



# **Scenes Of The North**

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **02-05-2025** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

**Visit:** Copenhagen-Oslo - Lofthus - Bergen - Flaam - Loen - Briksdal Glacier - Geiranger - Oslo - Stockholm - Helsinki - St. Petersburg -

## **Detailed Itinerary**

## Day 01: DAY 1 MONDAY Arrival in Copenhagen

Arrival to Copenhagen Airport, meet & greet by an English-speaking representative, for Regular Arrival Transfer Service to the hotel\* for check-in. Please consult the welcome letter, which you will receive upon check-in at your hotel, and kindly note where and when to meet your tour leader. A short welcome meeting will be held between 18:00-19:00 (exact time will be communicated), where you will receive information on the upcoming tour program. The rest of the day is at leisure.



## Day 02: DAY 2 TUESDAY Copenhagen

Breakfast at the hotel. This morning we depart by private coach with our local guide for a 3-hour city sightseeing tour. The tour will be the perfect introduction to "Wonderful Copenhagen". We start with a drive towards the City Hall Square where the famous pedestrian street "Stroeget" begins. We pass the Tivoli Gardens, dating back to 1843 and onwards past the New Carlsberg Glyptotheque and the National Museum. Next up is the Old Stock Exchange and the Naval Church. We drive past the Kings New Square, the home of the Royal Danish Theatre with the world-famous ballet, then through the old canal area, Nyhavn, with its picturesque houses and vessels. We continue on to see the impressive Gefion Fountain and then for a photo stop at the Royal residence, Amalienborg Palace. Finally, we stop by the landmark of Copenhagen, the statue of the Little Mermaid, known from Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale. During the tour, you can also delight in the exterior of Christiansborg Palace, as well as Rosenborg Castle, which houses the Crown Jewels. The tour will end at the hotel. The afternoon and evening are at leisure.

## Day 03: DAY 3 WEDNESDAY Copenhagen-Oslo (OVERNIGHT FERRY)

After breakfast, the morning is at leisure. In the afternoon, transfer to the pier by private coach to embark the DFDS Seaways overnight ferry. At approximately 16:30, departure to Oslo. Buffet dinner will be served on board. (Commodore Class cabins are with Queen Size beds. Clients requesting Twin beds will be accommodated in Outside 2 berth cabins – not Commodore Class. Breakfast is however still provided in Commodore class restaurant) NOTE: Passports must be shown when travelling between Denmark and Norway on the DFDS ferry. Clients travelling with E.U. identification cards only may not be allowed onboard.

## Day 04: DAY 4 THURSDAY Oslo

Breakfast on board. Arrival to Oslo at 09:45. We will meet our local guide for a 3-hour city sightseeing tour of the Norwegian capital, beautifully situated by the fjord. We will enjoy the view from the Opera house before heading off to Bygdoy Island. Here we will visit one of the most popular museums, the Viking Ship Museum (entrance included), with its three Viking vessels. The Vigeland Park, one of the major Scandinavian cultural treasures, will welcome us with sculptures by Gustav Vigeland, who dedicated his life to his artistic works. We will also pass by the Royal Palace and the main street, Karl Johan. The tour ends at the hotel, from where you will be free to explore the Viking capital at your own pace.

#### Day 05: DAY 5 FRIDAY Oslo – Lofthus

Breakfast at the hotel. Today we drive across Hoenefoss, Nesbyen surrounded by a landscape, which alternates between forests of pines and lakes to arrive in the beautiful Hallingdal Valley. Just a few kilometers away, we will visit Gol followed by Geilo, a small town surrounded by mountains and famous for



its ski resorts. Lunch stop en route (included). Afterwards the tour continues to the impressive Hardanger fjord, where we arrive at Lofthus, one of Edvard Grieg's favourite haunts, and one of the most beautiful points of the fjord. Dinner at the hotel is included.

