



**BENTOURS**  
SCANDINAVIAN SPECIALISTS



**HURTIGRUTEN**

# FOLLOW THE LIGHTS

2019/20

## SMALL GROUP ESCORTED TOURS

18 DAYS  
OSLO - HELSINKI FROM **\$7695\*** PP

TRAVEL: SELECT 1 OF 25 DEPARTURES OCT'19 - MAR'20

UPGRADES: CABIN UPGRADES AVAILABLE ON CRUISE  
PORTION, FROM \$300 PP\*

**RESERVE YOUR PLACE TODAY!**

CALL 1800 221 712 EMAIL [res@bentours.com](mailto:res@bentours.com) OR VISIT [bentours.com](http://bentours.com)

**SPACES ON THESE EXTRAORDINARY TOURS ARE STRICTLY LIMITED**

\*Terms and conditions apply. Prices are per person, twin share and subject to availability. See [Bentours.com](http://Bentours.com) for more information.

# FOLLOW THE LIGHTS

2019/20



Bentours bestselling tour has been refreshed and extended to 18 days.

Offering the chance to explore Oslo, Norway's capital, before experiencing the world's most famous rail journey "The Flam Railway". Enjoy Hurtigruten's unique northbound voyage up the coastline of Norway. View the little hamlets, picturesque fjords and if we're lucky the mysterious Northern Lights. On arrival into the sleepy town of Kirkenes, head south into Finnish Lapland. Imagine lying back in a glass igloo and gazing into the night sky, is just one of our unique experiences. Head further south to the Finnish Lakes District, in beautiful log accommodation. Take in Helsinki, Finland's capital and experience a day trip to the medieval city of Tallinn.

## DAY 1 OSLO

Arrive in Oslo, make your own way from airport/train station to your hotel. Remainder of the day at leisure, and in the evening meet the rest of the group and guide for a drink and dinner. **D**

*Hotel: Thon Hotel Opera*

*Room type: Lead in Room*

## DAY 2 OSLO

After a leisurely breakfast meet the group in the lobby of the hotel for an Oslo grand city tour, taking in all of the must see sites like the Fram museum, The Vigeland Park, Viking ship museum, Oslo Opera house, Holmenkollen ski Jump and more, using local transport along the way. **B**

*Hotel: Thon Hotel Opera*

*Room type: Lead in Room*

## DAY 3 FLAM

After an early breakfast we will start our "Norway In a Nutshell", catching the morning train for the famous rail journey through the Flam Valley, from Oslo to Myrdal. There we change trains to begin the famous Flam Rail, with spectacular fjord views. We will break our journey in Flam spending the evening in this beautiful tiny village. **BD**

*Hotel: Flamsbrygga Hotel Flam*

*Room type: Lead in Room*

## DAY 4 BERGEN

This morning we start with the Ferry from Flam to Gudvangen, passing through the narrow Naeroy Fjord. From Gudvangen the journey then continues by bus to Voss. Waterfalls line the road as we weave

our way through the valley to Voss. There we board a train for the last leg of our "Norway in a Nutshell" journey, arriving into Bergen in the afternoon. Rest of the day at leisure. **B**

*Hotel: Clarion Admiral Hotel Bergen*

*Room type: Lead in Room*

## DAY 5 BERGEN

After a relaxing morning, we do a walking tour of Bergen, seeing the iconic old town known as Bryggen, taking the Floibanen, the Funicular railway, and exploring this beautiful town. Then we board the Hurtigruten Vessel for the north bound voyage to Kirkenes. **BD**

*Ship: Hurtigruten Vessel*

*Cabin type: Outside cabin*

## DAY 6 ALESUND

(Day 2 of the voyage) We navigate the skerries and islands further north before reaching Alesund, renowned for its beautiful Art Nouveau architecture. Leaving Alesund we head north towards Trondheim. **BLD**

*Ship: Hurtigruten Vessel*

*Cabin type: Outside cabin*

## DAY 7 TRONDHEIM

(Day 3 of the voyage) Arrive early in the morning at Trondheim, with plenty of time to explore the first capital. **BLD**

*Ship: Hurtigruten Vessel*

*Cabin type: Outside cabin*

## DAY 8 LOFOTEN ISLANDS

Arctic Circle - Lofoten Islands (Day 4 of the voyage) As we cross the Arctic Circle in the morning, the hunt for the Aurora Borealis begins! Later on in the day we enter the dramatic and narrow Raftsund, and if the weather and ice conditions allow, we'll sail to the entrance of the famous Trollfjord. **BLD**

*Ship: Hurtigruten Vessel*

*Cabin type: Outside cabin*

## DAY 9 TROMSO

(Day 5 of the voyage) After a morning stop in Finnsnes, the ship continues to Tromso, a city in northern Norway, which is a major cultural hub above the Arctic Circle. It's famed as a viewing point for colourful Northern Lights that sometime light up the night time sky. The city's historic centre, on the island is distinguished by its centuries-old

wooden houses. The 1965 Arctic Cathedral, with its distinctive peaked roof and soaring stained-glass windows, dominates the skyline. **BLD**

*Ship: Hurtigruten Vessel*

*Cabin type: Outside cabin*

## DAY 10 HONNINGSVAG

North Cape (Day 6 of the voyage). Honningsvåg is the nearest port to the North Cape - at 71 10' 21" N, only 2000Kms from the Geographical North Pole. **BLD**

