

# **Itinerary**

# 15 Day Svalbard Signature Voyage

\*IMPORTANT NOTE: Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this itinerary.

#### Day 1: Arrive Bergen, Norway ~ Embark Ship

Begin your adventure in the vibrant city of Bergen, nestled on Norway's stunning west coast. Known as "The City of Seven Mountains", Bergen is surrounded by dramatic peaks and rich Scandinavian history. Start your day wandering the historic Vågen Bay and exploring the charming, UNESCO-listed Bryggen quarter filled with cobblestone streets and boutique shops. Stroll across to the lively fish market, where you can sample fresh, local seafood prepared for visitors.

Head to the comfortable guest lounge at Bergen Terminal before boarding your ship. Here, chat with our staff about optional excursions, or simply relax before embarkation. Board the MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol and meet the friendly Coastal Experience Team, ready to guide you on your Norwegian coastline journey. Settle into your cabin, get to know your fellow travellers, and enjoy your first dinner onboard as the colourful seafront buildings fade into the distance while you sail into the Norwegian Sea.

**MEALS:** Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

## Day 2: Åndalsnes

Today, arrive in the charming alpine village of Åndalsnes, nestled where the Rauma River meets the scenic Romsdalsfjord. Marvel at the dramatic mountains towering above the town and lining the breathtaking Romsdalen Valley. Don't miss Trollveggen, the striking Troll Wall with its sheer 1,000-metre drop, popular with adventurers the world over.

Embrace the Norwegian love of friluftsliv—outdoor living—with activities such as hiking to a local viewpoint or taking it easy on a relaxing ride aboard the Romsdal Gondola, enjoying spectacular panoramic views. Alternatively, travel the famous winding Trollstigen Pass by bus, and experience one of Norway's true engineering wonders. If you're keen for another unique experience, join the Golden Train journey on the Rauma Railway—awarded Europe's most scenic train ride by Lonely Planet.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

Day 3: Træna

Today, step ashore in Træna, Norway's oldest fishing community, perched on the Helgeland coast right on the edge of the Arctic Circle. This unique archipelago is made up of about 500 islands, but only four are inhabited year-round, offering an exclusive insight into remote Norwegian life.

Enjoy a special day as the village opens just for our group, giving you access to the church, the Petter Dass chapel, and the local museum. Choose from a range of optional activities, like hiking scenic trails, taking a cultural walk, or unwinding in a sauna followed by a refreshing dip in the Arctic Ocean. Later, back on board, celebrate crossing the Arctic Circle with a traditional ceremony as the voyage continues north.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

#### Day 4: Reine

Today, discover the breathtaking Lofoten Islands, famous for dramatic mountains rising steeply from the sea as you approach from the south. Dock in Reine, a picture-perfect fishing village that's been welcoming visitors since 1743 and is often called Norway's most photographed spot. Here, red rorbuer cabins are perched on islands beneath jagged peaks, mirrored beautifully in the calm waters below.

If you fancy exploring further, join an optional excursion to Å, located at the archipelago's western tip. This wonderfully preserved village is home to the Norwegian Fishing Village Museum, where you can learn about 250 years of fishing heritage in Lofoten.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

#### Day 5: Tromsø

Arrive this morning in vibrant Tromsø, the urban gateway to the Arctic and a hub of history, culture, and stunning scenery. With a whole day to explore, stroll among impressive architecture, sample modern eateries, or simply soak up the lively city atmosphere.

Choose from a variety of optional excursions—uncover local culture and polar history on a city walk or take a scenic bus tour around town. Visit the iconic Arctic Cathedral, famous for its enormous multi-coloured stained-glass window, or take the Fjellheisen Cable Car up Storsteinen Mountain for magnificent views over the city, nearby mountains, and majestic fjords.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

#### Day 6: Honningsvåg

Arrive mid-morning in Honningsvåg, the northernmost city on mainland Norway and gateway to the iconic North Cape. Take your pick of optional excursions—perhaps a scenic bus or thrilling quad ride out to the dramatic plateau, a guided hike with your Coastal Experience Team, or a fascinating introduction to life at

Admire views from the North Cape's soaring cliffs, perched 307 metres above the crashing Barents Sea and not far from the North Pole. As you sail from Honningsvåg, enjoy sweeping views of the plateau from the ship before heading deeper into Arctic waters, ready for the next stage of your adventure.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

#### Day 7: Bjørnøya

Spend today at sea, crossing the Barents Sea as you leave civilisation behind and journey toward the wilds of Svalbard. Enjoy a fascinating lecture on Svalbard's unique Arctic desert, and watch for special tastings curated by our talented chefs on deck.

Take the chance to relax and make the most of the ship's facilities—unwind in the sauna, use the fitness room, or browse the library for insights into Arctic nature and history. Attend an afternoon briefing about the important rules for visiting Ny-Ålesund to help protect the local ecology.

