ARTISAN TRAVEL

Bergen and Flåm - City Culture and Fantastic Fjords



HOLIDAY TYPE: Flexible Dates
VISITING: Norway

BROCHURE CODE: 5226
DURATION: 3 nights

In Brief

Spend three nights completely immersed in unparalleled natural beauty and vibrant culture as you explore historical Bergen before travelling to the charming village of Flåm to get up close to the famous fjords during an exciting RIB safari and breath-taking rail journey.







Speak to us on 01670 785 085
bookings@artisantravel.co.uk

ABTA No.Y6261

What's included?

- **Travel worry-free** - fully organised and run by a trusted, fully regulated UK operator. Read more about our bonding and the types of financial protection that we offer
- **Transfers:** return airport transfers and return transfers from Bergen to Flåm via catamaran and train (c.15th May – 30th September) or train both ways on other dates
- **Accommodation:** 2 nights at the Zander K in a standard double/twin, 1 night at Fretheim Hotel in a standard double/twin room
- **Meals:** 3 breakfasts
- The following activities are included in the holiday: RIB Fjord safari, Flåm Railway journey, Bergen guided city walk (the order of activities is subject to change)
- Fully qualified guides and instructors during activities

*A note on flights: Flights are not included in this itinerary, however, Loganair are our preferred partner on this route and operates regional departures from May until late August (or October depending on the airport). Direct flights are also available from London Gatwick year-round and other regional departures may be available with a connection in Oslo. Our Travel Experts will happily discuss all available options with you at the time of booking.

Trip Overview

Journey to the gateway to the fjords to experience the best of Norway's offerings; superb nature, bustling city life, and the country's famed fjords. On this three-night trip, you'll enjoy the perfect mix of vibrant culture with peaceful natural surroundings as you stay in both Bergen and Flåm.

Starting your trip in Bergen, at the UNESCO heritage site Bryggen, you'll be immediately immersed in the fantastic history of the city. Later in your trip, you'll get a chance to soak up the culture as you take part in a guided city walk to Bergen's most iconic spots, listening to stories and soaking up spectacular views.

It wouldn't be a Norwegian break without getting up close to the fjords that draw so many travellers here and once you see their striking beauty, you'll see why they garner such attention. To see the fjords in all of their glory, you'll journey to the picturesque village of Flåm with sensational views right from your hotel, but it doesn't stop there. You'll also experience an exciting RIB safari where you'll speed along the fjords, discovering cascading waterfalls and looking out for wildlife along the way.

This trip is available year-round - if you're travelling during the summer months (c.15th May-30th September), your journey from Bergen to Flam will be via catamaran and then returning on a railway journey through the mountains, which includes the scenic Flåmsbana route. If you are travelling outside of this time, you'll enjoy the stunning railway journey both ways from Bergen.

Image Credits: Flam Guide Service, Bergen Tourist Board & Girish Chouhan, Bergen Tourist Board & Nordlandblog.com, Bergen Reiselivslag & Robin Strand, Lost in Norway.

Agenda

Please note the order of activities is subject to change

DAY 1 ARRIVAL AND WELCOME

Following your arrival at Bergen Airport, you will be picked up and transferred to your hotel in the city, approximately 25 minutes away.

You'll check into the Zander K hotel just a few minutes walk from the UNESCO heritage site Bryggen. You could stay in the hotel for your dinner tonight or your central location puts you in the perfect place to discover one of the many restaurants in the city.

We recommend arriving on an early flight today (our Travel Experts can arrange this for you) so that you can enjoy Bergen and prepare for tomorrow's trip to Flåm, which departs early in the morning. We can of course arrange an extra night in Bergen, or Flåm, should you wish.

