MAJESTIC FJORDS AND MIDNIGHT SUN OSLO, FLAM, BERGEN, TROMSO, ROVANIEMI, HELSINKI 9 NIGHTS/ 10 DAYS

DAY 1. OSLO

Arrival in Oslo. Transfer on your own to your hotel for check-in. According to the Norse sagas, Oslo was founded by King Harald Hardrade around 1049, although scientists have found evidence of earlier habitation, including Christian burials near the ruins of St. Clement's church that date back to 1000. The name Oslo is generally interpreted by linguists to translate as either "meadow at the foot of a hill" or "meadow consecrated to the gods." Either name suggests its original topography and location. Around 1299, King Haakon V took up residence in the city and Oslo became the capital and center of commerce for Norway. In modern times, that heritage still lives on. Oslo is one of the great maritime centers of the world and also Norway's capital and most populous city. Oslo is consistently rated number one in quality of life among the world's cities and has much to offer the curious traveler.

The city is beautifully situated at the head of Oslo Fjord surrounded by forested ridges, and this very location gives Oslo unexpected qualities for a national capital.

Overnigh at Thon Hotel Opera or similar in Oslo.







DAY 2. OSLO-MYRDAL-FLAM

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. Departure by train from Oslo to Myrdal along the Bergen Line. It's impressive to think that any European train route can compete with Switzerland in terms of scenic views, but Norway makes a pretty strong case for itself. Like Switzerland, Norway has gorgeous mountain views, quiet countryside, magnificent glaciers, majestic forests, and quaint little villages, but it also has one thing that Switzerland doesn't have – mesmerizing fjords. These almost mystical formations lend an aura of mystery to the Norwegian landscape, leaving the traveler feeling as though he or she is a world apart, in a land less explored. The train from Bergen to Oslo boasts the highest altitude of any other train route in Europe. It's probably the closest you can get to literally being "on top of the world" in a train. The highest point on the route is Finse, at 1,222 meters above sea level, and the train also passes over a stretch called Hardangervidda, which is the highest mountainous plateau in Europe. As you journey further and further up the mountains and away from the hustle and bustle of Europe, sit back in your seat and enjoy the views from the top of the world – or from your own personal little corner of the world, at least.

In Myrdal, a small mountain train station change into Flam Railway to travel down to valley of Flam. The train journey provides some of Norway's wildest and most magnificent scenery. On the 20-kilometer long train ride you can see rivers that cut through deep ravines, waterfalls cascade down the side of steep, snow-capped mountains and mountain farms that cling dizzily to sheer slopes. The Flam Railway is one of the world's steepest railway lines on normal gauge. The gradient is 55/1000 on almost 80% of the line. The twisting tunnels that spiral in and out of the mountain are manifestations of the most daring and skilful engineering in Norwegian railway history. Overnight in beautiful Flam Valley.

Overnight at Fretheim Hotel or similar in Flam.



DAY 3. FLAM-BALESTRAND

Buffet breakfast at the hotel.

Today you will travel by boat from Flam to Balestrand and experience one of the most beautiful and popular fjord areas in Norway, the UNESCO world heritage area in the Næroyfjord. The narrow and spectacular Næroyfjord is surrounded by steep mountains with snow covered tops that stretch up to 1800 meters above sea level. Water falls cascade down the mountains and picturesque villages dot the landscape. This is an area that is featured on the UNESCO world heritage. Arrival in small fjord village of Balestrand a hidden pearl on the

shore of majestic Sognefjord.

Overnight at Hotel Balestrand or similar in Balestrand.

DAY 4. BALESTRAND-BERGEN

Buffet breakfast at the hotel.

Cruise cruise along the outer Sognefjord and the scenic coast, taking you to the very heart of the picturesque Bergen harbour, with views of the UNESCO World Heritage Bryggen wharf.

Bergen is Norway's second largest city and the world's only city surrounded by 7 mountains and 7 fjords.. Due to the Gulf Stream, Bergen is blessed by a surprisingly warm climate.

