

## Norway & Denmark Private Tour

Please note that all of the itineraries listed in our web site are actual private tour itineraries we have prepared for clients over the past 12-18 months. By the very nature of what we do, each private tour itinerary is custom, exclusive and unique unto itself. Our over-riding goal is to create lifelong memories that you and your family will forever carry deep within your hearts.

### Overview

Norway offers pure, natural allure – it is truly one of the most beautiful countries in the world. Norway’s amazing, steep-sided fjords, glacial lakes, and pristine rivers, offer a variety of outdoor activities including hiking, biking, fly-fishing, and paddling. A bit similar to our trekking in Patagonia, Norway offers several small, unique eco-lodges that provide comfort and serenity while enjoying the natural wonders.

Though we have enjoyed our travels in Sweden and Finland, we consider a Copenhagen and Norway private tour to be an ideal combination of Nordic city aesthetics and the great outdoors of Scandinavia “North”. Without a doubt, we feel Copenhagen is the coolest, most hip city among all the Nordic capitals. This thousand-year-old harbor town is the perfect representation of Denmark’s culture: innovative with a cutting-edge art/design scene, world-class Michelin dining, and stunning architecture.

<p><b>NORWAY</b>  <b>Temperature Range</b>                  Highs: High 60’s                  Lows: Low 20’s  <b>Area</b>                  239,354 SQ KM                  148,728 SQ MI  <b>Population</b>                  5.3 Million  <b>Language</b>                  Norwegian, Sami &amp; English  <b>Capital</b>                  Oslo  <b>Currency</b>                  Norwegian Krone</p>	<p><b>DENMARK</b>  <b>Temperature Range</b>                  Highs: Low 60’s                  Lows: Low 30’s  <b>Area</b>                  1,373,575 SQ KM                  853,500 SQ MILES  <b>Population</b>                  5.7 Million  <b>Language</b>                  Danish, Faroese,                  Greenlandic &amp;                  English  <b>Capital</b>                  Copenhagen  <b>Currency</b>                  Danish Krone</p>
---	--

**Day 1**  
**Fly to Oslo**  
 Through our sister company, premium air provider TRAVNET, we may assist with your international airfare, as well as with mileage points conversion.

**Day 2**  
**Arrive Oslo**  
 Upon arrival in Oslo, you will be transferred to the Amerikalinjen Hotel or The Thief Hotel.

**Amerikalinjen**  
 Once home to the Norwegian America Line, established in 1919, Nordic Choice Hotels has refurbished and repurposed this historic building exactly 100 years later in 2019. We were lucky enough to see the beautiful Amerikalinjen on our Norway and Denmark scouting trip the day after it

opened! The Amerikalinjen hotel perfectly balances the old with new, with the impeccable care one would expect from the same owners as Oslo's other premier hotel, The Thief. In contrast to The Thief (which we found extremely luxurious but rather quiet and secluded), the Amerikalinjen is located in the center of the city, just a short walk to the central train station. The decor is a blend of early 20th-century, in keeping with the building's history, and modern amenities. Spaces are large and open, as the hotel encourages guests to mingle and move freely from one space to the next. We loved the large terrace area with its glass ceiling, the basement jazz club, and the attached café featuring a daily jazz band! Though the spa isn't as nice as the one

at The Thief, we found the Amerikalinjen to be bright, beautiful, and lively — much more suited to our client's who travel in with young people and in large groups!

### **The Thief**

The Thief sits in the hideaway of Tjuvholmen (Thief Islet), once a haven for smugglers and other bandits. Filled with international art pieces and designer furniture collected by the hotel's owner, Peter Stordalen, it is perhaps the most sophisticated and chic luxury hotel in Norway. Here, you can see local and international musicians performing live music or visit The Thief Art Space, showcasing the works of emerging, contemporary artists. Each of the 118-rooms feature rainfall showers, floor-to-ceiling windows, and private balconies looking out across the surrounding fjords. Each of the suites are interesting and unique, built around separate concepts, such as the Broom Suite, named and furnished after Lee Broom, an award-winning British designer; and the Apparatjik Suite, featuring video art, music, and art installations signed by the members of the international super group from which the suite gets its name. The amenities here include a rooftop terrace, lounge-library, a 40-foot swimming pool, and a gym. When visiting, we especially loved the very nice spa with sauna, steam room, and invigorating cold showers!

