

# SCANDINAVIAN HIGHLIGHTS BY CAR

## ITINERARY

DAY

1

### DAY 1: ARRIVAL TO STOCKHOLM (SWEDEN)

At Stockholm-Arlanda Airport you will be met by a driver and transferred to your accommodation in Stockholm. If you arrive early, take a stroll around the trendy Södermalm neighbourhood, where you'll find many unique shops, cafes and restaurants, along with great city skyline views up from the street of Fjällgatan.

Spend the night in Stockholm.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Stockholm

DAY

2

### DAY 2: FREE TIME IN STOCKHOLM

Spend the day in Stockholm. It is considered by many to be one of the most beautiful capital cities in the world, with grand palaces, many museums, world-class restaurants and lush parks. Stockholm is also a very hip destination known for its innovative design, fashion and music scene. Here we recommend taking a sightseeing tour to get an overview of the most significant places, including the Old Town and Djurgården, the king's ancient hunting grounds, where many of the most renowned museums are located.

Spend the night in Stockholm.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Djurgården - Gamla Stan (Old town of Stockholm)

DAY

3

### DAY 3: STOCKHOLM TO BORLÄNGE (SWEDEN)

Start your drive north today. Around the town of Enköping there are many interesting sights to explore, including the Grönsö Castle, medieval churches and Viking Age rock carvings. Continue north to the town of Sala, where you can take a guided tour of the Sala Silver mine or explore the mine museum, police museum or crafts shops in the area. When entering the province Dalarna, your first stop is Avesta, where you will find the largest Dala Horse in Sweden. This is a perfect stop for a great photo and an afternoon snack at the café located here.

Spend the night in Borlänge.

*Driving distance approx. 230km.*

*If your car rental pick up is on a Sunday or public holiday, please note that the car rental agency doesn't open their office until 15:00 in the afternoon. We might be able to arrange pickups outside these hours against an extra fee or assist you in rearranging your tour to make it fit. Please contact us for details.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Uppsala Cathedral

DAY

4

### DAY 4: BORLÄNGE TO RØROS (NORWAY)

Start the day with a visit to the Gammalgården open-air museum. With 34 buildings this is the largest exhibition of old buildings in original surroundings in Sweden. Here you will find everything between Stone Age relics to 18th century farms and a school museum.

Next, head for the Norwegian border to explore the mountain and mining town of Røros. The Røros mines were closed in 1977 but the town is still a thriving community where rich traditions are kept alive. In 1982 this charming town was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Spend the night in Røros.

*Driving distance approx. 415km.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Røros - Zorn's Gammelgård

DAY

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## DAY 5: RØROS TO LOM (NORWAY)

From Røros, head for Dombås on a scenic drive between the two national parks of Dovrefjell and Rondane. When reaching Dombås you'll head south through the Gudbrandsdalen Valley before turning west in Otta, just an hour from Lom and nearby the Jotunheimen National Park.

The Jotunheimen area is one of Norway's most popular destinations for recreation and sports, and the hiking options are endless. In the Lom area you can also go rafting, horseback riding and canoeing. If you feel like relaxing, the outdoor swimming pool at Dønfoss is also well worth visiting.

Spend the night in the Lom area.

*Driving distance approx. 315km.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Dovrefjell-Sunnalsfjella National Park - Gudbrandsdalen - Jotunheimen National Park - Lom

DAY

6

## DAY 6: LOM TO SOGNDAL AREA (NORWAY)

Today you can choose between 3 different routes; a shorter drive over Sognefjell and a longer one over Strynefjell on your way south to Norway's longest fjord, Sognefjorden. Driving over Sognefjell, the highest mountain passage in Norway and the country's first official tourist road is truly an amazing experience, and will also give you some extra time at your next destination.

Taking the longer road over Strynefjell, originally built in 1895, you will also be driving one of Norway's official tourist roads, no less impressive than the one over Sognefjell. The third option is the longest route but offers breathtaking fjord scenery. Drive by famous Geiranger and take the ferry on the Geirangerfjord to Hellesylt, from where you can continue south to the Sogndal area.

Spend the night in the Sogndal area.

*Driving distance the shortest way approx. 135km. (with detour over Strynefjell/Geiranger approx. 290/340 km)*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Geirangerfjord - Sogndal - Sognefjord

DAY

7

## DAY 7: SOGNDAL TO BERGEN (NORWAY)

On your way to Norway's second largest city, Bergen, your drive takes you past several small and charming fjord villages, such as Lærdal, Aurland, Flåm and Gudvangen. We suggest visiting Flåm in the bottom of the beautiful Aurlandsfjorden to experience the mountainous train ride between Flåm and Myrdal. Your journey then continues through Voss to Bergen.

Spend the night in Bergen.

*Driving distance approx. 240km.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Aurlandsfjord - Bergen - Flåm - Gudvangen - Voss

DAY

8

**DAY 8: BERGEN TO GEILO (NORWAY)**

Explore Bergen and its historical treasures. We recommend visiting the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Bryggen and strolling among its well preserved medieval houses. Nearby you'll find a vibrant fish and flower market and cable cars offering stunning views from mountain vistas. After spending the first part of the day exploring Bergen, head east towards beautiful Hardangerfjorden. After crossing the fjord at Hardangerfjord Bridge you will begin the journey through Hardangervidda National Park on your way to charming Geilo.

Spend the night in Geilo.

