



Craig
travel

EXPERIENCE **NORWAY**

BOOK BY NOV 29
SAVE \$300 PP

LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN
MAY 3-20, 2025 | 18 DAYS | 43 MEALS
JOURNEY LEADER: JANET WILLIAMS

Like a crumpled ribbon, Norway stretches along the northern coast of Europe, offering some of the world's most spectacular scenery. Sheer cliffs rise steeply from the tranquil waters; freshly melted snows from hidden ice fields cascade down steep slopes, creating feathery streams of light. Tiny farmhouses cling precariously to the steep slopes, while quaint villages sit nestled in small, protected coves. Like long fingers of the sea, the fjords penetrate deep into the heartland of Norway, creating watery roadways to isolated villages.

Join us on this spring journey to the Land of the Midnight Sun on board the *ms Nordnorge* of the Hurtigruten Norwegian Coastal Cruises fleet. Originally developed to serve the remote communities of northern Norway, these specially designed vessels are cruise ships serving a dual purpose: in addition to carrying freight for the cities and villages of the far north, they allow cruisers a unique opportunity to visit these picturesque settlements while sailing the inside passage to the North Cape and beyond. We have limited space on this special departure and our early booking savings won't last long, we urge you to book early.



Our Cruise Ship • *ms Nordnorge*

"Nord-Norge", the Norwegian name for the northern part of Norway, lies mostly inside the Arctic Circle. Our ship, the *ms Nordnorge*, comfortably carries up to 590 passengers. Completely refurbished in 2016, it now features a modern, Arctic-inspired interior with three restaurants, an ice cream bar, a bakery, a sauna, a fitness room, and an observation deck with hot tubs. Onboard programming is designed to enhance your journey, introducing you to the region's nature, wildlife, and culture. The dedicated Expedition Team engages guests with interesting lectures, presentations, and activities both inside and on the sun deck. Cabins range from luxurious suites with seating areas and TVs (188-240 sq ft) to cozy interior cabins, all featuring double or twin beds plus private bathrooms for your comfort.

Journey Leader

Janet Williams, a retired educator with 35 years of teaching experience, including being a vice principal, will be leading this thrilling journey to Norway. According to her, being a tour guide is the perfect retirement activity! It combines her passion for travel and love of new



experiences and cultures with the enjoyment of sharing all of this with passengers from all across Canada. She has done extensive personal travelling and has also led successful trips on our behalf to many parts of the world. This includes Myanmar, China, Russia, Australia and New Zealand, Egypt, Tunisia, and Madagascar, as well as many parts of South America and Europe. She is looking forward to sharing this wonderful travel experience with you!

Inclusive Features

- 2 nights in Oslo at a first-class hotel as indicated or similar plus a city tour
- Rail and ferry journey from Oslo to Bergen
- 3 nights in Bergen at first-class hotels as indicated or similar
- 11-night cruise on Hurtigruten's *ms Nordnorge* sharing a twin-bedded stateroom in category selected
- 43 meals included as noted in the itinerary (B - 16 breakfasts, L - 13 lunches, D - 14 dinners)
- Six shore excursions are included: one each in Trondheim, Tromso, Kirkenes, and the North Cape, plus two in the Lofoten Islands
- Services of your journey leader and/or cruise director and local representatives
- Baggage handling at hotels and shipside for one piece of luggage per person
- Gratuities for all included services
- All current taxes, surcharges and fees

Air-inclusive rates also include:

- Return economy class airfare
- Transfers between airports and hotels
- Airport transfers in Canada or equivalent value
- All current air taxes, fuel surcharges and fees

MAY 3, Saturday

Group members from across Canada gather in Toronto for the overnight flights to Oslo.

