

Itinerary

Savour the Northern Lights - North

Guided land & sea tour with igloo stay, husky safari & premium cruise

DAY 1

Oslo • Welcome to Norway

Welcome to Norway. First stop: Norway's thriving capital, Oslo. If you have time before you board your ship for the voyage ahead, you'll want to explore the many charms this cosmopolitan capital has to offer. Make your way to the city centre, where you can take snaps of the architecturally distinct Rådhuset town hall, Royal Palace and Oslo Cathedral. Once you've boarded your ship and settled into your cabin or suite, meet your Coastal Experience Team. You'll get to know each member of the team as they give lectures and organise onboard activities throughout your voyage. Meet your fellow guests in the ship's two-storey panoramic lounge and watch as the capital's twinkling lights fade into the distance

DAY 2

Oslo • Settle in at sea

Spend today relaxing on board and getting a taste of our Norway's Coastal Kitchen cuisine in the ship's three restaurants and bar. You'll have time to simply watch Norway's spectacular southern coast glide by. Take it all in from the expansive Observation Deck, from the comfort of your ship's two-storey lounge and bar, or from the panoramic sauna. As well as the views, this stretch of coast is home to history and stories. Find out more about Norway's coast and the voyage ahead in the lectures, presentations, and onboard activities planned for today.

Also stopping at: **Stavanger**

DAY 3

Stavanger • Fjord views and city culture

Today, you'll wake to views of the beautiful Lysefjord. The 42-km-long fjord is home to one of Norway's most famous sights: Preikestolen (The Pulpit Rock), which towers 604 metres above the fjord's shimmering waters. Kjerag mountain, at the end of the fjord, reaches even higher. Along the way, watch for mountain goats, waterfalls, and the famous Kjeragbolten, a glacial boulder wedged high up in a crevasse. You'll spend the rest of the day in Stavanger, a colourful waterside city with an international ambience and a lively cultural scene. Discover the architectural relics of Gamle (Old) Stavanger, which includes Northern Europe's best-preserved collection of wooden houses, and Norway's oldest cathedral, dating from the 12th century. You can also visit the Norwegian Petroleum Museum, browse the local boutique shops, or simply enjoy a drink on the waterfront.

DAY 4

Ålesund • A picturesque town

After breakfast on the ship, we'll dock at Ålesund, a town on a small peninsula surrounded by beautiful mountains and islands. Many of the buildings here, from the bright colours to the rounded spires, were inspired by the Art Nouveau style, which was popular in the early 1900s. You can get impressive photos of the archipelago from the nearby Mount Aksla viewpoint. You can also visit the Atlantic Sea Park, Norway's first

marine science centre. This is one of Northern Europe's largest saltwater aquariums, providing a home to seals, otters, and crabs, as well as many other kinds of marine life. See Humboldt Penguins here, a species otherwise absent north of the equator. Join an optional excursion to explore Ålesund on foot or by bus as your guide reveals the town's surprising secrets.

DAY 5**Rørvik • An ancient fishing town**

The cosy fishing port of Rørvik in the picturesque Vikna archipelago may look small but it has a huge history told through both the landscape and the town's collection of museums. Join an optional excursion to three of Rørvik's excellent museums. Time travel through the last 10,000 years in Ice Age-carved landscapes, carefully preserved 19th-century living rooms, and the ingenuity of Norwegian salmon production. In the afternoon, we'll continue sailing north through the Vikna archipelago made up of over 6,000 islands, islets, and reefs. The local gardens bloom with plum and apple blossoms in the spring, even at 65°N, thanks to the maritime climate. As we sail through the night, we'll leave the Helgeland coast behind us as we cross the Arctic Circle.

DAY 6**Svolvær • Lofoten islands and our historic birthplace**

Today, we explore Lofoten. As soon as you see the towering peaks with small villages clustered around them, you'll understand why this island chain is praised as one of Norway's most stunning locations. We'll dock in the town of Svolvær mid-morning. Located on the island of Austvågøya in the heart of Lofoten, Svolvær is the biggest town of the archipelago, humming with shops, restaurants, galleries, and cafés. Look out for the Svolvær Goat, a nearby mountain so named for resembling a horned ruminant. A variety of optional excursions are available from Svolvær, including winter fishing, paddling along the coastline in a kayak, or embarking on a bus tour to learn more about Lofoten's history. We can't visit the area without spending a couple of hours in Stokmarknes. It was here that the Original Coastal Express was founded in 1893 by shipping pioneer Richard With. On the waterfront, you'll find our 1956 ship MS Finnmarken encased in the Hurtigruten Museum's glass building like a ship in a bottle.

DAY 7**Tromsø • The gateway to the Arctic**

Tromsø is often called the 'Gateway to the Arctic'. Sitting around 350 kilometres north of the Arctic Circle, the city is known for great winter activities and for chances of seeing the Northern Lights. Once you've arrived and disembarked, you will meet your tour manager before setting off from Tromsø in a private first-class coach. Your land-based adventure begins as we head east into the majestic Lyngen Alps, with scenic fjord crossings on local ferries. We'll drive along one of Norway's most breathtaking roads, following the stunning Lyngen Fjord. Arriving in Skibotn, we journey southeast, crossing into Finland and reaching the picturesque Finnish resort village of Kilpisjärvi, just 8 kilometres from the Norwegian border. Please note: conditions in the Lyngen Alps can be variable, so if the weather and road conditions are not in our favour, we'll take an alternative route.