Included Meals: None

DAY 2 BERGEN TO FLÅM AND FJORD RIB SAFARI

This morning, following an early breakfast, you'll check out of your hotel to transfer to the picturesque village of Flåm. If you are travelling during the summer months (c.15th May to 30th September), you'll cruise along the longest fjord in Norway, Sognefjord, on a catamaran, departing at 8am. This crossing, taking approximately five and a half hours, is a spectacular way to experience the fantastic nature here. If you're travelling outside of summer, you won't miss out on the views as you travel via rail from Bergen to Flåm, changing at Myrdal to enjoy the scenic Flåmsbana route, through the high mountains and into the valleys, with extraordinary scenery along the way. The train journey from Bergen to Flåm is approximately 3.5 hours.

Bergen train station is a 15-minute walk away from your hotel, and you can add on a taxi as an optional extra if preferred - please let us know at the time of booking, or alternatively, you can arrange this directly with the hotel when you arrive in Bergen.

Once you arrive in Flåm, you'll check into the Flåmsbrygga Hotel, situated right on the harbour for a quiet and peaceful spot with views of the fjord.

This afternoon, you'll get the opportunity to see even more of this breathtaking nature during an exciting RIB safari. You'll go through the Aurlandsfjord and to the entrance of the spectacular Nærøyfjord - a UNESCO World Heritage Site with steep mountainsides and cascading waterfalls. For 1 hr 30 minutes, you'll be on the lookout for seals, porpoises, and eagles as you hear stories and tales from Norwegian history, all while experiencing some of the most beautiful nature in the world.

Following your time on the water, you'll have the evening free to spend as you please in Flåm.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 3 FLÅM RAILWAY, RETURN TO BERGEN AND CITY WALK

Following breakfast, you'll check out of your hotel and return to Bergen on the Flåm Railway, one of the world's steepest train rides taking you through the Flåm valley and up to the high mountains in Myrdal station. Take in the panoramic views of some of the wildest and most magnificent nature in Norway. Changing at Myrdal, you will then take the train straight to Bergen. Arriving in Bergen, your hotel is just two minutes walk away.

Returning to Bergen, you'll check into your hotel before meeting with your local guide this afternoon to take a history and culture walk around the city. As you stroll through the streets of Bergen, you'll gain an insight into the city's fascinating history and hear stories from your knowledgeable guide. Your tour finishes up on the top of Mount Fløyen. Take in the great view of the city. This is the perfect place to take pictures!

You'll be staying in the Zander K, the same as your first night and right in the heart of the city to enjoy your final night here.

Included Meals: Breakfast

DAY 4 DEPARTURE

Today it is sadly time for your Norwegian adventure to come to an end.

Enjoy breakfast in the hotel before we transfer you to the airport for your flight home.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Included Accommodation

Other options are available - see below for details.

Zander K Hotel (Nights: 1,3)





Zander K Hotel, which opened in March 2017, has quickly become one of the trendiest hotels in Bergen, even earning a nomination from *Wallpaper* as one of the world's most urban hotels. Known for its chic Nordic design and emphasis on local produce, it offers guests a unique, modern experience. Its lively lobby attracts both locals and visitors, making it a social hub.

Room types:

Standard double room

Inspired by stylish Nordic design, your modern room will be fitted with a double bed, desk, smart tv, telephone and free Wi-Fi provided.

Fretheim Hotel (Nights: 2)





The historical Fretheim Hotel lies in the centre of Flåm, not far from the edge of the fjord. The hotel was originally a farm nestled in the heart of the fjords. During the mid-1800s, many English lords and ladies came to this part of Norway to holiday, drawn to Flåm and the surrounding rivers which are renowned for salmon fishing.

As the English stayed for longer and longer, so the Fretheim Hotel was formed and it is since then that the hotel has been lovingly cared for and renovated to bring it up to a beautiful modern standard.

The hotel consists of 122 rooms consisting of several categories and split over different wings. The warm and welcoming atmosphere, coupled with the amazing view of the mountains and sea and the

high quality local farm food make this an ideal place to stay in Flåm.

