NORWEGIAN FJORDS SPECIAL CRUISE WITH THE WESTS



Join Dick and Leslie West cruising between Oslo and Bergen, Norway. Discover the beauty of the Norwegian fjords. Come aboard the Le Dumont-d'Urville for a 9-day cruise and sail along the Norwegian coastline, whose sheer cliff faces have been sculpted by the wind and the sea, giving rise to many unspoiled fjords.



DATE: 2023 – AUG 7-15 DURATION: 9 DAYS/8 NIGHTS EMBARK: OSLO DISEMBARK: BERGEN SHIP: LE DUMONT-D'URVILLE FROM: \$5,939 All Inclusive – Port Charges, Open Bar, Gratuities to ship crew

Expedition Highlights

- Sailing in the heart of the Norwegian fjords, exploring extraordinary landscapes: steep cliffs, crystal-clear waters and lush vegetation.
- A new call in Nordfjordeid, on the banks of a majestic fjord where ancient Viking communities lived.
- UNESCO World Heritage site: the **Geiranger** Fjord.
- Opportunity to walk at the foot of the most beautiful glaciers in Europe, the **Briksdal**, from Olden.
- Sailing in the **Lysefjord** 'fjord of light' flanked by granite cliffs several hundred meters high.
- A stopover in Sweden to visit the picturesque city of **Gothenburg**.
- Exploring of emblematic Art Nouveau architecture in **Alesund**.

ITINERARY

Day 1: OSLO

Capital of Norway, Olso, is a green city. Its many parks and gardens make it the reputedly pleasant city it is. The 80 hectares of Vigeland sculpture parks and its 212 open air exhibitions, the Munch Museum dedicated to the life and works of the Norwegian artist Edvard Munch, plus the Akershus fortress which symbolizes Oslo's rich history, are both must-sees. For culture, the national gallery shelters the largest Norwegian collection of paintings, drawings and sculptures open to the public. And, for sports enthusiasts, the Holmenkollen district with its Ski museum and famous ski jump offer the most stunning, all-encompassing view of the city.



Day 2: GÖTEBORG (GOTHENBURG)

A lively harbor town, Göteborg is located on the west coast of Sweden, at the crossing of the Göta älv river and the bay of Cattégat. In the old Haga district, you can peruse hippy-chic fashion boutiques and bohemian cafés in the ground floors of traditional wood houses. On the majestic Gustave-Adolphe square, you'll see elegant neoclassical buildings. Not far from here is the municipal museum dedicated to the town's history. In addition, you will be able to sail along Göteborg's numerous canals. As for eating, it's the fish and shellfish which make the gastronomic reputation of this beautiful stopover.

Day 3: ARENDAL

This port town located on the south coast of Norway is considered to be the locality with the best climate in the entire country. Arendal was long reputed for its iron mines from which, in the 19th century, it was able to produce a particularly strong earthy iron ore.



Day 4: SANDNES - SAILING IN LYSEFJORDEN

In the south-west of Norway, nestling at the head of the Gands Fjord, Sandnes lies surrounded by nature. Known as the "pottery town" of Norway due to its significant ceramics industry resulting from the presence of readily-available clay in the region, Sandnes offers a combination of plains and peaks.

You will sail into the heart of one of Norway's most breathtaking fjords, its marvelous décor dominated by pristine nature, between vertiginous granite majestic cliff in the shape of a pulpit that rises to more than 600 meters above the waters. A bit further on, Flørli, from the top of its 4,444 steps, is the world's longest wooden stairway, whereas the Kjerag, with its mythical boulder edged between two rock faces, provides an unusual and unforgettable spectacle.

Day 5: NORDFJORDEID

Nordfjordeid is a small town lying south of Alesund, nestling in one of the arms of the Nordfjorden and its wild and magnificent shores. Between valleys with abundant vegetation and mountainous terrain, nature here offers a 360-degree view which was conducive to the early settlement of Viking communities, judging by the large number of tombs, among the country's largest and richest. You may get to deepen your knowledge of the Nordic culture and traditions at Sagastad, a surprising museum with interactive exhibitions and home, among other sights, to the Myklebust, one of the world's largest Viking ships, measuring 30 meters (98 feet) in length.

