

# NORWAY IN A NUTSHELL, ICELAND'S NORTHERN LIGHTS & SPOTLIGHT ON LONDON



## **22-day private small group tour**

**Includes** Return economy flights from Sydney • Accommodation • Many meals • Flåm Railway experience • Private tour escort • Fully escorted coach tour in Iceland • Entrance fees • Sightseeing as per itinerary • Airport transfers

**Departs** 22 March 2019

# ITINERARY

## Day 1 Sydney - Bergen

Arrive at Sydney airport for your flight to Bergen. (Dinner inflight)

## Day 2 Bergen

Arrive in Bergen and transfer to your hotel for a two-night stay. (Breakfast inflight)

## Day 3 Bergen

Enjoy a private walking tour of Bergen with a 24-hour Hop On Hop Off city card. (Breakfast included)

## Day 4 Bergen - Voss

Travel to Voss and enjoy one of the world's most scenic railway journeys as you travel through magnificent landscapes of farmland, forests and glacier capped mountains.

Please note: You are only allowed one overnight/carry bag for the next two nights. Luggage will be transported to Oslo and will be at your hotel when you arrive on 27 March. (Dinner & breakfast included)

## Day 5 Voss - Flam

Check out of the hotel and transfer to Gudvangen by bus. From here you will take the ferry through the breathtaking narrow Naeroy Fjord to Flåm. Enjoy the afternoon at your own leisure or check out the Flåm Railway Museum. Tonight, we will savour the local fare with Viking Planks for dinner. (Overnight Flam breakfast & dinner included)

## Day 6 Flam - Oslo

Take the famous *Flåm* train (a marvel of railway engineering) to Myrdal and then change trains and continue to Oslo. Arrive in Oslo and walk five minutes to our hotel, Comfort Hotel Grand Central. This hotel is Oslo's most central stay, right in the newly Ostbanehallen, packed with restaurants, cafes and shops. Combine this with modern New York-style design and you get a hotel experience beyond the ordinary. (Breakfast & dinner included)

## Day 7 Oslo

Explore Oslo with a city tour from 10.00am – 3.30pm. This tour includes the major and 'must see' attractions. Jump onboard the bus and travel through the city center of Oslo, to the Vigeland Sculpture Park and to the Ski Jump at Holmenkollen. Here you will see the Viking ships in the Viking Ship Museum, the unique Polar Ship Fram in the Fram Museum, or spectacular expeditions of Thor Heyerdahl in the Kon-Tiki Museum. (Breakfast included)

## Day 8 Oslo

Free day

## Day 9 Oslo - Reykjavik

Arrive at Oslo Airport for your flight to Reykjavik. Depart from Reykjavik airport and spend the afternoon exploring the popular Blue Lagoon. (Breakfast included)

## Day 10 Reykjavik

Enjoy a walking tour through Reykjavik featuring Hallgrímskirkja church, City Hall, the harbour and Reykjavik's oldest building, now home to the Kraum Icelandic design centre. Tonight, gather with your fellow travellers at a popular restaurant for dinner featuring Icelandic cuisine. After dinner, take an exhilarating Northern Lights cruise, leaving behind the bright city lights and sailing out into the darkness of Faxaflói Bay in search of the Aurora Borealis, one of nature's wonders. When revealed, you will be dazzled by the flickering display of light bursting with colour that unfolds before your eyes. (Breakfast & dinner included)

## Day 11 Reykjavik - Golden Circle - Seljalandsfoss Waterfall

Travel to the incredible Golden Circle, a route that encompasses many of Iceland's most renowned natural wonders. Journey to Thingvellir National Park, the nation's most historic area, where Icelanders gathered in A.D. 930 and established what is considered one of the world's first parliaments. Find yourself standing upon one of the globe's most geologically significant landscapes, Thingvellir's rugged rift valley, a UNESCO World Heritage site that marks the point where the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates meet. Experience the energy of Icelandic culture with a stop at the geothermal fields of Geysir and Strokkur that erupt every few minutes. Then, marvel at the beauty of the Gullfoss (Golden Falls) waterfall, a stunning 100-foot double cascade. Next, see the beautiful Seljalandsfoss, one of Iceland's most famous and picturesque waterfalls with a walkway behind it. Continue southeast to Vik, the southernmost village in Iceland, surrounded by beautiful valleys, beaches, cliffs and mountains. After dinner, relax amidst the peace and stillness of rural Iceland and search for the Aurora Borealis – the elusive Northern Lights. (Breakfast & dinner included)