Overnight at Augustin Hotel or similar in Bergen.



DAY 5. BERGEN-TROMSO

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. *** flight Bergen-Tromso***

Arrival in Tromso airport and transfer on your own to your hotel for check-in. Human settlement in the Tromso area dates back thousands of years, though the city itself was founded only about 200 years ago. Tromsø soon became the centre for trapping in the Arctic region, and in the early 1900s it

was the starting point for expeditions to the Arctic. Hence its nickname: "Gateway to the Arctic". This modern city in the Arctic is where nature and culture go hand-in-hand. Here you will find attractions from an aquarium and several museums to the world's northernmost botanical garden. It's also an ideal place to observe the majestic phenomenon of the northern lights. From 20 May to 20 July the midnight sun shines, which makes it possible to participate in various activities around the clock.

Overnight at Thon Hotel Tromso or similar in Tromso.







DAY 6. TROMSO

Buffet breakfast at the hotel.

Free time at leisure to explore the city. Take cable car up to Mount Storsteinen on Floya, 421 meters above the sea. The ride takes four minutes. From the deck you have a magnificent panoramic view over Tromsø and the surrounding islands. Visit The Arctic Cathedral or Polar Museum presenting polar seafaring tradition of North Norway.

Overnight at Thon Hotel Tromso or similar in Tromso.

DAY 7. TROMSO-ROVANIEMI

Buffet breakfast at the hotel.

In the morning travel by bus through beutiful arctic scenary to Rovaniemi. During your bus journey you will pass villages of Kilpisjarvi, Muonio and Kittila. Early evening afternoon arrival in Rovaniemi. Rovaniemi is the biggest town in Northern Finland and capital of Lapland and official home of Santa Claus. Rovaniemi is located at the Arctic Circle and summer time dark polar nights are replaced with 24-hour sun light almost for 3 months.

Overnight at Santa Claus Hotel in Rovaniemi.



DAY 8. ROVANIEMI

Buffet breakfast at the hotel.
Free day at leisure for exploring the city. Take shuttle bus called Santa's Express and visit Santa Claus Village and Santa Himself at the Arctic Circle. Visit also Arktikum Museum, Arktikum exhibitions lead guests on an



adventure to Finnish Lapland and the Arctic region. The review of the history of Finnish Lapland spans from Rovaniemi to Upper Lapland and from prehistory to about the 1970s. The Arctic region is examined in light of the Arctic research of today and the future. The exhibitions provide a comprehensive section of the history and culture of Lapland as well as of Arctic knowledge.

Late in the evening departure to Helsinki with overnight train.



DAY 9. HELSINKI

Arrival in Helsinki train station.

Helsinki is a modern European cultural city whose urban cosmopolitan lifestyle exists in perfect harmony with nature. Surrounded by the sea and its own exotic archipelago, Helsinki offers visitors an endless number of possibilities. Throughout its history, Helsinki has existed in the crosscurrents of the East and West. The colourful layers of history can be seen everywhere; its modern architecture, cutting-edge design and high-technology have attracted international recognition for the city and made it

the style city of Scandinavia.

Overnight at Original Sokos Hotel Vaakuna in Helsinki.

DAY 10. DEPARTURE FROM HELSINKI

Buffet breakfast at the hotel. Transer on your own to the Airport for your flight onwards or stay for more days and explore this beautiful town on your own.

Inclusions:-

- 1. 1 night in Oslo incl. breakfast
- 2. 1 night in Flam incl. breakfast
- 3. 1 night in Balestrand incl. breakfast
- 4. 1 night in Bergen incl. breakfast
- 5. 2 nights in Tromso, incl. breakfast
- 6. 1 night in Rovaniemi, incl. breakfast
- 7. 1 nights onbaord overnight train (no meals included)
- 8. 1 night in Helsinki incl. breakfast
- 9. Train tickets Oslo-Myrdal-Flam
- 10. Boat tickets Flam-Balestrand & Balestrand-Bergen
- 11. Bus ticket Tromso-Rovaniemi

Please Note: Internal flights or transfers not included