

Friday 31st May 2024 | 12 days | £1,995 per person
Please note tour pick-ups start on Thursday 30th May

Norway – Telemark & The Fjords



Join us for a wonderful sightseeing tour taking in the spectacular scenery of Norway, one of the World's most unique and breath-taking landscapes. The Norwegian adventure starts in the beautiful Telemark region, continuing to the dramatic Western Fjords. See sheltered fjords, high mountain passes, sparkling crystal lakes, glaciers and charming villages.

Day 1: Please note: Tour pick-ups start on Thursday 30th May, with overnight travel, making our way to Dover for an onward ferry crossing to Calais and on to our overnight hotel.

Day 2: We travel through Holland, into Germany and north past Bremen and Hamburg. Cross the border into Denmark near Flensburg and continue to Kolding for a late check in, dinner and an overnight stay.

Day 3: After an early breakfast we proceed north through Jutland to Hirtshals for the fast craft ferry to Norway. On arrival in Larvik, we continue our coach journey through pristine Norwegian Lakeland scenery, passing Bo and crossing the famous Telemark Canal to arrive in **Vrådal**, our home for the next 3-nights.

Day 4: A free day to unwind, enjoy the hotel and its wonderful location. The hotel facilities include an indoor swimming pool, large panoramic terrace, lounge and a wonderful garden that sweeps down to the lake shore and beach.

Day 5: Full day panoramic excursion across the Hardangervidda Plateau and including the Telemark Heavy Water Sabotage site. Travel first to Brunkenberg and then west through Morgedal to Amot. Proceed, climbing up onto the Hardangervidda Plateau with spec-

tacular views of its wild scenery and beautiful lakes. The Hardangervidda is the largest mountain plain in Europe and the largest of Norway's National Parks. We visit the infamous **Heavy Water Sabotage site at Vemork, joining a mini-bus for the short journey across the gorge and up to the Vemork Power Station** (you may see some bungee jumpers at the Vemork Suspension Bridge!). The fascinating museum visit features the incredible story of the WW2 partisan sabotage mission to destroy Hitler's heavy water plant, located at this site. Eventually succeeding they halted German efforts to build a nuclear bomb.

After the visit continue through Rjukan and along the shore of Lake Tinnsjø. Pass the small terminal used to load the heavy water on boats to commence its journey to Germany.

Day 6: Today depart Vrådal and travel to **Brunkenberg** before crossing the Haukelifjell Mountain Road and descending to the Sörfjord, a branch of the Hardangerfjord, at Odda. Overlooked by the Folgefonn Glacier the road is flanked by fruit trees on one side and the deep fjord on the other. Arrive in Utne and take the short ferry journey across the Hardangerfjord to Kvannal. North then, past Voss and then towards Gudvangen before climbing up to

the **Stalheim Hotel** for a 3-night stay.

Day 7: Start from Stalheim and travel over the Vik Mountains to the small town of **Vik**. Descend and travel through Vik to Vangnes for the short ferry ride across the Sognefjord to Hella. Onwards towards Sogndal, **look out for the Kvinna waterfall** – when in full flow it's necessary to drive through the water! From Sogndal branch north west towards Fjaerland for a visit to the **Norwegian Glacier Museum**.

Reboard the coach and make a short detour to the **Boyabreen** beauty spot, located about 100 metres to the right, off the main road, where there are views of the glacier. Travel back towards Sogndal making a short but unmissable second photo stop at the **Fjaerlandsfjord viewpoint**. It's then on to Mannheller for a scenic crossing over the Sognefjord to Fodnes. Continue on via and along the old Bergen/Oslo postal route climbing up to the stave church at **Borgund**. Borgund has become known as the Norwegian stave church par excellence. It is one of the biggest and most spectacular stave churches with the best-preserved mediaeval appearance. After the stop in Borgund travel on via the tunnel between Laerdal and Aurland (at **24.5km one of the longest road tunnels in the world**).

Day 8: The **Norway in a Nutshell/Flåm Railway** excursion is considered one of Norway's tourist highlights. Our full day excursion includes a return trip on the wonderful Flam Railway and a leisurely fjord cruise on the narrow Naeroyfjord and Aurlandsfjord, where steep cliffs rise on both sides of the boat.

Also, today we include a visit to **Stalheim Folk Museum**.

Day 9: A long, scenic day passing through scenic landscapes. Depart Stalheim and travel via Flåm and then south on route 50 towards Hol. Continue through Gol and then through Nore-sund and Kroderen to arrive in Horten. Enjoy dinner and an overnight stay in Horten.

Day 10: An early breakfast this morning before departing the hotel and joining the Color Line fast ferry departure from Norway to Denmark. There will be plenty of time to relax on board before the arrival into Denmark at Hirtshals.

We cross into Germany for dinner and an overnight stay near Hamburg.

Day 11: Around Hamburg, across northern Germany and through Holland to Hook of Holland for the relaxing overnight crossing back to Harwich. We include comfortable outside cabins with en suite facilities.

Day 12: Arrive Harwich and travel home.



Your Hotel

Postillion Hotel Bunnik,
Utrecht-Bunnik (1 night)

Scandic Kolding, Kolding (1 night)

Straand Hotel, Vrådal (3 nights)

Stalheim Hotel, Stalheim (3 nights)

Thon Hotel Horten, Horten (1 night)

Best Western Prisma,
Neumünster (1 night)

Overnight ferry crossing with
outside cabin (1 night)

Basis: Dinner, Bed & Breakfast

Single room supp: £260 (limited availability)