

# SUMMER IN SCANDINAVIA TOUR

Oslo (2N) -Flam (1N) - Bergen (1N) - Stockholm (1N) - Cruise (1N) - Helsinki (1N) - Rovaniemi (2N)

09 Nights / 10 Days









## **DAY 01: ARRIVE IN OSLO**

On arrival at Oslo Gardermoen Airport, you will be greeted by our local representative in Norway for a brief meet and greet. Later, proceed to your city centre hotel in Oslo for check-in.

Oslo, where the Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded since 1901, is the capital of Norway. The city is also a hub of Norwegian trade, banking, industry and shipping. The city is home to the world's largest shipping companies, shipbrokers and maritime insurance brokers. One of the largest and most rapidly developing cities, Oslo has maintained its forests striking a perfect balance between nature and development. It was officially The European Green Capital of 2019. There is never a dull moment when visiting Oslo.

The day has been kept free for you to explore Oslo on your own.

Overnight stay at the hotel in Oslo.



#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Arrive at Oslo Airport and check-in at your hotel
- Explore Oslo at your own leisure



## **DAY 02: OSLO CITY TOUR**

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed for a sight-seeing tour of Oslo.

We will begin the tour with a visit to the Viking ship museum which contains the world's best-preserved Viking ships. These beautiful vessels were extracted from Viking grave sites where they were buried along with their rich owners. The next stop will be the Oslo City Hall. Every year in December, The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded in the City Hall to the deserving candidate since 1901.

After the tour of city hall, we will proceed to the Opera house. Immerse in the views of the city from the rooftop where you can see fjord archipelago, city core and mountains surrounding Oslo. Later proceed to Vigeland Park which is the World's largest sculpture park by a single artist and is a must visit! This park consists of approx. 212 stunning statues made by artist Gustav Vigeland.

Overnight stay in Oslo.



#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

• Explore the most popular attractions in Oslo on a sightseeing tour of the city



## DAY 03: TRANSFER TO FLAM IN A SCENIC TRAIN RIDE

After breakfast, we will check out from the hotel and proceed to the train station to board a scenic train to Myrdal. Upon reaching Myrdal station, we will change over to a smaller train which will take us to the picturesque village of Flam in Western Norway. Considered to be one of the most scenic train journeys in the world, we will be rewarded by breathtaking views along the way. Upon reaching Flam, you will be transferred to your hotel for check-in.



Located in the Aurlandsfjord, Flam is known as "the small village with the grand surroundings". This charming village is a nature lover's paradise and is the most popular village in Norway. It is surrounded by snow-capped mountains, thunderous waterfalls and wonderful green meadows. No wonder it was the inspiration for the Disney movie 'Frozen'. Flam is the gateway to Sognefjord. The longest and deepest fjord in Norway, Sognefjord is a World Heritage site renowned for its beauty.

Overnight stay at the hotel in Flam.

SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION - Soak in the beautiful scenery around this quaint village while enjoying fun outdoor activities available in Fam village. You can visit Brekkefossen waterfall which is an easy 45 minute hike from the port. Or you can pick up a bicycle and travel along the stunning Rallarvegen bike route.

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience one of world's most scenic train journey from Oslo to Flam
- Soak in the beauty of the surroundings by engaging in fun outdoor activities [RECOMMENDED]



## DAY 04: CRUISE TO GUDVAGEN AND TRAIN TO BERGEN

After breakfast we will check-out from the hotel and proceed to the pier to catch our cruise to Gudvangen. This journey through the fjords will leave you mesmerized as the natural beauty visible from the cruise is simply stunning.



Upon arrival, take a train to Bergen. On arrival, you will have free time to explore the city of Bergen on your own. Bergen is the second largest city in Norway and is a UNESCO City of Gastronomy. Here. You can explore the UNESCO World Heritage site - <u>Bryggen</u>. Populated with beautiful colorful wooden buildings, these are relic of a past when wooden structures were common in urban parts of Northern Europe.





SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION – While in Bergen, you can take a funicular ride to Mt. Floyen which is a must visit. This ride consists of two traditional carriages that have been used to transport people to and from the mountain for the past 100 years! Once you reach the top of the mountain, you can enjoy panoramic view of the city, fjord and the mountains!

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Enjoy the cruise through world famous Norwegian fjords from Flam to Gudvagen
- Explore the city of Bergen at your own leisure
- Take a funicular ride to Mt. Floyen [RECOMMENDED]

#### DAY 05: FLY TO STOCKHOLM

After breakfast at the hotel, proceed to the airport to catch a flight to Stockholm. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel in Stockholm for a check-in.



The capital of Sweden, Stockholm is the most populous area of Scandinavia. It has the nickname of 'Venice of the North' because of its archipelago of fourteen islands. It is among the top 10 regions in Europe by GDP. The Nobel Prizes in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine and Literature are awarded in Stockholm. This city is a perfect



blend of Urban, history, culture and nature. You can never have a dull moment in Stockholm.

SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION - In the evening, venture out to enjoy a key Swedish concept called Fika. Fika is like having a friendly coffee break with yummy snacks. With a guide, explore cool parts of Stockholm. Visit cozy cafes and try tasty desserts while learning about local coffee customs and how people live in Stockholm.

Overnight stay in Stockholm.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Catch a flight to Stockholm
- Participate in Swedish Coffee culture called Fika

#### DAY 06: STOCKHOLM CITY TOUR AND CRUISE TO HELSINKI

After breakfast at the hotel, you will proceed for a Stockholm city tour.

You will begin the tour by witnessing the Changing of the Royal Guards ceremony at the Royal Palace. Though the Royal family no longer stays in this palace, the Royal Guard ceremony leaves the spectators completely in awe. Next on the list is a visit to City Hall. One of the most visited places in Stockholm, City Hall is the place where the famous Nobel Prize banquet is organized every year after the awards. Further you will be visiting the Nobel Museum. The museum is dedicated to Alfred Nobel, the founder of the Nobel Prize Nobel and also gives information about Prize winners and their contributions to the



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society. Later, proceed to Vasa museum. Vasa was a 17<sup>th</sup> century 64-gun warship that sank in Stockholm in 1628. Today, it is the World's best preserved warship.

You will end the day by boarding an overnight cruise to Helsinki.



## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Visit the important places of interest in Stockholm
- Watch the Changing of Royal Guards ceremony at Stockholm Palace
- Board an overnight cruise to Helsinki

#### DAY 07: ARRIVE IN HELSINKI AND SIGHTSEEING TOUR

After breakfast aboard the cruise, the cruise will dock at Helsinki.

The World Design Capital for 2012 and venue for 1952 Summer Olympics, Helsinki, capital of Finland, was named as the World's most livable city in 2011 by British Magazine Monocle. The largest city of Finland, Helsinki Archipelago consists of over 300 enthralling islands. Helsinki has been known to attract tourists from all over the World due to its sea facing landscape, Nordic cuisine, diverse architecture and rich history.



Upon arrival, we will proceed for a sightseeing tour of Helsinki City.



We will begin the tour by visiting Temppeliaukio Church. Also known as the Rock Church, it is built directly into a solid rock and was opened in 1969. Because of the excellent acoustics inside the church, it is also a popular venue for music concerts in Helsinki. Next on the list we have Sibelius Monument. Dedicated to the famous Finnish composer, Jean Sibelius, it consists of over 600 steel pipes which are grouped together to resemble a soundwave made of clusters of organ pipes. After this, you will proceed to Kamppi Chapel of Silence. Winner of the International Architecture Award 2010 by Chicago Athenaeum, this Chapel's carved wooden façade and gently shaped interiors provide peace in the busiest region of the city.



Overnight stay in a hotel in Helsinki.

SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION – Relax with a Finnish Sauna experience. An activity with numerous health benefits, Saunas are an important part of Finnish Culture. These wood fired saunas bellow steam when water is poured over the really hot stones. To avail the maximum health benefit, you can follow the Scandinavian ritual where you first get warm in the sauna and then immediately jump into ice-cold water. Then repeat this hot and cold cycle a couple of times. This activity is extremely rejuvenating and is good for the immunity and blood circulation.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

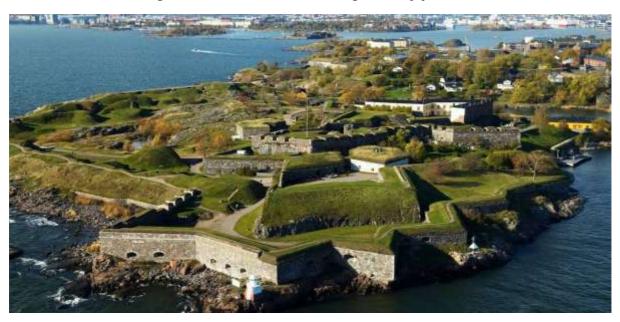
- See the most popular attractions in Helsinki
- Enjoy an authentic Finnish Sauna Experience in Helsinki



## DAY 08: VISIT SUOMENLINNA FOTRESS AND TRANSFER TO ROVANIEMI

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed for a visit to Sea Fortress Suomenlinna.

We will begin the tour with a 15 minute approx. ferry ride to Suomenlinna islet where there is 18th century Fortress which is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This fortress gives you an insight about the history and military aspects of the city, in addition to the breath taking views of the sea. There are six kilometers of walls, 100 cannons, exciting tunnels and beautiful parks in the fortress to be explored by you.



Later return to the city and proceed to the airport to catch a flight to Rovaniemi. Upon reaching Rovaniemi, check-in at your hotel.