Reflect on your trip so far, sort through photos, and share your favourites with fellow guests using the onboard Cameralla app.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

### Day 8: Longyearbyen

Arrive today in the remote Svalbard archipelago, journeying up to Spitsbergen, its largest island where magnificent mountains ripple over the Arctic tundra. Breathe in the crisp air at over 78°N, less than 1,320 kilometres from the North Pole, and marvel at landscapes gleaming beneath the summer sun.

In the afternoon, dock in Longyearbyen on the banks of Isfjord. Once a coal-mining outpost, it's now the largest settlement in Svalbard and home to adventurers, scientists, and the famed Global Seed Vault. Take some time to stroll through the town's galleries, pubs, restaurants, brewery, or visit the North Pole Expedition Museum. Choose from a range of optional excursions: explore the wild surroundings by e-bike, open boat, or wagon pulled by dogs, try dog sledding on wheels, or join a fossil hike or wilderness experience at Camp Barentz.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

## Day 9: Ny-Ålesund

Today brings you to Ny-Ålesund, perched at the tip of the Brøgger Peninsula on the shores of Kongsfjord—one of the world's most northerly settlements. Once a coal mining hub, Ny-Ålesund is now a vital centre for Arctic research, with over a hundred scientists gathering here each summer from more than ten countries.

Spend your time wandering the settlement, visiting the local museum, browsing for souvenirs, or sending a postcard home from the tiny post office. Be sure to take in the impressive views of Kongsfjord, with its giant glaciers, and keep watch for wildlife—walruses on the shore, migratory birds, reindeer, foxes, or even the elusive polar bear along the coast.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

#### Day 10: At sea

Today, bid farewell to Svalbard and Spitsbergen as you cruise south toward mainland Norway. Relax on board—if the weather's fine, soak up some sun on deck and watch for whales, dolphins, and porpoises slicing through the Arctic waters.

Later, enjoy an engaging lecture about local history and wildlife from the Coastal Experience Team, then savour delicious Norwegian produce from the ship's Coastal Kitchen dining concept. There's time to curl up with a book in the lounge or share stories and memories with fellow travellers in the bar as you reflect on your Arctic adventure so far.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

#### Day 11: Senja

After a relaxing day at sea, arrive this morning back on mainland Norway. Tromsø is the first stop, where the ship delivers Svalbard cargo and picks up goods for southern ports before continuing to Senja. One of the country's biggest islands, Senja is often dubbed 'mini-Norway' for its varied scenery—from sandy beaches and bright turquoise seas to rugged mountains, pine forests, and rolling birch-covered hills.

Today, disembark in Torsken, a charming fishing village. Choose how you want to explore: set off by bus, e-bike, or on foot, or join an optional wildlife safari for a unique fjord experience.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

#### Day 12: Stokmarknes

Begin your day in Stokmarknes, a historic town famous as the birthplace of the original Hurtigruten Norwegian Coastal Express. Visit the Hurtigruten Museum and step inside the beautifully preserved MS Finnmarken, encased in glass right on the waterfront—a real treat for maritime history lovers.

After exploring Stokmarknes, sail through stunning Raftsundet and Trollfjord en route to the majestic Lofoten archipelago. Spend the afternoon discovering dramatic green cliffs reaching skyward, and exploring Svolvær, the heart of Lofoten, filled with shops and cosy restaurants. Select from fantastic local excursions—try your hand at fishing, paddle a kayak, or simply soak up the scenery by foot or bus.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

#### Day 13: Bessaker

Cruising south, reach the famous Helgeland Coast, known for striking mountains and legends woven into local folklore. Today, the ship bases in the coastal village of Bessaker, offering a friendly, small-town atmosphere and scenic views of Norway's rugged coastline. Spend your time wandering the village or join an optional excursion, such as a RIB cruise for an up-close encounter with local wildlife and dramatic seascapes.

Near Bessaker, don't miss the chance for a guided visit to the remarkable Torghatten Mountain. Walk at a gentle pace to view the natural hole right through its centre—a geological wonder. At the summit, pause to enjoy panoramic views of island-studded seas stretching into the distance, perfect for capturing memorable photos.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

## Day 14: Alesund & Hjorundfjord

Today, the ship makes a short stop in Ålesund, renowned for its striking Art Nouveau architecture and scenic peninsula location beneath Mount Aksla. If joining the overland excursion, disembark for a journey through the majestic Sunnmøre Alps and into the hidden gem of Hjørundfjord, surrounded by peaks towering 1,700 metres high. The tranquil village of Sæbø sits on the fjord's edge—take time to explore at your own pace and perhaps catch a complimentary concert in the local church.

Optionally, head out on a guided walk through the beautiful Urke Valley for more spectacular alpine landscapes. As the voyage nears its end, gather with new friends over a special farewell dinner celebrating your Svalbard Line adventure.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol

#### Day 15: Arrive Bergen ~ Disembark Ship

This morning, arrive back in beautiful Bergen where your unforgettable voyage began. It's time to disembark, but not before sharing fond farewells with your fellow travellers and the crew who looked after you aboard MS Trollfjord or MS Midnatsol.

