

# NORWAY ROAD TRIP - GRAND ITINERARY

DAY

**1**

## DAY 1: WELCOME TO OSLO

When you arrive at Oslo's Gardermoen Airport, make your way into **Oslo's** city centre by taking the express train to Oslo Central Station, or through a private transfer Nordic Visitor will arrange for you (at additional cost). For those arriving early, we recommend exploring Oslo by foot, spending the afternoon at sights including the **Royal Palace**, Akershus Fortress, **Oslo City Hall**, Oslo Opera House, and the **Aker Brygge** area. Other notable attractions include the beautiful Vigeland Sculpture Park, the Viking Ship Museum and Karl Johans street.

Spend the night in Oslo.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Aker Brygge - Oslo - Oslo Opera House

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**2**

## DAY 2: EXPLORE THE HIGHLIGHTS OF OSLO

This morning, get an early start to explore the Norwegian capital. We recommend booking a guided bus tour that will take you along the famous landmarks of the city. Highlights include the beautiful **Vigeland Sculpture Park**, the **Royal Palace**, **Akershus fortress**, and **Oslo City Hall**.

Another option is to tour Oslo on your own visiting some of the above attractions, or others like the Viking Ship Museum, Fram Polar Ship Museum and Karl Johans street. You will then have the rest of the day to explore at your own leisure.

Spend another night in Oslo.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Oslo - Oslo City Hall - The Royal Palace (Oslo)

DAY

**3**

## DAY 3: OLYMPIC TOWN OF LILLEHAMMER

Collect your rental car in the morning and drive to **Lillehammer**, the host of the 1994 Winter Olympics.

In Lillehammer you can visit **The Norwegian Olympic Museum** and the Lyngårdsbakken Olympic area, the Lillehammer Art Museum, and the **Maihaugen open air museum** which includes a collection of more than 200 houses from as far back as the 12th century and until today, including the Garmo stave church. After sightseeing, visit one of Lillehammer's cosy restaurants for a meal and Lillehammer Bryggeri for a local pint of beer.

Spend the night in Lillehammer

*Driving distance: 168 km / 104 mi*

*Estimated driving duration: 2 hours and 30 minutes (without stops)*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Lillehammer - Maihaugen - Olympic Arenas

DAY

**4**

## DAY 4: RØROS

Get ready to explore Rondane National park and the Swedish border, and the small mountain town of **Røros**.

This former mining settlement is now a UNESCO World Heritage site, offering a charming atmosphere with well-preserved old wooden houses and narrow streets with many artist workshops.

We recommend visiting **Olav's mine** and to learn about the past at Røros Museum Smelthytta, which gives a window into the history of this town.

Spend the night in Røros

*Driving distance: 264 km / 164 mi*

*Estimated driving duration: 4 hours (without stops)*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Røros - Røros Museum Olav's Mine - Rørros Church

DAY

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## DAY 5: TRAVEL TO TRONDHEIM

After breakfast at your hotel, head north towards **Trondheim**, the "Capital of the Vikings". Enjoy exploring this vibrant port city that was once the capital of Norway during the Viking Age, back when the city was called Nidaros. Here you will find the remarkable **Nidaros Cathedral**—with architecture to rival Paris's Notre Dame, as well as countless other attractions like the Ringve Museum and Gardens, the Trøndelag Folk Museum, the charming neighbourhood of **Bakklandet** by the old wharf and much more.

Spend the night in Trondheim

*Driving distance: 154 km / 96 mi*

*Estimated driving duration: 2 hours and 30 minutes (without stops)*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Bakklandet - Nidaros Cathedral/Nidarosdomen - Old Town Bridge - Trondheim

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## DAY 6: EXPLORE THE CAPITAL OF THE VIKINGS

Enjoy another open day in **Trondheim**, Norway's third largest city. If you're looking for some relaxing activities today, you can take a short boat trip to the old fortress island of **Munkholmen** (the Monk's Islet) or hop on the tram at St. Olavs gate in the city centre for a scenic 20-minute ride up to Lian in the Bymarka forest, offering panoramic views of the city. Trondheim also features an excellent selection of restaurants that specialise in regional dishes made with fresh, local ingredients. And if you want to follow your meal with a good local beer, the Trondheim Microbryggeri is the place to go.

