



SCANDINAVIAN HIGHLIGHTS



*Educational
Tours*

→ *Discover the Global Classroom*

10 DAYS

Scandinavian Highlights

Sweden • Denmark • Norway



Number of overnight stays in parentheses. This tour may also be reversed.



You will feel like you have stepped into a magical world as you tour the breathtaking fjords of Norway.

Program Fee includes:

- Round-trip airfare
- 7 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms; 1 night cabin accommodations
- Complete European breakfast and dinner daily
- Full-time bilingual EF Tour Director
- 3 sightseeing tours led by licensed local guides: Stockholm • Copenhagen • Oslo
- 3 EF walking tours: Stockholm • Copenhagen • Oslo
- 7 visits to special attractions: Vasa Ship • Stockholm Town Hall • Round Tower Viking Museum • Vigeland Sculpture Park Holmenkollen Ski Jump and Museum Fjord cruise

OPTIONAL:

Elsinore and Kronburg Castle

Day 1 Flight

Overnight flight to Sweden • Relax as you fly through the night across the Atlantic.

Day 2 Stockholm

Arrival in Stockholm • This morning, arrive in Stockholm, the Swedish capital.

EF walking tour of Stockholm • Our EF walking tour takes you through the heart of Stockholm's historic Old Town, founded in 1255 as a fortification at the entrance to Lake Mälaren. Archaeological relics excavated here date the presence of Vikings back to the 11th century. Stroll past the Stock Exchange in Stortorget Square, or the Great Market, whose quaint narrow alleys dotted with shops and cafés belie its violent past during the Stockholm Bloodbaths. Also see the Renaissance architecture of the Royal Palace and a famous statue of St. George slaying the dragon.

Day 3 Stockholm

Guided sightseeing of Stockholm • Your guided tour takes you past the Royal Opera House, the Parliament, the Royal Palace and the oldest church in Stockholm (dating from 1306). Visit the town hall and admire the lavishly decorated Golden Hall, where the annual Nobel Prize festivities take place.

Visit to the Vasa • Journey to the island of Djurgården (Deer Garden), once a game park, for a look at the well-restored, 17th-century *Vasa*. On August 10, 1628, this royal flagship that was supposed to strengthen Sweden's

command of the Baltic went out for the first time and was taken down by a gust of wind that caused water to pour in and sink it before it could even leave the city's harbor. The ornate eight-level ship was ordered to be created with two gun decks (as opposed to the standard one) by King Gustavus Adolphus, who believed it would help Sweden battle Poland. Amazingly, in 1961, the Swedish Navy salvaged the wreckage. Marvel at how well the Baltic Sea was able to preserve the ship as you explore the Vasa Museum, which opened in 1990. The enormous *Vasa* itself comprises much of the museum, but you can also view a film on how the world's oldest identified ship was saved, as well as the fascinating items that were found on board, and pay tribute to those who lost their lives in the accident.

Day 4 Stockholm • Copenhagen

Transfer to Copenhagen via Gränna • On your way to Copenhagen, stop in the Swedish town of Gränna for a taste of the famous peppermint rock, or *polkagris*. The red-and-white striped confection has grown in popularity ever since widow Amalia Erikson first opened a peppermint rock bakery here in 1859. Continue across the Oresund Bridge, the world's longest single bridge carrying both road and railway traffic, which connects Sweden to Denmark. Traffic has been cruising across the bridge since the summer of 2000.

Arrival in Copenhagen • Continue on to the capital of Denmark.



PBS

Learn before you go
www.eftours.com/pbs

Day 5 Copenhagen

Guided sightseeing of Copenhagen • Enjoy a guided tour of Hans Christian Andersen's fairy-tale city. Pass by the town hall and Tivoli Gardens, the city's lively amusement park. Continue past Christiansborg Palace (seat of the Danish Parliament), Rosenborg Castle, the old stock exchange and the Royal Theatre (home of the famous Royal Danish Ballet). Stop at the courtyard of Amalienborg Palace (the royal residence) before seeing the statue of the *Little Mermaid* watching over Copenhagen's harbor.

Optional excursion to Elsinore and Kronborg Castle • Walk in the footsteps of Shakespeare's Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, on an optional journey to the medieval Danish town of Elsinore. You'll enjoy a scenic drive along the coast from Copenhagen to Elsinore, 25 miles north of the Danish capital. Here, you'll visit the famous 400-year-old Kronborg Castle. For centuries the castle's giant cannons were trained on ships passing through the narrow sound between Denmark and Sweden: sea captains had to pay the Danes' "shipping tax"—or else! See the castle's maze of secret passageways, the Great Hall, ancient silk and woolen tapestries and the king and queen's chambers. Take care not to disturb the "sleeping ghost" of Holger Danske, famous Viking chief and Danish hero; according to legend, peace will preside in Denmark only as long as he slumbers in the castle's dungeon!

Day 6 Copenhagen • Night Ferry

EF walking tour of Copenhagen • Our EF walking tour begins at City Hall Square, entrance to Copenhagen's Old Town. Stroll along the Strøget, a bustling pedestrian-only street, and wind your way to Kongens Nytorv. In its center stands an equestrian statue of Christian V, who designed this part of the city. You'll also see the Nyhavn, a lively seaport where Hans Christian Andersen once lived.

Visit to the Round Tower • Take in the best view Old Copenhagen has to offer on a visit to the 17th-century Round Tower. Europe's oldest functioning observatory, the Round Tower opened in 1642. A winding, 685-foot staircase links it to a church and library, which now serves as a concert and exhibition hall. High atop the façade, see if you can make out the gilded inscription penned by King Christian IV himself.

Night cruise to Oslo • Tonight, spend the night in comfortable cabin accommodations as you cruise through the night to Norway, Land of the Midnight Sun.

Day 7 Oslo

Arrival in Oslo • Your overnight ferry glides into Oslofjord this morning and docks in Oslo's bustling harbor.

Guided sightseeing of Oslo • Pass by the Rådhuset (town hall) and Akershus Slott (a fortress built by King Haakon V Magnusson in 1300) before continuing on for a stop at Vigelandspark, home to the monumental stone Vigeland sculptures. Then pass the summer and winter residences of the Norwegian Royal Family, as well as the Nobel Institute, as you make your way to the Bygdøy Peninsula. Here, you'll view beautifully preserved, authentic 9th-century Viking ships, retrieved from ritual burial mounds found along the fjords near Oslo. Viking elites wanted to ensure that their dead were well-equipped in the afterlife, so they carefully buried them in their ships with all the necessities.

Visit to the Holmenkollen Skijump and Ski Museum • Come face to face with the steep incline and high altitude known by world-class skiers at the famous Holmenkollen Skijump near Oslo. Inside the museum, you'll learn the history of this challenging Nordic sport and see some well-preserved examples of rudimentary ski equipment dating back to the 1st century.

Day 8 Norwegian Fjord Excursion

Excursion to the fjord region • Transfer to Myrdal, where you will take a cogwheel train (The Flam Railway) into the Flam Valley. Enjoy spectacular scenery, including cascading waterfalls and bright-white glaciers, as your train travels 3,000 feet in 12 miles. From Flam, take a fjord cruise to Gudvangen and spend the night in the fjord region.

Day 9 Oslo

Transfer to Oslo • Return to Oslo, where you will spend the night.

Day 10 Home

Return home • Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.

Wooden sailboats rest up for their next excursion.



Discover the Global Classroom



Educational Tours