

# Photography Tour

Ian Rolfe & Ewen Bell

Ian Rolfe  
PHOTOGRAPHY



PHOTOGRAPHY  
by Ewen Bell

## Norway AuroraScapes

Join us for 14 days of winter wonderland in Arctic Norway. Charming fishing cottages and dramatic coastal scenery will be your reward for this adventure. A unique and charming immersion into the rugged landscapes of Tromsø, Senja & Lingen, with the help of local experts and two professional photographers.

February 7-20, 2022  
Maximum group size of 8  
AU\$14,888pp



1

## Slow Travel

We take the time to properly photograph locations.

3

## Inclusions

Everything is covered including a private chef and all meals.

5

## Auroras

Dedicated tour design to capture the Northern Lights.

2

## Single Room

No twin-sharing on this trip, we offer single rooms for all guests.

4

## Education

Two weeks of dedicated assistance from two professionals.

6

## Personal

Very intimate tour with just 8 people

# The Itinerary

## Feb 7/8/9 - Kvaløya (Tromsø)

Our home for these three days are some lovely cabins to the west of Tromsø, right on the water. It's a remarkably peaceful part of the coast and ideal for chasing auroras should we get clear conditions at night. We've picked out some exceptional locations to photograph around the islands of Kvaløya and Ringvassøya, plus we'll traverse into the city of Tromsø and explore some of the fjords to the east of the hills. We want to ensure that everyone on the workshop has a chance to practise their night photography and adjust to shooting in the cold.

## Feb 10/11/12/13 - Senja

We have a 4 hour drive to reach our next location, the remote coastline of Senja. Along the way we pass sweeping hills and quiet coastal communities, before hitting those dramatic plunging fjords that we love so much. The weather here can be equally dramatic, with sudden bursts of snow or breaking sunlight giving us different charms to photograph. We have also picked out some locations for Aurora photography on the nearby coastline. On our departure from Senja we make an overnight stop half way between Senja and Svolvær to make the journey a little more comfortable.

## Feb 14/15 - Grov

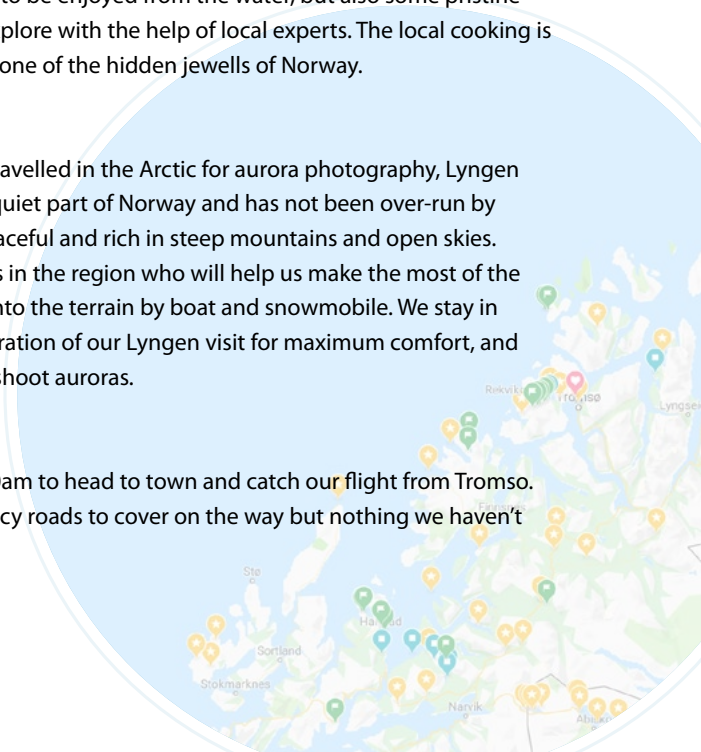
This little fishing village is out of the way but worth the diversion. Not only is there some magnificent scenery to be enjoyed from the water, but also some pristine frozen lakes that we can explore with the help of local experts. The local cooking is excellent here too :) This is one of the hidden jewels of Norway.