## Day 06: DAY 6 SATURDAY Lofthus - Bergen

Breakfast at the hotel. We will depart from Lofthus and travel back along the fjord until reaching Brimnes where we will cross the splendid Hardanger fjord, by travelling across the Hardanger Bridge. The bridge has one of the longest suspension bridge spans in the world. After reaching Bruravik on the other side, we will continue by coach, along the fjord, passing by Nordheimsund and crossing through forests of birches until we arrive in Bergen. Bergen is the capital of the fjords, Norway's second largest city and one of the three university cities in the country. Early in the afternoon, we meet our local guide at the hotel, for a 2-hour panoramic sightseeing tour during which we will delight in St. Marys Church, Haakon's Hall (no entrances), the colourful and picturesque fish markets and the old Bryggen area. The evening is at leisure.

## Day 07: DAY 7 SUNDAY Bergen – Flaam - Loen

Breakfast at the hotel. Early morning departure from Bergen and travel to the stunning village of Flaam where you will have the opportunity to board the world famous Flaam railway. You may also choose to drive to the extraordinary and spectacular Stegastein Viewpoint 650 metres above Aurlandsfjord or simply stay in Flaam and enjoy the area at your own leisure. Before leaving Flaam we embark on a short ferry trip along the Sognefjord – the longest and deepest fjord in the country. In the afternoon we will drive through the impressive mountains of Gaula, to get to Loen at the end of the day. Loen is a town beautifully situated between the mountains, lakes and fjords. Dinner and accommodation in the prestigious hotel Alexandra. Optional: Flamsbana (available for pre-booking) Duration: approximately 2 hours Flamsbana is one of the steepest train lines in the world on normal tracks. The 2-hour train journey runs through fantastic nature, past the Rallar road, steep mountains, breathtaking waterfalls, 20 tunnels and offers a multitude of views. In the span of a single hour, the train takes you from the ocean level at the Sognefjord in Flam, to the mountaintop at Myrdal mountain station on Hardangervidda, 863 meters above the ocean. Optional: Stegastein Viewpoint Duration: approximately 2 hours Minimum 6 persons An unmissable sightseeing trip for any visitor to Flaam. The Stegastein Viewpoint is part of the Norwegian Scenic Route that runs from Aurland to Laerdal. This structure, which juts out 30 meters from the mountainside, 650 meters about the fjord, offers and unparalleled panorama. A more amazing view of the fjord, mountains and surrounding is hard to imagine. The traditional and family-run Hotel Alexandra will be your home for the night and this evening we recommend you enjoy a ride with the sky lift just located next to the hotel. The view is absolutely breathtaking.

Day 08: DAY 8 MONDAY Loen – Briksdal Glacier - Geiranger



Breakfast at the hotel. AM Optional: Briksdal Glacier, an arm of Europe's largest Glacier Jostedalsbreen. PRICE: 55 EUR /PERSON Available by pre-booking only Duration: approximately 3 hours After arriving at Briksdal Glacier, we will make a visit to the foot of the glacier, travelling by small motorized "Troll cars" and walking through Norwegian nature to the very snout of the glacier. Here we experience the glacier's breathtaking blue ice. After the visit, there will be free time for lunch at your own discretion. \*It is not possible to book this excursion on site. THIS EXCURSION MUST BE PRE-BOOKED WITH TRAVEL BOOKING TO ENSURE ITS IMPLEMENTATION. Passengers not joining the optional excursion, who prefer to enjoy the hotel and its facilities, will be picked up at approximately 15:00. We leave Loen and continue our journey through the wonderful Norwegian mountains to Hellesylt to embark the ferry, crossing the dramatic and ever so impressive, UNESCO's World Heritage listed, Geiranger Fjord, situated amongst lush mountains and wild waterfalls. Arrival in Geiranger and check-in. Before dinner, a special tour of the Veteran car collection of The Mjelva family is offered. A number of these beautiful cars were used to show tourists around the Geiranger area in the 1920's and 1930's and they are still in excellent condition. Dinner at the hotel is included.

