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# Scenic Scandinavia and its Fjords - 2016

# 14 days

## from \$3353 pp

Trip available from May 2016 to Oct 2016.

Dramatic fjords. Quaint 'stave' churches. Cosmopolitan capitals. Denmark, Norway and Sweden's charm and traditions pack every moment of this beautiful trip, taken by rail, road and water.

You'll enjoy Insider moments like... indulging in 'Kransekake-stenger' cake at a working farm and pastry school in Bergen, where the hosts explain how rural life has changed since the Vikings first set up the farm.

Trip type:

Regional Explorer

Trip code:

**SCFAA** 

# **Trip Itinerary**



## 1. ARRIVE COPENHAGEN (2 NIGHTS)

Welcome to Copenhagen. Unwind after check-in or spend time exploring Scandinavia's liveliest city. Enjoy an evening drive - the perfect introduction to Copenhagen, followed by a Welcome Reception to get to know your Travel Director and travelling companions.

Meal(s)

Welcome Reception

Hotel

Marriott

# 2. COPENHAGEN SIGHTSEEING AND FREE TIME

Your Local Specialist takes you on a fascinating sightseeing and walking tour in the vicinity of the Amalienborg Palace – an elegant quarter featuring 18th century buildings. In Copenhagen's historic centre, view the 17th century Stock Exchange, the Christiansborg Palace and the Neo-Classical Cathedral. View the Little Mermaid – the statue inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's sad fairytale – sitting on a rock in the harbour. Later perhaps enjoy a canal cruise with stunning city views.

Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast

# 3. COPENHAGEN – ODENSE – RANDERS

Cross the bridge to the Island of Funen and the town of Odense, Hans Christian Andersen's birthplace. Continue across the Jutland Peninsula en route to Randers for an overnight stay.

Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast

Hotel

Randers Authentic Accommodations/Best Western Plus Kronjylland

# 4. RANDERS – STAVANGER

Sail from Hirsthals across the Skagerrak to the port of Kristiansand in Norway. Enjoy a scenic drive by fjords and lakes to Stavanger, Norway's third city and one of the oldest.

#### Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast Dinner

#### Hotel

Scandic Forum/Clarion Energy

## 5. STAVANGER – BERGEN (2 NIGHTS)

Your journey is spectacular as you island-hop from Stavanger, sailing across fjords and passing islands along this impressive coastline. Arrive later in Bergen and experience the history of this picturesque city on your orientation tour. See the 13th century Haakon's Hall and the bustling fish market. This evening enjoy a delicious Be My Guest dinner of Norwegian specialities.

#### Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast Be My Guest Dining

#### Hotel

Clarion Admiral/Scandic Neptun

#### 6. BERGEN FREE TIME

Explore Norway's most naturally beautiful city during your free day and consider a morning Optional Experience to the tiny village of Telavag and learn about its powerful Second World War history.

## Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast

# 7. BERGEN – FLAM RAILWAY – SOGNEFJORD (LEIKANGER)

From the ski resort of Voss take a train journey that ascends to nearly 3,000 feet above sea level. Admire the scenery and ride on the famous Flåm railway for a Cultural Insight into one of the most exciting train journeys in the world. Appreciate breathtaking views of mountains and waterfalls, then cross the magnificent waters of Sognefjord to your hotel in Leikanger.

#### Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast

Dinner

#### Hotel

Authentic Accommodations Sognefjord/Leikanger Fjord

# 8. SOGNEFJORD (LEIKANGER) – GEIRANGER (2 NIGHTS)

Follow the spectacular Sognefjord through incredible glacier country. Enjoy wonderful views of Geirangerfjord as you descend to Geiranger village.

## Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast Dinner

#### Hotel

Geiranger Authentic Accommodation

## 9. GEIRANGER FREE TIME

Spend the day surrounded by amazing scenery, relaxing and breathing clear mountain air. Perhaps take an Optional Experience along the Trolls' Road and see Norways most famous mountain road, past tumbling cascades and fertile valleys.

## Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast Dinner

## 10. GEIRANGER – LOM – LILLEHAMMER

A scenic drive from Geiranger brings you to Ottadalen to visit the traditional Stave Church at Lom. Continue through the Gudbrandsdalen Valley, the inspiration for Ibsen's 'Peer Gynt'. Arrive in Lillehammer, host to the 1994 Winter Olympics. Before dinner at the hotel, consider a walk along Storgata or visit the open-air museum at Maihaugan.

#### Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast Dinner

#### Hotel

Radisson Blu

#### 11. LILLEHAMMER – HAMAR – OSLO

View the unusual Olympic ice rink beside the lake at Hamar. In Oslo, your Local Specialist takes you on a sightseeing tour which includes views of the medieval fortress of Akershus, the Opera and the Royal Palace, finishing with a visit to the Vigeland Sculpture Park. Spend the rest of the day relaxing, shopping for unique souvenirs or perhaps visit the Fram Polar Ship Museum and Viking Ship Museum.

## Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast

#### Hotel

Scandic Vulkan/Radisson Blu

# 12. OSLO – STOCKHOLM (2 NIGHTS)

Cross the border into Sweden and continue via Karlstad on Lake Vänern. Pass Örebro to the island-ringed capital of Stockholm for your two-night stay.

## Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast

#### Hotel

Clarion/Scandic Malmen

# 13. STOCKHOLM SIGHTSEEING AND FREE TIME

Admire this charming city during your sightseeing tour with a Local Specialist. View the medieval Storkyrkan, Riddarholm Church and the Royal Palace. Explore the waterside City Hall where Nobel Prize banquets are held. Spend time later shopping in fashionable stores or consider an Optional Experience. Tonight celebrate with your fellow travellers at a Farewell Dinner.

## Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast Farewell Dinner

## 14. **DEPART STOCKHOLM**

Say goodbye to Scandinavia as your memorable holiday draws to a close. Airport transfers are available. Conditions apply.

Meal(s)

Scandinavian Breakfast

# The Trafalgar Difference

## • Local Specialists

For included sightseeing in Copenhagen, Oslo and Stockholm.

## • Cultural Insights

Take a railway ride through the scenic Norwegian countryside to Flam.

#### • Be My Guest

Dinner of local Norwegian specialities on a farm that dates back to the 15th century. Enjoy a guided tour at the farm and meet the animals before learning about the farm's history.

## • Hidden Treasures

Enjoy at least one surprise Hidden Treasure.

## • Authentic Accommodation

Hotel Randers, Randers, Denmark One of the oldest hotels in Randers, history hits as you walk through the swing doors of this Authentic Accommodations where we stay. From original artwork to a VIP-rich guestbook, Hotel Randers has a unique charm. Sognefjord Hotel, Leikanger, Norway Right on Sognefjord, the Authentic Accommodations we use in Leikanger was built by an old retired seafarer. Now run by his children, he built the hotel so visitors could enjoy Norway's most beautiful scenery too. Leikanger Fjord Hotel, Leikanger, Norway Charming and cozy, this family-run Authentic Accommodations has been welcoming guests since the 1920s. With views over the beautiful fjord shore, you'll experience a homely taste of the past. Hotel Geiranger, Geiranger, Norway Typical of Scandinavia's contemporary design, the hotel we stay in on the Geiranger fjord has an incredible waterfront spot, making Hotel Geiranger Authentic Accommodations in both style and setting

Find out what makes Trafalgar different.

# What's Always Included

# Sightseeing Highlights

- City tour in Copenhagen, Oslo and Stockholm
- Orientation of Bergen
- Visit Odense where Hans Christian Anderson was born, Stavanger, the Sognefjord, Geiranger, the Stave Chuch at Lom, the Olympic town of Lillehammer, Hamar, Vigeland Sculpture Park in Oslo and Stockholm's City Hall
- View The Little Mermaid in Copenhagen, Haakon's Hall in Bergen, the Geirangerfjord and Oslo's Royal Palace

# **Dining**

- 13 full Scandinavian breakfasts.
- 8 dinners

(including Be My Guest).

# **Travel Highlights**

- Luxury air-conditioned coach with WiFi in most countries or alternative transportation (such as rail journeys)
- Hand-picked 4 and 5 star accommodation
- Hand-picked Insider Experiences
- Optional Experiences and free time
- All porterage and restaurant gratuities
- Must-see sightseeing and surprise extras
- An expert Travel Director and separate Driver
- All hotel tips, charges and local taxes
- VIP entry to many sights
- Audio Headsets for flexible sightseeing
- Ferry from Denmark to Norway.
- Ferry across the Boknafjord.
- Ferry across the Sognefjord.
- Train journey on the famous Flam Railway.

# **Airport Transfers**

Specific transfer information can be found on the airport transfers page

# **Optional Experiences**

## **Notes**

Optional Experiences are subject to change. Your Travel Director will supply you with a final list of Optional Experiences available on your trip. Optional Experiences cannot be booked online; they can be purchased during your trip through your Travel Director.