*Ship: Hurtigruten Vessel*

*Cabin type: Outside cabin*

## DAY 11 KIRKENES - SAARISELKA

Admire the dramatic coastal vistas as we approach Kirkenes to disembark the cruise this morning. Enjoy a short drive through Kirkenes, We'll arrive at the small town of Inari, Capital of the Sami People (traditional nomads of Scandinavia, reindeer herders), and we'll stop at the Siida Sami museum. After our stop in Inari we will head towards Saariselka. **BL**

*Hotel: Santa's Hotel Tunturi*

*Room type: Lead in Room*

## DAY 12 SAARISELKA

Today visit the husky farm, see how the breeders manage this enthusiastic canine, and if the weather permits have a husky sled ride. In the evening there may be optional evening Aurora Borealis tours. **B**

*Hotel: Santa's Hotel Tunturi*

*Room type: Lead in Room*

## DAY 13 SINNETTA

Today we visit Santa Claus Village, where you will have free time to explore, and maybe see Santa In the evening we will spend the night in a glass igloo. Such an unique and wonderful experience, one you will cherish for a lifetime. **BD**

*Hotel: Arctic Snow hotel, Sinnetta*

*Room type: Glass Igloo*

## DAY 14 ROVANIEMI

Today we set out for Rovaniemi, where you will have free time or optional extra touring options. Tonight we are staying in Rovaniemi, a lovely town on the border of the Arctic Circle. **B**

*Hotel: Sokos Vaakuna Rovaniemi*

*Room type: Lead in Room*

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**B:** Breakfast **L:** Lunch **D:** Dinner • \*Terms and conditions apply. Prices are per person, twin share and subject to availability. See [Bentours.com](http://Bentours.com) for more information.



#### DAY 15 JARVISYDAN

This morning we head via coach for Jarvisydan, a hotel resort spa in the Finnish wilderness. In the afternoon you'll be able to relax and if this takes your fancy, have a spa treatment, or participate in many of the outdoor activities the resort has to offer. **BD**

*Hotel: Jarvisydan Hotel spa and resort*

*Room type: Scenery Suites*

#### DAY 16 HELSINKI

Today we leave the wilderness via coach and head into the capital of Finland, Helsinki. We should arrive into Helsinki in the afternoon, and we can explore the city with a half day city tour, before checking into our hotel. **B**

*Hotel: Scandic Marina*

*Room type: Lead in Room*

#### DAY 17 TALLINN

Today we have an early start with a full day excursion to the medieval town of Tallinn in Estonia. Take the ferry across to Tallinn for a combined bus and walking tour of the most interesting parts of the city. Stops will include the baroque Kadriorg Park, Song Festival Grounds and the seaside district of Pirita. Walk through the winding, cobble stoned streets of the Old Town, cross Toompea Hill, before continuing to the Palace of Toompea that today houses the Estonian Parliament 'Riigikogu'. Visit Aleksander Nevskij Cathedral and the Dome Church. There will be time at leisure in Tallinn before boarding the ferry to return to Helsinki. We say goodbye our fellow travellers tonight at a special farewell dinner. **BD**

*Hotel: Scandic Marina*

*Room type: Lead in Room*

#### DAY 18 HELSINKI

After breakfast this tour ends. Make your own way to the airport or train station for your onward journeys. **B**



#### HIGHLIGHTS:

- A night in a unique glass igloo - lay in bed and gaze at the stars (and if lucky, the Northern Lights)
- Discovering the Sami culture and remarkable arctic wildlife of Finnish Lapland
- City tours of Oslo, Bergen, Helsinki and Tallinn
- Experience the worlds most famous rail journey, "The Flam Railway" in Norway in a nutshell
- Spend a night in the wilderness of the Finnish lakes district
- A visit to Rovaniemi, the home of Santa Claus
- A visit to a traditional husky dog farm
- A relaxing cruise along the coast of Norway, by far the best way to experience the country's stunning fjords and historic coastal towns
- A day excursion to the medieval town of Tallinn in Estonia
- The services of a Bentours' tour manager throughout the journey
- A complement of "optional excursions" will be made available 6 months prior to the tour departure date

#### INCLUSIONS:

- Duration 18 days/17 nights
- 4 Star accommodation standard
- 11 nights hotel accommodation (1 night in glass igloo) & 6 nights cruise accommodation
- Daily breakfast
- 6 lunches
- 11 dinners (1 x Viking feast in Flam)
- City tours of Oslo, Bergen, Helsinki & Tallinn
- Return Ferry ticket to Tallinn
- Norway in a Nutshell, famous Flam Rail journey
- Coach transfer from Kirkenes to Helsinki
- English speaking guide from start to finish
- Husky Farm Visit (sled ride depending on weather)
- Santa Claus village visit
- Visit the Siida museum

#### EXCLUSIONS:

- Any services not specifically mentioned in "inclusions" or the itinerary
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Tips and gratuities
- Optional excursions
- Additional fees & entrances for optional excursions
- Meals & beverages other than those specifically mentioned
- Porter service at Igloo's, Bergen & Kirkenes ports
- Items of a personal nature (laundry, mini bar, room extras etc.)



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