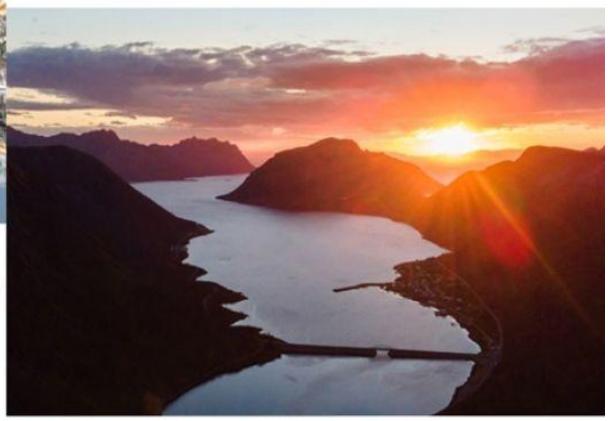
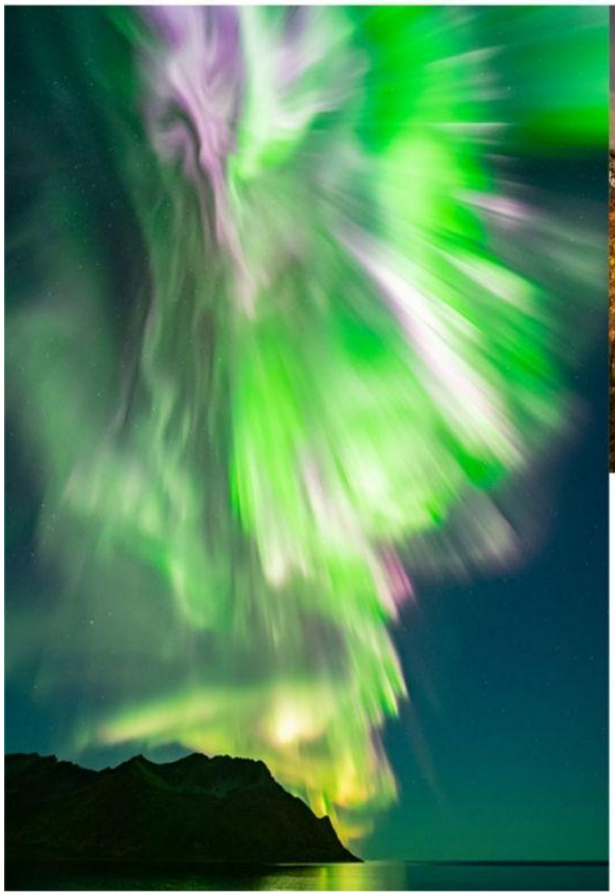
BY VINCENT.VOYAGE TRAVEL BLOG



OVER 230 PAGES OF ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ABOUT NORWAY

NORWAY

YOUR MUST-HAVE TRAVEL GUIDE 2026/2027



TROMSØ
LOFOTEN ISLANDS
SENJA
FJORDS OF NORWAY
BERGEN
OSLO
BODØ

NORTHERN LIGHTS
ITINERARIES
ACCOMMODATION
ACTIVITIES
FERRIES & CRUISES
TOLLS & ROADS
TRANSPORT & PLANNER

Welcome to this guide dedicated to discovering Norway, its most beautiful places, its activities and all the practical information to make sure your trip goes smoothly.

It's a guide that has been constantly evolving since 2022, when the first version was just a few dozen pages long. So it has grown quite a bit!

I decided to make this **guide completely free**, available to **everyone**. No need to pay, no subscription, no need for an email.

If you'd like to **help** keep this content completely free and **encourage me** in this work, there are several ways to do so. Because no, the Vincent Voyage blog is not a job at all and doesn't pay the bills. **Your contributions allow me to devote more time to it**.

- Use the *Booking* and *Getyourguide* links found throughout this guide. I earn a small percentage and for you it doesn't cost anything extra

- If you're planning your holidays, even somewhere other than Norway, use these links (always the official links, of course). They contain my little ID that tells *Booking* or *Getyourguide* that I'm the one who sent you. Likewise, for car rental I use *Discover Cars*, which I really like.

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Feel free to bookmark these links ! A huge thank you! 😊

This guide is free and ad-free. If it has been useful for planning your holidays, you can support the free content on Buy Me a Coffee.

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NORWAY

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2026/2027 edition

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THE BEST ACTIVITIES IN NORWAY

SEEING THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

As I'll explain in detail further down, the northern lights are a must in Norway, at least in the north, 8 months a year (from September to April). To maximize your chances, head beyond the Arctic Circle, go where the weather is good (I especially recommend Tromso, Senja or the Finnmark), but above all I recommend you follow the *tips for chasing the northern lights*. Namely:

- be mobile to escape the clouds (because obviously, with clouds, there's no chance of seeing the lights)
- anticipate the weather with the websites that show cloud cover. That way you'll know where to go, where the clouds will be, where the sky is clear, hour by hour. Use Ventusky for that.
- avoid light pollution — you need to be in a dark environment to see the lights in good conditions
- have a clear view, because if you are boxed in somewhere, behind mountains, you won't see much

In short, since Norway has *some of the best places to see the northern lights*, here are the main articles to help you in your quest for the northern lights:

- *All the questions and answers about the northern lights*
- *Seeing the northern lights in Tromso*
- *The best agencies to see the northern lights in Tromso*
- *Seeing the northern lights in the Lofoten Islands*
- *Where to see the northern lights in Senja*

GOING DOG SLEDDING

With that much snow, dog sledding is possible in a large part of the country. Well ok, mostly in the north around Tromso, in the Finnmark, and in the center.

It's a really fun, active experience, with plenty of contact with the dogs, who are adorable. Personally I love it as much for the sledding itself as for hanging out with the huskies, who are true athletes!

Roughly speaking, you can do it from November to April — though it will mostly depend on the snow, which makes sense 😀

- *Dog sledding in **Tromso***
    - *Recommended agency facing the Lyngen Alps*
- *Dog sledding in the **Lyngen Alps***
- *Dog sledding in **Alta***
- *Dog sledding near **Lillehammer***
- *Dog sledding in **Roros***
- *Dog sledding 2 hours from **Bergen***
- *Dog sledding on a glacier at **Folgefonna***

SEEING WHALES AND ORCAS

It's one of Norway's flagship activities. Whales and orcas cruise along the country's coasts for a good part of the year and are fairly easy to spot.

In **Tromso**, they can be seen from early November to late January. Sometimes a bit earlier, sometimes a bit later — it can vary by a week or two. You head out to see them by boat at Skjervoy, a 3-hour drive from Tromso. Several companies offer this service — I tell you everything in the following article:

- *discover all the cruises to see orcas and whales in Tromso*
    - *recommended cruise with Brim Explorer*

In **Andenes**, at the very north of the Vesteralen islands, you can see them all year round. The only catch is the weather. It can blow really hard there, and trips regularly get cancelled.

- *discover the whales from Andenes*

In the **Lofoten**, you can see them too. Last year lots were spotted, mainly orcas having a blast along the coast. However, since sightings are very hit and miss, there haven't been any tours for a few years now.

In **Alta** and along the coast, it's cetacean heaven. You sometimes see them from the shore (mostly dolphins), but you can take a boat tour into the fjord to see them from much closer.

- *discover the whale-watching cruise from Alta*

EXPLORING NORWAY'S FJORDS BY BOAT

With so many fjords and thousands of kilometers of coastline, it would be a shame not to make the most of it. Personally I do it on almost every trip, and without fail whenever I'm somewhere new (Tromso, Oslo, Bergen, Geiranger, Naeroyfjord, Trollfjord…)
There are impressive boat trips pretty much everywhere in the country, in every season. Here are the main fjord cruises — there's bound to be one in your area!

Oh, and in the following article, I also list all *the fjord cruises around Bergen*.

- **Bergen**
  - *Exploring the Mostraumen*
  - *Going from Bergen to Flam by boat*
  - *Cruise from Bergen to Fjaerland*

- **Stavanger**
  - *Cruise on the Lysefjord and to Preikestolen*

- **Naeroyfjord**
  - *Cruise on the Naeroyfjord from Flam or Gudvangen*
  - *Cruise on the Naeroyfjord from Bergen*

- **Geiranger**
  - *Discovering the Geirangerfjord by speedboat*
  - *Boat cruise from Hellesylt*
  - Sightseeing cruise Hellesylt – Geiranger - Hellesylt
  - Cruise Alesund – Geiranger – Alesund (9 h)

- **Oslo**
  - *Discovering the Oslofjord and the bay*

- **Lofoten Islands**
  - *Silent cruise into the Trollfjord, Norway's narrowest fjord*

- **Tromso**
  - *Exploring the fjords of Tromso by electric boat*

- **Alta**
  - *Cruise in the fjords around Alta*

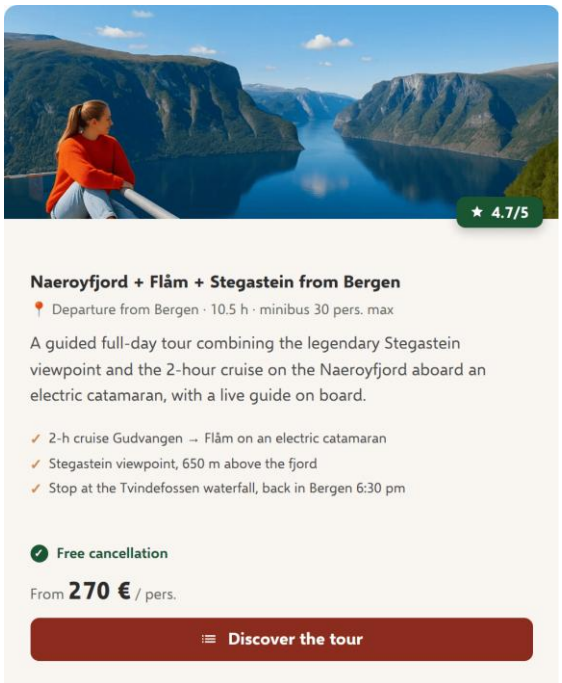
The cruise on the Naeroyfjord between Flam and Gudvangen

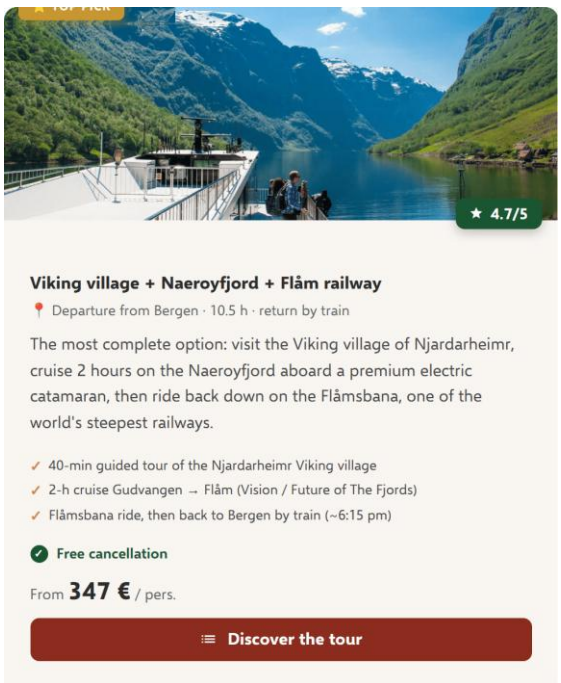
A must-do cruise not too far from Bergen. Unquestionably one of the 2-3 most beautiful fjords in the country.

Practical info:

- 2-hour trip between Flam and Gudvangen (or the other way around)
- Return to your starting point by bus or boat
- One-way fare: 665 NOK
- Booking essential, several weeks in advance in summer
- Book with *Norway's Best*
- More information in the article dedicated to the *Naeroyfjord*

- If **you're coming from Bergen** and don't have a car, you have these two options





The cruise Geiranger - Hellesylt

One of the most beautiful fjords in the country, seriously impressive, with several ways to explore it:

- The trip between Geiranger and Hellesylt by ferry, ideal if you're bringing your car, notably with *Fjordtours*

- The sightseeing cruise departing from Geiranger that does the round trip to Hellesylt
    - *Info and booking*

- Exploring the Geirangerfjord by RIB boat to get as close as possible to the waterfalls
    - *Info and booking*

In the following article, discover the different cruises on the Geirangerfjord

Geiranger ↔ Hellesylt round trip on the Geirangerfjord

📍 Departure from Geiranger · 2.5 h · Cruise Service ferry

The classic round trip on the UNESCO-listed Geirangerfjord from Geiranger, with a 1.5-h stop to explore the village of Hellesylt. Close-up stops at the Seven Sisters and the other waterfalls, with waterfall-water tasting on board.

- ✓ 2.5-h guided round trip, full tour of the UNESCO fjord
- ✓ 1.5-h stop in Hellesylt for a stroll
- ✓ Boat accessible to wheelchair users

Free cancellation

From **62 €** / pers. (instead of 73 €)

Discover the tour

Guided Geirangerfjord tour by small boat

📍 Departure from Geiranger · 75 min · eco-friendly small boat

The intimate option: 75 minutes on a small boat to get as close as possible to the iconic waterfalls (Seven Sisters, Friaren, Brudesløret). Small group with a passionate guide — a far more immersive format than the classic ferry.

- ✓ Closest approach to the Seven Sisters, Friaren and Brudesløret
- ✓ Small group with a knowledgeable guide (in English)
- ✓ 4.7/5 from 736 reviews: the highest rating on the fjord

Free cancellation

From **77 €** / pers.

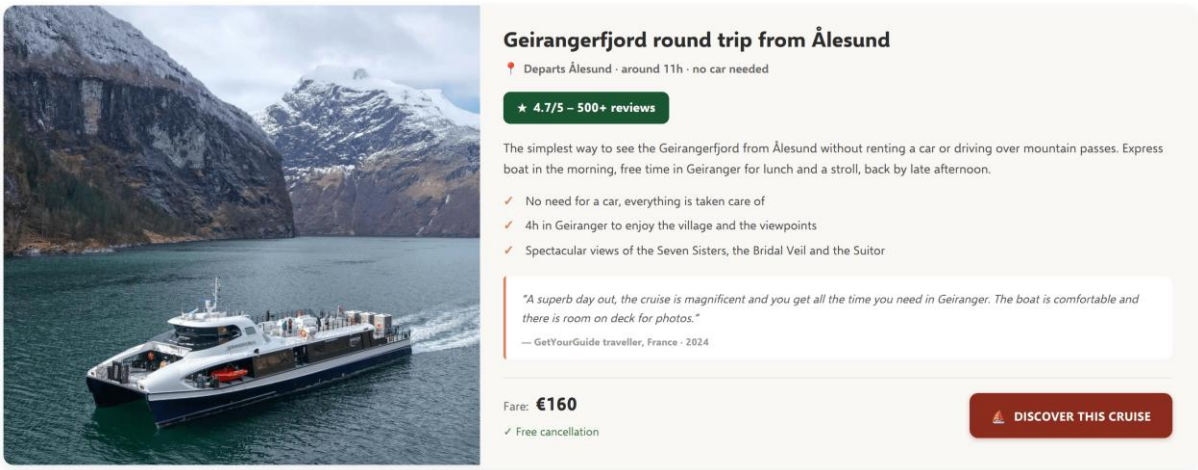
Discover the tour

The cruise between Alesund and Geiranger

Ideal for seeing the superb Geirangerfjord without having to go down to Geiranger and for avoiding the crowds.

Practical info:

- 11-hour trip departing from Alesund through the Storfjord and on to the Geirangerfjord
- Round trip
- Some free time in Geiranger
    - *More information*

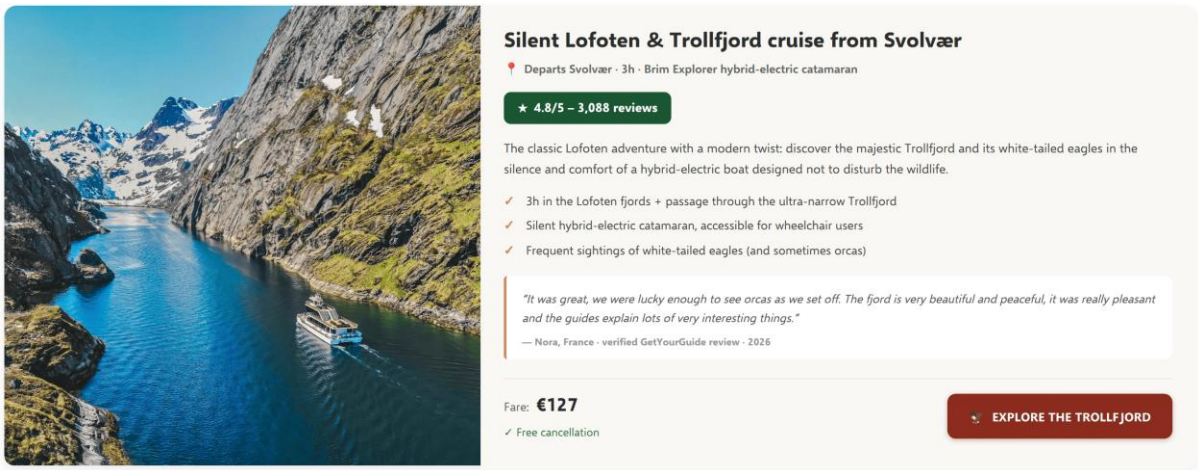


The cruise into the Trollfjord, in the Lofoten Islands

One of the most beautiful fjords in northern Norway, and one of the narrowest, with eagle watching

Practical info:

- 3-hour trip through spectacular scenery with a truly special atmosphere in the fjord
- The only cruise in the *Lofoten Islands*
    - *Info and booking*



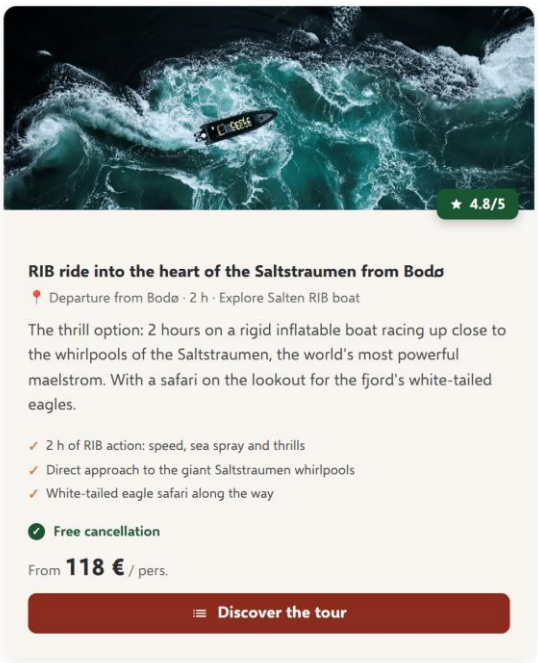
A cruise to see the Saltstraumen in Bodo

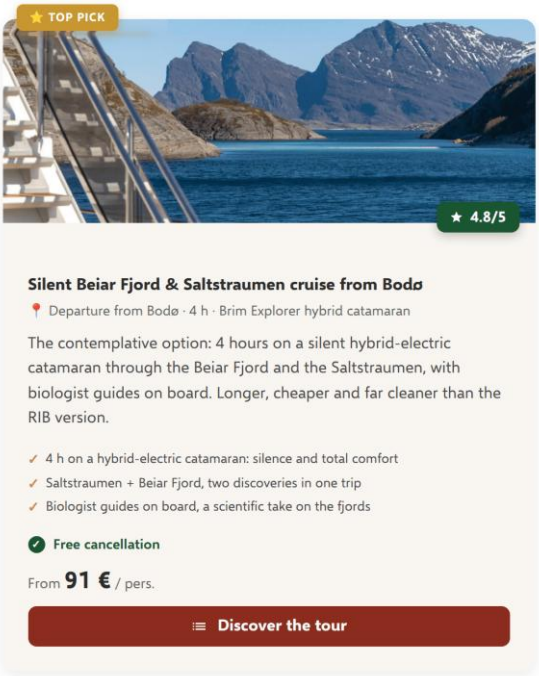
It's the most powerful maelstrom in the world, and you can take a boat ride on it! In the following article, discover
Bodo and the Saltstraumen

Practical info:

- A cruise through the fjords and over the world's strongest current by electric boat
  - *Info and booking*

- A RIB boat tour for a full dose of thrills in the current
  - *Info and booking*



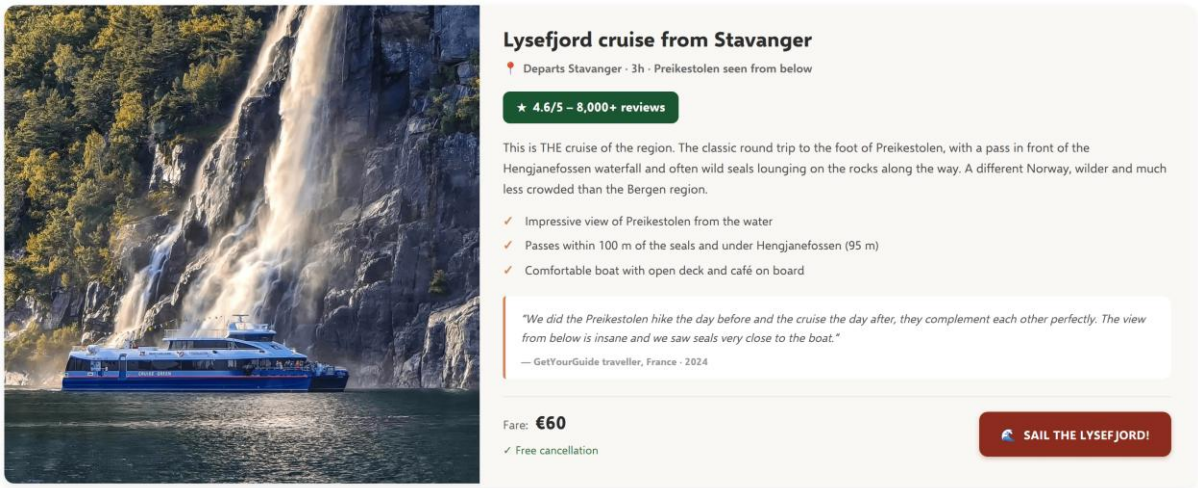


The cruise on the Lysefjord from Stavanger

It's the must-do cruise when you're around Stavanger — among other things, it lets you see the Preikestolen from below. Absolutely worth seeing!

Practical info:

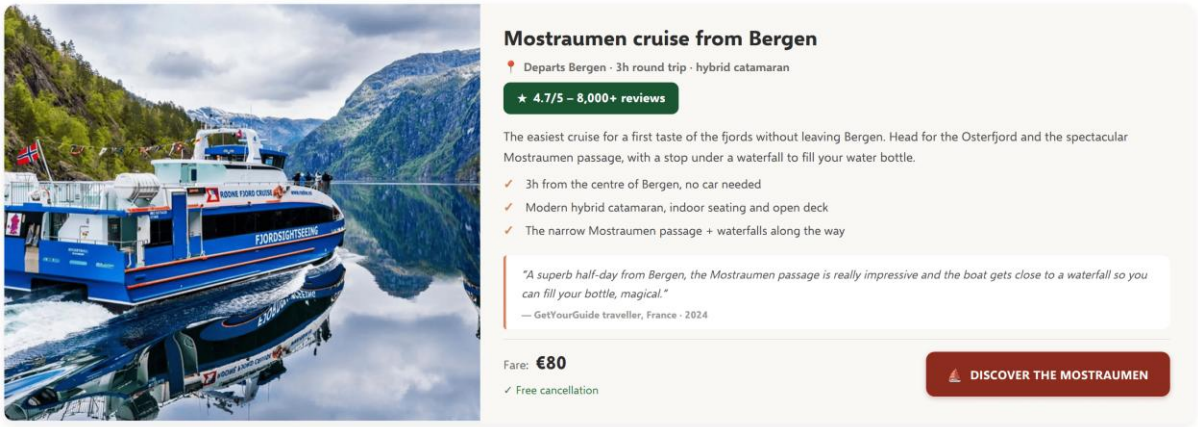
- A 3-hour cruise departing from Stavanger
- It runs all year round, with several departures a day in high season
    - *Info and booking*



The cruise on the Osterfjord from Bergen

If you're going to Norway for the first time and want a taste of the fjords, this cruise is made for you. Not as impressive as the Naeroyfjord or Geiranger, but it's really lovely!

- *Info and booking*



SEEING THE GLACIERS AND WALKING ON THEM

There are still quite a few glaciers in Norway, especially in the center, in the big massifs like the Jostedalsbreen. Fewer in the north, where the mountains are lower.

But basically, here are the glaciers you can visit:

- **Nigardsbreen**, accessible from road 55, in the Jostedalsbreen. You can walk on it with guides (*see here*)
- **Briksdalsbreen**, on the other side of the Jostedalsbreen, reachable via a short walk
- **Bøyabreen**, from Fjaerland, a few minutes' walk from the parking lot
- **Folgefonna**, next to Odda, a magnificent setting — and you can even hike on it (*see here*)
- **Okstindbreen**, further north in the Helgeland, where you can also hike on it with a guide (*see here*)
- **Svartissen**, also in the Helgeland, is Norway's 2nd largest glacier. It sits in a superb national park. A beautiful hike to get there, between lakes and mountains
- **Steindalsbreen**, a glacier in the magnificent setting of the Lyngen Alps, not far from Tromso

THE MUST-SEE PLACES IN NORWAY

Each region mentioned here gets a very detailed section further along in the guide

TROMSO AND ITS REGION

Tromso is a huge playground, in every season. People come to Tromso mostly in winter for its activities, because it's one of the best places to see the northern lights, and because you can go dog sledding or see whales and orcas. But Tromso is more than that — it's magnificent scenery.

And this scenery is a paradise for hiking, with trails by the hundreds, each more beautiful than the last. You can explore the region with or without a car, dive into fantastic landscapes, and visit the island of Kvaloya, the mountain of Signaldalen, the Lygen Alps in particular. In short, it takes more than one trip to get to know it well!

Blog articles and resources:

- ***What to do** in Tromso:* I give you all the information to plan your trip to Tromso — the activities, the places to see, how to organize yourself
- *What's the **best time** to visit Tromso*: because there's always something to do in Tromso, but activities are specific to each season — I tell you month by month what you can do
- ***Where to stay** in Tromso*: I walk you through the accommodation options in Tromso — the good, the cheap, the unusual
- *What are the **best activities** to do in Tromso*: I show you everything you can do in Tromso so you make the most of your stay
- *Tromso, the paradise of **dog sledding***: discover how to go dog sledding and the best operators
- *Seeing **orcas and whales** in Tromso and Skjervoy*: here's all the info for seeing the whales — the best time, the different boats
- *The **map** for visiting Tromso*: on a single map, find all the essential info to visit Tromso
- *The **best guides** to see the **northern lights** in Tromso*: find the best agencies and guides, plus tips for choosing well
- *The **10 best spots** to see the northern lights around Tromso*: because you need to see the northern lights in the right conditions, here's a list of good places to admire them
- *Renting a **cheap car** in Tromso with Discover Cars*: find your car with a quality comparison site

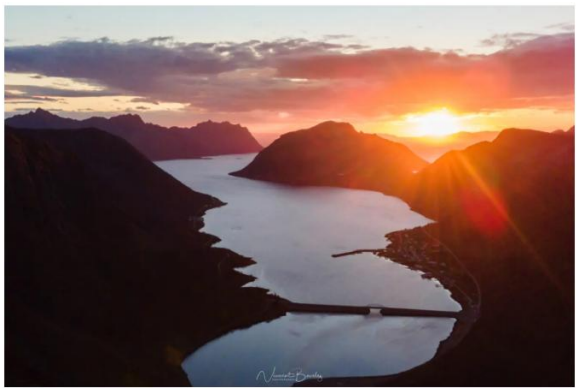
THE ISLAND OF SENJA

Right next to Tromso — well, a 3-hour drive or *a 1-hour ferry ride from Sommaroy* — you'll find *the fabulous island of Senja*. Norway in concentrated form, with fjords, mountains, fjords, mountains and… absolutely nobody, or almost. Senja is a paradise, and you should enjoy it before more and more people discover it (ok, given how much I talk about it, I'm not exactly helping to keep it under the radar!)

You have to explore all the fjords of the north and west, head to Sifjord and get blown away, wander through the park of Anderdalen and of course watch for the auroras because yes, *Senja is an excellent place to see the northern lights*! *Senja is generally visited as part of an itinerary between Tromso and the Lofoten Islands*. An absolute must!

Blog posts and resources:

- ***What to do** in Senja*: discover the most beautiful spots and the best things to do in Senja
- *The best **map** for visiting Senja*: a map with all the info and the spots, so you know exactly what to see
- ***How to get** to Senja*: find out how to get there by car, ferry or plane
- *The best **places to stay** in Senja*: here is my list of great accommodation options in Senja
- *A **2-week itinerary** covering Tromso, Senja and the Lofoten Islands*: a fantastic itinerary I put together to discover the most beautiful places in the north
- *The best places to see the **northern lights** in Senja*: also a list of great spots to watch the northern lights in Senja
- *The village of **Gryllefjord***: Gryllefjord is one of the most beautiful places in Senja, go check it out



THE LOFOTEN ISLANDS

We are talking about *the most beautiful landscapes in Norway*, no less. Absolutely incredible mountains of striking black rock, stretching over hundreds of kilometers. And on top of all that, the Lofoten Islands are home to gorgeous fishing villages like Nusfjord, Henningsvaer, Reine and quite a few others.

The Lofoten Islands are mostly a summer destination, as they boast some of the most beautiful beaches in the world. Fine sand, crystal-clear water, all surrounded by mountains. Paradise! Well, give or take a few degrees.

The weather there is quite the character: very cloudy, sometimes glorious, often rainy. That's the Lofoten Islands for you, a place truly worth visiting in any weather!

Blog posts and resources:

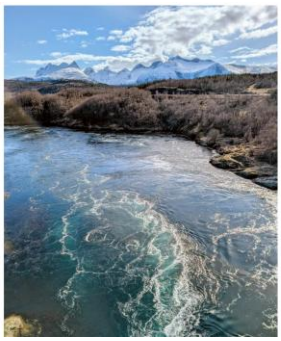
- ***What to do** in the Lofoten Islands*: discover all the places to see and things to do in the stunning Lofoten Islands
- *The best **map** for visiting the Lofoten Islands*: and all of this gathered in one single map
- *The best **hotels** in the Lofoten Islands*: a super handy list of accommodations, houses and hotels, for your stay in the Lofoten Islands
- *A **2-week itinerary** covering Tromso, Senja and the Lofoten Islands*: here is how to discover the most beautiful places in northern Norway
- ***What to do** in the Lototen Islands*, discover all the must-do activities
- *How to **get** to the Lofoten Islands*: bus, plane, car, ferry, discover all the ways to get there
- *Renting your car to explore the Lofoten Islands*: here is a good comparison site to rent the right car in Norway

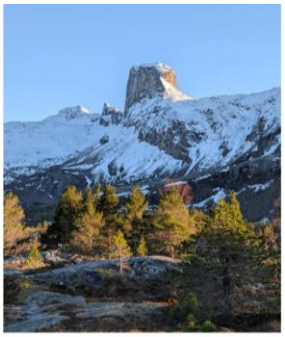
BODO

Bodo is not just the departure point for the *ferry to the Lofoten Islands*. And yet, that's how most people think of this town, even though it's lovely and well worth lingering in for a while.
Locals say it's like the Lofoten Islands, but without the tourists. And it's true that the surrounding mountains are magnificent, and everything is close by.
You can enjoy nature, go skiing, watch the northern lights, take cruises, including one to see the largest maelstrom in the world: the Saltstraumen, truly impressive (especially at high tide).

Resources for Bodo:

- *An article introducing Bodo*
- *Rent your car in Bodo with Discover Cars*
- *Find your accommodation in Bodo*
- *Take a fjord cruise to see the Saltstraumen*





Discover the Bodo region and the Lofoten Islands!

🚙 **Compare** offers in just a few seconds to find the best price — with **free cancellation** included. Save up to 40% and enjoy fantastic scenery 🤩

👉 **See the offers!**

BERGEN AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

Bergen is probably the most beautiful city in Norway (it's a close call with Alesund). Amazing architecture, with its different neighborhoods of wooden houses, a historic past embodied most notably by the docks of Bryggen, a UNESCO World Heritage site, but also by its royal buildings. Bergen has it all (except the weather, let's be honest).

Especially since there's more to Bergen than that: it's a city where you feel wonderfully at ease. We love strolling through its little streets, around the peninsula, along the quays. Taking the funicular up for the views is a real treat. But above all, Bergen is a great base for exploring the surrounding area, and the fjords in particular. You can very easily *go to Flam by boat* or by train, head off to *discover the Naeroyfjord and the fjords around Bergen*. Or simply head further north into the fjord region for a great road trip!

Blog posts and resources:

- ***What to do** in Bergen*: the historic neighborhoods, the wooden houses, the cruises, I tell you everything you need for a great stay in Bergen
- *An **itinerary** around the Bergen region* : a one-week itinerary between Bergen and the fjords
- *The **best places to stay** in Bergen*: I put together a great selection for you, from beautiful hotels to practical accommodation
- *The **fjord cruises** around Bergen*: here are all the cruises to discover the fjords around Bergen
- *How to get from Bergen to **Flam***: Flam is a must-see in the region, here are all the ways to get there
- *Rent a **cheap car** to explore the fjords with Discover Cars*: a comparison site you can trust to find your car

THE FJORD REGION

They say that *Norway's fjord region* stretches from Stavanger (with the Lysefjord) all the way to Alesund. It's huge! And on top of that, there is so much to do: places to see, roads to drive, Viking churches to discover.

Incredible fjords like the Naeroyfjord, the Geiranger or the Sognefjord, churches like Borgund or Urnes; drive the most beautiful road in the country, the Sognefjell, and unwind around Fjaerland, which is a true slice of paradise.

But you also have legendary spots like the Trollstigen road (careful, many *roads in Norway are closed for part of the year*), the village of Geiranger and its viewpoint at Dalsnibba. Well, I could list them all for you, but that's not the point. The fjords are *one of the top places to visit in Norway in summer*, but not only. In winter it will be much harder because of the weather and the road closures.

But either way, prepare to be blown away!

Blog posts and resources:

- *The **most beautiful places** in the Norwegian fjords*
- *The best 2-week itinerary to discover the Norwegian fjords*
- *The **fjord cruises** around Bergen*
- *How to get from Bergen to **Flam***
- *All the information in the **map** of the Norwegian fjords*
- *Rent a **cheap car** to explore the fjords with Discover Cars*

Enjoy Norway's most beautiful fjords!

Compare offers in just a few seconds to find the best price — with **free cancellation** included. Save up to 40%! 🤩

See the best offers!

OSLO, THE CAPITAL

So no, the Norwegian capital is not a city with the wow factor of Europe's imperial cities. But it's a city worth spending time in, because it's a really pleasant place.

You will find *some really interesting museums in Oslo*, like the FRAM museum on polar expeditions, others on Norwegian folklore, the country's history, the Nobel Peace Prize… But it's also a city where it's very pleasant to wander around: the architecture is lovely, the sidewalks are wide, it's an airy city with quite a few parks like Vigeland. And you can also enjoy the new waterfront, which is really nice.

