

2017 KNITTERS TOUR OF NORWAY

Dates: October 28 – November 4, 2017

Itinerary includes: Daily Norwegian style buffet breakfast, all lunches (except arrival and departure days) and all dinners (except departure day)

Day 1 October 28, Saturday: OSLO

You'll be **met at the Oslo airport at 1 pm local time** by your Tour Manager who will be with you throughout the trip. Transfer to the **Hotel Bristol**, located in downtown Oslo (or meet the group here if you are already in Oslo). Time to relax and **optional visit to the nearby National Museum**. Then walk across the street to the **Magic Ice Bar Oslo**. After donning the provided warm clothes, you'll enter a bar made entirely of ice. Enjoy a welcome cloudberry cocktail served in a glass made of ice while viewing ice sculptures inspired by the paintings of Edvard Munch.

Welcome dinner at your hotel.

Day 2 October 29, Sunday: OSLO

Morning panoramic tour of Oslo with stops at Oslo's iconic Opera House, the Holmenkollen Ski Jump, and a possible visit to the **studios of Oslo Micro-dyery**.

After lunch we will **visit the Folk Museum** in Oslo with a guided tour of the knitting and Bundad exhibitions along with a **pottery demonstration by Ellen Kjærgard**. In the evening, we hope to be joined at our hotel by **Katie Zissou and Tone Sjøstad**, the organizers of the Oslo Knitting Festival, who will give us a little overview of knitting today in Norway.

Day 3 October 30, Monday: OSLO

Morning tour of Heimen Husflid, which has Oslo's largest selection of yarn and knitting patterns. Your tour will start an hour before the store opens. The rest of the morning is free for shopping at either of Heimen Husflid's stores (the other store is located across from the hotel and has Norway's largest selection of bunads, national costumes) or other downtown stores.

After lunch, you'll have a **4-hour knitting workshop (with supplies provided)** led by four instructors from the Oslo Husflidlag (Oslo Handicraft Association).

Day 4 October 31, Tuesday: ULVIK

Morning departure by coach. Drive through the scenic Valdres valley and on to the **Borgund Stave Church** from 1180 where you'll have a private tour. Continue on to the Fjord district of Norway and arrive in Ulvik for your three-day stay with fjord view rooms.

Today we are hopeful that we will be able to **meet up with Arne and Carlos**, the designers, textile artists and authors best known for their original, colorful and visually striking designs influenced by everyday life in rural Norway (they only schedule lectures 6 months in advance).

Day 5 November 1, Wednesday: ULVIK

Today you'll have a **4-hour knitting workshop (with supplies provided)** with a local group of knitters. The workshop includes use of a Norwegian Spinning wheel with unwashed wool from wild sheep. Norwegian waffles and coffee will be served.

Afternoon **visit to the nearby family run Syse Farm**. Their farm has sheep and fruit trees.

Day 6 November 2, Thursday: ULVIK

Depart this morning for your fjord and mountain excursion that includes a **2-hour cruise on the Aurland and Nærøy Fjords** and a **1-hour trip on the Flåm Railway** that is considered to be one of the best railway journeys in the world.

You'll continue on the Bergen-Oslo railway, for under an hour, to Voss where your coach will meet you for the short drive back to Ulvik.

Day 7 Nov 3, Friday: ULVIK – BERGEN

Today, en route to Bergen, you'll visit two of Norway's most famous sweater factories. First **Dale Sweaters**, supplier to the Norwegian Winter Olympic team, and then **Oleana**, a newer company that puts a modern twist on traditional designs. **Time to shop at both factories.**

Arrive in Bergen and stay at **Hotel Rosenkrantz** located in the heart of Bryggen, Bergen's medieval wharf areas that house many sweater and handicraft shops.

Day 8 November 4, Saturday: BERGEN

This morning leave for a **1-hour guided tour and 4-hour workshop (with supplies provided)** at the Norwegian Knitting Museum led by museum curators. You will be given a demonstration of machine knitting and then a workshop in which you'll learn some of the patterns that were seen on the knitting machines. Lunch, featuring local food, at the museum. Free time for shopping in the afternoon.

Day 9 November 5, Sunday: BERGEN

After breakfast, depart by coach to the Bergen airport for your flight home.

INCLUDED IN TOUR PACKAGE

- Daily Norwegian style buffet breakfast, all lunches (except arrival and departure days) and all dinners (except departure day)
- Three knitting workshops with yarn
- 3 nights at the Hotel Bristol in Oslo and 2 nights at the Hotel Rosenkrantz in Bergen. Both have prime downtown locations and private facilities
- 3 nights at the Hotel Brakanes with fjord view rooms. Rooms have private facilities and the hotel has a swimming pool and sauna.
- Visit to Sheep Farm, 2-hour fjord cruise, the Flåm Railway, private tour of Heimen Husflid, entrance to Magic Ice Bar, Dale and Oleana sweater factories, Norwegian Knitting Museum, Borgund Stave Church, Oslo Folk Museum and pottery demonstration.
- Tour manager from arrival to departure
- All transfers with private coach as per the itinerary