

FESTIVAL VOYAGES

BERGEN • TROMSØ

Winter is a time of celebration in Norway and many of our trips coincide with festive occasions, as highlighted in the Special Occasions descriptions on the different tour pages. We have also developed these unique departures to let you get the very best out of the magnificent Northern Lights Festival and the little known Sami reindeer races in Tromsø.

Share a part of Norwegian heritage and participate in local festivals



NORTHERN LIGHTS FESTIVAL

Prices from £875

21 January 2008

7 Days / 6 Nights

Celebrate the first dawn of the year in Tromsø. The eagerly anticipated return of the sun is honoured by an international music festival, known as the Northern Lights Festival. The excitement of these festivities is contagious as artists from around the world join Norwegian musicians in producing an animated programme which caters for a wide range of musical tastes – from symphonic to soul. The Tromsø Concert Hall, the Arctic Cathedral and even our ship will be among the many venues which play host to a variety of events offering us the opportunity to participate in this unique cultural event.

Join MS Trollfjord in Bergen where our leisurely journey begins. From this gateway to the fjords, the anticipation builds each day, as our arrival in Tromsø, the Arctic capital, draws ever nearer. Beautiful Ålesund, historic Trondheim, and the enchanting capital of the stunning Lofoten Islands, Svolvær, are waiting to be explored. Sea Eagles wheel overhead as they swoop from their eyries in the mountains beyond.

Enrich your visit along this captivating coast by exploring the diverse ports of call, each with its different atmosphere, vibrant history and unique charm.

In Tromsø, where we stay for two nights, the snow covered mountains provide an impressive backdrop to the festival locations. The spectacular Northern Lights could be nature's own contribution to the festivities. Providing inspiration to painters, poets, musicians, choreographers and dancers, keen photographers will hope to capture the atmosphere of the Festival beneath the Northern Lights.

ITINERARY

Day 1 Fly to Bergen where you will be transferred to the quay. Join ship and begin our voyage north. Four nights on board (D).

Days 2 - 4 Voyage along the stunning Norwegian coastline, calling at local ports along the way (B, D).

Day 5 Arrive in Tromsø, transfer to our centrally located hotel for the next two nights. Free time to join local events (B).

Day 6 Free time to join local events and excursions (B).

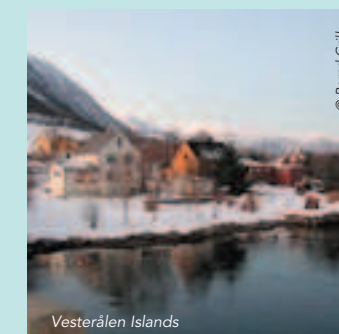
Day 7 Transfer to airport for international flights (B).

B = Breakfast, D = Dinner.

EXCURSIONS

A full range of excursions is offered, as shown for the Reindeer Races voyage opposite.

Please note that at time of press the exact schedule for the Northern Lights Festival had not been finalised. More information will be sent to participants prior to the voyage. We recommend that on receiving this information that you pre-book any events that you wish to attend.



Vesterålen Islands



NATIONAL SAMI DAY AND REINDEER RACES

Prices from £995

4 February 2008

8 Days / 7 Nights

Our new itinerary enjoys a relaxing voyage from Bergen to Tromsø followed by three nights in the Arctic Capital itself, to coincide with the annual Sami reindeer racing championships.

Setting sail from Bergen, we keep our eyes open for the magnificent Northern Lights as we enjoy the voyage north to Tromsø, where we arrive during the week of local festivities following February 6, the official Sami National Day – the date when the first Sami congress was held in 1917.

The highlight of these celebrations is the annual reindeer racing championships, which take place in the centre of Tromsø on February 10. Wrap up warm to enjoy the spectacle as competitors try to stay upright on their skis behind their reindeer as they gallop down the snow-covered streets, reaching top speeds of 60km per hour.

As part of this special departure, we include a visit to Ramfjord, an area of ancient Sami traditions. Here we have the opportunity to hear traditional Sami singing, known as Joik and listen to their stories. A light meal is included.

ITINERARY

Day 1 Fly to Bergen, transfer to the quay and join the Voyage North. Four nights on board (D).

Days 2 - 4 Voyage along the stunning Norwegian coastline (B, D).

Day 5 Arrive in Tromsø, transfer to our centrally located hotel for the next three nights. Free time to join local events or an optional dog sledge excursion (B).

Day 6 Sami excursion to Ramfjord, optional walking tour of Tromsø available (B).

Day 7 Enjoy the local events and the final reindeer race. Optional Arctic Gourmet Dinner (B).

Day 8 Transfer to airport for international flights (B).

B = Breakfast, D = Dinner.

EXCURSIONS

Dog Sledging – Tromsø

An opportunity to experience the exhilaration felt by the Arctic explorers of old on this dramatic ride by dog sledge across the open plains of Tromsø. At the end of the trip, a warm meal will be served in a Lavvo.

£125 per person, pre-bookable.

Arctic Gourmet Dinner – Tromsø

Emma's Dream Kitchen is a renowned and romantic restaurant. Enjoy a five-course Arctic gourmet dinner including an aperitif in a cosy and very relaxed atmosphere.

£75 per person, pre-bookable.

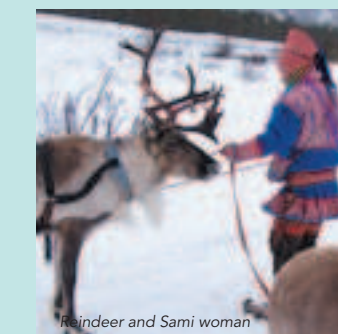
Polaria and brewery walking tour – Tromsø

A local guide will pick you up from the hotel and tell you more about the interesting history of the Arctic capital and the Polaria Museum before you enjoy a private tour of the famous Mack brewery and a cold taste of it in Tromsø's oldest pub, 'Øl-hallen'.

£45 per person, pre-bookable.

Ålesund Walking Tour and Trondheim Sightseeing

These excursions are also available, as described on page 11.



Reindeer and Sami woman