So it can be a great stop for a long weekend or to start your trip to Norway, Oslo never disappoints 😳

Blog posts and resources:

- ***What to do*** *in Oslo*
- *A selection of the best* ***places to stay*** *in Oslo*
- *How to get from* ***the airport*** *in Oslo to the city center*
- *Where to* ***stay near the airport*** *Oslo Gardermoen*
- *The* ***cruises*** *to take on the Oslofjord*

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT NORWAY

Complete article about Norway

GETTING TO NORWAY

GETTING THERE BY PLANE

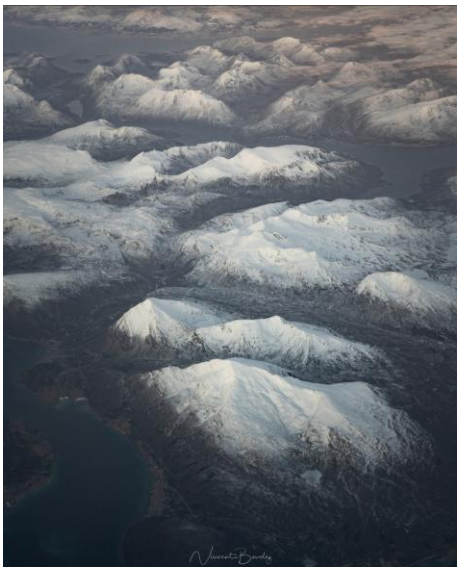
- Main airports that are easy to reach: Oslo / Bergen / Trondheim / Alesund / Bodo / Tromso / Evenes / Hammerfeset / Alta / Kirkenes
    - 3 airports served by **direct flights**: Oslo, Bergen and Tromso
    - In winter, you can fly direct to Tromso with Air France, Transavia, Norwegian and Easyjet

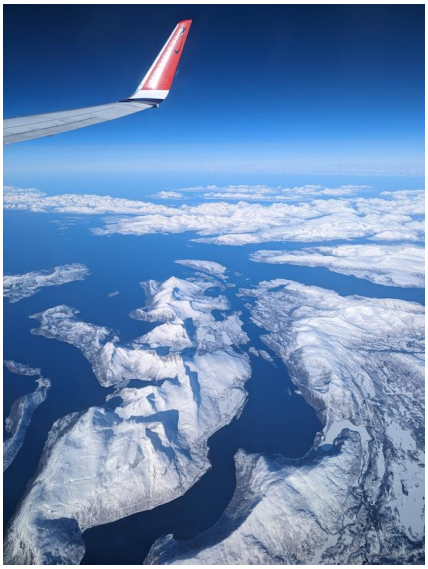
- Main airlines: Air France / Lufthsansa / Norwegian / Wideroe / FlySAS / Finnair , Easyjet, Luxair from Luxembourg

- The earlier you book, the cheaper it gets, especially with Norwegian (a good airline)

- The Air France sales, twice a year, offer great prices for Oslo, Bergen and now Tromso

- You absolutely have to **COMPARE**, prices vary enormously from one day to the next, from one airline to another, for no reason. I use Kayak, I really like it, very reliable. But there are others such as *Booking Flights*.





Always sit by the window!

GETTING THERE BY CAR – CAMPER VAN

- Don't forget to sign up for the autopass*tolls in Norway*)
    - Be careful, ferry and toll prices depend on the size of your vehicle

- Watch out for the periods when winter tires are mandatory (from mid or late October until May, depending on the region). Tires must have 3mm of tread depth. More information here, which you can translate with your browser.

- The route goes through Germany, Denmark and Sweden
    - Just below you have the details of the ferry crossings
    - Otherwise you can find your ferry on *Direct Ferries*

- There are checks at every border crossing
    - Identity checks
    - Vehicle checks
    - Pet passport checks

- Be warned, the drives are very long
    - Paris-Tromso, for example, is 3300km, so 4 days non stop

TAKING THE FERRY TO GET TO NORWAY (or to leave!)

Getting to Norway by ferry from Denmark or Germany is a real classic. It saves you a lot of time, but above all it's far more comfortable, with much less driving (on a stretch that isn't the most interesting anyway). So it's a good option. But you need to book fairly early and choose the ferry that best fits your needs:

FROM GERMANY

- **Kiel – Oslo**: you skip driving up the whole of Denmark. It's an overnight ferry, so a relaxing day instead of eating up kilometers of road (you save 7 hours of driving compared to Hirtshals–Larvik). Duration: 20 h. With Color Line. *More info on this crossing*

FROM DENMARK

Almost all the routes leave from Hirtshals, at the very north of the country (except one from Copenhagen). You save precious time to explore southern Norway.

- **Copenhagen – Oslo**: in the same spirit as Kiel, an overnight cruise that drops you right in the heart of Oslo. Ideal if you're coming from eastern Denmark or southern Sweden, or if you want to combine two capitals. You board in the evening, sleep on board, and arrive in the morning fresh and rested. Duration: ~17-18 h. With DFDS. *Info and booking*
- **Hirtshals – Kristiansand**: the shortest and fastest crossing to Norway. *Very popular, so remember to book early!* The smart choice if you're heading for the south of the country, or simply as an express gateway. Fast catamaran in 2 h 25 (March-October) or classic ferry in ~3 h 55, with several departures a day. With Color Line or Fjord Line. *More info on this crossing*
- **Hirtshals – Larvik**: *the most popular route.* Among the crossings departing from Hirtshals, it's the one that gets you closest to Oslo (~1 h 45 drive afterwards). A good compromise to reach the southeast without taking the overnight cruise. Duration: ~4 h, 2 departures per day. With Color Line. *Info and booking*
- **Hirtshals – Langesund**: you land between Kristiansand and Oslo, very convenient for the southeast and for heading to Telemark. Duration: ~4 h 30. With Fjord Line. *More information*
- **Hirtshals – Stavanger**: you arrive directly on the west coast, in the heart of fjord country (Lysefjord, Preikestolen), without having to drive across the whole of southern Norway. Often overnight. Duration: ~11 h 15. With Fjord Line. *Info and booking*
- **Hirtshals – Bergen**: the direct gateway to the west and the great fjords (Hardanger, Sognefjord). You land right in the capital of the fjords, without stringing together hundreds of kilometers of road. Overnight. Duration: ~17 h 15. With Fjord Line. *More info on this crossing*

FIND YOUR FERRY TO NORWAY
WITH DIRECT FERRIES

GETTING AROUND NORWAY

JOURNEY PLANNERS

Super important, especially if you're not getting around by car. Journey planners let you… well, plan, of course! Bus, train and boat timetables… everything you need so you don't waste too much time on your journeys.

- Entur.no – the classic one that works across the whole country
- Ruter.no – for Oslo
- Svipper.no – for Tromso and the whole Troms region
- reisnordland.no – for the Lofoten Islands
- Google maps works really well and factors in the ferries, but not their timetables
- Vegvesen : the website of Norway's government road agency, with traffic info, road closures and trip planning that takes ferry timetables into account.

AUTOPASS / EPASS 24 FOR TOLLS

- A great many ferries and tunnels are paid automatically via your license plate
- If you rent a car up there, you get autopass automatically, there's nothing you need to do
- **To keep it simple**, if you're coming with your own vehicle:
    - you can choose between several procedures:
        1. signing up on **EPASS 24** to register your license plate
            - and Ferry Pay to pay for the ferries automatically
            - all of that gets you no discounts though
        2. signing up on **SKYTTELPASS** to register your plate, receive the toll tag and enjoy discounts
            - then autopassferje to get big discounts on the ferries

1. Sign up for **AUTOPASS** via **EPASS 24**
    - A simple EPASS 24 registration allows them to **read your plate** and send you the invoice at the end

2. Sign up for **Skittelpass** (or Flyt / BroBizz works all across Scandinavia! / Fremtind Service / ØresundPay) to receive the **toll tag** because with that tag…

3. You can sign up on **autopassferje.no** and get:
    - Big **discounts** of up to 50% on nearly ALL the ferries!
    - You put down a €200 cash advance (the prepayment)
    - And you get reimbursed at the end
    - WATCH OUT! You need to plan ahead to receive your pass, it can take a while
    - GOOD NEWS: if you sign up for Skittelpass but the toll tag doesn't arrive in time, you can still sign up on autopassferje and enjoy the discounts. The most important thing is to sign up.

4. If you'd rather not make an advance payment but still want to pay for the ferries automatically, then you need to sign up for FERRYPAY

5. If you have neither the tag nor Ferrypay, then you'll pay for the ferries one by one — someone always comes around with a card terminal.

I explain absolutely everything about tolls and ferries in Norway in this article

RENTING A CAR

- All the major companies are pretty much on par (Hertz, Europcar, Avis…)
    - Avoid Thrifty, tons of hidden fees and it ends up costing a fortune

- Keep an eye on the **daily mileage** included, because you'll be driving a lot

- **Choosing** your car:
    - An **SUV / 4x4 is absolutely not required**. The roads are well maintained
    - Go for an **automatic transmission** since the roads are never straight — much more comfortable to drive (and you can enjoy the view)
    - Also **hybrid** if you can, to avoid spending too much on fuel

- Equipment for **winter**
    - All the cars are well equipped for winter, no worries there!
    - They have winter tires, sometimes studded — they can handle anything
    - I'll admit the heated seats are a treat after a night outside

- How to **search**
    - First of all, you **absolutely MUST COMPARE**. I use *Booking.com (formerly Rental Cars*, and I've been happy with it. Take a look at the different offers available
    - But I'm renting more and more with ***Discover Cars***, which I really like! It's very clear and the prices are competitive
    - Then also check directly on the rental companies' own websites, sometimes you'll find better deals there

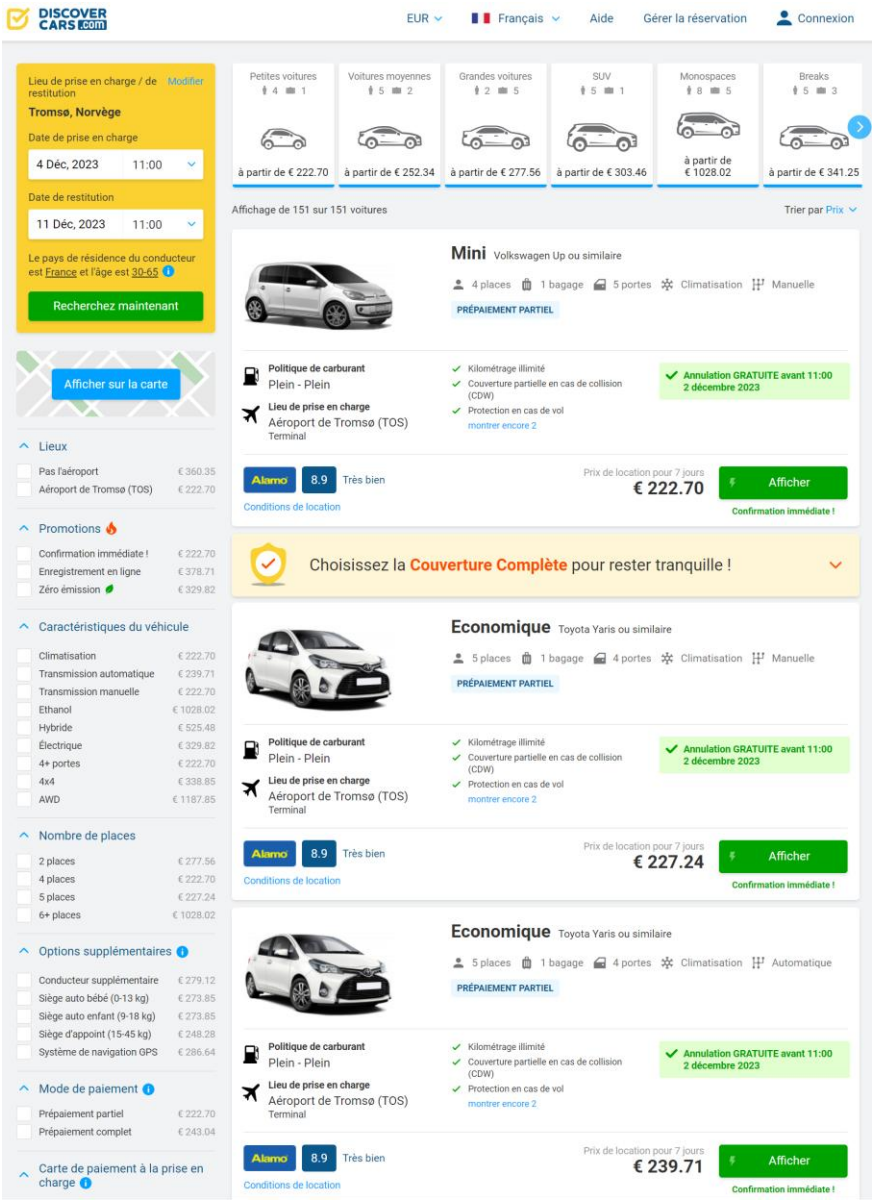
- **GETAROUND** – Peer-to-peer car rental
    - Super handy
    - More choice than with traditional rental agencies
    - Reliable (tested in Tromso and approved!)
    - Give it a try and get €15 toward your first rental

- Renting a **VAN**
    - It's possible to rent a van in Norway, but it's very expensive. You'll find local companies in every region, especially Lofoten, Tromso and Oslo.
        - There's Arctic Campers, Campervannorway, Nordiccampers (Oslo) , MotorhomeRepublic…
        - But also on Kayak Camper !
    - And there's also a good selection on Getaround

RENTING A CAR WITH DISCOVER CARS

Since 2023, I've mainly been using (but not only!) *Discovercars* to rent my cars. At first, quite simply because Kayak was showing me their results as the best deals. Then because it genuinely is great value, reliable and clearer than other sites. So ever since, I've been really satisfied!

An example from my latest search (and rental)



⭐ *Find your car with Discover Cars* ⭐

DRIVING IN WINTER

- Driving on snow and ice is easy!
- The roads are well maintained in Norway
- The tires grip the road really well
- The snowplows are out quickly whenever it snows or gets windy (the wind blows snow onto the road)

- A few **precautions**, all common sense:
    - Keep big safety distances, since braking takes much longer
    - No sudden moves, no hard braking, no fast tight turns
    - You need to anticipate and stay alert

Be VERY CAREFUL with storms, as driving conditions can quickly become difficult. Check the weather before setting off.

Sometimes you can't see a thing. Imagine at night!

THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ROADS IN NORWAY

In Norway, we have some exceptional roads. It's truly a place where driving is a pleasure. Above all, there are roads officially listed as “scenic roads”, in other words the most beautiful in the country. Let's just say they seriously deliver.

Heads up: some of these roads aren't open year-round (see the road conditions section).

So, from north to south, we have:

- Varanger – the end of the world, out toward Kirkenes
- Havoysund – right next to the North Cape
- Senja – the mind-blowing road from Torsken to Husoy
- Andoya – In the Vesteralen, the west coast up to Andenes
- Lofoten – The road that crosses… every single island! It's insane. Go all the way to the end (especially)
- Helgelandskysten – 400 km along the Atlantic, weaving through the archipelagos
- Atlanterhavsvegen - The very famous Atlantic Road
- Trollstigen – all the way to Geiranger, does this fantastic road even need an introduction
- Gamle Strynefjellsvegen – a little road through a valley of mountains and wild rushing rivers
- Rondane – a road through the heart of Rondane National Park, with its mountains and lakes
- The road over the Sognefjell – simply incredible. Wedged between the Jotunheimen and the Jostedalsbreen
- Valdresflye – the gateway to the Jotunheimen, pure magic
- Gaularfjellet – in the mountains next to Fjaerland, superb of course
- Aurlandsfjellet – also known as Snovegen, it runs along the Aurlandsfjord and offers insane views
- Hardanger – as the name suggests, it follows the Hardangerfjord and runs down to Odda
- Hardangervidda – this one dives into the high plateaus of the national park of the same name, sublime
- Ryfylke – A road that winds through fjords and mountains like the Lysefjord all the way to Stavanger
- Jaeren – The south coast, skirting beaches and landscapes unlike anywhere else in Norway

ROAD CONDITIONS AND CLOSURES

Norway being a country with pretty funky weather conditions, it's important to check the state of the roads, to know whether they're closed and for how long.

- In winter, roads can be closed because of avalanches
  - But they generally reopen quickly
  - And don't let that scare you — they're not dangerous, they just block the road

- To check road conditions, head to THIS SITE and zoom in on the region
  - Click on a sign and you can see how long the closure will last

- Some roads also close every year because of snow. These are mostly roads in the center of the country. Here are the dates from previous years

		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
D/M = Dato/Måned - Date/Month - Datum/Monat		D/M	D/M	D/M	D/M	D/M
Fv 8100 Varanger, Hamningbergvegen	=====	25/05	12/05	18/04	20/05	26/04
	==X==	19/11	09/11	04/11	22/12	11/11
Fv 63 Geiranger -Trollstigen, Trollstigen	=====	24/05	11/05	16/05	12/06	21/05
	==X==	13/11	07/12	30/10	30/11	16/11
Fv 63 Geiranger -Trollstigen, Langvatnet - Geiranger	=====	26/05	9/05	16/05	17/06	15/05
	==X==	18/11	20/12	09/01 2020	01/12	25/11
Fv 258 Gamle Strynefjellsvegen	=====	15/06	-	16/06	29/06	15/06
	==X==	11/10	-	24/09	22/09	23/09
Fv 55 Sognefjellet, Rustasætre - Turtagrø	=====	28/04	25/04	12/04	01/05	26/04
	==X==	18/11	17/11	06/12	23/11	23/11
Fv 51 Valdresflye, Garli - Maurvangen	=====	31/03	23/03	1/04	05/04	31/03
	==X==	23/12	25/12	09/01 2020	23/12	31/12
Fv 613 Gaularfjellet, Mel - Mjell	=====	28/04	26/04	14/04	02/05	27/04
	==X==	20/11	25/12	09/12	11/12	03/01 2022
Fv 5627 Aurlandsfjellet, Aurland / Lærdal - Stegastein	=====	01/06	27/05	03/06	03/06	01/06
	==X==	20/10	12/10	29/10	06/11	19/10
Fv 520 Ryfylke, Røldal - Hellandsbygd	=====	16/05	15/05	11/05	16/06	01/05
	==X==	21/11	20/12	04/12	14/12	05/12

★ ***I explain everything about road closures in Norway in this article***, with live status updates! ★

TRAVELING BY BUS

- A VERY well-developed bus network across the whole country
- Use the journey planners for timetables and stops (entur.no in particular)
- Careful though, some places (like around Tromso) only have one or two buses a day, so you really need to check beforehand
- There's no bus connection between the center (Trondheim) and the north

TRAVELING BY TRAIN

So yes, it's possible to travel by train in Norway. It takes time, but the trains are comfortable and the journeys superb (especially the Oslo Bergen).

The main cities are connected, though not necessarily to each other — the tricky part is that you often have to go back through Oslo to visit the south (Andalsnes, Bergen, Stavanger).

At the very top you can go as far as Bodo (then take the ferry to the Lofoten or the bus to Narvik or Tromso), but there's a Swedish line that goes all the way to Narvik. That line passes through Kiruna and starts in Stockholm.

Tickets are booked on VY.no

FERRIES IN NORWAY

- Loads of ferry options, especially in the southwest

- No need to book
  - except for **Bodo – Moskenes**! that can be booked here
  - *I tell you everything about the Bodo – Lofoten ferry in this article*

- For timetables and fares, you need to check case by case (and -50% with autopassferje.no)

- The list of routes and operators is available HERE
  - Find your route and click on it
  - That takes you to the operator's website
  - And there you'll need to run a search through the routes on offer

- Routes and ferries in TROMS can also be checked on
  - this local planner (fylkestrafikk.no)
  - and *entur.no*

WHERE TO STAY

CAMPING IN NORWAY

- Yes, **wild camping** is allowed EVERYWHERE (outside of towns, obviously)
    - As long as there's no sign saying otherwise
    - The same goes for parking your campervan
- Because of past abuse, restrictions are being introduced in the Lofoten
- You'll find HERE a map of camping spots and areas
- And even more on Park4night !
- Making a fire is sometimes allowed. But NEVER in wooded areas
    - You absolutely must put it out before leaving
    - (it's common sense but you never know)

HOTELS – CABINS – ACCOMMODATION

- Accommodation is very expensive in Norway. It doubles or even triples in tourist season.
- Easily over €100 a night, even for private rentals
- Staying away from the center gets you fjord/mountain views, that kind of thing (especially up north)
- The main hotel chains that are good are Thon and Scandic. Radisson isn't bad either.
- But you reeeeally need to compare. In Norway, prices vary a lot between high and low season (they can easily double)
- As a comparison site, I mainly use Booking, they also list private rentals.
- I still use Airbnb a little, though barely anymore, because of the fees that keep climbing way too much. But there's plenty of choice.

Eliassen Rorbuer in Hamnoy, Lofoten Islands

WHAT CLOTHES TO PACK BY SEASON

- **GENERAL POINTS**
  - The weather is extremely changeable
  - Temperatures can drop very quickly
  - It's always windy
  - It's very often wet (rain, snow)

- **WINTER**
  - It can get COLD (between 0 and -25 inland)
  - Windy, especially on the coast
  - Sometimes there are warm spells, it rains a lot and everything melts, but then it snows again
    - **CLOTHES TO PACK**
      - Very warm clothing, dress in layers
      - A big coat — the Fjallraven ones keep you nice and warm. The Singi model is fantastic but costs an arm and a leg
      - Thermal underwear, tights, tee- shirts like damart (here's what I bought)
      - Wool socks (I buy them there, in the Extra supermarkets — perfect)
      - Wool sweaters (mine are alpaca, great, but they reek of animal once wet)
      - Between the sweater and the jacket, you can add *a fleece*
      - 2 types of gloves:
        - Thin gloves to wear all the time — not too warm, and you can still handle your camera
        - Big winter gloves
        - I have these ones from The Heat Company, they're great
      - **Boots**: absolutely crucial, as you'll be in the snow all the time. The best: the Sorel Caribou. Even better: the Baffin.
      - A wool beanie (or fur-lined hood) that covers your ears. I have a *trapper hat by Fjallraven* that's wonderful!

Sorel Caribou

Baffin

- **SUMMER**
  - In central Norway, generally between 10 and 15°
  - In the north, generally between 5 and 15°
  - But temperatures can really vary
  - There can be the occasional hot spell at 25° from time to time
  - Rain
    - **CLOTHES TO PACK**
      - A windbreaker
      - Waterproof shoes
      - A K-way or similar rain jacket
      - Really plan for both nice weather and chilly spells

- **SPRING**
  - Between 5 and 10°, less in the far north (as it can snow until early May)
  - Melting snow, quite a bit of rain
    - **CLOTHES TO PACK**
      - A windbreaker
      - Waterproof shoes that can handle snow
      - A K-way or similar rain jacket
      - Base layers like tights/damart will come in handy

- **AUTUMN**
  - Really wet
  - It starts getting cold, mostly at night
    - **CLOTHES TO PACK**
      - A windbreaker and a K-way are a must
      - Waterproof shoes as the ground will be very wet (lots of moss)
      - Warm clothes in layers

- **SNOW**
  - It starts snowing in early November in central Norway
  - Late November in the north, though it's not certain it will stick
  - Mostly from mid-January

PAYMENTS IN NORWAY

- The currency is the **Norwegian krone** (NOK)
  - €1 = 11 NOK (rounding off — it varies between 10.5 and 11.5)

- The **payment methods**
  - EVERYTHING, or almost, is paid by **card**, it's the default payment method
  - Very few cash payments, even though it's possible

- Should you **exchange currency** at home or in Norway
  - The exchange rate for card withdrawals and payments depends on your bank
  - Check with your bank:
    - The exchange rate
    - The fees
  - So unless you get an excellent exchange rate (for example in Paris, the CEN exchange office), I recommend withdrawing cash there, only if you need it, and otherwise paying by card as much as possible (watch out for your card limits!)

- Cards like **Boursorama Ultim** (check it out here) charge no fees, and the exchange rate is very decent
  - With the referral code **VIBE0159**, get up to **€130**

BANKS AND BANK CARDS

Do you absolutely need to get a new bank card to cut down on fees?

- Fees are generally around 3% for Norway, which isn't huge. For ONE trip, it's not worth getting a new card with a new bank. Better to see what your current bank can offer (free withdrawals, no fees for X weeks..)
- If you're going to travel more often outside the euro zone, then yes, it's worth it

Which banks and cards?

- I use **Boursorama** (Boursobank now), 0 fees in Norway (and everywhere, actually), no commission, and an exchange rate almost identical to the real rate (within 0.2%)
- It's an online bank, the Ultim card is superb, and everything is fast with Boursobank.
- Referral offer: between €100 and €150 for you with the code **VIBE0159**
- *Or by clicking directly on this link!*

- *If you scan this QR code, you'll get a lot more information!*

SEEING THE NORTHERN LIGHTS IN NORWAY

WHEN TO SEE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

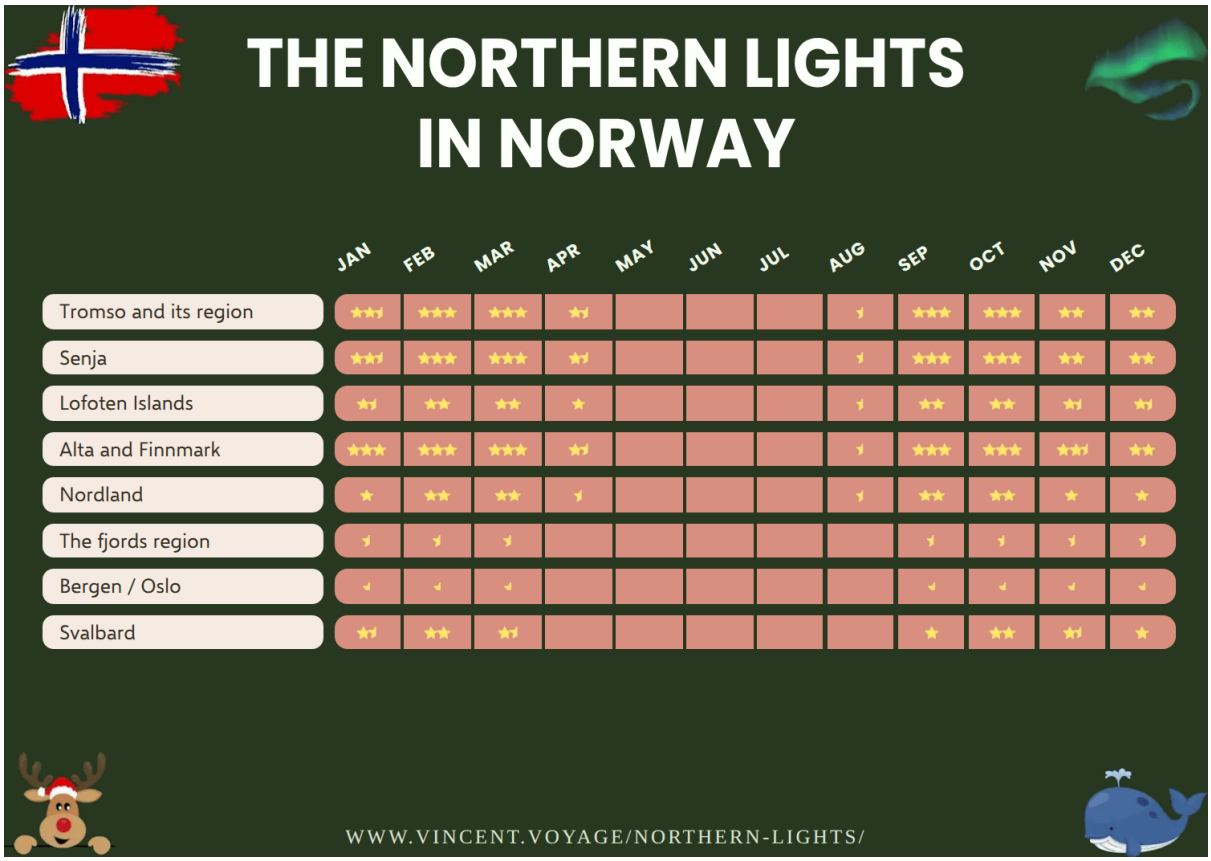
- Visible from **late August** / early September **to early / mid-April**

- **There's no single best season for the auroras**
  - You "just" need a clear sky, darkness, and therefore decent weather. And some solar activity
  - Now, people say there's more activity around the equinoxes. Nothing really proves it, but I have to admit it's not wrong!

- But **I'd recommend** these periods more all the same:
  - Mid-September to mid-October
    - Mid-September the days are no longer too long, while by mid-October night falls early but not too early
    - The weather won't be too rough yet (but there's rain)
  - Mid-February to mid-March
    - Snow, and days long enough to make the most of the daytime
    - Better weather than in December, for example

  - **But don't worry, the other periods are great too!**

- Because of the weather and the element of luck, I recommend **going for a week** to maximize your chances



HOW TO SEE THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

tips you ABSOLUTELY must follow to try to catch the northern lights

- Be **patient** because the auroras can show up at any moment
- Be **mobile** so you can move around depending on the weather
- Check the **cloud cover** on a site like Ventusky to see where and when the sky is clear (it can change within a few km)
- Get out of town and **move away** from the lights
- Find a spot with a **clear view** to the north and west (and east too). Basically, as unobstructed as possible
- My article with everything you need to know about the northern lights

The KP index isn't the best indicator!

- It “just” shows disturbances in the magnetic field
- But the higher it is, the bigger the disturbances, which points to potential solar storms
- I've had amazing dancing auroras at KP 0/1 in Tromso
- Watch the **BZ**. As soon as it goes negative, it means they're there. And if it plunges, things are about to go off big time.
- Get an **app** that shows the KP, the BZ, the winds and the density
    - And that sends notifications when things are about to kick off (super important)
    - Follow the website spaceweatherlive

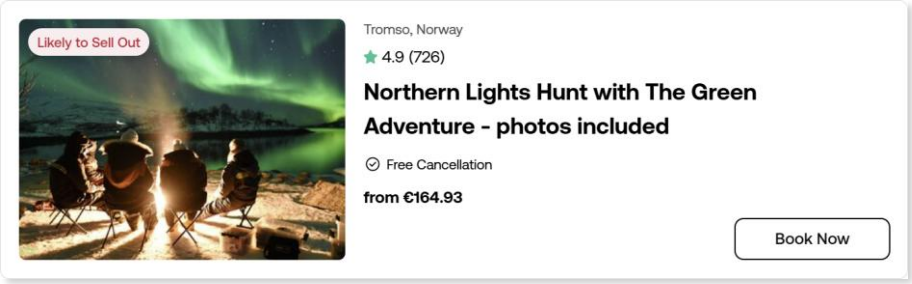
WHERE TO SEE THE AURORAS

- They're easy to see from the Arctic Circle up
- Tromso and Alta are really well located — you can see them almost every night, even with low activity
    - Seeing the northern lights in Tromso
- The Lofoten Islands too, but the weather is so-so and there's a lot of light
    - Seeing the northern lights in the Lofoten Islands
- Senja, not much light, weather somewhere between Tromso and the Lofoten, so it works
    - Seeing the northern lights in Senja
- Below the Arctic Circle, only during strong activity

SEEING THE NORTHERN LIGHTS WITH AN AGENCY

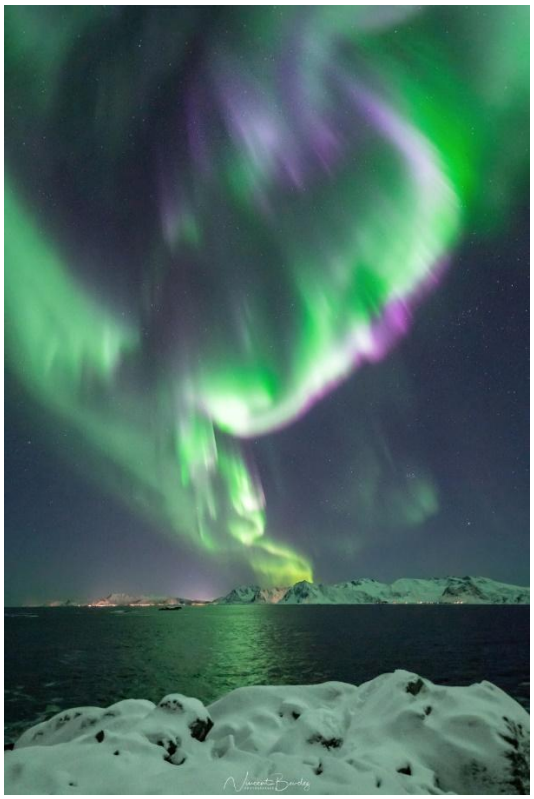
- How to **choose** your agency to see the northern lights
  - I explain everything in this article!
  - Reputation and reviews, for example here on Getyourguide
  - Group size (bus or minibus)
  - The photographers
  - The price

- Here are the best agencies in Tromso
  - You need to book the good agencies several weeks ahead, or even one or two months in advance for the very best ones => **you have to plan ahead!**



PHOTOGRAPHING THE NORTHERN LIGHTS

- I put absolutely EVERYTHING in this article
- Absolutely set your focus manually BEFOREHAND (infinity, on the stars)
- Exposure time between 2 (when they're moving fast) and 15 seconds (slow)
- ISO around 3200 or more, but not too high so you don't get grain.
- The widest aperture possible (1.4 2.8)→
- Plenty of space on your memory cards
- Fully charged batteries (careful, they drain faster in the cold)



WHERE TO GO AND ITINERARIES TO DISCOVER NORWAY

FIRST TRIP TO NORWAY

A few suggestions for a first trip, even though there are dozens of possibilities:

- **Winter**
  - *1 week in Tromso*, for landscapes, snow activities and northern lights
  - 1 week in the Lofoten Islands, between beaches, mountains and little villages
  - 10 days between Tromso, the Lofoten Islands and Senja
  - In this article I detail a 2-week itinerary in the north

- **Year-round**
  - 1 week between Oslo and Bergen, connected by train, with stops in Flam and Naeroyfjord
  - 2 weeks in the north between Tromso, Senja and the Lofoten — and why not push on to the North Cape!

- **Summer**
  - 1 week around Bergen and the fjords further north (Sognefjord, Naeroyfjord, Flam, Borgund…)
  - 1 week in the Lofoten
  - 2 weeks in the fjords between Bergen and Alesund, adding a bit of time to head down to the fjords around Stavanger
  - A week between Tromso and Senja to enjoy the great outdoors
  - You'll find the best itineraries in this article: *where to go in Norway in summer*

- **A weekend** in a city for 3/4 days:
  - Oslo, for the history and the museums, a really pleasant city
  - Bergen, for the architecture, Bryggen and the fjords

- **HEADS UP**:
  - Norway is worth visiting ALL year round — there's always something to see, somewhere at its best (whales, northern lights, hiking, cities…) depending on what you're after

MISSION: NORTHERN LIGHTS

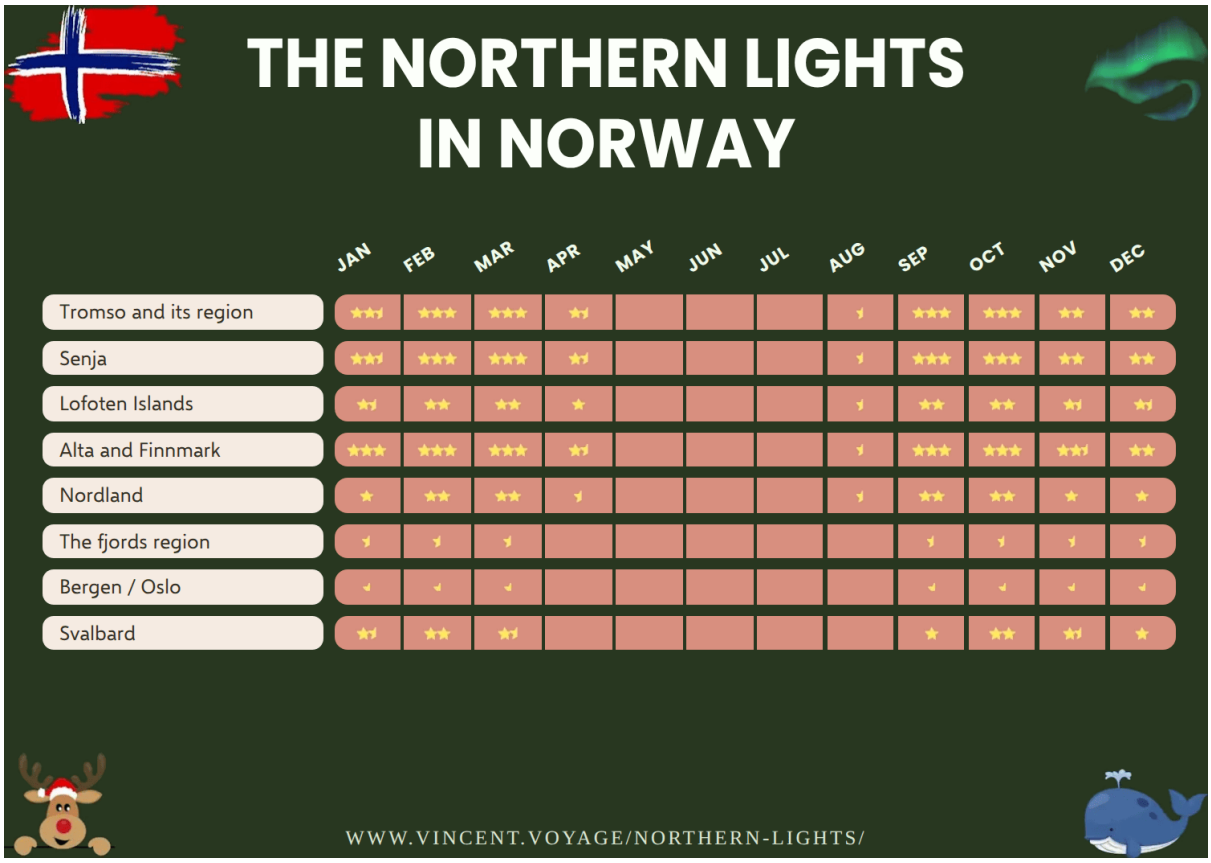
Best spots in Norway:

- **Tromso** : because it offers countless options for getting away from the clouds, plenty of agencies, and everything revolves around the auroras

- **Alta** and Finnmark: a drier, colder, more “Lapland” climate, better suited to auroras, but fewer agencies and fewer spots that make you go wow, though it's still very beautiful

- **Senja** : few people, quite a few options, changeable weather between the fjords and the colder interior. Worst case, you can get off the island very easily

- **Lofoten Islands** : not a fan for the auroras because the weather is really tough, lots of clouds, and it's impossible to escape since the archipelago is very big. Lots of light pollution. But doable on the various beaches!



