

"SPECTACULAR NORWAY & ENCHANTING SWEDEN"
...featuring the HURTIGRUTEN, NORWAY'S COASTAL VOYAGE
September 20 – October 5, 2014
B = Breakfast **L** = Lunch **D** = Dinner...meals provided in cost of tour
(Times stated are in the 24 hour clock)

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take...but by the moments that take our breath away"!

Sat, Sept 20 Depart USA...(if SAS...departing Chicago at 8:05 pm for Copenhagen.
(8 hrs 15 min)

Sunday, Sept 21 Arrive Bergen...(if SAS depart Copenhagen to Bergen at 14:-05).
D Transfer by taxi to Hotel Augustin. Time to refresh and relax before
dinner at the hotel.

Bergen was founded by King Olav Kyrre around 1070. The city's oldest urban development and financial center throughout medieval times was located on Bryggen, along the water front in the center in Bergen. The earliest recorded buildings were single-story post structures, set in parallel rows up from the shore which in the 11th century lay about 140 meters further inland from today's waterfront. As the need for storage space increased, the buildings were extended into the harbor. By the 13th century, Bergen was an important center for European trade for the kingdom and the church. The Hanseatic merchants traded with stockfish from Northern Norway and grain from the Baltic countries. They lived on and controlled the Bryggen area from 1360 until 1754.

*The **Fløibanen** funicular takes you to the top of Mt. Fløien, where you can enjoy the view over Bergen.*

Monday, Sept 22 Breakfast at the hotel. At 9:00 we have a guided walking tour of
B, D Bryggen...Fish Market...Bryggens Museum...etc. Lunch at Bryggens
Tracteursted (on our own). Remainder of afternoon for shopping or
exploring. At we will go to the *M/S Vesterålen*. The ship departs at
20:00. Overnight on the ship for 6 nights.

*Stroll through historic **Bryggen**, formerly the Hanseatic quarter and featuring an informative museum, it is now home to many unique shops, restaurants and narrow alleyways. The famous **fish market** is open Monday-Saturday, where you'll find fresh fish and seafood right off the boats, in addition to flowers, fruit and vegetables. **Rosenkrantz Tower**, dating to the 1560's and **Håkons Hall**, dating to the 1200's, are both within walking distance of the fish market, and feature guided tours during the summer months.*

Tuesday, Sept 23
B, L, D You will pass Måløy while you sleep. Wake up to the breathtaking beauty
of Norway in its autumn colors as we cross the open west cape and
head for Torvik. Heading further inland, we will visit the stunning
Hjørundfjord. This fjord's seclusion and unspoiled natural features; steep
rock walls and green meadows are interspersed with mountain farms and
small villages. After a call at the beautiful Art Nouveau town of Ålesund,
we continue to Molde with its magnificent views of the Romsdal Alps -
probably covered by the year's first snow.

Wednesday, Sept 24
B, L, D Trondheim, Norway's first capital, is a jewel of a city that you'll have time to
explore. Discover its secrets by strolling through its charming streets, sitting
by the peaceful harbor, or crossing the old city bridge to see the restored
wooden buildings of Baklandet.

Thursday, Sept 25

B, L, D This morning we cross the Arctic Circle. Passengers sailing in Arctic waters for the first time, are given an Arctic Circle baptism. In the evening we reach Svolvær, the main settlement on the Lofoten Islands. Step back into history at an authentic Lofotr Viking Feast (optional excursion), which takes place in an impressive reconstruction of the largest Viking house ever found.

Friday, Sept 26

B, L, D Today you can enjoy the view of a diverse countryside of farmland, pine trees and magnificent peaks. In the early afternoon we arrive for a longer stay in Tromsø, known as the Gateway to the Arctic.

Saturday, Sept 27

B, L, D Breathe in the crisp, clean air while watching a landscape that is austere in its beauty. After an early stop in Hammerfest, we arrive in Honningsvåg. This is the gateway to the spectacular North Cape which rises 300 m from the ocean, and at 71° 10' 21" N puts you a mere 2,000 kilometers from the Geographical North Pole. In the evening we will pass a rock formation that is sacred to the indigenous Sámi people, Finnkirka.

Sunday, Sept 28

B The last port on the northbound voyage is Kirkenes, and at 30° E you are actually further east than Istanbul and St. Petersburg. Due to its location close to the border with Russia and Finland this little town is quite lively.

We arrive in Kirkenes at 9:00. We'll depart on a flight to Arlanda Airport—Stockholm .

After changing money for SEK (Swedish kronor), we'll drive into Stockholm, where we will stay three nights at Hotel Birger Jarl. After checking in and having time to "refresh", you can go into Gamla Stan (Old Town), where you can enjoy walking the old narrow streets, rich in history. You'll find Swedish handicraft and souvenirs in the many quaint shops. We will have dinner together at Michelangelo's in Gamla Stan (Old Town). The restaurant is housed in a building from 1629. (Dinner on our own).

