

### Australia 1300 888 225 New Zealand 0800 440 055 info@odysseytraveller.com

## From **\$14,295** AUD

Single Room \$16,495 AUD Twin Room \$14,295 AUD

Prices valid until 30th December 2024

13 days

Denmark, Norway Destination

Level 2 - Moderate Activity

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# Scandinavia tours for mature travellers

Jun 02 2024 to Jun 14 2024

## **Small group tours Scandinavia**

Odyssey offers easy, convenient, and relaxed escorted small group tours across Scandinavia and beyond. We explore Denmark's, Sweden's and Norway's incredible natural beauty, its ancient <u>Viking</u> <u>heritage</u>, World Heritage Sites, and charming Nordic cities, with some truly spectacular scenery along the way. This and more is all waiting to be explored on one of Odyssey's small group tours of Denmark, Sweden and Norway. Designed for the senior traveller, and led by experienced, and enthusiastic like minded people S W E D E N N O R W A Y Bergen 2 Stalheim 2 0 2 0 0 0 0 3 Stockholm Hardangerfjord D E N M A R K 2 Copenhagen

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Join Odyssey Traveller on our tour of Scandinavia for mature-aged and senior travellers, we uncover a <u>Viking past</u> and get a glimpse of the world's biggest fjords and some fabulous scenery on a journey through Norway, Sweden, and Denmark.

## Small group tours Scandinavia Itinerary

In low-lying Denmark, we visit meticulously maintained urban centres, including the vibrant capital of Copenhagen. We continue our sightseeing tour and adventure in Sweden and its capital, Stockholm, now the financial capital of the region. After Sweden, we travel to Norway, famous for its breathtaking Norwegian coastal voyage favoured by tourists. Here, we journey over magnificent mountains and skirt picturesque fjords to reach Bergen.

## **Copenhagen Highlights**

Our Scandinavian tour begins in Copenhagen, a treasure trove of museums, castles, and churches. We begin by exploring the Radhauspladsen (City Hall Square), where the famous pedestrian street "Stroget" begins. Next, we pass through the <u>Tivoli Gardens</u>, dating back to 1843, and make our way past the New Carlsberg Glyptotek and the National Museum. We then see the Old Stock Exchange and the Naval Church. In addition, we drive past the Kongens Nytorv (Kings New Square), the home of the Royal Danish Theatre with the world famous ballet.

Afterwards, we visit the old canal area, Nyhavn, with its picturesque houses and vessels. Next, we visit the famous landmark of Copenhagen, <u>the statue of the Little Mermaid</u>, known from Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale. Finally, we stop at the Royal residence, <u>Amalienborg Palace</u>. Our initial education tour of the city concludes with a visit to Amalienborg Castle.



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## **Other Highlights**

Other highlights of this educational tour include a walking city tour in Stockholm and a visit to the fabulous Vasa boat museum. Here, we take a tour of the world's best preserved 17<sup>th</sup> century warship. We also trace the region's sea-faring culture through Oslo's Viking Boat Museum and visit the home of national composer Edvard Grieg, in Bergen. In addition, the tour also traverses vast Swedish lakelands and dense forests, passing impressive Gripsholm Castle by Lake Malaren.

The Scandinavia tours are small group programs suitable for senior and mature couples or solo travellers. Click here to read our article <u>Discovering Scandinavia</u>. If design is your passion, and this article on Sweden has piqued your interest, consider our 21 day <u>Scandinavian</u> <u>Design small group tour</u>, covering Sweden, Denmark and Finland.

Odyssey Traveller offers more than 140 scheduled small group tours to people from all over the world. We share your passion for exploring and learning. This 13-day tour is offered in June each year. <u>Visit this page to see all of our tours to Europe</u>.

For more details about the Scandinavia tours for mature travellers click the 'Top 5' or 'Itinerary' buttons above! If you're keen to experience this tour, <u>please call</u> or <u>send an email</u>. Or, to book, simply fill in the form on the right hand side of this page.

## **Tour Notes**

• Group size is limited to a maximum of 18 participants.

## Highlights

1. Trace the sea-faring culture in Oslo's Viking Boat Museum and visit the home of national composer Edvard Grieg in Bergen.



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- 2. Venture into Sweden to find the home to the Nobel Prize awards, Stockholm.
- 3. Traverse vast Swedish lakelands and dense forests, passing impressive Gripsholm Castle by Lake Malaren.
- 4. See the magnificent Amalienborg Palace, winter home of the Danish royals, and an Australian-born Crown Princess may appear.
- 5. Explore Stockholm, with its preserved 17th century warship, the Vasa.

