



## Itinerary

### 14 Day Northern Lights in Style: Cruise & Tour

**\*IMPORTANT NOTE: This is the default version of the tour itinerary. Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this version. If you have booked extras, Please contact [info@myholiday2.com.au](mailto:info@myholiday2.com.au) for a personalised version of your itinerary\***

#### Day 1: Embark Oslo

Your unforgettable journey begins in the vibrant capital of Norway, Oslo, where you make your own way to board the magnificent MS Trollfjord, marking the start of your exclusive Signature voyage. As you step aboard this beautifully designed ship, you'll be welcomed into a world of comfort and elegance. Settle into your cosy, well-appointed cabin, adorned with modern Scandinavian touches and offering stunning views of the surrounding seascape. Whether you wish to unwind in the panoramic lounges or explore the ship's top-tier amenities, the MS Trollfjord is the ideal blend of luxury and adventure.

As you glide away from Oslo, the scenery transforms into a breathtaking display of fjords, mountains, and coastal villages. The Coastal Experience team will introduce themselves, providing valuable insights into our upcoming journey and the destinations we'll explore along Norway's rugged shores. Their expertise will deepen your appreciation for the unique coastal culture and history that define this part of the world.

In the evening, you'll gather for a delightful welcome dinner in the ship's elegant dining room. Indulge in a meal made with fresh, local Norwegian ingredients while meeting fellow travellers and sharing the excitement of what lies ahead. As the ship sails gently along Norway's coastline, the dramatic vistas set the tone for the incredible adventure awaiting us over the next two weeks.

**MEALS:** Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord

#### Day 2: At Sea

Today, you spend a full day at sea, sailing through the spectacular landscapes of Norway's rugged coastline. Take this opportunity to explore the ship, enjoy panoramic views from the observation deck, or attend insightful talks from the Coastal Experience team about the region's culture and history. You might also spot wildlife like seabirds, dolphins, or even whales along the way. Relax in the lounges or enjoy a hot drink while gazing at the ever-changing scenery.

**MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord

#### Day 3: Stavanger

You'll wake up to one of Norway's most awe-inspiring sights: the dramatic cliffs of Lysefjord. As you sail through this 26-mile-long fjord, towering granite walls rise majestically from crystal-clear waters, offering an unforgettable experience. The iconic Kjeragbolten—a massive boulder wedged between cliffs—adds to the breathtaking landscape, and you may spot mountain goats scaling the steep slopes or waterfalls cascading down the fjord's sheer cliffs.

By late morning, you arrive in Stavanger, a city that perfectly blends modernity with historical charm. Explore Gamle Stavanger, the city's old town, where cobblestone streets are lined with white wooden houses adorned with vibrant flowers. History buffs will enjoy a visit to the Norwegian Petroleum Museum, while art lovers can explore the Stavanger Art Museum. The Canning Museum offers a fascinating glimpse into Stavanger's fishing heritage.

Take some time to stroll along Stavanger's lively waterfront, lined with cafés, restaurants, and shops. You might opt for a scenic hike to Pulpit Rock, one of Norway's most famous viewpoints, offering unparalleled views over the surrounding landscape. In the evening, return to the ship, reflecting on the day's adventures while enjoying a sumptuous dinner aboard.

**MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord

#### Day 4: Ålesund

After a hearty breakfast on board, you'll dock mid-morning in Ålesund, a stunning town renowned for its distinctive Art Nouveau architecture. The town's intricate spires and turrets offer a beautiful contrast to the surrounding fjords and mountains. Ålesund was rebuilt in this elegant style following a fire in 1904, making it one of the finest examples of Art Nouveau design in Europe. Stroll through the charming streets, where you'll discover local boutiques, galleries, and quaint cafés.

