



Vigeland Sculpture Park, Oslo



Vigeland Sculpture Park, Oslo

# Highlights of Oslo

Take a refreshing break in Oslo, one of the world's most liveable cities, where neo-classical 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings and palaces contrast with striking modern architecture and a backdrop of green landscape. The Oslofjord links the city with the open sea and small picturesque villages which provide the perfect antidote to city life.

## Oslo:

### The historical centre

The historical centre of Oslo is compact and best explored on foot. Start your tour at the **Royal Palace** and its manicured gardens, from where the Norwegian Royal Family presides over the National Day procession on the 17th May.

From the Palace stroll along **Karl Johans Gate**, the liveliest street in the capital, passing the **National Theatre** and the **Parliament** – remember to turn back towards the Palace to take a picture of the view! As you approach Oslo train station the grandeur of Karl Johans Gate transforms into a modern metropolis with boutiques and fashion shops, Scandinavian design stores, market stalls, cafes and restaurants.

End your tour at the mesmerising new **Opera House**. Made of glistening white marble and granite and rising directly from the fjord, the design of the building is nothing but spectacular. Since its inauguration in 2008, the Opera House has become a firm favourite with locals and visitors alike and on a fine day you will find people relaxing on its sloping walls, eating lunch and enjoying the uninterrupted views that the rooftop affords.

### Museums:

Vibrant Oslo has a museum for every interest. Why not take a boat from Rådhusbrygge to the Bygdøy peninsula to visit the **Viking Ship Museum**, **Norwegian Museum of Cultural History**, the **Polar Ship Museum**, the **Kon-Tiki Museum** and the **Norwegian Maritime Museum**?

Other museums of interest include **The Nobel Institute** and the **National Gallery** with its magnificent collection of works by Edvard Munch including 'The Scream'.

### Surrounding nature:

Escape the hustle and bustle of the capital by taking a T-bane metro to **Holmenkollen**. Oslo's premier ski area is the gateway to the Marka forest and boasts panoramic views of the city, an unspoiled natural environment and numerous marked walking and cycling trails.

The much photographed **Vigeland Sculpture Park** is also worthy of a visit. Adorned with 212 bronze, iron and granite sculptures, including the renowned and much photographed 'angry child', the park commemorates the work of Gustav Vigeland.

For excursions out of Oslo, **Hadeland Glassworks** is worthy of a mention. Located 1 hour from the city at the southern tip of Randsfjord, the glassworks, founded in 1762, offers tradition, history and culture as well as the latest in trends and design. You can even try glassblowing first-hand.

### Special offer

Sunvil Discovery is pleased to offer a complimentary Oslo Pass to each client booking a stay in Oslo. The pass provides free admission to most of the city's museums and attractions as well as free public transport and discounts on sightseeing and activities.

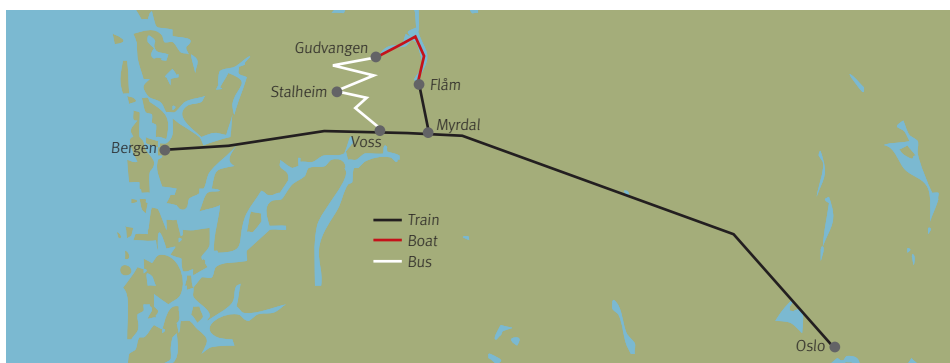
**Notes:** The months of July and August are the height of the tourist season in Norway. Please note that outside of these months, many attractions are closed or are open for reduced hours. If you have a specific site or museum that you would like to visit, please contact us to check that it will be open during your visit.



View of the Fjords, from the Flam Railway



Oslo



Viking ship museum, Oslo

## Norway in a nutshell tour

Norway in a nutshell takes you through some of Norway's most beautiful fjord scenery. Experience the breathtaking Flåm Railway, the Aurlandsfjord, the narrow Naeroyfjord and the steep hairpin bends of Stalheimskleiva.

### Itinerary:

**Oslo to Myrdal:** Depart Oslo train station at 06:31, arriving at Myrdal at 11:41

**The Flåm Railway:** The journey on the Flåm Railway is regarded as one of the highlights of the Norway in a nutshell® tour. The 20km long train journey from the mountain station of Myrdal down to Flåm, down beside the fjord, takes approximately 55 minutes. On the journey, you have views of some of the most magnificent mountain scenery in Norway with an ever-changing panorama of tall mountains and cascading waterfalls. The train moves slowly or stops at the best views.

The train departs Myrdal train station at 12:11, arriving at Flåm at 13:05

**Splendid Norwegian fjords:** Down at the picturesque village of Flåm, there is time to eat and

to wander around before continuing your journey by boat. The boat sails out the Aurlandsfjord and into the Naeroyfjord, the narrowest fjord in Europe. The Naeroyfjord is now included on UNESCO's famous World Heritage List. Surrounded by towering mountains up to 1,800 metres, this branch of the Sognefjord is amazingly beautiful. On the journey, you have excellent views of small traditional farms.

The cruise boat departs Flåm at 13:20, arriving at Gudvangen at 15:30

**Stalheimskleiva:** The journey continues by coach up the steep and spectacular hairpin bends of Stalheimskleiva. The road up to Stalheim Hotel has 13 steep bends. After enjoying the wonderful views of the Stalheimfossen and Sivlefossen waterfalls, there is a short stop at the hotel to enjoy the view before the journey continues to Voss.

The bus departs Gudvangen at 15:40, arriving at Voss at 16:55

**Voss to Oslo:** Continue your journey by train to Oslo. The train departs Voss at 17:10 and arrives at Oslo at 22:32.

### Notes:

- The Norway in a nutshell tour is available all year and can be completed in a day. You can stop off en route if you wish to spend more time on the journey.
- Departure times are subject to change.
- **Departures from Bergen, Flåm and Voss are available.**
- For clients wishing to transfer between the cities of Oslo and Bergen, why not use the Norway in a Nutshell tour and see some spectacular scenery en route?
- **Overnight stops are possible at Bergen, Flåm, Balestrand, Geilo and Oslo.**