



## SCANDINAVIA

**FOLLOW THE LIGHTS (NORTHBOUND)** (TOUR CODE: 11742)

## STARTS AND ENDS

Oslo to  
Helsinki

## TRAVEL PERIODS

27 Sep 2023 - 27 Mar 2024

## EXPERIENCE

Cruising  
Rail

## TRAVEL STYLE

Cruise

Experience the wonder of the Northern Lights: Oslo and Bergen, “Norway in a Nutshell”, the northbound Coastal Voyage, Finland and Estonia.

## Highlights

- Travel on the famous **Flåm Railway**, with spectacular fjord views all the way to the beautiful village of **Flåm**.
- **Guided city tours** of Oslo, Bergen, and Tallinn.
- **Husky** and **reindeer** experiences in the Lapland wilderness
- Chances of seeing the **Northern Lights**
- Be welcomed into the traditional tent of a local **Sámi family** and learn about their unique culture and lifestyle.
- Explore **Alesund**, renowned for its beautiful Art Nouveau architecture.

From Norway’s capital Oslo, ride the world’s most famous train, the Flåm Railway, before joining Hurtigruten’s northbound coastal voyage. Visit charming hamlets, sail through picturesque fjords and see the magnificent Northern Lights on this journey into the heart of Norway. On arrival into the sleepy town of Kirkenes in Norway’s far north, head south into Finnish Lapland where you’ll see the night sky from inside your glass igloo. Then discover Finnish Lakeland, where you’ll stay in beautiful log accommodation. Take in Helsinki, Finland’s capital, and experience a day trip to medieval Tallinn in Estonia.



## INCLUSIONS

- 10 nights hotel accommodation – 4\* Hotels
- 6 nights Hurtigruten cruise accommodation
- 1 night in a Glass Igloo
- Meals as per itinerary
- Norway in a Nutshell, Flåm Railway journey
- First class coach from Kirkenes to Rovaniemi
- 2nd class rail journey from Rovaniemi to Helsinki
- City tours of Oslo, Bergen & Tallinn
- Reindeer Farm visit (sled ride, depending on weather)
- Husky Farm visit (sled ride, depending on weather)
- Santa Claus Village visit
- SIIDA Museum visit
- Return ferry ticket Helsinki – Tallinn (deck passage)
- English speaking guide from start to finish
- Northern Light promise

# ITINERARY

Day **1**

## Oslo

Arrive in Oslo, make your own way from the airport or train station to your hotel. Remainder of the day is at your leisure. In the evening, meet the rest of the group and your guide at our welcome dinner.

Overnight stay in **Oslo** – 4 star Hotel - Scandic St. Olavs Plass or similar

Dinner



CREDIT: OSLO | HANS HENRIK NILSEN / HURTIGRUTEN

Day **2**

## Oslo

After a leisurely breakfast, meet the group in the lobby of the hotel for an Oslo grand city tour including Vigeland Sculpture Park, Historical Museum, Oslo Opera house, Holmenkollen Ski Jump and more.

Overnight stay in **Oslo** – 4 star Hotel - Scandic St. Olavs Plass or similar

Breakfast



CREDIT: OPERA HOUSE NORWAY | RAGNAR HARTVIG / HURTIGRUTEN

Day **3**

## Flåm

After an early breakfast you will start your “Norway In a Nutshell” tour, catching the morning train to Myrdal where you change trains for the famous Flåm Railway, with spectacular fjord views all the way to the beautiful, tiny village of Flåm.

Overnight stay in **Flåm** – 4 star Hotel - Flamsbrygga Hotel or similar

Breakfast, Dinner



FLÅM RAILWAY | CREDIT: TORILD MOLAND

Day **4**

## Bergen

The day starts with the ferry from Flåm to Gudvangen, passing through the narrow Nærøyfjord. From Gudvangen the journey continues by bus. Waterfalls line the road as we weave our way through the valley to Voss. There we board a train for the last leg of our “Norway in a Nutshell” journey, arriving in Bergen in the afternoon. The rest of the day is at your leisure.

Overnight stay in **Bergen** – 4 star Hotel - Clarion Admiral Hotel or similar



CREDIT: BERGEN | ANDREAKLAUSSNER / HURTIGRUTEN

Day 5 Bergen Hurtigruten Embarkation

*(Day 1 of the voyage)*

After a relaxing morning, you will join a walking tour of Bergen, including St Mary's Church, Håkon's Hall and the UNESCO World Heritage listed Bryggen, before heading to Troidhaugen, the home of Norway's most famous composer, Edvard Grieg. The tour ends at Bergen pier, where you will board the Hurtigruten ship.

Overnight on board **Hurtigruten**

Breakfast, Dinner



CREDIT: DR. VERENA MERALDI | HURTIGRUTEN

Day 6 Ålesund

*(Day 2 of the voyage)*

You will navigate skerries and islands before reaching Ålesund, renowned for its beautiful Art Nouveau architecture. Leaving Ålesund we head north towards Trondheim.

