



SCANDINAVIA AND RUSSIA

• DAYS •

18



DAY 1 COPENHAGEN

Arriving Copenhagen we pick up our luggage and process through customs, to meet our guide. Transfer to our hotel for check-in.

DAY 2 COPENHAGEN

We enjoy a full breakfast at the hotel and start our day with a panoramic city tour, including the most interesting sights in Copenhagen—like Town Hall Square, Christiansborg Palace, Nyhavn Port with its charming old houses, and the landmark of Copenhagen, the famous “Little Mermaid”. We’ll enjoy a canal cruise through the old town and modern city to get even a better impression of the most interesting sights. Afternoon at leisure. Accommodation.

DAY 3 COPENHAGEN - DFDS FERRY - OSLO

We enjoy a full breakfast at the hotel and then we depart for the northern area of Copenhagen, admiring the spectacular Danish countryside as you travel along the coastline towards Elsinore and listen to your guide’s insightful narration. On arrival, marvel at the majestic structure of Kronborg Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage-listed structure used as the setting for the film adaptation of Shakespeare’s Hamlet. Venture within and enjoy a guided tour of the opulent chambers and stolid towers inside the castle. Return to Copenhagen and free time in the old town until we embark our ferry to Oslo. Around 3:30 pm, we drive to the harbour and embark on the DFDS Ferry to Oslo. Departure at 4:50 PM. We’ll all be accommodated in outside cabins. This popular route links the Danish and Norwegian capitals. Sailing overnight on a large cruise ferry, you’ll have time to relax and enjoy the excellent entertainment and leisure facilities on board. Dinner is provided on the ship.

DAY 4 OSLO

Buffet breakfast on board. Around 9.am arrival in Oslo and disembarkation. We start directly the city tour from harbour, visiting the Vigeland Sculpture Park, home to a vast collection of sculptures, which inhabit its landscape. The park portrays Gustave

Vigeland’s observation of the themes of life and relationships. We’ll continue touring by passing by the Royal Palace, which was built in the first half of the 19th century as the Norway residence of Norwegian and Swedish King Charles III and is the official residence of the present Norwegian monarch. Next step takes us to the Akershus Slott (Akershus Castle) to learn of the fort’s history and enjoy stunning views from the top of the fortress. We’ll also meander through the beautiful grounds. We finish our tour with the Oslo Opera House—a new landmark in the city, having only been built in 2008. The venue offers open-air concerts as well as fantastic views of the city if you climb its sloping rooftops! Fans of architecture will also enjoy admiring trendy Aker Brygge, a shopping centre that was once a shipyard. Here you can shop, dine in dockside restaurants and people-watch.

DAY 5 OSLO - LOFTHUS

After another hearty breakfast, we board our coaches and depart to the fjord area, passing through breath taking landscape and past the ski resort of Gol, Geilo and then crossing the mountain area of the Hardanger Plateau. Driving along the Eidfjord, we arrive late afternoon at Lofthus, Norway. Enjoy your stay surrounded by a fairy-tale landscape.

DAY 6 LOFTHUS - BERGEN

After breakfast, we cross the Hardanger Bridge and driving along the Hardanger Fiorden Road we arrive at noon in Bergen. Bergen is Norway’s second largest city, and lies clambering up the mountain sides, overlooking the sea. You can roam through living history in this modern city, before continuing on to explore the wildest and loveliest fjords of Norway. Founded more than 900 years ago, Bergen has roots to the Viking Age and beyond. As one of the main offices of the Hanseatic League, Bergen was for several hundred years the centre of prosperous trade between Norway and the rest of Europe. Bryggen, („The Hanseatic Wharf”) is the most obvious remnant from this time, and is today home to many of the city’s restaurants, pubs, craft shops and historical museums. After checking in at our hotel we start our city tour, which offers an initial overview of the history and structure of the city, and it takes you through the charming streets of Bergen, focusing on the downtown area surrounding the bustling harbour, the UNESCO-listed Wharf, the beautiful city park, and adjoining museums.

DAY 7 BERGEN - LILLEHAMMER

Another great breakfast and we depart for the area of the Sognefjord, situated in the middle of Fjord Norway, containing some of the wildest and most beautiful scenery in Norway.