DAY 8**Koltavuoma • Norway, Sweden and Finland in under a minute**

After breakfast, embark on a 3-hour winter safari by snow sleigh or snowmobile across frozen lakes and snowy birch forests to Koltavuoma, where the yellow border cairn marks the peaceful meeting point of Finland, Sweden, and Norway. Covering about 19 miles (30 km), this unique journey lets you cross three countries in

under a minute. The tour includes expert guidance, thermal gear, professional photos, and a pastry with a warm drink back at the hotel. The afternoon is free for personal exploration. In the evening, enjoy dinner at the hotel, followed by a guided Northern Lights hunt with your tour managers, weather permitting. Note: For Sep - Nov 2026 departures, the "Border of Three Countries" excursion is replaced with a visit to a Sámi Reindeer farm. Meet the Tornensis family, learn about reindeer herding traditions, feed the reindeer. Afterwards, relax by the fire in a cozy log cabin as you hear Sámi stories and enjoy treats such as homemade biscuits and berry juice.

DAY 9

Levi • Northern Lights Village or Levin Iglut hotel

Seasons 2025/26 & 2026/27 Today, travel by private coach along the scenic Sweden–Finland border to the charming resort town of Levi. You'll spend two nights in a private Aurora Cabin, also known as a glass igloo. Located away from light pollution, these unique accommodations provide clear views of the night sky, with the possibility of spotting the Northern Lights right from your bed. After arrival and check-in, enjoy a delicious dinner at the hotel. Aurora Expedition by Snowshoes: In the evening, the previous heated sleigh ride has been replaced with a 2-hour guided Aurora Expedition by Snowshoes, based on guest feedback. Trek through peaceful, snow-covered forests and over snowdrifts up to a meter deep. The only sounds are your steps crunching in the snow and the quiet of the slumbering forest, illuminated by the moon and countless stars. Along the way, a cosy hut awaits where you can warm by the fire and enjoy snacks and warm berry juice, cookies, and marshmallows while waiting for the Northern Lights. With luck, witness a magnificent aurora display across the night sky. Included in the experience: English-speaking guide Thermal clothing and snowshoes Warm berry juice, cookies, and marshmallows Aurora viewing from the glass igloo accommodations or along the snowshoe trail Accommodation notes: 29 Jan and 26 Feb departures: Levin Iglut Hotel (glass igloos) 9 Apr departure: Aurora Pyramid Glass Igloos Experience the magic of the Northern Lights in comfort, with expert guidance and unforgettable scenery.

DAY 10

Levi • Husky safari

After a cosy night's sleep, you'll swap the snowmobiles from the night before for husky sleds. The energetic team of dogs will take you on a 5-kilometre sleigh ride through Lapland's pristine forests. This unforgettable trip promises a fast-paced, memorable journey through the winter wonderland. Following the safari, enjoy the remainder of the day at your leisure, with options to join additional activities such as a reindeer or snowmobile safari (weather permitting). End your day with dinner at the hotel restaurant. Please note: on tours with the following departure dates it's likely that the sleigh will run on wheels as there may not yet be enough snow on the ground: 25 Sep, 9 Oct, 23 Oct and 6 Nov

DAY 11

Levi • Icebreaker adventure

After breakfast, we'll board a private coach for a scenic journey from Levi to Kemi. Arrive at the Experience 365 winter resort and check into the unique Glass Villas, where you'll spend the night enjoying panoramic views of the landscape. In the afternoon, head to Ajos pier on Bothnian Bay and board Sampo, an icebreaker ship. It's a thrilling experience as the icebreaker ploughs powerfully through the frozen sea. If you're brave and bold, take a refreshing dip in the icy waters while wearing a full-body waterproof survival suit. Return to the resort for a delicious dinner to complete your day. Please note: on tours with the following departure dates, the icebreaker ship will not be sailing due to expected sea conditions. Instead, you'll be given a tour of the ship and will still be able to do the Arctic dip in a survival suit: 25 Sep, 9 Oct, 6 Nov, 26 Mar and 9 Apr.

Also stopping at: **Kemi**

DAY 12**Helsinki • Finland's capital**

Today we'll travel by train from Kemi to Helsinki, where we'll spend two nights. Widely regarded as one of the world's best cities to live in, Helsinki is vibrant and colourful, offering a balance of historic architecture and contemporary living. With many trails nearby, the city is also known for its incredible natural scenery.

DAY 13**Helsinki • Finland's capital**

A two-hour city tour will take you to explore key landmarks including City Hall, the Parliament buildings, Finlandia Hall, the Opera House and, weather permitting, the famous Sibelius Monument. A highlight of the tour is a visit to the remarkable Temppeliaukio Church (Rock Church). As its name implies, this wonderful building is carved into solid rock. In the evening we'll enjoy a farewell dinner at the hotel with your fellow travellers.

DAY 14**Helsinki • The adventure comes to a close**

Sadly, today marks the end of our adventure. After breakfast at the hotel, say your goodbyes to your guides and fellow travellers. From the far south of Norway up along its coast, then down through Finnish Lapland – you've been on quite the journey. You've travelled across two Scandinavian countries, with the Northern Lights hopefully making a pleasant appearance, not just one but a few times. Thank you for coming with us on this Signature tour. We hope to see you again soon for another adventure.