Nature lovers can explore the Atlanterhavsparken Aquarium, one of Northern Europe's largest saltwater aquariums, which showcases marine life native to Norway's coastline. Alternatively, venture to the top of Aksla Viewpoint, a short but rewarding climb that offers panoramic views over Ålesund, the fjords, and the Sunnmøre Alps. The view from Aksla is not to be missed, and for those not inclined to hike, a road or tourist train can take you to the summit.

Ålesund's proximity to some of Norway's most striking fjords makes it a perfect gateway for further exploration. Consider a guided tour to nearby Hjørundfjord, a secluded and less-visited fjord surrounded by towering peaks. By the time you return to the ship in the evening, you'll have uncovered the many layers of Ålesund's beauty, from its rich history to its breathtaking natural surroundings.

**MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord

#### Day 5: Rørvik

Today, you arrive in the picturesque fishing port of Rørvik, nestled in the heart of the Vikna archipelago, a breathtaking collection of more than 6,000 islands, islets, and reefs. The maritime landscape is a haven for wildlife, with seabirds, seals, and playful porpoises often spotted among the rugged shorelines. Take time to explore the charming town, where traditional Norwegian homes line the harbour, reflecting Rørvik's strong fishing heritage.

One of the town's highlights is the Norwegian Coastal Museum, where you can delve into the region's rich maritime history. Learn about the significance of the Vikna archipelago in Norway's coastal trade routes and admire exhibits that showcase the area's fishing traditions. The museum's collection of boats and nautical artifacts offers a deep dive into Norway's seafaring past.

After lunch, you set sail again, gliding through the calm waters of the Vikna archipelago. The serenity of the countless islands and the surrounding wildlife creates an almost otherworldly experience. Enjoy the peaceful beauty from the observation deck, and as the evening sun casts a golden glow on the landscape, take in one last moment of stillness before dinner on board.

**MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord

## Day 6: Lofoten Islands

Prepare to be mesmerized as you arrive at the striking Lofoten Islands, often hailed as one of Norway's most beautiful natural wonders. Towering peaks rise dramatically from the sea, creating a rugged, jaw-dropping landscape. Beneath these cliffs, tranquil bays and fishing villages, like Reine and Henningsvær, paint a picture of simplicity and beauty. The traditional red and white rorbuer, perched on stilts, reflect the islands' rich fishing heritage.

For nature lovers, Lofoten offers a wealth of exploration options. Hike up Reinebringen for panoramic views that stretch over the fjords and mountains or take a stroll along one of the pristine beaches, where the turquoise waters may make you forget you're in the Arctic. Photographers will find no shortage of opportunities to capture the islands' dramatic contrasts of lush valleys, sharp ridges, and sparkling seas.

As part of your cultural exploration, you'll can visit the Lofoten Viking Museum, where you'll step back in time to experience the life of the Vikings. Later, enjoy a meal at a cosy local restaurant, where freshly caught seafood—especially the famous Lofoten cod—is a must-try. As evening falls and you sail away, the towering cliffs and serene waters will linger in your memory long after you depart.

**MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** MS Trollfjord

## Day 7: Disembark Tromsø ~ Lyngen Alps ~ Kilpisjärvi

Disembarking in Tromsø, you begin your land adventure with a scenic journey east toward the stunning Lyngen Alps. This breathtaking region is known for its snow-capped peaks and pristine fjords, which you'll experience firsthand during two scenic ferry crossings. As the ship slices through the still waters, you'll be treated to panoramic views of the majestic mountains and charming villages nestled along the shorelines. After the ferry crossings, you continue your journey toward the tranquil resort village of Kilpisjärvi, nestled between pristine lakes and untouched wilderness. Located just eight kilometres from the Norwegian border, this peaceful village offers the perfect retreat amid Arctic beauty. Upon arrival, take a moment to breathe in the fresh air, wander the quiet streets, or relax in the cosy ambiance of your hotel.

The rest of the afternoon is yours to enjoy at leisure, whether exploring the serene surroundings or simply unwinding in the comfort of the hotel. Kilpisjärvi's untouched beauty and peaceful atmosphere provide the perfect backdrop to relax before tomorrow's adventures. Dinner will be served at the hotel, offering a taste

of local Finnish specialties.

**MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** Santa's Hotel Rakka, Kilpisjärvi - Superior Room

## Day 8: Kilpisjärvi

After breakfast, embark on an exhilarating journey through the Arctic wilderness on the Border of Three Countries Safari. Choose between a snow sleigh or snowmobile to glide through the serene snowy birch forests, heading toward Koltavuoma, where Finland, Sweden, and Norway meet. This extraordinary location allows you to step into all three countries at once, marking your visit to what's known as the world's most peaceful border.

Your guide will share fascinating stories about the region's history and culture, adding depth to the experience as you take photos at this famous yellow border cairn. The tour includes a stop for hot drinks and pastries, giving you a chance to warm up and appreciate the Arctic beauty that surrounds you.

Returning to Kilpisjärvi, the afternoon is yours to relax or explore more of the surrounding wilderness. In the evening, gather for dinner at the hotel before setting out on an exciting Northern Lights hunt. Far from city lights, the clear Arctic skies offer a fantastic opportunity to witness the magical Aurora Borealis, creating memories that will last a lifetime.

**MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** Santa's Hotel Rakka, Kilpisjärvi - Superior Room

## Day 9: Kilpisjärvi ~ Levi:

Your journey continues as you travel by private coach to Levi, Finland's premier destination for winter adventures. As you pass through the snow-blanketed wilderness, you'll be treated to sweeping views of untouched fells and forests. Levi welcomes you with its dramatic landscapes, offering a serene yet adventurous setting for the next two days.

You'll be staying in cosy aurora cabins, designed with glass ceilings for optimal views of the Northern Lights. Whether the auroras appear or not, these cabins, nestled in a snow-covered landscape, provide a luxurious retreat where you can fully relax and connect with nature.

As evening falls, embark on a magical heated sleigh safari through the stillness of the Arctic night. Wrapped in thermal blankets, you'll glide through the snowy wonderland, perhaps catching glimpses of wildlife or the shimmering Northern Lights. End the evening by a crackling fire, sipping hot drinks and toasting marshmallows under the starry sky before retreating to your aurora cabin.

**MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** Northern Lights Village, Levi - Aurora Cabin / Glass Igloo

## Day 10: Levi

Prepare for one of the Arctic's most iconic adventures: mushing your own team of huskies through the snow-blanketed landscapes of Lapland. As your eager huskies' dash into the wilderness, you'll feel the exhilarating rush of this age-old tradition. Sledding through untouched forests and across frozen tundra,

you'll be surrounded by towering pines, frozen lakes, and breathtaking scenery.

For those seeking more experiences, Levi offers additional optional activities. Opt for a serene reindeer safari to learn about the Sámi culture and the vital role reindeer play in their lives. This peaceful journey offers a striking contrast to the thrill of the husky ride. Alternatively, take a snowmobile safari for an adrenaline-filled adventure, racing across frozen lakes and deep into the Arctic wilderness.

Each of these adventures offers a unique way to explore Lapland's majestic beauty. Whether you spend the day mushing huskies, gliding behind reindeer, or zipping through the snow on a snowmobile, you'll be immersed in the wild, unforgettable landscapes of the Arctic.

**MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** Northern Lights Village, Levi - Aurora Cabin / Glass Igloo

### Day 11: Levi ~ Kemi

This morning, you embark on a scenic journey from Levi to Kemi, stopping briefly in Rovaniemi, the official hometown of Santa Claus. If time permits, you can stretch your legs before continuing through Finland's snowy wilderness toward the coastal town of Kemi. Upon arrival, you'll check into the luxurious Glass Villas, offering panoramic views of the frozen landscape.

In the afternoon, prepare for a thrilling icebreaker adventure aboard a powerful ship that crushes its way through the frozen Gulf of Bothnia. Witness the engineering marvel as the ship plows through thick ice, creating an unforgettable soundscape of cracking and breaking ice.

