

GRAND NORDIC TOUR

15 days
14 nights

4
countries

19
objects

travel type
Cultural



DESCRIPTION

● DAY 1. Helsinki (D)

Arrival in Helsinki, the capital of Finland. Transfer from airport to your hotel. Helsinki is a modern European cultural city whose urban cosmopolitan lifestyle exists in perfect harmony with nature. Surrounded by the sea and its own archipelago, Helsinki offers visitors an endless number of possibilities. Dinner and overnight in Helsinki.

● DAY 2. Helsinki – Turku (B, L)

Breakfast at hotel. Morning Helsinki sightseeing tour takes you around the harbors, up central Mannerheim Street and by the Parliament Building, the Finlandia Hall, market square, and the Sibelius Monument and for a visit at the famous Church-in-the-Rock. Lunch at restaurant. In the afternoon departure to Turku (170km, approx. 2,5 h). Turku is an old medieval European city with it's cozy cobblestone streets, the medieval market square, the castle and the Cathedral built in the 13th century, and fortified with stone in the 14th and 15th centuries. But also it is a modern vibrant city. In the summer Turku overflows with events and festivals like tango, middle age, music, theatre, art, design and much more. Overnight in Turku.

● DAY 3. Turku - Stockholm (B, L)

Breakfast at hotel. Morning city tour of Turku. Turku city tour provides overall picture of the city's history and sights (3 h). During the tour you will walk the cobblestone streets around the Old Town and visit the Cathedral of Turku, the medieval Castle – largest in Finland, the Market square and Hall, the magnificent Main Library. Lunch at restaurant. In the afternoon transfer to the cruise harbor and cruise to Stockholm by ferry (315km, approx. 11 h.). Overnight on board of ferry.

● DAY 4. Stockholm (B)

Breakfast at ferry. Morning City tour by bus and a walking tour of Stockholm (3 h). During the excursion you will visit two squares on Riddarholmen and Söder island, walk through the Old

Town, where you will pass narrow streets and alleys of the medieval part of the city. The excursion continues through the central parts of the modern Stockholm – City Hall. Lunch at restaurant. Acquaintance of the Stockholm continues with visit to Vasa Museum (1,5 h), the Scandinavia's most visited attraction. In the large ship hall stands the warship Vasa – the only remaining, intact 17th century ship in the world. The lower rig of it has been rebuilt, complete with masts, stays and shrouds. Overnight in Stockholm.

● DAY 5. Stockholm – Uppsala – Sigtuna – Skokloster Castle – Stockholm (B, D)

Breakfast at hotel. Departure to Uppsala (71km, approx. 1 h). Morning sightseeing tour of Uppsala town starts in front of the grand Gothic Uppsala Cathedral, Scandinavia's largest and tallest cathedral from 1270. During the tour you will pass by the Uppsala University, Sweden's oldest university, which dates back to 1477, continue by the university library Carolina Rediviva with the famous Silver Bible, the Botanical Garden with the grand Linneanum and end at Uppsala Castle. Further drive to Sigtuna, Sweden's oldest town, founded in the 10th century. Today it is a cozy town of narrow streets, colorful wooden houses, plenty of restaurants and hotels, classy souvenir shops and galleries. During the sightseeing tour of the Sigtuna you will see the gothic St. Mary's church, the ruins of the ancient churches, Old Town Hall, which is Europe's smallest city hall and runestones that are scattered through the town. Visit at nearby located Skokloster Castle, a one of the main attractions in the region, former residence of one of Gustav II Adolf's generals. The castle interior from the mid 17th century has been kept completely intact. Transfer back to Stockholm. Dinner and overnight in Stockholm.

● DAY 6. Stockholm – Oslo (B, L)

Breakfast at hotel. Departure to Oslo (530km, approx 6-7 h). The route passes areas with typical Scandinavian scenery and thick forests, which will evoke the atmosphere of the fairy-tales of Trolls, lakes, as well as agricultural areas. Stop for lunch at Örebro town. After lunch visit at Örebro Castle, a medieval castle fortification, standing in the centre of modern Örebro town, surrounded by a moat. Built for defense and once was used as prison, during the Vasa era it was rebuilt as a magnificent, royal castle. Further drive to Oslo. Check-in at the hotel. Overnight in Oslo.

● DAY 7. Oslo (B, L)

Breakfast at hotel. Morning sightseeing tour of the Norwegian capital to see all of Oslo's main attractions (2 h.), such as the Royal Palace, the City Hall, the Akershus fortress, admire a magnificent view of the Oslo Fjord from Holmenkollen Hill for a birds-eye view of the city and fjord far below. Lunch at restaurant. Afternoon we will visit the Viking Ship Museum, with its three Viking vessels, the Polar exploration ship Fram. The Vigeland's Park, one of the major Scandinavian cultural treasures, will welcome us with the sculptures of Gustav Vigeland, who dedicated his life to his artistic works. Overnight in Oslo.