T R O M S O

Full article here

TROMSO AT A GLANCE

3 places to see in town

- The Fjellheisen cable car
- The Telegrafbukta beach
- The harbor

3 places to see around Tromso

- Kvaloya, the road to Tromvik via Ersfjord and Grotfjord
- Kvaloya, the road to Sommaroy
- The Lyngen Alps, taking the ferry there and coming back by road (or the other way around)

3 best activities

- *Dog sledding*
- *Northern lights*
- *Snowmobile*

3 great Norwegian restaurants

- *Maskinverkstedet*
- *Bardus*
- *Full Steam*

3 best hotels

- *Scandic Ishavshotel*
- *Radisson Blu*
- *Clarion The Edge*

3 cafés to relax in

- Smørtorget
- Koseverden & Koselig
- Svermeri Kafé og Redesign

Car rental comparison sites

- *Discover Cars*
- *Booking.com*

Best times to visit

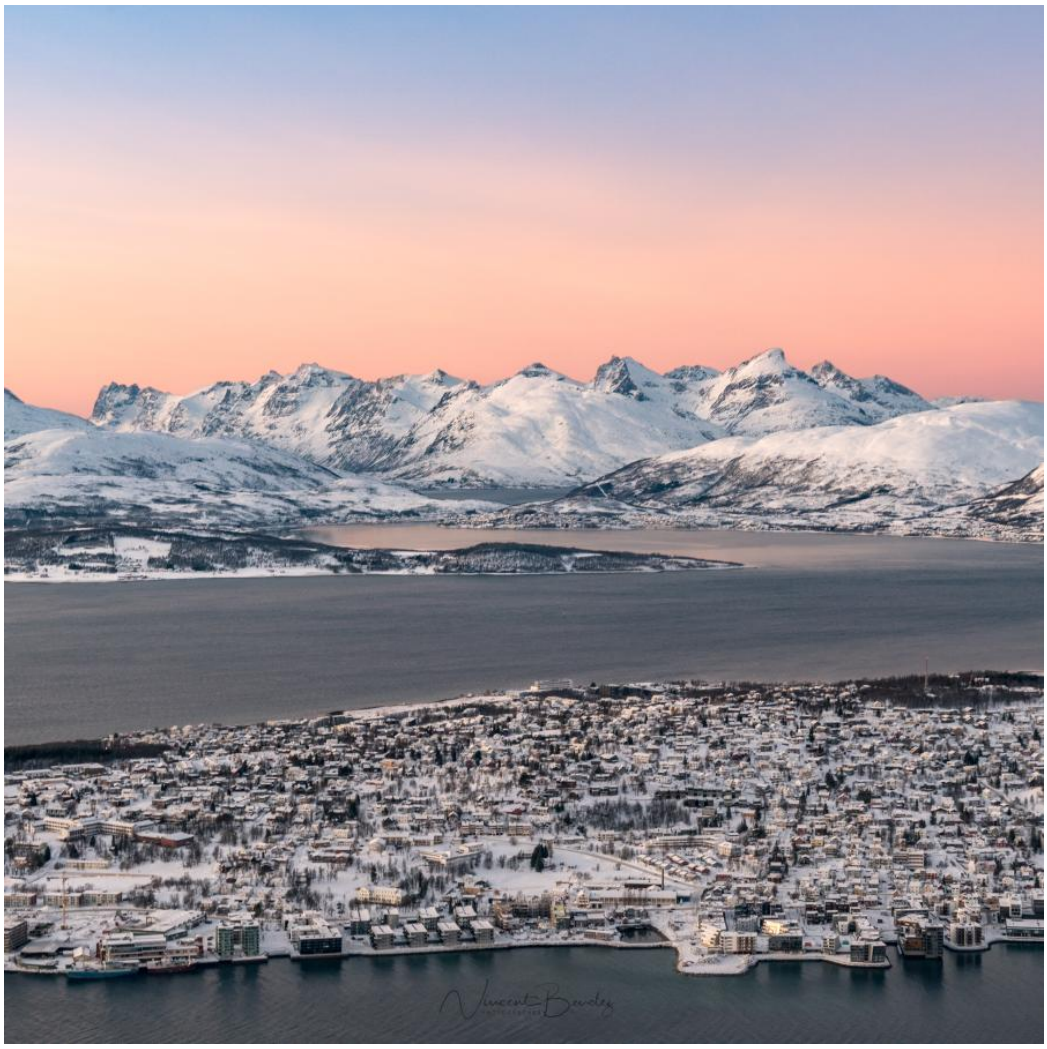
- Northern lights: from early September to late March
- For whales and orcas: from late October to late January
- For hiking: from June to late September
- For snow activities: from mid-November to early April

How long to stay to see the northern lights

- At least 5 days to put all the odds on your side
- A week is great
- In 2 weeks you can do a fantastic road trip around the whole region

PLACES TO SEE IN TOWN

- The city center and the harbor
- The Fjellheisen cable car
    - The most beautiful view over the city, but it costs an arm and a leg (family rate available, and you can walk up or down, with crampons in winter)
- The Polar Museum (Polarmuseet)
    - Really fascinating insight into the lives of hunters and fishermen back in the day
- Maybe Polaria
- The Telegrafbukta beach
    - Also a lovely spot to see the northern lights without having to leave town
- The Arctic Cathedral
- Possibly the Troll Museum



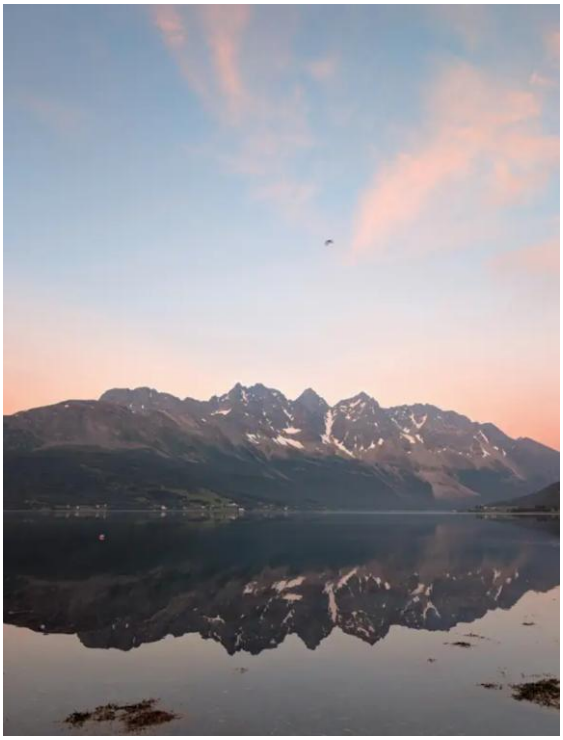
PLACES TO SEE AROUND TROMSO

- The island of **KVALOYA**
    - The road to Sommaroy
    - The road to Tromvik passing through Ersfjord and Grotfjord
    - The road to Skulsfjord
    - Discover Kvaloya in this article

- The **Breivikeidet valley**
    - A stunning view of the Lyngen Alps just after the golf course
    - Continue on to **Nakkevatnet** and Sjursnes
- **Laksvatn** then Lakselvbukt, and keep going along the Lyngen

- The **Lyngen Alps**
    - Take the *ferry at Breivikeidet*, go as far as Lyngseidet and drive back down
    - Or take the southern route via Oteren

- The mountain valley of **Signaldalen**



ACTIVITIES

Below you'll find plenty of details about the activities you can do in Tromso. But take a look at the following article if you want *ALL the activities, tours and every provider in Tromso* !

SEEING THE NORTHERN LIGHTS IN TROMSO

Practical Info

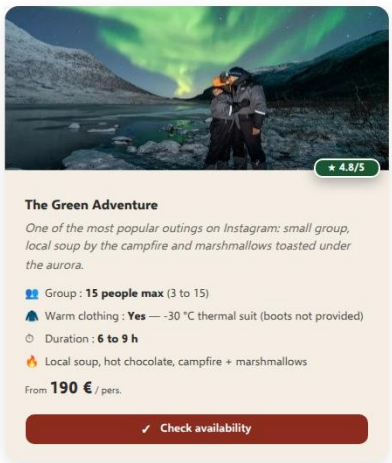
- You can see them from early **September** to early **April**
- Article about the northern lights
- How to photograph the northern lights
- 10 places to see the northern lights in this article, for example:
    - Grotfjord
    - The road to Kvaloyvagen
    - Kattfjordvatnet
    - Signaldalen

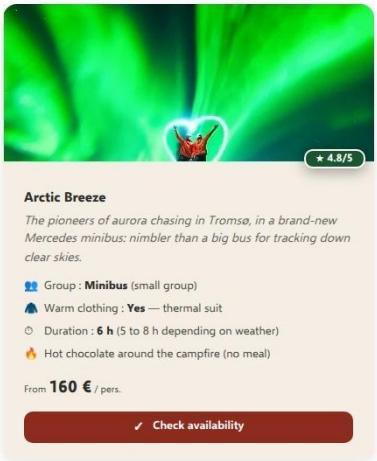
To **choose the right agency/guide**, you need to pay attention to the following points:

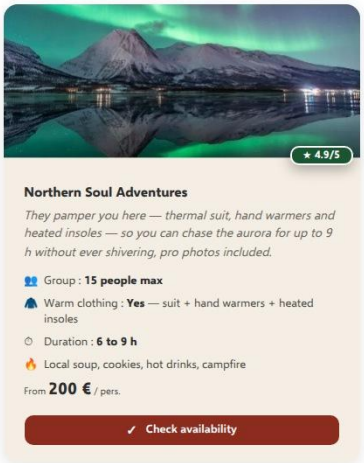
- The **reputation**, the reviews. Look at their track record, the reviews, the customer feedback. The more reviews there are and the higher the rating, the better, obviously
- Don't book a guide with no reviews or just an average rating. Always favor **experience** and the safe bets
- When the price is too low, **there's a catch**. There are early-season deals, but a good agency is around €180/250, and the smaller the group, the more expensive it is
- Pay attention to the **duration** of the tour; don't book the ones offering to see the northern lights in 3 hours, that's nonsense, or the ones who say “no, no, no need to go to Finland”
- Some have dangerous behavior, **dangerous driving** (Green Gold, Amazing Arctic Tours), I'd advise against booking with them
- Don't book **taxi drivers turned guides**, they're not guides, they don't know the spots

The best northern lights agencies in Tromso

You can find them in *[this dedicated article]*
And above all, you can find plenty of other quality agencies in the comparison table below !
⭐ ⭐ *You can click directly on the cards to access the activity details and book*







Seeing the northern lights by bus

The bus is cheap and there's always room. So if you're on a tight budget, or if you're booking at the last minute, it will do the job. But these are 40-person buses, it's noisy, with lots of light. So you have to expect that, but they will still do their job to find the northern lights.

★ 4.9/5

Chasing Lights

A big bus that drives until it finds clear skies, sometimes as far as Finland: friendly atmosphere and an unbeatable price for first-timers.

- Group: **Big bus** (up to 50 people)
- Warm clothing: **No** — not included
- Duration: **6 h** (up to 9 h depending on weather)
- Hot drinks, campfire (meal not included)

From **120 €** / pers.

✓ Check availability

★ 4.6/5

Jeshua

A well-run bus hunt, half the price of a small group: satellite weather data, campfire, marshmallows and free photos.

- Group: **Bus** (large group)
- Warm clothing: **Yes** — snow clothing provided
- Duration: **6 h**
- Campfire, hot drinks, snacks + marshmallows

From **105 €** / pers.

✓ Check availability

★ 4.6/5

Northern Lights Safari

Tromsø's big aurora machine: guides trained in-house, heated bus with toilets and hunts as far as Finland.

- Group: **Bus** (large group)
- Warm clothing: **For rent** (paid option)
- Duration: **6 to 7 h**
- Campfire (weather permitting), hot drinks

From **97 €** / pers.

✓ Check availability

Taking a cruise to see the northern lights

From Tromso, several boats set off in the evening to go watch the northern lights. Careful, it's extremely weather-dependent. A boat can't go very far like a car can, so if the area is cloudy, it will be hard to see them. But it's a really lovely experience

★ 4.2/5

Brim Explorer

A 100% electric, silent catamaran with heated lounges and vegan soup: the gentlest, greenest cruise for watching the aurora.

- Group: **Boat** (electric catamaran)
- Warm clothing: **No** — not included (heated lounges)
- Duration: **3.5 h**
- Vegan soup, water (drinks for sale on board)

From **115 €** / pers.

✓ Check availability

✨ LUXURY

★ 4.8/5

Luxury cruise · Stella Oceana

True luxury at sea: a 32 m yacht limited to 12 guests, a private jacuzzi on deck and reindeer stew served while the aurora dances.

- Group: **12 guests max** (32 m yacht)
- Warm clothing: **For rent** (thermal suit)
- Duration: **4 h**
- Reindeer stew, hot drinks, biscuits + private jacuzzi

From **260 €** / pers.

✓ Check availability

★ 4.4/5

Polar Adventures

A friendly cruise run by a Tromsø family: unlimited drinks and biscuits, and the crew lets you know the moment the green lady appears.

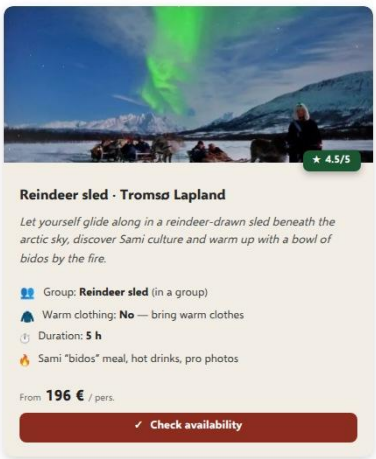
- Group: **Boat**
- Warm clothing: **Yes** — thermal suit
- Duration: **3 to 3.5 h**
- Hot/cold drinks, snacks, unlimited biscuits

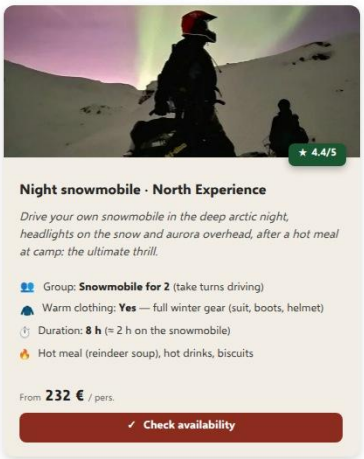
From **107 €** / pers.

✓ Check availability

3 experiences to see the northern lights differently

Because it's not just about driving around and watching them, there are plenty of other things to do beneath them!





COMPARISON OF NORTHERN LIGHTS AGENCIES

Click on a row to open the agency's card, see the details and book. 43 agencies and activities compared.

Agency	Type	Group	Price	Rating	Gear	Duration	
★Arctic Photo Guide	Minibus	6	€260	5/5	Yes	6 hrs	See ›
★Creative Vacations	Minibus	7	€250	5/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
★Rise Experience	Minibus	7	€210	5/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
Green Gold of Norway	Minibus	8	€170	4.5/5	Yes	6 hrs	See ›
★Greenlander	Minibus	8	€290	5/5	Yes	6 hrs	See ›
★Northbound	Minibus	8	€220	5/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
Tromso Accessible Tour	Minibus	8	€170	3.8/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
★Your Tromso Guide	Minibus	8	€200	c4.9/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
★Arctic Breeze	Minibus	15	€160	4.8/5	Yes	6 hrs	See ›
★Arctic Circle Tour	Minibus	15	€196	4.9/5	Yes	6 hrs	See ›
Arctic Explorers	Minibus	15	€204	4.7/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
★Arctic Glow	Minibus	15	€175	4.9/5	Yes	6 hrs	See ›
★Blue Puffin	Minibus	15	€195	4.9/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
Chasing Lights	Minibus	15	€230	4.8/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
Enjoy the Arctic	Minibus	15	€140	4.7/5	Yes	6 hrs	See ›
Flexitour	Minibus	15	€180	4.8/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
★Northern Soul Adventures	Minibus	15	€200	4.9/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
Snow Travels	Minibus	15	€190	4.9/5	Yes	5 hrs	See ›
Spirit in the sky	Minibus	15	€170	4.8/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
★The Green Adventure	Minibus	15	€190	4.8/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
Arctic GM	Minibus	8/20	€260	4.5/5	Yes	6 hrs	See ›
Arctic Guide Service	Bus	Bus	€110	4.3/5	No	6 hrs	See ›
Arctic Resort (formerly Norwegian Travel)	Bus	Bus	€115	4.3/5	No	6 hrs	See ›
Bifrost	Minibus	15	€180	4.8/5	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
Brim Explorer	Boat	boat	€115	4.2/5	No	3 hrs	See ›
Chasing Lights	Bus	Bus	€120	4.9/5	No	6 hrs	See ›

Enter Adventures Tromso	Bus	Bus	**€106**	**4.3/5**	No	6 hrs	See ›
Jeshua AS	Bus	Bus	**€105**	**4.6/5**	No	6 hrs	See ›
NLT Guide Company	Minibus	16	**€140**	**4.7/5**	Yes	6 hrs	See ›
North Experience	Snowmobile	8	**€230**	**4.4/5**	Yes	8 hrs	See ›
Northern Lights Safari	Bus	bus	**€97**	**4.6/5**	No	6 hrs	See ›
Northern Norway Travels	Minibus	15	**€190**	**4.4/5**	Yes	6 hrs	See ›
NorthernShots Tours	Bus	bus	**€125**	**4.3/5**	No	7 hrs	See ›
Polar Adventure	Large group	20 or bus	**€100–220**	**4.5/5**	Yes	7 hrs	See ›
Polar Adventures	Boat	boat	**€107**	**4.4/5**	No	3 hrs	See ›
Rodne	Boat	Boat	**€97**	**4.3/5**	No	2 hrs	See ›
Tromso Arctic Reindeer	Reindeer	Reindeer	**€180**	**4.6/5**	No	4.5 hrs	See ›
Tromso Lapland	Reindeer	Reindeer	**€150**	**4.5/5**	No	4.5 hrs	See ›
Tromso Villmarkssenter	Dogs	Kennel visit	**€160**	**4.6/5**	—	—	See ›
★Wandering Owl	Minibus	15 max (minibus)	**€190**	**4.8/5**	Yes	5–8 hrs	See ›
★World Sea Explorers	Boat	Boat	**€260**	**4.8/5**	—	4 hrs	See ›

WHALE AND ORCA WATCHING

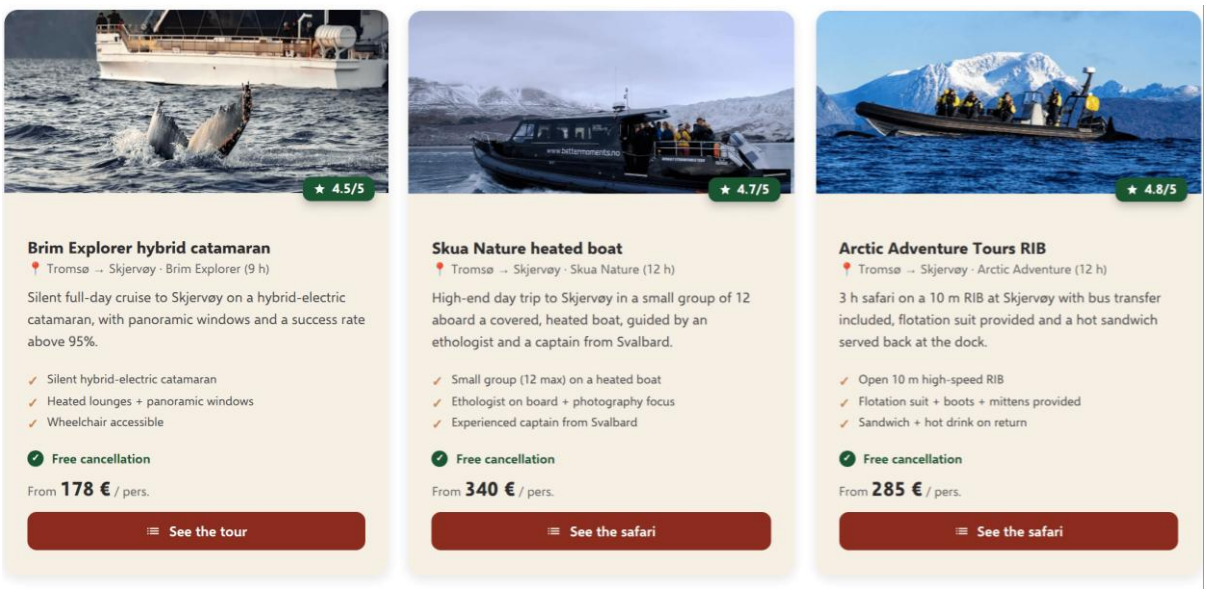
- You can see them from **early November to late January** (sometimes early February)
  - You can sometimes spot cetaceans in the water with a bit of luck all year round
  - Doable for everyone, no difficulty at all
  - There are several ways to see the cetaceans:
    - Departing from Tromso
    - Directly in Skjervoy
    - On a comfortable boat
    - On a RIB boat
- *Article about the whales in Tromso*

- Main whale watching agencies (comparison table just below)
  1. Brim Explorer electric boat (departing Tromso): €178
  2. Big catamaran with Arctic Resort: €185
  3. Departure by boat from Tromso with Polar Adventure: €225

  - **My suggestion**: Brim Explorer for the electric boat — kinder to the animals — and it leaves straight from Tromso, so no need to take a bus

COMPARISON OF WHALE WATCHING AGENCIES

- My 3 favorite boats for seeing the whales
  - *Brim Explorer* is the most renowned agency, and it runs electric boats
  - *Skua Nature* has great little boats halfway between a RIB and a comfortable heated boat
  - *Arctic Adventure Tours*, the agency to go with for RIB boats



- **Watching orcas and whales from a comfortable boat**

Here are 6 more options for seeing orcas and whales from a comfortable boat, departing from Tromso.

★ 4.6/5

All-inclusive package (50 max)

📍 Tromsø → Skjervøy · Polar Adventures (8 h)

All-inclusive package aboard a family-run boat (50 pax max) with transfers, lunch and 2 to 2.5 h of whale watching at Skjervøy.

- ✓ All-inclusive (all-you-can-eat food)
- ✓ Local family-run company (50 pax max)
- ✓ First on site + 2-2.5 h with the whales

✔ Free cancellation

From **223 €** / pers.

See the safari

★ 4.7/5

Helgøy fast catamaran

📍 Tromsø · Helgøy Skyssbåt (7 h 30)

Fast crossing on a high-speed catamaran to the observation zones, with panoramic windows, outdoor deck and free hot drinks on board.

- ✓ Fast catamaran = more time on site
- ✓ Panoramic windows + open deck
- ✓ Free coffee / tea / hot chocolate

✔ Free cancellation

From **178 €** / pers.

See the tour

★ 4.7/5

MS Alba responsible & Whale Pass

📍 Tromsø → Skjervøy · Arctic Whale Tours (8 h)

Responsible full day aboard the MS Alba with ethologist guides, heated lounges, observation decks and a free Whale Pass if no whale is spotted.

- ✓ Ethologist on board + responsible watching
- ✓ Heated lounges + observation decks
- ✓ Free Whale Pass if zero whales (2 yrs)

✔ Free cancellation

From **183 €** / pers.

See the safari

★ 4.2/5

Cruise Service · certified catamaran

📍 Tromsø · Cruise Service (6-8 h)

Cruise aboard an offshore-certified catamaran able to go further at the end of the season, with a bar on board and a second-chance guarantee.

- ✓ Level 3 offshore-certified catamaran
- ✓ Season extended until February
- ✓ Free second-chance guarantee

✔ Free cancellation

From **177 €** / pers.

See the safari

★ 4.3/5

MS Gabriele Cruise Service

📍 Tromsø → Skjervøy · Cruise Service (6 h)

Safari aboard the MS Gabriele, a comfortable catamaran with large bay windows, on-board bar and open deck to get close to orcas and humpback whales.

- ✓ Heated catamaran with bar on board
- ✓ Large bay windows + open deck
- ✓ Free second-chance guarantee

✔ Free cancellation

From **178 €** / pers.

See the safari

★ 4.6/5

Arctic Resorts fast catamaran

📍 Tromsø → Skjervøy · Arctic Resorts (8 h)

Crossing on the high-speed catamaran MS Rygerdronningen to Skjervøy with views over the Lyngen Alps, certified eco-responsible Eco-Lighthouse.

- ✓ Eco-Lighthouse certified (sustainable)
- ✓ Views of the Lyngen Alps en route
- ✓ Wheelchair accessible

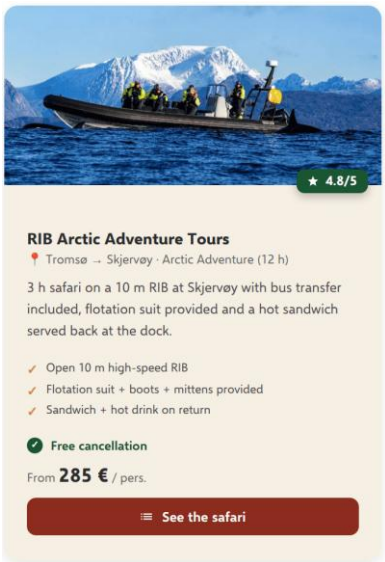
✔ Free cancellation

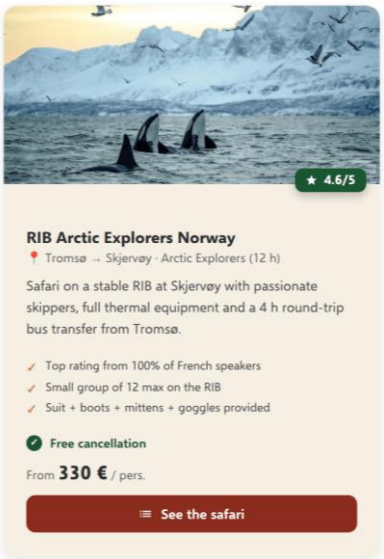
From **187 €** / pers.

See the safari

- **Watching orcas and whales from a RIB boat**

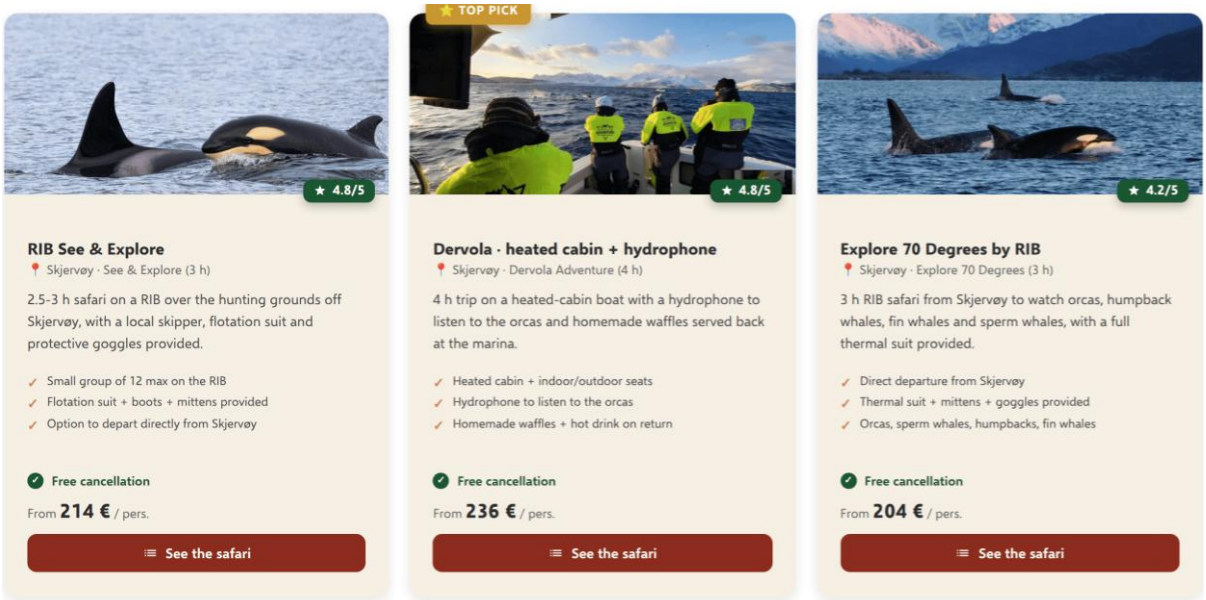
To get as close as possible to the cetaceans and get your fill of thrills! From Tromso, the trip starts with a bus ride to Skjervoy. It's better, but pricier!





- **Watching orcas and whales directly in Skjervoy**

If you'd rather get there on your own or you're already in the area, you might as well book directly with these agencies



GO DOG SLEDDING

- Doable as soon as there's enough snow (November and December, nothing guaranteed; January is almost a sure thing)
- If there's no snow, you'll ride a sled on wheels instead
- Age limits:
    - Anyone can drive **from age 17**
    - You can ride on the sled **from age 7** if you're the one driving (well, there are exceptions depending on the agency)
    - If a guide is driving, there's usually no age limit
    - If you have kids, I especially recommend going to Breivikeidet as it's much flatter, so there's less chance of taking a tumble
- It's not especially difficult, but it does work your thighs, abs and arms
- For little ones **from age 4**, it's possible with Norwegian Travel
- You can also go dog sledding under the northern lights !
- Article about dog sledding in Tromso here

- Recommended agencies (you'll find the complete listing on the next page):
    - Kennel in Breivikeidet, facing the Lyngen Alps (a magnificent setting)
    - Tromso Wilderness Center / Villmarkssenter
    - Arctic Adventures on Kvaloya
    - Run Wild Mushing (French-speaking guide)
    - Into Nature (French-speaking guide)

My recommendation: *Breivikeidet* for the superb view, *Arctic Adventures* or *Into Nature* if you have a car and want a French-speaking guide.

COMPARISON OF THE DOG SLEDDING COMPANIES

★ 4.9/5

Dog sledding in Breivikeidet

📍 Breivikeidet · Norwegian Travel (4 h 30)

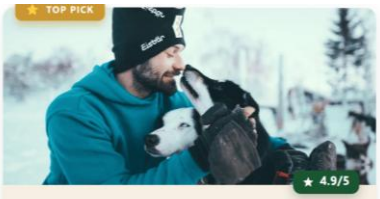
Breivikeidet camp facing the Lyngen Alps: you drive your own dog team then switch to passenger halfway, with a hot meal in the lavvu on return.

- ✓ 4 h 30 · ages 4+ · Tromsø ↔ Breivikeidet bus transfers included (50 min)
- ✓ Suit + boots + hat + mittens + full meal + hot drinks
- ✓ 91 % of travellers give it top marks · 1,448 reviews

✔ Free cancellation

From **241 €** / pers.

See the activity



★ 4.9/5

Self-drive husky sledding on Kvaløya

📍 Kvaløya · Arctic Adventure Tours (4 h)

Trip on Kvaløya where you drive your own dog team across the Arctic expanses, 130 Alaskan huskies at the kennel and cake at the Sami Lavvo on return.

- ✓ 4 h · ages 7+ · Scandic Ishavshotel ↔ Kvaløya bus transfers (30 min)
- ✓ 130 Alaskan huskies at the kennel · cake + hot chocolate at the Sami Lavvo
- ✓ 93 % give it top marks · 4,408 reviews · ride ~70-80 min

✔ Free cancellation

From **305 €** / pers.

See the activity

★ 4.9/5

Husky sledding & Sami lunch

📍 Kvaløya · Tromsø Villmarkssenter (4 h)

Self-drive sledding on Kvaløya with a musher-passenger swap, then traditional Sami Bidos stew and chocolate cake around the fire in the Gamme hut.

- ✓ 4 h · ages 16+ · Radisson Blu ↔ Kvaløya transfers (25 min)
- ✓ Traditional Sami Bidos reindeer stew + chocolate cake
- ✓ 90 % of guests give top marks · guides Clara + Léo praised · ~45 min sledding

✔ Free cancellation

From **309 €** / pers.

See the activity

★ 4.7/5

Ethical sledding with Moa Hundseid

📍 Kvaløya · Moa Hundseid (4 h 30)

Small ethical camp on Kvaløya with Martin and his team, very well treated huskies in individual boxes and reindeer soup by the campfire after the ride.

- ✓ 4 h 30 · small human-scale local camp · 521 reviews
- ✓ Huskies in individual boxes · reindeer soup + hot drinks by the fire
- ✓ Possible northern lights on the way back · ~1 h sled ride

✔ Free cancellation

From **360 €** / pers.

See the activity

★ 4.9/5

Dog sledding in Tamokdalen

📍 Tamokdalen · Arctic Resorts (7 h)

Dog-sledding adventure in Tamokdalen (95 min from Tromsø): you drive your own sled then alternate with your partner, hot meal in the lavvu on return.

- ✓ 7 h · ages 7+ · Tromsø ↔ Tamokdalen bus transfers (95 min)
- ✓ Thermal suit + boots + mittens + hat + hot meal included
- ✓ 1,530 reviews · self-drive sled ride + dog-yard visit

✔ Free cancellation

From **309 €** / pers.

See the activity

★ 4.7/5

Harkin Husky Farm (Best Arctic)

📍 Harkin Husky Farm · Best Arctic (7 h)

Adventure at Harkin Husky Farm (1 h 30 by bus from Prostneset): you drive your own sled for 45-60 min in pairs, swapping roles halfway.

- ✓ 7 h · ages 12+ · Prostneset bus transfers (1 h 30 each way)
- ✓ Suit + boots + gloves + hat provided · hot soup + drinks
- ✓ 45-60 min driving the sled yourself · intimate groups of 15 people

✔ Free cancellation

From **245 €** / pers.

See the activity

★ 4.9/5

Villmarkssenter · passenger only

📍 Kvaløya · Tromsø Villmarkssenter (4 h)

Husky sled ride **as a passenger only** (no driving), ideal for families and anyone who wants to enjoy the scenery without any effort.

- ✓ 🚫 No driving: seated in the sled pulled by a pro guide
- ✓ 4 h · no fitness required · accessible to everyone
- ✓ 200 huskies + puppies to cuddle · reindeer stew + coffee/cake

✔ Free cancellation

From **309 €** / pers.

See the activity

★ 4.8/5

Camp Tamok · advanced circuit

📍 Camp Tamok · Arctic Resorts (7 h)

Advanced, more physical circuit at Camp Tamok Arctic Resorts for mushers seeking thrills, with more technical terrain and longer, more demanding trails.

- ✓ ⚡ Longer, more technical circuit · fitness required
- ✓ Bus transfers from Tromsø · full thermal suit + hot meal
- ✓ For mushers already comfortable driving a sled

✔ Free cancellation

From **358 €** / pers.

See the activity

★ 4.8/5

Skibotn Valley (Active North · day)

📍 Skibotn Valley · Active North (8 h 30)

Crossing of the Skibotn valley from Tromsø with sweeping views of the Lyngen Alps, bus transfers included (4 h round trip) and hot soup at the kennel.

