



Faroe Islands Explorer

Enjoy the unspoilt natural beauty of these scenic islands, the largest of which is Streymoy, with the capital Torshavn. The islands are of volcanic origin, with a dramatic mix of mountains, deep valleys and narrow fjords and straits, making an ideal haven for bird life. Only a fraction of the land has been cultivated, the rest remaining as some of Europe's wildest landscapes.

DAY 1 Fly from the UK to the Faroes via Denmark (Billund or Copenhagen). On arrival you'll transfer to the centre of Torshavn for a 4 night stay, accompanied by a guide who will give you a flavour of the town and the islands. The rest of the day is free.

DAY 2 Morning guided tour of Torshavn, including the fort of Skansin, Tinganes, the original home of the parliament, and the Nordic cultural centre. This afternoon you will visit the breathtaking Vestmanna bird cliffs, sailing in small boats into caves and under rocks to see the many thousands of seabirds nesting in the towering crags.

DAY 3 A full day guided excursion by coach and ferry across Streymoy to the Northern Isles of Eysturoy, Bordoy and Vidoy, to see their spectacular and unique landscape including Cape Ennisberg, at 750m the world's highest sea cliff. You'll also pass through several beautiful villages en route and visit Klaksvik, the islands' second largest town.

DAY 4 A free day for the activity of your choice, with time to appreciate the rugged scenery, observe the bird-life, or simply walk and enjoy the fresh sea air. You might also visit the old cultural centre at nearby Kirkjubour, where some churches and houses are over 900 years old.

DAY 5 Transfer by coach to the airport for the return flight to the UK, via Denmark.



Finland's Lakes and Forests

Finland is a country of almost countless lakes, mostly surrounded by dense coniferous forests, and our tour gives you a taste of the country's beautiful south-eastern region. It also includes a spectacular canal cruise to the Russian town of Vyborg, once part of Finland, with no visa necessary. Finally, a short stay in Helsinki enables the culture and impressive architecture of the capital city to be enjoyed.

DAY 1 Fly to Helsinki, arriving mid afternoon, and transfer by coach to Lappeenranta for 3 nights. En route visit the Langinkoski Imperial Fishing Lodge, dating from 1889.

DAY 2 Morning at leisure in Lappeenranta, perhaps visiting the Fortress area where there are several interesting museums, including a miniature model of Vyborg town. In the afternoon you'll have a guided tour of Ylammaa, well known for its Gem Museum.

DAY 3 Today you leave the hotel early for the voyage down the Saimaa Canal, with lunch on board, across the Russian border to the town of Vyborg. On arrival you will have a guided tour of the town, then free time for shopping before returning by coach to Lappeenranta.

DAY 4 Today you'll travel to Savonlinna, stopping en route to visit the Church of the Three Crosses in Imatra before stopping at Punkaharju. Stay for 3 nights in Savonlinna.

DAY 5 Morning free in Savonlinna, famous for its mediæval lakeside castle which hosts a summer opera festival. Later a guided tour to Valamo Monastery, for traditional Russian tea, Kerimäki, with the world's largest wooden church, and the beautiful wooden Villa Rauhanlinna.

DAY 6 Today is free for you to explore more of Savonlinna, perhaps take a lake cruise or maybe visit the castle. There is also an excellent market and shopping area.

DAY 7 Leave Savonlinna bound for Helsinki. En route you'll stop at Partala Manor in Juva, Mikkeli for a short city tour, the Salmela Art Centre at Mantyhärju, and Heinola. This afternoon there is a city tour of Lahti, then you will continue to Helsinki for 1 night's stay.

DAY 8 Morning city tour of Helsinki, including the Tempelinaukio Church, Museum of Arabia and Finnish Porcelain Factory, before transferring to the airport for your flight home.



Gullfoss Falls, Iceland © Icelandic Ad Agency

Icelandic Highlights

The essence of Iceland is its breathtaking natural beauty. Situated on the edge of Europe, midway between Athens and Boston, it is geologically one of the earth's newest lands and has a wonderfully dramatic landscape of volcanoes, bubbling geysers, glaciers and thundering waterfalls. Reykjavik, with its brightly coloured houses overlooking the bay and surrounded by mountains, has a charm and atmosphere all of its own. The most northerly capital city in the world, it is home to almost half the population of a quarter million.

DAY 1 Fly to Keflavik airport, from where a transfer coach will take you to the nearby Blue Lagoon, an enormous outdoor swimming pool. A swim in these warm, mineral-rich waters should not be missed, before you continue the short distance to Reykjavik for a 3 night stay.