***Accommodations: Amerikalinjen Hotel or The Thief Hotel***

### **Day 3**

#### **Full-Day Oslo Private Tour**

Europe's fastest growing capital and one of the greenest cities in the world, Oslo was named the European Green Capital for 2019. With a large number of public parks, one of the lowest carbon footprints in the world, well-patronized public transport, and a commitment to sustainable food production and green space, it is easy to see why. Greenery is not the only thing booming in Oslo, as it is quickly becoming quite a culinary destination with the most northern, three-Michelin-starred Maaemo, and its fusion of Icelandic-Korean eats.

***Meals: Breakfast***

***Accommodations: Amerikalinjen Hotel or The Thief Hotel***

### **Day 4**

#### **Train Oslo/Flåm**

We consider Norway's noteworthy "Norway in a Nutshell" program to be the most efficient and comfortable way to see the country's most plentiful mountain and fjord scenery. Included today are the scenic Bergen and Flåm railways; the steep hairpin bends of the Stalheimskleiva are a bit nerve-racking, but still fun! Upon arrival in Flåm, you will be met by a 29|2 Aurland representative, and transferred to the lodge.

#### **29|2 Aurland**

Conceived in 2012 by the engaging owners, Tone (pronounced "Tone-a") and Bjørn Ronning Vike and their young children, we consider the boutique, nine-room 29|2 Aurland Lodge to be among the most beautiful eco-lodge settings anywhere in the world. Being just a short, 15-minute transfer from the historic village of Flåm, the 29|2 is set in the innermost reaches of the world's longest and deepest open fjord. Though the 29|2 may not have the outward luxury amenities of two of our favorite up-scale outdoor lodges (Deplar Farm in Iceland and Explora Patagonia in Chile) the lodge more than makes up for it in terms of its extraordinary location overlooking the fjord and nearby Aurlandselvi River (hence its huge demand during the peak summer season). The buildings on the farm have been restored one by one, to ensure guests will have an authentic feeling of

Norwegian rural life and the local community through the walls that surround them. Please note, the stairs and some doorways are quite small and may be difficult to maneuver for some. They are careful to book room assignments based on clients need for space and easy access.

In decorating the various rooms, Tone and Bjørn have experimented with traditional colors and used both second-hand and new furnishings, with great support from interior architect, Gunvor Røkholt. The uniquely designed rooms are spread out in three adjacent buildings: the Riverside Farm Lodge, the Goat Barn, and the Fisherman's Cabin.

***Meals: Breakfast, Late-Lunch & Dinner***

***Accommodations: 29|2 Aurland***

### **Day 5 - 6**

#### **Full-Days at the 29|2 Aurland**

Among the fun, outdoor activities you may experience here are biking, sea trout fly-fishing, Nordic skiing, local goat farm visits, amazing hikes (including a short waterfall hike and the scenic, six-hour Aurlandsdalen hike), the Stegastein Lookout excursion, and fjord kayaking or traditional Osolver row-boat experiences! If interested, you may also opt to enjoy the estate's wood-heated sauna and scenic outdoor hot-tub before dinner! Please note, it takes about seven hours to heat the hot-tub, so please do let them know in advance if you wish to take advantage of this fun treat.

***Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner***

***Accommodations: 29|2 Aurland***

### **Day 7**

#### **Fjord Cruise + Private Transfer to Bergen**

Following breakfast at the 29|2 Aurland, you will be transferred to Flåm for a two-hour fjord cruise to Gudvangen aboard a modern, 100% electric boat with amazing views from all angles.

Upon arrival in Gudvangen, you will be met by your private driver, who will transfer you the remainder of the way to the Opus XVI in Bergen, with a stop for lunch in the charming town of Voss.

