

# Stunning Scandinavia

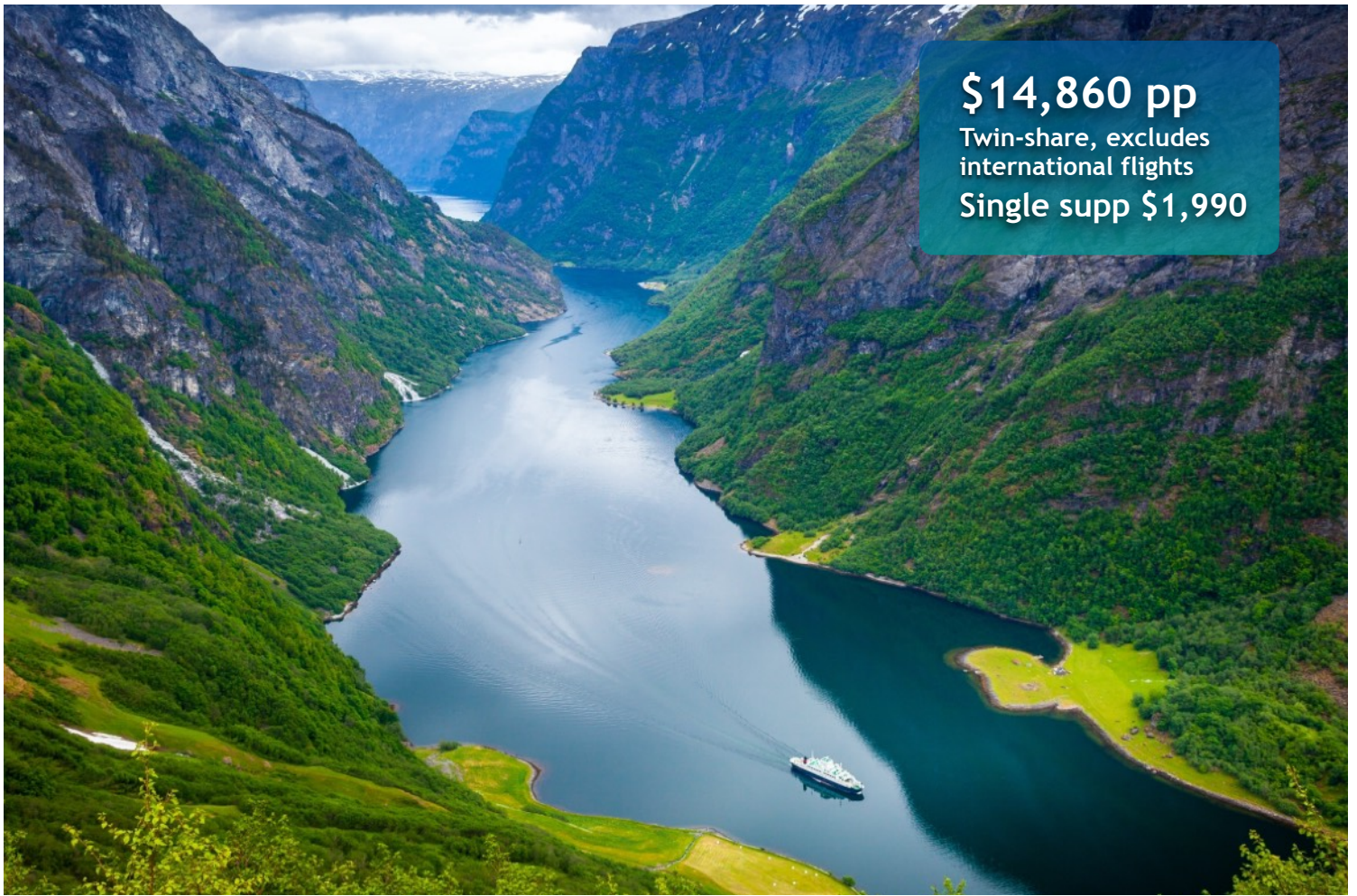
Lapland, Finland, Sweden and Norway

Departs 22nd June 2026

Blue Dot Travel







**\$14,860 pp**

Twin-share, excludes  
international flights

Single supp \$1,990

## **STUNNING SCANDINAVIA LAPLAND, FINLAND, SWEDEN AND NORWAY**

Perched at the top of Europe, the Nordic nations of Finland, Sweden, and Norway are a quirky mix of cultures that live amidst some of the most breathtaking scenery in the world. These countries are known to be at the forefront of modern thinking, yet they hold fierce to their cultures and simple ways of life. Their remote location and sparse population make this trio an irresistible destination for travellers seeking tranquillity, tradition and the wild outdoors.

