



# Project Travel

The Norway Specialist

## ESCORTED GROUP TOUR:

### Grand Tour of Scandinavia and St Petersburg

(GT17CL)

Guaranteed Tour Departure: 20 July, 2019

**€5899 pp sharing (plus flights)**

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#### Day 1: ARRIVE COPENHAGEN (D)

Transfer\* from Copenhagen Kastrup Airport to hotel in connection with your flight arrival. **Dinner and accommodation at the Admiral Hotel.** Your tour escort will meet you at 19:45 hrs (before dinner) in the hotel lobby.

*(\*if arriving on first day of tour only. Flight schedules/availability from Ireland may require you to travel to Denmark the day before in which case an extra hotel night and airport transfers will be required and added to the price).*

#### Day 2: COPENHAGEN (B)

The day starts with a 3-hour guided panoramic tour of the city. Famous sights include the Royal Amalienborg Palace, Christiansborg Palace (Danish Parliament Buildings), Gefion Fountain, the old harbour of Nyhavn and the famous *Little Mermaid*. Afternoon free for exploring this fairytale city. Your tour escort will provide you with entrance tickets for the famous Tivoli Gardens. **Accommodation at Admiral Hotel.**

#### Day 3: COPENHAGEN – OSLO (B, D)

Morning free in Copenhagen. Afternoon transfer by coach from hotel to DFDS Seaways terminal for your overnight cruise by ferry to Oslo, departing at 16:30 hrs. Enjoy your first **Scandinavian smörgåsbord dinner** as you cruise gently up the Kattegat. **Accommodation in 2-berth outside cabins with shower/WC.** We recommend you to bring an overnight bag for this cruise, to avoid having to carry suitcases to and from your cabin.

#### Day 4: OSLO (B, D)

A delicious buffet breakfast is served as you cruise along the enchanting Oslo Fjord. Arrival in Oslo at 09:45 hrs, followed by 3 hour guided tour of the Norwegian capital, including the impressive Vigeland Sculpture Park. Afternoon free in Oslo. We can recommend a visit to the National Gallery or a stroll along the Karl Johan shopping boulevard. **Dinner and accommodation at Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel.**

#### Day 5: OSLO – ULVIK (B, L, D)

After breakfast you will visit the world-famous Viking Ships. Departure from Oslo, driving via Hønefoss along the charming Halling Valley to the tourist resort town of Gol. **Buffet lunch at a local restaurant.** After lunch cross the wild Hardanger Mountain Plateau to Fossli, stopping to view the thundering Vøringsfoss Waterfall with a vertical drop of 180 m. **Dinner and accommodation in fjord view rooms at the Brakanes Hotel,** ideally located on the banks of the Hardangerfjord.

#### Day 6: ULVIK – BERGEN (B, L)

After buffet breakfast start a scenic tour along the beautiful Hardanger Fjord, famous for its many fruit orchards, via the towns of Øystese and Norheimsund, arriving in Bergen around midday. **Lunch at a local restaurant.** Afternoon 2-hour tour of Bergen, including a visit to the popular Fish and Flower Market, the famous Bryggen Harbour with its gabled packhouses, and the old Hanseatic Quarter. You will also ride on the funicular to Mt. Fløien, for the best views of the city and fjords way below. **Accommodation at First Hotel Marin,** centrally located close to the old Bryggen harbour and within walking distance of the pedestrian shopping streets.

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### Day 7: BERGEN - FLÅM – BALESTRAND (B, D)

After breakfast departure from Bergen and drive via Dale to the town of Voss. Board the train in Voss for a ride on the beautiful Bergen Railway to the mountain station of Myrdal. From Myrdal ride on the amazing Flåm Railway, a masterpiece of engineering descending 2838 feet in less than one hour. The descent to the fjord side village of Flåm offers opportunities for photo shots of exciting waterfalls and mountain scenery. After a short rest in Flåm,



take an approx. 2-hour cruise by boat along the narrow Aurlands and Nærøy Fjords, both branches of the Sogn Fjord, the longest and deepest fjord in the world. Enjoy the spectacular scenery of cascading waterfalls, sheer mountain cliffs, snow-clad peaks, and a variety of wildlife. After disembarking in Gudvangen at the head of the Nærøy Fjord, continue by coach through the amazing Stalheim Canyon and Nærøy Valley, across the Vika Mountains to Vangsnes, for the short ferry crossing to the beautiful resort of Balestrand. **Dinner and accommodation in fjord view rooms at the Kviknes**

