

# GRAND NORDIC TOUR

15 days  
14 nights

4  
countries

19  
objects

travel type  
Cultural

This two-week holiday will be just enough to immerse yourself in the Scandinavian culture and nature and appreciate what this region has to offer:

- Breathtaking Norwegian fjords
- The cultural sights of the four capitals – Copenhagen, Oslo, Stockholm and Helsinki, each special in its own way, where you will visit only those attractions worth seeing.
- See more of Scandinavia by visiting its charming provincial towns: the ancient Viking capital Sigtuna in Sweden, the town of H. C. Andersen – Odense in Denmark, Bergen in Norway, which is famous for the Bryggen area of old wooden houses that is part of the UNESCO World Heritage, and the Danish resort Skagen with a stunning beach where the Baltic and Northern seas meet.
- Visit some great castles, including the Kronborg Castle (also known as Shakespeare's 'Hamlet' castle) and the Danish Royal Residence – Frederiksborg Castle.
- Immerse yourself in a spectacular landscape during a railway journey through the Norwegian fjords, cruise the Baltic and Northern seas or drive through the thick forests reminiscent of the atmosphere of the fairy tales of Trolls.

## DESCRIPTION

### ● Day 1, Helsinki

Arrival in Helsinki, the capital of Finland. Transfer from airport to your hotel. Free time in the city. 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. Overnight: Helsinki

### ● Day 2, Helsinki – Turku

Highlights: Helsinki city tour 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. In the afternoon departure to Turku. Turku is a medieval European town with its cozy cobblestone streets, the medieval market square, the castle and the Cathedral built in the 13th century. It is also a modern vibrant city. In the summer Turku overflows with events and festivals like tango, middle age, music, theatre, art. Meals: B + L Overnight: Turku

### ● Day 3, Turku - Stockholm

Highlights: Turku city tour, cruise to Sweden During morning city tour of Turku 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. In the afternoon cruise to Stockholm by ferry (315km, 11 h.). Meals: B+L Overnight: cruise to Stockholm

#### ● Day 4, Stockholm

Highlights: Stockholm city tour, Vasa museum Morning City tour by bus and a walking tour of Stockholm. 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. Acquaintance of the Stockholm continues with visit to Vasa Museum, 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. Meals: B + L Overnight: Stockholm

#### ● DAY 5, Stockholm – Uppsala – Sigtuna – Skokloster Castle – Stockholm

Highlights: Uppsala city tour, Sigtuna city tour, Skokloster Castle Morning departure to Uppsala and a sightseeing tour of the town to see the grand Gothic Uppsala Cathedral, Scandinavia's largest cathedral. During the tour you will pass by the Uppsala University, Sweden's oldest university, visit the university library to see the famous Silver Bible and the Botanical Garden. Further drive to Sigtuna, Sweden's oldest town, founded in the 10th century. Today it is a cozy town of narrow streets and colourful wooden houses. During the sightseeing tour of the Sigtuna you will see the Gothic St. Mary's church, Old Town Hall, which is Europe's smallest city hall and runes tones that are scattered through the town. Visit at nearby located Skokloster Castle, a one of the main attractions in the region. The castle interior from the mid 17th century has been kept completely intact. Meals: B+L Overnight: Stockholm

#### ● Day 6, Stockholm – Oslo

Highlights: Örebro Castle Morning departure to Oslo. 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. En route visit of the Örebro Castle, a medieval castle fortification, standing in the centre of modern Örebro town, surrounded by a moat. Built for defence and once was used as prison, during the Vasa era it was rebuilt as a magnificent, royal castle. Meals: B+L Overnight: Oslo

#### ● Day 7, Oslo

Highlights: Oslo city tour, Vigeland's Park, Viking Ship Museum City sightseeing tour in the Norwegian capital, beautifully situated by a fjord. You will see all of the main attractions, 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. Afternoon tour continues with visits of two famous Oslo attractions: The Viking Ship Museum displays the world's two best-preserved wooden Viking vessels as well as other finds from Viking tombs dated 9th century. The Vigeland's Park is a unique sculpture park is Gustav Vigeland's lifework with more than 200 sculptures in bronze, granite and wrought iron, who also designed the architectural layout of the park. Meals: B+D Overnight: Oslo