Overnight on board **Hurtigruten**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **7**

## Trondheim

*(Day 3 of the voyage)*

Arrive early in the morning at Trondheim, with plenty of time to explore Norway's first capital.

Overnight on board **Hurtigruten**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **8**

## Lofoten Islands

*(Day 4 of the voyage)*

As you cross the Arctic Circle in the morning, the hunt for the Aurora Borealis begins. You will enter the dramatic and narrow Raftsund, and if the weather and ice conditions allow, you'll sail to the entrance of the famous Trollfjord. Overnight on board the ship.

Overnight on board **Hurtigruten**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day **9**

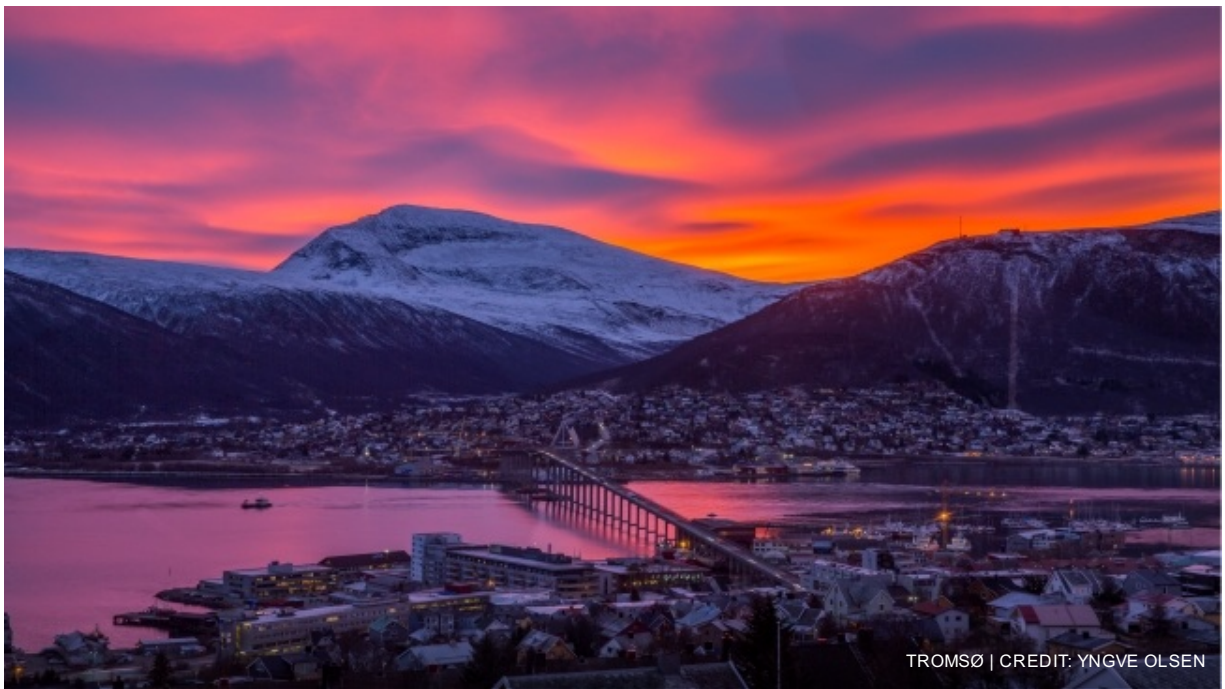
## Tromsø

*(Day 5 of the voyage)*

After a morning stop in Finnsnes, the ship continues to Tromsø, a major cultural hub above the Arctic Circle, and famed as a viewing point for the Northern Lights. The city's historic centre is distinguished by its centuries-old wooden houses. The 1965 Arctic Cathedral, with its distinctive peaked roof and soaring stained-glass windows, dominates the skyline.

Overnight on board **Hurtigruten**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



TROMSØ | CREDIT: YNGVE OLSEN

## Day 10 Honningsvåg

*(Day 6 of the voyage)*

Honningsvåg is the nearest port to the North Cape – only 2000km from the geographical North Pole.

Overnight on board **Hurtigruten**

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



HONNINGSVÅG | CREDIT: ESPEN MILLS

## Day 11 Kirkenes Disembarkation Saariselkä

Admire the dramatic coastal vistas as you approach Kirkenes, where you will disembark. Enjoy a short drive through Kirkenes, before arriving at Inari, the Sámi capital (traditional nomads of Scandinavia, reindeer herders), where you'll visit the newly renovated Siida Sámi museum and visit a reindeer farm.

Overnight in **Saariselkä** – 4 star Hotel - Santa's Hotel Tunturi

Breakfast. Lunch. Dinner





Day **12** Saariselkä

You'll be welcomed into the traditional tent of a local Sámi family who'll talk enthusiastically about their unique culture and lifestyle. Feed the family's reindeer in the nearby paddock, maybe with the Northern Lights above, and practise your lasso skills under your host's expert tutelage.

Overnight in **Saariselkä** – 4 star Hotel - Santa's Hotel Tunturi

Breakfast



Day **13** Sinettä

Today you visit Santa Claus Village, where you will have free time to explore. In the evening, spend the night in a glass igloo.