## Feb 16/17/18/19 - Lyngen

Of all the places we have travelled in the Arctic for aurora photography, Lyngen is our favourite. It's a very quiet part of Norway and has not been over-run by photographers yet. It is peaceful and rich in steep mountains and open skies. We have some local friends in the region who will help us make the most of the scenery, and get us deep into the terrain by boat and snowmobile. We stay in the same cabins for the duration of our Lyngen visit for maximum comfort, and maximum opportunity to shoot auroras.

## Feb 20 - Departure

We leave the cabins at 9:00am to head to town and catch our flight from Tromsø. We have a ferry and some icy roads to cover on the way but nothing we haven't done before.

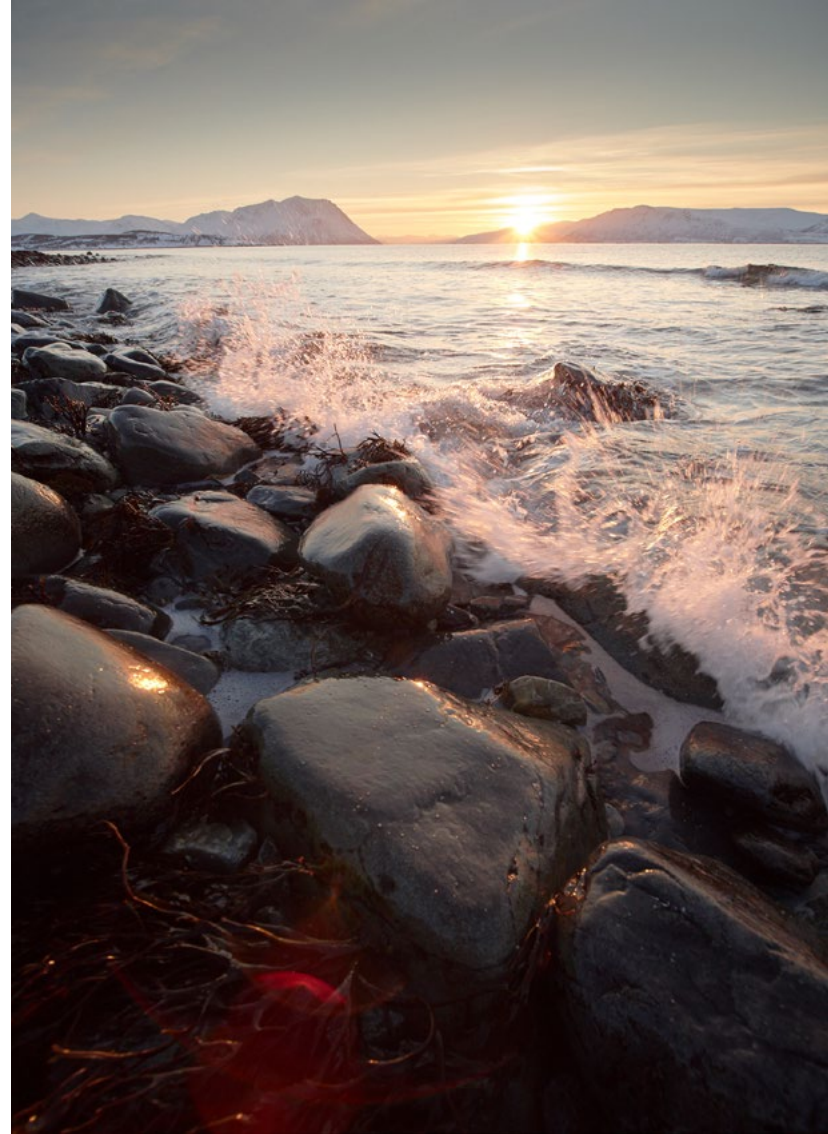


# Invitation to Beginners

Everybody is on their own journey and we love helping people explore new horizons in photography. We take time to assist everyone on a tour with their specific needs, to talk about what they want to learn. Sometimes that means how to take advantage of different modes on the camera, sometimes it's a discussion about how to advance your career in photography.

No two people are the same. That's why we keep these trips limited to just 8 people, so we can enjoy their company and spend time helping everybody along with their particular journey.

