

KILLER WHALE SAFARI

THE LOFOTEN ISLANDS

Observe these magnificent animals in their natural environment



There can be few sights more stirring than that of the Killer Whale in its natural environment. On this trip to the beautiful Lofoten Islands we will join a safari in search of Orca in Norwegian waters. A short voyage along the coast from Tromsø to the Lofoten archipelago will also introduce us to this stunning part of Norway.

KILLER WHALES

The Orcinus Orca is the largest member of the dolphin family and easily recognisable with their black and white underside. They are between 5 and 8 metres in length and an adult male can weigh up to 10 tonnes. The Killer Whale was given its name by sailors who witnessed them hunting seals off the coasts of Iceland and Greenland many years ago. Despite their foreboding title, there is to date no record of an Orca ever attacking a human being.

These highly sociable mammals live in groups or pods and since 1986 they have come to feed on the large population of spring herring that spend the winter in Tysfjord.



Killer Whales, Lofoten Islands

KILLER WHALE SAFARI

Prices from £895

5 Days / 4 Nights

Arriving in the Arctic capital of Tromsø, we may have time to explore this interesting town before our voyage begins. Sailing through the spectacular Vesterålen and Lofoten Islands, we call at picturesque settlements and pass through Raftsundet, the narrow channel that links the two island groups that have inspired myths and legends over time.

Reaching Svolveær, we disembark and transfer to our Rorbu – comfortable, traditional wooden fishermen's cabins. These renovated or newly built chalets are based on original designs to a cosy, comfortable standard and each has private facilities. The traditional restaurant where we enjoy our evening meals is famous for its outstanding cuisine and atmospheric setting.

The following morning we sail from Svolveær quay to Tysfjord, a long narrow fjord where over 600 killer whales come to feed on herring each winter and our guide will introduce us to the lives of these fascinating mammals. Keeping our eyes peeled, eager to sight these impressive creatures, we learn about the family pods and how Orca rely on teamwork to hunt the large population of herring that spend the winter here. With luck, we will be able to observe the playful behaviour of the younger members of the pod for ourselves and perhaps even experience their

unique hunting methods first hand. We return to Svolveær later this afternoon for another night at your Rorbu and we will have the next day at our disposal before departing joining the northbound ship. We will spend the night on board and have a leisurely morning before arrival in Tromsø in the early afternoon. Disembark and transfer to the airport for our return flights.

ITINERARY

Day 1 Fly to Tromsø, embark ship after dinner at around midnight (D).

Day 2 Spend the day on board sailing through the Vesterålen and Lofoten islands, arrival at Svolveær early evening, transfer to Svinøya Rorbuer, dinner and overnight (B, D).

Day 3 Whale safari, including light lunch. Overnight in Rorbu (B, L, D).

Day 4 Day at leisure in Svolveær, opportunity for optional excursions, board ship in the evening (B).

Day 5 Morning on board, disembark in Tromsø and transfer to the airport for return flights to the UK (B).

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner.

ADDITIONAL WHALE SAFARI

Orca sightings, while very common, can never be guaranteed. An additional safari can be pre-booked to increase your chance to sight these beautiful mammals.

From £85 per person, pre-bookable.

EXCURSIONS

Zodiac safari

You have the option to board a sturdy inflatable boat allowing a much closer encounter with Orca, should a pod appear. Thermal overclothing is provided.

Numbers are limited.

£85 per person, pre-bookable.

Snorkel with Killer Whales

A unique experience for anyone who is confident to snorkel with Killer Whales. You will be supplied with a dry suit and travel by Zodiac in search of Orca. With luck, you will have the rare opportunity to join them in the water and observe their behaviour below the surface.

£180 per person.

This excursion must be pre-booked for Day 4.

Viking Banquet

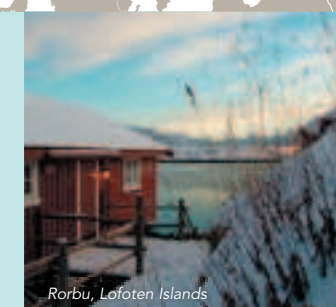
On certain departures, experience a traditional evening at the Viking Museum in Lofoten. Reconstructed on the site of an ancient Viking Long House, we get a glimpse of what life may have been like when Nordic tribes ruled the seas. Our visit culminates with the opportunity to dine at the tables of the banqueting hall.

£95 per person, pre-bookable.

Dog Sledging – Tromsø

A dog sledging excursion may be possible at the start of your voyage, as described on page 13.

£125 per person, pre-bookable.



Rorbu, Lofoten Islands



Fishing cabins, Lofoten Islands



Young Killer Whale