Overnight in **Sinettä** – 4 star Hotel - Arctic Snow Hotel (Glass Igloo)



Day **14** Rovaniemi

You'll spend the afternoon today taking a tour of a husky dog kennel, meeting its friendly residents, and learning how huskies are reared to become as fit and as hardy as they are. Enjoy a thrilling husky-drawn cart or sled ride through the Lapland wilderness before warming up with a snack around the campfire.

Overnight in **Rovaniemi** – 4 star Hotel - Original Sokos Vaakuna or similar

Breakfast

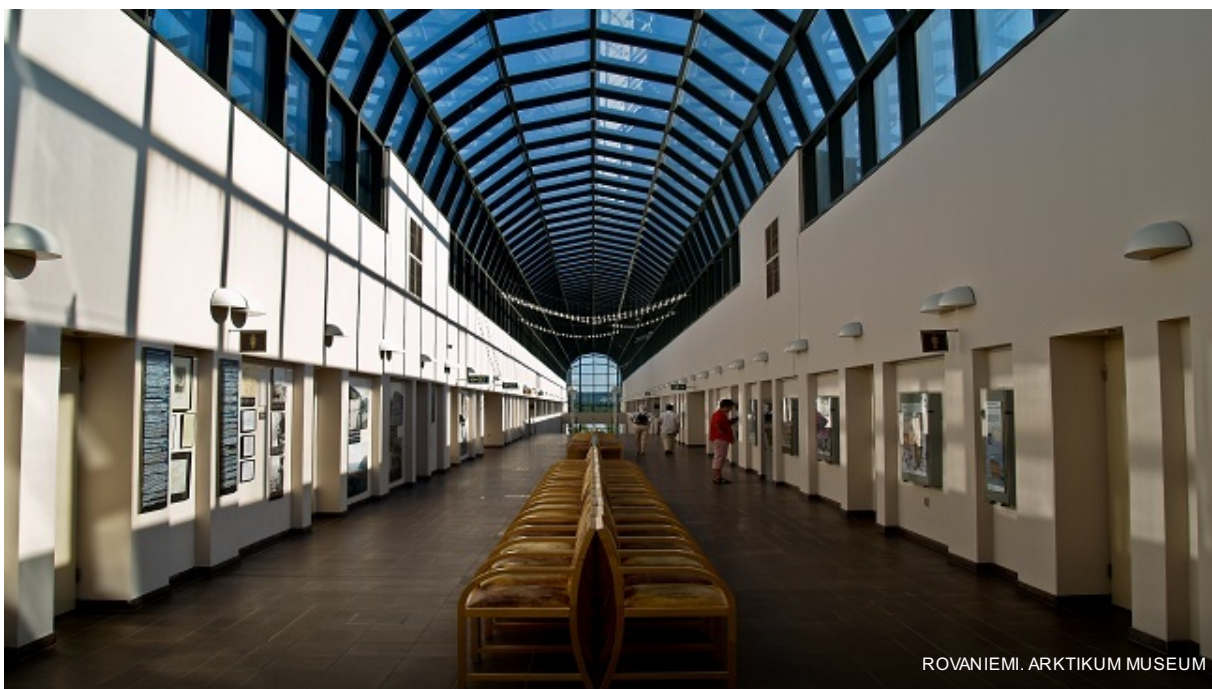


Day **15** Rovaniemi

Enjoy a day at your leisure to explore Rovaniemi.

Overnight in **Rovaniemi** – 4 star Hotel - Original Sokos Vaakuna or similar

Breakfast



Day **16** Helsinki

Today, we leave the Finnish wilderness and head into Helsinki, Finland's capital. Enjoy the remainder of day at your own leisure.

Overnight in **Helsinki** – 4 star Hotel - Scandic Grand Marina or similar

Breakfast



Day **17** Helsinki Tallinn Helsinki

An early start with a full-day excursion to the medieval town of Tallinn in Estonia. Take the ferry followed by a combined bus and walking tour of the city. Stops will include the baroque Kadriorg Park and the seaside district of Pirta. Walk through the winding, cobblestoned streets of the Old Town continuing to Toompea Castle, home to the Estonian parliament. Visit

Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and the Dome Church before and enjoying some free time before boarding the ferry to return to Helsinki. Tonight, enjoy a special farewell dinner.

Overnight in **Helsinki** – 4 star Hotel - Scandic Grand Marina or similar

Breakfast, Dinner



Day **18** Helsinki

After breakfast at the hotel.

END OF SERVICES.

Breakfast

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, Icelandic, and Faroese

## LOCAL CURRENCY

Danish Krone (DKK)

- **Northern Lights Promise:** If the Northern Lights are not recorded during your Follow The Lights tour, including land component, Hurtigruten will offer a free northbound or southbound voyage. [T&Cs](#) apply
- This itinerary is just an indication of what you can experience. After all, this is a sailing where the elements rule and weather conditions might vary, which is why every voyage with The Hurtigruten Coastal Express is unique.

## Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package