



Norway Itinerary

Day 1 August 22, Depart for Oslo, Norway.

Depart on Icelandair #656 Minneapolis to Reykjavik 7:30PM – 6:30AM Arrive August 23
Connecting to Icelandair #318 Reykjavik to Oslo 7:50AM – 12:20PM

Day 2 August 23, Arrival in Oslo, Norway.

Arrive Oslo this afternoon and take the airport train into downtown Oslo.

Overnight in Oslo at the **Thon Hotel Panorama**.

The Thon Hotel Panorama is a 4 Star property and is located in a quiet area of the Kvadraturen district in Oslo. The hotel is in walking distance of Oslo Central Station, and everything Oslo can offer of attractions, shops and night life. From the top floors of the hotel you can enjoy a panorama view of the Oslo Fjord.



Day 3 August 24, Oslo, Norway.

A **five hour bus tour of Oslo is included**. (I'm checking on what this actually includes.)

Overnight in Oslo at the **Thon Hotel Panorama**.

This morning **breakfast is included** at the hotel.

Day 4 August 25, Depart on the "Norway in a Nutshell Tour" to Bergen.

This morning **breakfast is included** at the hotel. Depart this morning on the "**Norway in a Nutshell**" trip from Oslo to Bergen. Travel to towns such as Myrdal, Flam, Gudvangen and Voss. You start by train from Oslo to Myrdal. In Myrdal you switch trains to go on the Flåm Railway. In Flåm you get on a boat that takes you part of the way through Sognefjord and down Nærøyfjord. You then get on a bus in Gudvangen that takes you to Voss and in Voss you take a train the rest of the way to Bergen, arriving in the evening. Your bags will be picked up at your hotel in Oslo and will be taken directly to your hotel in Bergen. Upon arrival in Bergen, transfer independently to your hotel from the train station.

Overnight in Bergen at the **Scandic Strand**.

The Scandic Strand in Bergen has a great location in the heart of the city, only a short walk from Bergen's attractions and with a magnificent view of Bergen city.



Day 5 August 26, Bergen, Norway.

VIP Tour of Troidhaugen with Floibanen funicular included.

Troidhaugen was the home of composer Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) for 22 years. Edvard Grieg composed many of his best-known works in the little garden hut. Troidhaugen is now a living museum comprising an exhibition centre with shop and cafe, concert hall, composers' cabin and Grieg's villa dating from 1885. Take the funicular railway to Mount Fløyen and see all of Bergen in just 8 minutes. The funicular railway is one of Norway's most famous attractions. The trip starts from the city centre, just 150 metres from the Fish Market and Bryggen. The exiting trip up to the mountain is a magnificent experience in itself. From Mount Fløyen, approx. 320 metres above sea level, you can enjoy the beautiful view, study the cityscape in detail and the seaward approaches and fjords surrounding Bergen. The Funicular takes you to a fantastic area of beautiful natural surroundings with innumerable opportunities for walking and hiking. At Fløyen there is also a restaurant, cafeteria, souvenir shop and play area.

Overnight at the **Scandic Strand**.

This morning **breakfast is included** at the hotel.

Day 6 August 27, Depart Bergen on A Norwegian Coastal Voyage via Hurtigruten MS Midnatsol.

This morning **breakfast is included** at the hotel. The morning and afternoon are at leisure to explore Bergen. Transfer from your hotel to the boat terminal and embark on your Norwegian cruise. Included in the cost is an **Arctic Superior Room** (outside cabin) that includes a seating area. I'm checking on what category they have priced out.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included on the cruise.

Day 7 August 28, Florø - Maløy - Torvik - Alesund – Molde.

If you wake up early today, you have the chance to enjoy the breathtaking beauty of Nordfjord, followed by a delicious breakfast. As you sail past the West cape, enter open seas for one of the few times during this voyage. The ship then navigates through skerries and islands before reaching Alesund. This city is internationally renowned for its unique concentration of Art Nouveau architecture.

Shore Excursion included: Geiranger with Strollstigen Pass, Geiranger – Molde.

Your day begins with a drive up Ørneveien, enjoying magnificent views of the Geirangefjord. One of the many highlights of this trip is negotiating all of the 11 hairpin turns on the way down the winding Trollstigen Pass. You conclude with dinner in Molde.