Finland is a country of contrasts, from vibrant and modern Helsinki to the serene wilderness above the Arctic Circle. Long before the states drew borders to separate the Nordic countries, Lapland existed as a cultural and ethnic region. The Sámi call their territory "Sapmi" and have their own language, culture, and traditions. Today, it remains a united ancestral land covering four countries, and you'll explore the lakes, forests and local communities in Finland and Sweden.

Crossing into Norway, we would typically say, "Get your cameras ready,"... but the sheer beauty of nature here cannot be captured; it can only be experienced. From the colourful fishing villages of the Lofoten Islands, dwarfed by the towering granite peaks, to the achingly beautiful Geirangerfjord and Nærøyfjord. Conventional roads are no match for this environment, and much of our travel is by boat and train, keeping us close to the scenery as it unfolds. Steeped in history dating back to the 11th Century, the coastal cities of Trondheim, Bergen and Oslo are all fascinating in their own right.

To add the final dust of magic to this enchanting region, you'll be travelling against the backdrop of the famed midnight sun. The surreal experience of a sunlit night means more time for exploring, and landscapes are cast in a continually changing glow. The atmosphere amongst locals is vibrant as they take advantage of the extra daylight, and it's contagious.

Join us for an unforgettable journey where nature's beauty meets rich cultural heritage.





Departure, Monday 22nd June

#### IN TRANSIT

Depart Australia for Helsinki, the capital of Finland. We will provide you with an individualised flight itinerary for your trip.

Day 1, Tuesday 23rd June

#### ARRIVE HELSINKI

We'll be met at the airport and transferred to our hotel in Helsinki, where we'll stay for two nights. Some of our group will arrive from Australia, and some will arrive from Longyearbyen, so depending on flight schedules, we may take a brief walking tour before meeting for our welcome dinner. *D*



Day 2, Wednesday  
24th June  
HELSINKI

Helsinki is renowned for its extraordinary architecture and intriguing mix of Eastern and Western influences.

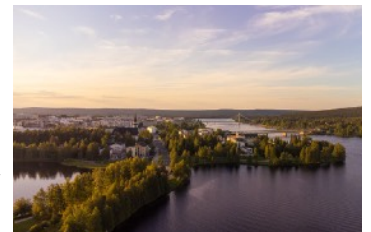
This captivating capital has a lot to offer, with a stunning location on the Baltic Sea, lush natural surroundings, and a thriving arts scene. We'll visit the city's most significant landmarks, such as the Senate

Square, the Lutheran Cathedral, the elegant Uspenski Cathedral, the Sibelius Monument and finally, the Temppeliaukion Church, a unique example of modern architecture excavated directly into solid rock. We'll visit a local market where you can grab a bite, then your afternoon is free to explore this fabulous city before meeting for dinner at a local restaurant. *B/D*

Day 3, Thursday 25th  
June

#### HELSINKI – ROVANIEMI

Helsinki is built on a headland, surrounded by hundreds of lush green islands and around several canals. This morning, we'll explore the city's beautiful shoreline onboard a canal cruise. The cruise will take us past the historic Suomenlinna Fortress, Helsinki Zoo on Korkeasaari Island, an impressive fleet of icebreakers, and the picturesque Degerö Canal. After lunch, you can explore the boutiques and galleries of the Design District before we meet for dinner. Enjoy this beautiful city's late twilight as we board our overnight train to Rovaniemi. These modern trains are comfortable and well-equipped with private sleeping cabins. The extended daylight hours



provide stunning views on our journey North to Lapland. N.B. The sleeper cabins have bunk beds, so please talk to us if mobility is a concern for you, as a flight add-on may be possible. *B/D*