You don't need to be an expert to come on this tour. We will help you with suggestions on what to bring to make the most of the opportunities. We're here to help.





# What You Will Learn

For those who want to learn new techniques in landscape photography, or just advance their existing skills, here's a sample of what we hope to achieve during our Norway journey:

- How to properly setup your tripod for stable shooting
- How to build better compositions through the use of a wide angle lens
- Why a wide angle lens is so important for controlling subjects in a frame
- Getting closer to a subject to build stronger compositions
- Taking your time to work up a shot instead of "shoot and run"
- How to process RAW files to maximise the quality of your images
- Advanced techniques for refining your image processing in Photoshop or Capture One
  
- Aurora Borealis photography with slow shutters and wide angle lens
- Slow shutter coastal scenes to create silky scenes with water and clouds
- High key compositions on sunny days across snow filled landscapes
- Still life moments from studying the details of a location



# What Lens to Pack

The most important lens for this trip will be an **ultra-wide angle** that is suitable for night photography. We need a big wide view to work with the Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis), but also to capture the majestic nature of the landscape. An 18mm lens is good, but 14mm is even better. We'll be happy to chat with you about which lens is right for your camera and this adventure.

You don't need a full-frame DSLR to enjoy this journey, but you do need a good lens. We've run dozens of trips like this one before and have a good understanding of which lens will give your camera the best results.

In addition to the ultra-wide angle lens you will also need a very good **tripod**. These often seem expensive to beginners and hard to justify the expense. Try to think of this as an investment in your photographic future. A good tripod will be your friend for a very long time. A cheap tripod will often prove itself a poor investment and lead to blurry photos that undermine your ability to take great shots.

The final bit of kit are a few filters. Again we are happy to chat with you before the tour and make sure you have suitable gear. A really strong **ND filter** to create super slow exposures is essential, plus a nice Graduated ND filter to help balance reflections will be handy.















# What You See

What you see in this brochure is exactly what you get. All images here were taken by Ewen Bell during recent visits to the exact same locations that are included in the itinerary.

Every photo in this brochure is a photo that you can achieve, and we will do our best to help you experience the same photographic joy. We can't control the weather, but we can help you make the very best of Norway.



# Post Capture

Both Ian and Ewen like to emphasis the art of photography that takes place in the digital darkroom.

Every day of this adventure will allow for opportunities to discuss, refine and learn about post-processing techniques.

Do bring your laptop and your preferred processing software. A photo is never finished at the moment of the shutter, and as you learn different ways to process your images you can also adjust your technical approach to the camera accordingly.





# Private Chef Shellie Froidevaux

All meals are included in this trip. And they're fabulous. The third member of the leadership team for this tour is Shellie Froidevaux (aka Iron Chef Shellie), a wonderful food photographer and recipe developer who will be our private chef for the trip. No other tour can match our ability to stay in remote locations, because we have our own chef to keep everyone fed and happy.

We're well aware that most photography tours to Lofoten do not include any meals, and leave you to either self cater from a local supermarket or pay extra for meals at a restaurant. When you're spending time sorting basic meals it means you're not spending time reviewing photographs or chasing auroras.

With the help of Shellie Froidevaux we not only make sure you get great meals along the way, but expect a few special treats for those cold nights standing out in the cold waiting for an aurora. Shellie loves to go the extra mile.

[www.ironchefshellie.com](http://www.ironchefshellie.com)















# Escort / Ewen Bell

Travel photographer and journalist, Ewen's work appears in photographic magazines, National Geographic Traveller, Lonely Planet Traveller, Food & Travel UK, Vacation & Travel, and many other outlets. Ewen has been visiting the Arctic annually since 2005.

Ewen describes photography as a lifestyle, and enjoys sharing his love of the art with a select few travellers every year. Ewen is always happy to share his knowledge on photographic matters of technical, creative and career inspiration. His website "Photography for Travellers" is dedicated to offering advice on practical approaches to changing your creative perspective.

"A hidden gem in the world of photography, Arctic Norway is beautiful in all kinds of light. Bright sunshine in winter makes it bright with colours, heavy overcast skies make it moody and powerful. Northern lights above at night make the skies dance with electric hues."