#### Day 09: DAY 9 TUESDAY Geiranger

Breakfast at the hotel. This morning we travel north to explore two of the most dramatic and visited areas of Norway; The Eagle's road and Trollstigen or Troll's path. The steepest section of Road 63 between Geiranger and Eidsdal is called Ørnevegen, or "The Eagle Road", as driving along its eleven hairpin turns at 620 meters (2,030 ft) above sea level feels a little like being airborne. At the uppermost bend is the most spectacular viewpoint of the road, Ørnesvingen, offering breath-taking views over the UNESCO-listed Geirangerfjord. Continue to Linge crossing the Storfjord from Eisdal and from here to the Troll's path. Driving Trollstigen is a dramatic and exciting experience. Some places it's cut into the mountain; and some parts are built on top of stone walls. An impressive bridge in natural stone carries it across the Stigfossen waterfall. The road is a result of hard work and an impressive piece of engineering work dated 100 years back in time. His Majesty King Haakon VII opened the road in the summer of 1936. At top of Trollstigen there are viewpoints and steel walkways which allow you to get close to the dramatic mountains and waterfalls (Weather permitting as road closures can occur). Lunch stop en route (not included). In the afternoon, we arrive back at the hotel. Dinner at the hotel is included.

#### Day 10: DAY 10 WEDNESDAY Geiranger - Oslo

Breakfast at the hotel. Early morning departure by coach to the capital, Oslo. First visit to the famous point of Dalsnibba, an observation point located 1.476 meters above sea level, with a spectacular view of the famous Geiranger Fjord, UNESCO World Heritage. (The visit to Dalsnibba is subject to climate permission – therefore it cannot be guaranteed). Continue via Lom where we can admire the oldest wooden church in Norway, which dates from the 12th Century. Late in the afternoon, we arrive in Oslo and check-in at the hotel. Thereafter you will have the chance to join the group on a 2-hour guided Walking City Tour.



## Day 11: DAY 11 THURSDAY Oslo - Stockholm

Breakfast at the hotel. Depart Oslo and travel (by coach or train) to Stockholm, passing through Norwegian and Swedish forests, and through the region of Varmland, the home of many legends. Late afternoon arrival to Stockholm and check-in at the hotel. The evening is at leisure.

## Day 12: DAY 12 FRIDAY Stockholm

Breakfast at the hotel. Meet with local guide and depart by private coach for a 3-hour city sightseeing. The city of Stockholm is built on 14 islands and connected by 57 bridges. The city embraces the unique character of the 13th century Old Town and modern high-tech architecture. Stockholm's islands are bordered by Lake Mälaren in the west and the Baltic Sea in the east where the archipelago, with its 30.000 islands awaits exploration. The capital is a big city with a small town personality. Stockholm is proudly called "Beauty on Water" and a sightseeing tour, which includes a walk in the Old Town and a visit to the City Hall, makes for a memorable morning tour. Discover a city of contrasts. Go back 750 years in time and feel the medieval atmosphere of the Old Town "Gamla Stan" as you wander through its narrow streets. The seven hundred year old cathedral of Stockholm, Seat of the Archbishop, will be seen during your stroll through Old Town, where you will also get a chance to see Stortorget, where the Stockholm Blood Bath took place. An inside visit is paid to one of the city's best known symbols, the City Hall with its Blue and Golden Halls, where the great Nobel banquet is held. The tour ends at the hotel. The afternoon is at leisure. Optional: VASA Museum following regular sightseeing Duration: approximately 2 hours Includes: entrance to Vasa Museum w/guided tour, private tour guide Min 10 persons Available by pre-booking & in situ Scandinavia's top museum built around the only intact 17th century warship. Following the city tour visit the Swedish warship, Vasa, considered as one of the world's largest and the pride of the mighty Swedish navy. The Museum was built around the 17th century warship, which sank in Stockholm's inner harbour on her maiden voyage in 1628; its discovery in 1956 and subsequent salvage in 1961 is one of the most important events in marine archaeology. Painstakingly restored to its original magnificence, the Vasa represents an authentic piece of living history.