Hotel facilities:

- Cosy lobby bar with panoramic views that look out to the fjord, a large fireplace and a good selection of local and foreign drinks
- Restaurant Arven is on the second floor of the hotel, looking out to the fjord and centred around local produce and bold flavours
- Glasshouse viewpoint at the top of the hotel from which you can enjoy lovely views of Flåm and the fjord
- Laundry room open 24 hours
- Library
- Free Wi-Fi throughout the hotel. Communal computers are also available for use free of charge in the lobby area
- Valuables can be stored in the hotel's guest safe at reception

Standard double/twin room

These rooms are located at the rear of the hotel, next to the hiking trails and foothills of the fjord area. The ground floor rooms have small patios.

Each room includes either a double or twin bed and an en-suite bathroom. Room facilities include TV, table and chairs, desktop with chair and a telephone.

Image credit: Visit Flam & Per Eide & Karina Lange, Fretheim Hotel

Other accommodation options

Contact us for a personalised quote.

Flåmsbrygga Hotel





Ideally situated at the Flåm harbour, the Flåmsbrygga Hotel is a wonderful base close to local shops and restaurants in a peaceful setting with fantastic fjord views.

The hotel is a cluster of buildings featuring Norwegian pinewood panelling to offer a traditional and rustic style yet with a modern feel.

Hotel Facilities

- Show off your surroundings to your loved ones with use of the hotel's free Wi-Fi
- Enjoy delicious food in the Norse-themed restaurant and pub
- Make sure you try the local beer which is brewed on-site
- Relax in the cafe with outdoor terrace

Room Types

DOUBLE/TWIN ROOM: The rooms all come equipped with a private bathroom and shower, flat-screen TV, tea/coffee making facilities and seating area. Some rooms also come with a balcony with a fjord view.

Image credits: Flåmsbrygga Hotel

Clarion Hotel Admiral






The hotel is located in the middle of Bergen with a fantastic view over the entrance to Vågen bay, the famous UNESCO world heritage site of Bryggen, Mount Fløyen and the fish market. With the sea on three sides, you get a maritime feel, enhanced by it being situated in a historic warehouse, while the hotel's interior is fresh and modern. The terminal, where the ferries to Stavanger or Sogn and Fjordane, among other locations, is close by and Bergen Railway Station is just five minutes away by taxi.

Hotel Facilities

- The Admiral has a bar and restaurant and it is also possible to sit out on the terrace to make the most of being right on the waterfront
- The hotel has free Wi-Fi throughout
- Day passes are available for the Arctic gym which is just 5 minute's walk away
- The hotel is cash free

Room Types

STANDARD ROOMS: the rooms feature classic design and comfortable beds and either traditional hardwood and carpeted flooring. The rooms are equipped with a minibar, kettle, desk, chair, iron and ironing board. Toiletries are included.

The Specifics

Holiday group size (approximate)

Minimum 1 person; maximum 120 people (maximum number applies to Tromso cruise activities)

Group Size

We always try to provide an approximation of the group size you can expect to be with for the duration of each of our holidays. It may be that you are joined by others for parts of your holiday (such as transfers and particular activities) but the above number reflects those you can normally expect to be with from beginning to end. If group size is something which is particularly important to you, please speak to our Travel Experts and they can suggest the best holidays for you.

Tailor-made holiday group sizes will vary for all activities as will the group size for any additional activities you book.

Minimum Numbers Required For A Holiday To Operate

Our full booking terms and conditions can be found on our website: https://www.artisantravel.co.uk/booking-conditions

Minimum and maximum age

If a specific minimum age applies to this holiday, it can be found in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page.

Unless otherwise stated in the in the Key Facts box on the holiday Overview page, the minimum age for participation in an Artisan holiday is typically 8 years old (there may be younger children in some destinations who have booked with other companies). If an adult-only environment is important to

you, then please contact our Travel Experts and they will advise on the best dates and destinations for you. If you are looking for a holiday designed specifically for families then please see our sister company www.activitiesabroad.com

Itinerary amendments

The order of activities listed in this agenda is provided for guidance only, your final and detailed itinerary will be provided either with your final travel documents (which are uploaded into your online account around a week prior to departure) or upon arrival.

Terms and Conditions

Our full booking terms and conditions can be found on our website: https://www.artisantravel.co.uk/booking-conditions