



Itinerary

17 Day Grand Nordic Lights: Cruise & Tour with Flights

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

Day 1: Depart Australia

Today you will depart Australia for your flight to Europe.

IMPORTANT FLIGHT NOTE:

Depending on airline schedules, you may be required to depart on Day 0.

Flights may transit through the Middle East. Airlines may include Emirates, Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways or similar.

If you do not wish to travel with a specific airline or via a specific region, please advise MyHoliday2 in your booking notes.

Alternative flights are subject to availability and may incur surcharges, longer travel times or less direct routing.

MEALS: In-flight

OVERNIGHT: In-flight

Day 2: Arrive Oslo, Norway

Upon arrival in Oslo, make your own way to your hotel and check in. The remainder of the day is yours to relax after your flight or begin exploring Norway's vibrant capital at your own pace.

MEALS: In-flight

OVERNIGHT: Comfort Hotel Grand Central, Oslo or similar

Day 3: Oslo ~ Embark Ship

After breakfast, check out of your hotel. You may wish to leave your luggage with reception while you enjoy some more sightseeing before boarding your cruise.

Spend the morning exploring Oslo, Norway's vibrant capital, shaped by the sea, surrounding forests and modern Scandinavian design. Stroll along Karl Johans gate toward the Royal Palace, visit the striking Oslo Opera House and walk across its rooftop for sweeping fjord views, or discover contemporary Nordic

art at the National Museum.

Along the waterfront, the lively cafés and restaurants of Aker Brygge offer a welcoming introduction to modern Oslo, while the medieval Akershus Fortress stands proudly overlooking the harbour.

Later, collect your luggage and make your own way to the port. Step aboard MS Trollfjord, your home for the journey north, and settle into your cabin. You'll also meet the Expedition Team, whose presentations, activities and expert insights will bring Norway's coastal history, nature and communities to life throughout your voyage.

As evening falls, relax in the panoramic lounge and watch Oslo's sparkling city lights slowly disappear into the distance as your Arctic adventure begins.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: MS Trollfjord

Day 4: At Sea

Today is your opportunity to settle into the relaxed rhythm of life on board MS Trollfjord. Take some time to explore the ship and enjoy the flavours of Norway's Coastal Kitchen, where ingredients sourced from communities along the coast inspire the menus served throughout the restaurants and bar.

Outside, Norway's southern coastline unfolds in a peaceful procession of skerries, sheltered harbours and low-lying islands. Watch the scenery drift past from the open deck, relax in the ship's spacious two-storey lounge and bar, or unwind in the panoramic sauna as the sea and sky blend together on the horizon.

Throughout the day, the Expedition Team will host lectures and presentations that provide insight into the history, nature and coastal communities you will encounter during the journey north.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: MS Trollfjord

Day 5: Lysefjord & Stavanger

Today, you'll wake to breathtaking views of Lysefjord, one of Norway's most dramatic natural landscapes. Stretching for 42 kilometres, the fjord is home to the famous Preikestolen, or Pulpit Rock, which rises high above the shimmering water below.

Further along the fjord, Kjerag mountain reaches even greater heights. As you sail through this spectacular region, keep watch for cascading waterfalls, mountain goats and Kjeragbolten, the enormous glacial boulder wedged between two rock faces high above the fjord.

Later, you'll arrive in Stavanger, a colourful waterfront city known for its lively cultural scene and international atmosphere. Explore the charming streets of Gamle Stavanger, home to one of Northern Europe's best-preserved collections of wooden houses, or visit Stavanger Cathedral, Norway's oldest cathedral, dating back to the 12th century.

You may also choose to visit the Norwegian Petroleum Museum, browse the city's boutique shops or simply relax with a drink along the waterfront.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: MS Trollfjord

Day 6: Ålesund

After breakfast, you'll arrive in Ålesund, a picturesque town set on a small peninsula and surrounded by mountains, islands and the sea. The town is renowned for its distinctive Art Nouveau architecture, with colourful buildings, decorative details and elegant rounded spires inspired by the style that was popular in the early 1900s.

For sweeping views across Ålesund and the surrounding archipelago, make your way to the nearby Mount Aksla viewpoint. From the top, you can admire the town's waterfront setting, neighbouring islands and dramatic mountain scenery.

You may also choose to visit the Atlantic Sea Park, Norway's first marine science centre and one of Northern Europe's largest saltwater aquariums. The centre is home to seals, otters, crabs and a variety of marine species, as well as Humboldt penguins.

Optional excursions may also be available, allowing you to explore Ålesund on foot or by bus while a local guide shares the town's history, architecture and hidden stories.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: MS Trollfjord

Day 7: Rørvik

Today, you'll arrive in the welcoming fishing port of Rørvik, set among the thousands of islands, islets and reefs that make up the scenic Vikna archipelago. Although small in size, Rørvik has a rich history shaped by the sea, fishing and coastal trade.

