NORWEGIAN FJORDS - £1,146

5th June 2020 - 18th June 2020 (14 days)

A retro re-run of the very successful tours that ran from 1991 to 2007. A back to basics tour staying in Youth Hostels, chalets and hotels, carrying your own luggage in your panniers or saddlebag. Whilst this sounds a bit spartan, you will be cycling through fantastic scenery and on some quiet mountain roads. Included is a one night cruise on the famous Hurtigruten - the Norwegian Coastal Steamer, that has been running for well over 120 years and is now a “must do” for the cruising set. Some things will have changed since 2007 but not the clean country air, the wild flowers, the snow capped mountains and the glorious fjords. Re-live your youth on this tour of yesteryear, but ride your modern bike with all the gears to help you over the hills!

HOLIDAY TYPE: Guided
TOUR MANAGER: Brian P Curtis
GRADE: Challenging
BOOKING STATUS: Places Available
ACCOMMODATION: Hotel & Hostel
BOARD BASIS: Half Board
TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS: Land Only
ROAD / OFF ROAD: Road
HOLIDAY STYLE: Moving-on
VEHICLE SUPPORT: Carry Own Luggage
HOLIDAY REF NO: 03472

Holiday Itinerary

Friday 5th June
Meet at Bergen airport in the afternoon for a 6km transfer to Montana Youth Hostel, Bergen. Stay 1 night. Meals: D

Saturday 6th June
Sightseeing in Bergen with a visit to a Stave church and the option to visit Greig’s house and museum. Following dinner at the hostel we’ll cycle to the harbour for 2000 and board the 2130 Hurtigruten Coastal Steamer to Torvik. Meals: B D

Sunday 7th June
We disembark at Torvik at 0830 and cycle to Hellesylt Youth Hostel via the very scenic Norangsdalen. 83km. Stay 2 nights. Meals: B D

Monday 8th June
A circular ride taking in the Eagle Eye Road to Geiranger at the head of Geirangerfjord, then a one hour ferry on the Geirangerfjord back to Hallesylt. 67km. Meals: B D

Tuesday 9th June
Today there are three possible routes. One depends on the snow level on the 1,000m Grotli Road, a stunning ride. 102km. The other two routes will not be affected by snow and these go via Hornindal and Route 60 or a partial off-road route via Flo. Both 51km. Overnight in chalets in Stryn. Stay 1 night. Meals: B D
Wednesday 10th June
Cycle to Vassenden, including one mountain road, for another overnight in chalets. 96km. Stay 1 night. Meals: B D

Thursday 11th June
Another climbing day with a spectacular descent down a series of hairpin bends that take you down to sea level along various fjords in the Sognefjord system. Overnight in the Dragsvik Hotel in Tjugum. 80km. Stay 2 nights. Meals: B D

Friday 12th June
Today we cycle to Sogne at the head of the Sognefjord. 77km. Meals: B D

Saturday 13th June
Moving on to Mjolfjell Mountain Hostel, we visit the Vik Stave Church and the Tvinde mountain waterfall, including a 1,000m climb. 102km. Stay 2 nights. Meals: B D

Sunday 14th June
Rest day. Relax at the hostel or take a trip on the famous Flam Mountain Railway. Meals: B D

Monday 15th June
A fairly short ride to Voss Youth Hostel. 40km. Stay 2 nights. Meals: B D

Tuesday 16th June
Rest day. Options could include a circular trip to Dale, 92km, or a ride around the two Voss Lakes, 38km. Meals: B D

Wednesday 17th June
A choice of three options today. The first is to cycle the 163km back to Begen via the Hardangerfjord. This is a classic ride and an ideal way to finish the tour. The second is to cycle the 46km mountain road to Dale, the centre of Norwegian knitwear production, and then take the train to Bergen. The third is to take the train all the way from Voss to Bergen, giving more time to spend in Bergen. Overnight at Montana Youth Hostel. Stay 1 night. Meals: B D

Thursday 18th June
Transfer to Bergen airport where the tour ends. Meals: B

Meals: B = Breakfast  D = Dinner

Holiday Summary

Accommodation & Meals
8 nights are spent in Youth Hostels (4 bedded room), 2 nights in chalets (3 or 4 bedded room) and 2 nights in a 3-star hotel (twin-bedded room). Single occupancy is available for a supplement, as is upgrading to twin/double rooms at the hostels and chalets. All breakfasts and dinners are included. One night is spent on the Hurtigruten Coastal Steamer sharing a 2-berth cabin with breakfast included (no single occupancy is available). Vegetarian meals are available and these should be indicated on the Booking Form.

Vehicle Support
No vehicle support is provided and participants will need to carry their own luggage.

Passports, Visa & Health
EU citizens must hold a passport that is still valid on the date of their return to their home country. Holders of non-EU passports are advised to check whether they require a visa. There are no compulsory health related requirements for UK residents, but you are strongly advised to check that your tetanus protection has not expired. You must also carry your European Health Insurance Card.

Travel Insurance
Our Booking Conditions stipulate that, for holidays outside the UK, travel Insurance is mandatory. Details of the level of cover needed and other conditions you should check are stated in the Booking Conditions. CTC Cycling Holidays & Tours Ltd cannot accept responsibility for any costs that may be incurred due to insufficient insurance cover.