Bergen, Norway



Voss, Norway



Flam, Norway



Oslo, Norway



Seljalandsfoss Waterfall, Iceland

## Day 12 Eyjafjallajökull Volcano Visitor Centre - Skogar Museum - Reykjavik

Drive along the scenic south shore to the Eyjafjallajökull Volcano Visitor Centre. Learn about a family's struggle to live with the lava during and following the dramatic 2010 explosion of the infamous Eyjafjallajökull volcano that brought European flights to a halt. Visit Skogar Folk Museum, which contains an outstanding collection covering all aspects of Icelandic life including farm and domestic artifacts, as well as turf-built houses. Nearby, check out the impressive Skógafoss waterfall, one of the largest in Iceland. Later, view Reynisfjara, a black volcanic sand beach surrounded by basalt columns and cliffs scattered with caves and rich bird life including the Fulmar, Black Guillemot, Razorbill, Gannet and various types of seagulls. See the unique natural rock formations at Dyrhólaey and after dinner, gaze at the sky in search of the northern lights, a truly spectacular sight. (Breakfast & Dinner included)

## Day 13 Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon - Skaftafell National Park - Reykjavik

Explore Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon and perhaps see some seals swimming in Arctic waters. Travel to Skaftafell, gateway to Vatnajökull National Park - the largest national park in Europe. Vatnajökull is known for having Iceland's highest mountains, an Alpine environment and the Vatnajökull glacier, Europe's largest glacier. After dinner, continue searching for the shimmering Northern Lights dancing across the night sky. (Breakfast & dinner included)

## Day 14 Blue Lagoon - Reykjavik

Drive to the Reykjanes Peninsula, known for its rugged landscape, lava fields, numerous hot springs and most famously, for being home to the Blue Lagoon. Take a dip in the pleasantly warm, mineral-rich waters of the geothermal pool, located in the middle of a dramatic lava field. Return to Reykjavik for your farewell dinner and overnight stay. (Breakfast & dinner Centerhotel Plaza)

## Day 15 Reykjavik - London

Arrive at Reykjavik airport for your flight to London. In London, experience a classic British pastime when you join your fellow travellers for a special welcome dinner at a traditional pub, complete with an ale tasting! (Dinner included)

## Day 16 London

Join a local expert on a panoramic city tour. See Trafalgar Square, St. Paul's Cathedral, the Tower of London and Buckingham Palace, the London home to Britain's royalty since 1837. At Westminster, see the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey and Big Ben. End your city tour with a visit to Harrods, London's most iconic department store. In the afternoon, join us on an optional tour to regal Windsor Castle, originally built to guard the city of London, the imposing castle has been the home of kings and queens for nine centuries. (Breakfast included)

## Day 17 London

Start your day like a true Londoner. Hop on the famous underground train, known to locals as 'The Tube'. Opened in 1863, this engineering marvel was the world's first metro system. Next, it's your choice! Perhaps you will join a local guide and explore the neighbourhoods of Kensington and Knightsbridge, known for their iconic shops and famous residents, before a visit to Kensington Palace, once the home of Queen Victoria and Princess Diana. Or perhaps you would prefer to travel to Westminster station and snap a photo in front of Big Ben before heading north on Whitehall, known as the centre of Her Majesty's Government. Catch a glimpse of 10 Downing Street before visiting the Churchill War Rooms. (Breakfast included)

## Day 18 London - Oxford - Blenheim Palace - London

Travel across England's beautiful countryside en route to the historic city of Oxford, one of the world's most famous university cities. Join a local expert on a privately-led walking tour that brings life to this quaint, yet privileged place. Enjoy some free time to explore the city at leisure before setting out to visit Blenheim Palace, one of England's most magnificent homes, for a self-guided tour. Famous for being the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill, this UNESCO World Heritage site offers a glimpse into the life of English royalty. Tonight, Curly will take you on a walking tour of his old haunts in London where you will meet some locals from his past. (Breakfast included)

## Day 19 London

It's your last day in London. Spend the day independently exploring more of its treasures or perhaps join an optional excursion featuring Bath (UNESCO), one of England's most beautiful cities. Tonight, gather for a special farewell dinner at a favourite London restaurant and toast to the end of a wonderful getaway. (Breakfast & dinner included)

## Day 20 London

Transfer to London airport and begin your journey back home

## Day 21 Inflight

Day 22 Arrive at Sydney airport and transfer back to Maitland.



Reykjavik, Iceland



Jökulsárlón Glacial Lagoon, Norway



Blue Lagoon, Iceland



London, England



Oxford, England

**Norway in a Nutshell, Iceland's Northern Lights  
& Spotlight on London**

**22-day tour from \$11,749\*<sub>pp</sub>**  
**Single Supplement \$2,500\***

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**Northern Lights, Norway & Mediterranean Cruise**

September 2019

**Western Australian Wildflowers & the Indian Pacific**

November 2019

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February 2020

**South America**

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