

# THE NORDIC COUNTRIES EXPRESS

## ITINERARY

DAY

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### DAY 1: WELCOME TO FANTASTIC FINLAND

Your exciting holiday begins at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport where you are greeted and transferred to your hotel in the heart of Helsinki, Finland's bustling capital. For those who arrive early, we recommend buying the Helsinki Card, which grants free entry to major city attractions and museums as well as unlimited travel on public transportation.

Spend a relaxing night in Helsinki.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Finland - Helsinki

DAY

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### DAY 2: FROM CITY TO SEA MAGIC

After your complimentary breakfast at the hotel, spend the first part of your day exploring more Helsinki attractions such as Senate Square, Uspenski Cathedral, Parliament House, Finlandia Hall, the New Opera House, or the Sibelius Park and Monument. Later, spend an enchanted evening on the sea as a cruise ship whisks you away to Stockholm, Sweden's stylish capital.

Take full advantage of the on-board amenities including cafes, restaurants, and shops and spend the night in one of the ship's comfortable cabins.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Helsinki

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### DAY 3: SAIL INTO STOCKHOLM

Savour the maritime scenery during breakfast as the ship navigates through Sweden's Archipelago, a collection of over 30,000 islands and inlets. After pulling into the harbour at Stockholm, a city built on 14 islands, check in to your centrally-located hotel.

To see the best of Stockholm, we recommend purchasing a My Stockholm Pass, which gives you free admission to 75 experiences throughout the city, plus free sightseeing tours, discounts at a number of restaurants and shops and much more. We'd suggest you make time to visit the Vasa Ship Museum and City Hall's famous Blue Hall, site of the annual Nobel Prize banquet.

Spend the night in Stockholm.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Stockholm - Sweden

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### DAY 4: AWE-INSPIRING OSLO

After a tasty Scandinavian breakfast, it's time to board the train for Oslo, Norway's magnificent capital. From your hotel conveniently located in the heart of Oslo, you have easy access to many of Oslo's top attractions. Bask in the cosmopolitan glow of Bogstadveien, Oslo's busy shopping street, or simply unwind in one of the city's lush parks before dinner at a cosy restaurant of your choice.

Spend the night in Oslo.

Approx. duration of the train trip is 5 hours and 50 minutes.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Norway - Oslo

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## DAY 5: VIKINGS, SKI JUMPS AND PALACES

Take advantage of this diverse city with the Oslo Pass, which provides unlimited travel on all public transport, free admission to over 25 museums and discounts on many other attractions, restaurants and shops. We recommend a visit to the Holmenkollen Ski Museum and Jump Tower, the Viking Ship Museum, Vigeland Sculpture Park, the Royal Palace, Akershus Fortress, or the historic Arctic expedition ship "Fram".

Spend the night in Oslo.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Holmenkollen Ski Jump & Museum - Oslo - The Royal Palace (Oslo) - The Viking Ship Museum

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## DAY 6: MEMORABLE JOURNEY TO BERGEN

Enjoy an early breakfast then head to Oslo Central Station to board the Bergensbanen train that winds through Norway's breathtaking mountainous terrain on its journey to Bergen. This railway, voted one of the 20 best in the world, takes you through the charming villages of Gol and Geilo before a stop at Myrdal to switch trains. The next 20 km of the journey is on the world famous Flåm Railway, which descends nearly 900 metres to the charming village of Flåm, where you join a boat trip through Aurlandsfjord and Nærøyfjord, the narrowest fjord in Europe and a UNESCO World Heritage site, and a bus ride up Stalheimskleiva, Northern Europe's steepest stretch of road with 13 hairpin bends. After a short break to enjoy the view\*, the bus continues to Voss so you can board the train again to Bergen\*\*.

Spend the night in Bergen.

Departure Oslo: 08:11

Arrival Myrdal: 12:39

Departure Myrdal: 13:27

Arrival to Flåm: 14:25

Departure Flåm: 15:10

Arrival Gudvangen: 17:30

Departure Gudvangen: 17:45

Arrival Voss: 19:00

Departure Voss: 19:41

Arrival Bergen: 21:08

*\* Please note that the bus road up to Stalheimskleiva is only operated May-September. At other times the bus goes directly to Voss. \*\* Please note that timings are preliminary and might change without notice.*

We recommend that you book luggage transfer for the Norway in a Nutshell part of your travel. Your luggage will be picked up in Oslo and will be waiting for you upon arrival in Bergen. Pack an overnight bag if you spend the night in Flåm. Price per item is €40.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Aurlandsfjord - Flåm - Flåm Railway (Flåmsbana) - Nærøyfjord

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## DAY 7: HISTORY COMES TO LIFE IN BERGEN

Norway's second largest city and "capital of the fjords" has no shortage of activities! From your centrally-located hotel, you have an excellent starting point for exploring the cultural and historical highlights of this must-see city. Visit Bryggen, a UNESCO World Heritage site, which dates back 900 years as a major Hanseatic trading centre. You can also catch a glimpse of local culture at the lively Fish Market or ride the Floybanen Funicular to Mount Floyen to enjoy the panoramic view of the city.

Spend the night in Bergen.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Bergen - Bryggen

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## **DAY 8: DEPARTURE**

For transportation to Bergen-Flesland Airport, you can take the airport bus (Flybussen) from one of the various departure points in the city centre or you can take a taxi directly from your hotel. If your flight is in the afternoon, you have the opportunity to do some last-minute shopping, visit one of Bergen's museums or enjoy a relaxing lunch at a café after this amazing journey.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Bergen

*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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