Monday, Sept 29

B, D The next two mornings we will tour Stockholm with Håkan Franden, our tour guide, visiting such sights as the Stadshuset (City Hall)...Tre Kronor Museum...Royal Palace (Apartments, The Armoury, and the Treasury) ...Storkyrkan and Gamla Stan...Medeltidsmuseet (Medieval times)...Drottningholm Palace and Theater...as time allows. Free time for shopping or independent sightseeing in the afternoons. Dinner at Stallmästaregården located in Royal Haga Park.

Other places very worthwhile to visit:

Wasa Museum (a must!) and Skansen...or one of the "boat tours" around Stockholm...plus over 60 more museums! ☺

Coffee/Lunch suggestions:

Sundbergs Konditori in Gamla Stan (on the ancient square of Järntorget)...“oldest coffee shop” in Stockholm est. 1785 in a building from the 15th century...wonderful pastries/tortes/smörgås/paj...a special place to have coffee or lunch.

Another fun “treat” is to have a “waffle ice cream cone” at one of the icecream shops along Västerlånggatan in Gamla Stan...3 scoops topped with hjortron and visped grädde (cloudberries and whipped cream) is our personal favorite...it can be “lunch”! ☺

- Tuesday, Sept 30
B, D Another morning of touring Stockholm with Håkan Franden...see Tuesday. Afternoon free. Dinner at Clas på Hornet, a restaurant that dates back to 1731.
- Wed, Oct 1
B, L, D After breakfast, we will drive to Sundborn, Dalarna for a a guided tour of Carl Larsson-gården (Carl Larsson’s home). Take time to visit the “gift shop” to buy prints, etc. You should also try to walk up to the Sundborn Kyrka and to the church cemetery, where the Larsson gravesites are located. We will visit the ceramic studio “Karlsbyhedens Krukmakeri”... beautiful pottery made in Sundborn . Stay at Tällbergsgården in Tällberg for 3 nights. Dinner at the hotel. After dinner we can sit and have coffee in one of the hotel’s beautiful sitting areas or outside...enjoy the beautiful sunset over Lake Siljan...maybe take a walk down to the lake.
- “Being in Dalarna and not seeing Tällberg, is like being at a wedding and not seeing the bride!” author unknown*
- Thursday, Oct 2
B, D After breakfast we will drive to Nusnäs...visiting Nils Olsson to see how the Dalahäst (horse) is made and to purchase some for yourself. You can have names/years painted on them to make a “special remembrance. We’ll also go to Mora, for a guided tour of Zorn garden (Anders Zorn’s home). Dinner at the hotel.
- Friday, Oct 3
B, D Dalarna—Sightseeing...Sätergläntan Handcraft Folkhögskola (“college” of folk art/traditions)...Leksand’s Hemslojd...Käck & Hedby’s (blacksmith), etc...as time allows. Back in Tällberg we can have afternoon coffee and waffles with hjortron (cloudberries) and whipped cream upstairs of the Hemslojd (on our own). Dinner at the hotel.
- Saturday, Oct 4
B, D After breakfast, we leave Dalarna for the Stockholm area. We’ll visit Sweden’s oldest town, Sigtuna...”The Town Where Sweden Begins”. Enjoy walking the quaint wood-building lined streets of this historic town founded in 970AD. Time for coffee and treats (Swedish “fika”) at “Tant Bruns Kaffestuga”...from the end of the 1600’s, Tant Brun’s is one of Sweden’s oldest cafes (on our own). Last night dinner at party at the beautiful new home of our friends, Marita and Lasse Haglund...out in the countryside overlooking Lake Malaren. Stay at?
- Sunday, Oct 5
B After breakfast, we will go to Arlanda Airport departing on our flight home. (if SAS, flight to Chicago at 10:20...9 hrs 5 min)

Tour Price = \$4,839 per person in double occupancy

Tour price based on a minimum of 10 persons and exchange rate at time of pricing.

Tour cost includes—Airport transfer in Bergen—transfer to Hurtigruten—Northbound sailing on *M/S Vesteralen*—transfer in Kirkenes—land travel in Sweden—all lodging accommodations as planned—guiding in Bergen—most or all sightseeing entrances in Sweden including the Stockholm Card for 2 days—and meals as indicated: meals in Norway and on the ship as indicated—plus meals in Sweden as indicated. Total meals provided = 14 breakfasts...6

lunches...13 dinners (main entre is included for 2 dinners in Stockholm)...(plus meals on flights if flying SAS)

Tour cost does NOT include—Transatlantic air flight, flight taxes/fuel surcharges—flight from Kirkenes to Stockholm—*optional excursions” you may choose aboard the *M/S Vesteralen*—tips—personal expenditures—lunch/coffee times not indicated or as included—some beverages at meals (you will be informed at each meal).

If you need assistance in booking your flight, we recommend you contact Elaine at Borton Overseas 612-822-4640 1-800-843-0602 elaine@bortonoverseas.com

* You will be sent information on the excursions offered on the Hurtigruten voyage, after making your reservations for this tour.