



EXETER
INTERNATIONAL

A SELF-DRIVE THROUGH
NORWAY



SCANDINAVIA



ITINERARY AT A GLANCE:

DAY 1	ARRIVAL INTO OSLO
DAY 2	OSLO
DAY 3	OSLO-BALESTRAND
DAY 4	BALESTRAND- ØYE
DAY 5	ØYE
DAY 6	ØYE -ALESUND
DAY 7	ALESUND TO BERGEN
DAY 8	BERGEN
DAY 9	DEPARTURE

WHY EXETER INTERNATIONAL?

At Exeter International we have been creating memories and crafting our trademark extraordinary journeys to Central Europe, Russia, Scandinavia, and Central Asia for 23 years. Our specialty is to distill the best of the best in iconic places that are on so many people's travel must-do list.

We are not a call center of nameless, faceless people. We do not try to be everything to everyone. We are a small team of specialists. We are all committed to providing the best travel experiences to our destinations. Each member of our team has travelled extensively throughout our destinations, giving them insider knowledge lacking in many other tour operators.

Our Extraordinary Experiences are different, unusual, and often closed to the general public. We can offer special insider access that takes you beyond the typical tourist sites. We know how important it is to remain authentic and increasingly going beyond the well-known sites is what is important to our guests—discovering the little known museum or street market that adds to their experience. We do this through our local knowledge, cultivating our extensive contacts and regularly visiting each destination to enable us to share the most up-to-date insider information with you, our valued partner.

The most important part of your trip will be your guides. Guides come in many quality levels, especially in the region. We have worked with a core group of the best of the best for over 20 years. We know them like family and if they weren't the best, they wouldn't work for us. Simply stated, a guide can make or break your experience. You should have 100% confidence in who is introducing you to your guide and the level of guiding that you are going to get throughout the countries you will be visiting. The best does indeed cost more and we pay our guides at the very top of the market, with pride.

You'll also want to know what kind of vehicle your tour will include. We use luxury late-model vehicles, often Mercedes, Audi, BMW, or Volkswagen, depending on the size of the vehicle you need. You'll want to see things that may or may not be open to the public and go in early or after hours before the crowds whenever possible. We also make every effort to skip lines whenever possible. Avoiding long museum lines is one of our top priorities and we work hard to minimize the wait time to get into the most popular sights in each city, maximizing your time in each destination.

You'll want impeccable planning and someone to bounce ideas off of before your trip and speak English as well as you do while planning your trip so there are no cultural misunderstandings when you arrive. You'll also want someone to talk to if your trip is not perfect when you get home. These are all ways that we distinguish ourselves from all other companies.

A lot goes into our travel program design. We arrange the program so that it is flawless and effortless for our travelers from the time they set foot in the first city until they leave us. The expertise to set up an itinerary like this comes after years of investing in staff on both sides of the Atlantic, and this too is a value that is incorporated into our traveler's trips with us.

DAY 1



OSLO

Upon arrival into Oslo, you will be greeted just outside of baggage claim and transferred to your hotel.

EXETER SERVICES

Transfer

HOTEL

Hotel Continental

DAY 2



OSLO

This morning, your guide will meet you at 10:00am for a tour of the Norwegian capital. Even though Oslo is a city, its numerous parks and waterfront give it a very quaint feeling. First, you will visit City Hall and view the ceremonial hall with its beautiful murals, including the largest oil painting in Europe. This is the location of the Nobel Peace Prize award ceremony every December.

Enjoy a stroll down Karl Johans Gate, the main thoroughfare of Oslo. This street contains many shops and places to eat. Stortinget (the Norwegian Parliament), the University and numerous parks line the street. The street ends at the Royal Palace, which prominently sits on a hill.

Journey out to Vigeland Park. The park, named after sculptor, Gustav Vigeland, contains 212 human sculptures, depicting all the stages of life. The main focal point of the park is the 56 foot tall monolith, comprised of over 100 human figures all molded into one another.

Next, you will visit the Viking Ship Museum where three of the largest ships, the Oseberg, Gokstad, and Tune are housed. Found in royal burial mounds of Oslo, these well preserved ships were used to carry the dead over to “the other world.”

This afternoon is at leisure.

EXETER SERVICES

Guide (4 hours); Car & Driver (3 hours)

HOTEL

Hotel Continental

DAY 3



OSLO-BALESTRAND

This morning, you will be transferred to the train station to catch the high-speed train to Myrdal. Upon arrival into Myrdal, you will board the historic Flamsbana train. The train will take you up some of the steepest train tracks in the world, passing by waterfalls, steep mountain sides, and of course the famous fjord.

Arrival into Flam, where you depart via express boat through the Sognefjord to Balestrand. Cruise among the towering mountain tops dotted with tiny villages.

