COASTAL WONDERS OF NORWAY, THE FAROE ISLANDS AND ICELAND

17 Days  Nat Geo Endurance  126 Guests  Expeditions in: Jun  From $17,160 to $33,900

DAY 1-2: U.S./Oslo, Norway
Fly overnight to Oslo, and check into the Hotel Bristol (or similar) in the heart of the city. On an afternoon tour, stroll amid the city’s famed Vigeland sculptures—hundreds of life-size human figures set in terraced Frogner Park. Visit the Fram Museum, showcasing the polar ship Fram and dedicated to the explorers and wooden vessels that navigated the Arctic Sea in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The evening is free to explore Oslo on your own. (Day 2: B, D)

DAY 3: Tromsø
Take a charter flight to Tromsø, known as the “gateway to the Arctic” due to the large number of Arctic expeditions that originated here. Visit the Arctic Cathedral, where the unique architecture evokes icebergs; and peruse the Polar Museum, which showcases the ships, equipment, and seafaring traditions of early Arctic settlers. Embark our ship this afternoon. (B, L, D)

DAY 4: Tysfjorden
This morning, enter the long fjord of Tysfjorden, where only few small villages cling to the rocky shores. Glide beneath the fjord’s steep walls on Zodiac and kayak excursions; and explore Hellemobott Fjord, which reaches far inland, ending just a few miles from the border of Sweden. (B, L, D)

2020 Departure Dates:
18 Jun

Advance Payment:
$2,500

Sample Airfares:
Economy: from $900
Business: from $2,700
Charter (Oslo/Tromso): from $490
Airfares are subject to change

Cost Includes:
One hotel night in Oslo; accommodations; meals indicated; alcoholic beverages (except premium brands); excursions; services of Lindblad Expeditions’ Leader, Naturalist staff and expert guides; use of kayaks; entrance fees; all port charges and service taxes; gratuities to ship’s crew.

Cost Not Included:
Air transportation; personal items such as emails, laundry, voyage DVD etc.

Special Offers
FREE BAR TAB AND CREW TIPS INCLUDED
We will cover your bar tab and all tips for the crew on all National Geographic Endurance voyages.

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DAY 5: Lofoten Islands
Start your day on deck as we glide into Trollfjorden, one of Norway’s most dramatic fjords. Continue to the Lofoten archipelago, which boasts an enchanting landscape of picturesque villages framed by jagged, granite peaks that rise straight from the sea. Explore the many islets, and reposition to Værøy for walks and kayaking. Seek out Atlantic puffins, razorbills, and guillemots on a Zodiac cruise. (B,L,D)

DAY 6-7: Exploring the Fjords of Norway
Carved by glaciers over millions of years, Norway’s northern coast is laced with steep-walled fjords, mountainous islands, and chiseled peaks. Cruise in a Zodiac along vertical rock faces, kayak through serene fjords, or go ashore on a secluded sandy beach to hike amid verdant valleys and birch forests. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: At Sea/Shetland Islands, Scotland
Spend a relaxing morning at sea as we sail toward the Shetland Islands, an archipelago of about one hundred islands and islets located north of the Scottish mainland. Glide past the towering cliffs of Noss to view murres, puffins, kittiwakes, and other seabirds. This evening, dock overnight in Lerwick. (B,L,D)

DAY 9: Lerwick/Foula
Lerwick is a town where Norse and Gaelic cultures intermingle. Explore the town, delve into local culture and history at the Shetland Museum & Archives, or embark on a bird-watching or geology walk. Alternatively, venture to the prehistoric settlement of Jarlshof to examine its Bronze Age ruins and Viking longhouses. In the afternoon, continue to Foula, a stark but spectacular island edged with towering cliffs and blanketed with peat bogs, where people are drastically outnumbered by puffins. (B,L,D)

DAY 10-11: Tórshavn, Faroe Islands
This morning, we arrive in the Faroe Islands, an autonomous archipelago within the Kingdom of Denmark. The legacy of the Vikings persists here, reflected in the language of the Faroese and their love of the sea. Visit Torshavn, the colorful capital of the Faroe Islands, where even the government buildings are crafted in the traditional design of wooden siding with a turf roof. Visit the 12th-century St. Olav’s Church alongside the ruins of Kirkjubøur Cathedral, which was never completed. Explore one of the outer islands in this tiny archipelago to see some of the incredible, dramatic sea cliffs and deep fjords that characterize the coastline. Take Zodiaks to look for cliff-nesting puffins, gannets, and northern fulmars. (B,L,D)

DAY 12-13: At Sea/Raudanes or Langanes Peninsulas, Iceland/Grimsey
After a day at sea, we awake along Iceland’s rugged eastern coast, an unspoiled stretch of rocky outcrops, hidden coves, and hills that beckon hikers. We may visit one of several locations in this region. Depending on the weather and tides, go for a Zodiac cruise to view the sea stacks near Raudanes peninsula or hike along a stretch of the Langanes peninsula. Continue to Grimsey on the Arctic Circle. (B,L,D)
DAY 14-15: Ísafjörður/Flatey
Island/Látrabjarg
Located in the Westfjords region, the town of Ísafjörður lies on a tiny spit jutting out into the water against a backdrop of steep hills. Spend time hiking and watching for nesting seabirds in this remote setting. The next day, visit Flatey island, a fishing and trading post for centuries. Navigate the coast by Zodiac to see where Erik the Red is believed to have set sail around the year 982, bound for Greenland. Sail past the soaring Látrabjarg cliffs, the westernmost point of Iceland and home to teeming populations of bird species, including razorbills and puffins. (B,L,D)

DAY 16: Westman Islands
Spend the day in the Westman Islands, one of the world’s younger archipelagos, formed by undersea volcanos some 11,000 years ago. In 1973, the isle of Heimaey was threatened by lava flows that nearly closed off the harbor. We’ll visit the Eldfell volcanic crater, where the earth is still hot, and take in views over landscapes engulfed in lava rock. We’ll also spy Surtsey, one of the world’s youngest islands, which was formed by volcanic eruptions between 1963 and 1967. (B,L,D)

DAY 17: Reykjavík/U.S.
Disembark in Reykjavík and choose to either soak in the geothermal waters of the famed Blue Lagoon; or visit hot springs, a geothermal power plant, and a horse farm. Transfer to the airport for your flight home. (B)
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