DEPART CANADA

MAY 4, Sunday

Upon arrival we are met by a local representative and transferred to our hotel. **Clarion Hotel The Hub** (2 nights)

D

MAY 5, Monday

After breakfast, we begin our panoramic city tour featuring iconic landmarks like the Royal Palace, Parliament Buildings, National Theatre, Akershus Fortress, and the Opera House. Other highlights include the Fram Museum and Kontiki Museum, showcasing the feats of great Norwegian adventurers. Balance of day is at leisure. BL

OSLO

MAY 6, Tuesday**RAIL / CRUISE ADVENTURE TO BERGEN**

Journey through stunning scenery on a scenic rail ride from Oslo, across the mountain plateau, revealing rugged countryside views. Enjoy a picnic lunch onboard, then switch trains at Myrdal to board the famous Flam Railway. From Flam, we take a boat ride to Sognefjord, Norway's longest and deepest fjord, with a boxed dinner to enjoy during the cruise. Upon arrival in the coastal city of Bergen, we will transfer to our hotel where our luggage will be waiting for us. **Clarion Hotel Bergen** (1 night) BLD

MAY 7, Wednesday**BERGEN / EMBARK**

Today, we will explore Bergen with a city tour that features Troidhaugen, the former home of renowned Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg, and Fantoft Stave Church. Later, we will board our ship and sail the historic Viking route along the stunning Hjeltfjord, often regarded as one of the world's most scenic cruises. Sit back, take in the breathtaking views, and enjoy a delightful buffet dinner as we journey north.

Embarkation / ms Nordnorge (11 nights)

BD

MAY 8, Thursday**ALESUND / MOLDE**

We begin our day early in Nordfjord near Torvik, then sail past the West Cape toward Alesund, renowned for its Art Nouveau architecture. We will venture into Hjørundfjord, tucked away in the Sunnmøre Alps and stop at the picturesque village of Urke to admire thousand-year-old farms, the fjord, and lush mountainsides. Our final port of call is Molde, the 'City of Roses', famous for its beautiful gardens and the stunning Molde Panorama—a view of 222 mountain peaks across the fjord. BLD

MAY 9, Friday**TRONDHEIM**

Trondheim is the former capital of Norway and its third-largest city. Here, we will visit the Ringve Museum, an 18th-century manor house featuring an extensive collection of historical musical instruments arranged in thematic rooms dedicated to various composers. We will also visit the Nidaros Cathedral, Norway's largest church, dating from 1070 AD. In the afternoon, our ship will sail north, passing the ochre-coloured Kjeungskaer Lighthouse, islets, and rocky reefs before heading towards the charming town of Rorvik. BLD

MAY 10, Saturday**ARCTIC CIRCLE / LOFOTEN ISLANDS**

Early this morning, we cross the Arctic Circle, starting our Arctic adventure in Norway with a special ceremony. We then head towards Bodo, set against the backdrop of the majestic Borvasstindene mountains. As we approach the Lofoten Archipelago, keep an eye out for its majestic peaks reaching over 3,000 feet. Nestled between these towering mountains, you will find quaint fishing villages and pristine white-sand beaches. BLD

MAY 11, Sunday**TROMSO**

After a morning of coastal cruising, we arrive in Tromsø, the 'Paris of the North' and a lively university town. During our city tour we pass by the Arctic Cathedral, (if not closed for private service), boasting one of Europe's largest stained glass windows. Then we will take a cable car ride to the mountaintop for breathtaking views of the fjord landscape. As we leave Tromsø, we will pass the Lyngen Alps, which rise majestically from the sea. BLD

*Historic charm meets seaside beauty in Bergen's colorful wharf**Enjoy scenic views on the Flam Railway en route to Flam**Hurtigruten's ms Nordnorge, our home for 11 nights***MAY 12, Monday****NORTH CAPE / HONNINGSVAG**

Today, we will experience one of the trip's highlights—the North Cape, Europe's most northerly point. Boarding our coach in Honningsvåg, we will cross a stark yet captivating landscape, climbing up to the North Cape. There, we will visit the striking museum, which offers panoramic views of the Arctic Ocean. On our way back, we will make a stop at a Sami camp. In the evening we reboard our ship and sail southeast toward Kirkenes. BLD

MAY 13, Tuesday**KIRKENES**

Arriving in Kirkenes by mid-morning, we enjoy a short excursion to the Russian Borderland Museum, dedicated to the long and varied history of this region, which became quite important during the Second World War. This afternoon the ship will turn around for our southward journey back towards Bergen. BLD

MAY 14, Wednesday**HAMMERFEST**

We bid farewell to the far north and head south, passing the world's northernmost fishing villages. We will also dock at Skjervoy, an ancient trading post founded in 1896. BLD

