

SCANDINAVIA

Lecture by Rick Steves

Introduction - Travel There in General

Info sources: guidebook, website, DVDs, local sources
Well-organized, information, infrastructure
Innovative socialistic society, creative solutions
Thriving Pedestrian malls
Bike-friendly (Stockholm and Copenhagen)
Tourist Info (but for profit)
Spice from immigrant communities (and affordability)
Long history hiding in land
Best open-air folk museums in Europe (in or near each capital)
National Galleries
Lack-luster sights come alive with included tours
Modern royalty (Rick Steves radio show archive)
City Halls as tourist attractions
Look up friends and relatives
Expensive: budget tricks for eating and sleeping
Hostels, camping huts
Buffets, trendy zones, picnic, 7-Elevens
Convenience stores vs supermarkets
Rick Steves' Scandinavia tours
Rick Steves Northern Europe Cruise Ports (Rick's guidebook)

DENMARK

Copenhagen

Nyhavn, old sailors' quarter
Strøget, first pedestrian boulevard
King Christian IV
Rosenborg Castle, crown jewels
Little Mermaid, Hans Christian Andersen
Biking – best city in Scandinavia on two wheels
Christianshavn
Christiania commune/squatter community
Tivoli
Jazz festival (10 days in early July)

Day Trips from Copenhagen

Fredericksborg Castle: located in the town of Hillerød, 30 minutes by train from downtown Copenhagen. Royal residence of King Christian IV. Coronation cathedral.
Roskilde – 30 minutes by train from Copenhagen, or a great stop on the way to the island of Aero
Viking Ship Museum – Great 20 minute film introduction, workshops outside
Roskilde Cathedral – Royal burial cathedral
Odense – birthplace of Hans C. Andersen, museum
Arhus – second city, fine open-air folk museum, prehistory museum with bog man, Legoland



Ærø

Cutest "ship-in-a-bottle" island, south of Isle of Funen
Ærøskøbing – best home base
Explore the island by bike
Kro = Country Inn. Good for traditional Danish food
Cottages along the beach – Great place for a sunset stroll

NORWAY

Oslo

Aker Brygge Harborfront development
City Hall
Karl Johans Gate, palace
Harborfront, fortress, shrimp
New Opera House
National Gallery
Ekeberg Modern Sculpture Park
Frogner Park, Gustav Vigeland statues
Vigeland Museum
Bygdøy, shuttle ferry
Viking Ships
Fram – Arctic and Antarctic explorations
Kon Tiki, Thor Heyerdahl
Norwegian Open-Air Folk Museum, 150 buildings from all over Norway
Holmenkollen Ski Jump/museum, built for '52 Olympics
Oslo fjord

Mountains and Fjords

"Norway in a Nutshell" Oslo to Bergen train with a side trip to Flam, on the Sognefjord
By car through Jotunheimen – "Giant's Home" – best of

Norway's mountains

If you drive, good stave church in Lom

Sognefjord – biggest and best fjord to tour

Naeroyfjord, Aurland, Flam, Gudvangen

Balestrand, Kviknes Hotel

Solvorn, Urnes stave church

Otternes Farm

Nigardsbreen, Jostedal Glacier, family hike

Stave churches: Hopperstad, Borgund

Lillehammer: Folk museum in Oslo is good. Maihaugen in

Lillehammer, 90 minutes away, is better.

Alesund – art nouveau town rebuilt after fire

Bergen

Norway's second largest city (pop. 220,000)

Start of scenic Hurtigruten coastal cruise to North Cape

Fish Market – touristy

Medieval capital, Hakon's Hall, tower

Old Hanseatic town

Bryggen tour – a must. Tour through old Hanseatic quarters. In

Cod we trust.

Troldhaugen, Edvard Grieg

Ulriken gondola to mountain top

Mt. Fløyen – best quick view of Bergen

SWEDEN

Stockholm

"Beauty on Water" The city is built over 14 islands connecting the Baltic Sea to Lake Mälaren

City Hall – Nobel Prize banquet held here each year. Fine tours, climb the tower for the great view.

Gamla Stan – Stockholm's Old Town

Royal Palace – Former royal residence, fine crown jewels and armor museum

Changing of the Guard – each day at noon

Drottninggatan – Modern pedestrian street

Skansen – Europe's finest open-air folk museum. Folk dancing, music, demonstrations.

Absolut Ice Bar (touristy, if doing one—it's the best)

Carl Milles sculpture garden

Vasa warship museum – 300-year old warship that sunk on its maiden voyage

Nordic Museum – a look at Swedish lifestyles over the last 500 years

Drottningholm Castle: "Swedish Versailles." Current royal residence. Reachable by boat from Stockholm.

Archipelago, ferries service to 100 islands over 80 miles

Skargarden, Svartso, Vaxholm

Swedish Countryside

Dalarna boring, colorful horses

Kalmar, great castle, fun mid-sized town with charming and historic old center

Växjö, immigrants' museum, glass works

Uppsala, Gamla Uppsala (ancient Sweden), Carl Linnaeus great botanist

FINLAND

Helsinki

Silja vs. Viking lines for daily and nightly ferry Helsinki-Stockholm connection

Harbor-side market

Neo-Classical city, Russian heritage

Modern architecture

Lutheran Cathedral

Russian Orthodox cathedral

"Church in the Rock"

Sibelius Monument

Suomenlinna fortress, the Gibraltar of the Baltic Sea

Sauna

ESTONIA

Tallinn

Easy fast ferry/jet boat connection from Helsinki

New freedom/prosperity

Festival Song Grounds, Singing Revolution vs USSR

Russian settlers planted, today's problems

Kadriorg palace and park

Kumu Art Museum

LEARN MORE

Read: *Rick Steves Scandinavia*

Watch: *Rick Steves' Scandinavia Blu-ray/DVD*

Rick Steves Tour: *Best of Scandinavia in 14 Days (see route below)*



Rick Steves'
EUROPE

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