Day 6: OLDEN

With its two wooden churches, one red and the other white, plus its breathtaking view of the mouth of the river Oldeelva, Olden looks just like a picture post card. Located a few kilometers from the Jostedalsbreen park, home to one of the last glacier polar icecaps, this little village is a definite must for exploring the blue languages of the Briksdal or Kjennalen glaciers. Make sure you find some time to visit the Norwegian Glacier Museum. Absolutely amazing. Another gem is lake Lovatn and its turquoise waters inviting you to quiet contemplation.

Day 7: GEIRANGER - HELLESYLT

A must-see stopover in Norway, located halfway between Bergen and Trondheim, Geiranger offers the stunning beauty of a natural decor, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site. The splendor of the sheer cliffs, dark rock and crystalline water are the stars of the show here. The sides of the fjord offer many possibilities for hiking: the Eagle's Road takes you up to a steep stretch offering a gorgeous panoramic view. A visit to Geiranger village will immerse you in the rhythm of life in the little local community.



Hellesylt is a small village located 20 kilometers from the Geiranger site. Here, you'll get a taste of a traditional Norwegian village. Colorful houses, wooden walkways, rustic stalls where you can have a refreshment before heading off to discover more of the local color. The surroundings are simply magnificent with cliffs, mountains and lakes with peaceful waters. The village is crossed by a river whose charming cascade tumbles into the fjord waters.

Day 8: ALESUND

Surrounded by a multitude of islands, fjords and majestic mountains, the town of Ålesund surprises many visitors. In fact, it is internationally renowned for its Art nouveau architecture. After the terrible fire of 1904 which reduced a large part of the town to ashes, Norwegian architects inspired by the Art nouveau style contributed to its reconstruction, with a very picturesque result. Not far from Ålesund, you will also discover Giske, the native island of Rollon, the great Viking leader who commanded the Norse expeditions to Normandy, or the beautiful island of Godoy and the village of Alnes, which offers a grandiose panorama over the Atlantic Ocean and the surrounding islands.

Day 9: BERGEN

Located at the end of Byfjord, Bergen was the capital of Norway in the 12th and 13th Centuries and has preserved some very beautiful monuments from the time when it was home to royalty. Wandering through Bergen's streets means going back in time, in search of the hidden treasures that have been listed as World Heritage Sites by UNESCO. A veritable open-air museum, Bergen is home to a thriving artistic community of painters, potters, jewelers. The Bergen cable car offers you a splendid panorama over the port and the surrounding fjords. Do not miss the visit to the old quarter with its narrow streets, a testimony of the power of the hanseatic League that controlled trade in Northern Europe at the end of the Middle Ages.



NOTE: Special pre- and post-cruise arrangements will be available – 3 nights in Oslo before the cruise with local tours; and one night in Bergen, train to Flam for one night, followed by train to Oslo, overnight, and airport transfer.



Le Dumont-d'Urville GUESTS: 184 RATES – 2023 (Rates subject to change without notice – Book early for best rates.)

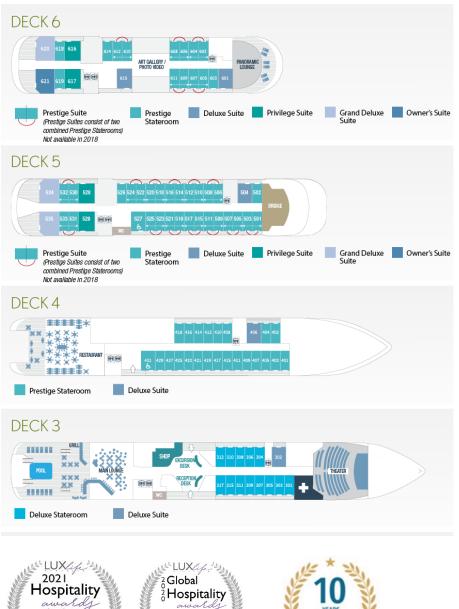
SUITE –	8/07-15
Deluxe – Deck 3	\$5,939
Prestige – Deck 4	\$6,571
Prestige – Deck 5	\$6,875
Presitige – Deck 6	\$7,259
Deluxe Ste – Decks 3-6	\$10,019
Prestige Suite – Dk 5	\$13,475
Prestige Suite – Dk 6	\$14,163
Privilege Suite – Dk 5-6	\$14,851
Grand Deluxe Suite	\$16,404
OWNER SUITE	\$21,170

All inclusive – Gratuities to crew (\$12 pp/pd); all beverages – open bar; Port Charges (\$450); Room Service; Shipboard credit (\$100 per cabin).



Reservations & Information 1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671) Email - info@explorcruises.com

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