## Itinerary

#### Day 1

#### Locations: Copenhagen

#### **Overview:**

Upon arrival in Copenhagen we will come individually to the hotel. In the evening we will have a welcome meeting and dinner at the hotel. Denmark is the smallest and most southerly of the Scandinavian countries. It is made up of the Jutland Peninsula and over 400 islands, the largest of which is Zealand, where Copenhagen is found. The country is a fascinating mix of pastoral farmland and lively cities, and is rich in medieval churches, Renaissance castles, and fishing villages. The country's historic and cultural heritage ranges from the Viking Raiders who settled large swathes of England to colourful medieval kings and queens. The Danish Royal House remains the oldest in Europe and now has an Australian born Crown Princess. The island of Zealand is a contrast of rural pasture and sandy beaches with imposing castles, and the country's lively capital, Copenhagen, is a treasure trove of museums, castles, and churches. (D)

#### Accommodation:

2 nights at Copenhagen Admiral Hotel or similar.

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#### Locations: Copenhagen

#### **Overview:**

This morning we meet our local guide for a city tour. We start with a drive towards the City Hall Square where the famous pedestrian street "Stroget" begins. We pass the Tivoli Gardens, dating back to 1843, and make our way past the New Carlsberg Glyptothegue and the National Museum. Next we see the Old Stock Exchange and the Naval Church. We drive past the Kings New Square, the home of the Royal Danish Theatre with the world famous ballet, then through the old canal area, Nyhayn, with its picturesque houses and vessels. Next, we visit a landmark of Copenhagen, the statue of the Little Mermaid, known from Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tale. Finally we stop at the Royal residence, Amalienborg Palace, for a photo stop and possibly seeing the changing of the guards (time permitting). During the tour we shall also appreciate the Christiansborg Palace (outside visit), housing the Danish Parliament, and the Rosenborg Castle, which houses the Crown Jewels (entrance included). The tour will end at Amalienborg Castle, and then we have free time to explore or head back to the hotel and relax. (B)

#### Accommodation:

Copenhagen Admiral Hotel or similar.

#### Day 3

Locations: Stockholm

#### **Overview:**

En route to Stockholm, we cross the impressive Oresundsbridge to Malmo and travel through the Swedish countryside. We travel by train from Copenhagen to Stockholm, about a 5 hour rail journey. On arrival in Stockholm we make our own way to the hotel which is next to the station. Dinner in the evening will be at our hotel. Sweden is the largest of the Scandinavian countries and has historically dominated its smaller neighbours. It too is a country of lakes and forests, stretching from the Baltic to the Arctic Circle. Its greater contact with the outside world has created an open and outgoing people, whilst its social policies have

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brought about one of the highest standards of living in the world. Sweden, like its other Scandinavian neighbours, is still a monarchy. Stockholm, undoubtedly one of the world's most striking capital cities, reflects this royal heritage in its palaces and architecture. (B,D)

#### Accommodation:

3 nights at Scandic Grand Central Hotel or similar.

#### Day 4

Locations: Stockholm

#### **Overview:**

Today we enjoy a morning tour of the city including entrance to the City Hall, where the Nobel Banquet takes place in the Blue and Golden Halls. After the visit to town hall, we start a walking tour of the Gamla Stan (Old Town) of Stockholm. There will be some free time for lunch (own arrangements) in the old town, before we take the ferry to Vasa Museum for a guided tour. After visiting the museum we take the tram home, or have the opportunity to walk to Skansen (entrance not included). The remainder of the day will be at leisure. (B)

#### Accommodation:

Scandic Grand Central Hotel or similar.

#### Day 5

Locations: Stockholm

#### **Overview:**

This morning we visit Drottningholm, including entrance to the Palace and the Chinese Pavilion & Gardens. Then we return to the hotel for a free afternoon. In the evening we take a short walk to Strandvangen pier to board our dinner cruise of Stockholm Archipelago (no drinks included). (B,D)

#### Accommodation:

Scandic Grand Central Hotel or similar.



Locations: Oslo

#### Overview:

En route to Norway we traverse the lakelands and forests of Sweden, pausing to view the 16th century Gripsholm Castle and passing Karlstad in Varmland, before arriving in the Norwegian capital, Oslo. A ruggedly beautiful land of high mountains, deep fjords, and icy blue glaciers, Norway stretches for over 2,000 kilometres from its southern beaches to the Tundra wastelands of the "Land of the Midnight Sun." Winters are cold and relentless, but summers benefit from long hours of sunshine when the sun hardly sets for weeks on end. The heritage of Norway includes unspoiled fishing villages, rich historic sites, Viking ships, and medieval stave churches. Oslo is the oldest of the Scandinavian capitals, but despite being Norway's largest city and containing many fine palaces and monuments, it has a comfortable, small-town feel. (B,D)

#### Accommodation:

2 nights at Clarion Royal Christiana Hotel or similar.