Your boat will arrive right to the Kviknes hotel set on the edge of the fjord.

EXETER SERVICES

Transfer; Trains and Boat Transportation

HOTEL

Kviknes Hotel

DAY 4



BALESTRAND- ØYE

This morning, your car will be delivered to your hotel. Cost of rental car is not included and will be paid locally.

At your leisure, head out today for the Hotel Union Øye in Norangsfjorden.

Your 4-5 hour journey will take you right by Fjærland, an area that has been settled since the Viking Age, and is the meeting point of the Bøyabreen and Supphellebreen arms of the largest glacier on the European continent, Jostedalsbreen. You can stop to visit the Norwegian Glacier Museum where you can learn more about glacier formation and movement. If you're ready for lunch, we suggest Fjaerland Fjordstove, where they specialize in local produce and Nordic Cuisine. (Museum and lunch not included in price, payable locally.)

Upon arrival, check into the historical Hotel Union Øye. The rest of your day is at leisure to explore the surrounding area, or just enjoy the setting sun on the terrace. Dinner at the Hotel Union Øye is included with your stay this evening. The three-course dinner uses local, seasonal ingredients and is created by the restaurant's chef.

EXETER SERVICES

Car Rental

HOTEL

Hotel Union Øye

DAY 5



ØYE

Today explore Geiranger. Board the ferry at Hellesyt for the 8:00am departure. The ferry ride is approximately 60 minutes and will take you through the Geiranger fjord. Stunning cliffs rise from the water with farms dotting the coastline. You will see the Seven Sisters waterfall along the way.

We suggest a drive to the famous Trollstigen (Troll's Road). The switchback road takes you down a mountainside with fantastic views into the valley. You will also experience Eagle's Road. Today's drive will take about 5 hours but the stunning scenery and lookout points will beg for you to stop for photo ops many times!

Return on the 5:00pm ferry from Geiranger to Hellesyt. Round-trip ferry tickets are included.

EXETER SERVICES

Car Rental

HOTEL

Hotel Union Øye

DAY 6



ØYE-ALESUND

This morning, at your leisure depart for Alesund and turn in your rental car. The city is known for its exquisite Art Nouveau style. The entire city was rebuilt after a fire in 1904.

EXETER SERVICES

Car Rental

HOTEL

Hotel Brosundet

DAY 7



ALESUND-BERGEN

Your driver will greet you for your transfer to the airport. Cost of flight not included.

Upon arrival into Bergen, you will be greeted just outside of baggage claim and transferred to your hotel.

EXETER SERVICES

Transfers

HOTEL

Hotel Opus XVI

DAY 8



BERGEN

Today, your guide will introduce you to the charming town of Bergen. Just steps from your hotel is the Old Bryggen, the original settlement of Bergen. Here just ten of the original gabled houses on the harbor still stand.

The city's oldest surviving church, St. Mary's, dates back to the 11th century. The Hanseatic merchants worshipped in this church and the detailing is testament to their generous donations.

The fish market is a "must see" and can be quite lively with locals. This is the place to sample different types of fish and meats. Try to taste the difference between wild or farmed salmon or maybe sample some reindeer sausage.

Afterwards, your guide will take you the funicular to the Fløy Mountains for a truly spectacular view overlooking the city. You may choose to stay on the mountain top at your leisure for hiking or even hike down the mountain instead of taking the funicular back down.

EXETER SERVICES

Guide (4 hours)

HOTEL

Hotel Opus XVI

DAY 9



BERGEN-ONWARD

This morning, your driver will meet you for your transfer to the airport for your departing flight

EXETER SERVICES

Transfer

WHAT IS INCLUDED



Price: From \$5,200 per person, double occupancy, based on two guests traveling together

Accommodations

Oslo

One Deluxe Room for Two (2) nights at the Hotel Continental; Tax and Buffet Breakfast included daily.

Hotel Continental is situated in Oslo, the capital of Norway. This historical hotel enjoys a central position between Aker Brygge, the Royal Palace, Nationaltheatret and Norway's parliament, the Storting. The history of Hotel Continental sounds like an old-fashioned fairytale—a tale about poor people who, through hard work and sheer talent, created a lasting monument. Today, with the hotel owned and run by the fourth generation, Hotel Continental is Norway's only five-star hotel and a paradigm of quality in the hospitality industry.

Hotel Continental is one of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters' collaborative partners and is the official hotel of the annual Abel Prize for outstanding scientific work in the field of mathematics. The stylish Abel Suite is named after the famous Norwegian mathematician Niels Henrik Abel. Each year, the Abel Prize laureate stays in the Royal Suite in connection with the award ceremony, where HM King Harald V presents the Abel Prize.

