

# **NORWAY and the FJORDS by SCENIC RAIL**

## TENTATIVE ITINERARY

### Day 1, Tuesday, June 13: Arrival in Oslo

Check-in at the <u>Thon Opera Hotel</u>. After resting up, let's meet and get to know each other. It's been a long overnight flight from the U.S., so we will take it easy today by getting a scenic tram ride through Oslo through charming neighborhoods to famous Vigelandsparken Sculpture Park. There are plenty of attractions near our hotel (Opera House, shopping, dining) and if they are not near the hotel, the best transportation options are only steps away. Each traveler gets an Oslo Card with free admission to thirty major attractions such as Munch Museum, Ibsen Museum, Holocaust Center, Historical Museum, National Gallery, Museum of Decorative Arts & Design, National Museum of Architecture, National Museum of Contemporary Art, Norwegian Folk Museum, Nobel Peace Center, Natural History Museum, Kon-Tiki Museum, and the newly opened National Museum. We will take advantage of the extended daylight hours to see Oslo. All Oslo city public transportation (bus, tram, metro, ferry) is included.

#### Day 2, Wednesday, June 14: Oslo

Armed with our Oslo Card let's do a 3 hour professionally guided tour of Oslo to include the City Hall where the Nobel Peace Prize is awarded, the Royal Palace, the Akershus Fortress, Oslo Cathedral, Parliament House, markets, Central Square, and other attractions. Free afternoon (and evening) on your own. There is plenty to do and see in Oslo; you will scream with delight when visiting the Munch Museum, jump for joy at the Ski Museum and Tower, and all we are saying is, you should give the Nobel Peace Museum a chance.

#### Day 3, Thursday, June 15: Oslo

There is still much more to see and do. Ride the ferry to the Bygdøy Peninsula. Enjoy the Fram Museum, the Kon-Tiki Museum, the Viking Ship Museum, and the fascinating and enjoyable Norwegian Folk Museum. It is a full day in Oslo. Today would be an enjoyable day to go to one of the newest and best museums in Europe – The National Museum.

Day 4: Friday, June 16: Oslo Myrdal and Flåm: Depart from Oslo to Myrdal on a relaxing highspeed train winding through lakes, forests, and mountains. Then, enjoy the most beautiful train ride in the world from mountaintop to sea level on the Flåmsbana Railway. Check in at the outstanding <u>Fretheim Hotel</u> just steps from the train station. All rooms have a balconied view of the fjord. Meet in the fireplace-lit atrium to plan the next full day in Flåm. Then, there's an authentic Norwegian buffet in the stunning dining room. You will be talking about this lodge long after the trip is over.

## Day 5: Saturday, June 17: Flåm and Cruising the Fjords

Enjoy a day in Flåm at the edge of the majestic Sognefjord. There are a variety of activities to choose from, included on the tour. Do an easy hike and see dozens of waterfalls. Others can opt for a beautiful slow and easy cruise through the Sognenford. Also included is an exciting Safari cruise on the Sogneford for an "up close and personal" fjord experience. For intrepid travelers try the downhill bike ride from Myrdal. You might even be brave enough to ride the most exciting and longest zip line in Europe. Norwegian buffet dinner at the Fretheim is for your enjoyment.

## Day 6: Sunday, June 18: Flåm and the Norwegian Countryside

Another day on the fjord in Flam. There are opportunities for fjord cruises, stunning views from Stegastein Viewpoint, walking/hiking trails or a visit to Aurland where "penny loafers" are still made the good, old-fashioned way. Again, a Norwegian buffet for dinner is included.

Day 7: Monday, June 19: Departure from Flåm to Bergen This 3-hour rail journey is one of the most beautiful in the world. It climbs waterfall-lined mountains, darts alongside the fjords, and meanders through wooded countryside. Arrive in Bergen and check in at the perfectly located <u>Hotel Grand Terminus</u>. A charming 2-hour walking tour introduces this UNESCO World Heritage City.

## Day 8: Monday, June 20: Bergen

A free day in the Hanseatic village of Bergen. There is plenty to see and do from musical performances, stunning city views, top-notch museums, all included on your <u>Bergen card</u>. No one ever disliked a day in Bergen! VIP admission is provided to great city attractions.

# Day 9: Wednesday, June 21: Departure

Thank you for traveling with us. We will get you on your way. Your Bergen Card gets you on the light rail right into the lobby of the Bergen Airport.