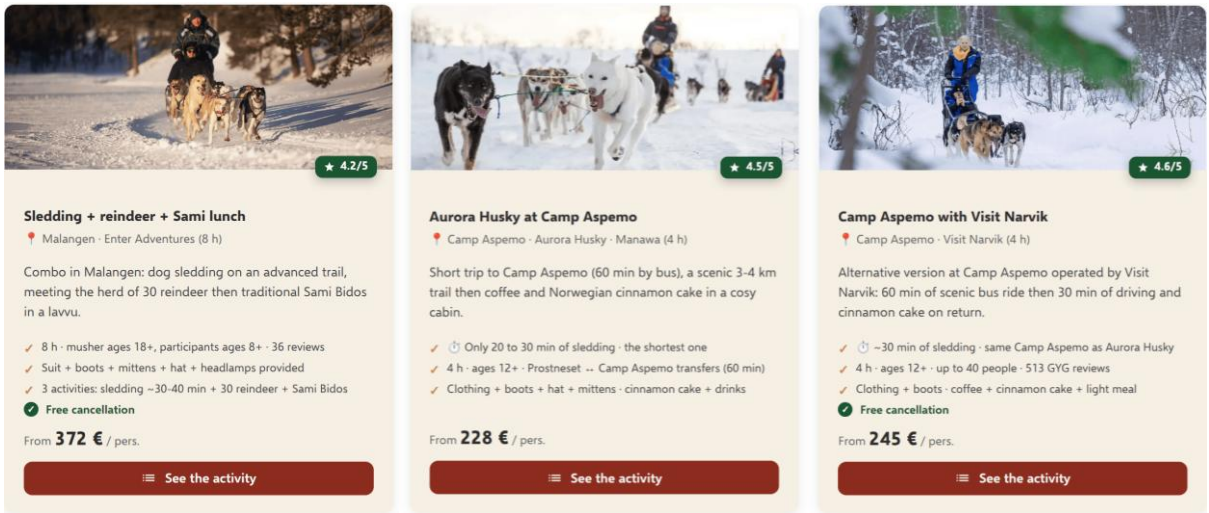
- ✓ 8 h 30 · age 5+ · open to all · 2-h transfers each way
- ✓ Sled 1 h-1 h 30 · Lyngen Alps view · 4-5 huskies · 49 reviews
- ✓ Suit + boots · hot soup + bread + coffee/tea + spring water

From **219 €** / pers.

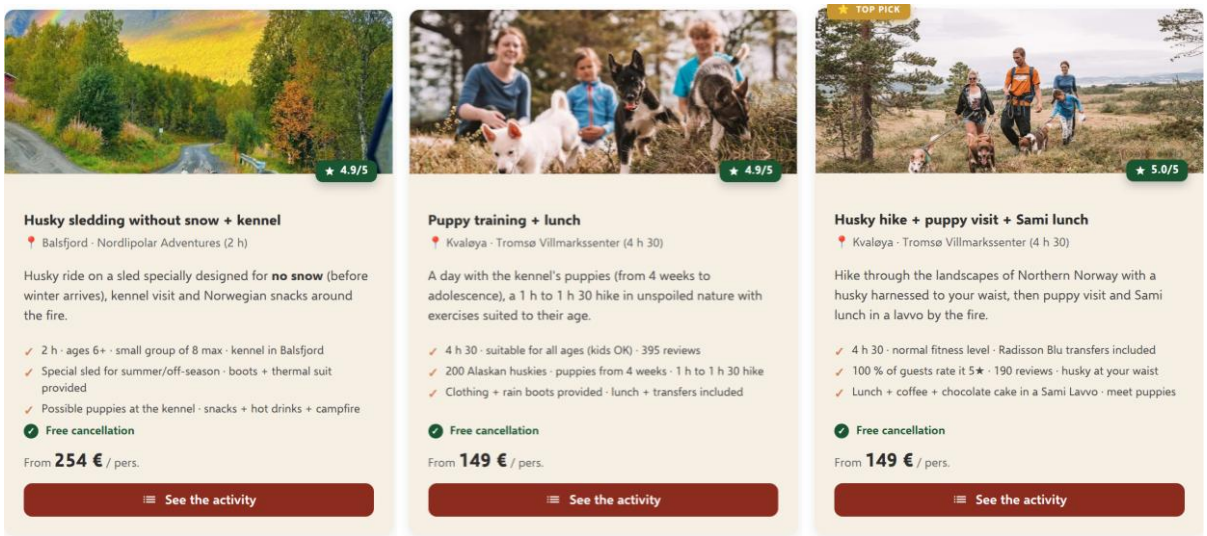
See the activity

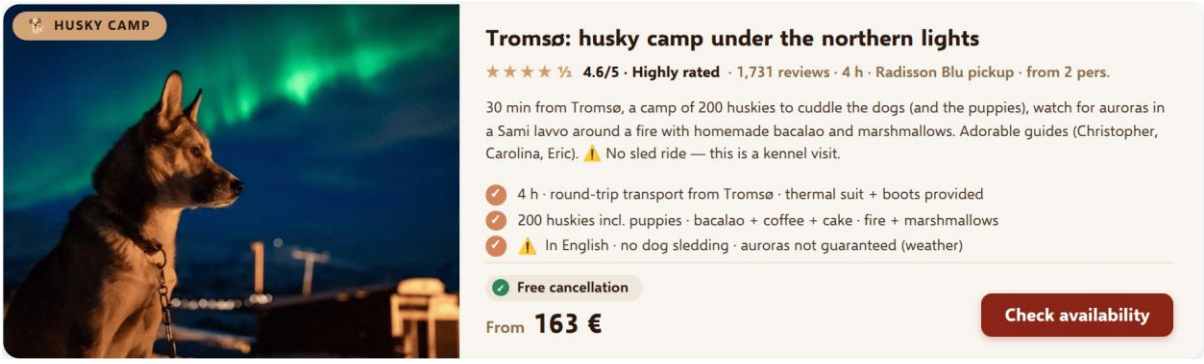
- A warning about Camp Aspemo

This is the former Aurora Husky from Moen, which has come back much bigger at Malangen. These are very (too) fast and expensive tours, with lots and lots of people. Let's just say this shouldn't be your first-choice company. Only if everything else is fully booked



- Seeing the sled dogs when there's no snow





SNOWMOBILING AROUND TROMSO

- You need to have your **driver's license** to be allowed to drive the beast
- Rides are generally done two to a snowmobile, with an extra charge if you want to drive solo (around €50 on average). Before getting into the details, here are the companies I recommend
    - Camp Troll: €270, the go-to agency, transport and lunch included, in the fantastic Lyngen Alps
        - *They also offer an electric snowmobile tour!*
    - XLyngen : €275, transport and lunch included, also in the Lyngen Alps
    - Aurora Wonderland Basecamp : €260, brand new but in a majestic setting
        - And you can also *sleep in a lavvo*
    - Camp Tamok : €300, in the superb setting of Tamokdalen
        - Night option with *snowmobile + dog sledding* !
    - **My suggestion**: *Camp Troll* for something simple in a great setting. The newer XLyngen and Aurora Wonderland are less well known (for now) but very professional — I've had excellent feedback.

COMPARISON OF THE SNOWMOBILE COMPANIES

Lyngen Experience · 2 h 30 driving

📍 Lyngen Alps · Lyngen Experience (10 h)

10-hour day in the Lyngen Alps with the longest snowmobile tour of the selection (2 h 30 of driving) and a hot lunch.

- ✓ 2 h 30 of snowmobiling (the longest)
- ✓ Return ferry + bus from Tromsø included
- ✓ Hot lunch at the restaurant included

From **€409** / pers.

See the tour

Camp Troll in the Lyngen Alps

📍 Lyngen Alps · Camp Troll (8 h)

2 h 30 snowmobile safari at Camp Troll in the Lyngen Alps, with bus + ferry included and vegan soup around the fire.

- ✓ Return bus + ferry from Tromsø included
- ✓ 2 per snowmobile (swap halfway through)
- ✓ Thermal suit + vegan soup by the fire

Free cancellation

From **€272** / pers.

See the safari

Aurora Wonderland in the Lyngen Alps

📍 Lyngen Alps · Aurora Wonderland (7 h 30)

Guided 60–90 min snowmobile tour in the Lyngen Alps, with minibus transfers, thermal gear and fish soup on your return.

- ✓ Minibus from Scandic Ishavshotel
- ✓ Suit + boots + helmet provided
- ✓ Hot fish soup at the camp

Free cancellation

From **€263** / pers.

See the tour

Camp Tamok · wild valley

📍 Tamok Valley · Arctic Resorts (7 h)

1 h 30 snowmobile tour in the heart of the Tamok Valley, remote Arctic setting and hot stew served in a Sami lavvu.

- ✓ Tamok Valley · remote Arctic setting
- ✓ Suit + boots + mittens + helmet provided
- ✓ Hot stew served in a Sami lavvu

Free cancellation

From **€307** / pers.

See the tour

Camp Troll ELECTRIC

📍 Lyngen Alps · Camp Troll (8 h)

Safari on mainland Norway's first fleet of 100% electric snowmobiles, in the Lyngen Alps, with bus + ferry and vegan soup by the fire.

- ✓ 🌱 100% electric snowmobiles (silent)
- ✓ A guest favourite (92% top ratings)
- ✓ Return bus + ferry from Tromsø included

Free cancellation

From **€299** / pers.

See the safari

XLyngen · fishing village

📍 Lyngen Alps · XLyngen (8 h)

1 h 30 snowmobile tour followed by lunch at the Bøteriet restaurant, on a fjord pier in a fishing village.

- ✓ Bøteriet restaurant on a fjord pier
- ✓ Return bus + ferry across Ullsfjorden
- ✓ Suit + gloves + helmet provided

Free cancellation

From **€289** / pers.

See the tour

North experience · no ferry

📍 Lyngskroa · North experience (8 h)

Relaxed-pace snowmobile tour (~30 km/h) focused on nature, no ferry, with a direct bus from Tromsø to Lyngskroa.

- ✓ No ferry (direct bus, 1 h 25)
- ✓ Relaxed pace ~30 km/h, beginners OK
- ✓ Traditional hot meal on your return

Free cancellation

From **€235** / pers.

See the tour

Best Arctic · bus + ferry

📍 Lyngen Alps · Best Arctic (7 h)

60–90 min snowmobile safari in the Lyngen Alps with bus + ferry, freshly made fish soup and hot drinks back at the camp.

- ✓ Return bus + ferry from Tromsø
- ✓ Homemade fish soup + hot drinks
- ✓ Thermal suit + boots + gloves provided

Free cancellation

From **€235** / pers.

See the safari

Authentic North · snowmobile + reindeer

📍 Balsfjord · Authentic North (6 h)

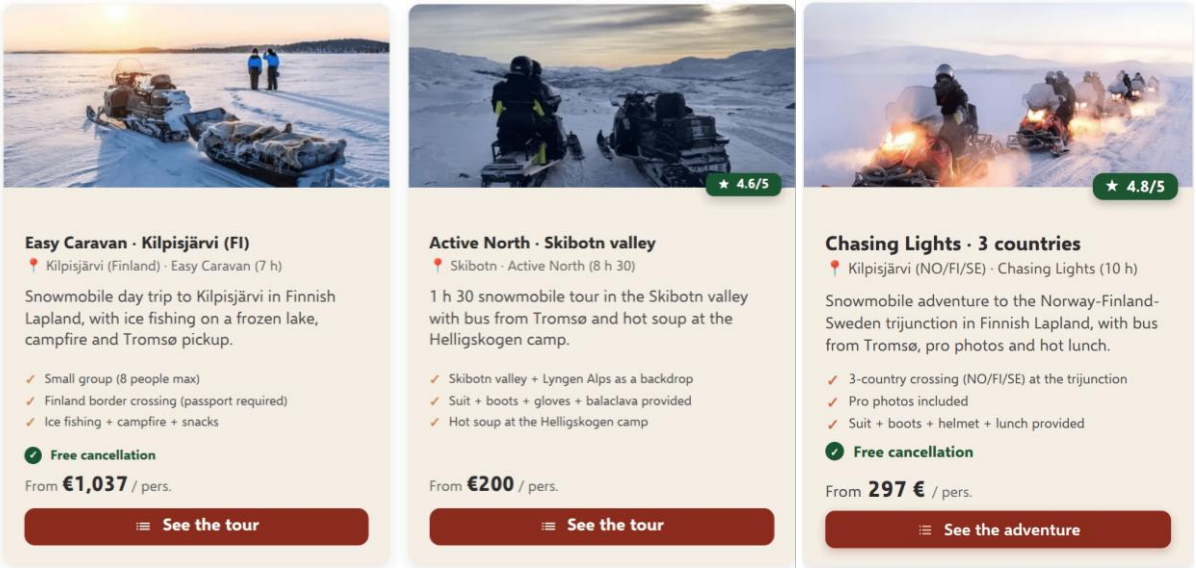
Snowmobile + Sami camp combo: Arctic driving with a local guide, lunch around the fire and hand-feeding the reindeer.

- ✓ Snowmobile + Sami reindeer camp combo
- ✓ Hand-feeding the reindeer
- ✓ Meal + hot drinks in the lavvo

Free cancellation

From **€272** / pers.

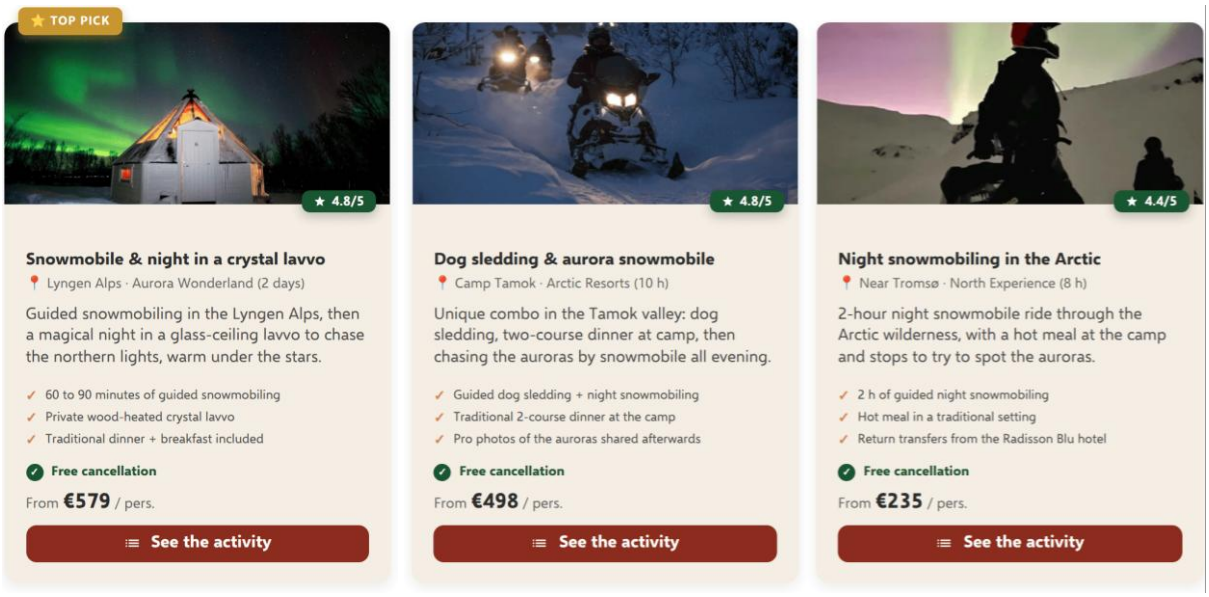
See the tour



Snowmobiling under the northern lights

If the sky is clear, you can go snowmobiling in a magnificent setting under the northern lights. All the ingredients for a fantastic evening!

You'll also notice that some of them offer other things, like sleeping in a lavvo or doing the dog sledding + snowmobile combo (hence the high price at Camp Tamok).



SEEING REINDEER IN TROMSO

- Seeing the **reindeer** in a Sami camp
- From October or November onwards, when the reindeer come back from their summer wanderings
- The activity consists of
    - Feeding the reindeer, getting up close to them and maybe even petting them!
    - Taking loads of photos
    - Possibly going for a sleigh ride
    - Having the meal (usually a reindeer stew, with a vegetarian option available)
    - Learning more about Sami culture
    - Prices from €140, transport included

Careful: if you go to a farm run by the Sami, you can't just turn up whenever you like — it's at set times, with groups, because everything is organised.

TROMSO ARCTIC REINDEERS:

Located not far from Tromso, the best-known site; very good

★ 4.7/5

Reindeer camp + Sami lunch

📍 Sami camp · Tromsø Arctic Reindeer (4 h)

Sami camp just outside Tromsø with a herd of 300 reindeer to hand-feed, a traditional meal cooked over the fire and joik in the hut.

- ✓ 4 h · child seats included · Prostneset return transfers
- ✓ 300 reindeer to feed by hand · Sami meal cooked over the fire
- ✓ 3,806 reviews · hot chocolate + stories + joik singing
- ✓ Free cancellation

From **€154** / pers.

See the activity

★ 4.7/5

Reindeer sledding + feeding + meal

📍 Sami camp · Tromsø Arctic Reindeer (4 h)

Reindeer-sled ride pulled by a Sami then feeding of the herd, hot meal in the lavvu and joik songs around the fire.

- ✓ 4 h · reindeer-sled ride · return transfers included
- ✓ 300 reindeer to feed · hot lunch in the lavvu
- ✓ 6,853 reviews · Sami guide + traditional joik + coffee/snack
- ✓ Free cancellation

From **€173** / pers.

See the activity

★ 4.6/5

Night sledding + dinner + auroras

📍 Sami camp · Tromsø Arctic Reindeer (4 h 30)

Evening version with a night reindeer-sled ride, three-course Sami Bidos dinner in the candlelit gamme and a chance to spot the northern lights.

- ✓ 4 h 30 · 6 pm departure · night reindeer sled · return transfers
- ✓ 3-course dinner: traditional Sami Bidos stew + hot chocolate
- ✓ Chance of northern lights · 2,803 reviews · joik around the fire
- ✓ Free cancellation

From **€191** / pers.

See the activity

TROMSO LAPLAND:

Located south of Tromso at Breivikeidet, with a view of the Lyngen Alps (colder but a more beautiful setting)

★ 4.7/5

Feed the reindeer + Sami culture

📍 Sami camp · Tromsø Lapland (4 h 30)

Sami camp 50 min from Tromsø with a herd of reindeer to hand-feed, traditional stew and a cultural presentation in a wooden hut.

- ✓ 4 h 30 · Radisson Blu return transfers · 50 min by bus
- ✓ Hand-feeding of the reindeer + Sami stew (vegan option)
- ✓ 2,386 reviews · traditional joik + coffee/tea/hot chocolate
- ✓ Free cancellation

From **€155** / pers.

See the activity

★ 4.6/5

Reindeer sledding + Sami Bidos

📍 Sami camp · Tromsø Lapland (4 h 30)

30-min reindeer-sled ride in nature facing the Lyngen Alps, feeding of the herd and traditional Sami Bidos in the gamme.

- ✓ 4 h 30 · reindeer-sled ride ~30 min · view of the Lyngen Alps
- ✓ Hand-feeding + Sami Bidos stew (vegan option) in the gamme
- ✓ Suit + boot covers provided · Sami guide + cultural stories
- ✓ Free cancellation

From **€200** / pers.

See the activity

★ 4.5/5

Evening reindeer + auroras + Bidos dinner

📍 Breivikeidet · Tromsø Lapland (4 h 30)

Breivikeidet camp in the evening facing the Lyngen Alps with reindeer feeding, a chance to spot the northern lights and a Sami Bidos dinner.

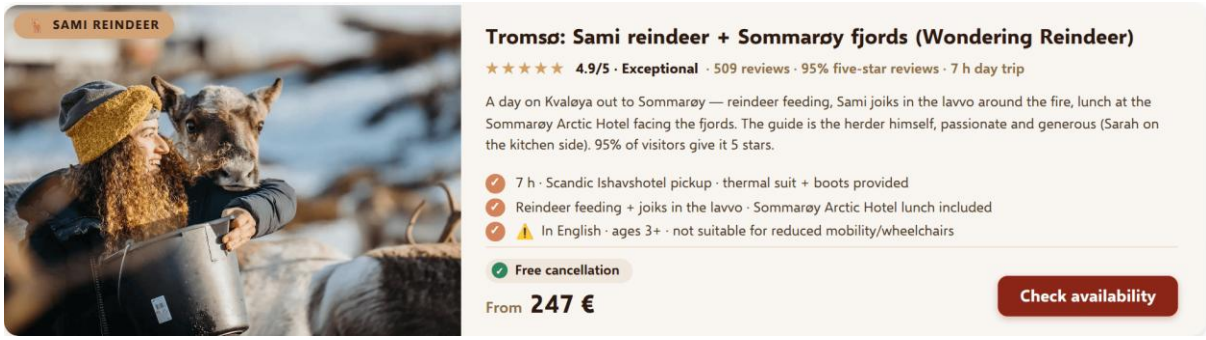
- ✓ 4 h 30 · hotel transfers · Breivikeidet camp facing Lyngen Alps
- ✓ Hand-feeding + chance of auroras · low light-pollution site
- ✓ Bidos dinner (veggie option) + coffee/tea · suit + boot covers
- ✓ Free cancellation

From **€155** / pers.

See the activity

Wondering Reindeer

A small family farm that takes you to explore the island of Kvaloya as well as seeing the reindeer — a nice mix of sightseeing, reindeer and culture. It's a full-day trip, which explains the price.



Reindeer Experience

Located 15 min north of Tromso, this new little farm has a good reputation. It's closer, so it's cheaper and there's less time spent on transport!

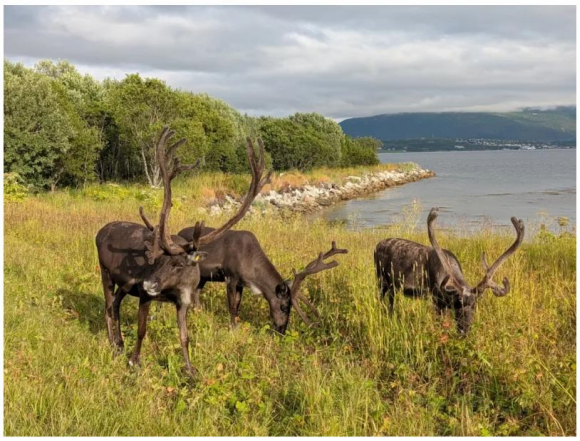
Unit X Reindeer Camp

A small family farm that opened a year ago, a little south of Tromso. Excellent reputation — considered the most authentic and family-run of them all.

Seeing reindeer roaming free around Tromso

In winter it's tricky, because they eat much better at their farm, so they mostly stay at home.

In summer and autumn, you see loads of them on Kvaloya, even in built-up areas. After the Kvaloya bridge, they're often on the beach to the right, but also along the road heading south. Basically, at that time of year, they're pretty much everywhere!



DISCOVERING CAMP TAMOK

Camp Tamok is a winter activity centre best known for its famous **ice domes**, a superb and temporary ice hotel (naturally, you might say).

Camp Tamok is located 1.5 hours south of Tromso, out in the wilderness, in the heart of the mountains of Tamokdalen, which are magnificent.

At Camp Tamok, you can do a whole bunch of activities:

- Visiting the **Ice Domes**
    - Either on an organised tour from Tromso
    - Or visiting on your own, coming by car (from 10 am to 11 am and 3.30 pm to 5 pm)
- Going dog sledding with a visit to the Ice Domes (more physical than at Breivikeidet for example
- Going snowmobiling (+ ice domes)
- Going snowmobiling (without the ice domes)
- Going night snowmobiling, maybe even with northern lights!
- Seeing the reindeer under the northern lights
- Just watching the northern lights there
- Dog sledding under the northern lights (the dream activity! Careful, it's not always available at Camp Tamok, in which case it happens somewhere else)
- Going on a snowshoeing walk + seeing the reindeer + the domes

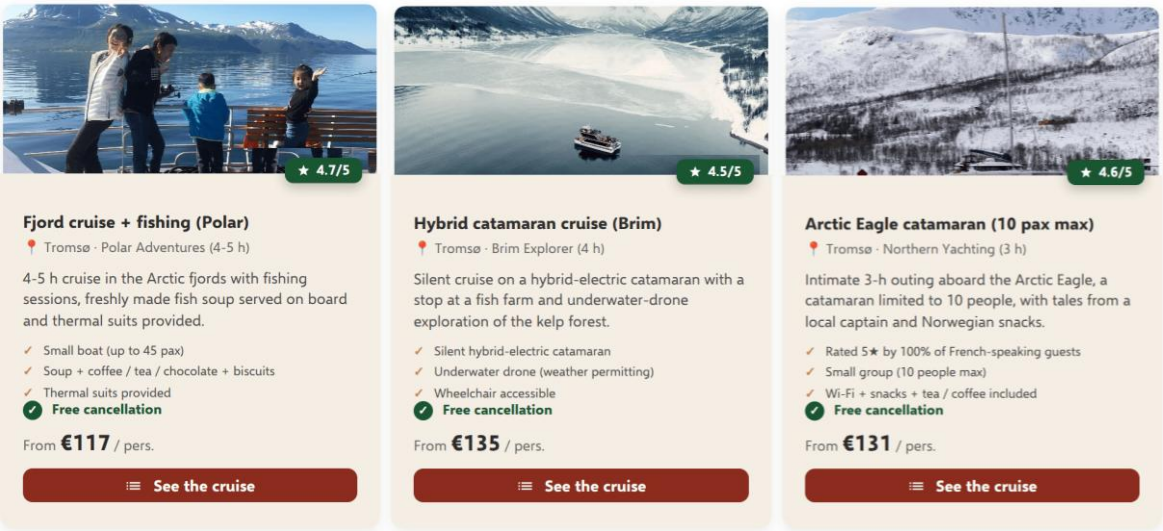
DISCOVERING TROMSO BY BOAT

One of the most popular activities (covered in more detail in this article): exploring the area around **Tromso by boat**. The idea is to explore several fjords around Tromso and do a bit of fishing. Honestly, it's really not bad at all.

- Duration: 3.5 to 5 hours
- Places visited (roughly the same for every company): south of Kvaloya, between Kvaloya and Malangen, the east coast of Malangen, Ramfjord, or towards Ringvassoya (depending on works)
- Lunch included, featuring the fish caught on board. Fish-free dishes are available too
- Departure: Tromso harbour (no shuttle)
- Price: between €110 and €120 for most tours

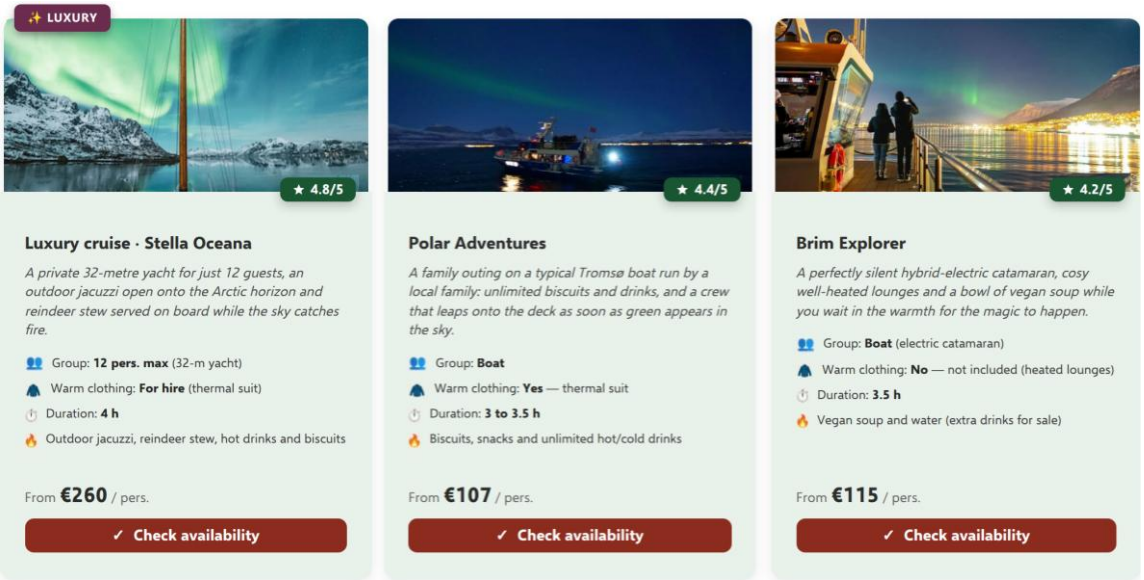
There are mainly 3 companies doing this (see the details on the next page):

- **Polar Adventures**: a fairly big boat with plenty of room outside, a classic boat without much charm. Very friendly crew. €120
    - Check it out here
- **Brim Explorer**: a bigger, hybrid, more recent boat. I haven't tried it yet, but it has an excellent reputation. And they have an underwater drone that they bring out depending on the weather. €135
    - Check it out here
- **Catamaran** — a more luxurious option for exploring the fjords and fishing, €130
    - Check it out here



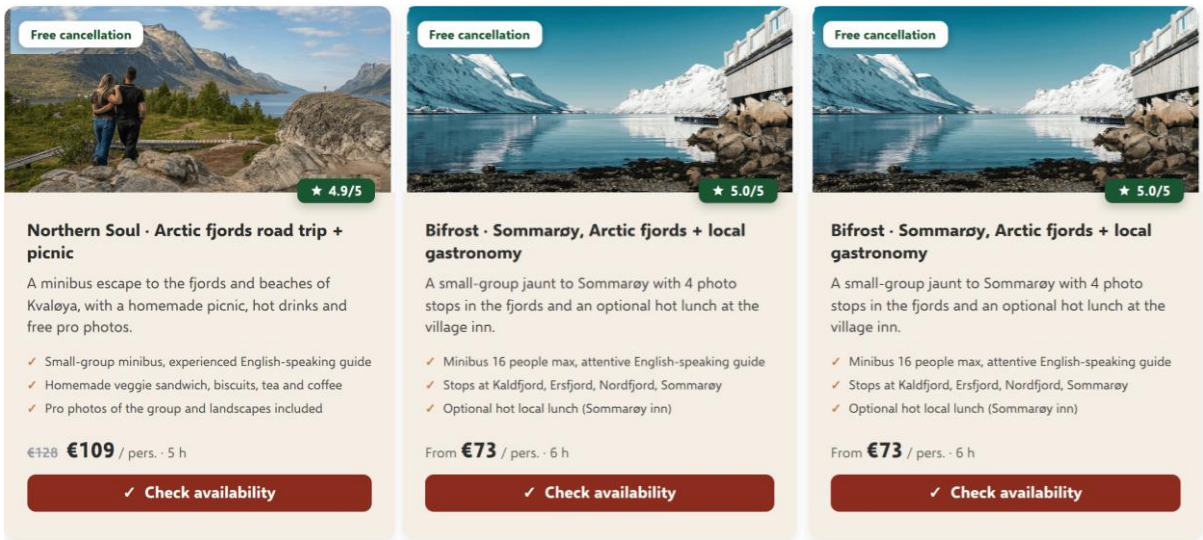
To **go fishing** on a lovely wooden boat: *the Hermes II*, €170 (an amazing experience!)

For a cruise under the **northern lights** (careful, it really depends on the weather!)
The boats don't go very far out, so check the cloud cover, otherwise no lights.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

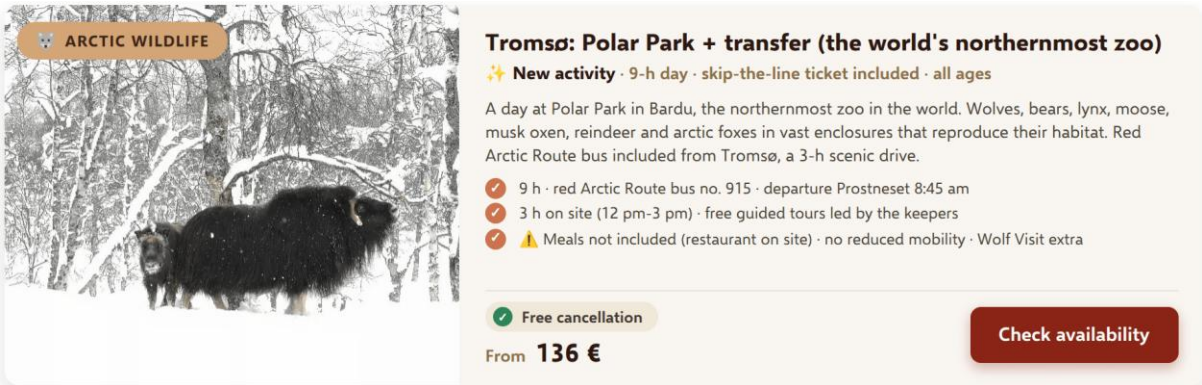
- Exploring **Kvaloya** with a tour company (if you don't have a car or would rather be driven around). You'll go around the island, heading to Sommaroy and/or Tromvik, with Ersfjord and Grotfjord.
    - With Northern Soul Adventures, €120
    - With Bifrost as well, from €90
    - With Jeshua, €85 but by bus



But you can also go and discover Senja from Tromso in a single day!