For those seeking an extra thrill, opt to take a dip in the freezing Arctic waters, clad in a thermal survival suit. Floating among the ice chunks is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Afterward, return to your Glass Villa for a relaxing evening, with the possibility of spotting the Northern Lights dancing above the frozen sea.

**MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** Experience 365 / Seaside Glass Villas, Kemi - Seafront Premium Villa

### Days 12: Kemi ~ Helsinki

Today, sit back and unwind as we embark on a scenic train journey through Finland's breathtaking winter landscapes. As the train glides smoothly along the tracks, you'll have a front-row seat to the serene beauty of the Finnish countryside. Snow-covered forests stretch endlessly, with towering pines dusted in white, while charming villages with cosy wooden cottages dot the landscape. As you move closer to your destination, you'll notice the transition from the Arctic wilderness to the more urban, yet equally picturesque, heart of Finland.

The rhythmic motion of the train creates a peaceful atmosphere, offering the perfect opportunity to reflect on the adventures you've had so far. Whether you choose to lose yourself in a good book, savour a warm drink, or simply gaze out at the winter wonderland passing by, the journey provides a relaxing interlude before we reach Helsinki. Upon arrival in Finland's vibrant capital, you'll check into our hotel for the night. After settling in, the evening is yours to explore at your own pace.

**MEALS:** Breakfast

**OVERNIGHT:** Hotel Haven, Helsinki - Superior Room

## Day 13: Helsinki

Today, you embark on an immersive guided tour of Helsinki, designed to unveil the rich history, vibrant culture, and modern charm of Finland's dynamic capital. From striking architecture to bustling markets, Helsinki offers a delightful blend of the old and the new, and today you'll experience some of the city's most iconic landmarks and hidden gems. The tour begins at the Helsinki Cathedral, an architectural masterpiece perched atop Senate Square. This stunning neoclassical structure dominates the skyline, and as you step inside, you'll admire its serene interior while learning about the history of this monumental building, which has been a symbol of Helsinki since the 19th century.

Next, you'll visit the remarkable Temppeliaukio Church, also known as the Rock Church. Carved directly into solid rock, this unique Lutheran church features a copper dome and natural stone walls that create an almost otherworldly atmosphere. The acoustics are phenomenal, and if you're lucky, you might even catch a musical performance during your visit. The tour continues to Market Square, a vibrant hub located along the picturesque harbor, where you can sample local Finnish delicacies such as fresh salmon, cloudberry jam, or the ever popular korvapuusti (Finnish cinnamon roll). You'll also have time to browse handmade crafts, from traditional wooden toys to woven textiles and Finnish design pieces, as the market buzzes with the energy of daily life.

Your tour takes you next to Senate Square, the historic heart of Helsinki, framed by elegant neoclassical buildings including the Government Palace, the University of Helsinki, and the National Library of Finland. Your guide will share the stories behind this iconic square and its role in Finland's history. The final stop is the Sibelius Monument, a striking sculpture dedicated to the legendary Finnish composer Jean Sibelius, featuring over 600 steel pipes resembling organ pipes. Afterward, the day is yours to explore at your leisure. You might visit the Ateneum Art Museum, the Seurasaari Open-Air Museum, or discover Helsinki's design district. Whether you delve into its culture, stroll through its parks, or shop for local crafts, Helsinki promises a memorable day.

**MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner

**OVERNIGHT:** Hotel Haven, Helsinki - Superior Room

## Day 14: Depart Helsinki

As your incredible adventure draws to a close, it's time to make your own way to Helsinki Airport for your flight home or onward travels. Depending on your flight time, you might have a final opportunity to enjoy the city or take a leisurely stroll through one of Helsinki's beautiful parks. Reflect on the amazing experiences and memories from your journey as you bid farewell to Finland and the Arctic. Safe travels!

**MEALS:** Breakfast