[www.ewenbell.com](http://www.ewenbell.com)

[www.photographyfortravellers.com](http://www.photographyfortravellers.com)





# Escort / Ian Rolfe

Ian has travelled extensively here in Australia, Great Britain, South-East Asia and North America, and much of the Pacific regions, where he has built up an extensive photo library used in travel brochure work and his photographic writing. Ian has travelled extensively in the Nordic countries and has a special passion for Norway in the winter. This will be Ian's Sixth Arctic trip.

Ian has become a well-known travel and landscape photographer whose column started to appear in the Photo-master magazine over twelve years ago. Since then his work has been published in countless books, Photography magazines and travel brochures and his Panoramic Photo's are currently used in a European Image Library. Ian also conducts up to 12 Photographic workshops each year both locally and overseas and also gives lectures and presentations at Club level to help members who are passionate about developing further in their photographic knowledge and skills.

Ian is a Master of Photography APS is a member of the VAPS committee and currently serves as President of Southern Suburbs Photographic Society.

[www.ianrolfelightscares.com](http://www.ianrolfelightscares.com)

[www.ianrolfephotography.net](http://www.ianrolfephotography.net)













# Art and Creativity

The camera is like a paintbrush, and in the hands of different people it will produce very different images.

Ewen Bell specialises in teaching people about the creative potential of photography, to go beyond the technical issues of a camera and start taking creative control. Expression is at the heart of great photography, sharing your perspective, your view, your experience.

Combining with Ewen's creative outlook is Ian Rolfe and his decades of experience in Landscape Photography. Two unique and powerful aspects are brought together to provide a once in a lifetime adventure for photographers in search of something out of the ordinary.





# Northern Lights

Over a decade of experience shooting the Aurora Borealis is behind this tour design. This is the very best opportunity to see and capture this phenomenon.

Every detail of the tour is designed to take full advantage of clear skies at night, with immediate transport available to head out to special locations if conditions look promising. Accommodation along this journey has been selected to give us the best chance to act quickly and go out shooting when the aurora is on.

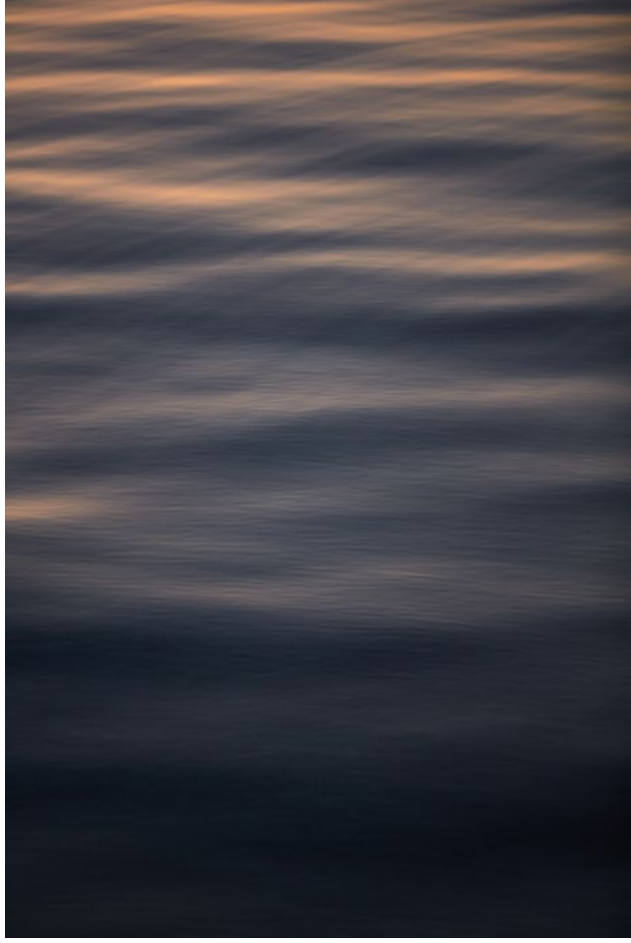
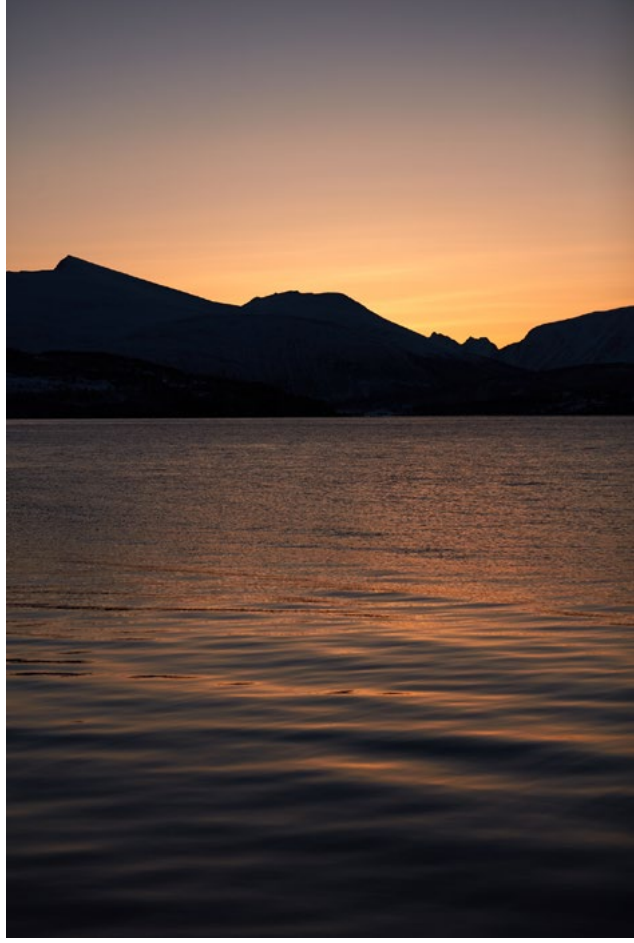
There are no guarantees with Aurora activity however. You need high solar activity as well as clear skies to get a light show, although even a low grade intensity Aurora is something spectacular to see and photograph.