During your visit, you may choose to explore the town's museums and discover stories spanning more than 10,000 years. Learn how the Ice Age shaped the surrounding landscape, step inside carefully preserved 19th-century interiors and gain insight into the development of Norway's modern salmon industry.

In the afternoon, MS Trollfjord continues north through the Vikna archipelago, a maze of around 6,000 islands, rocky outcrops and reefs. Despite its northern location, the region enjoys a mild maritime climate, allowing local gardens to bloom with plum and apple blossoms in spring.

As evening falls, you'll leave the Helgeland coast behind and cross the Arctic Circle, marking an exciting milestone on your journey north.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: MS Trollfjord

Day 8: Lofoten Islands ~ Svolvær & Stokmarknes

Today, you'll explore the spectacular Lofoten Islands, where towering mountains rise dramatically from the sea and colourful fishing villages sit along sheltered harbours. This striking island chain is widely regarded as one of Norway's most beautiful destinations.

MS Trollfjord will dock in Svolvær during the morning. Located on the island of Austvågøya, Svolvær is the largest town in the Lofoten archipelago and offers a variety of shops, restaurants, galleries and cafés to explore. From town, you can also admire views of the distinctive Svolvær Goat, a nearby mountain named for its twin peaks, which resemble a goat's horns.

A selection of optional excursions may be available, including winter fishing, kayaking along the rugged coastline or a scenic coach tour exploring Lofoten's landscapes, history and coastal communities.

Later, you'll spend time in Stokmarknes, the birthplace of the Original Coastal Express. It was here in 1893 that shipping pioneer Richard With founded the service that would become Hurtigruten. On the waterfront, you can see the historic MS Finnmarken, built in 1956 and displayed inside the glass-fronted Hurtigruten Museum like a ship in a bottle.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: MS Trollfjord

Day 9: Disembark Tromsø ~ Lyngen Alps ~ Kilpisjärvi, Finland

Today, you'll arrive in Tromsø, known as the Arctic Capital and the gateway to Norway's far north. Located well above the Arctic Circle, this lively city is surrounded by snow-covered mountains and is renowned for its winter adventures and opportunities to see the Northern Lights.

After disembarking MS Trollfjord, meet your tour manager and fellow travellers before beginning your land journey by private coach. Travel east through the dramatic Lyngen Alps, crossing picturesque fjords aboard local ferries and following one of Norway's most scenic routes along the shores of Lyngfjord, where steep mountains plunge directly into the sea.

At Skibotn, the landscape opens as you continue toward the Finnish border. After crossing into Finland, travel through the peaceful Arctic wilderness to Kilpisjärvi, a small resort village surrounded by mountains, lakes and vast open landscapes.

Upon arrival, settle into your hotel and enjoy a welcome dinner with your fellow travellers.

Please note: Travel through the Lyngen Alps is subject to weather and road conditions. An alternative route may be used if required.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Santa's Hotel Rakka, Kilpisjärvi, or similar

Day 10: Kilpisjärvi - Border of Three Countries Safari

Today's Arctic adventure will depend on your departure date and the seasonal conditions in Kilpisjärvi.

For departures in October and November, visit a traditional Sámi reindeer farm operated by the Tornensis family, one of the region's oldest reindeer-herding families. Learn about their centuries-old way of life, meet the reindeer in their corral and help feed them their favourite lichen. You'll also see young reindeer in training alongside experienced sled reindeer.

Afterwards, gather inside a cosy log cabin around an open fire. Enjoy homemade biscuits and warm berry juice while listening to stories about Sámi culture, reindeer herding and life in the Arctic. The experience also includes a tasting of grilled reindeer meat.

For the December departure, embark on the Border of Three Countries Safari. Travel by snowmobile or sleigh across a frozen lake and through snowy birch forests to Koltavuoma, where the borders of Finland, Sweden and Norway meet. At the distinctive yellow border cairn, you'll have the rare opportunity to stand in three countries within moments. Thermal clothing, guiding, photographs and a warm drink with a pastry are included.

The afternoon is yours to relax or explore the surrounding Arctic wilderness. After dinner at the hotel, join your tour manager in search of the Northern Lights, weather permitting.

Please note: Northern Lights sightings are a natural phenomenon and cannot be guaranteed.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Santa's Hotel Rakka, Kilpisjärvi, or similar

Day 11: Kilpisjärvi ~ Levi

After breakfast, continue southeast by private coach, travelling along the Swedish-Finnish border through remote Arctic landscapes toward Muonio and Levi.

In Levi, you'll spend two nights in a private Aurora Cabin, also known as a glass igloo. Located just outside the small ski resort village and away from light pollution, your accommodation offers the chance to watch the Northern Lights from the comfort of your own bed, weather permitting.

After checking in, enjoy dinner at the hotel restaurant before setting out on an Aurora Hunting safari by bus. Your route will be selected according to the evening's weather and aurora conditions, travelling north toward areas such as Jerisjärvi or the Ounasjoki River.

Stops will be made along the way for photographs before continuing to the shores of Lake Äkäslompolo, where you can experience the stillness of the Arctic night. On especially calm evenings, you may even hear the faint whisper of the aurora overhead.