All 153 rooms have been recently renovated (2016–2018) and offer an in-room safe, minibar, free internet connection, feature Molton Brown toiletries, and are non-smoking. The rooms offer air conditioning which can control the temperature between 18 and 24 degrees Celsius. You will be greeted in the brand-new reception and lobby area. The new Bar Boman is the perfect place to relax and the new fitness studio means you can stay fit while traveling.

Deluxe room: These rooms are ideal for guests who like some extra space and offer a generous 350 square feet and have a king-size bed. All the Deluxe Rooms have a comfortable seating area and a desk. Each room is unique: some have a classical style, while others have a modern feel. Rooms have either a bathtub or shower.

Balestrand

One Standard Fjord View Room for One (1) night at the Kviknes Hotel; Tax and Buffet Breakfast included daily.

This historic hotel, run by the Kvikne Family since the late 1800s, offers a fantastic setting right along the banks of the Sognefjord. The hotel combines the charming historical elements of yesterday with today's modern amenities. The hotel features a large collection of Norwegian artwork and antiques from throughout the years. The stunning surroundings offer ample opportunities for hiking and biking. The Fjord View rooms provide magnificent views of the fjord.

The rooms do not have air conditioning but the hotel does offer fans for guests to borrow during their stay.

Modern Building Fjord View Room: All rooms in this category have balconies. Queen bedded rooms are located on the west side of the building and have views of the fjord as well as the village and St. Olav's Church. Twin rooms are located on the eastern side and have views of the fjord as well as the Tjugum Church and the mountain. Rooms average 180 square feet.

Oye

One Deluxe Room for Two (2) nights at the Hotel Union Oye; Tax and Buffet Breakfast included daily.

Sitting in a quiet corner of Norway, on the Norangsfjord sits the Hotel Union Øye. Taking in guests since 1891, the 27 room hotel has been a stop for everyone from Kaiser Wilhelm to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

The hotel is furnished with antiques, set along wood paneled hallways and fireplace warmed dining rooms. The staff wears traditional Norwegian dress, adding to the historic ambiance of the hotel.

Each room is unique in size and decoration. Most feature king size beds or twin beds, and a walk-in shower.

The rooms do not have air conditioning.

Deluxe Room: These are upgraded double rooms that are some of their finest rooms. These have either a four-posted bed or a balcony, some offer both. Some of these rooms also have bathtubs. Most of these rooms are located at the front of the hotel offering amazing views of the mountains surrounding them, the village of Øye, and the beautiful Norangsfjord.

Alesund

One Superior Seaview Room for One (1) night at the Hotel Brosundet; Tax and Buffet Breakfast included daily.

The Hotel Brosundet is located in a historical Art Nouveau building in the city center of Ålesund. Originally a warehouse, the hotel has aimed to preserve the building and its historical use (processing the catch of the day for the local fishery) by having one of the best seafood restaurants in the area, Maki.

The newly-renovated hotel boasts 132 rooms while still retaining its charm as a family-owned hotel. Hotel Brosundet was designed by the same man responsible for designing the Norwegian Opera in Oslo and Ground Zero Pavilion in New York.

The hotel does not have air conditioning. Public areas include a bar with an extensive wine list, gym, sauna, Turkish sauna, and solarium.

Superior Room: This room offers a luxurious queen or king size bed, depending on the room. Some of the rooms vary in size due to the historic nature of the building. Also, this room type has a work desk as well. It has a private bathroom with a stand-up shower, and a view of the sea.

Bergen

One Superior Room for Two (2) nights at the Hotel Opus XVI; Tax and Buffet Breakfast included daily.

Opus XVI is conveniently located in the center of Bergen, just minutes away from the historic Bryggen area, the Fish market, and the funicular that will take you up to Mount Fløyen. Recently opened, this classic yet modern hotel is Bergen's newest and most luxurious property. Originally designed and built as a bank, it has been transformed into a chic and welcoming hotel while maintaining the remarkable original architectural characteristics, featuring heavy granite walls and ionic columns in polished marble.

As an Edvard Grieg Heritage Hotel managed by Edvard Krieg's relatives, Opus XVI encourages its guests to have a taste of the life and relationships of Bergen's most famous classical composer and pianist by displaying excerpts of his exciting life and travels.

All guests can enjoy free access to the hotel's fitness center and are welcome to use the free WiFi. The hotel also offers a fantastic restaurant, classic café, and a wine bar with a warm and relaxed atmosphere.

Because of the building's unique architecture, each room has been elegantly designed with different individual features and decorations. All rooms are non-smoking and feature in-room climate control that can be adjusted between 18 and 24 degrees Celcius, heated bathroom floors, a safe, tea and coffee making facilities, and a minibar.