#### Day 13: DAY 13 SATURDAY Stockholm – Helsinki (OVERNIGHT FERRY)

Breakfast at the hotel. The morning is at leisure. In the afternoon, transfer to the pier by private coach to board the comfortable overnight ferry of Tallink Silja Line, sailing along the Baltic Sea, bound for Helsinki. Dinner will be served on board.

#### Day 14: DAY 14 SUNDAY Helsinki

Breakfast is served on board before arrival to Helsinki. Private transfer to the hotel followed by a panoramic sightseeing tour. Meet with your local guide for a city sightseeing of the capital of Finland, also known as "The Daughter of the Baltic Sea". The tour includes the Senate Square, the University and Lutheran



Cathedral – all displaying neoclassical architecture of the 1840's, the colourful Market Square by the sea in the South Harbour, Kaivopuisto Park and diplomatic residences, the imposing statue of Marshall Mannerheim, the Parliament Building, Finlandia Hall, the Orthodox Russian Church Uspenski and the Sibelius Monument. A visit is also made to Temppeliaukio Church – called the "Rock Church" as it is carved into solid rock (the church reserves the right not to allow the entry of visitors in case of ceremonies).

#### Day 15: DAY 15 MONDAY Helsinki - St. Petersburg

Breakfast at the hotel. The morning is at leisure. In the afternoon depart Helsinki (By private coach or by train. To be confirmed in situ) and travel to St. Petersburg, founded in 1703 by Tzar Peter the Great and one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. Also known to the world as the "Northern Capital of Russia" and "the Venice of the North", St. Petersburg was virtually unharmed by the 1930-50s Stalinist reconstruction, and its downtown dazzles the eye of the visitor with splendid palaces, stylish monuments, straight avenues, beautiful bridges and other attractions. St. Petersburg is filled with history and mystery. Arrival at St. Petersburg and transfer to the hotel for check-in.

## Day 16: DAY 16 TUESDAY St Petersburg

Breakfast at the hotel. In the morning, we will be met by a local guide for a panoramic city sightseeing tour, which will cover some of the many highlights of the city. We will drive along the Nevsky Prospect - the heart of the city, and make picture stops at the Spit of Vasilievsky Island, the Senate Square, The Peter and Paul Fortress, St. Isaac's Cathedral, the Art's Square and the Russian Museum as well as at the two magnificent churches, the "Spilled Blood" and the Nikolsky Cathedral. The city tour ends at the hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure to further explore this magnificent city and its treasures. Your tour escort will provide you with suggestions for tours. Optional: Peterhof Palace Duration: approximately 4 hours Includes: private transportation to hotel, entrance to Peterhof w/guided tour, private tour guide Min 6 persons Available by pre-booking & in situ Take the opportunity to visit the Peterhof Palace, also known as the palace of the Sea God. Here the fountains are not mere accessories: they are the essence of the place. They are the symbolic expression of the sea's dominion, the mist that rises from the waves as they surge against its shores. The world-famous palace, fountain and park ensemble of Peterhof, is an outstanding landmark of Russian artistic culture from the 18-19th Centuries. Founded in the very beginning of the eighteenth Century by Emperor Peter the Great, not far from his new northern capital St. Petersburg, Peterhof was intended to become the most splendid official royal summer residence. Credit for its creation should go to a great number of eminent architects, artists, and anonymous folk craftsmen. Its wonderful parks, 176 fountains of various forms and styles, and four cascades, majestic palaces, numerous gilded statues of ancient gods and heroes, remarkable collections of sculpture, painting and works of the minor arts make Peterhof a veritable gem of art unique in the world, often called "Capital of Fountains". After 1917 the Peterhof ensemble was taken into state custody and turned into architecture and art museum. Nowadays, due to the unforgettable beauty of its fountains, parks and palaces, Peterhof has become the most attractive suburban royal park and palace ensemble of



northern Russia's capital for numerous Russian and foreign visitors.