## Copenhagen

#### North Zealand Riviera And Castle Tour

Adult Price: €48.00 Enjoy the quaint scenery of the Danish Riviera's conservation heritage route, as you pass through ancient fishing villages and modern marinas. We'll also visit Fredensborg Palace, summer residence of the Royal family, before continuing to the magnificent 17th century Frederiksborg Castle, where you'll see the State Apartments and the Coronation Chapel.

#### Danish Traditions And Canal Cruise

Adult Price: €53.00 This evening we'll visit the fairy-tale village of Dragor, with its thatched cottages and pretty working harbour. You'll wander by tiny houses, learn a little of the history and enjoy a taste of traditional Danish specialties. Then, enjoy an hour-long cruise along the canals and experience stunning views of the city from the harbour

# Bergen

#### • War History And Peaceful Traditions

Adult Price: €42.00 Come with us as we explore the lost village of Televag, destroyed when the Gestapo discovered the villagers' support of the resistance. You'll visit the museum before we journey to a traditional Norwegian fishing village for coffee and local pancakes. Certain departures also include a guided visit of Fjell Fortress, a Nazi command bunker hidden deep inside the mountain. EURO 46.

#### Grieg And Bergen Insights

Adult Price: €37.00 We'll head out along the fjord to visit the home of famous composer Grieg, where you'll enjoy a guided tour of the villa - the inspiration for many of his masterworks. You'll also explore Bergen on a walk through the historical lanes, and see stunning views of the city on a trip up the hillside by funicular railway.

# Sognefjord

## • Fjords And Mountains

Adult Price: €49.00 Enjoy a relaxing cruise along the UNESCO-listed Næroy Fjord with it's towering mountains and fabulous scenery. This stunning fjord landscape with waterfalls, snow capped mountains and tiny villages has inspired painters for hundreds of years.

## • Fjordland Farm Cultural Experience

Adult Price: €41.00 Visit a traditional working farm set amid the glorious scenery of the Sognefjord, surrounded by craggy mountains with views across the longest and deepest fjord in

Norway. Get to know a typical Scandinavian family, and something about their day-to-day lives. Learn a little of both the history, which dates back to Viking times and present-day traditions. We'll also sample the local homemade delicacies.

# Geiranger

# • Trollstigen Explored

Adult Price: €45.00 Join us on a delightful drive to the Eagles Road for amazing views of towering cliffs plunging down to the Geiranger Fjord. Then discover the path of the trolls - Trollstigen, considered a masterpiece of engineering. This is Norwegian rugged mountain scenery at its finest.

## • Dalsnibbia And The Majestic Geiranger

Adult Price: €44.00 You'll enjoy views of the fjord from the famous hairpin bends along the Dalsnibba Pass, before we sail down Norway's most famous fjord. UNESCO listed, the Geiranger is home to tiny farms, the Bridal Veil and Seven Sisters waterfalls, which you'll discover as we explore.

## Lillehammer

#### • Treasures Of Lillehammer

Adult Price: €42.00 Explore Lillehammer on a guided visit to the charming folklore museum of Maihaugen, on the hills above the Olympic Town. You'll also visit the Olympic Arena, and enjoy an exciting ride in the chairlift (weather permitting) to the top of the ski-slope, for wonderful panoramic views over the town and Gudbrandsdalen.

#### Oslo

## • Vikings And Explorers

Adult Price: €42.00 You'll visit the three original Viking longships and their treasures with your Local Specialist, including the Oseberg ship - last used as a burial ship for a woman of high rank. Then explore the stunning Fram Museum to discover the story of the ship and the race to the South Pole, illustrated with films, images and new exhibits.

## Stockholm

#### • Panoramic Tower And Dinner

Adult Price: €59.00 You'll enjoy the very best views over the city and its archipelago on our trip to the viewing platform of the Kaknas Tower, Sweden's highest building, before savouring delicious cuisine in a popular local restaurant, with a drink included.

#### • Swedish Ice Bar And Old Town

Adult Price: €36.00 Savour a drink in a glass made of ice in the minus temperatures of the Ice-Bar, made completely from the frozen waters of Sweden's River Torne. You'll also discover beauty and history combined on a walk in the fairy-tale Gamla Stan; little changed since the 16th and 17th centuries.

# • Stockholm Discovery

Adult Price: €49.00 Enjoy the beauty of Lake Malaren with your Local Specialist, as we sail in an antique steamboat through the archipelago, past country cottages and elegant homes. You'll also visit the royal warship 'Vasa', an ornate 17th century galleon which sank just minutes after sailing, now reclaimed from the Baltic.

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