# NORWEGIAN FJORDS SMITHSONIAN JOURNEYS



A voyage specially tailored for English-speaking travelers including discussions with experts, transfers before and after your cruise, and an included excursion in each port of call. Cruising between Oslo and Bergen, discover the beauty of the Norwegian fjords. Come aboard the Le Jacques-Cartier 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.



DATES: 2022 – July 30 DURATION: 8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS EMBARK: BERGEN DISEMBARK: OSLO SHIP: LE DUMONT-D'URVILLE FROM: \$6,450 All Inclusive – Port Charges, Open Bar, Gratuities to ship crew, Shore Excursions

# **Expedition Highlights**

This cruise is part of a collection of PONANT voyages that are specially tailored for English-speaking travelers who want to engage with the world. In addition to the usual elements of the PONANT experience, the listed price for these voyages includes transfers to and from the ship, talks and discussions aboard ship by world class experts, and a shore excursion or activity in each port of call that encourages guests to embrace the sights, sounds, tastes, and smells of the local environment and culture.

- Sailing in the heart of the Norwegian fjords, discovering extraordinary landscapes: steep cliffs, crystal-clear waters and lush vegetation.
- UNESCO World Heritage sites: the Geiranger Fjord, Bryggen, former Hanseatic port of Bergen (disembarkation port).
- Possibility of a walk at the foot of the most beautiful glaciers in Europe, the Briksdal, from Olden.
- Sailing in the Lysefjord, meaning the "fjord of light", flanked by granite cliffs that are several hundred meters high.
- Discovering colorful and cosmopolitan Norwegian villages, full of picturesque charm: Hellesylt, Alesund and Stavanger.

# **ITINERARY**

# Day 1: 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.

### Day 2: 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 3: 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 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. A few kilometers from there, you may get the chance to discover Pulpit Rock. This astonishing rock formation towers 600 meters (1968 ft) above the waters of the Lysefjord. The stunning view over the fjord from this site makes it one of the most popular hiking destinations in Norway.



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 wedged between two rock faces, provides an unusual and unforgettable spectacle.

#### Day 5: LOEN

At the innermost reaches of the storied Nordfjord, the small village of Loen lies below the great Jostedal Glacier, the largest ice cap in continental Europe. More than a century ago, European cruise ships started to call here for guests to visit the stunning mountains and valleys of the fjordland by horse-drawn carriage. Today, the Loen Skylift provides modern access to the panorama of the fjord landscape by ferrying guests to the top of Mount Hoven – 1011 meters above sea level – via cable car in only five minutes. Just inland lies beautiful Lake Lovatnet, renowned for its turquoise

waters that are fed by melt water from the surrounding glaciers.

#### Day 6: 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 7: 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 8: 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.

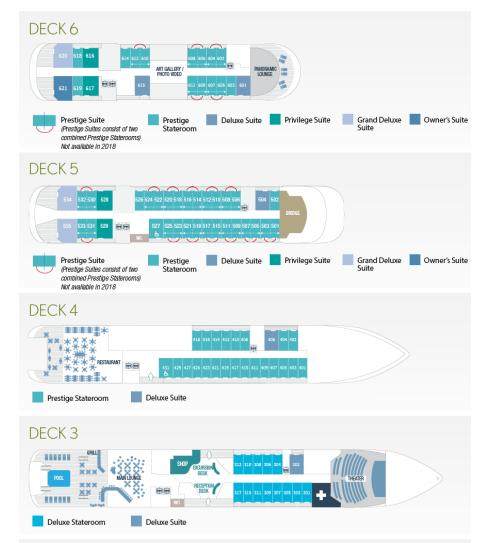


Le Dumont-d'Urville GUESTS: 184 RATES – 2022 (Rates subject to change without notice – Book early for best rates.)

All inclusive – Gratuities to crew; all beverages – open bar; Port Charges; Room Service

SUITE –	After 15% Savings
Deluxe – Deck 3	\$6,450
Prestige – Deck 4	\$7,030
Prestige – Deck 5	\$7,320
Presitige – Deck 6	\$7,660
Deluxe Ste – Decks 3-6	\$10,170
Prestige Suite – Dk 5	\$13,330
Prestige Suite – Dk 6	\$13,950
Privilege Suite – Dk 5-6	\$14,590
Grand Deluxe Suite	WL
OWNER SUITE	\$19,300

DECK PLAN





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