We will have dedicated sessions to plan for the Northern Lights and explain how to photograph them.















# Cabin Life

This tour is based on cabin accommodation. They tend to be very cosy, very warm and very practical for these journeys. Sometimes they are stand alone cabins stretching across a beach, sometimes they are the top floor of a Bryggen with stunning views across the harbour at night.

Always they are hand chosen by Ewen, who visits the Arctic every year and keeps up to date with the latest places to stay and best locations. We pick cabins based on being able to step outside and shoot auroras.

Sometimes our cabins are very very remote. That is why we have a chef along for the trip, Shellie Froidevaux, who keeps us well fed and runs a flexible kitchen to allow us freedom to chase the sunlight and chase the northern lights.

Cabins mean everyone can get a single room for this trip, although please do not expect to have a private bathroom for each room.

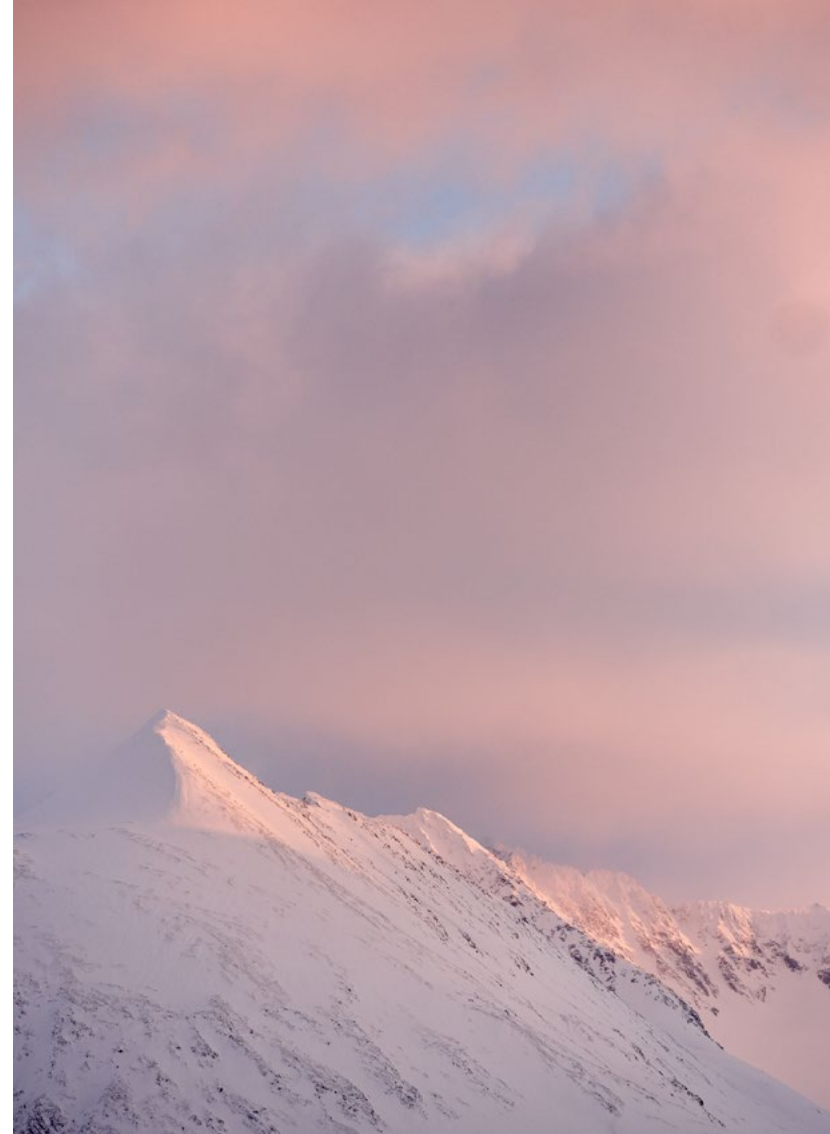


# Moody Weather

We're heading into the Arctic, in winter. There will be grey cloudy days and snow blizzards and all manner of winter weather to deal with. This doesn't mean we have to stop shooting, and indeed with the help of a tripod and ND filters we intend to capture the cool climate character of Arctic Norway.

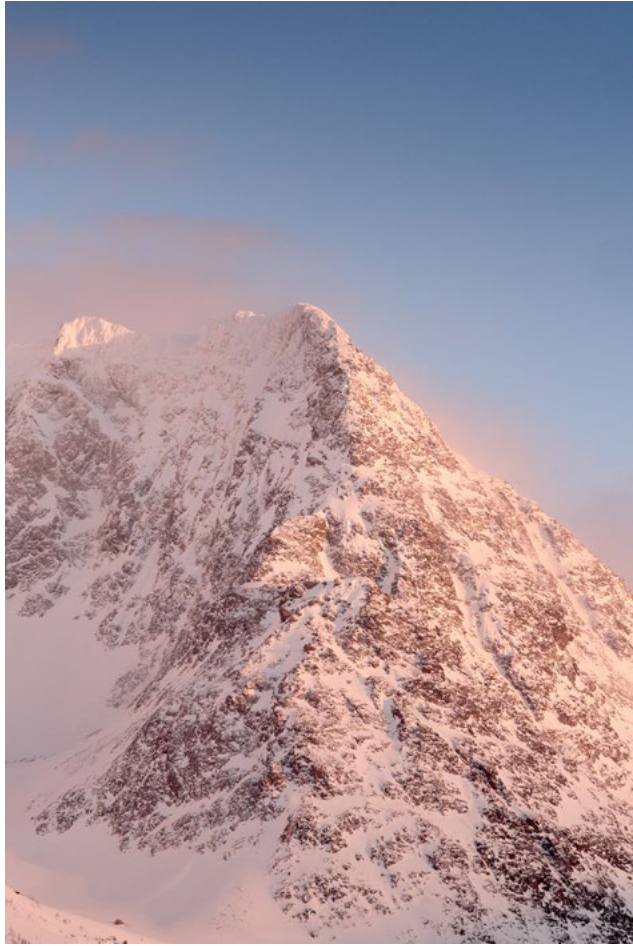
Ian Rolfe is a master of evoking character from moody landscapes, and he'll share his skill and knowledge of photographic and processing techniques to achieve this.