● DAY 8. Oslo – Myrdal – Flåm – Gudvangen – Bergen (B, L)

Breakfast at hotel. After breakfast board the train to Flåm. Norwegian Railway System is a masterpiece of Norwegian engineering is one of the world's steepest railway lines on normal gauge and has been billed as the most thrilling train ride in Scandinavia. The four hour journey is full of nature's best offerings so be ready to enjoy and shoot the picturesque memories. View pastures, waterfalls and snow-clad peaks, all nestled beautifully into the surrounding mountain side. Stop in Myrdal to see descent 2,600 feet past waterfalls, ravines and sheer cliffs. After Myrdal, change to the 1 hour journey over the world famous Flåmbana that stops on the way to let you enjoy the waterfalls. Lookout for the ferries dancing on the rocks with surreal music. Arrival in Flam. The name "Flåm" means "little place between steep mountains," surrounded by

steep mountainsides, roaring waterfalls and deep valleys, this area is a paradise for everyone looking for a one-of-a-kind experience with nature. Lunch at restaurant. Afternoon enjoy a leisurely cruise on the breathtaking still waters of the the Aurlandsfjord and Nærøfjord, the wildest and most spectacular branches of the Sognefjord. Arrival to Gudvangen. Transfer Gudvangen – Bergen. After arrival check in to your hotel and enjoy the evening at your leisure. Overnight in Bergen.

● DAY 9. Bergen (B, D)

Breakfast at hotel. After breakfast sightseeing tour of Bergen you will be introduced to the main sights of this remarkable city, view of the Bryggen area of old wooden houses that is part of the UNESCO World Heritage, as well as the traditional Fish Market. Dinner and overnight in Bergen.

● DAY 10. Bergen – Hirtshals (B)

Breakfast at hotel. Transfer to the cruise harbor and cruise to Hirtshals by ferry (570km, approx. 18,5 h). Overnight on board of ferry.

● DAY 11. Hirtshals – Skagen – Aarhus - Odense (B, D)

Breakfast at ferry. Transfer to Skagen. Trip on the Sand Worm out to Grenen beach, the tip of Denmark where the 2 seas, Skagerrak and Kattegat, meet in clashing waves. The line between two seas is a breathtaking and wondrous sight. Further drive to Aarhus, the second-largest city in Denmark with a perfectly preserved old town, located in the geographical centre of Denmark. It is modern and cosmopolitan city, but also it has a lot of quaint small-town charm. City tour of Aarhus introduces you to the main city's sights. During th tour you will drive through the city's old and picturesque streets out to the Aarhus harbor and on to the south part of the city, passing Marselisborg Palace, the summer residence of the Danish royal family, and the Marselisborg Memorial Park. Tour includes as well Aarhus University, the City Hall, Concert Hall Aarhus, the 'Den Gamle By' (The Old Town), Scandinavian Congress Center. Departure to Odense. Dinner and overnight in Odense.

● DAY 12. Odense – Roskilde – Copenhagen (B, L)

Breakfast at hotel. Morning walking tour of the old Odense, along Odense River through the old town, with narrow cobbled streets and small low-ceilinged houses. Tour includes visits to the gothic Saint Canute's cathedral, the only example of true Gothic architecture in Denmark and to the H. C. Andersen museum. The museum exhibits paper cuttings, drawings and many of his personal belongings. Further drive to Roskilde. Short walk through the old streets to the Royal Dome. Visit at the Dome and continue to the famous Viking Ship Museum just a few minutes outside the town. Lunch en route. Arival to Copenhagen. Like many other Scandinavian, Denmark's charming capital is very much a city of water, built on two main islands connected by bridges, surrounded by the sea, and interlaced with canals. This city is developing a reputation for being one of the most environmentally friendly cities in the world with a laid-back atmosphere, where people cycle along the canals. Overnight in Copenhagen.

● DAY 13. Copenhagen (B, L)

Breakfast at hotel. After breakfast morning Copenhagen city tour (approx. 3 hours) is an excellent way to see main highlights of the city including Christiansborg Palace, home to the Danish Parliament, the Old Stock Exchange, Royal Theatre, Tivoli Gardens, the colorful harbor district of Nyhavn and Amalienborg Palace – Winter residence of the Royal Family to see the changing of the Guard and followed by a stop by world-famous Little Mermaid, inspired by H. C. Andersen's fairytale. Lunch at restaurant. Free time in Copenhagen. This city is now by far the largest and most important town in Denmark, with numerous Museums and the hippest Nightlife

in the country. Enjoy a laid-back cycling or strolling along the medieval streets or take a canal tour to get the best views onboard the canal boats, visit free town of Cristiania without a doubt one of Denmark's most popular tourist attractions. Overnight in Copenhagen.

● **DAY 14. Copenhagen – Kronborg Castle – Fredensborg Palace – Frederiksborg Castle – Copenhagen (B, L)**

Breakfast at hotel. After the breakfast we leave Copenhagen and head north, for almost a whole hour, the coastline of Sweden follows us. We drive through the magnificent Danish countryside and pass the coastline to Helsingør and Kronborg Castle. It is quite easy to understand why William Shakespeare chose Kronborg Castle as the setting for his famous play 'Hamlet'. Enjoy the beautiful surroundings and feel the atmosphere taken through the Chapel and the Knights' Hall (the longest room in Northern Europe) and the dark casemates. Lunch en route. After the break, our tour continues to Fredensborg. The Queen's summer residence of Fredensborg Palace is attractively located in the middle of a lovely park, bordering the idyllic Esrom lake. The next highlight on this tour of many highlights is Frederiksborg Castle, built by King Christian IV. This pearl of history, built in magnificent Renaissance style, is now a national historical museum. It contains paintings, tapestries, porcelain, silver and furniture of great historical value. In the afternoon transfer back to Copenhagen. Overnight in Copenhagen.

● **DAY 15. Copenhagen (B)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to airport. Departure.