

# AURORA SAFARI BY RAIL & CRUISE

## ITINERARY

DAY

1

### DAY 1: WELCOME TO OSLO

When you arrive at Oslo's Gardermoen Airport, make your way into **Oslo's** city centre. Many travellers opt to take the express train to Oslo Central Station, but we can arrange a private transfer 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 City Hall - Oslo Opera House - The Royal Palace (Oslo)

DAY

2

### DAY 2: NORWAY IN A NUTSHELL IN WINTER - THE FLÅM RAILWAY

Get an early start and head to Oslo Central Station, where you'll begin the **Norway in a Nutshell**® railway journey towards Bergen, with an overnight stop in **Flåm**. This train ride takes you over Norway's "mountainous rooftops", through charming villages like **Gol** and **Geilo**.

In Myrdal, you'll switch trains to the famous **Flåm Railway** (Flåmsbana) for an incredible ride to the beautiful village of Flåm. Enjoy a relaxing day in Flåm, where you can follow one of the many hiking trails in the mountains around the village.

Spend the night in Flåm.

*We recommend booking our luggage transfer for travel between Oslo and Bergen.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Flåm - Flåm Railway (Flåmsbana) - Geilo - Gol - NORWAY IN A NUTSHELL®

DAY

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### DAY 3: NORWAY IN A NUTSHELL TO BERGEN

In the morning, you'll board a boat to sail through **Aurlandsfjord** into the World Heritage-listed **Nærøfjord**, the narrowest fjord in all of Europe. This is perhaps the most beautiful arm of **Sognefjord**, with its mighty waterfalls and small farms clinging to the steep mountainsides, which is especially beautiful in the winter months. The boat docks in Gudvangen, and from there the journey continues by bus through Nærøydalen, with its charming villages and scenic winter landscape. The bus will arrive in Voss, where you continue the tour by train on the Bergen Railway to **Bergen**.

Spend the night in Bergen.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Aurlandsfjord - Bergen - Nærøfjord - Sognefjord

DAY

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### DAY 4: EXPLORE BERGEN & BOARD THE HURTIGRUTEN

Despite being an international city, Bergen, "The Capital of the Fjords", has all the charms of a small town. Here you'll find **Bryggen**, a UNESCO World Heritage site, along with remarkably preserved old houses, a lively fish market, cable cars offering stunning views, great museums and more. We recommend riding

the **Fløibanen** Funicular to Mount Fløyen to enjoy the panoramic view of the city or a cable car up **Mt. Ulriken** to survey the winter landscape.

In the evening, you embark on the Norwegian Coastal Voyage with **Hurtigruten**. Onboard you'll stay in a comfortable outside cabin with private facilities.

Spend the night on board Hurtigruten

*Please note that you can board Hurtigruten as early as 16:00 or as late as 19:30.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Bergen - Bryggen - Fishmarket - Fjords in Norway - Fløibanen Funicular (Funicular Railway) - Hurtigruten Coastal Voyage - King Håkon's Hall - Maria Church - Rosenkrantz Tower

DAY

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## DAY 5: BEAUTIFUL ÅLESUND

You will continue your scenic winter coastal voyage today from Florø to Molde. This morning, you can enjoy the breathtaking beauty of the **Nordfjord**, followed by a delicious breakfast. As the ship sails past the West Cape, you will enter the open ocean before reaching **Ålesund**, which is known for its beautiful Art Nouveau architecture. You will get a chance to explore charming Ålesund during a 3-hour stop.

Spend the night on board Hurtigruten.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Ålesund - Nordfjorden

DAY

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## DAY 6: TRONDHEIM THE VIKING TOWN

Arriving to **Trondheim** early in the morning, you will disembark the ship to explore this lovely Viking city. We suggest a nice breakfast at one of city's lovely coffee shops before enjoying some leisure time in the "Capital of the Vikings". Established as a Viking trading post in the 10th century, this city offers an array of historical attractions and museums.

Here you will find **Nidaros Cathedral**, which is one of Scandinavia's largest buildings from the Middle Ages, along with tiny, picturesque old wooden houses. Other attractions include **Bakklandet**, an idyllic neighbourhood full of history and culture, Ringve museum and gardens, Munkholmen and the Old town bridge.

Spend the night in Trondheim.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Bakklandet - Nidaros Cathedral/Nidarosdomen - Trondheim

DAY

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## DAY 7: FLY TO TROMSØ & NORTHERN LIGHT HUNT

Start the day with a flight to **Tromsø** Airport, collect your luggage and make your way to your hotel. We recommend taking the airport bus (Flybussen) or a taxi to your hotel. After settling in at your hotel, you can spend the rest of the day exploring the charming city of the "capital of Northern Norway". There are many restaurants in city centre for an early dinner to start the holiday with a taste of a true arctic meal.

In the evening it's time to leave the city lights behind on a guided small group tour for a chance to enjoy some of the brightest **northern lights** in the world.\*

Spend the night in Tromsø.

*\* Please note that the northern lights are a natural phenomenon and sightings cannot be guaranteed.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Northern lights - Tromsø

DAY

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## DAY 8: ARCTIC ADVENTURE

Spend the first half of the day at leisure in **Tromsø** exploring the charming Arctic city and its various attractions, including the **Polar Museum**, the **Arctic Cathedral** and **Fjellheisen** cable car.

Your activities in the afternoon will vary depending on the month of your travel:

### 1 October – 1 December: Northern Lights Cruise

In the evening, enjoy a northern lights cruise where you will sail away from the city lights, and view the stunning auroras from sea. After the tour you will be transferred back to your hotel.

### 1 December – 27 March: Dog Sledding & Aurora Borealis

In the late afternoon you will be transferred to the wilderness centre, Camp Tamok where you will join a thrilling dog sledding tour. After the tour you will have another opportunity to look for auroras while enjoying a hearty dinner in a lavvu, a traditional Sami tent, at Camp Tamok, before being transferred back to your hotel.

Spend the night in Tromsø.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Arctic Cathedral - Camp Tamok - Dog sledding in Tromsø - Fjellheisen - Northern lights - The Polar Museum - Tromsø

DAY

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## DAY 9: EXPERIENCE TROMSO

Explore Tromsø at your leisure today or join one of our optional activities in the arctic. Notable city attractions include the Art Museum of Northern Norway and **Polaria**. For a fantastic bird's eye view over the city, you can take a ride up the Fjellheisen cable car to Mt. Storsteinen (421 m / 1382 ft).

Another alternative is booking an optional activity such as a northern lights cruise or a guided reindeer sledding tour.

Spend the night in Tromsø.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Polaria - Tromsø - Tromsø Cathedral

DAY

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## DAY 10: DEPARTURE FROM THE NORTH

After an incredible time exploring the magnificent north, it's time to bid farewell to Norway. Your tour will conclude in Tromsø, where you will make your way by bus or taxi to the airport.

*Note: If you need assistance with flights from Tromsø or booking additional nights in Oslo before and after your holiday in the North then please contact us for details.*

*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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