

An ArtVenture to Scandinavia: September 13 - 27, 2014



Sogne Fjord

Saturday, September 13th

Evening departure from your chosen US gateway city.

Overnight: Plane

Sunday, September 14th

Your arrival in Oslo will be met for the transfer to our city-center hotel. After time to unpack and rest up from the overnight flight, there will be an orientation meeting followed by a cocktail reception and dinner. **(D)**

Overnight: Oslo

Monday, September 15th

A local guide introduces us to Oslo's charms. We'll enjoy the quayside bustle of Aker Brygge, and take a tour of the Vigeland Sculpture Park. We'll also see the Botanical Gardens and the almost-impregnable Akershus Castle. Begun in 1299, it is a maze of dungeons, banquet halls, staterooms, and tiny rooms where outcast nobles were kept. The tour will end in Bygdøy at the Viking Ship

Overnight: Oslo

Museum, where we will have a guided tour and admire the magnificent 9th-century ships. Nearby you can explore other interesting museums, including the Folk Museum with its stave church, during your free afternoon. The evening is also free. **(B)**

Tuesday, September 16th

Today there is the option to take the spectacular "Norway in a Nutshell" tour. This is one of the most popular day trips in Norway and takes you through some of the loveliest scenery in the Norwegian fjords. You take a rail journey over the beautiful mountain plateau with views of the Hardangerjøkulen glacier, and then the Flåm Railway, an incredible journey from the mountains at Myrdal down to the fjord in Flåm. You'll take a fjord cruise and a dramatic bus ride before returning to Oslo late this evening by train. Oslo has many attractions to offer those who do not wish to take this excursion and Jock will be available with directions, suggestions and advice for those who need it. **(B)**

Overnight: Oslo

Wednesday, September 17th

For a small city, Oslo is remarkably well stocked with museums and galleries, and the compact city center retains much of its medieval layout. This morning you're free to continue your explorations. The Rådhus (City Hall), which lies midway between the Royal Palace and Akershus Castle, is a short walk from Oslo Cathedral, the Domkirke, and the nearby market, Stortorvet. After lunch we'll gather back at the hotel to collect our bags and go on the bus to visit the Munch Museum where we will have a guided tour. From here we transfer to the docks to board our overnight ferry to Denmark. We'll get settled into our cabins and then gather for dinner in the main restaurant on board ship. **(B, D)**

Overnight: Ferry

Thursday, September 18th

This morning the ship docks in Frederikshavn at the northern end of the Danish peninsula. We'll have a quick breakfast and then board our waiting coach to explore the Danish countryside. Our leisurely morning drive takes us south, down the peninsula to the coastal city of Århus, the second largest city in Denmark. We'll have time for lunch and then a short guided tour of Den Gamle By (the old town), one of the world's first open air museums of urban history and culture, before continuing our journey south to the town of Kolding and our hotel for the night, beautifully situated on the water just outside the town. Dinner in the hotel this evening. **(B, D)**

Overnight: Kolding



The Bridge to Zealand

Friday, September 19th

This morning Jock will give a tour of the nearby Koldinghus Museum, located in the 15th-century castle. After lunch we'll continue our journey to Copenhagen which takes us across the Little Belt waterway to the fairytale island of Funen, Denmark's third largest island, and then across one of the world's largest suspension bridges to Zealand, the largest island. We arrive in Copenhagen with time to settle in and freshen up before dinner. **(B, D)**

Overnight: Copenhagen

Saturday, September 20th

This morning a local guide will give an overview of the history of this old and fascinating city. We'll begin by canal boat and then get a different perspective on the city from on board a bus. We'll admire the city's key waterfront attractions like the Little Mermaid statue, Amalienborg Castle, Copenhagen Opera House and the Old Stock Exchange and discover fascinating neighborhoods like the

Overnight: Copenhagen

Christianshavn canal quarter. After a break for lunch, Jock will lead a visit to the Statens Museum for Kunst (Denmark's National Gallery of Art), situated right across from Rosenborg Castle and the King's Garden. This evening we have tickets for a performance of *Der Rosenkavalier* at the fabulous new Copenhagen Opera House. **(B)**

Sunday, September 21st

Overnight: Copenhagen

Our visit this morning will be a guided tour of the National Museum of Denmark, focusing on the history, archeology and ethnology of the country. After we break for lunch we'll gather again to visit, with Jock, the Ny Carlsberg Glyptotek, a major art museum built around the personal collection of Carl Jacobsen, the son of the founder of Carlsberg Breweries. We'll spend this evening at the Tivoli Gardens, Copenhagen's famous amusement park and pleasure garden. There are many lovely restaurants nestled around the lake here in Tivoli and tonight is the closing night of the season, complete with fireworks. **(B)**

Monday, September 22nd

Overnight: Copenhagen

The day is free for personal explorations - perhaps to wander Strøget, the mile-long pedestrian shopping street. Towards the end of the afternoon we'll gather at the hotel for a panel discussion with classmate Per Wijkman on his role from 1990-2005 in the enlargement of the European Union, and other speakers on Denmark's current situation. The evening is free. **(B)**

Tuesday, September 23rd

Overnight: Copenhagen

Heading north out of the city today we'll stop first at the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, beautifully situated overlooking the sound. We'll enjoy a tour of the museum and then continue to the nearby city of Helsingør, where we'll stop for lunch and have free time to (briefly) pay our respects to the castle of Elsinore, immortalized in Hamlet. There may also be time for a quick look at the brand new National Maritime Museum that has just opened here. On our return to Copenhagen Jock will introduce us to the Ordrupgaard Museum, a state-owned art museum famous for its collection of 19th- and early 20th-century Danish and French art. We'll return to Copenhagen with time to freshen up before dinner. **(B, D)**

Wednesday, September 24th

Overnight: Stockholm

This morning we board the short flight to Stockholm. Your arrival will be met and you will be transferred to your city-center hotel. The rest of the afternoon and evening are free to explore the neighborhood of the hotel, the old heart of the city. **(B)**

Thursday, September 25th

Overnight: Stockholm

Built on 14 islands around one of Europe's largest, best-preserved medieval centers, the Swedish capital of Stockholm offers stunning scenery in every direction, along with a wealth of museums, art, and history. Our private bus tour with a local guide this morning will orient you to the city's highlights, including the medieval Old Town, or Gamla Stan, with its narrow streets and fantastically preserved 750-year-old history. Storkyrkan, the 13th-century cathedral, is the oldest church in the city, with countless art treasures including St. George and the Dragon. We'll end the tour with a visit to the Vasa Ship Museum. From here it is a short stroll to the Skansen Open Air Museum, or perhaps you may want to visit the Modern Art Museum on the island of Skeppsholmen. This evening you are free to sample one of the city's 2,500 restaurants! **(B)**



Stockholm

Friday, September 26th

Overnight: Stockholm

This morning we travel by ferry to Drottningholm to the west of the city. Here we will have a guided tour of the Palace Theatre, the only 18th-century theatre to survive with its original sets and machinery, and then you will have free time to visit the Royal castle or stroll in the magnificent gardens before returning by ferry to the city centre. This evening we have a special farewell dinner at a local restaurant. **(B, D)**

Saturday, September 27th

Overnight: Home

This morning transfers are included to Stockholm Airport for return flights to the USA. **(B)**



Kronborg Castle aka Elsinore

Key to included meals: **B** - breakfast, **L** - lunch, **D** - dinner