network will have four Erasmus+ courses with focus on “relations between the diverse European cultural heritage and a common European identity”, respectively:

- October 2023 about diverse cultures in Andalusia, Spain (completed).

- April 2025 to Inari, Finland about Sami culture.
- May 2025 at Rite Folk High School about nation building in Latvia in the shadow of Russia.
- September 2025 at Sankelmark Academy in North Germany about minorities in a border area.

Practical information

Apply for participation

We only enrol members of our NGO-network, either individual members or representatives from our organisational members, who are active in a civil society association as paid or voluntary staff (board member, manager, consultant, teacher, or other pedagogical staff). The application template can be downloaded at the [NGO-Network's website](#):

The board and the tour leader will select the 8 participants, based on the following three criteria in order of priority:

- Motivation, including what learning outcomes you expect to achieve and how you can subsequently use the learning in your association work?
- Low level of previous travel participation, as the board would like to see as many of the association's members as possible benefit from the offers to participate in study trips.
- Consideration for diversity in the selection, i.e. preferably a balanced distribution in relation to age, gender, ethnicity, etc.

Conditions and price

Participation is free. The Erasmus+ Mobility grant can cover travel expenses, hotel rooms, main meals, entrance fees, local transport, course fees for the hosts, and administration. Participants only need to bring pocket money to cover any café visits during their free time, extra drinks for the communal meals, expenses for souvenirs, gifts, etc.

Visa card can be used most places in Finland (EUR) and Norway (NOK), and it is easy to find cash machines, if needed.

Insurance:

Since this is a short-term study trip, where participants participate without pay and without an employment relationship with the study trip organizer, it is the participants' own responsibility to have or take out travel, accident and liability insurance for the trip.

Tour leader and contact person:

Tour leader: Hans Jørgen Vodsgaard, chief executive, [Interfolk](#)
hjv@interfolk.dk * (+45) 51 300 320