#### ● Day 8, Oslo – Myrdal – Flam – Gudvangen – Bergen

Highlights: Flambana railway, cruise in Sognefjord After breakfast board the train to Flam. Norwegian Railway System is a masterpiece of Norwegian engineering is one of the world's steepest railway lines. The four hour journey is full of nature's best offerings – 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 Flambana 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 “Flam” means “little place between steep mountains,” surrounded by steep mountainsides, roaring waterfalls and deep valleys. In the afternoon board a ferry and enjoy a leisurely cruise on the breathtaking still waters of the the Nærøyfjord, the narrowest and most spectacular branch of the Sognefjord. Meals: B+L Overnight: Bergen

### ● Day 9, Bergen

Highlights: Bergen city tour Morning 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. Rest of the day free to discover Bergen on your own. Take the funicular railway to Mount Fløyen and enjoy the beautiful view of Bergen. Or explore the local culture, history and traditions at more than two dozen museums – the fascinating Bryggen Museum, the Hanseatic Museum, Bergenhus Fortress and Bergen Cathedral and other. Meals: B Overnight: Bergen

### ● Day 10, Bergen – Hirtshals

Highlights: cruise to Denmark Free morning in Bergen and afternoon cruise to Hirtshals by ferry (570km, 18,5 h). Meals: B Overnight: ferry to Denmark

### ● Day 11, Hirtshals – Skagen – Aarhus - Odense

Highlights: Skagen, Grenen beach – a meeting point of two seas, Aarhus city tour Skagen sits at the northernmost tip of Denmark, a sandy peninsula at the end of which the two seas of Kattegat and Skagerak meet. Today Skagen transformed from a humble fishing village into a well-known holiday destination attracting tourists with its distinctive architecture of yellow houses with red-tiled roofs, busy working harbor and long sandy beaches. Head north out of Skagen – to Grenen, the very top of Denmark. Board the “Sandworm” a tractor pulled bus, which brings you to the uttermost point of Denmark – and actually of the European continent. Further drive to Aarhus, the second-largest city in Denmark with a perfectly preserved old town. It combines a lively atmosphere of a modern and cosmopolitan city with a charm of a small town. During the city tour you will see the city’s old town and other the major sights, i.e. summer residence of the Danish royal family, the Aarhus University and the City Hall. Leave Aarhus to enjoy a free evening in another charming provincial Danish town – Odense. Meals: B + L Overnight: Odense

### ● Day 12, Odense – Roskilde – Copenhagen

Highlights: Odense city tour, H. C. Andersen museum, Roskilde city tour, Royal Dome in Roskilde, Viking Ship Museum During the morning Odense city tour you will walk along Odense River through the old town, with narrow cobbled streets and small low-ceiling houses. Tour includes visits to the Gothic Saint Canute’s cathedral 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 – UNESCO Heritage site. Visit at the Dome and continue to the famous Viking Ship Museum just a few minutes outside the town. Enjoy a free evening in Copenhagen. Meals: B+L Overnight: Copenhagen

### ● Day 13, Copenhagen

Highlights: Copenhagen city tour Morning Copenhagen city tour 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. Free time in Copenhagen. 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. Meals: B+L Overnight: Copenhagen

### ● Day 14, Copenhagen – Kronborg Castle – Frederiksborg Castle – Copenhagen

Highlights: Kronborg Castle , Fredensborg Palace, Frederiksborg Castle Today we leave Copenhagen and head north to explore "The Danish Riviera". We drive along the coastline of Sweden, 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). 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. 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. Meals: B+L Overnight: Copenhagen

### ● Day 15, Copenhagen

Breakfast at the hotel. Transfer to airport. Departure.