Spend another night in Trondheim.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Bakklandet - Munkholmen - Nidaros Cathedral/Nidarosdomen - Old Town Bridge - Trondheim

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## DAY 7: JOURNEY SOUTH TO KRISTIANSUND

Begin your journey south along the beautiful west coast of Norway towards the island town of **Kristiansund** with its bright, colourful houses. Kristiansund is often referred to as the "opera town", and for a very good reason as the town offers frequent opera performances, an opera festival and an outdoor rendition of "Donna Bacalao" every year. Kristiansund is known for its tasty clipfish and we recommend trying their local version of fish and chips called Fishan.

Spend the night in Kristiansund

*Driving distance: 198 km / 123 mi*

*Estimated driving duration: 3 hours and 30 minutes (without stops)*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Kristiansund

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**8**

## DAY 8: ATLANTIC OCEAN ROAD & ÅLESUND

Today you will drive the famous **Atlantic Ocean Road**, with the vast open sea on one side and majestic mountains on the other. Then head to the historically significant fishing village of **Bud**, which in the 16th and 17th centuries, was the most important trading centre between Bergen and Trondheim.

Next, drive to the city of **Molde**, where you take a ferry, with your car, to Vestnes and continue your journey to the captivating town of **Ålesund**. This city was almost completely rebuilt after a huge fire and features a myriad of turrets, spires and beautiful ornamentation which give the town its distinctive character, like something out of a fairytale. Here you also have the opportunity to visit the Atlantic Sea Park and enjoy stunning views from **Fjellstua**.

Spend the night in Ålesund

*Driving distance: 175 km / 109 mi*

*Estimated driving duration: 3 hours and 30 minutes (without stops)*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Ålesund - Atlantic Ocean Road - Bud - Molde - Mount Aksla & Fjellstua

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**9**

## DAY 9: TROLLSTIGEN & GEIRANGER

If you enjoy twists and turns, you will be impressed with a drive on **Trollstigen**, “the Troll Ladder”, one of the most visited attractions in Norway. Trollstigen takes you over the mountain to the Romsdalen valley and Åndalsnes, passing 11 exhilarating hairpin bends on the way. After the scenic drive, we recommend a stop at Jordbærstove in Valldal. During the strawberry season you can try a number of dishes in which strawberries are the main ingredients, and you simply have to try the strawberry cake!

Next, take a short ferry crossing, with your car, between Eidsdal and Linge before driving down the twisty Ørnesvingen, “**The Eagle Road**”, to **Geiranger**.

Spend the night in Geiranger

*Driving distance: 186 km / 116 mi*

*Estimated driving duration: 3 hours and 40 minutes (without stops)*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Åndalsnes - Eagle Road (Ørnevegen) - Geiranger - Trollstigen

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**10**

## DAY 10: GEIRANGER AT LEISURE

After breakfast, you will continue exploring Geiranger. We recommend soaking in the fantastic fjord scenery during a morning hike or an optional activity like kayaking. For those after some pampering, the nearby spa at Hotel Union is ideal to relax and get a treatment or two, followed by a trip to the chocolate factory in town for a little more indulgence.

To survey the surroundings, we recommend visiting **Dalsnibba** skywalk. It's Europe's highest fjord viewpoint by road and you will enjoy sweeping views of **Geirangerfjord**, as well as across to the mountains and the mighty Blåbreen glacier. After the skywalk, continue to Geiranger through twisty roads and beautiful mountain scenery.

Spend another night in Geiranger.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Geiranger

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**11**

## DAY 11: GEIRANGERFJORD

Enjoy your morning in the beautiful Geiranger fjord. If you wish to learn more about local culture and nature a visit to the Norwegian Fjord center is recommended. In the afternoon head to **Loen**, a 65-minute ferry ride,

with your car, through the UNESCO-protected Geirangerfjord where you see famous waterfalls like the **Seven Sisters, the Sutor, and the Bridal Veil**, along with abandoned fjord farms in the mountains. The sightseeing ferry ends in the small village of Hellesylt where you drive south to **Loen**.

Spend the night in Loen.

*Driving distance: 61 km / 38 mi*

*Estimated driving duration: 2 hours and 30 minutes (without stops)*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Geirangerfjord - Gudbrandsdalen Valley - Loen - Seven Sisters & Bridal Veil

DAY

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## DAY 12: LOEN, GLACIERS & FJÆRLAND

You will kick off your morning in lovely Loen. We recommend an optional activity boarding the magnificent **Loen Skylift**, a cable car to the altitude of 1011 metres with amazing views of the fjord, or to do some hiking in the region. Your journey will continue south along **Jostedal** glacier, mainland Europe's largest icecap and the Fjærlands road. We recommend stopping at the Norwegian Glacier Museum in **Fjærland** before reaching **Sogndal**, a village beautifully situated by the **Sognefjord**, Norway's longest and deepest fjord.