MAY 15, Thursday**LOFOTEN ISLANDS**

We will disembark at Risøyhamn and set off on a tour of Melbu to learn about Vesterålen's nature, culture, and livelihood. Afterwards, we will join a fascinating concert at Royal Neptune Hall before rejoining our ship in Stokmarknes. This evening, we will take full advantage of the extended daylight hours with an incredible shore excursion between Svolvær and Stamsund, to marvel at the Lofoten Wall, with its sheer mountain cliffs rising 3,300 feet from the sea. BLD

MAY 16, Friday**CRUISING / CROSSING THE ARCTIC CIRCLE**

Relax on board as our route takes us along the beautiful inside passage, making brief stops at several small villages. Along the way, you may have the opportunity to purchase Norwegian handicrafts that are often sold near the ports. As we sail, we will pass Mount Torghatten with its massive hole created during the Ice Age, as well as the mythical Seven Sisters Mountains. BLD

MAY 17, Saturday**TRONDHEIM / KRISTIANSUND**

Arriving early in Trondheim, you will have free time to explore the city centre at your leisure or join an optional excursion (at additional cost) to the renowned Atlantic Road, famed for its breathtaking scenery. Later, we will dock at Kristiansund, a town spread across three islands and known as Norway's "Bacalao Capital" due to the salted cod dried on the surrounding cliffs. Our penultimate port of the day is Molde, where you can catch a glimpse of the majestic Romsdal Alps. BLD

MAY 18, Sunday**BERGEN / DISEMBARK**

As we sail, we will pass fascinating scenery, including the picturesque Nordfjord below the enormous Jostedal Glacier. In the morning, we will dock at Florø, where you can take in the harbour and marina. Leaving Florø, we will see Stabben Lighthouse, a favourite subject for photographers. We will then cross the mouth of Sognefjord and the beautiful archipelago on our way to Bergen. After disembarking in Bergen following lunch, we will check into our hotel with the remainder of the day at leisure.

Clarion Admiral Bergen or similar (2 nights) BLD

MAY 19, Monday**BERGEN**

Enjoy a day of leisure in Bergen. B

MAY 20, Tuesday**BERGEN / CANADA**

All too soon, we catch our return flights to Toronto where we make connections to our homes across Canada. B

CT Rating 2/5 - Moderately Easy: While the cruise is easy, the shore arrangements associated with this cruise include some relatively fast-paced walking tours. The journey across Norway (May 6) is a long travel day involving rail and boat travel.

REV10APR25

**Book by November 29, 2024
and save \$300 per person**

Cruise Cost in Canadian Dollars Per Person

Category/Description/Deck	Twin or Double
Polar Inside (I2) Deck 3	\$9,195
Polar Outside (L2D) Deck 3 and 5	\$9,745
Polar Outside (N2D) Deck 3	\$10,395
Polar Outside (O3) Deck 5 and 6	\$10,585
Arctic Superior (P2D) Deck 5	\$11,275
Arctic Superior (U2D) Deck 6	\$11,955

See the deck plan for full details on the various cabin categories available. Above rates are per person based on the category chosen. For single rates, ask for prices or visit our website. Please note that cabin numbers will be assigned at the time of sailing, and reservations will be confirmed by category. Cruise only costs are based on joining at the hotel in Oslo and leaving the group at the hotel in Bergen.

Estimated air add-ons per person:

Toronto	\$1,585
Ottawa / Montreal	\$1,745
Halifax / Saint John	\$1,845
Winnipeg / Thunder Bay	\$1,845
St. John's / Charlottetown	\$1,895
Saskatoon / Regina / Victoria	\$1,955
Calgary / Edmonton / Vancouver.....	\$1,895

Airfares from other gateways are available upon request and are subject to change. Refer to inclusive features for details. Prices are based on rates, taxes and fees effective April 2024 and are subject to change due to factors beyond our control. A minimum of 20 participants is required for our journey leader to accompany the group.

Insurance is NOT INCLUDED but is highly recommended. Premiums are calculated based on the individual's age, destination (country), trip length, and trip booking window – please contact our staff to receive a quote. Your coverage starts on the effective date of your confirmation of coverage. Please discuss your insurance coverage prior to booking. Check our website for the most current information. Refer to the enrollment form for terms and conditions.

Final payment is due December 19, 2024

Deposit is \$1,900pp for twin accommodation

\$2,900pp for single accommodation

To reserve your spot on this journey, you can either book online through our website or submit an enrollment form along with your deposit to:



Experiencing Our World

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