**Day 4, Friday 26th June**  
**ROVANIEMI – GAMMELSTAD – JOKKMOKK**

We'll arrive in Rovaniemi around 07:30am and have

breakfast at a local cafe before strolling around the "gateway to the Arctic". Sitting at latitude 66°33 the town marks the crossing of the Arctic Circle and entry into Lapland. Saying "Moikka" (goodbye) to Finland, we'll cross into Sweden and visit the UNESCO-listed 'church village' of Gammelstad. The extreme weather and geography of Northern Scandinavia made it difficult for churchgoers to get to church, so they built "church villages" where they could sleep overnight and stay for masses and church celebrations. Gammelstad's collection of over 400 red cottages and the original church is the best-preserved example in Scandinavia. After lunch, we'll continue to Jokkmokk, an area known for its stunning nature and rich Sami history, where we will spend two nights. We'll be staying at a rustic but cosy lodge set on the shores of Lake Talvatis. *B/D*



**Day 5, Saturday 27th June**  
**JOKKMOKK (LAPLAND)**

Jokkmokk, just north of the Arctic Circle, was known as the meeting place for trade, gatherings and festivals from the surrounding areas. We'll visit Ájtte, the Swedish Mountain and Sami Museum, to learn more about the story of the Sápmi people, their life and survival in a demanding climate and environment. Afterwards, we'll visit a traditional reindeer farm. Reindeer have played an important role in Finnish history and have been herded by the Sámi people for centuries. Their meat and fur are still used to this day. We'll take a light hike in the forests around Solberget, where the reindeer forage for food, then return to share a Swedish "Fika" (tea or coffee with homemade cakes). Upon returning to our lodge, you may wish to take a walk or relax in the quintessential Swedish sauna. *B/L/D*

**Day 6, Sunday 28th June**  
**JOKKMOKK – KIRUNA – NARVIK**

After breakfast, we'll drive to the town of Kiruna. The original town was built on an active iron ore mine, which caused the ground beneath to deform and sink. Closing the mine was not an option, so the people of Kiruna underwent a massive relocation project to move their town two kilometres away to the location it stands today. We'll briefly walk through the town, then visit the Icehotel. Created in a new guise every winter, it's made entirely out of natural ice from the Torne

River. More than just a hotel, it's truly an art exhibition and expression of creativity. After lunch we'll cross the border into Norway and continue to Narvik, nestled between the mountains and the fjords. We'll visit the War Museum, which focuses first on Nazi Germany's attack on Norway and the subsequent occupation. However, it also examines universal questions about war and its consequences through photography, film, and sound. Check in to our hotel for a one night stay. *B/L*

**Day 7, Monday 29th June**  
**NARVIK – LOFOTEN**

Get your camera ready as we travel into the Lofoten region today. This amazing archipelago offers stunning scenery with steep mountain peaks, Arctic fjords, tiny fishing settlements and rich wildlife.

Exploring it during the never-ending summer days and the Midnight sun is quite special. Our stops en route include the white sand beach of Ramberg (we dare you to swim!), Henningsvær, a fishing village



comprised of several islands connected by bridges, and the picturesque village of Nusfjord. We'll spend one night in Svolvær, the main hub for the surrounding islands. Your evening is free to take photos or explore the arts and culture centre near the hotel. *B/L*

**Day 8, Tuesday 30th June**  
**LOFOTON – BØDO**

Leaving Svolvær, we'll continue our exploration of the Lofoten region, heading South. We'll stop in Reine, an authentic living fishing village famous for its scenic location by the Arctic Ocean and majestic Lofoten peaks. We'll continue to the southernmost point of the islands and visit Å, a tiny fishing village that gives meaning to the word "remote". The local museum is a fascinating glimpse into the harsh life of the area's early settlers. We'll conclude our day in Bodø where we'll stay for one night. Our hotel offers stunning views over the majestic Lofoten mountains or watching the Hurtigruten Coastal Express boats as they cruise past. *B/D*



**Day 9, Wednesday 1st July**  
**BØDO – TRONDHEIM**

After breakfast, we'll take a short flight to Trondheim. With its colourful warehouses, waterways, and historical centre, Norway's third-largest city is a pleasure to explore. On arrival, we'll walk part of the fantastic "City River Walk," which passes through the fjords, canals, and historic city





bridge. In the late afternoon, we'll check into our hotel for a two-night stay. There'll be time to freshen up before meeting for dinner at a local restaurant. **B/D**

