

Frozen Hell - talvisotakierros



Mistä lähetettiin vuosi sitten?

- Kansainvälisiä asiakkaita on ollut, mutta organisoituja matkanjärjestäjien kautta tulleita ryhmiä vähempi
- Tehtiin englanninkielinen ohjelma ja tuotekortti
- Järjestettiin tutustumismatka matkanjärjestäjille kesäkuussa 2014



Tutustumismatkan kokemuksia

- kohteet eli Raatteen tien ja Kuhmon taistelukentät on hyvin säilyneitä, hyvin laitettu esille ja autenttisilla paikoilla
- ei kovin tunnettu sota Briteissä, mutta Daavid – Goljat asetelma on kiinnostava



Tuloksia

- Kaksi Brittiläistä matkanjärjestäjää (samat jotka oli tutustumassa) on ottanut myyntiin, toisella jo valmiit päivät kesälle 2015
- Jonkin verran kiinnostusta muualtakin

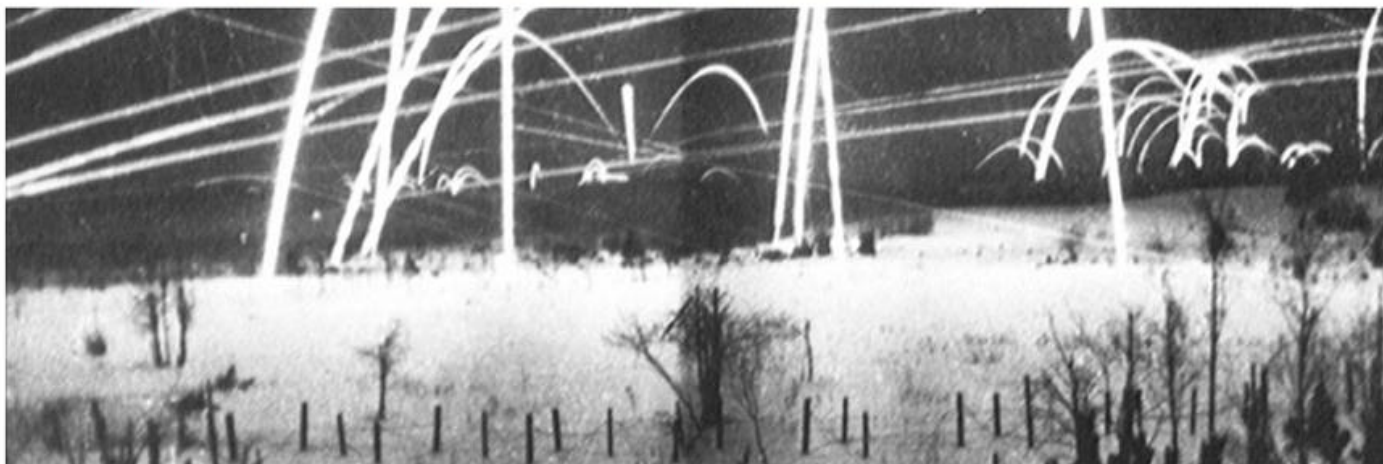


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FINLAND 1939

THE WINTER WAR

This tour follows the fortunes of the Ninth Soviet Army attempting to cut Finland in two at its narrowest point in time for Stalin's 60th birthday. Ex Parachute Regiment colonel and historian Robert Kershaw uses his Arctic training background and broad military experience to explain the nature of this amazing victory against seemingly insurmountable odds. Both he and local guides help to explore numerous off-road conflict areas where Finnish ski troops cut and blocked these roads, and show evidence of old and renovated bunkers and trench networks where both sides dug in, and explain what it is like to fight and live in sub-zero conditions. All this is conducted amid the stunning scenery of the land of the 'midnight sun', where little has changed in over 75 years. You will appreciate the myriad of lakes and fast running rivers, which aided the Finnish defence. This is wild Taiga land with much evidence of reindeer, elk and wild life and so comfortable outdoors clothes and shoes as well as a fleece are recommended for this tour.

DATES

23rd - 30th May 2015

HIGHLIGHTS

- With soldier-historian [Col Bob Kershaw](#)
- The stunning scenery of the land of the midnight sun
- Unspoilt battlefields with extant debris
- Helsinki's military past

ESSENTIALS

“The tour was very well rounded. Not strictly military history but predominantly so. The perfect mix to give the broader picture. There is great intelligence and talent behind this tour company.”

When Stalin signed the Soviet non-Aggression Pact with Hitler's Nazi Germany in August 1939, Eastern Poland, Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania were annexed within the Soviet sphere of influence. Finland realized she would be next and prepared. At the end of November five Soviet armies invaded Finland from north to south. Temperatures dropped to as low as -40° as road bound Soviet mechanized troops were sliced up into isolated segments by Finnish 'motti' ski borne detachments. These attacked like a 'white death' from fir forests either side of the roads and harried the columns to extinction alongside cold, hunger and fear. David won this particular Goliath contest and the Russian 44th , 163rd and 54th Divisions virtually ceased to exist. Despite losing the subsequent war of attrition, the Suomussalmi and Kuhmo victories were an iconic moral as well as physical uplift for the Finns.

Day 1 - Outward travel.

Fly London to Helsinki from where we catch a domestic flight to Kajaani and transfer to our hotel in Suomussalmi for two nights.

Day 2 - Suomussalmi.

After an introduction to the battles in the region we visit Juntusranta battlefield where the Soviet 163 Division was defeated on the Palovaara road. Lunch at Arola, the place where the Russians first attacked in the of November 1939. A mid-afternoon retrain provides the opportunity to take a Finnish Spa before dinner at Wanha Kurimo, an old unique Finnish farmhouse nearby.

Day 3 - Battle of Raate Road.

Drive to Raate where the Soviet 44th Division suffered entrapment and annihilation along the Raate road. We visit the Russo- Finnish frontier post on the border with its Winter War Museum, original and restored trench and bunker systems and monuments dedicated to both sides. Continue to Kuhmo and check-in to our hotel for two nights.

Day 4 - Battle of Kuhmo.



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Today we are joined by a local Finnish military historian with whom we tour the Kuhmo battlefield including restored and original battle positions and museum. We enjoy a forest picnic lunch.

Day 5 - Kajaani and Helsinki.

We visit the impressive ruins of the northernmost stone castle built in the world at Kajaani en-route to the airport for our flight to Helsinki. Check-in to our central Helsinki hotel for two nights.

Day 6 - Suomenlinna Sea Fortress.

We catch the 20 minute ferry to explore this magnificent UNESCO world heritage site, one of the largest maritime fortresses in the world. There a number of museums of interest which trace the history of the islands, their fortification and contain a wealth of military equipment including Vesikko submarine from WW2.

Day 7 - Helsinki.

We take a guided tour around Helsinki old city centre before visiting the Mannerheim Museum dedicated to Baron Gustaf Mannerheim, one time president of Finland and leader of their successful defence against Russia during the Winter War. This afternoon we visit Helsinki's Military Museum which provides us with our final insight in to the Winter War.

Day 8 - Home.

Return flight to London.