INCLUDED SERVICES

- 17 overnights (15 x in central first class hotels, 2x on ferry, in outside cabin) including buffet breakfast
- Deluxe motorcoach
- English speaking tour escort and local guides for city tours
- Admissions to historical sites as per program
- 1 dinner on board DFDS Ferry



The area has dramatic scenery and unique cultural attractions. National Geographic Traveller magazine has called this area „the world’s most iconic destination“. We’ll make a short stop in Voss and continue to Gudvangen, where we take a ferry-cruise to Flam. We then continue by coach to Lillehammer. The city center is a late 19th-century concentration of wooden houses, which enjoys a picturesque location overlooking the northern part of lake Mjøsa and the river Lågen surrounded by mountains. Lillehammer hosted the 1994 Winter Olympics and 2016 Winter Youth Olympics.

DAY 8 LILLEHAMMER - STOCKHOLM

After breakfast, we depart for Stockholm, crossing a typical Scandinavian countryside with lakes and wooden houses. We arrive mid-day and check-in to our hotel. Stockholm is the cultural, media, political, and economic centre of Sweden. It hosts the annual Nobel Prize ceremonies and banquet at the Stockholm Concert Hall and Stockholm City Hall. One of the city’s most prized museums.

DAY 9 STOCKHOLM

Breakfast and panoramic city tour Stockholm passing by the Stockholm Palace, the official residence and principal workplace of the Swedish monarch, the Stockholm city hall and the Old Town. We continue to the famous Vasa Museum (adm. incl.) to see the mighty warship, which sank in Stockholm 1628. After 333 years on the seabed, it was salvaged and today it is the

world’s only preserved 17th century ship. Afternoon free for exploring and shopping.

DAY 10 STOCKHOLM - FERRY CRUISE-HELSINKI

We have time for breakfast and free time to explore the city of Stockholm. Around 3:30 pm we drive to the harbour and embark on the Silja Line Ferry to Helsinki, Departure at 4:50 PM. We’ll all be accommodated in outside cabins. This popular route links the Swedish and Finnish capitals.

DAY 11 HELSINKI

Buffet breakfast on board. Around 10.am arrival in Helsinki and disembarkation. We start directly the city tour from harbour, visiting the most interesting parts of Helsinki: Sibelius Monument - The Opera House - The Presidential Palace - The Parliament building - The Senate Square - Finlandia Hall - Tempelaaikio Church - City Hall. Afternoon free to explore this charming city.

DAY 12 HELSINKI - SAINT PETERSBURG

Buffet breakfast and transfer to the railway station to take the high speed train “ Allegro” to Saint Petersburg. On arrival transfer to your hotel and overnight.

DAY 13 SAINT PETERSBURG

Breakfast and city tour, where we acquaint you with the main architectural and historical monuments of Saint Petersburg. You’ll see magnificent Nevsky Prospect, amazing Isaac’s, Kazansky and Savior-on-the-Spilled-Blood cathedrals, palaces of the great

Russian noble families. You will visit Peter and Paul’s fortress, the oldest part of the city, which was founded by Peter The Great, who took part in building the fortress himself. Afternoon at leisure and overnight.

DAY 14 SAINT PETERSBURG

Breakfast and visit of The Hermitage and Winter Palace. The State Hermitage occupies six magnificent buildings situated along the embankment of the Neva River. Afternoon at leisure and overnight.

DAY 15 ST PETERSBURG - MOSCOW

Breakfast and transfer to the railway station to take the high speed train “ Sapsan” to Saint Petersburg. On arrival transfer to your hotel and overnight.

DAY 16 MOSCOW

Breakfast and panoramic city tour of the capital of Russia, including Red Square, Novy Arbat Street, the Cathedral of Christ the Savior, Poklonnaya Mountain with the extensive Victory Park that was laid down to commemorate WWII victory, Vorobiev Mountains, and Bulvarnoye Koltso. Tour of the Moscow Metro system. The Moscow metro is one of the largest and most grandly built Metro systems in the world. The stations are designed with decorative elements including mosaics, statues and marble floors. Afternoon at leisure and overnight stay.

DAY 17 MOSCOW

Breakfast and visit of the Kremlin and its historical monuments such as the Great Kremlin Palace and Arsenal building. The collection of the Armory is overwhelming. It contains such exhibits as the chalice of Yuri Dolgorukiy, the helm and armor of Boris Godunov, collection of over fifty Faberge eggs, golden and silver works of applied art by Russian masters. We will also visit one of the cathedrals on the territory of the Kremlin. Afternoon at leisure and overnight.

DAY 18 MOSCOW

Breakfast and transfer to airport.