Superior Room: Featuring approximately 235 square feet, all Superior rooms are located on the second, third, and fourth floor and are individually furnished with a dedicated sitting area and work desks. These rooms accommodate either one king bed or two twin beds.

Meals

No meals included, other than breakfast as described above. Your final documents will include our top recommendations. *Your guides will recommend restaurants that fit your exact needs daily.*

Services

Private vehicle, driver and guide at your service as described. The timing for each day is noted in your program.

Exeter International's local offices are available for your assistance 24 hours per day while you are traveling. Our local staff may also assist you with restaurant reservations and purchasing of additional theater and museum tickets at your request.

Transportation

Transportation is included as noted. Unless otherwise noted, all transfer service is with a driver only, not a guide. In general, drivers have limited English-speaking skills. Timing for each day is noted in your program.

Guides

Hand chosen for their knowledge on local history, art & architecture. Guides are at your disposal as noted in your itinerary.

Tickets

All entrance tickets as described in the program.

Car Rental / Parking / Fuel / Tolls

Not Included.

Exeter International Travel Information

SELF-DRIVE

All Exeter International self-drive programs include full support throughout your program with our local 24-hour staff. You have the option of borrowing our GPS (we will pre-load your route) or sending us your own GPS to program prior to your trip. Upon arrival in your first city, you will also receive the most up-to-date road map for the region you will drive. Parking instructions, where needed, are included as well as a listing of common European road signs.

BAGGAGE

The vehicles reserved for your itinerary, when private car services are included, can accommodate up to two medium-sized suitcases per person. If you intend to travel with additional luggage, please advise your travel consultant so appropriate arrangements may be made. In general, we schedule a sedan for parties of two, a minivan for parties of three to four and a minibus for parties of five or more.

SIGHTSEEING

Sightseeing arrangements have been made with your special interests in mind. Your drivers and guides are at your disposal as indicated in the itinerary. Within those time and mileage guidelines, you are free to modify your program as you please. Should you require additional time or mileage, the costs will be quoted on request and may be paid for locally in the local currency or U.S. Dollars.

Every effort has been made to confirm that scheduled sightseeing venues will be open at the time you plan to visit them. However, individual estates, museums, gardens and other points of interest can change their hours of operation at short notice. In the event that a particular attraction is closed on the day or time of your visit, your guide will offer alternative arrangements or rearrange your sightseeing to accommodate these unexpected events.

OPTIONAL EXPENSES

Charges for extra meals, transport, sightseeing services or other optional additions to your established itinerary are your responsibility and must be paid locally in the local currency.

GRATUITIES

Gratuities are not included in your tour price. Gratuities are at your own discretion. We recommend \$15-\$20 per person, per day for your guide and \$5 - \$10 per person, per day for your driver. For your airport or station transfer, a gratuity of \$5 - \$10 is customary, based on service. Dollars, Euros and any local currency are all accepted.

DINING WITH YOUR GUIDE

On days when dinner and lunch costs have not been included in your itinerary (or in your tour cost), you may, at your discretion, choose to invite your guide to dine with your party. You are under no obligation to do so but, if you do extend such an invitation, the guide is your guest and you will be responsible for the cost of his/her meal.

Booking Conditions

PAYMENTS

Exeter International must receive a deposit of 25% of the total program cost before reservations for your independent travel program can be initiated. The balance of payment is due 60 days prior to departure. *No reservations are made on your behalf until this deposit has been received.* Availability and pricing is subject to change until this deposit is received. **All deposits are nonrefundable.**

CANCELLATION

Written cancellations received less than 60 days prior to departure are subject to the following forfeit of tour cost

- 59-14 days prior to departure, 50% of total tour cost
- 14 or less days prior to departure, 100% of tour cost

REFUNDS

We regret that refunds cannot be issued for arrangements confirmed on your itinerary but unused once your tour has begun.

INSURANCE

Exeter International strongly recommends the purchase of travel insurance to protect your investment. You will find insurance costs noted on your invoice and insurance coverage information in your original booking packet.

PRICES AND ARRANGEMENTS

Once an itinerary is finalized and final payment has been made, a \$100 revision fee will be charged if the itinerary is changed.

The tour price includes planning, handling and operational charges. Rates are quoted in US Dollars on the current rate of exchange and tariff as of 2019. Exeter International reserves the right to increase tour prices to cover increased costs, tariffs and taxes, and to reflect fluctuations in foreign exchange markets. Devaluation of a foreign currency will be weighed against any tariff increases imposed. Exeter International does not breakdown costs involved in any Small Group or Individual Travel Program.

*All arrangements are subject to availability and modification if necessary.
Prices are subject to change if necessary until paid in full.*

Exeter International

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