### Day 10, Thursday 2nd July TRONDHEIM

This morning, we'll visit the Trøndelag Open-Air Folk Museum. With over 80 historical buildings from the Trondheim area, it offers a charming representation of the wooden houses that dominated the cityscape from the 18th Century until today. Next, we'll visit Nidaros Cathedral, the world's northernmost Gothic cathedral, built in 1070 over the tomb of St. Olav, the Viking king who brought Christianity to Norway. The 172 steps to the top of the cathedral are dark and narrow, but the climb is well worth it for the unrivalled views of the city. The rest of your day is at leisure to wander the charming streets of Bakklandet, with its quaint cafes and artisan shops or visit one of the city's museums. **B/L**

### Day 11, Friday 3rd July TRONDHEIM – ÅNDALSNES

This morning, we'll drive for several hours through national parks and forests to Dombås, where we will board the famous Rauma railway. On the 115 km long journey between Dombås and Åndalsnes, the train passes through spectacular mountain formations, powerful waterfalls, superb stone bridges and the wide fjord. The views are so stunning it was named "the world's most scenic train journey" by Lonely Planet in 2023. We'll ride the Romsdal gondola 1679 metres up the towering mountainside for views of the surrounding fjords, then check in to our hotel in Åndalsnes for a one-night stay and dinner. **B/D**



### Day 12, Saturday 4th July ÅNDALSNES – GEIRANGER

Trollstigen, or "Troll's Ladder," is one of Norway's most iconic drives, winding through

brehtaking landscapes and past cascading waterfalls. Built in 1939, Trollstigen was an important transport passage between the villages of Åndalsnes and Valldal and is a true masterpiece in engineering. Its 11 hairpin turns ascend steeply through the mountains and dramatic cliffs. At some locations, you will discover that the road is carved into the mountain and, in other places, built in stone. This spectacular drive concludes in Geiranger, a picturesque village at the end of the Geirangerfjord, a UNESCO World Heritage site known for its dramatic cliffs and lush greenery. We'll check in to our hotel for a one-night stay, then head out for a light hike in this spectacular location. **B/D**

### Day 13, Sunday 5th July GEIRANGER – SUNNFJORD

This morning, we'll explore the famous Geiranger Fjord on a 1-hour cruise to Hellesylt. Steep mountains and spectacular waterfalls surround the fjord, and the small farms clinging to the mountainsides look almost uninhabitable and have remained untouched in modern times - accessible only by boat and on foot. Keep your cameras ready as we drive through Norway's jaw-dropping scenery to the Sognefjord area. Our journey is approx. 200km, but it will take the rest of the afternoon as we stop for photos of the verdant valleys, glaciers and ever-changing mountains. On arrival at our hotel in Sunnfjord, there'll be time to relax and take it all in. **B/D**

### Day 14, Monday 6th July SUNNFJORD — BERGEN

After breakfast, we'll drive through the Fjordlands of Norway towards Bergen. The sheer size and scope of the fjords and mountains mean that the best way to navigate the landscape is by combining roads, ferries, bridges and tunnels - it's quite a feat of engineering. Perched atop the dramatic fjords of Western Norway, the city of Bergen was founded in 1070 A.D. During the 12th and 13th centuries, when the Kingdom of Norway was at the peak of its power, Bergen was the capital of Norway. Before meeting for dinner, you'll have some free time to wander the beautifully preserved wooden buildings, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site. **B/D**



### Day 15, Tuesday 7th July BERGEN

Bergen is arguably Norway's most captivating city, and today, we'll take a walking tour of the city highlights, including a visit to the famous Fish and Flower Markets, the old Bryggen Harbour, the popular Hanseatic Quarter and the ancient Maria Church. We'll ride Bergen's famous funicular railway to Mount Fløyen, 320 metres above the city, offering a magnificent view of Bergen and its surroundings. Your afternoon is free to explore this fabulous city, and dinner is at your leisure. **B/L**