Ewen shoots a more artistic style compared to Ian, and will be seeking a blend of editorial and fine art influences to offer to our travellers. Slow shutters and passive compositions for example. Have a look at the "Lofoten in Blue" series on his website for an indication of what can be achieved in the absence of bright sunny skies. Samples are included through this brochure.









# Cameras are cool

We hear a lot of fuss about taking cameras into the Arctic conditions and how to prepare for the freezing temperatures. If you're shooting with a modern DSLR camera then you need no special equipment, modifications or protection. Lofoten is considerably warmer than other areas of the Arctic due to warm ocean conditions.

On a recent journey in a colder region of the Arctic we spent hours with our gear shooting the Northern Lights in -32 temperatures. No problems. Your camera will go colder than that and still keep shooting. Your batteries won't last quite as long as when warm, but it's no drama. Really.

Heading outside at night to shoot the aurora does require that you take care of yourself, and ensure you keep your feet and fingers warm. A tripod is essential and a timer remote is very handy.







# Reindeer











# Learn and Explore

Anyone who loves photography can join this tour.

Skills and experience is not a prerequisite. Enthusiasm is essential. There is ample one on one time so that your questions can be answered, your photos can be reviewed and your expression can be encouraged. With such a small group size we can ensure everybody gets the encouragement and guidance they desire.

If you're a confident photographer or already work at a professional level, then this journey will simply assist with getting great shots. We encourage everyone on tour to share ideas, to discuss their experiences and learn from each other as well.

Partners are also welcome on these photo tours, but they may need to exercise a little patience with the desires of photographers to make the most of special moments. These photography adventures put the photographers first :)



# Dress for the Cold

This is not an expedition to the North Pole, you will not freeze to death when visiting the Arctic in Scandinavia. There's always a warm cabin and a hot cup of chocolate just around the corner too, but the experience of winter on the islands of Lofoten is truly magical for the snow and ice. We know what you should pack to stay cosy on this tour. a full list and guide is supplied to all participants in advance of the tour, but here's a sneak peak of what will get you through the journey:

**A big puffy down jacket:** You can quickly go from toasty temperatures inside the cottage to mega minus degrees outside.

**Windstopper gloves:** Essential for operating your camera on sub-zero days.

**Big boots:** Leave room in the boots for extra air and you'll always have warm feet. Buy a bigger size and then stomp through knee deep snow without a worry.

**Dry pants:** We often romp through fresh snow to reach a shot, so a thin layer of dry pants simply keeps the snow and wind off your legs.

**Thermals:** A layer of thermals will keep a warm core close to your skin on the coldest of nights.

Keeping warm simply requires the right gear, and a toasty warm cabin when you want it.  
"There is no bad weather, only bad clothing."













# The Fine Print

## Dates

2022 Feb 7 - 20

## Price Per Person

AU \$14,888

## Group Size

This tour is limited to 8 participants

## Inclusions

- All meals are included and will be delicious
- All transportation on arrival
- Airport transfers when travelling with the group
- Expert tuition from Ian and Ewen
- Endless inspiration from the scenery of Norway

## Exclusions

- Your camera gear
- Drinks and alcohol
- Flights into and out of Tromsø
- Items of a personal nature

## Accommodation Standard

The price is based on accommodation in cabins and fisherman's cottages of an excellent standard. They are essentially the nicest available accommodation for our remote regions, and are always toasty and warm.

## Single Room

The default rooming for this tour will be single rooms instead of twin share. The nature of fisherman's cabins in Norway means that there is usually one bathroom per cabin.

The itinerary information may vary slightly for your specific departure, as we continuously research and develop each trip. Inclement weather or other factors outside our control may also necessitate minor alterations.





Make  
Your  
Booking

Maximum of 8 places

#### How to Book

Please register online at the website below. A deposit of \$2,500 is required to confirm your place on the trip and a maximum of just 8 travellers will be accepted. Ian and Ewen will also talk with you about your camera gear and what to pack. You will have plenty of support to prepare for the adventure :)

[ewenbell.com/booknorway](http://ewenbell.com/booknorway)