#### **Opus XVI**

Following our scouting visit, it was clear that the best, luxury hotel in Bergen hands-down is the boutique Opus XVI. As relatives of the late, world-renowned Norwegian composer (and Bergen's most famous citizen), Edvard Grieg, managing directors Britt Marie Grieg and Alexander Grieg sought to create a boutique experience for guests full of culture and never lacking in luxury. A timeline of Grieg's life can be found in a mini-exhibition on the lower-level of the hotel. Located in a historic building originally built in 1876 for Bergen's largest bank, the Opus is just steps away from the UNESCO World Heritage site of Bryggen. With only 65 rooms and suites, each one has been individually decorated with a blend of classic and modern styles. Enjoy the library, the beautifully decorated dining and lobby areas for afternoon tea, a small gym, and the high-touch Nordic hospitality at this boutique property!

***Meals: Breakfast***

***Accommodations: Opus XVI***

## **Day 8**

### **Half-Day Bergen Private Tour**

Bergen, whose history goes back to the Viking Age, was once a very important seaport. A member of the Hanseatic League, a commercial and defensive confederation of merchant guilds and their market towns, Bergen was the center of prosperous trade between Norway and the rest of Europe. The rich heritage of this town is still visible in the many colorful, wooden houses that creep up the hillsides.

**Meals: Breakfast**

**Accommodations: Opus XVI**

## **Day 9**

### **Fly Bergen/Copenhagen**

Following breakfast, you will be privately transferred to the Bergen Airport for your flight to Copenhagen. Upon arrival in Copenhagen, you will be privately transferred to the Hotel d'Angleterre.

### **Hotel d'Angleterre**

This 90-room (30 rooms & 60 suites) neo-classical (palace) property located on Kongens Nytorv, close to the fashionable Strøget shopping street, is the finest luxury hotel in Copenhagen. Established in 1755, the d'Angleterre underwent renovations in 2013, including the restoration of the hotel's original details: art nouveau cornices, fireplaces, and corridors (originally built wide enough for ladies in "crinolines" to pass each other comfortably). The hotel's age is certainly not reflected in the room bathrooms, which feature spacious marble baths with soaking tubs and separate rainfall showers. If you are a Bang & Olufsen fan, you will love the large B&O TV's in the room. Try the hotel's touted "world's best hot chocolate" in the Balthazar Bar, as well as the hotel's outstanding spa, the "Amazing Space Spa." Most notably, the d'Angleterre boasts the 2013 opened Marchal, a Michelin star rated restaurant.

**Meals: Breakfast**

**Accommodations: Hotel d'Angleterre**

## **Day 10**

### **Half-Day Copenhagen Private Tour**

Commonly recognized for being the world's most livable city, Copenhagen is the epitome of a modern urban hub with ambitious and groundbreaking sustainable community initiatives. On path to being the first carbon neutral capital by 2025, this Danish society dances to its own beat with nearly half the population biking to work daily, a high functioning and accessible public transportation system, baby buggy parking spots, and a waste-to-energy trash incinerator (Amager Bakke) so efficient that it even disposes of Sweden's trash! Founded in the 10th-century, this city did not always have a pristine reputation. During the 19th-century, virtually no sanitation existed, as the environment was plagued with pollution and diseases. Now Copenhagen sits atop the podium with such recognitions as being the food capital of Denmark with more than 15 Michelin-starred restaurants, plentiful royal palaces, and cultural treasures from old Viking riches to the world's largest collection of Danish Golden Age paintings. As you wander the small, pedestrian-friendly streets amidst the seamlessly infused classic 17th-century to present-day, world-class architecture, there is no shortage of parks, art galleries, canals, Baroque churches, cafés, and art galleries that will pique your interest!



***Meals: Breakfast***

***Accommodations: Hotel d'Angleterre***

**Day 11**

**Full-Day North Zealand Private Tour**

Today you will travel along the scenic coastline of Denmark. Stopovers may include the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, known for its "sauna principle" dividing exhibitions into artists already known, and those less heard of and more contemporary. You may also visit the Kronborg Castle, famously portrayed in Shakespeare's Hamlet. As you cross the countryside of North Zealand you may wish to stop at the Queen's beautiful summer palace and end your tour with a visit to the 16th-century Frederiksborg Castle, which houses the Denmark National History Museum.

***Meals: Breakfast***

***Accommodations: Hotel d'Angleterre***

**Day 12**

**Fly Copenhagen/Home**

Following breakfast, you will be privately transferred to the Copenhagen Airport for your onward flight home.

***Meals: Breakfast***