Price
The price of £1,146 is based on a minimum number of 12 people taking part in the holiday; please note Booking Conditions, clause 3. If there are insufficient bookings by 27th March 2020, we will contact you and return all monies paid, although in certain circumstances the holiday may still run at below minimum numbers but at the same price.

Price Includes
- Return transfer from Bergen airport to the Montana Hostel, Bergen
- 8 nights hostel, 2 nights chalet, 2 nights hotel, sharing room
- 1 night on the Hurtigruten Coastal Steamer, sharing a two-berth cabin
- 13 breakfasts, 13 dinners
- 7 internal fjord ferries
- CTC Cycling Holidays & Tours costs

Price Does Not Include
- Travel to and from Bergen airport
• Drinks with dinner
• Lunches or refreshments during the day
• Flam Railway (approx £42)
• Trains to Bergen from Voss or Dale (approx £23 & £13)
• Entry fees at any other attractions visited
• Any other personal expenses
• Travel Insurance
• Single occupancy supplement (£250, subject to availability, but not on the Coastal Steamer)
• Twin/double room supplement (£100 per person, subject to availability)

Payment Schedule
A deposit of £200 per person is payable upon booking, with the final balance of £946 per person to be paid ten weeks prior to departure, by 27th March 2020.

Cancellations
Should you be forced to cancel your booking for any reason you must notify us in writing. Cancellation charges are as follows:

Written notice received:                                      Cancellation charge:
Before 27th March 2020                                      Deposit (£200)
From 27th March 2020 through to departure                   100% (£1,146)

Additional Information

Area Covered By The Holiday
The tour will give participants time to explore Bergen, the Capital of the Fjords, the scenic Geirangerfjord and the spectacular Sognefjord that reaches to the town of Sogne which is 200km from the coast. The mountain hostel at Mjolfjell is a retreat but nevertheless is served by the Bergen to Oslo railway which gives access to the famous Flam Mountain Railway. The town of Voss is a mixture of old and new as a result of actions in WW2 and is the starting point for rides to Hardangerfjord and the final journey back to Bergen.

Rides & Rest Days
The pace will be moderate with front and back markers. Stops will be made for morning coffee and lunches are usually taken as a picnic on a self-provided basis. There are several two night stays, giving the opportunity to cycle without luggage. You can also plan your own ride or have a rest day.

Travel
As no travel is included it is very important to note that neither your Tour Manager nor CTC Holidays & Tours are responsible for you in any way until the appointed time at the designated meeting point. Should you fail to arrive at the appointed time for whatever reason, we will not be responsible for any additional expenses you may incur in order to meet up with the tour group. Before finalising travel arrangements to meet the tour, you should ensure that you have read and understood our booking conditions. Should this tour not attract sufficient bookings to reach the minimum operating size, we may cancel the tour at any time up to 10 weeks before departure. It is therefore recommended that you book fully flexible and refundable transport and accommodation or wait until you have been informed that the tour is going ahead, as in the event of the tour being cancelled, we will not be responsible for any losses incurred.
There are flights from various UK airports to Bergen. The times of the transfer from and to Bergen airport and the hostel have still to be agreed. Bike boxes can be stored at the hostel. Anyone arriving by train or on other days will need to make their own way to the hostel.

Group Information
The maximum number of participants will be 20 excluding the Tour Manager(s).

Weather & Clothing
In the early summer there can be glorious sunshine but there can also be wet and cold spells so a good waterproof is necessary.

Cycles & Equipment
A touring cycle, hybrid or lightweight ATB is suitable for this tour. You should ensure your cycle is well maintained, paying particular attention to wheels, tyres and brakes. A low bottom gear (e.g. small chainring the same size or smaller than the largest cog on your rear wheel) is recommended. If you are unsure about gears, please discuss with the Tour Manager. Mudguards are optional but show courtesy to those who are following you in wet weather. Lights are a legal requirement when travelling through tunnels. New tyres are recommended of at least 28mm diameter. Participants will be expected to carry each day sufficient spares and tools to deal with punctures and minor repairs. Each participant is expected to bring, and carry, all of their own clothing, personal items and spares. You are advised to do some riding before the tour with a similar load to that which you will be carrying during the tour to get a feel for how your bike will handle. Helmets are your personal choice.

Maps & Guides
The Cappelen Map South Norway, North (scale 1:335,000) covers the area of the tour. ISBN 978-82-02-61849-0
Detailed route information and GPX files will be sent out before the tour starts.

Travel Insurance & Advice
In addition to travel insurance, EU nationals should carry a European Health Insurance Card, obtainable from
www.nhs.uk/NHSEngland/Healthcareabroad/EHIC/. This enables you to take advantage of emergency medical services free or at a discount under a reciprocal provision that exists between EU member states. Your travel insurer may refuse to meet the extra costs of medical treatment if you do not carry this card.

Before booking you should check the latest travel advice from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office including security and local laws, plus passport and visa information, at www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice or on 0845 850 2829.

Other Information
The currency in Norway is the Norwegian Krone, NOK. The value against the UK Pound is very roughly 10 NOK to £1. Standard European 2 round pin electric plugs are also used.

Tour Manager’s Contact Details
If you require any assistance, or have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact the Tour Manager using the information provided below.

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