- Going on a hike on **snowshoes**
  - With Wandering Owl, €130
  - Renting the gear from **Tromso Outdoor** to do it on your own

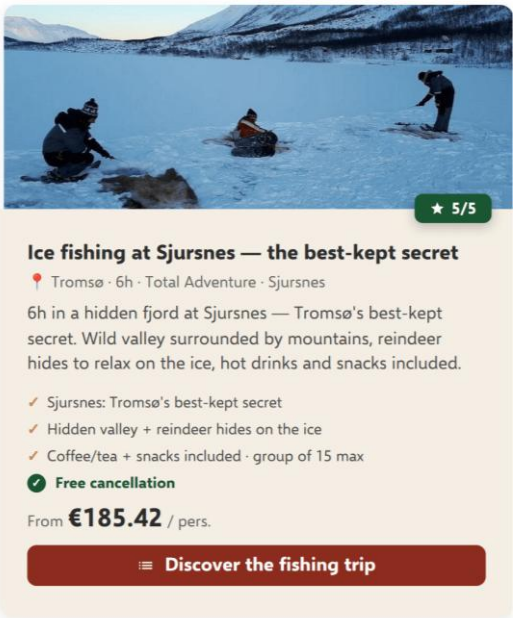
- Seeing the **animals** of the Arctic
  - At the Polar Park near Bardufoss (it's not a zoo), a 3-hour drive from Tromso
  - Watch out for the opening hours, which are quite limited, especially in winter
  - You can get there by bus — the details are on the Polar Park website



- Going **ice fishing**

A must-do activity for locals at the week end. When the fjords are frozen, you can see dozens of them out there with their little fishing rods. You have several options:

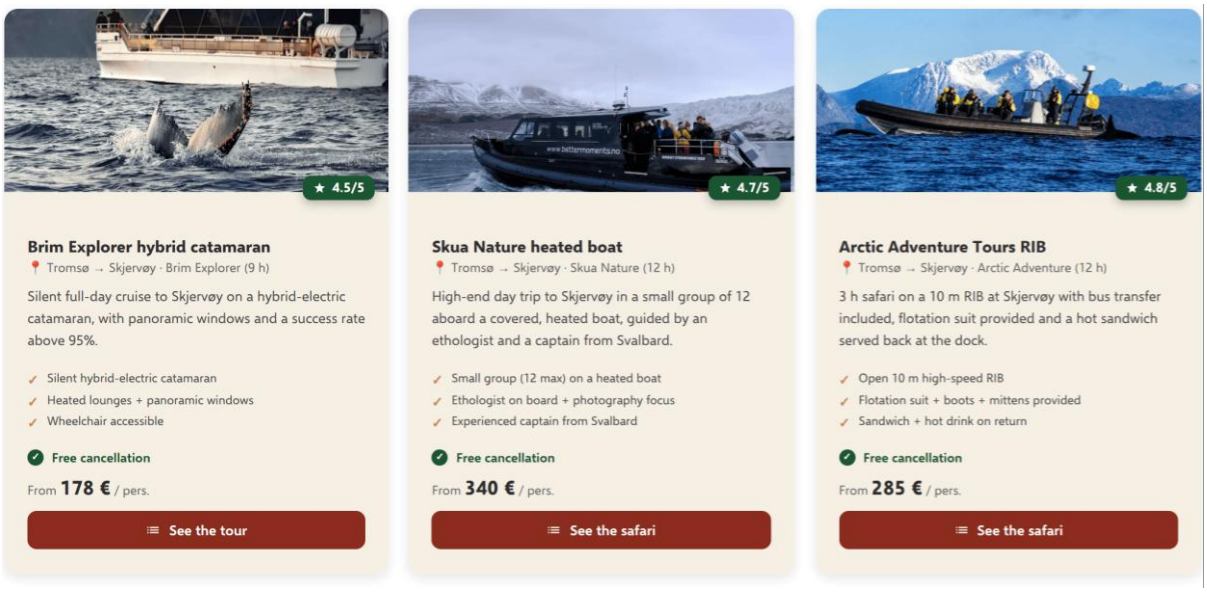
  - **Buying your gear**, fishing rod, bait, from a fishing shop in the centre such as Andresens on Storgata (careful, you need a licence to fish in lakes and rivers, so focus on the fjords and the open sea)
  - Going through an **agency**. There are two that do this in Tromso:
    - *Skadi*
    - *Total Adventure*



SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES AND COMPANIES

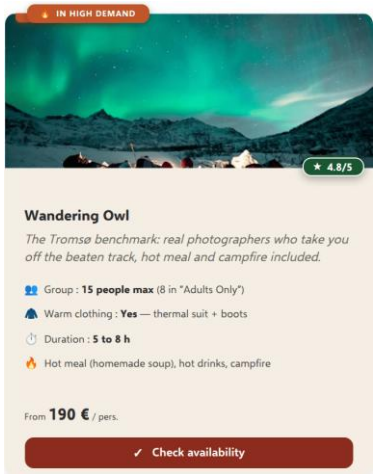
🐳 WHALES & ORCAS

- Brim Explorer, hybrid catamaran, comfortable and recent, €178 *(info and booking)*
- Skua Nature, tiny heated boat (12 pers.), ideal for photography, €340 *(info and booking)*
- Arctic Adventure, RIB boat, departing from Tromso, €285 *(info and booking)*
- MV Quest, expedition ship, 24h whales + northern lights cruise, full board, €580 *(info and booking)*
- Polar Adventures, family-friendly boat, all-inclusive package with lunch, €223 *(info and booking)*
- Helgøy Skyssbåt, fast catamaran from Tromso, €178 *(info and booking)*
- Arctic Whale Tours (MS Alba), human-scale catamaran, responsible approach, €183 *(info and booking)*
- Cruise Service, catamaran certified for the open sea, €177 *(info and booking)*
- MS Gabriele, a big comfortable catamaran departing from Tromso, €178 *(info and booking)*
- MS Rygerdronningen, high-speed catamaran, €187 *(info and booking)*
- Norwegian Travel, big recent catamaran, comfortable, €168 *(info and booking)*
- Green Gold of Norway, RIB boat, €303 *(info and booking)*
- Frozen Frontiers, RIB boat, from Tromso or Skjervøy, €219 *(info and booking)*
- Arctic Explorers Norway, RIB boat, €330 *(info and booking)*
- Explore 70° North, RIB boat, from Skjervøy, €200 *(info and booking)*
- Dervola Explore, RIB boat in Skjervøy, €200 *(info and booking)*
- Maritime Tours, fast boat, safari in Skjervøy, €140 *(info and booking)*
- Sea Safari Øksnes, RIB boat, from Tromso or Skjervøy, €180 *(info and booking)*
- See Explore, RIB boat, transfer from Tromso or Skjervoy, €270 *(info and booking)*



💚 NORTHERN LIGHTS – THE TOP PICK AGENCIES

- Wandering Owl, €190 *(info and booking)*
- Arctic Breeze, €155 *(info and booking)*
- Enjoy the Arctic, €185 *(info and booking)*
- Northbound, €240 *(info and booking)*, small group
- Arctic Explorers, €200 *(info and booking)*
- The Green Adventure, €190 *(info and booking)*
- Greenlander, €305 *(info and booking)*, small group
- Creative Vacations, €255 *(info and booking)*, small group
- Arctic Photo Guide, €260 (*info and booking*), small group
- Northern Soul, €205 (*info and booking*)



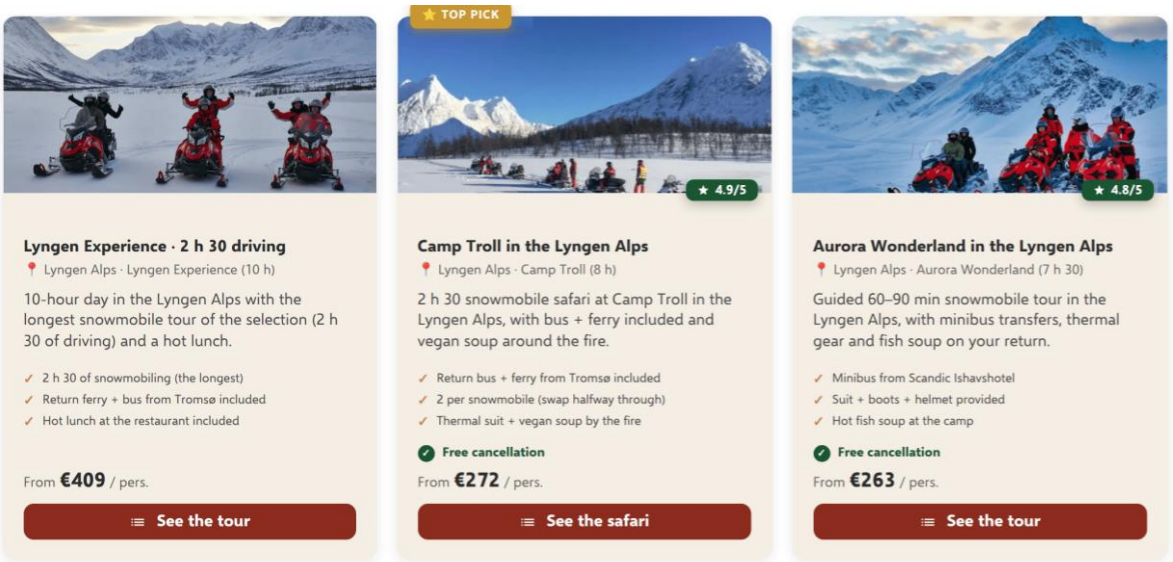
💚 NORTHERN LIGHTS – THE OTHER QUALITY AGENCIES

- Blue Puffin, €195 (*info and booking*)
- Your Tromso Guide, €200, Mirko speaks French (*info and booking*)
- NLT Guide Company, €150 (*info and booking*)
- Arctic Glow, €175 (*info and booking*)
- Rise Experience, €210 (*info and booking*)
- Arctic Circle Tour, €190 (*info and booking*)
- Snow Travels, €190 (*info and booking*)
- Bifrost, €190 (*info and booking*)
- Flexitour, €180 (*info and booking*)
- Bus - Northern Shot Bus, €80 *(info and booking)*
- Bus – Chasing Lights, €130 (*info and booking*)

❄️ SNOWMOBILE

All these operators offer transport from Tromso

- Camp Troll, Lyngen Alps, €270 *(info and booking)*
- Camp Troll with electric snowmobile, €300 (*info and booking*)
- XLyngen, Lyngen Alps, €290 *(info and booking)*
- Aurora Wonderland, Lyngen Alps, €265 *(info and booking)*
- Camp Tamok, Tamokdalen, €310 *(info and booking)*
- Camp Tamok, night snowmobile tour, €500 *(info and booking)*
- Chasing lights, full day in Kilpisjarvi from Tromso, €300 *(info and booking)*
- Lyngen Experience, in the Lyngen Alps, €330 (*info and booking*)
- Active North, in Skibotn, €410 (*info and booking*)
- North Experience, in Kilpisjärvi, Finland, €230 (*info and booking*)
- Night - North Experience, in Oteren, €230 (*info and booking*)



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Buy me a coffee

🐶 DOG SLEDDING

- Arctic Adventure, on Kvaloya, €300 *(info and booking)*
- Arctic Resorts, in Breivikeidet, €240 (facing the Lyngen Alps, stunning) *(info and booking)*
- Tromso Wilderness Center, on Kvaloya, €310 *(info and booking)*
- Aurora Husky, in Malangen, €240, 30-min ride (*info and booking*)
- Camp Tamok, in the stunning valley of Tamokdalen, €310 *(info and booking)*
- OffTrack Experience, in Malselv (no transfer from Tromso), €410 *(info and booking)*
- Into Nature, French-speaking, €300, in Malangen (no transfer) *(info and booking)*
- Run Wild Mushing (French-speaking), in Malangen (no transfer), €300 *(info and booking)*

★ 4.9/5

Dog sledding at Breivikeidet

📍 Breivikeidet · Norwegian Travel (4 h 30)

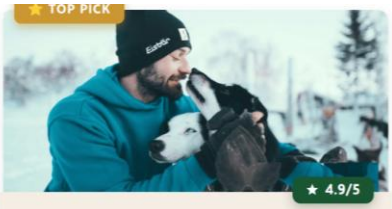
Breivikeidet camp facing the Lyngen Alps: you drive your own team halfway then ride as a passenger, hot meal in the lavvu on your return.

- ✓ 4 h 30 · from age 4 · Tromsø ↔ Breivikeidet bus transfers included (50 min)
- ✓ Suit + boots + hat + mittens + full meal + hot drinks
- ✓ 91% French speakers top marks · 1,448 reviews

✓ Free cancellation

From **€241** / pers.

See the activity



★ 4.9/5

Self-drive husky sledding at Kvaløya

📍 Kvaløya · Arctic Adventure Tours (4 h)

Excursion to Kvaløya: drive your own team across the Arctic, 130 Alaskan huskies at the kennel and cake at the Sami Lavvo after.

- ✓ 4 h · from age 7 · Scandic Ishavshotel ↔ Kvaløya bus transfers (30 min)
- ✓ 130 Alaskan huskies at the kennel · cake + hot chocolate at the Sami Lavvo
- ✓ 93% top marks · 4,408 reviews · ride 70-80 min

✓ Free cancellation

From **€305** / pers.

See the activity

★ 4.9/5

Husky sledding & Sami lunch

📍 Kvaløya · Tromsø Villmarkssenter (4 h)

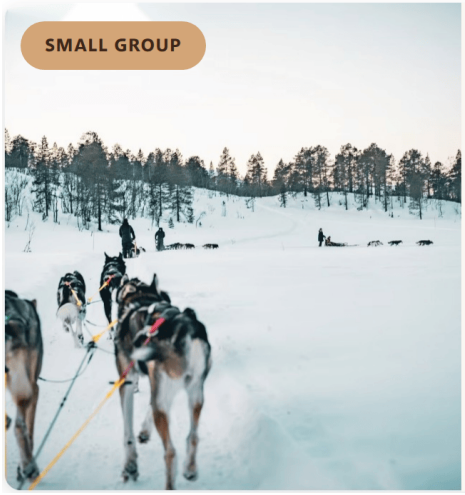
Self-drive sledding at Kvaløya with a musher-passenger swap, then Sami Bidos stew and chocolate cake around the fire in the Gamme hut.

- ✓ 4 h · age 16+ · Radisson Blu ↔ Kvaløya transfers (25 min)
- ✓ Traditional Sami Bidos reindeer stew + chocolate cake
- ✓ 90% French speakers top marks · guides Clara + Léo praised · sled ~45 min

✓ Free cancellation

From **€309** / pers.

See the activity



Malangen: dog sledding with Quentin (Into Nature)

★★★★★ **5/5 · Top rating** · small outfit · 3 h · 4-6 huskies per sled

Dog sledding with Quentin, a French-speaking musher in Malangen (1 h 30 from Tromsø) — small friendly outfit, snowy forests, frozen lake and a peek at the fjord. 1 to 2 h of driving with musher/passenger swaps, husky cuddles and a hot drink in a lavvu afterwards.

- ✓ 3 h · tour led in French (Quentin) · age 2+ (drivers 18+)
- ✓ 4-6 Alaskan huskies · suit + boots provided · snack + hot saft · weather guarantee
- ✓ ⚠️ Car required (1 h 30 from Tromsø) · moderate cancellation policy

✓ Weather guarantee

From **295 €**

Check availability

🦌 REINDEER VISITS

- **Tromso Arctic Reindeer**, feeding, €150 *(info & booking)*
- **Tromso Arctic Reindeer**, with a sled ride, €170 *(info & booking)*
- **Tromso Arctic Reindeer** at night under the northern lights, €190 *(info & booking)*
- **Tromso Lapland**, reindeer feeding, €155 *(info & booking)*
- **Tromso Lapland**, with a sled ride, €200 *(info & booking)*
- **Tromso Lapland,** night visit, €155 *(info & booking)*
- **Wondering Reindeer**, Sami culture, reindeer and Sommaroy, €230 *(info & booking)*
- **Unit X Reindeer Camp**, discovering reindeer and Sami culture, €150 *(info & booking)*

Reindeer camp + Sami lunch

📍 Sami camp · Tromsø Arctic Reindeer (4 h)

Sami camp just outside Tromsø with a herd of 300 reindeer to hand-feed, a traditional meal cooked over the fire and joik in the hut.

- ✓ 4 h · child seats included · Prostneset return transfers
- ✓ 300 reindeer to feed by hand · Sami meal cooked over the fire
- ✓ 3,806 reviews · hot chocolate + stories + joik singing

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **€154** / pers.

See the activity

Reindeer sledding + feeding + meal

📍 Sami camp · Tromsø Arctic Reindeer (4 h)

Reindeer-sled ride pulled by a Sami then feeding of the herd, hot meal in the lavvu and joik songs around the fire.

- ✓ 4 h · reindeer-sled ride · return transfers included
- ✓ 300 reindeer to feed · hot lunch in the lavvu
- ✓ 6,853 reviews · Sami guide + traditional joik + coffee/snack

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **€173** / pers.

See the activity

Night sledding + dinner + auroras

📍 Sami camp · Tromsø Arctic Reindeer (4 h 30)

Evening version with a night reindeer-sled ride, three-course Sami Bidos dinner in the candlelit gamme and a chance to spot the northern lights.

- ✓ 4 h 30 · 6 pm departure · night reindeer sled · return transfers
- ✓ 3-course dinner: traditional Sami Bidos stew + hot chocolate
- ✓ Chance of northern lights · 2,803 reviews · joik around the fire

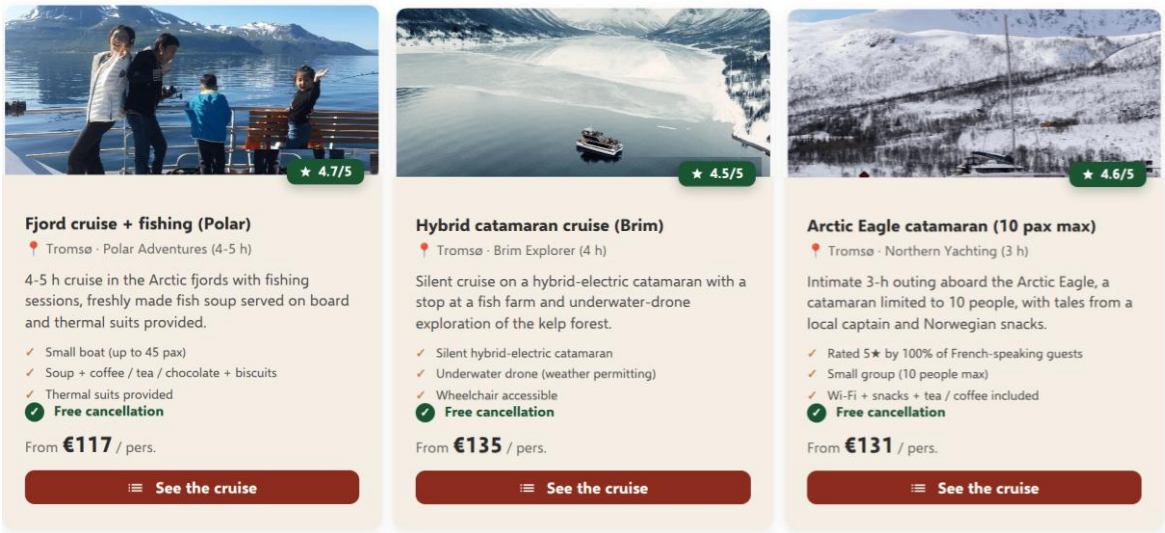
✔ **Free cancellation**

From **€191** / pers.

See the activity

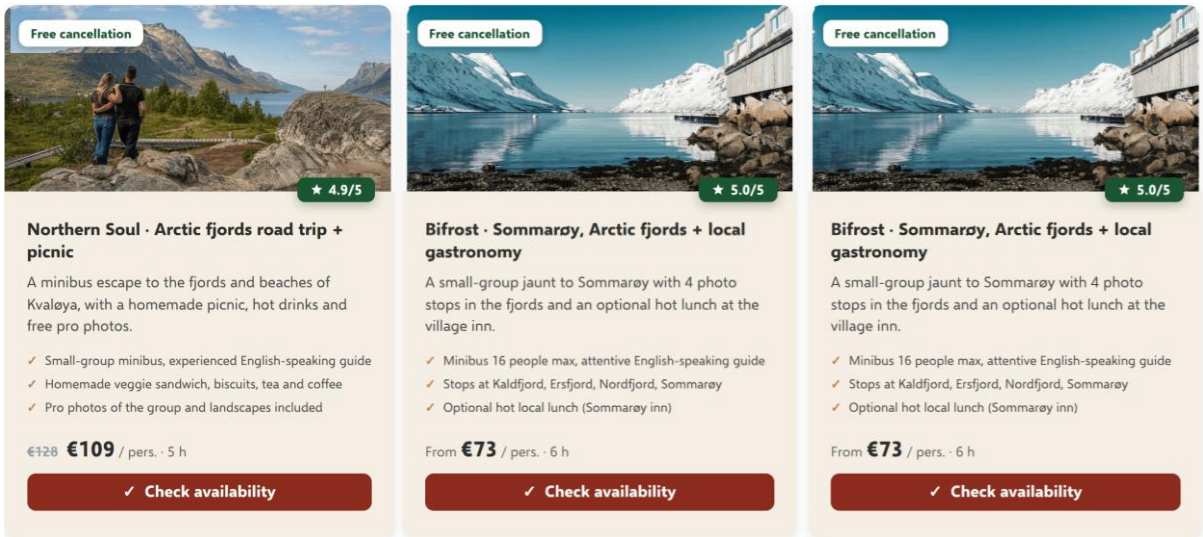
⛵ FJORD TOURS BY BOAT

- **Brim Explorer**, €130 *(info and booking)*
- **Polar Adventures**, €120 *(info and booking)*
- **Hermes II**, €170, local fishing boat *(info and booking)*
- **Duen Experience**, €149, fishing boat (*info and booking*)



📷 VISITING KVALOYA WITH A TOUR AGENCY

- **Northern Soul Adventures**, €120 *(info and booking)*
- **Bifrost**, from €90 *(info and booking)*
- **Jeshua AS**, €85 (*info and booking*)
- **Arctic Explorers**, €140 (*info and booking*)
- **Enjoy the Arctic**, €120 (*info and booking*)
- **The Green Adventure**, €95 (info and booking)
- **Northern Norway Travel**, €160 (*info and booking*)
- **Amazing Arctic Tours**, €110 (*info and booking*)



WHEN TO VISIT TROMSO

Below you'll find a month-by-month recap of the different activities you can do. Hikes, midnight sun, polar night — here's what awaits you in Tromso (and in northern Norway in general).

- More info on [the different seasons in Tromso]

A FEW HIKES

Here are 5 hikes I recommend (as long as there's no snow)

- **Bromestinden** : easy, halfway between Tromvik and Rekvik. Superb views of the mountains and of Senja too! Watch out for the wind
- **Nattmalsfjellet** : offers a magnificent elevated view over Ersfjord without working your calves too hard
- **Floya** : a classic — you start from the top of the cable car and continue further along. It doesn't really climb, and you get magnificent views of the coastline and Tromso
- **Ornfloya** : a fantastic view over the archipelago of Sommaroy. Not difficult at all, just be careful after rain.
- **Sorbotn** : you need to start from Sorbotn (a tiny little village) and head into a valley where there's nobody around. Fantastic — you're surrounded by mountains

Can you do these **hikes in winter** ? Brosmestinden, Nattmalsfjellet and Sorbotn yes, with snowshoes. Ornfoya with crampons because it's very slippery. Floya, I think you can do it in just regular shoes.Generally speaking, it's VERY hard to recommend winter hikes because it depends on the snow levels and the ice. And it really varies a lot from one week to the next, from one year to the next.

Otherwise the easiest option is really **snowshoeing**. Rent a pair from Tromso Outdoor, head into Breivikeidet or Kattfjordvatnet, two valleys with plenty of options.

WHERE TO STAY

Heads up, hotel prices vary enormously between high and low season, sometimes tripling. You can also find this list in *this article on accommodation in Tromso*

And even at these prices, you unfortunately really need to book in advance. The good hotels in the center go very quickly.

There's a whole range of hotels that aren't particularly expensive, especially in low season. But prices are still high in high season. We're not talking about the same category of hotels as the Clarion or Scandic, but they're still perfectly respectable!

The apartment option is a good alternative, and I'll suggest several. Prices also go up in winter, though less, however they're the accommodations that go the fastest — they're the most popular precisely because of the price and the space.

Access all the best accommodations by clicking here

The view from the Scandic Ishavshotel, not bad at all

STAYING IN A QUALITY HOTEL

Radisson Blu Hotel Tromsø

📍 Sjøgata · On the harbour (location 9.5/10)

The safe bet on the harbourfront: panoramic sauna and gym on the 10th floor, plus the Rorbua pub on site for evening concerts.

- ✓ Tromsø Sound or Arctic Cathedral view rooms
- ✓ Free panoramic sauna on the 10th floor
- ✓ "Superb" breakfast buffet, rated 9.0/10

✅ Free cancellation

From **110 €** / night

Check availability

The Dock 69 39 by Scandic

📍 Vervet · Brand-new waterfront district (9.5/10)

The new 2024 reference: a brand-new design hotel in a recently built district, with a panoramic brasserie and high-end wellness.

- ✓ Elegant Nordic design, rooms from 16 to 51 m²
- ✓ Upper Dock Brasserie & Bar on the top floor
- ✓ Gym and wellness area (paid) on site

✅ Free cancellation

From **130 €** / night

Check availability

Scandic Ishavshotel

📍 Fredrik Langesgt · End of the central quay (9.6/10)

The iconic hotel at the tip of the central quay, with panoramic views over the harbour, the Tromsø bridge and the Arctic Cathedral opposite.

- ✓ 9.6/10 location at the very end of the quay
- ✓ Sea, harbour or bridge view rooms by category
- ✓ "Fabulous" breakfast served facing the water

✅ Free cancellation

From **130 €** / night

Check availability

Clarion Hotel The Edge

📍 Kaigata · Waterfront, right in the centre (9.7/10)

The premium experience with THE best rooftop in Tromsø: a sky bar at the top and 360° views over the fjords, the city and the mountains.

- ✓ Iconic sky bar, THE view of the city
- ✓ 9.7/10 location, 100 m from the port and ferries
- ✓ Free Feel 24 gym on site

✅ Free cancellation

From **125 €** / night

Check availability

Thon Hotel Tromsø

📍 Grønnegata · Corner of Storgata, the shopping street (9.2/10)

The top-pick address, famous for its exceptional 9.4/10 breakfast buffet, 400 m from the harbour and the Hurtigruten terminal.

- ✓ Renowned "exceptional" 9.4/10 breakfast
- ✓ Bright, soundproofed 16 m² rooms
- ✓ 400 m from the harbour and the Hurtigruten terminal

✅ Free cancellation

From **120 €** / night

Check availability

St Elisabeth Hotel & Spa

📍 Mellomvegen · 4-star with spa, 15 min walk from the centre

The design 4-star with indoor pool and wellness area, to unwind after a day of northern lights, with much-loved staff 9.3/10.

- ✓ Spa with indoor pool, sauna and hammam
- ✓ Brand-new cosy rooms, "excellent" bedding
- ✓ Private parking on site (paid)

✅ Free cancellation

From **130 €** / night

Check availability

Quality Hotel Saga

📍 Richard Withs Plass · Historic central square (9.5/10)

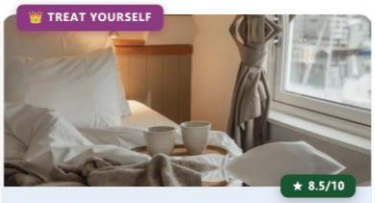
The safe bet at the best price: a central Strawberry hotel on the historic square, with modern rooms facing harbour, mountain or cathedral.

- ✓ 9.5/10 location on the central square
- ✓ "Superb" 9.0/10 breakfast buffet included
- ✓ Free afternoon coffee/tea + light weekday dinner

✅ Free cancellation

From **100 €** / night

Check availability



Home Hotel With

📍 Sjøgata · Harbourfront facing the Arctic Cathedral (9.8/10)

The premium experience with half board included: buffet dinner + fika + waffles, and a panoramic top-floor sauna facing the harbour.

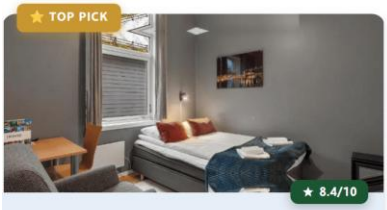
- ✓ 9.8/10 location, THE best in Tromsø
- ✓ Half board included: buffet dinner + fika + waffles
- ✓ Panoramic top-floor sauna with sea view

✅ Free cancellation

From **140 €** / night

Check availability

BUDGET ACCOMMODATION



★ TOP PICK

★ 8.4/10

First Hotel Backpack

📍 Parkgata · 200 m from the centre, hostel spirit (9.2/10)

The budget top pick: a highly rated hotel-hostel with a fully equipped shared kitchen, much-loved staff 9.4/10 and unbeatable value for money.

- ✓ Shared equipped kitchen with cosy lounge
- ✓ 9.4/10 staff, self-service coffee/tea/biscuits
- ✓ Rooms or studios, private or shared bathroom

Free cancellation

From **55 €** / night

Check availability

💰 BUDGET OPTION

★ 8.1/10

Comfort Hotel Xpress Tromsø

📍 Grønnegata · Storgata 1 min walk away (9.4/10)

The new-generation budget concept: modern rooms in the city centre, self check-in on a tablet and a 24/7 shop in the lobby.

- ✓ Self check-in on tablet, late arrival OK
- ✓ 24/7 shop for breakfast and snacks
- ✓ Nordic Swan eco-certified, city or mountain view

Free cancellation

From **55 €** / night

Check availability

★ 7.7/10

Smarthotel Tromsø

📍 Vestregata · 200 m from Storgata (9.1/10)

The smart budget pick right in the centre: bright rooms with comfortable Dux beds, Chromecast TV and an "experience desk" for your Arctic excursions.

- ✓ Modern rooms with comfortable Dux beds
- ✓ Optional 17 € breakfast buffet ("excellent")
- ✓ Experience desk for excursion tickets

Free cancellation

From **69 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.1/10

First Hotel Viking

📍 Grønnegata · City centre facing the harbour (9.2/10)

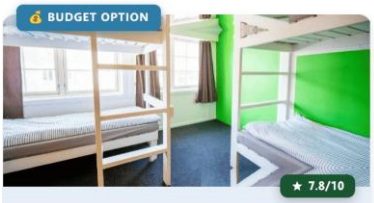
The cosy mini-budget, loved for its free waffles every day at 5 pm, its welcoming lounge and its heated floors in the rooms.

- ✓ Free waffles at 5 pm, self-service coffee/tea
- ✓ Heated floor in the room, pre-warmed bathroom
- ✓ Studios with equipped kitchen available

Free cancellation

From **75 €** / night

Check availability



💰 BUDGET OPTION

★ 7.8/10

Tromso Activities Hostel

📍 Storgata · Family-run wooden-house hostel (9.3/10)

The family-run youth hostel in the heart of Tromsø: a warm backpacker vibe in a traditional wooden house, with Burger the dog.

- ✓ Bed in a 5-person dorm from 35 €
- ✓ Shared kitchen + lounge, laundry on site
- ✓ Booking of aurora and fjord excursions

Free cancellation

From **35 €** / dorm bed

Check availability

★ 8.4/10

Ami Hotel

📍 Skolegata · Charming little hotel in the centre (9.2/10)

A charming little hotel popular with backpackers: nicely decorated rooms with city views, shared equipped kitchen and discounted northern-lights tours.

- ✓ Rooms with private or shared bathroom (35% + eco)
- ✓ Shared kitchen, free coffee/tea/chocolate 24/7
- ✓ Northern-lights tours with 15% discount

Free cancellation

From **70 €** / night

Check availability

★ TOP PICK

★ 8.5/10

Tromsø Lodge & Camping

📍 Tromsdalselva · Riverside, 5 min from the centre (8.7/10)

The top-pick address for the northern lights: Nordic riverside chalets with no light pollution, sauna, sledges and a "superb" breakfast.

- ✓ Cottages, explorer cabins and riverside lodges
- ✓ Sauna on site, sledges available at reception
- ✓ Ideal for watching the northern lights

Free cancellation

From **70 €** / budget cottage

Check availability

★ 8.3/10

First Hotel City Tromsø

📍 Grønnegata · Steps from Storgata (9.5/10)

The aparthotel right in the centre: every room with kitchenette or equipped kitchen, heated bathroom floor and on-site laundry for long stays.

- ✓ Rooms and apartments with equipped kitchen
- ✓ Heated bathroom floor, rooms 20-40 m²
- ✓ 9.5/10 location, 200 m from the cathedral

Free cancellation

From **80 €** / night

Check availability

APARTMENTS AND HOUSES

Skaret by VANDER

📍 Storgata · Pedestrian heart of Tromsø (9.6/10)

The brand-new aparthotel (Feb 2023) in the heart of Storgata, with elegant studios and apartments, gym and heated bathroom floors.

- ✓ 24-50 m² studios to 2-bedroom apartments with kitchen
- ✓ Free gym, lift, 24/7 security, laundry
- ✓ Pedestrian Storgata at the door, supermarket next door

✔ Free cancellation

From **100 €** / night

Check availability

The View - Tromsø City Center

📍 Vestregata · 4★ apartment in the centre (9.4/10)

The apartment perched on Vestregata with a private roof terrace facing the northern lights, equipped kitchen and mountain views from every room.

- ✓ 55 m², 2 bedrooms + living room, up to 5 people
- ✓ Private roof terrace, ideal for the northern lights
- ✓ Wi-Fi 10/10, cleanliness 8.8/10, soundproofing

✔ Free cancellation

From **132 €** / night

Check availability

TotalApartments Vervet Apartment Hotel

📍 Vervet · New historic-harbour district (9.6/10)

The design aparthotel in the new Vervet district, built on the old shipyards, with harbour-view balconies and a bakery downstairs.

- ✓ 45 m² apartments, balcony on harbour and old houses
- ✓ Air conditioning, equipped kitchen, soundproofing
- ✓ Bakery in the building, Wi-Fi 9/10

✔ Free cancellation

From **100 €** / night

Check availability

TotalApartments Vervet Gjøa

📍 Gjøastredet · Vervet, 200 m from Polar Museum (9.5/10)

The second TotalApartments building in Vervet, 200 m from the Polar Museum, with recent apartments and fully equipped kitchens.

- ✓ 42-77 m² apartments, 1 to 2 bedrooms with balcony
- ✓ Shared terrace, on-site parking, air conditioning
- ✓ Garden or courtyard view, walkable to the centre

✔ Free cancellation

From **120 €** / night

Check availability

Royal Skir apartment sea view

📍 Juldagan · Exceptional sea view (staff 10/10)

The exceptional 9.8/10 apartment with unobstructed views, a heated terrace and host Eurico taking great care of your shopping and aurora outings.

- ✓ 75 m² apartment, 2 bedrooms, panoramic sea view
- ✓ Heated terrace + private parking + airport shuttle
- ✓ Helpful host Eurico 10/10, quiet neighbourhood

✔ Free cancellation

From **220 €** / night

Check availability

Beautiful home with seaview

📍 Stakkevollvegen · Facing the fjord and the Arctic Cathedral (9.4/10)

The high-end 75 m² apartment facing the fjord, with Miele appliances and a balcony with furs for watching the northern lights.

- ✓ Fjord + Arctic Cathedral view, balcony with furs
- ✓ Miele appliances, pro coffee machine, washing machine
- ✓ Bus at the door to centre/airport, EuroSpar next door

✔ Free cancellation

From **140 €** / night

Check availability

Cozy little house in Tromsø city

📍 Godthåpvegen · Old little house with garden (Wi-Fi 10/10)

The cosy old 100 m² house on Godthåpvegen, with free parking, pets welcome and postcard views over the city and the fjord.

- ✓ Entire 100 m² house, 2 bedrooms, pre-warmed heating
- ✓ Free parking + pets allowed at no extra charge
- ✓ Fast bus or 30 min walk to centre, grocery at 5 min

✔ Free cancellation

From **107 €** / night

Check availability

Enter Tromsø - Exclusive Apartments

📍 Grønnegata · High-end First Hotels (location 9.0/10)

The First Hotels aparthotel in the heart of Grønnegata, with large 120-140 m² apartments, sauna, hot tub and a rooftop barbecue terrace.

- ✓ 120-140 m² apartments up to 4 bedrooms, sea view possible
- ✓ Hot tub, sauna, gym, private parking
- ✓ 24/7 reception, rooftop terrace with barbecue

✔ Free cancellation

From **350 €** / night

Check availability

STAYING OUTSIDE TROMSO

Ersfjordbotn Brygge

📍 Ersfjordbotn · Fjordside, 21 km from Tromsø (location 9.7/10)

The fjord-side aparthotel 21 km from Tromsø: northern lights from the very first night, a large 67 m² apartment and a peaceful waterfront setting.

- ✓ 67 m² apartment, 2 bedrooms, equipped kitchen and balcony
- ✓ Free parking + Wi-Fi, airport shuttle, pets allowed
- ✓ Bike and boat rental, northern-lights excursions

Free cancellation

From **275 €** / night

Check availability

Koppangen Brygger

📍 Koppangen · Lyngen Alps, fishing village (staff 9.6/10)

The "end of the world" lodge in the Lyngen Alps: a peaceful fishing village, chalets facing the fjord, helpful host Alf and saunas in the cottages.

- ✓ 48-96 m² cottages with equipped kitchen, sauna in the large ones
- ✓ Hot tub, barbecue, terrace with fjord and mountain views
- ✓ Skiing, fishing, hiking, Green Key sustainability certificate

Free cancellation

From **190 €** / night

Check availability

Yggdrasil Farmhotel Retreat, Spa & Yoga

📍 Straumsbukta · Kvaløya island, charming farm hotel (50 min)

The charming farm hotel on Kvaløya, with "fabulous" breakfast, spa & yoga, an organic restaurant and animals on site (horses, sheep, hens).

- ✓ 20 m² rooms/suites, sea view possible, cosy decor
- ✓ Organic Norwegian dishes, fabulous breakfast
- ✓ Hot tub, sauna, horses/sheep/rabbits on site

Free cancellation

From **140 €** / night

Check availability

Sommarøy Arctic Hotel Tromsø

📍 Sommarøy · Coastal village on the Atlantic (location 9.5/10)

The iconic seaside hotel on the Sommarøy archipelago, with private beach, free sauna and a jacuzzi facing the Atlantic, and a bus from Tromsø at the door.

- ✓ 18-20 m² rooms, 75 m² rorbus, 95 m² sea-view houses
- ✓ Free sauna + jacuzzi + private beach + polar plunge
- ✓ Renowned restaurant, superb breakfast, bus at the door

Free cancellation

From **180 €** / night

Check availability

Aurora Distillery Cabins

📍 Lyngseidet · Lyngen Alps, on the beachfront (location 9.4/10)

The northern-lights observatory in a glazed bay window on the Lyngen fjord: a cosy cabin facing the water, with dolphins and the Aurora Spirit distillery on site.

- ✓ 25 m² cabin with equipped kitchen, bathroom and terrace
- ✓ Glass bay on the fjord: auroras, dolphins and marine wildlife
- ✓ Aurora Spirit distillery on site, EV charging point

Free cancellation

From **200 €** / night

Check availability

Malangen Resort

📍 Mestervik · Malangen fjord, 1h from Tromsø (location 9.0/10)

The First Hotels resort on the Malangen fjord: waterfront cottages, Marmælen restaurant, Camp Nikka for auroras and an outdoor sauna.

- ✓ Rooms, 45 m² apartments, 65 m² cottages, 95 m² houses with fjord view
- ✓ Marmælen local-fish restaurant, Camp Nikka aurora camp
- ✓ Outdoor hot tub, sauna, gym, airport shuttle

Free cancellation

From **130 €** / night

Check availability

Kvaløya apartment by the sea

📍 Kvaløyvågen · Kvaløya, 33 km from Tromsø (cleanliness 10, comfort 10)

The 100 m² apartment run by Lill on Kvaløya: super-equipped kitchen, fireplace, terrace, auroras outside the window and reindeer stopping by.

