

# Cruising the Norwegian Fjords – with Smithsonian Journeys

From **31/05/2027**  
to **07/06/2027**

Ship: **Le Lapérouse**

From **Bergen**  
to **Fredrikstad**



Shore excursion in each port of call + transfers  
included

## In alliance with Smithsonian Journeys.

*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.*

Join PONANT aboard *Le Lapérouse* for an **8-day cruise** on an exceptional itinerary to discover the beauty of the **Norwegian fjords**.

Begin your voyage in **Bergen**, famous for its Hanseatic wharf, Bryggen, a UNESCO World Heritage site which still carries traces of the rich historic past of the city founded by the Vikings.

Sail first towards **Alesund**, famous for the **art nouveau** architectural style in which its downtown was rebuilt after a terrible fire in 1904. Here you will also find the **Atlantic Ocean Park**, a unique aquarium featuring marine life found along Norway's Atlantic coast.

Traverse the UNESCO World Heritage-listed **Geirangerfjord** to **Geiranger** and explore the fjord region overland – including a stop at the **Jostedal Glacier National Park Centre** – before rejoining your ship in **Hellesylt**. Alternatively, venture into the mountains to sample **goat milk cheeses and caramels** at a local farm.

Continue to **Olden**. From this small and charming village, located a few miles from Jostedalsbreen National Park, home to one of the last ice caps in Europe, you are able to admire the magnificent **Briksdal Glacier**.

The following morning, sail the beautiful **Lysefjorden**. Then, in the afternoon, *Le Lapérouse* calls in **Stavanger**. Here, the reconstructed **Iron Age village in Ullandhaug** introduces you to the life of Norway's earliest inhabitants. The region's pristine coastal wilderness also offers an

opportunity to take an **invigorating hike**. This afternoon, sail the beautiful **Lysefjorden**.

From **Arendal**, visit the **Næs Ironworks Museum**, which chronicles how iron production changed between 1665 and 1959, and stop in **Tvedestrand**, a charming village of white wooden houses. Or visit **Raet National Park**, which was established in 2016 to protect the region's unique topography.

Your final call is in the lively harbor town of **Gothenburg, Sweden**. As the home of Volvo, the city boasts the **World of Volvo**, which features interactive exhibits from the brand's first vehicles through future technological solutions. The stunning **Museum of Fine Arts** includes works by Carl Larsson, Edvard Munch, Anders Zorn, Van Gogh, Picasso, Chagall, and Monet.

Your cruise ends in Fredrikstad, gateway to **Oslo**, the vibrant Norwegian capital.



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## YOUR STOPOVERS :

### BERGEN

Embarkation 31/05/2027 from 16:00 to 17:00

Departure 31/05/2027 at 18:00

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 openair museum, Bergen is home to a thriving artistic community of painters, potters, jewellers. 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.

### ALESUND

Arrival 01/06/2027 midday

Departure 01/06/2027 evening

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.

### GEIRANGER

Arrival 02/06/2027 early morning

Departure 02/06/2027 midday

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. You will be able to admire the splendour of the sheer cliffs, dark rocks and crystal-clear water that make the place famous, like the **majestic and mythical Seven Sisters waterfall**. 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

Arrival 02/06/2027 early afternoon

Departure 02/06/2027 late afternoon

**Hellesylt** is a small village located 20 kilometres from the Geiranger site. Here, you'll get a taste of a traditional Norwegian village. Colourful houses, wooden walkways, rustic stalls where you can have a refreshment before heading off to discover more of the local colour. 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.

## OLDEN

Arrival 03/06/2027 early morning

Departure 03/06/2027 midday

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 kilometres from the Jostedalsgreen 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.

## SAILING IN LYSEFJORDEN

Arrival 04/06/2027

Departure 04/06/2027

You will sail into the heart of one of Norway's most breathtaking fjords, its marvellous décor dominated by pristine nature, between vertiginous granite cliffs, crystal-clear waters and luxuriant vegetation. Very close to Stavanger, the quiet waters of **Lysefjorden** stretch out over around forty kilometres, beneath impressive rocks. Admire the world-famous site of **Preikestolen** (Pulpit Rock), a majestic cliff in the shape of a pulpit that rises to more than 600 metres 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.

## STAVANGER

Arrival 04/06/2027

Departure 04/06/2027

At the far end of the country, stands the harbour town of **Stavanger**, with its warm, friendly atmosphere. A friendliness you'll notice in the little old town cobbled streets, which has some **170 old wooden houses**, as well as in its modern city centre, always bustling. Strategic place during the Viking era, you will be able to discover a recreated traditional village as well as the famous Swords in Rock, three granite swords standing 10 metres (33 ft) tall, symbolising the last victory of the King of Norway Harald I, in 872.

## ARENDALE

Arrival 05/06/2027 midday

Departure 05/06/2027 evening

A port **city** located on Norway's southern coast, **Arendal** is considered as the municipality enjoying the best climate in the country. **This town in the Sorlandet** region has also long been renowned for its **iron ore mines**: their operation in the 19th century produced a particularly resistant magnetite ore. The Raet National Park, the only protected area on the eastern coast of Norway, is not far away; here, you will fall in love with its raw nature, with silver and emerald reflections, dotted with immense coniferous forests and long pebble beaches.

## GÖTEBORG (GOTHENBURG)

Arrival 06/06/2027 early morning

Departure 06/06/2027 late afternoon

Nestling on the western coast of Sweden, at the junction of the Göta River and the Kattegat sea area, **Gothenburg** enchants and surprises. Authentic and welcoming, this city of canals, edged with many green spaces, has a rich maritime history, making it Sweden's most important port. Going beyond its commercial influence, "the cultural capital of Scandinavia" is a perfect blend of historic monuments, neo-classical architecture and eco-districts featuring modern urban spaces. 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 hills of the city, fall under the spell of the Lutheran Masthugget Church, a sumptuous 18th-century building.

## FREDRIKSTAD

Arrival 07/06/2027 early morning

Disembarkation 07/06/2027 at 08:00

Nestling on the shores of the Glomma estuary, **Fredrikstad** captivates with its rich historical heritage, picturesque canals and warm atmosphere. Founded in 1567, the **fortified old town** still has traces of its rich past. Fall under the spell of its cobbled narrow streets, edged with **traditional old wooden buildings**, boutiques and lively cafes, and also discover the extremely well-preserved ramparts, built almost 5 centuries ago. Nature enthusiasts will also appreciate the **magnificent hiking paths** along the Oslo fjord and surrounding islands, such as Hankø, with its idyllic beaches and lush plains.