#### Day 17: DAY 17 WEDNESDAY St. Petersburg

Breakfast at the hotel. We meet our local guide to continue our adventure in this charming city. You will visit The State Hermitage Museum, which occupies six magnificent buildings situated along the embankment of the River Neva, right in the heart of St. Petersburg. The leading role in this unique architectural ensemble is played by the Winter Palace, the residence of the Russian Tsars that was built to the design of Francesco Bartolomeo Rastrelli in 1754-62. This ensemble, formed in the 18th and 19th Centuries, is extended by the eastern wing of the General Staff building, the Menshikov Palace and the recently constructed Repository. Put together throughout two centuries and a half, the Hermitage collections of works of art (over 3,000,000 items) presents the development of world culture an art from the Stone Age to the 20th Century. Today the Museum is creating a digital self-portrait to be displayed around the world. The tour ends at the hotel. The evening is at leisure.

## Day 18: DAY 18 THURSDAY Breakfast St. Petersburg - Departure

Breakfast at the hotel. An English-speaking representative will meet you for the Regular Transfer Service to Pulkovo Airport\*(Please see notes below for this service). \*Please note! Regular Departure Transfer Services included in the program are only available for transfer to Pulkovo Airport and only on the official end date of tour. The transfers are escorted by an English-speaking representative and are shared with other fellow passengers; therefore, minor waiting time at the airport may occur.

#### **Inclusion**

• 15 nights at hotels in standard double/twin rooms, except at Hotel Ullensvang, Hotel Alexandra & Hotel Union, where Fjord View rooms are confirmed • 1 night on board DFDS Seaways Ferry (Commodore Class Cabins – except if Twin is required, then 2-berth Outside Cabin); • 1 night on board of Tallink Silja Line Ferry (Exterior Cabin) • 17 Breakfasts – Buffet style • 1 lunch (as per program) • 6 dinners (as per program) • Bi-lingual tour escort from Day 1 to Day 18 (English & Spanish or Portuguese) • All touring by private coach, with air-condition, including all the sightseeing mentioned in the program • The long-distance bus from day 4 - 12 offers WIFI • MONOLINGUAL Guided tours in the cities of Copenhagen, Bergen, Oslo, Stockholm, Helsinki, St. Petersburg. For city tours with local guides, the group will be divided by languages, with their respective monolingual local guide. • Regular Arrival Transfer, from Copenhagen Airport\* • Train ticket for journey Helsinki-St. Petersburg, Train Allegro - unless transfer is made by private coach (to be confirmed in situ). • Porter service during ferry crossings, at railway stations in Helsinki, St. Petersburg and at hotels (excluding day 1 & 18) • Luggage allowance is 1 suitcase + 1 piece of hand luggage per person

#### **Exclusion**

Beverages & extras Visa to Russia All services not mentioned in the program

#### Note

HOTELS Villa Copenhagen Outside Cabin (Commodore Class) on DFDS Seaways Clarion Hotel the Hub Ullensvang Hotel - Fjord View room Radisson Blu Royal Hotel Alexandra – Fjord View room Hotel Union - Fjord View room Clarion Hotel the Hub Haymarket by Scandic Tallink Silja – Exterior Cabin Hotel Kamp



Corinthia Hotel St. Petersburg Regular Arrival Transfer Services included in the program are only available for transfers from the airport in Copenhagen & to the airport in St. Petersburg/Moscow and only on the published official date of beginning & end of the tour. The transfers are escorted by an English-speaking representative and are shared with other fellow passengers; therefore, minor waiting time at the airport may occur. This transfer service is not valid for passengers with pre/post nights or passengers who require private transfers – for a supplement, private transfers can be reserved for these passengers Maximum 2 children per room, sharing with parents. Due to the nature of the tour and the destination, we are unfortunately not able to accept children younger than 7 years old on these tours. Child supplement cost is available on request Cost for Optional Activity is available on request

## **Tour Dates & Pricing**