



## Northern Scandinavian Highlights

This tour has guaranteed departures so which ever date you decide to book will have you marvelling in the magical landscapes of Norway, Finland and Sweden. Open your eyes and hearts to the cultural and natural history of these fascinating countries.



YOUR  
ADVENTURE  
AWAITS

12 days/11 nights

### ITINERARY

#### Day 1: Arrive Oslo

Transfer from Oslo Gardermoen Airport to hotel in connection with your flight arrival. Dinner and accommodation at Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Oslo, ideally situated close to the Karl Johans Gate. Your tour escort will meet you at 19.45 hrs (before dinner) in the hotel lobby.

Meals: D

#### Day 2: Oslo - Ulvik

After breakfast you will visit the world-famous Viking Ships. Departure from Oslo, driving via Hønefoss along the charming Halling Valley to the tourist resort town of Gol. Lunch at local restaurant. After lunch cross the wild Hardanger Mountain Plateau to Fossli, stopping to view the thundering Vøringsfoss Waterfall with a vertical drop of 180 m. Descend the amazing Måbødal Canyon to the idyllic Hardanger Fjord. Cross the Hardanger Bridge and route to Ulvik.

Dinner and accommodation in fjord view rooms at Brakanes Hotel, ideally located on the banks of the fjord.

Meals: B, L, D

#### Day 3: Ulvik - Bergen

After buffet breakfast, start of scenic tour along the beautiful Hardanger Fjord, famous for its many fruit orchards. Route via the towns of Øystese and Norheimsund, arriving in Bergen around midday. Lunch at local restaurant. Afternoon 2 hours tour of Bergen, including a visit to the popular Fish and Flower Market, the famous Bryggen Harbour with its gabled pack houses, and the old Hanseatic Quarter. You will also ride on the funicular to Mt. Fløyen, for the best views of the city and fjords way below.

Accommodation at First Hotel Marin, centrally located next to the old Bryggen harbour and close to the pedestrian shopping streets.



Meals: B, L

#### **Day 4: Bergen - Flåm - Balestrand**

After breakfast departure from Bergen and drive via Dale to the town of Voss. Board the train in Voss for a ride on the beautiful Bergen Railway to the mountain station of Myrdal. From Myrdal ride on the amazing Flåm Railway, a masterpiece of engineering descending 2,838 feet in less than one hour. The descent to the fjord side village of Flåm offers opportunities for photo shots of exciting waterfalls and mountain scenery. After a short rest in Flåm, start of approx. 2 hours cruise along the narrow Aurlands and Nærøy Fjords, both branches of the Sogn Fjord, the longest and deepest fjord in the world. Enjoy the spectacular scenery of cascading waterfalls, sheer mountain cliffs, snow-clad peaks, and a variety of wildlife. After disembarking in Gudvangen at the head of the Nærøy Fjord, continue by coach through the amazing Stalheim Canyon and Nærøy Valley, across the Vika Mountains to Vangsnes, for the short ferry crossing to the beautiful resort of Balestrand.

Dinner and accommodation in fjord view rooms at Kvikne's Hotel, superbly located on the banks of the fjord and surrounded by mountains.

Meals: B, D

#### **Day 5: Balestrand - A Day in the Fjords**

Day free in Balestrand, giving you the opportunity to enjoy the outstanding beauty and nature of the fjords. You may want to spend the morning relaxing on the hotel terrace, breathing in the fresh mountain air and enjoying the spectacular views. We can also recommend a visit to the local aquarium and art gallery, or you may prefer to rent a bike or rowing boat from the hotel, or a hike to the nearest mountains. A walking tour of the village of Balestrand, with its historic buildings and other noteworthy sites can also be arranged.

Dinner and accommodation at Kvikne's Hotel.

Meals: B, D

#### **Day 6: Balestrand - Geiranger**

After buffet breakfast departure from your hotel by ferry from Dragsvik to Hella, followed by a scenic tour along the northern side of the Sogn Fjord to Sogndal. The tour continues by road to Fjærland, passing under the Jostedal Glacier, the largest in Europe, to the village of Skei at the northern end of beautiful Lake Jølster. Descend to the Nord Fjord, making a detour at Olden to visit the world-famous Briksdal Glacier. The journey up to the glacier will be made in open cars to give you the best views.

Lunch will be served in a nearby mountain restaurant. After lunch the tour continues around the Nord Fjord via Loen and Stryn, to the picturesque village of Hellesylt. From here you go on board the ferry for the one hour's cruise along the spectacular Geiranger Fjord, possibly the most impressive of all the Norwegian fjords. During the cruise you will pass close by some magnificent waterfalls, such as the Bridal Veil and the Seven Sisters.

Dinner and accommodation at the excellent Union Hotel, overlooking the Geiranger Fjord.

Meals: B, L, D

#### **Day 7: Geiranger - Oslo**

Buffet breakfast at the hotel before leaving Geiranger. From the top of one of the serpentine roads, you have the opportunity to digest some amazing views of the fjord, before crossing the rugged Grotli Mountains to Lom, well known for its 14th century stave church. The tour continues via Lake Vågå, before descending the magnificent Gudbrands Valley to the popular tourist town of Lillehammer. Stop for lunch in Lillehammer. After lunch the journey continues alongside Lake Mjøsa, Norway's largest lake, back to Oslo.