**Day 16, Wednesday**  
**8th July**  
**BERGEN –**  
**NÆRØYFJORD –**  
**FLÅM – OSLO**

Today is a long travel day, but a truly memorable one, nicknamed “Norway in a

nutshell”. It’s an early start for our train journey to Voss and then Nærøyfjord, the world’s narrowest fjord, added to UNESCO’s World Heritage List in 2005. Boarding a scenic 2-hour cruise, we’ll pass historic villages and the Aurland’s stone church dating back to the 1200s. Next, we’ll join the incredible Flåm Railway, rivalling Rauma for the title of “world’s best train journey”. Travelling from sea level to the mountain station of Myrdal, it’s one of the steepest railways in the world and affords a stunning variety of scenery during the short trip. Finally, we’ll board another train from Myrdal to Oslo. The trip takes approximately 7 hours, so our arrival to Oslo is late - but well worth it for this spectacular day of scenery. **B**



**Day 17,**  
**Thursday 9th**  
**July**  
**OSLO**

This morning, we’ll meet a local guide to tour Oslo’s city centre. We’ll visit the

Parliament Building, the

National Theatre, the new Opera House, Royal Residence and the City Hall, where the Nobel Peace Prize is presented each year. Next, we’ll visit the Vigeland Sculpture Park where the work of Norway’s famous sculptor, Gustav Vigeland, is displayed. The park is his life’s work, comprising over 200 granite, bronze, and wrought iron sculptures celebrating the circle of life. In the afternoon, we’ll visit the fantastic Norwegian Folk Museum, representing how people lived in Norway from 1500 to the present. The 160 buildings in the Open-Air Museum represent different regions in Norway and Sami culture. We’ll return to our hotel to freshen up before meeting for our farewell dinner. **B/D**

**Day 18, Friday 10th July**  
**OSLO & DEPARTURE**

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight home or join our optional Stockholm extension. **B**

**STOCKHOLM**  
**EXTENSION**  
**Cost: \$1,290 pp**  
**(twin share)**  
**\$460 single supp**

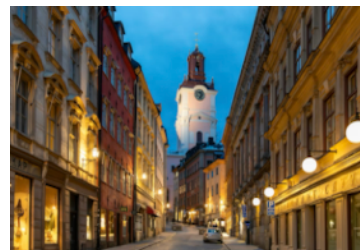


**Day 1, Friday 10th July**  
**OSLO - STOCKHOLM**

After breakfast, transfer to the train station for the most relaxing way to travel to Stockholm. During this 6-hour trip, the scenery shifts from Norway’s rugged landscapes to Sweden’s rolling hills, forests and lakes. You’ll arrive in Sweden’s vibrant capital late afternoon, and your hotel is a short distance from the train station. Your time in Stockholm is un-escorted, and it’s an easy city to navigate using its excellent train system. **B**

**Day 2, Saturday 11th July**  
**STOCKHOLM**

This morning, you’ll join a half-day sightseeing tour of Stockholm, designed to give you a taste of the city’s highlights. You’ll visit the City Hall, renowned for its architecture, murals, and as the site of the Nobel Prize Banquet, explore the cobblestone streets of Gamla Stan (Old Town), pass by the Royal Palace, the Parliament, and the world’s longest established bank, the Bank of Sweden. The tour concludes in the neighbourhood of Djurgården where many of Stockholm’s most popular museums and attractions can be found. We suggest spending the afternoon here exploring the Vasa Museum, the Skansen Open-air Museum, or the ABBA Museum if you’re a fan! **B**



**Day 3, Sunday 12th July**  
**STOCKHOLM**

Your day is free to continue exploring the city and its surroundings. Spread across 14 islands, there is a great mix of modern design and historical charm. The city is known for its scenic waterfronts, where you can enjoy chic cafés and innovative restaurants. Many visitors choose to explore Stockholm’s stunning archipelago by boat, which your hotel can easily arrange. **B**

**Day 4, Monday 13th July**  
**DEPARTURE**

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight home or your next destination. **B**



Icon indicates a day where there is **moderate physical exertion**. A basic level of fitness is required: eg. A trek over ‘mostly flat’ terrain or climbing several flights of steps without the support of handrails or elevators.



Icon indicates a day where there is a **particularly active section**. A good level of fitness is required: eg. A longer trek over non-groomed, uneven terrain, or ascending to reach a panorama. May also include exposure to higher altitude. **An alternate activity may be offered if you choose to sit out an active section.** Please call - we are happy to discuss each tour in more detail.