Day 8 August 29, Kristiansund - Trondheim – Rorvik.

In Trondheim, you can discover the city's secrets by strolling through its charming streets or sitting by the peaceful harbor. Be sure to enjoy the views from Gamle Bybrua (the Old Town Bridge) which dates back to 1861 and the restored wooden buildings of the Bakklund district. Nidaros Cathedral, built between 1070 and 1300, is Norway's largest Gothic edifice. In the afternoon the ship sets a northwest course, passing the distinct Kjeungskjaer lighthouse and numerous charming islets and rocky outcrops. After passing through the narrow Stoksund, the ship arrives in Rorvik.

Shore Excursion included: Nidaros Cathedral & Ringve Museum, Trondheim.

This enchanting tour takes in the medieval Nidaros Cathedral and Ringve Museum of Musical History, an absorbing collection of some 2,000 musical instruments housed in a beautiful manor house.

Day 9 August 30, Bronnoysund - Sandnessjoen - Nesna - Ornes - Bodo - Stamsund – Svolvaer.

Today you cross the Arctic Circle between Nesna and Ornes, marked by a globe on a small islet. Passengers sailing in Arctic waters for the first time can participate in the Arctic Circle ceremony on deck. After a break at Bodo you can enjoy the sight of the 3,280ft high Lofoten Wall appearing on the horizon. The charms of the Lofoten Islands are revealed in all the small, picturesque fishing villages with their bohemian atmosphere. Tucked in between majestic granite cliffs and white sandy beaches, these islands are an experience that is out of the ordinary. Stroll between stockfish racks and "rorbuer," the traditional fisherman's huts.

Shore Excursion included: Svartisen Glacier, Ørnes – Bodø.

Norway's second largest glacier has been amazing visitors for over a century. Board a boat south of Ørnes and sail through the narrow straits, passing small islands and skerries en route to the Svartisen Tourist Center. From here you can enjoy a fantastic view of the glacier.

Day 10 August 31, Stokmarknes - Sortland - Risoyhamn - Harstad - Finnsnes - Tromso – Skjervoy.

During the night the ship navigates the narrow Raftsund strait. After a stop in Harstad, you continue to Tromso for a prolonged stay. Many epic Arctic expeditions used Tromso as a starting point. With the presence of the Norwegian Polar Institute, the city has cemented its position as the Polar Capital of Norway. "Ishavskatedralen," The Arctic Cathedral, is the city's most famous landmark with its progressive design and extraordinary stained glass window. The world's northernmost university and large numbers of tourists have created a vibrant cultural scene and the numerous restaurants and cafes are always teeming with life.

Shore Excursion included: The Arctic Capital, Tromsø.

Explore the Gateway to the Arctic on this tour which takes in the Arctic Cathedral, whose eastern wall is a fabulous stained glass window and visit Polaria, an impressive center showcasing the Arctic world.

Day 11 September 1, Oksfjord - Hammerfest - Havoysund - Honningsvag - Kjollefjord - Mehamn – Berlevag.

After a brief stop in Hammerfest and Havoysund you arrive in Honningsvag, the gateway to the spectacular North Cape.

Shore Excursion included: The North Cape, Honningsvåg.

Enjoy the magnificent sub-Arctic landscape as we cross the 71st parallel on our journey towards the North Cape, the northern most point of the continent. Visit the North Cape Hall where you can see an impressive 180° panoramic film about Finnmark and the North Cape.

Day 12 September 2, Batsfjord - Vardo – Kirkenes.

The ship arrives in Kirkenes this morning and you disembark. When you arrive in Kirkenes, at 30° east, you are actually further east than Istanbul and St. Petersburg. The Russian border is close by, and you may find it intriguing that the road signs are written in both Norwegian and Russian. Transfer to airport and depart for home.

Depart on	Scaninavian Air#4473 Kirkenes to Olso	11:30AM-1:35PM
Connecting to	Icelandair#319 Olso to Reykjavik	2:45PM – 3:25PM
Connecting to	Icelandair#657 Reykjavik to Minneapolis	4:45PM - 6:05PM