Dinner and accommodation at Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Oslo

Meals: B, L, D

#### **Day 8: Oslo - Stockholm**

After breakfast departure from Oslo, continuing by coach towards the Swedish border. Cross into the attractive province of Värmland to arrive in the city of Karlstad on Lake Vänern, the largest in Sweden. Lunch in Karlstad. After lunch the tour continues through a landscape of forests and sparkling lakes to reach the Swedish capital in the late afternoon.

Dinner and accommodation at the Clarion Hotel Sign, a first class, centrally located hotel.

Meals: B, L, D



### Day 9: Stockholm

Breakfast at the hotel and start of 4 hours guided tour of the city. Famous sights include the Royal Palace, Parliament Buildings, Cathedral, Royal Theatre, etc. You will also visit the enchanting Old Town (Gamla Stan) with its narrow cobbled streets and numerous antique shops. Highlight of the tour is a visit to City Hall with its famous Blue and Golden Halls, where the Nobel Prize banquet is held each year. Afternoon free in Stockholm, with possibility to visit the famous Wasa Museum or take one of the popular canal tours.

Accommodation at the Clarion Hotel Sign

Meals: B

### Day 10: Stockholm - Helsinki

Breakfast at the hotel and morning free in Stockholm. Afternoon transfer from hotel to pier, for embarkation on a delightful overnight cruise from Stockholm. Sail slowly through the lovely archipelago past numerous small islands while enjoying your dinner on board.

Accommodation is in 2-berth outside cabins with shower/WC.

We recommend bringing an overnight bag for this cruise, to avoid having to carry suitcases to and from the cabin.

Meals: B, D

### Day 11: Helsinki

Enjoy your buffet breakfast as you sail into Helsinki. After disembarkation 3 hours guided tour of Helsinki. Famous sights include the Senate Square, Uspenski Cathedral, Parliament House, Finlandia Hall, Sibelius Park & Monument, Underground Temple, and much more. Afternoon free in Helsinki.

Dinner and accommodation at Haven Hotel, a first-class hotel conveniently located in the centre of Helsinki.

Meals: B, D

### Day 12: Helsinki Departure

Buffet breakfast at hotel, followed by transfer to Helsinki Vantaa Airport to connect with your homebound flight.

Meals: B

## Details

### 2019 Guaranteed Departures:

June: 11, 18, 25

July: 02, 09, 16, 23, 30

### 2019 Pricing:

From US\$4140 – twin (per person based on double occupancy)

From US\$5209 – single

Prices are shown in US\$ per person based on two people sharing a twin room and one person in a single.

### Trip Code:

009290 - W20

## INCLUDED

- English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Ten nights' accommodation including 3-course or buffet dinner (except in Bergen and on second evening in Stockholm)
- Daily Scandinavian buffet breakfast
- Five lunches
- Excursion fees as per the itinerary
- All ferry crossings
- Luggage assistance at all hotels while with the group
- Transportation by modern deluxe coach with reclining seats and seatbelts
- Airport and hotel transfers on first and last days of tour

## NOT INCLUDED

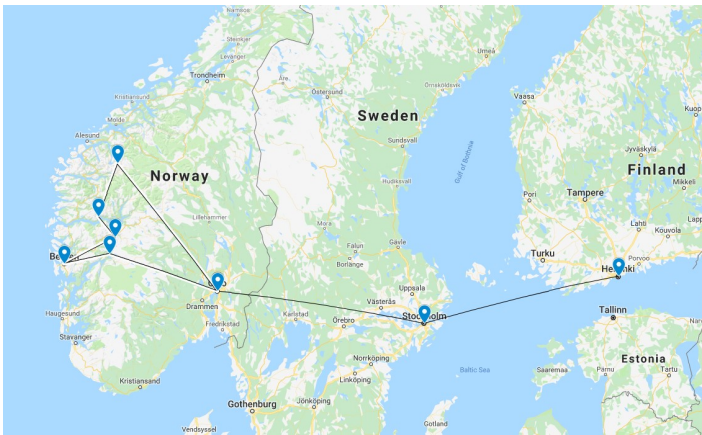
- International airfare

- Optional excursions not outlined in itinerary
- Gratuities
- Travel insurance
- Items of a personal nature

## TOUR NOTES

*Disclaimer: We do our utmost to ensure that information posted on our website is correct at the time of publication, however trip details are subject to change without notice by the suppliers and operators involved. We update the information as soon as possible when changes are advised to us, however, we cannot assume responsibility for such changes made by the suppliers and operators.*

## ROUTE MAP



## Contact

## Winnipeg

164 Marion Street  
Winnipeg, MB, Canada  
R2H 0T4  
Phone: 204.949.0199  
Fax: 204.949.0188  
Toll Free: 800.661.3830

## Edmonton

(formerly Butte Travel Service)  
11733 95th St. NW  
Edmonton, AB, Canada  
T5G 1M1  
Phone: 780.477.3561  
Fax: 780.477.9871  
Toll Free: 800.661.8906



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