**Hotel**, superbly located on the banks of the fjord and surrounded by mountains.

### Day 8: BALESTRAND – A DAY IN THE FJORDS (B, D)

Day free in Balestrand, giving you the opportunity to enjoy the outstanding beauty and nature of the fjords. You may want to spend the morning relaxing on the hotel terrace, breathing in the fresh mountain air and enjoying the spectacular views. We can also recommend a visit to the local aquarium and art gallery, or you may prefer to rent a bike or rowing boat from the hotel, or even go on foot to the nearest mountains. A walking tour of the village of Balestrand, with its historic buildings and other noteworthy sites can also be arranged. **Dinner and accommodation at Kviknes Hotel.**

### Day 9: BALESTRAND – GEIRANGER (B, L, D)

After breakfast departure from your hotel by ferry from Dragsvik to Hella, followed by a scenic tour along the northern side of the Sogn Fjord to Sogndal. The tour continues by road to Fjærland, passing under the Jostedal Glacier, the largest in Europe, to the village of Skei at the northern end of beautiful Lake Jølster. Descend to the Nord Fjord, making a detour at Olden to visit the world-famous Briksdal Glacier. The journey up to the glacier will be made in open cars to give you the best views. **Lunch** will be served in a nearby mountain restaurant facing the glacier. After lunch the tour continues around the Nord Fjord via Loen and Stryn, to the picturesque village of Hellesylt. From here you board the ferry for the one hour's cruise along the spectacular Geiranger Fjord, possibly the most impressive of all the Norwegian fjords. During the cruise you will pass close by some magnificent waterfalls, such as the Bridal Veil and the Seven Sisters. **Dinner and accommodation at the excellent Union Hotel**, overlooking the Geiranger Fjord.

### Day 10: GEIRANGER - OSLO (B, L, D)

Leave Geiranger after breakfast. From the top of one of the serpentine roads, you have the opportunity to digest some amazing views of the fjord, before crossing the rugged Grotli Mountains to Lom, well known for its 14th century stave church. The tour continues via Lake Vågå, before descending the magnificent Gudbrands Valley to the popular tourist town of Lillehammer. **Stop for lunch in Lillehammer.** After lunch the journey continues alongside Lake Mjøsa, Norway's largest lake, back to Oslo. **Dinner and accommodation at Radisson Blu Plaza.**

### Day 11: OSLO – STOCKHOLM (B, L, D)

Depart by coach after breakfast towards the Swedish border. Cross into the attractive province of Värmland to arrive in the city of Karlstad on Lake Vänern, the largest in Sweden. **Lunch in Karlstad.** After lunch the tour continues through a landscape of forests and sparkling lakes to reach the Swedish capital in the late afternoon. **Dinner and accommodation at the Clarion Hotel Sign**, a first class, centrally located hotel.



### Day 12: STOCKHOLM (B)

The day starts with a 4-hour guided tour of the city. Famous sights include the Royal Palace, Parliament Buildings, the Cathedral, Royal Theatre, etc. You will also visit the enchanting Old Town (Gamla Stan) with its narrow, cobbled streets and numerous antique shops. Highlight of the tour is a visit to City Hall with its famous Blue and Golden Halls, where the Nobel Prize banquet is held each year. Afternoon free in Stockholm, with the possibility of visiting the famous Vasa Museum (pictured left) or take one of the popular canal tours. **Accommodation at the Clarion Hotel Sign.** Please Note: dinner today is not included in the programme.



**Day 13: STOCKHOLM – HELSINKI (B, D)**

Morning free to explore Stockholm. In the afternoon transfer from hotel to pier, for embarkation on a delightful overnight cruise from Stockholm. Sailing slowly through the glorious archipelago past numerous small islands. **Dinner on board. Accommodation is in 2-berth outside cabins with shower/WC.** We recommend bringing an overnight bag for this cruise, to avoid having to carry suitcases to and from the cabin.



**Day 14: HELSINKI (B, D)**

Enjoy your **buffet breakfast** as you sail into Helsinki. After disembarkation 3 hour guided tour of Helsinki. Famous sights include the Senate Square, Uspenski Cathedral, Parliament House, Finlandia Hall, Sibelius Park & Monument, Underground Temple, and much more. Afternoon free in Helsinki. **Dinner and accommodation at Haven Hotel**, a first-class hotel conveniently located in the centre of Helsinki.

**Day 15: HELSINKI - ST. PETERSBURG (B, L, D)**

Breakfast followed by transfer by coach from hotel to railway station. Departure from Helsinki on the train "Allegro" for St. Petersburg. Packed lunch on train. Afternoon arrival in St. Petersburg. Coach transfer from railway station to hotel combined with 1-hour guided boat cruise along the Neva River and visit at St. Isaac's Cathedral. **Welcome dinner** including a shot of vodka and a glass wine, and **accommodation at the Ambassador Baltic Club Hotel**, a four star hotel located in the city centre, near the famous Mariinsky Theatre.