*Driving distance approx. 240km.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Bergen - Bryggen - Geilo - Hardangerfjord - Hardangervidda National Park

DAY

9

**DAY 9: GEILO TO OSLO (NORWAY)**

Leave Geilo around noon and start your drive through the Hallingdal Valley towards Oslo, the capital of Norway. On this scenic drive, you will pass idyllic ski resort villages and travel through beautiful forested dales and plateaus. In Oslo spend the rest of the day taking in the sights, such as Frognerparken or the Holmenkollen ski jump, and enjoy a good dinner at one of the capital's fabulous restaurants.

Spend the night in Oslo.

*Driving distance approx. 240km.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Frognerparken - Hallingdal Valley - Holmenkollen Ski Jump & Museum - Oslo

DAY

10

**DAY 10: OSLO (NORWAY) TO GOTHENBURG (SWEDEN)**

Start the day by crossing the border to Sweden. As you drive along the riverbanks of the Göta älv River towards Gothenburg, take some time to check out the impressive series of locks at Trollhättan to see how the boats are guided through the canal system. And be sure not to miss the Bohus Fortress north of the city.

Spend the night in Gothenburg, the second largest city in Sweden.

*Driving distance approx. 325km.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Bohus Fortress - Gothenburg - Trollhättan Locks & Trollhättan Falls

DAY

11

**DAY 11: GOTHENBURG (SWEDEN) TO COPENHAGEN (DENMARK)**

Start the day by taking a tour around Gothenburg, perhaps on one of the sightseeing boat tours offered. Before entering the city of Helsingborg make a stop at Sofiero Palace & Garden, where you will find historical parks and gardens with a stunning variety of rhododendrons. Then take the ferry (20 minutes) from Helsingborg to Helsingør in Denmark. In Helsingør we recommend taking a stroll around the pretty town and visiting the Kronborg Castle, made famous in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*.

Continue along the sea shore to Copenhagen, where you will spend the night.

*Driving distance approx. 270km.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Copenhagen - Helsingborg - Helsingør - Kronborg Castle - Sofiero Palace & Garden

DAY

12

**DAY 12: FREE DAY IN COPENHAGEN**

Today you have the whole day to explore the Danish capital. One of the best ways to see Copenhagen is with a sightseeing boat tour. Then take a walk around the city, perhaps with a stop to see The Little Mermaid, a bronze statue from a Hans Christian Andersen story, beautifully located out on the water. Another nice place to visit is the Amalienborg Palace, where you can see the Royal Guard stationed outside the four identical residences. Inside you can browse exhibits showing how three generations of the monarchy lived here from the 19th century.

Of course, all visits to Copenhagen must include a stroll along Nyhavn, the canal famous for its narrow, colourful buildings. Here it's nice to find a seat outside at one of the many restaurants or pubs.

Spend the night in Copenhagen.

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Amalienborg Palace - Copenhagen - Little Mermaid - Nyhavn

DAY

13

### DAY 13: COPENHAGEN (DENMARK) TO THE KINGDOM OF CRYSTAL (SWEDEN)

Drive over the Öresund Bridge back to Sweden. You may wish to look around Ystad with its many small half-timbered houses before driving east to Ales Stenar ("Ale's Stones")—a giant stone formation over 1,000 years old. Its prominent location by the south coast makes it one of the most visited sites in Skåne.

Driving along the coast, don't miss Glimmingehus, one of the best-preserved medieval manors in Scandinavia, dating back to 1499, as well as the Stenshuvud National Park with its rich flora and fauna. The Swedish Punsch museum is another interesting place to visit, containing exhibits from one of the two largest punch beverage factories in the 1800s.

End the day in the "Kingdom of Crystal" (Glasriket) area, where you will spend the night.

*Driving distance approx. 300km.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Ales Stenar - Glimmingehus - Ystad - Øresund Bridge

DAY

14

### DAY 14: THE KINGDOM OF CRYSTAL (GLASRIKET) TO LINKÖPING (SWEDEN)

Drive around the "Kingdom of Crystal" (Glasriket) and visit some of its most famous glassworks. There are more than 50 glassworks in this area, many of which are open to the public with souvenir shops. Then drive north to Vimmerby and visit the hometown of Swedish author Astrid Lindgren. Here you will find a quaint theme park village dedicated to Pippi Longstocking and other famous characters featured in her books. Next make a stop in Linköping and visit the Old Linköping open-air museum showing what a small town looked like a hundred years ago.

Spend the night in Linköping.

*Driving distance approx. 225km.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Astrid Lindgren's World - Kingdom of Crystal - Old Linköping - Vimmerby

DAY

15

### DAY 15: LINKÖPING TO STOCKHOLM (SWEDEN)

On your way back to Stockholm, we recommend visiting the charming little town of Trosa by the coastline and the 18th-century Tullgarn Castle, which features some of the most beautiful interiors from the period.

Spend the night in Stockholm.

*Driving distance approx. 200km.*

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Stockholm - Trosa - Tullgarn Palace

DAY  
**16**

## **DAY 16: DEPARTURE FROM STOCKHOLM**

If you're departing on an afternoon flight, use the morning to catch up on one last museum or head to a cafe for one last Swedish *fika* (coffee break), a perfect way to end your holiday. Enjoy a private transfer to Stockholm-Arlanda Airport when it's time to head home.

*Note: Extra days and activities in Stockholm before or after the tour can easily be added to this package; contact us for details.*

*Whatever your needs, we are here to help. If you have any questions about our packages or services, please do not hesitate to contact us.*

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