Take with you lasting memories from this iconic journey along Norway's coast—whether you've been kayaking, hiking, fishing, or cycling amid breathtaking scenery. From North Cape and Helgeland to Lofoten, Senja, Hjørundfjord, Tromsø, Bjørnøya, Longyearbyen, and Ny-Ålesund, each destination will linger with you for years to come.

**MEALS:** Breakfast

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Upon arrival in Bergen, you'll will disembark and make your own way to your hotel. The remainder of the day is yours to enjoy at leisure, allowing you to explore this captivating city further. Bergen, the second-largest city in Norway and gateway to the fjords, offers a rich history dating back to its founding in 1070 AD. Its architectural charm reflects the influence of the prosperous 14th-century German trading organization, the Hanseatic League.

**MEALS:** Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Bergen or similar

### **DAY 16: Bergen ~ Voss**

By 6:30am, please have your large bag that you want transferred to Oslo ready at the reception. After enjoying breakfast, head to the Bergen train station to begin the first part of your Norway in a Nutshell extension. Board the train and relax as you journey through the stunning Norwegian landscape, taking in scenic views of fjords, mountains, and picturesque villages.

Upon arrival in Voss, you will make your own way to your hotel. After checking in, the rest of the day is yours to enjoy at your leisure. You can explore the charming town of Voss, known for its beautiful surroundings and outdoor activities. Whether you choose to browse local shops, enjoy a meal at a cosy restaurant, or simply relax and soak in the serene atmosphere, your day in Voss will be a delightful experience.

**NOTE:** Your luggage will be transferred directly to the hotel in Oslo and stored there until your arrival. Since you will not have access to this bag during the extension, please ensure all your necessary items are packed in your overnight bag.

**MEALS:** Breakfast

**OVERNIGHT:** Park Hotel Vossevangen, Voss or similar

## DAY 17: Voss ~ Gudvangen ~ Flåm

After breakfast, make your way to the Voss bus terminal. Here, you will board a comfortable bus bound for the picturesque village of Gudvangen. The scenic bus ride will take you through stunning landscapes, providing a preview of the natural beauty that awaits you.

Upon arriving in Gudvangen, you will be dropped off conveniently close to the ferry terminal. From here, embark on an unforgettable cruise along the UNESCO-listed Nærøyfjord. As you glide through this breathtaking fjord, marvel at the towering mountains, cascading waterfalls, and quaint villages dotting the landscape. The serene beauty and majestic views make this cruise a highlight of your journey.

Once you arrive in Flåm, make your own way to your hotel to check in. After settling in, you have the rest of the day to explore at your own pace. Spend your time leisurely exploring the charming village of Flåm, visiting local shops, or simply relaxing and taking in the stunning fjord views. Enjoy the tranquility and natural splendor of this beautiful destination.

**MEALS:** Breakfast

**OVERNIGHT:** Flåmsbrygga Hotell, Flåm or similar

#### DAY 18: Flam ~ Flam Railway ~ Mydal ~ Oslo

After breakfast, make your way to Flåm Train Station to begin the first leg of your journey on the spectacular and world-famous Flåm Railway. This incredible train ride will take you through some of Norway's most stunning landscapes, offering views of deep ravines, cascading waterfalls, and picturesque fjord scenery.

As the train winds its way up the mountains, you'll marvel at the engineering feat that created this steep and scenic railway. The journey includes a brief photo stop at the breathtaking Kjosfossen waterfall, where you can capture the beauty of this natural wonder.

Upon reaching Myrdal, you'll transfer to the Bergen Railway, one of the best train journeys in the world, for the next leg of your trip. This segment of your journey takes you from the mountains to the vibrant city of Oslo. The train will traverse Northern Europe's highest stretch of railway, passing through the wild mountain terrain of the Hardangervidda plateau and offering views of the Hardangerjøkulen glacier.

As you descend into the wooded valleys and open countryside, the scenery gradually changes, showcasing Norway's diverse landscapes. Enjoy the comfortable and relaxing ride as you approach Oslo.

Once you arrive in Oslo, make your way to your hotel to check in where you can collect you luggage. After settling into your accommodations, you have the rest of the day to spend at your leisure. Explore the vibrant city of Oslo, take a stroll along the waterfront, visit local shops and cafes, or simply relax and unwind after your scenic journey. The day is yours to enjoy the capital's rich culture and attractions at your own pace.

**MEALS:** Breakfast

**OVERNIGHT:** Comfort Hotel Grand Central, Oslo or similar

## **DAY 19: Depart Oslo**

After breakfast, check out of your hotel where services end. If you prefer to extend your stay and explore more of what Oslo has to offer, MyHoliday2 can arrange additional nights for you.

**MEALS:** Breakfast