Spend the night in Sogndal

*Driving distance: 128 km / 80 mi*

*Estimated driving duration: 2 hours (without stops)*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Fjærland - Jostedalsbreen National Park - Loen - Loen Skylift - Sogndal - Sognefjord

DAY

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## DAY 13: SOGNEFJORD AND FLÅM

Start the day with a short ferry crossing from Sognefjord towards **Aurlandsfjord**, an especially beautiful slice of Norway. We recommend a stop at the **Stegastein viewpoint** for panoramic views before reaching the village of **Flåm**, where you find the famous **Flåm Railway** (Flåmsbana), a steep train ride between Flåm and Myrdal - a treat for photographers or train enthusiasts alike! After a stop in Flåm, your journey continues to Bergen through villages including **Gudvangen, Stalheim** and Norway's adventure capital, **Voss** before ending the day in Bergen.

Spend the night in Bergen.

*Driving distance: 237 km / 147 mi*

*Estimated driving duration: 4 hours (without stops)*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Aurlandsfjord - Bergen - Flåm - Flåm Railway (Flåmsbana) - Gudvangen - Sognefjord - Stalheimskleiva - Voss

DAY

14

## DAY 14: BERGEN AT LEISURE

Spend the day exploring beautiful Bergen. Here you'll find **Bryggen**, a UNESCO World Heritage site, along with remarkably preserved old houses, a lively fish and flower market, cable cars offering stunning views, great museums and more. We recommend riding the **Fløibanen Funicular** to Mount Fløyen to enjoy stunning views over the city or to take a cable car up Mt. Ulriken. Bergen is surrounded by 7 mountains, so this is an ideal place for hiking.

For those after some culture, Bergen is known for its museums that cover the city's history, architecture, music and art and we recommend visiting the Edvard Grieg museum and the KODE art museum, which is Scandinavia's largest museum for art and music. If you wish to explore the fjords further, optional fjord cruises are available.

Spend another night in Bergen.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Bryggen - Fløibanen Funicular (Funicular Railway) - King Håkon's Hall - Maria Church - Rosenkrantz Tower

DAY

15

## DAY 15: HARDANGERFJORD & GEILO

From Bergen, you will embark on a scenic drive along **Hardangerfjord** and past Hardangervidda National park, a region of great natural beauty. On your way you will pass the impressive waterfall, **Vøringfossen**—the highest in Norway with a 182-metre cascade—and the dramatic and narrow Måbødalen valley, along Eidfjord.

Upon reaching **Geilo**, we recommend visiting Geilojordet which is an idyllic area with ancient buildings from the 1700-1800's and a lovely place to spend some time exploring.

Spend the night in Geilo

*Driving distance: 244 km / 151 mi.*

*Estimated driving duration: 4 hours and 10 minutes (without stops)*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Bergen - Geilo - Hardangerfjord - Vøringfossen

DAY

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## DAY 16: BACK TO OSLO

Today it's time to close the circle and head back to Oslo through the Hallingdal Valley. On this scenic drive, you will drive past steep ski hills, through beautiful forests and over valleys with breathtaking views. We recommend visiting the town of Gol which is known for **Gol stave church**, a Viking village and the Hahaug trolls cave. From Gol, continue to Oslo where you can stop at Hadeland Glassverk to see the glassblowers carry out their traditional craft.

Continue to Oslo where you can either return the rental car tonight or the next morning and catch up where you left off on day one and explore the highlights of Oslo, including museums, cafes and shops.

Spend the night in Oslo.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Geilo - Gol - Oslo

DAY

17

## DAY 17: DEPARTURE FROM OSLO

For transportation to Oslo-Gardermoen Airport, you can take the Flytoget express train from Oslo Central Station or book a private transfer through Nordic Visitor that will deliver you to the airport directly from your hotel. If your flight is in the afternoon, take the opportunity to do some last-minute shopping, visit one of Oslo's many museums or just relax at a café after this amazing journey.

*Whatever your needs, we are here to help. If you have any questions about our packages or services, please do not hesitate to contact us.*

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