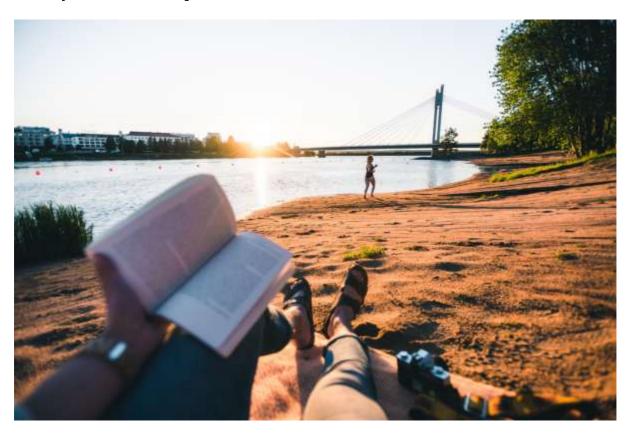
Rovaniemi is the official home town of the Santa Claus. The city, which is the capital of Finland's northern most province – Lapland, is built in the shape of a reindeer's head and antlers! Apart from the stunning Santa Claus village, the city is a popular place to witness the magical northern lights and riverside location.



Overnight stay in Rovaniemi.



SEGV'S RECOMMENDATION – Go on a picnic under the Midnight sun in Rovaniemi. Yes, you read that right! In the Northern Finland, the sun does not set for almost 70 days! Having a picnic dinner by open fire in forest with the sun shining at midnight can be a once in lifetime experience. Finnish people like to describe it as 'time to celebrate daylight, summer and love'. During the picnic, if you are in luck, you could even see arctic wild animals such as moose, reindeers and forest birds. You get to enjoy the nature and serenity of this beautiful place in Scandinavia.



### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Enjoy a scenic ferry to Suomenlinna Fortress
- Catch a flight to Rovaniemi and visit Reindeer farm
- Check out Midnight sun picnic [RECOMMENDED]

#### DAY 09: SANTA CLAUS VILLAGE AND VISIT REINDEER FARM

After breakfast at the hotel, we will proceed for the city tour of Rovaniemi followed by a visit to Santa Claus Village and Lapland tour.

We will begin the tour with a visit to administration and cultural center of Rovaniemi which consists of Library, Town hall and Lappia Hall. These building are an architecture



lover's dream and say a lot about modern Finnish architecture. Then we will proceed to Arktikum museum which has exhibits on Lapland's nature and culture.



Afterwards, we shall travel through the Lapland to cross the Arctic Circle and enter the Santa Claus village. This place has an exciting array of activities for both children and adults. You can enjoy a warm cup of coffee or get yourself clicked with the Santa. You can visit the museums, Santa's workshop, post a letter to yourself or just immerse in the knowledge of various Christmas traditions around the World!

Later we will proceed to a Sami Village and visit a Reindeer farm. Sami is a collective term used for people living in Scandinavia and Russia north of the Arctic Circle. These Nomadic tribes have their own unique culture and their primary occupation is Reindeer herding. At the farm, you shall learn more about the life and culture of Sami people apart from petting and feeding playful Reindeers.



Overnight stay at the hotel in Rovaniemi.



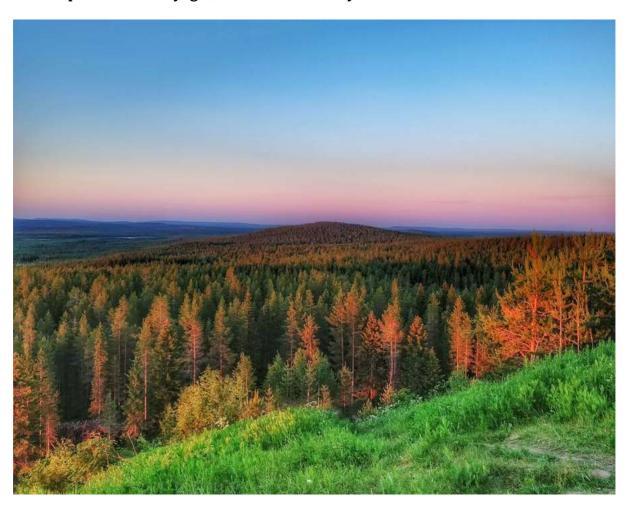
## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Explore the city of Rovaniemi
- Cross the Arctic Circle and enjoy at Santa Claus village
- Enjoy a reindeer sleigh ride and interact with them at a reindeer farm

## **DAY 10: DEPARTURE**

After breakfast in the hotel, proceed to airport for a flight back home.

Arrive home with pleasant memories of your summer in Scandinavia tour organized by State Express Global Voyages, which we are sure you will treasure for a lifetime.



# **TOUR END**