- ✓ Entire 100 m² apartment, 2 bedrooms, fireplace, fast 59 Mb/s Wi-Fi
- ✓ Super-equipped kitchen + washer/dryer, sea-view terrace
- ✓ Host Lill's thoughtful care, auroras and reindeer outside the window

Free cancellation

From **220 €** / night

Check availability

Grøtfjord

📍 Grøtfjord · Kvaløya, private beach (location 10/10, rare!)

The rare 200 m² house facing the private beach at Grøtfjord: 4 bedrooms, fireplace, underfloor heating and the northern lights at the door.

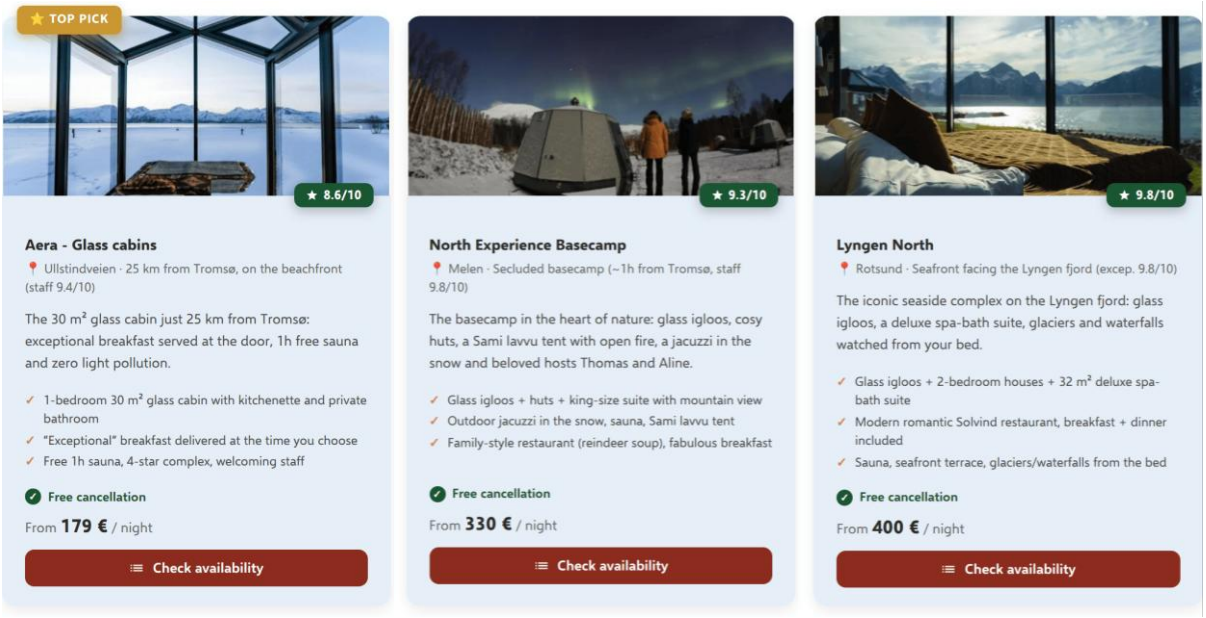
- ✓ Entire 200 m² house, 4 bedrooms, private beach + terrace
- ✓ Fireplace + underfloor heating, fully equipped kitchen
- ✓ Pets welcome for free, auroras at the door, reindeer around

Free cancellation

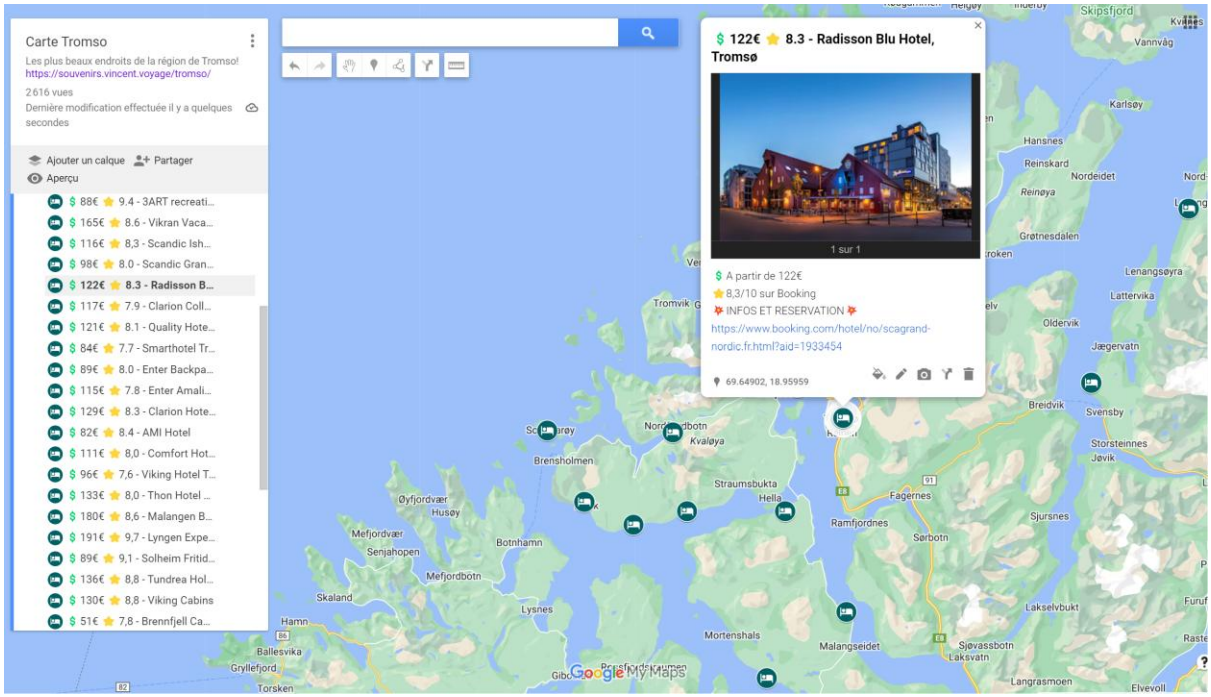
From **220 €** / night

Check availability

SLEEPING IN A GLASS IGLOO



Click here or on the map to see the accommodation selection



WHERE TO EAT / GRAB A DRINK / COFFEE

- Norwegian **restaurants** (therefore expensive)
  - Maskinverkstedet (my favorite, you need to book)
  - Smak AS
  - Mathallen
  - Full Steam
  - Bardus, very good, nice wine list (super expensive, obviously)
  - Emmasdrommekjokken

- Restaurants at almost **normal prices**
  - Pizzeria Casa Inferno (for a Norwegian pizza, it's pretty good)
  - Pastafabrikken (nothing fancy)

- Grab a **coffee** in a cozy spot
  - Smørtorget
  - Kaffebonna
  - Risø, the hot chocolate, wow! and a really good kannelbolle
  - Koseverden & Koselig cafe (our usual little café, especially for the desserts)
  - Svermeri Kafé og Redesign (good, but odd opening hours if I remember correctly)
  - Tøllefsenhjørnet

- To **eat cheap** (not easy!)
  - Cafés like Smørtorget serve Nordic open-faced sandwiches. At Koseverden they serve dishes from Eastern Europe that are good and not too expensive
  - The 7/11s and other convenience stores of that kind do hot dogs and cheap pizzas. Nothing fancy, sure, but cheap.
  - At the Extra in the city center, there's a grill counter where they make burgers and that sort of thing for cheap. At the end of the day, it all gets discounted to clear it out.
    - Almost all the Eurospar stores have a grill counter and go half price at the end of the day
  - Outside the city, gas stations have hot dogs
  - Some supermarkets have salad bars. I recommend Eurospar, sometimes €10 per kilo (double that at Extra)
  - Otherwise, supermarket sandwiches. But they're really not great.

HOW TO GET THERE AND GET AROUND

- Closest **train** station: Narvik (if you're coming from Stockholm) or Bodo (Norwegian network). You'll then need to take a bus.

- **Airport** closest to the city: Tromso Langnes (about 10 min from the center)
  - Coming from France or Belgium, you'll inevitably have a stopover (more if you're flying from a regional city, while we wait for direct flights to Oslo). Airlines:
    - Norwegian
    - Air France + Wideroe
    - FlySAS
    - Lufthansa
    - Finnair
    - You absolutely must COMPARE, and try shifting your dates by a day or two. One example of a comparison tool: Booking and its price predictions, which are reliable.

- Lots of options by **bus and boat** for both short and long trips. **Trip planner**:
  - https://svipper.no/
  - https://entur.no/

- Renting a **car**: look mainly at the airport, as the rental desks open late. They're all pretty much the same EXCEPT Thrifty. One to avoid. You need to pay attention to:
  - The number of km per day. They now cap it so they can charge you for extra kilometers
  - An automatic gearbox is a bit more comfortable and makes it easier to stay focused on the snow
  - Hybrids are often the same price, and given the price of fuel, that's not a bad deal
    - Electric cars are much cheaper, but watch out for the range in winter
  - For peer-to-peer car rentals: Getaround
  - You absolutely have to compare agencies, as prices vary for no reason. Use for example *Booking.com* (I like it, it works well, they absorbed Rental cars). Then check the agencies' own websites to see if prices are cheaper.
  - I compare (and made my latest bookings) on **Discover Cars**. Clear, no nasty surprises, and not particularly expensive.
    - *In the next article, I give you* all the information you need to rent a car in Tromso*. Which agencies, how much it costs…*

- Car rental with **GETAROUND**
  - Very reliable, with plenty of choice in Tromso
  - Sign up and get €15 off your first rental
  - Always plenty of choice, even at the last minute
  - Watch out for the mileage, which isn't unlimited

- The **parking lots** in Tromso are paid and expensive:
  - The underground parking garage is super convenient, about €20 a day

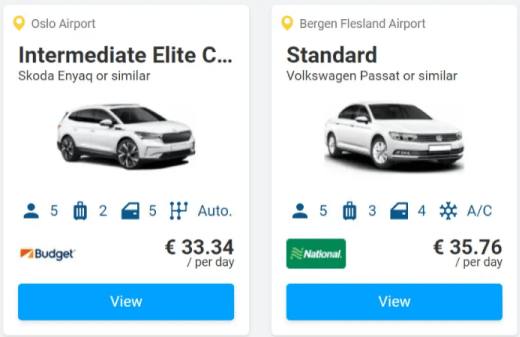
- Outdoor parking lots are easy to spot, and you pay with the app **Easypark**. Convenient.
- Possibly free parking in the south towards Telegrafbukta.
- Parking lots higher up on the island are cheaper
- Hotels in the center don't have parking
- Supermarket parking lots are free but with a time limit

PRACTICAL INFO

- Tourist office: Samuel Arnesens gate 5
- Bus from the airport to the city center: Flybussen, every 20 to 30 min, 125 NOK per trip
- Tromso Outdoor to **rent clothing** designed for extreme cold in Tromso
- **Luggage storage** in Tromso:
  - At the airport, but I've never actually seen it
  - At the shopping center Jekta
  - At the shopping center Nestranda, in the city center
  - 1st floor of the ferry terminal
- To **exchange money**: RIA agency (the exchange rate is really not good)
- **Payments**: everything is paid by card. You can withdraw cash at the 3 ATMs in the city center (bank-affiliated), but watch out for the ATM fees + your own bank's fees (it may charge for non-euro withdrawals as well as a markup on the exchange rate)
- **Second-hand** : there are second-hand shops in Tromso (clothes, tableware…) such as Remiks or Gjenbruken

CAR RENTAL IN NORWAY

Road-trip around Norway with *Discover Cars*



- Rent a car at many airports or in town
- Small model, **SUV** or electric for your adventure
- Prices from **€25**

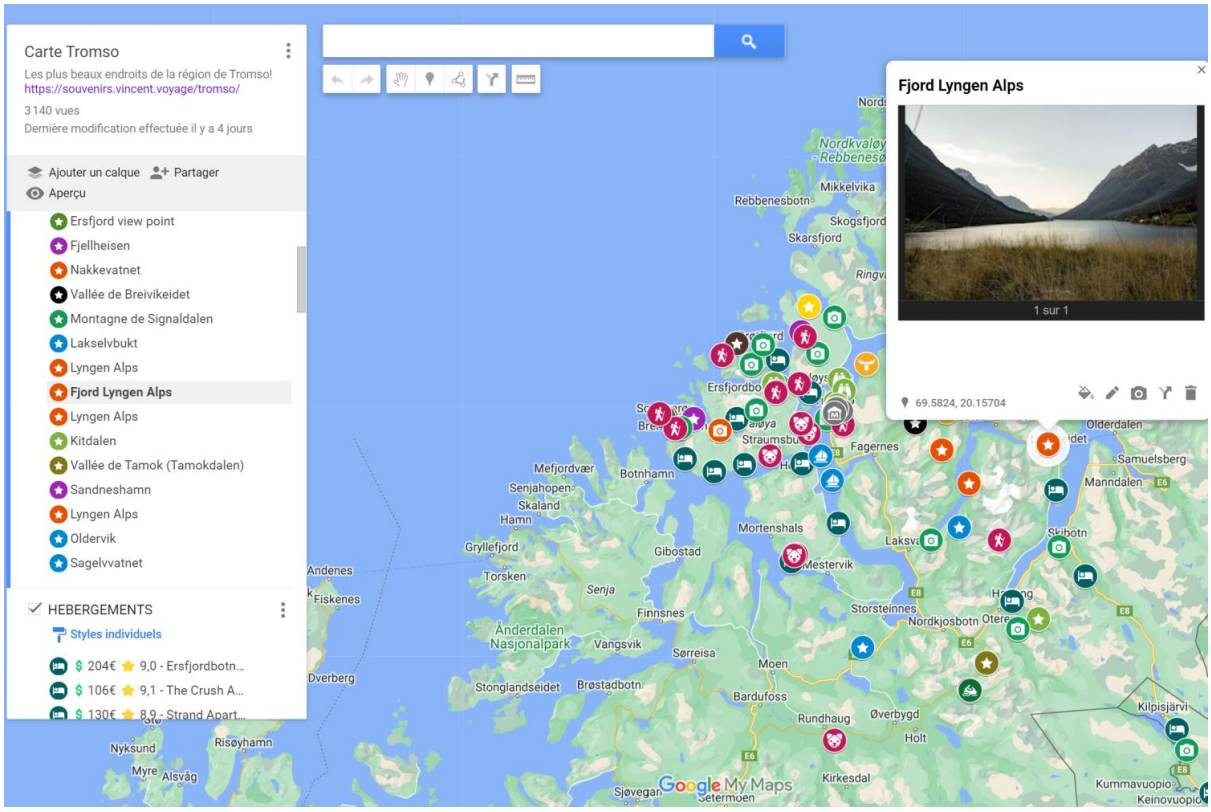
LEARN MORE

MAP OF TROMSO

I've put all this info together in a map of the Tromso area, which includes:

- The most beautiful spots
- The places to see the northern lights
- Activities like whales, dog sledding, northern lights… and the different agencies
- A few hikes
- Plenty of great places to stay, across all price ranges
- Restaurants, bars, cafés
- And all the practical info

You can access the map by clicking here



3 ITINERARIES IN TROMSO IN WINTER

Here I'll walk you through 3 itineraries to discover Tromso and its surroundings. Why 3, you ask? Because it depends on whether you want to do activities, whether you have a car, and whether you want to discover Senja. So here are 3 options. This is taken from my article "*The best itineraries in Tromso* "

ITINERARY 1: around Tromso with a car and activities

- **Tour** of Tromso, the polarmuseet, the Fjellheisen cable car for sunset. If the weather is nice, it's possible to see the northern lights from up there.
    - You can go see the northern lights *with a tour agency* on your first evening, to gather as much information as possible and then go see them on your own afterwards

- Exploring the island of **Kvaloya**:
    - Drive across Kvaloya to **Sommaroy**, explore the archipelago, and on the way back stop at the viewpoint over Skulsfjord just before the tunnel

- Go **dog sledding**
    - ***Discover the different dog sledding options here***
    - Top pick for dog sledding at **Breivikeidet** (*info and booking*)

- Head to the **Lyngen Alps** via Breivikeidet and take the ferry, with a quick stop at Nakkevatnet on the way, then drive back by road. If the weather is clear, Signaldalen is a good spot to see the northern lights on the way back

- Exploring the island of **Kvaloya**:
    - Take the road to **Tromvik**, passing through **Ersfjord** and **Grotfjord**. Continue on to Rekvik via Brosmetinden

- See the **whales and orcas** (if it's the season) / take a boat into the fjords / see the reindeer
    - The different options for whale watching
        - Top pick for the comfortable hybrid boat (info and booking)
    - Explore the fjords by boat
    - See the reindeer at a Sami farm near Tromso

- Drive to the mountains of **Signaldalen** via Laksvatn and Lakselvbukt

Recommended accommodation:

- Hotel in Tromso: Radisson Blu, Scandic Ishavshotel or Enter Backpack for a budget option
- Apartment in Tromso: Next to the church, handy apartment in Kvaloysletta, Skaret right in the city center , Meilbo which is practical and very well located
- Accommodation outside Tromso: Ersfjord Brygge, Malangen Resort

ITINERARY 2: Tromso without a car

Without a car in Tromso, there's one big advantage and one big drawback. There are agencies for absolutely everything, so you're not limited as long as you book early enough. But exploring the surroundings by public transport is very complicated if not impossible. That's because there's generally only one bus a day.

- **Tour** of Tromso, the **polarmuseet**, the **Fjellheisen** cable car for sunset. If the weather is nice, it's possible to see the northern lights from up there.
    - If the sky is overcast in Tromso, you can go see the northern lights *with a tour agency* on your first evening

- Go *dog sledding at Breivikeidet* for a superb view of the Lyngen Alps

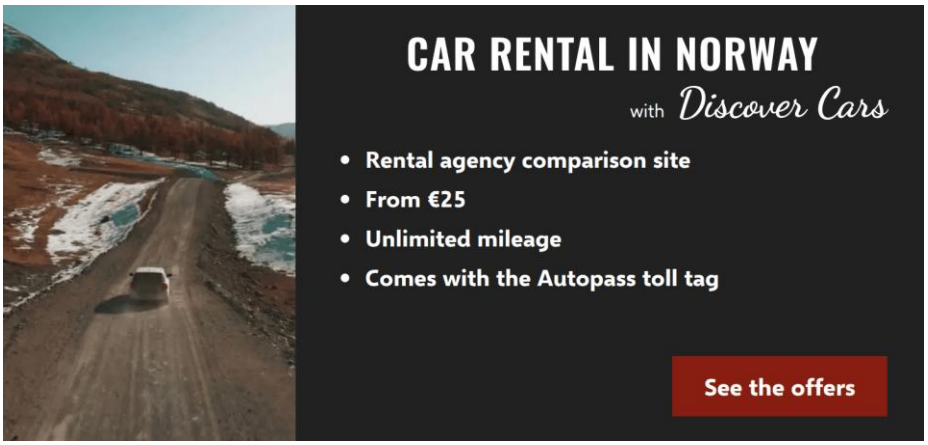
- Go to **Ersfjord** by bus, stop at the viewpoint up on the hill, then head down to the fjord. You can walk out to a small peninsula. Come back by bus, stopping along the fjord Kaldfjord, then head back to Tromso.

- Exploring the island of **Kvaloya** *with a tour agency*, depending on conditions, either the road to Sommaroy or the road to Tromvik via Grotfjord

- See the whales and orcas or go fishing on a traditional boat

- Go snowmobiling in the Lyngen Alps

- Where to **see the northern lights** in Tromso itself:
    - The beach at Telegrafbukta
    - The rooftop of the Clarion the Edge
    - At the top of Fjellheisen (cable car or on foot, but you'll need crampons)
    - Otherwise, here's *the list of good agencies*



L O F O T E N I S L A N D S

Full article here

LOFOTEN ISLANDS AT A GLANCE

The most beautiful villages to see

- Henningsvaer
- Reine, Hamnoy, Sakrisoy, A (all really close to each other)
- Nusfjord

3 Most beautiful beaches

- Kvalvika
- Uttakleiv (and its neighbors Vik and Haukland
- Unstad

3 Best activities

- *Cruise in the Trollfjord*
- *See the northern lights*
- *Go kayaking*

3 Favorite restaurants

- *Gammelbua - Reine*
- *Karoline – Nusfjord*
- *Anita's Seafood - Sakrisoy*

3 Best places to stay

- *Anker Brygge - Svolvaer*
- *Hattvika Lodge - Ballstad*
- *Rostad Rorbu - Hamnoy*

3 Cafés to unwind

- *Unstad Arctic Surf*
- *Henningsvær Lysstøperi*
- *Bakeriet På Å*

Rental car comparison sites

- *Discover Cars*
- *Booking.com*

Best time to visit

- Northern lights: from early September to late March
- For hiking: from late May to mid-October
- For snow activities: from December to March, but very hit-or-miss
- In July and August, it gets really crowded

How much time to explore the Lofoten Islands

- In 5 days you can see the essentials, but without hiking
- A week lets you really make the most of it, 10 days lets you fit in lots of hikes
- *In 2 weeks you can put together a fantastic itinerary across the whole north*

PLACES TO SEE

It's hard to pick the most beautiful spots in Lofoten. Truly, **everything is beautiful**. The south is exceptional.

- The **traditional villages** you simply can't miss (see the dedicated sections further down in this document):
    - Henningsvaer
    - Reine
    - A i Lofoten
    - Hamnoy & Sakrisoy
    - Nusfjord

- The **beaches** to see. Oh yes! Some of the most beautiful beaches in the world are right here in the Lofoten Islands! Light sand, turquoise water, surrounded by mountains, they are simply paradise
    - Unstad, the surfing beach, a beautiful setting and the best kanelbolle right next door
    - Uttakleiv, the most famous and the largest beach
    - Haukland and Vik, just before Uttakleiv
    - Skagsanden and Flagstad, also good for surfing and very pretty
    - Kvalvika but it takes a hike to get there
    - Eggum
    - Ramberg

- The **most beautiful spots**
    - The viewpoint of Gudinnegrava
    - Fredvang, then continue on the little road to the south west
    - Svolvaer
    - The island of Moskenesoya, exceptional
    - Flakstad
    - Valberg then Stamsund
    - But honestly, take any road, especially the small ones

A FEW HIKES

- Reinebringen : the most famous one, an insane view above the village of Reine
- Tjeldbergtind : a beautiful view above the town of Svolvaer
- Festvågtind : a superb view above the village of Henningsvaer
- Kvalvika : a lovely beach you can reach via 3 hiking trails (including Ryten)
- From Unstad to Eggum
- Mannen: a beautiful view above the beaches

ALL THE ACTIVITIES IN THE LOFOTEN ISLANDS

- Discover *all the activities in the Lofoten Islands* in this article!

See the northern lights with a guide

★ 4.8/5

Auroras with a pro photographer

📍 Svolvær · Lofoten Lights (4 h)

A 4-h minivan outing with a pro photographer to chase the auroras, learn how to capture them and leave with unforgettable shots.

- ✓ Small group (8 max) in a minivan
- ✓ Pro photographer + tripods provided
- ✓ Hot drinks + pickup included

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **130 €** / pers.

See the hunt

★ 4.4/5

Ultimate Aurora Hunt in Svolvær

📍 Svinøya Rorbuer · Lofoten Insight (4 h)

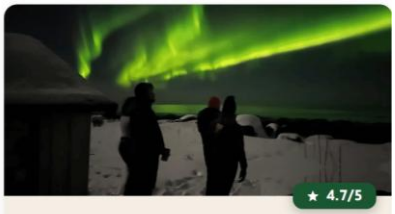
An aurora hunt led by an expert (best-selling author) and his photographer, with souvenir photos sent within 48 h and hot drinks.

- ✓ Small group (8 max)
- ✓ Pro photographer + best-selling expert
- ✓ Souvenir photos sent within 48 h

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **157 €** / pers.

See the hunt



★ 4.7/5

Aurora hunt by minibus

📍 Svolvær · Bravo Travelling (4 h 30)

A small-group aurora hunt in a heated minibus, with a multilingual guide who adapts the route to clear skies each evening.

- ✓ Small group (20 max) in a heated minibus
- ✓ Multilingual guide (Italian, Spanish, Romanian...)
- ✓ Hot drinks + pickup in Svolvær

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **160 €** / pers.

See the hunt

Discover the most beautiful spots in Lofoten on a guided tour

★ 4.8/5

2-day photo trip across the whole archipelago

📍 Svolvær · Lofoten Lights (2 days)

The complete 2-day excursion: one day on the south side (Reine, Hamnøy, Sakrisøy, Å) and one day on the north side (Haukland beach, Henningsvær, the Lofoten cathedral). Premium minivan format with hotel pickup.

- ✓ Day 1 south: Skagsanden, Hamnøy, Sakrisøy, Reine, Å
- ✓ Day 2 north: Haukland, Henningsvær, Gimsøy
- ✓ Small group of 8 max + pickup included

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **253 €** / pers.

See the excursion

★ 4.7/5

Reine, Hamnøy, Sakrisøy: the photographer's dream

📍 Svolvær · Lofoten Insight (7 h)

A day covering the most iconic villages of the archipelago from Svolvær. Pro photographer guide, stops chosen for the light and the weather, and a minibus format that adapts to your pace.

- ✓ Hamnøy + Reine + Sakrisøy + Ramberg beach
- ✓ Local professional photographer guide
- ✓ Minibus 8 people max + pickup included

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **137 €** / pers.

See the excursion

★ 4.8/5

Full day to the village of Å (9 h)

📍 Svolvær · Guide to Lofoten (9 h)

The full day out to Å with a small local agency: 9-seat minivan, individual headsets to hear the guide without crowding together, hot tea served en route and a meal stop at Anita's Seafood (famous for its fish soup).

- ✓ Å + Reine + Hamnøy + Sakrisøy by minivan
- ✓ Individual headset + hot tea + snack
- ✓ Anita's Seafood stop (lunch optional)

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **175 €** / pers.

See the excursion

Take a boat trip in the fjords or head out with a fisherman

★ 4.7/5

Fishing trip from Svolvær

📍 Svolvær · Go2Lofoten (4 h)

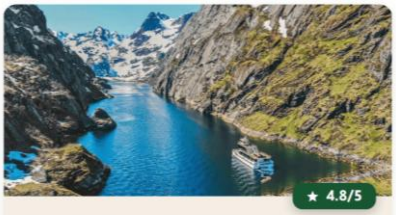
A family-friendly 4-h trip on a traditional fishing boat, teasing cod, pollock and haddock, then heading home with your fillets ready.

- ✓ A guest favourite (91 % top ratings)
- ✓ Fishing gear + rain clothing provided
- ✓ Fish gutted, filleted and packed to take away

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **97 €** / pers.

See the trip



★ 4.8/5

Silent cruise to the Trollfjord

📍 Svolvær → Trollfjord · Brim Explorer (3 h 30)

A silent crossing on a hybrid-electric catamaran to the majestic Trollfjord, with chances of spotting sea eagles, orcas or whales.

- ✓ Ultra-quiet hybrid-electric boat
- ✓ Cafeteria + heated lounges on board
- ✓ Wheelchair accessible

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **133 €** / pers.

See the cruise

★ 4.9/5

Sea eagle RIB safari to the Trollfjord

📍 Svolvær → Trollfjord · Go2Lofoten (2 h)

A RIB safari through the Raftsundet and the Trollfjord to get close to white-tailed eagles and discover Viking sites on the way.

- ✓ A guest favourite (91 % top ratings)
- ✓ Warm suits + helmets provided
- ✓ Sea eagles coming right up to the boat

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **107 €** / pers.

See the safari

Go kayaking in heavenly waters

★ 4.8/5

Kayak at Reinefjorden (Reine Paddling)

📍 Reine · Reine Paddling (3 h)

- ✓ Tandem paddling in Lofoten's most iconic scenery
- ✓ Close-up view of the red rorbuer from the water
- ✓ Small group of 10 max + local guide
- ✓ Spray skirt + life jacket included

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **128 €** / pers.

See the excursion

★ 4.9/5

Midnight-sun kayaking at Eggum

📍 Eggum · Northern Explorer (3 h)

- ✓ Paddle facing the sun touching the horizon
- ✓ Lofoten's west coast, open ocean
- ✓ Break on an island, hot drink + snack
- ✓ Dry suit provided in summer

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **91 €** / pers.

See the excursion

★ 4.9/5

Winter kayaking in Svolvær bay

📍 Svolvær · XXLofoten (2 h)

- ✓ Dry suit provided, keeps you nice and warm
- ✓ Hotel pickup + drop-off included
- ✓ Stable double kayaks, beginners OK
- ✓ Stories about Svolvær and local traditions

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **119 €** / pers.

See the excursion

Other activities to do in the Lofoten Islands

★ 4.8/5

Horseback ride at Hov

📍 Gimsøysand · Hov Gård (1 h 30)

A gentle ride on Icelandic horses from Hov farm, between an Arctic beach, traditional fish-drying racks and Viking-era remains.

- ✓ Trained Icelandic horses, beginners OK
- ✓ Hotel pickup included
- ✓ Helmet, gloves and boots provided

Free cancellation

From **136 €** / pers.

See the ride

★ 4.2/5

Magic Ice Bar in Svolvær

📍 Svolvær · Magic North (valid 1 day)

A -5 °C immersion in the world's first permanent ice gallery, with a poncho, gloves and a signature drink served in an ice glass.

- ✓ Winter poncho + gloves provided
- ✓ Signature drink in an ice glass
- ✓ Wheelchair accessible

Free cancellation

From **29 €** / pers.

See the ticket

★ 4.7/5

Whale & orca safari in Henningsvær

📍 Henningsvær · Arctic Adventure Tours (2 h 30)

A RIB safari between the islands and skerries of Henningsvær in search of Lofoten's orcas, pilot whales, sea eagles and seals.

- ✓ Immersion suit provided
- ✓ Orcas, pilot whales, sea eagles, seals
- ✓ Responsible approach to the wildlife

Free cancellation

From **134 €** / pers.

See the safari

Lofoten: guided hike with Philippe

★★★★★ **5/5 · Top rating** · 1 review · 5 h · small group (4 max)

An absolute rarity in Lofoten: a French mountain guide who takes you away from the tourist trails. Philippe adapts each hike to your level, the weather and the group's wishes — Nesland coastal hike, little-known trails, breathtaking viewpoints, Arctic flora and fauna.

- Certified mountain guide · 10 years' experience in Norway
- Small group 4 max · 5 h outing · departures from Svolvær & Leknes
- ⚠ Tour conducted in French · own vehicle required · bring a picnic and gear

Free cancellation

From ~~146 €~~ **131 €**

Check availability

Svolvær: snowshoe hike in Lofoten

★★★½ **4.7/5 · Highly rated** · 120 reviews · 3 h · ages 16+

A snowshoe outing in the hushed silence of Lofoten's unspoilt nature. The local guide knows the best photo viewpoints and the stories that make the archipelago magical — breathtaking winter landscapes guaranteed.

- Snowshoes, poles and thermal boots provided · hot drinks at the break
- Beginner-friendly · bilingual EN/NO guide
- Minibus transport from Svolvær included · ages 16+

Free cancellation

From **125 €**

Check availability

What **you cannot do** in the Lofoten Islands (due to the lack of flat ground and above all the lack of snow):

- Dog sledding, since Lila closed their agency
- Snowmobiling
- See reindeer at a farm run by the Sami, for that you need to *go to the Vesteralen*

WHERE TO STAY IN THE LOFOTEN ISLANDS

The best rorbuer in the Lofoten Islands

(find all the best places to stay in this article)

★ 8.8/10

Eliassen Rorbuer

Hamnøy · THE photo spot of the Lofoten

The most photographed red rorbuer in Norway — you've inevitably seen them before. Here you sleep INSIDE the postcard, with the peaks in the background and the fjord at your feet.

- ✓ The most photographed cabins in the Lofoten
- ✓ Direct view of the Hamnøy peaks
- ✓ Restaurant and sauna on site

From **180€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

★ 8.1/10

Henningsvaer Bryggehotell

Henningsvær · on the quays

In the heart of the "little Venice of the Lofoten". One of the prettiest spots in the whole archipelago, with its wooden pontoons and the view of the peaks.

- ✓ In the heart of superb Henningsvær
- ✓ Magical view of the harbour and peaks
- ✓ Restaurants and galleries on foot

From **140€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

★ 8.6/10

The Tide — Sørvågen

Sørvågen · between Reine and Å

A modern hotel-restaurant in a pretty, peaceful bay. A more contemporary option than the historic rorbuer, with a gourmet restaurant and views over the sea.

- ✓ Modern lodge with gourmet restaurant
- ✓ Sea view in a calm bay
- ✓ Ideal between Reine and Å

From **173€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

★ 8.5/10

Å Rorbuer & Brygga Restaurant

Å · at the end of the E10 road

At the far end of the Lofoten, where the road stops. Historic rorbuer on the harbour and the Brygga restaurant on site — the place to feel the authenticity of a museum-village.

- ✓ At the end of the road, in the village of Å
- ✓ Listed historic rorbuer
- ✓ Brygga restaurant on the quay

From **155€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

★ 9.3/10

Lofoten Cabins Kakern

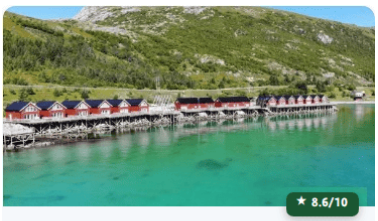
Ramberg · close to Skagsanden beach

Superb high-end rorbuer in Ramberg, just 5 minutes from the legendary beaches of Skagsanden and Flakstad. Excellent value for money in a truly exceptional setting.

- ✓ High-end rorbuer with sea views
- ✓ 5 min from the Ramberg beaches
- ✓ Excellent Booking score (9.3/10)

From **240€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability



★ 8.6/10

Lofoten Basecamp (Skreda)

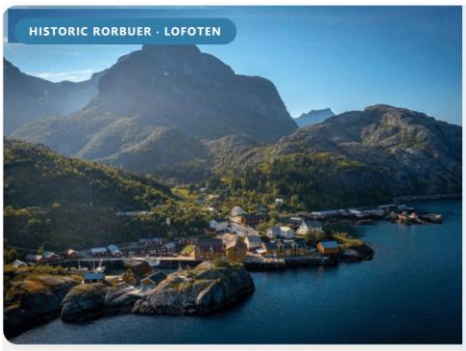
Leknes · modern suites

Modern rorbuer, very well located in Leknes. Comfortable suites with sauna and open views — perfect as a central base in the archipelago.

- ✓ Central position, ideal for exploring
- ✓ Modern suites with sauna
- ✓ Open view over the fjords

From **173€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability



Nusfjord Village & Resort, red rorbuer in one of Lofoten's oldest villages

★★★★ ½ **9.3/10 · Fabulous** · 653 reviews · comfort 9.6/10 · location 9.7/10

Nusfjord is one of Lofoten's oldest fishing villages — the red rorbuer on stilts are now rooms with flowery decor that feels like the real thing. Dine at Karoline, "worthy of a star" according to the reviews, then slip into the sauna-jacuzzi facing the sea. Out of time, as Game of Thrones would put it.

- Rorbu with wooden floors and lounge corner · harbour or village view · suites up to 6 people
- 2 more restaurants: Oriana (pizzas) + Landhandleriet (café: fish soup, waffles)
- Guided kayaking, fishing, walks · airport shuttle (Leknes 27 km) · free Wi-Fi and parking

Free cancellation

From **250 €**

Check availability

★ 9.1/10

Hattvika Lodge

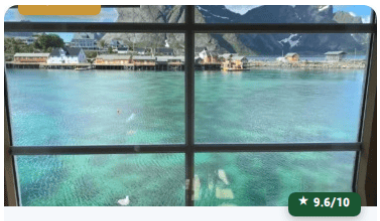
Ballstad · the best rorbu of all

The ultimate luxury rorbu of the Lofoten. Designer cabins on the seafront, a gourmet restaurant and guided activities on offer (kayaking, fishing, hiking).

- ✓ The most stylish rorbu in the Lofoten
- ✓ Gourmet restaurant and activities
- ✓ Designer cabins right on the water

From **300€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability



★ 9.6/10

Rostad Retro Rorbuer

Hamnøy · on the harbour

Rorbuer renovated in a warm retro spirit, with an exceptional Booking score (9.4/10). Characterful cabins, an authentic vibe and a reasonable price for Hamnøy.