**Day 16: ST. PETERSBURG (B, L, D)**

Buffet breakfast at hotel. The day begins with a transfer to Neva River cruise harbour for a cruise by hydrofoil to Peterhof, including the Grand Palace and Lower Parks with fountains. **Lunch at local restaurant.** After lunch, tour of the world-famous Hermitage Art Museum and the State Rooms of the Winter Palace. Return to hotel. **Dinner and accommodation at Ambassador Hotel.**

**Day 17: ST. PETERSBURG (B, L, D)**

Buffet breakfast at hotel and transfer to town of Pushkin followed by a visit to Catherine's Palace including the famous Amber room. **Lunch at a local restaurant.** After lunch 3 hour tour of the city by coach with local English-speaking guide. St. Petersburg is a city of outstanding architectural beauty, famous for its magnificent

palaces, cathedrals, fountains and bridges and the tour includes sights as the Square of Arts, the Russian Museum, the Cathedral of Our Saviour on the Spilled Blood, Griboedov canal, Nevsky prospect, the Palace Square with the Winter Palace, the spit of the Basil's Island, the Menshikov Palace, the Senate Square, and the Bronze Horseman. A visit will be paid to Peter & Paul Fortress. This evening you will be taken to see a colourful Russian folklore show at the Nikolaevsky Palace, with snacks during the intermission. **Dinner at the Dostoevsky Restaurant or similar. Accommodation at Ambassador Hotel.**

**Day 18: ST. PETERSBURG DEPARTURE (B)**

Your tour ends after breakfast at the hotel with transfers to St. Petersburg Airport to connect with homeward flights. **Please note:** depending on flight schedules and availability, it may be necessary to add an overnight in a connecting Scandinavian city on your way back to Ireland which will be added to the cost.

## Price Includes:

### 17 nights Copenhagen – St Petersburg

- \* English speaking Robinson Scandinavia tour manager throughout.
- \* 15 nights' accommodation including daily 3-course or buffet dinner (except on second evening in Copenhagen, in Bergen and second evening in Stockholm) and buffet breakfast, in centrally located first class hotels, all rooms with private facilities.
- \* 7 lunches on days 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 16 & 17, (plus 1 packed lunch on day 15 on train to St Petersburg).
- \* Overnight cruise Copenhagen – Oslo, incl. accommodation in 2-berth outside cabin with shower/WC, buffet dinner and buffet breakfast on board.
- \* Entrance to Tivoli Gardens day 2.
- \* 3 hour guided tours of Copenhagen, Oslo, Helsinki, and 4 hour tour of Stockholm.
- \* Visit to the Viking Museum of Oslo and Stadshuset (City Hall) of Stockholm.
- \* Panorama tour of Bergen incl. ride on the Bergen Funicular to Mt. Fløyen.
- \* Ride on the Bergen and Flåm Railways, Voss-Myrdal-Flåm.
- \* Approx. 2-hour cruise on Sogn and Nærøy Fjords, and 1-hour cruise on the Geiranger Fjord.
- \* Excursion by open car to Briksdal Glacier.
- \* All internal ferry crossings in Norway.
- \* Overnight cruise Stockholm - Helsinki, incl. accommodation in 2-berth outside cabins with shower/WC, dinner and buffet breakfast on board.
- \* Train Helsinki – St Petersburg, including coach transfers between hotels and railway stations.
- \* Complete programme in St Petersburg, including 3-hour city tour, visit to Peter & Paul Fortress, St Isaac's Cathedral, Hermitage Museum and Winter Palace, Pushkin, 1-hour guided canal tour, plus folklore show at Nikolaevsky Palace incl. snacks during intermission and dinner at local restaurant.
- \* Hydrofoil from St Petersburg to Peterhof, incl. entrance to Lower Parks and Grand Palace
- \* Luggage assistance at all hotels while with the group.
- \* Transportation by modern deluxe coach with reclining seats and seatbelts.
- \* Transfers airport/hotel on first and last days of the tour. Transfers to/from a different airport than the one mentioned in the tour programme may incur a supplement.

### Not Included:

- \* International flights from Ireland from €495 pp including tax and one 20kg checked bag per person.
- \* Single supplement €1590.
- \* Russian visa application (available from Russian Embassy in Dublin. Advice and visa support letter supplied by Project Travel).
- \* Personal Expenses.
- \* Any additional hotel nights required to fit with flight schedules to Copenhagen or from St Petersburg.
- \* [Travel Insurance](#).
- \* Gratuities.

*Prices correct at time of print (Sep 2018).*

*Subject to availability at time of booking. E&OE.*

*Limited spaces, book now.*

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**Tel: (01) 210 8391**  
**[www.Project-Travel.ie](http://www.Project-Travel.ie)**

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