DAY 2 Morning city sightseeing tour, including Breioholt, with views over the city and the bay and mountains beyond, Arbaer Open Air Museum, and the sculpture collection of the artist, Asmundur Sveinsson. Pass Hofoi House, the site of the 1986 Reagan/Gorbachev summit meeting, the landmark Hallgrímskirkja Church, the Parliament (housing the world's oldest legislative assembly), the City hall, the Lutheran and Catholic Cathedrals, before continuing to the fishing harbour. The afternoon will be free for individual exploration.

DAY 3 Today you'll take the classic full day "Golden Circle" excursion, travelling over part of the highland plateau to Hverageroi, where geothermal power allows a flourishing greenhouse industry, Kerio, a lake-filled extinct volcanic crater, Shalholt with its new cathedral and for centuries Iceland's main cultural centre, and on to the majestic waterfall of Gullfoss. After lunch you will explore the world-famous Geysir hot spring area, continuing to the rift-valley, the boundary between the continental plates of America and Europe. The Pingvellir National Park here was the site of the oldest parliament in the world, founded in AD 930.

DAY 4 A morning at leisure, before a transfer in the afternoon to Keflavik and your flight home.



Near Riga, Latvia

Northern Europe

Baltic States Discovery

The Baltic States have some beautiful countryside, with many lakes, forests and marshland areas. Our tour visits both Riga, capital of Latvia, and the contrasting city of Tallinn, the Estonian capital, both of which now display little trace of their 50 years of Soviet rule. Each has many fine historic buildings, with narrow streets, attractive squares and market places in their old centres, both of them having been important ports for many centuries.

DAY 1 Fly to Riga, where you will be transferred to the city centre for 3 nights' stay.

DAY 2 To acquaint you with Riga we include a three hour guided tour of the city, including the cathedral, which has a world famous organ, and the best of the city's "Jugendstil" architecture.

DAY 3 Today is free to do as you wish, perhaps taking an excursion to the Sigulda National Park and the fascinating Ethnographic Museum.

DAY 4 Travel today through peaceful countryside, crossing the border into Estonia for a stop in the interesting town of Parnu. Continue to Tallinn, the capital, for 4 nights' stay.

DAY 5 To capture for you the flavour of this lovely city, more Scandinavian than Eastern European, we include a 3 hour guided tour by coach and on foot. This afternoon is free.

DAY 6 Full day excursion to Lahemaa National Park, where many kinds of wildlife can be seen in this beautiful marshland area.

DAY 7 Full day at leisure in Tallinn.

DAY 8 Today you will be transferred to Tallinn airport for your return flight home to Britain.



Norway's Western Fjords

Visit the land of the Vikings and experience the dramatic splendour of Norway's beautiful and spectacular scenery, where towering mountains rise up from seemingly bottomless fjords.

Our tour visits the magnificent Geirangerfjord, the Hardangerfjord and the mighty Sognefjord, the largest fjord in Norway, stretching up to 130 miles inland. Marvel at the awesome size and power of the glaciers that carved out this extraordinary landscape.

DAY 1 Fly to Bergen, where you stay for 1 night, with the rest of today free to explore the city.

DAY 2 Leave Bergen by coach, travelling through spectacular scenery northward to Skei, situated midway between the mighty Sognefjord and the Nordfjord region. Located at the tip of Lake Jolster, Skei is your base for 3 nights while you explore fjord and glacier country.

DAY 3 A full day excursion today, travelling along the Valedal Valley to the rugged coastline of Norway's West Cape. You'll cross by ferry from Anda to Lote, then drive through fantastic scenery along the Nordfjord to Westkapp, the most westerly point of mainland Norway.

DAY 4 Another full day excursion, driving through Byrkjelo, Olden, Stryn and Hornindal then sailing along the Geirangerfjord to Geiranger, passing the 'Pulpit Rock' and the 'Bridal Veil' waterfall. Continue to Dalsnibba viewpoint, then along Lake Stryn to Stryn, and return to Skei.

DAY 5 Today you leave Skei by coach for a 3 night stay at Voss, one of Norway's most popular year-round resorts, situated between the Sognefjord and Bergen.

DAY 6 Today is free in Voss, but you might choose to take the famous "Norway in a Nutshell" circular excursion, via mountain railway and fjord ferry, with its many unforgettable views.

DAY 7 A final excursion over the mountain from Voss down to Ulvik, the "Pearl of the Hardanger", one of the most beautiful spots in the fjord country. After a stop you drive the short distance to Bruravik for the fjord cruise to Brimnes, then continue through Eidfjord to the Voringfoss waterfall, returning to Voss past the spectacular Skjervefossen falls.

DAY 8 Leave Voss by coach for Bergen airport and your flight home.



FOR PRICES AND DEPARTURE DATES, PLEASE REFER TO LEAFLETS AVAILABLE SEPARATELY

Cruise Ships in the Geiranger Fjord