- ✓ Exceptional Booking score (9.4/10)
- ✓ Warm retro decoration
- ✓ On the harbour at Hamnøy

From **173€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

★ 8.9/10

Anker Brygge

Svolvaer centre · right on the harbour

Magnificent red rorbuer on the edge of Svolvaer harbour, looking down over the boats and the peaks. Equipped kitchen in every cabin — ideal for cooking your own meals.

- ✓ Very beautiful rorbuer facing the harbour
- ✓ Equipped kitchens in every cabin
- ✓ 2 minutes' walk from the town centre

From **188€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

A few budget-friendly places to stay in the Lofoten Islands

★ 8.4/10

Scandic Svolvaer

Svolvaer centre · facing the main square

The best-located hotel in Svolvaer, right in the centre, steps from the harbour and all the restaurants. A safe bet from the Scandic chain, simple and efficient, perfect for 1 or 2 nights.

- ✓ Superbly located, right in the centre
- ✓ Comfortable standard rooms
- ✓ Restaurants & supermarket 2 min on foot

From **109€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

★ 8.6/10

Fast Hotel Svolvaer

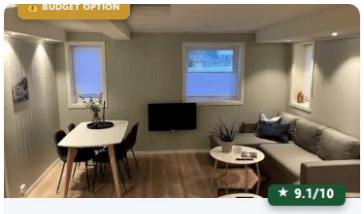
Svolvaer · close to the centre

A cheap option for spending a night or two in Svolvaer without breaking the bank. Comfort is basic but decent, and the price is unbeatable for the area — handy for a quick stopover.

- ✓ Fine for 1 or 2 nights
- ✓ The cheapest option in town
- ✓ Well placed for an early start

From **90€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability



★ 9.1/10

Lofoten New Apartment

Leknes · 5 min from the airport, central location

The cheapest family option. A brand-new, bright apartment for up to 5 people, right next to Leknes airport — an ideal central base for exploring the whole archipelago without breaking the bank.

- ✓ Up to 5 people, fitted kitchen
- ✓ Central location, 5 min from the airport
- ✓ Excellent value for money (9.1/10)

From **95€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

Staying in Ballstad, a central and really lovely spot

Cabin with Spectacular View

Ballstad · cabin with panoramic sea view

One of the wildest scores in the whole Ballstad area: 9.7/10 on Booking. A 3-bedroom cabin with a terrace offering a breathtaking sea view — the ultimate value-for-view deal.

- ✓ Near-perfect Booking score (9.7/10)
- ✓ Panoramic sea view from the terrace
- ✓ 3 bedrooms, up to 6 people

From **220€** / night — **Free cancellation**

Check availability

Hattvika Lodge

Ballstad · on the harbour, mountain views

The very best rorbu in Ballstad, and probably one of the most stylish in the archipelago. Designer cabins by the sea, a gourmet restaurant on site and guided experiences (fishing, kayaking, hikes).

- ✓ Ballstad's "best of the best" rorbu
- ✓ Gourmet restaurant and guided activities
- ✓ Designer cabins right on the water

From **300€** / night — **Free cancellation**

Check availability

Hemmingodden Lodge

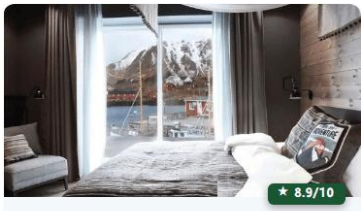
Ballstad · on a peninsula open to the sea

A magical view, wide open to the sea, where you can admire the midnight sunsets in summer and the auroras in winter. Tastefully renovated rorbuer, slightly out of the way, perfect for switching off.

- ✓ A breathtaking view
- ✓ Ideal for auroras and the midnight sun
- ✓ Renovated cabins in a quiet spot

From **140€** / night — **Free cancellation**

Check availability



Solsiden Brygge

Ballstad · right on the water

Right on the water! Typical red-wood rorbuer directly above the fjord, with a private terrace. Perfect for fishing from your cabin and watching the seabirds.

- ✓ Cabins right at the water's edge
- ✓ Private terrace above the fjord
- ✓ Fishing straight from the rorbu

From **145€** / night — **Free cancellation**

Check availability

Kræmmervika Rorbuer

Ballstad · fishing harbour

Cheap rorbuer! The ideal option for living the fisherman's-cabin experience without blowing the budget. Authentic atmosphere, right on Ballstad harbour.

- ✓ Affordable rorbuer, authentic vibe
- ✓ On Ballstad harbour
- ✓ Good base for exploring the archipelago

From **66€** / night — **Free cancellation**

Check availability

Kræmmervikveien 33

Ballstad · entire house near the harbour

A large house for 7 people — perfect for big families or a group of friends. All the equipment you need to cook, rest and enjoy the stay together.

- ✓ Entire house for up to 7 people
- ✓ Fitted kitchen, several bedrooms
- ✓ Close to the harbour and nature

From **269€** / night — **Free cancellation**

Check availability

WHERE TO EAT

- Gammelbua, a Norwegian restaurant in Reine (the best in my opinion, not cheap)
- Tapperiet, Norwegian cuisine in Reine
- Anita's Seafood, an amazing setting, in Sakrisoy
- Gadus, in Hamnoy
- Karoline, in Nusfjord
- Digg, in Leknes
- Unstad Arctic Surf (especially for their kannelbole that are to die for)
- Fiskekrogen, in Henningsvaer
- Balloon Burger in Svolvaer
- Bacalao, in Svolvaer
- Kjokkenet in Svolvaer

Gammelbua in Reine

HOW TO GET THERE AND GET AROUND

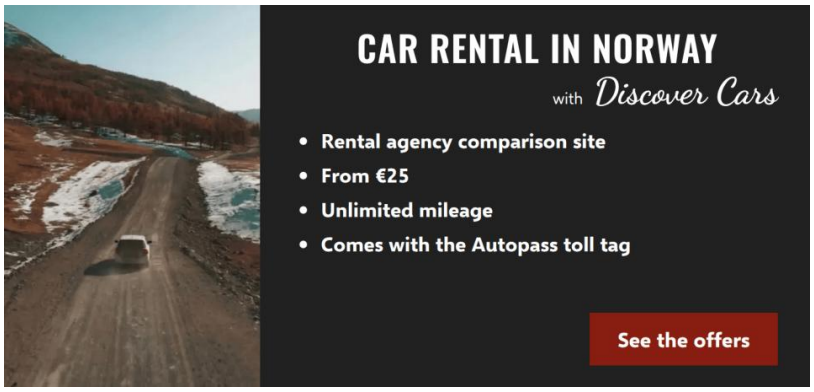
- In the following article I share *all the ways to get to Lofoten*
- Closest **train** station: Narvik (coming from Stockholm) or Bodo (Norwegian network), then take the ferry to Moskenes

- **Airport** closest to the islands:
  - Evenes (Harstad/Narvik), located 3 h from Svolvaer
  - Bodo, then take the ferry to Moskenes
  - Leknes and Svolvaer : you can only get there from Bodo
  - Coming from France or Belgium, there is always at least one stopover (more if you're coming from outside Paris, while waiting for direct flights to Oslo). Airlines flying to Evenes and Bodo:
    - Norwegian
    - Wideroe (the only airline flying to Leknes and Svolvaer)
    - FlySAS
    - You absolutely must COMPARE, and try shifting your dates by a day. Example of a comparison site: Kayak. Reliable.

- Plenty of options by **bus**. **Journey planner** :
  - https://www.reisnordland.no/
    - App to buy tickets
  - https://entur.no/

- For the **ferry** Bodo – Moskenes :
  - https://www.torghatten.no/en/our-routes/18-782

- Renting a **car** :
  - There are car rental agencies in
    - Moskenes
    - Leknes
    - Svolvaer city center
    - Svolvaer airport
    - The airport of Evenes
  - You absolutely must COMPARE prices and reviews.



SVOLVAER

Svolvaer is the main town in the north of Lofoten. And it's a very pretty little town, really pleasant since it's surrounded by mountains, with its archipelago and a lovely harbor.

Staying in Svolvaer for your Lofoten trip is a good idea if you have several bases. Because Svolvaer is far from the sights in the south. So what can work really well is to spend a few days in the south, like in Reine or Ballstad, and a few days in Svolvaer.

But in any case, Svolvaer is well worth a little visit!

How to get to Svolvaer

- **Ferry** :
  - there is a *ferry* between *Svolvaer and Skutvik* (from June 1st to August 30) and it takes cars
  - there is also the Hurtigruten which stops in Svolvaer
  - or you can take the *ferry between Bodo and Moskenes*, and then drive for 2 h 15

- **Plane** :
  - there is a small airport in Svolvaer, served by Wideroe. There is always a stop in Bodo, usually coming from Oslo
  - otherwise there is the Harstad/Narvik airport (also called Evenes), which is a 3 h drive away and has direct flights
  - or the Leknes airport, but it's small too

- **Car** :
  - It's a 7 h drive coming from Tromso
  - 3 h 30 from Andenes (north of the Vesteralen)
  - More than 5 h from Finnsnes in Senja
  - 2 h from Reine

- **Bus** :
  - Bus 300 crosses the whole of Lofoten, from Narvik to A i Lofoten, twice a day
  - You should check *Entur.no* or *Reisnordland.no* — two super efficient journey planners — to get timetables and connections
  - The routes are:
    - Narvik – Svolvaer : 3 h 50
    - Tromso – Svolvaer : 7 h 20 (take the 100 then the 300)

Renting a car in Svolvaer

Do you need to rent a car to visit Svolvaer and the surrounding area?

Svolvaer is in itself a very small town. So it's not necessary. Even to reach the closest surroundings like Kabelvag, you can do it by bus.

However to go further afield, to explore around the town, having a car is important. Not essential since there is a bus network (we'll get to that), but important for flexibility.

You'll find the main car rental agencies, both in town and at the airport (that is, 5 minutes out of town): Hertz, Avis, Budget, Sixt.

However, you really need to book in advance because there isn't a huge amount of supply and prices can skyrocket. Roughly, a “normal” price in Svolvaer is around €50 a day. But if you book late, it can climb to €100.

To rent a car:

- You have to compare
- And compare the comparison sites! They have different deals
- I use *Discover Cars* and *Bookingcom*

What to see in Svolvaer

Svolvaer is a really pleasant little town, with the mountains on one side and the sea on the other. It's an excellent base, but in the town itself there isn't a huge amount to see. That said:

- The harbor, really pleasant
- The island of Skrova with its turquoise waters
- The little peninsula behind the Svinoya Rorbuer, and walking all the way to Moloen i Svolvaer, for the view
- The center of Kabelvag with its wooden houses
- The lighthouse viewpoint at Kabelvag
- The LofotAkvariet, a fun experience
- The Djevelporten hike for a view over the whole town
- The *Magic Icebar*, way nicer than the one in Tromso

Things to do in Svolvaer

Svolvaer is the starting point for lots of great activities:

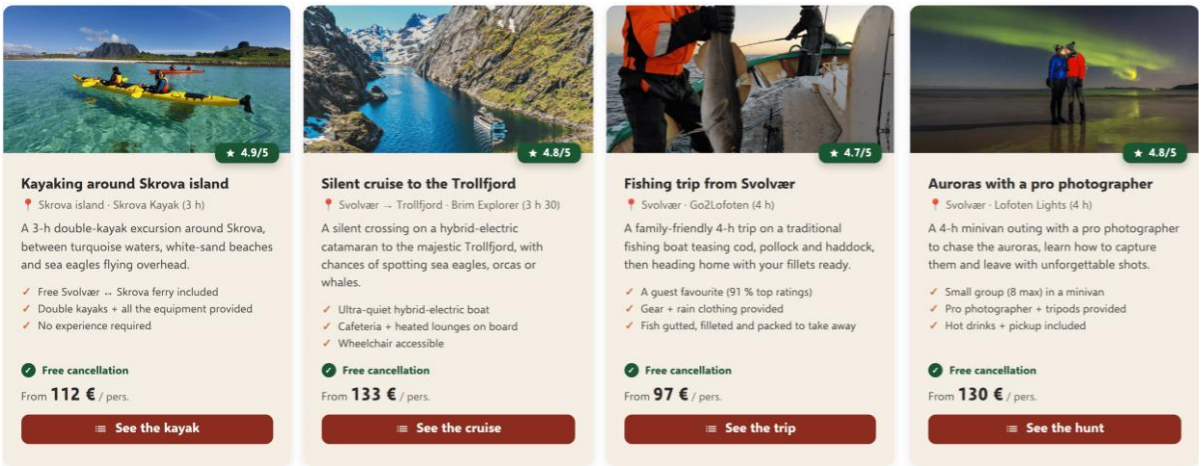
- **Go kayaking** around the island of Skrova
  - *Info and booking*

- **See the northern lights**
  - Here's a *list of the different spots*
  - And if you want a guide, *here's a recommendation*

- **See the Trollfjord** by boat, the narrowest fjord in the country
  - See it on a *silent electric boat*
  - Or on a *RIB boat*

- Go on a **snowshoe walk** in the heights above Svolvaer
  - *Info and booking*

- **Go fishing** on a fishing boat
  - *Info and booking*



Where to stay in Svolvaer

Svolvaer is a good base for exploring the north of the Lofoten. It's a bit far for the south, so you can split your stay between two places, one in Svolvaer, the other in Reine, Ballstad or Leknes for example.

Here's a list of quality accommodations, some cheap ones, some rorbuer, some apartments. It's in Svolvaer that you get the most choice, quite simply!

Lofoten Rorbuer Svolvaer

Svolvaer · a few minutes from the centre

A highly rated, affordable rorbuer option for Svolvaer. Simple but comfortable cabins, perfect for discovering the fishermen's traditional way of life without breaking the bank.

- ✓ Very practical and affordable
- ✓ Excellent Booking score (8.9/10)
- ✓ Typical cabins with kitchenette

From **110€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

Svinøya Rorbuer

Svinøya, Svolvaer · on its own island linked by a bridge

Svolvaer's historic rorbuer, on a small unspoilt island 5 minutes' walk from the centre. Red-wood fishermen's cabins with harbour views and a gourmet restaurant on site.

- ✓ Lovely setting on the islet of Svinøya
- ✓ Authentic red-wood rorbuer
- ✓ Børsen restaurant on site, centre 5 min away

From **120€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

Anker Brygge

Svolvaer centre · right on the harbour

Magnificent red rorbuer on the edge of Svolvaer harbour, looking down over the boats and the peaks. Equipped kitchen in every cabin — ideal for cooking your own meals.

- ✓ Very beautiful rorbuer facing the harbour
- ✓ Equipped kitchens in every cabin
- ✓ 2 minutes' walk from the town centre

From **188€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

Fast Hotel Svolvaer

Svolvaer · close to the centre

A cheap option for spending a night or two in Svolvaer without breaking the bank. Comfort is basic but decent, and the price is unbeatable for the area — handy for a quick stopover.

- ✓ Fine for 1 or 2 nights
- ✓ The cheapest option in town
- ✓ Well placed for an early start

From **90€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

Thon Hotel Lofoten

Svolvaer centre · marina views

A modern hotel in the very heart of Svolvaer, with its famous breakfast buffet — one of the best in the archipelago. Comfortable rooms, some with panoramic fjord views.

- ✓ The best breakfast in Svolvaer
- ✓ Right in the centre, next to the harbour
- ✓ Modern rooms with fjord views (if available)

From **125€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

Scandic Svolvaer

Svolvaer centre · facing the main square

The best-located hotel in Svolvaer, right in the centre, steps from the harbour and all the restaurants. A safe bet from the Scandic chain, simple and efficient, perfect for 1 or 2 nights.

- ✓ Superbly located, right in the centre
- ✓ Comfortable standard rooms
- ✓ Restaurants & supermarket 2 min on foot

From **109€** / night — Free cancellation

Check availability

Sentral og Hyggelig Bolig

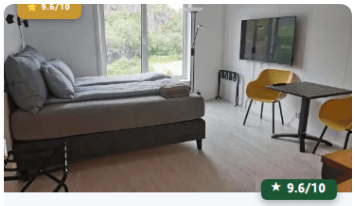
Svolvaer centre · walking distance from the harbour

A big central apartment, cosy and well equipped, perfect for a family or a group of friends. Several bedrooms, a spacious living room, a full kitchen and every shop within walking distance.

- ✓ Big and cosy, several bedrooms
- ✓ In the heart of Svolvaer
- ✓ Fitted kitchen, ideal for families

From **175€** / night Free cancellation

Check availability



Lofoten Studio Apartment

Vestermyrveien, Svolvaer · quiet residential area

A modern, bright studio a few minutes from the centre of Svolvaer, ideal for a couple. Fitted kitchen, contemporary décor — excellent value for money with a near-perfect Booking score.

- ✓ Modern and practical, stylish décor
- ✓ Fitted kitchen, washing machine
- ✓ Quiet, 10 min from the centre by car

From **120€** / night Free cancellation

Check availability

Nordis Apartments, 4★ apartments with balcony in the heart of Svolvær (Lofoten)

★★★★ ½ **8.8/10 · Superb** · 462 reviews · location 9.7/10

The rare perk here: you sleep right in the centre of Svolvær — restaurants, boats and harbour 100 m away — but in a real apartment with its own kitchen, living room and balcony. Guests come back above all for the double harbour / snowy-mountains view from the picture windows, and for the unexpected calm despite the central location. Ideal for a family or a group that wants a Lofoten base without hotel timetables.

- ✓ 2- or 3-bedroom apartments (up to 6+ pers.) · balcony in all · fitted kitchen
- ✓ Heart of Svolvær · restaurants 100 m away · Svolvær airport 5 km
- ✓ Nordis restaurant on site (European cuisine) · free Wi-Fi · pets allowed

✓ Free cancellation

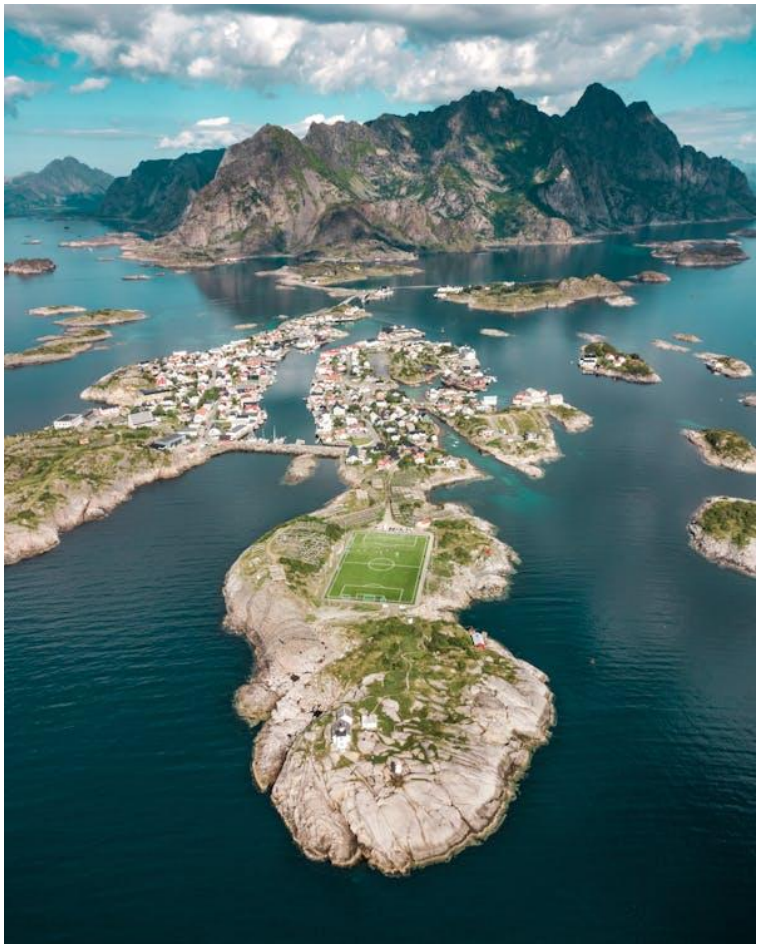
From **260 €**

Check availability

DISCOVER ALL THE PLACES TO STAY IN SVOLVAER

HENNINGSVAER

Henningsvaer is a really pleasant fishing village close to Svolvaer. It's less typically Norwegian than Reine or A for example, but it's still worth a quick visit because it's really nice and pretty, especially its little harbor with stunning mountains as a backdrop. For sunset, it's fantastic.



How to get to Henningsvaer

- By **car** :
  - 35 min from Svolvaer
  - 1 h from Leknes
  - Stop off on the way at the little beach of Rorvikstranda
  - Heads up, there's a parking lot at the entrance to the village of Henninsvaer, and it's paid

- By **bus** :
  - From Svolvaer : bus 743, which runs 5 times a day
  - From Leknes: you need to catch the 743 at Rorvik, via the 300 or the 741

- With an **agency**
  - If you're in Svolvaer, you can go with a guide who tours the main points of interest in the area, obviously including Henningsvaer

What to do in Henninsvaer

There isn't necessarily a lot to see in the village, which is very pleasant. It's mainly **the harbor** and also the famous **football pitch**. If you have a drone, it's the perfect playground!

The road to get there is really nice too. If you want to **hike** there's the Nipen which offers a great view over the archipelago

Henningsvaer is growing, with more and more **little cafés** that are super cool, like the Lysstøperiet

In the gallery, you'll find a **collection of paintings** by painters from northern Norway, mostly of local landscapes.

Beyond that, there are quite a few options for boat trips straight out of Henningsvaer.

Where to stay in Henningsvaer

Staying in Henningsvaer is far from a bad idea, because the setting is lovely. It's quieter than Svolvaer

★ 8.8/10

Henningsvær Rorbuer

📍 Henningsvær · Traditional rorbuer right on the water

Red Norwegian fishermen's cabins directly on stilts, with wood-fired sauna and jacuzzi on the quays and a French-speaking owner.

- ✓ 25 to 50 m² rorbuer with kitchen and private terrace
- ✓ Sauna and wood-fired hot tub on the quays
- ✓ Some cottages with sea view and fireplace

✔ Free cancellation

From **180 €** / night

Check availability

TOP PICK

★ 9.2/10

Henningsvær Guesthouse

📍 Dreyersgate · Right in the heart of the village (9.7/10)

The village's top-pick address: a beautiful family-run yellow building in the best location, with a hearty breakfast and attentive service.

- ✓ 9.7/10 location, 5 m from the harbour cafés
- ✓ Very highly rated continental breakfast (9.0/10)
- ✓ Free parking behind the guesthouse

✔ Free cancellation

From **180 €** / night

Check availability

TREAT YOURSELF

★ 9.2/10

Henningsvær Bryggehotell

📍 Misværveien · 5-star Classic Norway Hotels hotel

The brand-new 5-star boutique hotel opened in 2024 facing the harbour, with soundproofed design rooms and the Vind Brasserie restaurant on site.

- ✓ Design rooms and suites from 24 to 67 m²
- ✓ Vind Brasserie restaurant and bar on site
- ✓ Sea, harbour or mountain view suites by category

✔ Free cancellation

From **200 €** / night

Check availability

BUDGET OPTION

★ 8.0/10

Skata Hotel Henningsvær

📍 Sauøya · Recently restored 4★ seafront hotel

The smart budget option: a tastefully restored 4-star hotel, lounge with fireplace by the sea and a "fabulous" 9.1/10 breakfast.

- ✓ Compact 15 m² rooms, sea view possible
- ✓ Fireplace lounge with views over the islands
- ✓ Free parking and a warm welcome from the owner

✔ Free cancellation

From **120 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.5/10

Villa Bryggekanten — by Classic Norway

📍 Misværveien · Intimate waterside boutique (9.6/10)

The intimate boutique hotel on the island of Heimøya, cosy rooms in a beautiful building right in the centre of the fishing village.

- ✓ 9.6/10 location right in the heart of the village
- ✓ 14 m² rooms with sea or mountain view possible
- ✓ Bar and breakfast very highly rated on site

✔ Free cancellation

From **170 €** / night

Check availability

TOP PICK

★ 9.0/10

Trevarefabrikken

📍 Dreyers gate · Converted wood factory, chill/boho vibe

The most stylish address in the village: a former wood factory converted into a design guesthouse with sauna, café and a laid-back seafront restaurant.

- ✓ Unique design in a rehabilitated 1900s factory
- ✓ Sauna, café and pizza restaurant on site
- ✓ Very comfortable 22 m² rooms and lofts up to 40 m²

✔ Free cancellation

From **180 €** / night

Check availability

NUSFJORD

Nusfjord, (yet another!) pretty village in the heart of the Lofoten. And this one is truly tiny. It was renovated not long ago and now feels a lot like one big museum. Each shelter has been turned into a period scene explaining daily life and fishing, with tools from the era.

It's interesting — the village entrance now has a fee (100 NOK). It helps pay for the upkeep of the village and the historic areas.

There's also the mini harbor, which is really pretty, shaped like a horseshoe. And with lots of yellow buildings. Honestly, it's really lovely!

You can also stroll a bit further out to the lighthouse.

And while I'm at it, the road to the village is really beautiful!

How to get to Nusfjord

- By **car** it's very simple. 30 minutes from Leknes, 1 h 30 from Svolvaer and 50 minutes from Reine. There's a parking lot just before the village entrance.
- By **bus**, easy: there isn't one.
- With an **agency**, Nusfjord is included in tours that visit the most beautiful spots in the Lofoten
    - *Info and booking*

What to see in Nusfjord

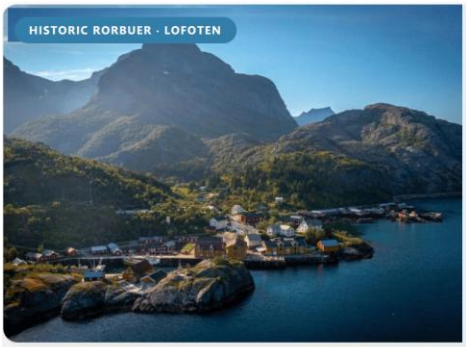
As I was saying, the village is tiny. You could even say it's more of a historic village than a living one. So here's what you must see:

- The various buildings recreating the fishermen's way of life
- The harbor, tiny but really pretty
- Including the view from up by the elevated machinery
- The red houses just before the village entrance
- And you can walk to the lighthouse a bit further on, passing the building about whaling

Where to stay in Nusfjord

Nusfjord can be an interesting option for the night. The setting is unreal, with a little end-of-the-world feel. And on top of that, the accommodations here are absolutely lovely, but pricey. You're paying for the setting and the seclusion, something you really won't find everywhere.

Can you stay in Nusfjord for a whole trip? Well, you're not very far from everything, so if you want peace and quiet and a quality hotel, I'd say why not!



Nusfjord Village & Resort, red rorbuer in one of Lofoten's oldest villages

★★★★ ½ **9.3/10 · Fabulous** · 653 reviews · comfort 9.6/10 · location 9.7/10

Nusfjord is one of Lofoten's oldest fishing villages — the red rorbuer on stilts are now rooms with flowery decor that feels like the real thing. Dine at Karoline, "worthy of a star" according to the reviews, then slip into the sauna-jacuzzi facing the sea. Out of time, as Game of Thrones would put it.

- Rorbu with wooden floors and lounge corner · harbour or village view · suites up to 6 people
- 2 more restaurants: Oriana (pizzas) + Landhandleriet (café: fish soup, waffles)
- Guided kayaking, fishing, walks · airport shuttle (Leknes 27 km) · free Wi-Fi and parking

Free cancellation

From **250 €**

Check availability

Lofoten Cottages by Nusfjord, authentic rorbuer in the best-preserved village

★★★★ ½ **9.0/10 · Fabulous** · 1,035 reviews · location 9.6/10 · staff 9.4/10

Fishermen's rorbuer set right at the water's edge in Nusfjord, one of Norway's best-preserved villages. Every cabin is unique — from the rustic Heritage ones (WC 100 m away, no kitchen) to the modern 60 m² Superior Cabins. 3 restaurants on site plus fishing/kayaking.

- 30 m² cabins (2 pers.) to 60 m² Superior Cabin (4 pers.) · private kitchen + bathroom (except Heritage)
- Nusfjord village (sheltered fjord) · Leknes airport 27 km
- 3 restaurants (Karoline, Oriana pizzas, Landhandleriet) · fishing/kayaking/hiking · free parking

Free cancellation

From **170 €** / night

Check availability

HAMNOY AND SAKRISOY

Two teeny villages separated by just a bridge. Okay, a super photogenic bridge from which you take the iconic photo of Hamnoy, but it's what takes you from Hamnoy, the fishing village with red houses, to Sakrisoy which instead has yellow houses.

These two villages are super photogenic because behind their houses and rorbuer, you have really beautiful mountains rising up. So it's ideal for gorgeous photos, especially when the northern lights show up (if the weather cooperates of course, and that's… far from guaranteed!)

What to see in Hamnoy

Obviously, **the bridge**. Because it's quite simply THE most famous view in the Lofoten.

But also go for a wander around the cottages of Eliassen Rorbuer, as they're pretty red houses and you can take some lovely photos

Also, stop just before at the little harbor, which is really nice

What to see in Sakrisoy

It's even smaller than Hamnoy ! There's the famous yellow house facing the mountains — everyone stops there, and rightly so. Right next to it is also a good spot for the northern lights.

You can head to the other side, onto the little island with all the yellow houses; there's normally a nice view from Olenilsøya kystfort.

And you can also go for a meal or a coffee at Anita Seafood, the salmon there is delicious!

How to get to Hamnoy and Sakrisoy

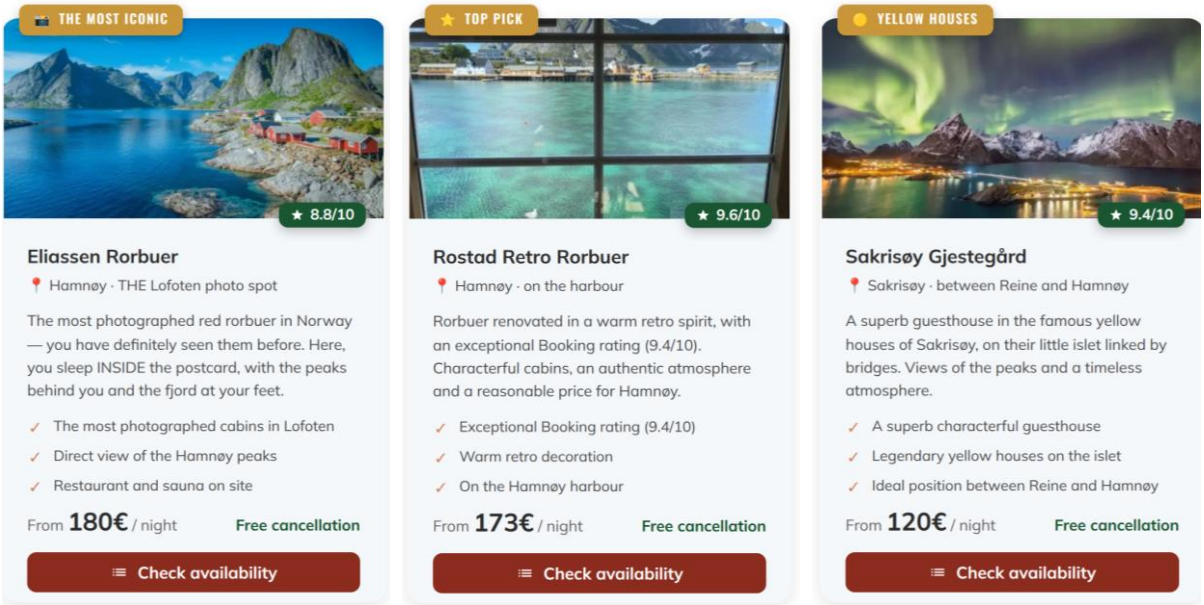
- By car it's super simple: it's on the main road, 1 h from Leknes. You're 10 minutes from Reine.
- By bus, you need to take bus 742 (it runs 4/5 times a day) or the 300 (once a day)

Where to stay in Hamnoy and Sakrisoy

And here it's great. There are plenty of superb accommodations, with rorbuer pretty much everywhere, and good-quality ones. Naturally, with this location, the views are insane.

It's also very handy for exploring the southern part of the Lofoten, since you're not far from the beaches, Leknes, Ramberg… so yes, you can easily explore from here

You can click directly on the little cards to access the accommodations and make your bookings



DISCOVER ALL THE PLACES TO STAY AROUND HAMNOY AND SAKRISOY

REINE

THE ultimate postcard village.

Why? Because it has everything it takes to win you over:

- Insane views before you even reach the village
- The incredible view from the bridge
- Ultra photogenic red houses
- And a really good restaurant, yes yes

And what's cool is that it's beautiful in every season. In summer with the turquoise waters, in autumn with the colors, and in winter with the snow

- It's very simple, it's on the main road. 1 h 15 from Leknes, 15 from A i Lofoten.
    - There's a free parking lot on the bridge; otherwise it's by Tapperiet and the gas station but that one is paid (and yes, they do check)
- By bus, it's the 742 (or the 300) from Leknes or A, otherwise from Svolvaer take the 741 to Leknes then the 742

What to see in Reine

It's pretty simple, there are amazing viewpoints everywhere! In particular

- Before entering Reine, by the Valen cabins
- The bridge facing the mountains at the entrance to Reine
- The harbor, with all the little red houses

You can also do the famous **Reinebringen** hike, which gives you a magical view over the archipelago. Be careful though, don't go up in winter because (for starters, it's forbidden) you can end up stuck up there because of the ice and snow, and every year they have to rescue tourists by helicopter.

I recommend **having dinner at Reine Rorbuer**, it's excellent, but you'd better book ahead. The Tapperiet is decent but has dropped a bit in quality, I find.

Where to stay in Reine

Reine is a very good base. I've already stayed there quite a while to explore the south, and honestly, it works really well. And the setting, wow, wow, wow !

★ 9.3/10

Sakrisøy Gjestegård — Manor House anno 1880

📍 Sakrisøy · Historic 5th-generation family manor

The charm of a 5th-generation guesthouse in an 1880 manor, on the little yellow island of Sakrisøy between Reine and Hamnøy, with sea and mountain views.

- ✓ Listed historic manor on the island of Sakrisøy
- ✓ Sea / mountain views from almost every room
- ✓ Anitas Sjømat & Underhuset restaurants at 100 m

✓ Free cancellation

From **140 €** / night

Check availability

★ TOP PICK

★ 9.5/10

May's Apartments

📍 Reine centre · 10 min walk from the Reinebringen trailhead

The top-pick address for Reine: 6 ultra-clean design apartments with a direct view of the Reinebringen, 300 m from the restaurants and the postcard view.

- ✓ New, bright 26 m² studios or 55 m² duplexes
- ✓ Reinebringen view from the balcony
- ✓ Separate laundry + welcome booklet by May

✓ Free cancellation

From **200 €** / night

Check availability

TREAT YOURSELF

★ 9.2/10

Anitas Waterfront Cabins

📍 Reine · Moskenesveien, fishermen's cabins on the fjord

The cocoon rorbu facing the turquoise sea: authentic fishermen's cabins tastefully restored, with a south-facing glazed lounge and a private terrace right on the water.

- ✓ 44 m² cabin, 2 bedrooms, fitted kitchen
- ✓ Direct Reinefjord view from the lounge
- ✓ Anitas Sjømat restaurant 200 m away (local fish)

✓ Free cancellation

From **330 €** / night

Check availability

CRAZY VIEW

★ 9.4/10

Reinefjorden Sjøhus

📍 Hamnøy · plunging view over the Reinefjord

What a view! Traditional houses on stilts with an unbeatable view of the Reinefjord and the iconic peaks. Among the most beautiful views in the whole archipelago.

- ✓ Unbeatable view of the Reinefjord
- ✓ Traditional houses on stilts
- ✓ Excellent Booking rating (9.3/10)

From **176€** / night Free cancellation

Check availability

FOR 6 PEOPLE

★ 9.1/10

Vestervålen Utleie

📍 Reine · 130 m² house

A large 130 m² house in Reine, for up to 6 people — the ideal option for groups or families. Very well equipped and excellently rated on Booking (9.4/10).

- ✓ 130 m² for up to 6 people
- ✓ In Reine, close to the viewpoints
- ✓ Excellent Booking rating (9.4/10)

From **120€** / night Free cancellation

Check availability

BUDGET OPTION

★ 7.7/10

Reine Backpackers Paradise

📍 Reine · social hostel

A budget option in the heart of Reine, perfect for solo travellers or small budgets. A friendly youth-hostel atmosphere, in an exceptional setting.

