

## **GOLDEN ROUTE**

**8 nights / 9 days**  
**Start Oslo and end in Oslo**  
**Eco – Friendly**



For the Eco friendly at heart, we offer you the ideal tour; with the opportunity to meet local Norwegians. Trains, busses and ferries not forgetting the famous Hurtigruten will be your modes of transport throughout the tour. The below tour offers you a chance to really get to know and feel this unique country, its people and its beauty. Our selected hotels are guaranteed to offer you comfort and are located in the heart of the cities. With this tour you will discover beautiful places but most of all the amazing and scenic nature of Norway.

### **Day 01: Arrival in Oslo**

Welcome to Oslo, the biggest city in Norway, and its capital. Oslo has been Norway's capital from more than 700 years. The history of Oslo, dates back to the middle ages, and the first constructions dates back to the year 1000. Oslo is located at the end of the Oslo fjords, and the city is surrounded by forest. In 2007, Oslo was classified by 'readers digest' as the worlds' second best city for appreciation of nature and respect of the environment.  
Accommodation at Rica Oslo hotel

### **Day 02: Oslo – Lillehammer (train)**

Breakfast at the hotel and depart Oslo to Lillehammer by train. Lillehammer is the host town of the 1994 Winter Olympics. In Lillehammer we recommend a visit at Maihaugen Open Air Museum, which tells the story of people in the Gudbrandsdalen Valley the last 300 years, of life between the wars in the inland town of Lillehammer and of homes and domestic environments in the 20th century. Also recommendable is a visit at the Olympic Museum and the Olympic Arena (Lyngårdsbakken).  
Accommodation at Rica Victoria Hotel

### **Day 03: Lillehammer – Åndalsnes - Geiranger (train/bus)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Morning departure from Lillehammer by train. The journey heads north through the Romsdalen Valley and continue from Dombås on the spectacular Raumabanen Railway along the Rauma River all the way to Åndalsnes. The railway is 114 km long and offers amazing view of the passing scenery. One of the highlights of the tour is the Kylling Bridge, the most famous and photographed stone railway bridge in Norway.

From here continue your journey on the tourist bus towards Geiranger – the journey takes you along the Troll Road, one of Norway's best known tourist attractions. The road has 11 turns and the highest point is 858 meters above sea level. Dramatic, exciting and the ultimate nature experience - this is the best way to describe it. A short ferry crossing will take you to the Eagle Road and to Geiranger.

Accommodation at Hotel Geiranger

**Day 04: Geiranger – Geirangerfjord – Ålesund (Hurtigruten)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure from Geiranger where you will embark on the famous Hurtigruten (Coastal Steamer) and a 4 hour cruise to Ålesund. The cruise follows the well known Geirangerfjord, with its waterfalls and mountain farms situated high up on the mountainsides, in places you wouldn't believe people and livestock could survive. Arrival in Ålesund in the evening.

Accommodation at the Radisson Blu Ålesund Hotel

**Day 05: Ålesund**

Breakfast at the hotel, and enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. Ålesund was completely destroyed by a devastating town fire in 1904, and rebuilt again in the Art Nouveau style, making it a truly unique town in Europe. The town centre reveals a lively urban scene with pleasant restaurants and cafés, and the picturesque Brosundet canal with its fishing boats. Sights of interest are the Atlantic Sea-Park, one of the largest aquariums in Northern Europe and the Sunnmøre Museum, an open air museum with an impressive boat collection and more than 50 old houses in beautiful surroundings (entrances not included). The beauty of the town can be appreciated from Mount Aksla, with a breathtaking view of the town and its mountains, islands and fjords.

Accommodation at the Radisson Blu Ålesund Hotel

**\*Day 06: Ålesund – Hareid – Maløy – Florø (boat / bus / boat)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Today you will experience the West Norwegian coastal landscape as the journey continues in southern direction from Ålesund to Florø. Departure from Ålesund around noon by express boat. The 30 minute cruise will take you to Hareid where the journey continues by local bus to Måløy. The last part of today's trip will be a scenic 1 ½ hour cruise between islands and narrow sounds to Florø, Norway's most western city.

Accommodation at Quality Hotel Florø

**Day 07: Florø – Bergen (Hurtigruten)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Morning departure from Florø by Hurtigruten. The 6 ½ hour journey takes you along the west coast to Bergen. Bergen is Norway's second largest city and the world's only city surrounded by 7 mountains and 7 fjords.

Accommodation at Augustin Hotel

**Day 08: Bergen – Oslo (train)**

Breakfast at the hotel and enjoy your morning at leisure to explore Bergen, the capital of the fjords. Bergen offers many attractions and sights - Sights of interests are the Hanseatic harbour Bryggen, Fløibanen Funicular, Troidhaugen, the Fish and Flower market.

In the afternoon depart Bergen to Oslo by train. This line connects the two most important cities in Norway and the train journey "over the roof of Norway" is classed one of the most beautiful in the world, an experience on its own.

Accommodation at Rica Oslo hotel

**Day 09: Departure from Oslo**

Breakfast at the hotel and day at leisure before your departure according to your own itinerary

**Hotel description:**

The price is based on accommodation in good tourist class hotels (3-4 stars). If any of the hotels are fully booked we will find alternatives of equal standard.

**Services:**

- 8 nights hotel accommodation in shared double room with shower/WC
- 8 x Scandinavian breakfast buffet
- Trains, boats...and all public transport necessary for the realization of the tour.

**Supplements:**

If you would like to include an extra night in Bergen

*The price is valid from 15.06.2012 – 15.08.2012*

\*Important to note: The first and last week of the season, is on request as the 'Troll road' may not be open. The road is open/closed subject to weather conditions.

**Day 6: Cannot commence on a Saturday & Sunday as there is no bus service between Hareid and Måløy.**