#### Day 7

Locations: Oslo

#### **Overview:**

After breakfast we meet our local guide for full day tour of Oslo. We will tour the city with coach and on foot, visiting the Cathedral, Akershus Fortress, Royal Palace, Parliament, and Vigeland Park. We will have some free time for lunch near City Hall (own arrangements) and/or go to National Gallery before short visit to City Hall. We then travel to Viking Ship Museum and the Norwegian Folk Museum (entrances included). (B)

#### Accommodation:

Clarion Royal Christiana Hotel or similar.



Locations: Oslo-Myrdal-Flam-Gudvangen-Stalheim

#### Overview:

En route to the Hardangerfjord, we experience "Norway in a Nutshell." First we take one of the world's most spectacular rail journeys from Oslo past forests, lakes, and waterfalls over a desolate plateau with a background of snow and glaciers, to arrive in Myrdal where we join the Flam Valley railway. The train journey to Flam is a constantly changing panorama of snow peaked mountains, thundering waterfalls, and green pastures. From here a boat trip along the Naeroyfjord takes us past tiny farmsteads clinging to steep mountainsides to Gudvangen, from where our bus takes us through the spectacular Stahlheim Gorge to Voss, and on to our hotel in Stalheim. (B,D)

#### Accommodation:

1 night at Stalheim Hotel or similar.

#### Day 9

Locations: Stalheim – Lofthus – Øystese (Hardanger Fjord)

#### **Overview:**

We leave Stalheim and travel via the mountain village of Voss to Norheimsund. In Nodheimsund we visit the boat museum. We travel via coach to Steinsto, and from here we take a ferry over to Botnen and then to Kvanndal. Our second ferry crossing takes us to Utne and then onto Kinsarvik. We rejoin our coach to take the short journey to Lofthus. Our hotel rests on one of the most beautiful points on the Hardanger Fjord, and it was one of Edvard Grieg's favourite haunts. (B,D)

#### Accommodation:

2 nights at Hotel Ullensvang or similar.



Locations: Lofthus – Eidford – Lofthus (Hardanger Fjord)

#### Overview:

Today we enjoy a full day guided tour to Eidfjord, including a visit to Simar Power Station. We stop in Kjeasen at an old mountain farm and later enjoy the film and museum at Hardangervidda Center, followed by a visit to Vorinsfossen and Sysendammen before returning to our hotel for dinner. (B,D)

#### Accommodation:

Hotel Ullensvang or similar.

#### Day 11

Locations: Lofthus/ Øystese - Bergen

#### Overview:

We depart Lofthus and travel by coach to Brimness, travelling across the NEW bridge to Bruravik, before heading via Northeimsund to Bergen. We meet our local guide who will take us on a walking tour of Bergen to explore the city with its old Hanseatic Wharf, Rozenkrantz Tower, and fish market, as well as Troldhaugen, the birthplace of Norway's national composer, Edvard Grieg. In the evening we will have our farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B,D)

#### Accommodation:

2 nights at Scandic Ornen Hotel or similar.

#### Day 12

Locations: Bergen

**Overview:** 

Today we explore this great city at leisure. (B)

#### Accommodation:

Scandic Ornen Hotel or similar.

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Locations: Bergen

#### Overview:

Our tour ends today after breakfast. (B)

## **Inclusions / Exclusions**

#### What's included in our Tour

- 12 nights of en-suited hotel accommodation.
- 12 breakfasts and 8 dinners.
- Applicable entry fees and services of local guides.
- Services of a Tour Leader.
- Transport, field trips, and excursions as indicated.
- Service charges and gratuities.
- Detailed preparatory material.

#### What's not included in our Tour

- Return international airfares.
- Comprehensive travel insurance.
- Meals not specified in the itinerary.
- Items of a personal nature, such as telephone calls and laundry.

#### Level 2 - Moderate

Participants must be able to carry their own luggage, climb and descend stairs, be in good health, mobile and able to participate in 3-5 hours of physical activity per day, the equivalent of walking/hiking up to 8 kilometres on uneven ground.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any requests for further information about this tour or any others offered by Odyssey Travel.

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