Please note: The Northern Lights are a natural phenomenon and sightings cannot be guaranteed.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Northern Lights Village, Levi (Aurora Cabin / Glass Igloo)

Day 12: Levi - Husky Safari

Today is dedicated to one of Lapland's most enthusiastic residents – the huskies. Your experience will depend on your departure date and the seasonal conditions in Levi.

For departures on 8 October, 22 October and 5 November 2027, visit a local husky farm for a wagon ride through the forest. A professional musher will guide the eager dogs along a four-kilometre route, lasting approximately 20 to 30 minutes, with up to four guests seated in each wagon.

After the ride, gather inside a traditional kota hut and enjoy warm berry juice while learning about the huskies and life at the farm. Please note that the wagon ride is weather dependent. If temperatures rise above approximately 7°C, the dogs cannot safely run and the experience will be replaced with a farm visit.

For departures on 19 November and 3 December 2027, set out on a traditional five-kilometre husky sleigh safari through Levi's snow-covered forests. Each two-person sled is driven by one guest, offering a hands-on Arctic adventure as your husky team races along frozen trails through the quiet winter landscape.

The remainder of the day is yours to relax or join an optional reindeer or snowmobile safari, subject to weather and local conditions. Dinner will be served at the hotel restaurant.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Northern Lights Village, Levi (Aurora Cabin / Glass Igloo), or similar

Day 13: Levi ~ Kemi - Icebreaker

Upon arrival in Kemi, check into the remarkable Seaside Glass Villas at Experience 365. Set along the frozen coastline, these unique villas feature glass walls and ceilings, offering sweeping views of the surrounding winter landscape and, weather permitting, the Northern Lights.

For departures on 8 October, 22 October, 5 November and 19 November 2027, enjoy a private guided visit aboard the historic Icebreaker Sampo. Built in 1960, the vessel once assisted merchant ships and supported rescue operations in harsh Arctic conditions before becoming one of Finland's most iconic winter attractions.

Following the guided tour, experience sea floating in the icy waters of Bothnian Bay while wearing a full-body survival suit designed to keep you warm and buoyant.

For the 3 December 2027 departure, embark on a three-hour Arktis Icebreaker cruise, weather permitting. Watch as the powerful vessel breaks through the sea ice before taking the opportunity to float safely in the icy water while wearing a waterproof survival suit.

After your Arctic experience, return to the Seaside Glass Villas for dinner and an overnight stay on the coast.

Please note: The minimum height requirement for sea floating is 120 centimetres.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Experience 365 / Seaside Glass Villas, Kemi, or similar

Day 14: Kemi ~ Helsinki

After breakfast, it's time to leave the Arctic wilderness behind and begin your journey south to Helsinki. Travel by private coach to Kemi railway station, arriving in time to board your southbound train.

Departing in the mid-morning, relax as the train carries you through Finland's changing landscapes. Watch forests, lakes and open countryside pass by as you travel from Lapland toward the country's vibrant capital. Lunch can be purchased on board during the journey.

Upon arrival in Helsinki in the late afternoon, a private coach will transfer you to your five-star hotel. After checking in, the remainder of the day and evening are yours to relax or begin exploring the city at your own pace.

MEALS: Breakfast

OVERNIGHT: Hotel Haven, Helsinki, or similar

Day 15: Helsinki - City Tour

After breakfast, meet your local guide for a three-hour sightseeing tour of Helsinki, Finland's elegant capital. Often known as the "Daughter of the Baltic Sea" or the "White City of the North", Helsinki is celebrated for its blend of neoclassical architecture, modern design and coastal scenery.

During the tour, pass Helsinki City Hall and the lively Market Square before continuing to Senate Square, home to the impressive Helsinki Cathedral. Your guide will share insights into Finland's history, culture and traditions as you explore some of the city's most important landmarks.

A highlight of the morning is a visit to Temppeliaukio Church, also known as the Rock Church. Carved directly into solid granite, this remarkable building is one of Helsinki's most distinctive attractions, and entrance is included. Weather and time permitting, you'll also see the iconic Sibelius Monument.

The sightseeing tour concludes at your hotel at approximately 1:00pm. The remainder of the afternoon is yours to continue exploring Helsinki, relax at the hotel or enjoy the city at your own pace.

In the evening, gather with your fellow travellers for a farewell dinner at the hotel restaurant, marking the final night of your Scandinavian adventure.

MEALS: Breakfast, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Hotel Haven, Helsinki, or similar

Day 16: Depart Helsinki

After breakfast, make your own way to the airport for your return flight back to Australia.

Thank you for travelling with us. We hope you leave with wonderful memories of your Arctic adventure and look forward to welcoming you on another journey in the future.

MEALS: Breakfast, In-flight

OVERNIGHT: In-flight

Day 17: Arrive Australia

Today you will arrive back in Australia.

Depending on airline schedules, you may arrive back in Australia on Day 18.

MEALS: Breakfast