- ✓ A budget option in Reine
- ✓ Friendly vibe, travellers from everywhere
- ✓ In the heart of the village

From **75€** / night Free cancellation

Check availability

Å i LOFOTEN

Å is the village at the end of the world. Truly. Because it's the very end of the road that runs across the Lofoten islands. And you find yourself in an authentic fishing village, still very much active, with a whole bunch of red houses on stilts.

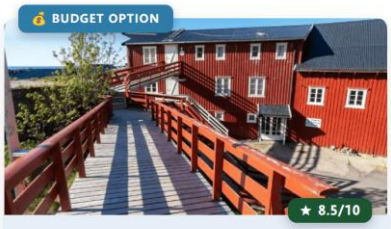
It's really lovely, and even though it's become quite touristy, honestly you're not tripping over other visitors.

There are a few walks to do in the area, notably around the lake, if there's no snow (otherwise it's a bit of a slog), and the viewpoint at the tip of the peninsula. But basically, in Å you're mostly there to soak up the setting.

There's also a small fishing museum, but I haven't visited it yet, so I can't tell you more.

On the other hand, there's a bakery that is, apparently, incredible: Bakeriet på Å

Sure, you're at the very end of the road here. But honestly, who wouldn't love to sleep in a setting like this, in these little houses? *Just click on the cards to access them* !



Lofoten Å Hostel

📍 Å · Above the stockfish museum, right on the water

The best value for money in Lofoten: a rorbu-hostel with separate men's/women's dorms or double rooms, a fitted kitchen and views of the northern lights.

- ✓ Double rooms or separate 4-bed M/F dorms
- ✓ Very well equipped shared kitchen
- ✓ Harbour and seagull views from your room

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **100 €** / night

Check availability

Å-Hamna Rorbuer

📍 Å · Feet in the water, heart of the museum-village

The quintessential Lofoten experience: sleeping in a red fisherman's cabin with your feet in the water in the heart of the village of Å, with the sun rising over the sea through the window.

- ✓ Renovated historic rorbuer with sea/mountain views
- ✓ Fitted kitchen and private terrace
- ✓ Stockfish Museum on site, bakery 50 m away

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **130 €** / night

Check availability

Å Hotell — by Classic Norway Hotels

📍 Å · On the quay of the historic fishing village

The Brygga hotel-restaurant on the village quay: rooms overlooking the small harbour, a dining room with bay windows and "the best dinner in Lofoten" according to travellers.

- ✓ Rooms with or without private bathroom
- ✓ Brygga restaurant (seafood and local cuisine)
- ✓ Listed historic Classic Norway Hotels building

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **130 €** / night

Check availability

The Tide - Rorbuer, red cottages around Sørvågen harbour

★★★★ ½ 8.6/10 · Superb · 828 reviews · location 9.2/10 · comfort 9.0/10

Traditional red rorbuer set directly on Sørvågen's fishing harbour, between Reine and the legendary village of Å — the very end of Lofoten. Private terrace over the water, snowy mountain views, grocery store 100 m away and an ideal spot for watching the northern lights.

- ✔ 30 m² cottages (2 pers.) to 100 m² (8 pers.) + 300 m² Deluxe Suite · pets allowed · family-friendly
- ✔ Sørvågen (the end of Lofoten) · Leknes airport 61 km · grocery store 100 m
- ✔ Restaurant on site + Havet Bar 50 m · northern lights · free parking

✔ Free cancellation

From **200 €** / night

Check availability

Kayaking among the Eggum islands

📍 Eggum · Northern Explorer (3 h)

Guided double-kayak trip among the turquoise islets of Eggum, with a snack break and hot drinks on a small desert island.

- ✓ A traveller favourite (92% top ratings)
- ✓ Small group (10 max), no experience required
- ✓ Double kayaks + equipment + snack included

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **€71** / pers.

See the tour

Silent cruise to the Trollfjord

📍 Svolvær → Trollfjord · Brim Explorer (3 h 30)

Cruise on a silent hybrid-electric boat to the majestic Trollfjord, watching for white-tailed eagles and the Lofoten's wildlife.

- ✓ Ultra-quiet hybrid-electric boat
- ✓ Cafeteria + heated lounges on board
- ✓ Wheelchair accessible

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **€133** / pers.

See the cruise

Fishing trip from Svolvær

📍 Svolvær · Go2Lofoten (4 h)

4-hour trip on a fishing boat with a local crew to catch cod, pollock and haddock, and head home with your fillets ready.

- ✓ A traveller favourite (91% top ratings)
- ✓ Fishing gear + rain clothing provided
- ✓ Fish gutted, filleted and packed to take away

✔ **Free cancellation**

From **€97** / pers.

See the trip

S E N J A

Full article here

SENJA AT A GLANCE

Most beautiful villages to see

- Husoy, the true fishing village
- Gryllefjord, the village at the end of the world
- Fjordgard for its setting

4 Best viewpoints

- Sifjord, the descent after the tunnel
- The viewing platform at Bergsbotn
- Tungeneset and the Devil's Teeth
- The bridge at Gryllefjord

3 best activities

- *Hiking*
- *Kayaking*
-

3 best restaurants

- *Hamn i Senja*
- *Senja Fjordhotell*
- *Mefjord Brygge*

3 best places to stay

- *Mefjord Brygge*
- *Hamn i Senja - Hamn*
- *Kaikanten - Gryllefjord*

3 cafés to relax

- *Ha! Coffee here mostly means the mini-markets*
- *Or at the hotels (Hamn, Mefjord brygge, Senja Fjordhotell…)*

Car rental comparison sites

- *Discover Cars*
- *Booking.com*

Best time to visit

- Northern lights: early September to late March
- Hiking: early June to early October
- Summer is fantastic and not too crowded

How long to stay in Senja

- 2 full days for a very quick overview: 1 day in the northern fjords, 1 in the west
- 3–4 days to take your time and enjoy the island
- *A week to relax and make the most of the hikes*

MUST-SEE PLACES

Exploring Senja is easy, as there are only 3 or 4 roads. So take your time driving them, and head to the western part where there is absolutely no one

- The **villages**, worth it mostly for their setting
    - Gryllefjord
        - Walk to the head of the fjord and, outside winter, climb above the tunnel
        - The road to Torsken
    - Mefjordvaer
    - Fjordguard
    - Husoy

The view from the bridge at Gryllefjord

- The heavenly waters of **Hamn** i Senja
- The view from the platform at **Bergsbotn**

- **Bovaer** and its beach
- The viewpoint at **Tungeneset** overlooking the Devil's Teeth

- **Ersford**
- **Sifjord**, the most beautiful view on the island
- The road to **Flakstad**
- The road to **Rodsand**
- The **Anderdalen park**

The view over Sifjord

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ACTIVITIES

Senja is a **very undeveloped** island, and that's what makes it charming. There are no tour operators, or almost none (Senja Wild in Skaland) — the hotels are the ones offering activities such as boat trips, snowshoe outings…

- Seeing the **northern lights**
  - Senja is a wonderful place to see the northern lights, as there is no light pollution
  - General article about the northern lights
  - Where to see the northern lights in Senja
    - Tungeneset, Bergsbotn, the beaches, Skaland…
  - There are no tour operators; the hotels (Hamn, Mefjord brygge…) offer outings in general.
  - Senja Wild offers activities under the northern lights (snowshoeing, kayaking…)

- Going **dog sledding**
  - With Senja Husky Adventure, in Vangsvik

- Seeing the **reindeer**
  - There is no reindeer farm in Senja. However, you can spot them quite easily in the center of the island and in the Anderdalen park, in the south near Tranoy. There are of course also **moose** — you may come across them at night.

- Going **hiking**
  - In Senja there are hikes everywhere, and they are insane. The best known are Hesten and **Segla** starting from Fjaerland, the most iconic ones. **Husfjellet**, starting from Skaland, is magical too. The views are fantastic, as you tower above the mountains. And it can be done summer and winter alike, thanks to snowshoes — but be extremely careful with ice!

- Going **snowshoeing**
  - All the hotels on the island rent out (sometimes lend) snowshoes. Some offer guided outings (Hamn, Mefjordbrygge). You could also rent at Intersport, in Finnsnes.

- Seeing **whales** and going out by **boat**
  - No dedicated operator here. Hamn i Senja and Mefjordbrygge have boats and offer boat trips. There have been no whales around Senja for a few years now, so there is no dedicated whale tour anymore.

- **Kayak rental and lessons**
  - At Senja Wild in Skaland, among others, you can rent, take lessons, get your wetcard, or join a kayak tour of several hours… here are two examples below. Kayaking here is truly something exceptional: the water is crystal clear, the beaches are magnificent, and you are surrounded by mountains

WHERE TO STAY

My 6 favorite hotels in Senja

Along with the ones that are very good, and the lowest-priced ones, which I find are also excellent opportunities. That said, in Senja there isn't a huge amount of choice. And that's also why we love it.

★ 8.2/10

Hamn i Senja

📍 Hamn · small isolated archipelago, north coast

My all-time top pick: a complex set on its own islet, crystal-clear water and no one around. An exceptional setting, ideal for the northern lights.

- ✓ Heavenly setting on a small isolated archipelago
- ✓ Rooms, cabins and apartments with sea view
- ✓ Restaurant, sauna and hot tub on site

✓ Free cancellation

From **140€** / night

Check availability

★ 8.8/10

Mefjord Brygge

📍 Mefjordvær · in the heart of a small fishing port

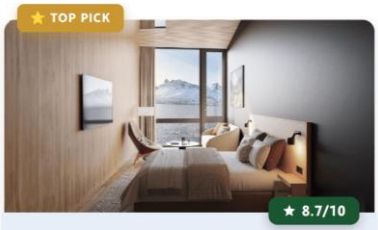
Excellent value for money and an adorable team. From the small room to the large cabin with sauna, in a very well located central village.

- ✓ Sauna, spa and in-house brasserie on site
- ✓ From the cosy room to the family apartment
- ✓ Hikes accessible on foot from the village

✓ Free cancellation

From **130€** / night

Check availability



★ TOP PICK

★ 8.7/10

Storm Hotel Senja

📍 Husøy · on a tiny island fishing village

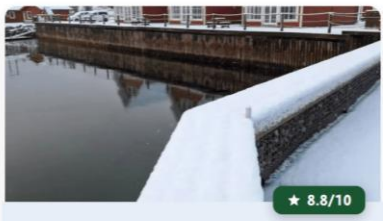
Brand new and completely atypical: set on the island of Husøy, one of Senja's most spectacular villages. The first reviews are excellent.

- ✓ Unique location on the island-village of Husøy
- ✓ Recent, designer and comfortable hotel
- ✓ Excellent guest reviews (8.7/10)

✓ Free cancellation

From **170 €** / night

Check availability



★ 8.8/10

Senja Fjordhotell

📍 Stonglandseidet · south-west, by the water

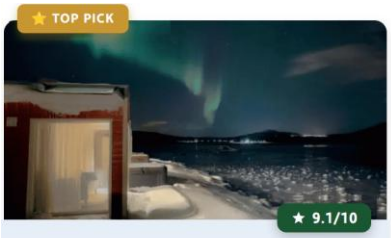
In the south-west of the island, where there is no one around. Small rooms, but above all lovely bungalows and fishermen's cabins by the water, Hamn-style.

- ✓ Bungalows and fishermen's cabins by the water
- ✓ Secluded, wild corner in the south of Senja
- ✓ Quite a few activities offered on site

✓ Free cancellation

From **145€** / night

Check availability



★ TOP PICK

★ 9.1/10

Norwegian Wild

📍 Vangsvik · cabins facing the national park

Traditional cabins by the fjord near the Ånderdalen park. The best value for money in Senja.

- ✓ Red cabins with sea view and traditional sauna
- ✓ Aurora chalets with optional private jacuzzi
- ✓ 8 km from Ånderdalen national park

✓ Free cancellation

From **60 €** / night

Check availability

💰 BUDGET OPTION

★ 8.5/10

Skoghus

📍 Silsand · nature guesthouse, private beach

Welcoming guesthouse in the south of Senja with a private beach, 2 equipped shared kitchens and a large lounge with wood stove.

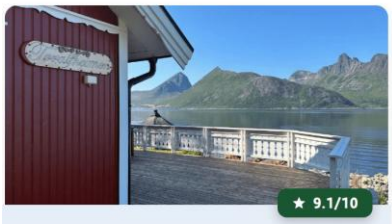
- ✓ Private beach and large garden in the middle of nature
- ✓ 2 equipped shared kitchens + wood-stove lounge
- ✓ Dogs welcome at no extra charge

✓ Free cancellation

From **80 €** / night

Check availability

3 family houses to rent in Senja



★ 9.1/10

Cozy house by the sea

📍 Tofta · house facing Husøy (10 people)

Red house at the water's edge facing the fishing village of Husøy. Ideal for groups of 10, with 5 bedrooms.

- ✓ 5 bedrooms for 10 people, huge terrace
- ✓ Direct view of Senja's peaks and the fjord
- ✓ Waterfall next door and northern lights from the terrace

Free cancellation

From **150 €** / night

Check availability

TOP PICK

★ 9.6/10

Wilderness Villa

📍 Silsand · log chalet facing the lake

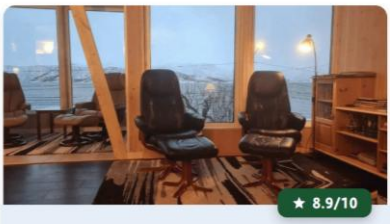
Log chalet deep in the forest, facing a lake full of fish. Welcoming Finnish-Italian couple, fireplace and cosy décor.

- ✓ 4 bedrooms, 85 m² with fireplace and warm décor
- ✓ Private rowing boat on the lake + fishing (permit required)
- ✓ 10 min from Ånderdalen national park

Free cancellation

From **160 €** / night

Check availability



★ 8.9/10

Senja Skaland

📍 Melkarhola · house with picture window on the fjord

90 m² house with a huge picture window over the fjord. Sauna on site, and seals visible from the windows.

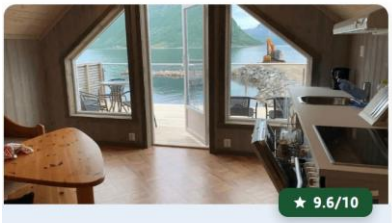
- ✓ 3 bedrooms, 90 m² with armchairs facing the fjord
- ✓ Private sauna and wood stoves in every room
- ✓ 10 min walk from the centre of Skåland

Free cancellation

From **170 €** / night

Check availability

3 cabins or apartments to rent



★ 9.6/10

Rorbu på Kaldfarnes - Yttersia Senja

📍 Kaldfarnes · rorbu with a large picture window

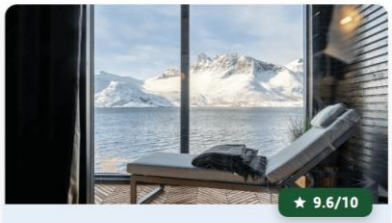
Fjord-side rorbu with a huge picture window over the Kvænan. Large terrace, and snowshoes on loan.

- ✓ Huge picture window over the Bergsfjorden
- ✓ Full kitchenette (oven, washing machine, dishwasher)
- ✓ Spacious terrace and snowshoes on loan

Free cancellation

From **160 €** / night

Check availability



★ 9.6/10

Skipperhuset 2, Kristian Isaksen suite

📍 Tofta · architect suite on the island of Husøy

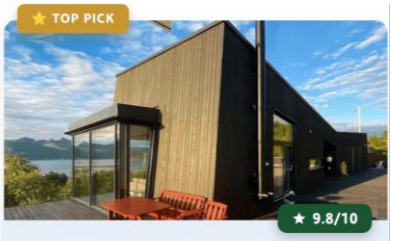
65 m² suite with splendid décor on the small fishermen's island of Husøy. Terrace facing the fjord for the northern lights.

- ✓ 2 air-conditioned bedrooms, 65 m², architect décor
- ✓ On the fishermen's island of Husøy, "at the end of the world"
- ✓ Heated terrace facing the fjord for the northern lights

Free cancellation

From **300 €** / night

Check availability



TOP PICK

★ 9.8/10

Senjavista

📍 Skaland · architect cabin overlooking the fjord

115 m² architect cabin overlooking the fjord at Skaland. Panoramic picture windows for spectacular northern lights.

- ✓ 4 bedrooms, 115 m² with XXL picture windows
- ✓ 10/10 rating for facilities, location and staff
- ✓ Northern lights and fjord in cinemascope from the living room

Free cancellation

From **400 €** / night

Check availability

FIND YOUR DREAM STAY IN SENJA!

WHERE TO EAT

- The restaurant at Hamn i Senja, very good but booking is essential
- The restaurant at Mefjordbrygge, very good
- The restaurant at Skagi — I haven't tried it yet
- A grill in Gryllefjord open until 9 pm (a luxury here!). Greasy, but it does the job
- The restaurant at Senja Fjordhotell — tried it this autumn, really good. Book ahead so they can plan (photo below)
- Nothing exciting in Finnsnes. But there's an Asian restaurant, a Burger King, a cafeteria…

MAP OF SENJA

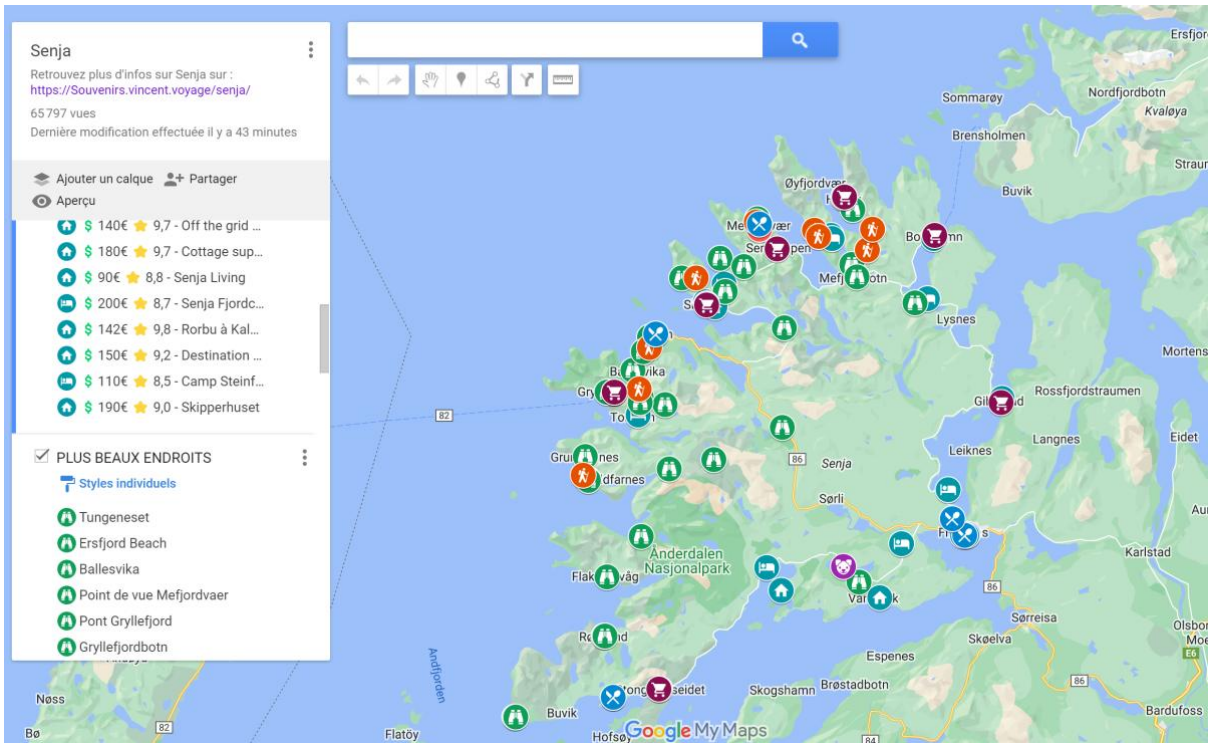
I've created a Google Maps map with all the info listed here, the essential info for your stay, so as to have everything gathered in one place.

You'll find:

- Accommodation with photo, price and rating
- The most beautiful spots with photo
- The hikes
- Restaurants and cafés
- The mini-markets (the supermarkets are in Silsand and Finnsnes)
- Activities such as dog sledding and kayaking

Once you're on the map, it works with layers. First, you can click on any item to get the details. Then you can toggle the layers on/off on the left. Super handy!

[You can access the map by clicking here]



HOW TO GET THERE AND AROUND

- Closest **train** station (well, the least far one): Narvik (coming from Stockholm) or Bodo (Norwegian network)

- **Closest airport**:
  - Tromso, a 3-hour drive away, the most convenient
  - Bardufoss, 1 hour to the south
    - You absolutely must COMPARE, and try shifting your dates by a day. Example of comparison site: Kayak. Reliable.

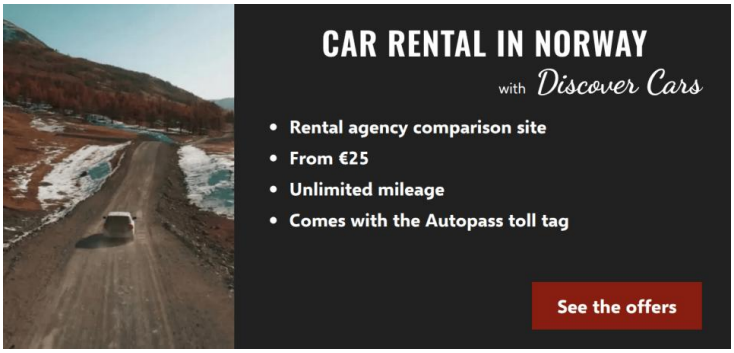
- Very few options by **bus**. All the villages are connected to Silsand and Finnsnes, but not to each other. And there is only one bus per day. **Journey planner**:
  - https://entur.no/

- Ferry from Tromso: Brensholmen - Botnhamn:
  - *Everything you need to know about this ferry*
  - All year round
  - Timetable
  - Fares approx.: €10 per person, €27 per car

- Ferry from Andenes – Gryllefjord
  - Between May and September
  - Timetable
  - Fares

- Car **rental**:
  - Because buses are so infrequent, a car remains almost essential to explore Senja. It's possible without one, but complicated — or you just need to be patient
  - There are car rentals in
    - Finnsnes
    - Bardufoss (the least far)
    - *But I recommend renting in Tromso*

- Car rental with **GETAROUND**
  - Very reliable, with some choice in Bardufoss, otherwise Tromso
  - Sign up and get €15 off your first rental

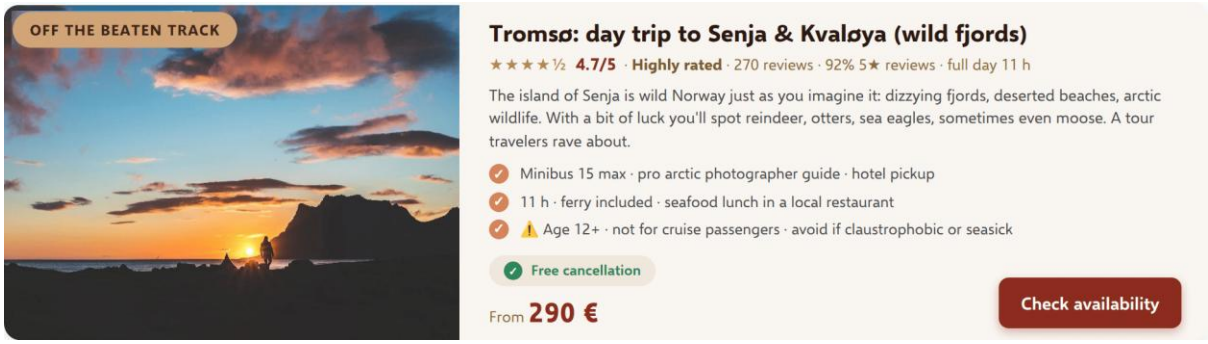


A day trip to Senja from Tromso

If you're based in Tromso and want to visit Senja during your stay, it's entirely possible. You have two options, which I explain in depth *in this article* :

- By car, you take the first *ferry from Brensholmen* (usually at 8 am)
  - Ideally, to save time and avoid an early-morning drive, it's better to sleep nearby, for example at the *Sommaroy Arctic Hotel*
  - You arrive at the far east of Senja. In one day, you have time to see the most beautiful spots of the north coast (Husoy, Fjaerland, Mefjordvaer, Tungeneset, Bergsbotn, Skaland, Gryllefjord and as far as Torsken)
  - To get back, watch out for the time of the last ferry. Otherwise you can drive back — about 3.5 hours

- Alternatively, you can go with a tour operator that shows you Senja in one day, all inclusive! Your guide takes you to the island's most beautiful spots. It comes at a cost (Senja is far away), and you also get a look at the road to Sommaroy on the way.



Two days in Senja

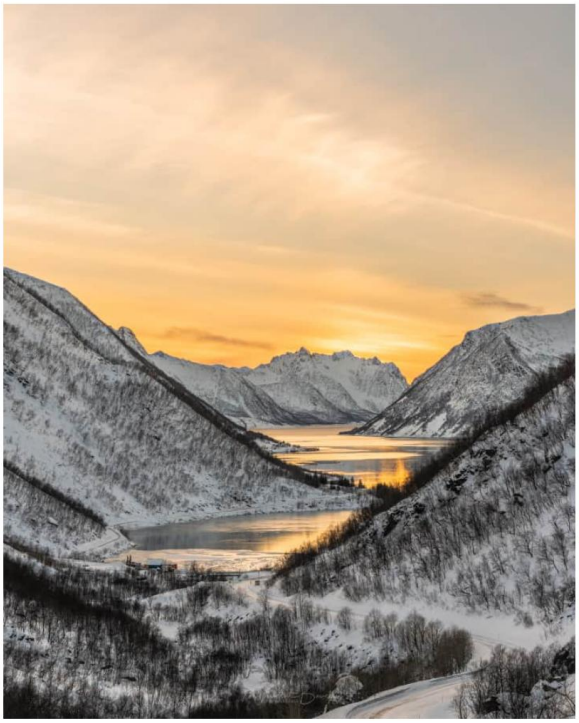
People often come to Senja for just one day, to do the north coast. In 2 days, with a night on site somewhere central like *Mefjordbrygge* or *Hamn i Senja*, you can spend a second day in a far more remote area that is at least as spectacular: the western fjords. That gives you:

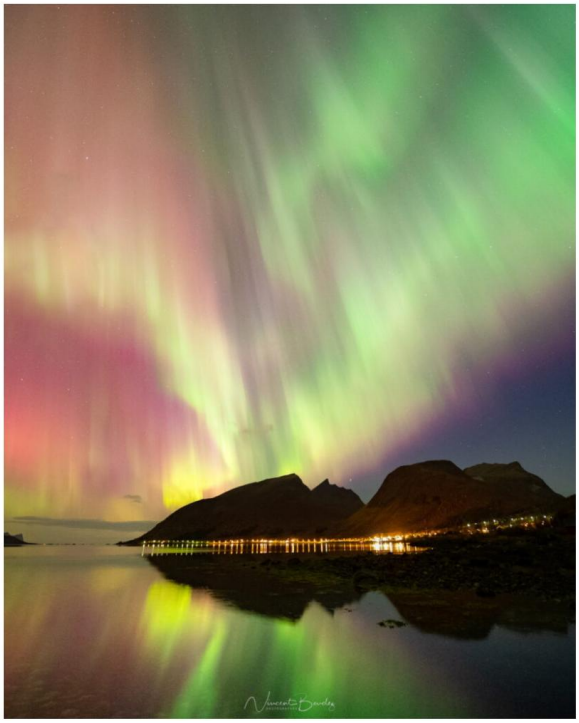
DAY 1:

- Take the ferry, or hit the road very early from Tromso
- Drive first to the peninsula of Husoy
- Follow the huge fjord to reach Mefjordvaer
- Then the northern road, passing successively through Ersfjord, Tungeneset, Skaland, Bergsbotn and its platform, then the road to Gryllefjord and Torsken if you have time

DAY 2:

- Take the road through the Anderdalen park all the way to Sifjord — there you'll get probably the most beautiful view on the island
- Continue on the road to Flakstadvag
- You won't see a soul in that corner of the island, even though it's at least as beautiful!





2-WEEK ITINERARYTROMSO – SENJA - LOFOTEN

2 weeks between Tromso, Senja and the Lofoten Islands

The idea is to discover these 3 superb places while taking your time a little, without too much driving, because if you're visiting in winter, the days are short. So even fewer chances to admire the landscapes, which are wonderful.

This itinerary is of course adaptable — you can easily add a day in Senja and, for example, drop the last day in Tromso. In short, you decide! It's a good starting point to get an idea 😊
Oh, and the full article on this route is here!

TROMSO

DAY 1 –

- Arrival in **Tromso**, pick up the car. Compare on *Kayak* and *DiscoverCars* to find the right car at the right price. *Getaround* for peer-to-peer rentals
- **4 nights in Tromso**, at the *Radisson Blu* for comfort, otherwise *the Ami Hotel* for something cheaper. More recommendations *on Booking*

DAY 2 –

- Discovering **Kvaloya** via the road to **Tromvik**. Go through **Ersfjord** (and its super cool little café), **Grotfjord**, Tromvik and the road to Rekvik
- Evening : I recommend going with an agency to see the northern lights, to get as much information as possible and learn how to chase them. *Agency recommendations here*. I suggest a whole bunch of them a bit higher up in the Tromso section 😊 But I'd still recommend *Wandering Owl*.

DAY 3 –

- Discovering the **Lyngen Alps** :
  - By **car** : taking the **ferry** from Breivikeidet (if you're running well ahead of schedule, head to **Nakkevatnet** just a touch south of Breivikeidet), then head north, then come back to Lyngseidet, drive back down to the mountain of **Signaldalen**. If there's still time, go via Laksvatn and **Lakselvbukt**
  - By **snowmobile**, with pickup in Tromso — at *Camp Troll* in particular you can go snowmobiling in the Lyngen Alps (note that a driving license is required). You'll find all the recommendations in the section on activities in Tromso.

DAY 4 –

- Excursion by **dog sled**
    - You'll find all the recommendations *in this article*
    - For a lovely setting facing the Lyngen Alps, you can go to *Breivikeidet*
    - If you have children under 7, then check out *Norwegian Travel*
- End of the day at the **Fjellheisen** cable car if the weather allows

DAY 5 –

- Exploring **Kvaloya**, with the road out to **Sommaroy** and passing through various fjords
- Night at the *Sommaroy Arctic Hotel* to sleep close to the **ferry** the next morning

SENJA

DAY 6 –

- Take the **ferry** early from Brensholmen (just south of Sommaroy) to **the island of Senja**
- Once on Senja, take the road to **Husoy**
- Then the village of **Fjordgard**, continue through the fjords to **Tungeneset** (careful, it's slippery) and the viewing platform at **Bergsbotn**
- Night at *Hamn i Senja* or in *Skaland*

DAY 7 –

- Drive to **Gryllefjord** and Torsken
- Then head to **Sifjord** with its incredible view, and continue on to Flakstadvag
- Sleep in the south of Senja to save time for the next day. For example at the *Furoy FishingCamp* and its superb location

LOFOTEN ISLANDS

DAY 8 –

- **Departure** for the Lofoten. Leave early to make a stop at the **Polar Park** and see the Arctic animals. Watch out for the opening hours!
- Late arrival in **Svolvaer** as the drive is long
- **Night** in Svolvaer, for example at *Anker Brygge* or *Svinoya Rorbuer*. For a budget option, check out the *FastHotel*

DAY 9 –

- Morning visit to **Henningsvaer** passing by the tiny beach of **Rørvikstranda**
- Head to the **Lofotr Museum**, a reconstruction of a Viking village (watch out for the opening hours!)

- Go to the beach at **Unstad** where you'll find quite a few surfers who don't mind the cold, and grab a wonderful **kannelbolle** at Unstad Arctic Surf
- Sleep in **Ballstad**, for example at the *Solsiden Brygge Rorbuer* or at the *Hattvika* for a treat

DAY 10 -

- Visit the **beaches** of Haukland, Vik and Uttakleiv
- See the pretty village of **Nusfjord**
- Night in Ramberg, for example at the *Ramberg Gjestegard* overlooking the beach, or in Nusfjord so you don't have to leave the village and can spend the evening there. And enjoy the *Nusfjord Arctic Resort*

DAY 11 –

- Stop at the beach in **Ramberg**, with its mountain views and its famous little cabin
- Stop at **Flakstad**, also a spot for surfers
- Go to **Fredvang**, see the famous bridges, then continue southwest towards Selfjord. If there's no snow you can go to **Kvalvika**
- 2 **nights in Hamnoy**, at the *Eliassen Rorbuer* for example, with mountain views

DAY 12 –

- Discover the pretty villages of **Hamnoy**, **Sakrisoy** and **Reine** (make sure you go down to the harbor, don't just stop at the bridge)
- Another night in *Hamnoy*

DAY 13 –

- Discover the village at the end of the world: **A i Lofoten**
- **Back to Tromso** (easily 8 h on the road)
- 2 nights in Tromso, for example at the *Scandic Ishavshotel* (watch out for the prices in very high season), or why not sleep outside Tromso, at the *Malangen Resort* to make the most of nature

DAY 14 –

- If it's not departure day, then visit the **Polarmuseet**, and the pretty city center
- Grab a hotdog at **Raketten Bar** & Pølse
- Buy your **souvenirs** at the Tromsø Gift & Souvenir Shop (yellow facade)
- Last day, sniff.

CAR RENTAL IN NORWAY
with Discover Cars
• Rental agency comparison site
• From €25
• Unlimited mileage
• Comes with the Autopass toll tag
See the offers

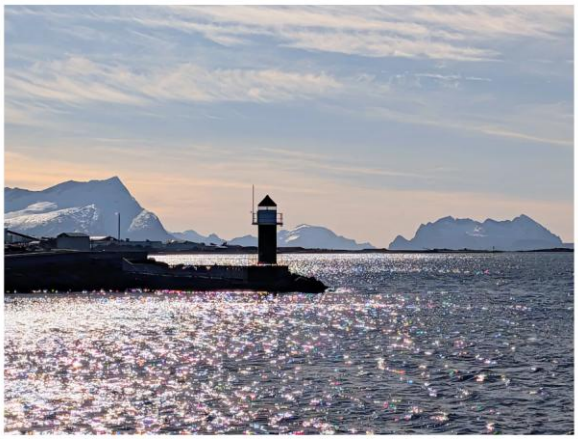
B O D Ø

Full article here

PLACES TO SEE

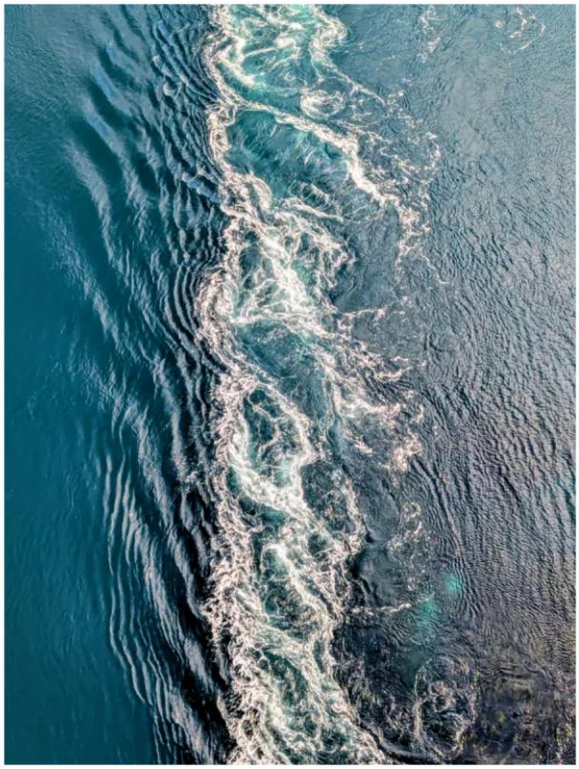
The locals say of Bodo: "*it's like the Lofoten Islands, but without the tourists*". And I can confirm it's true.

The area around Bodo is full of magnificent mountain ranges worthy of the Lofoten Islands, most notably Stetind which isn't very far away.



But Bodo is mainly known for two things (which have nothing to do with each other):

- The *ferry to the Lofoten Islands*
- The strongest tidal current in the world, the **Saltstraumen**. Super impressive (especially at high or low tide) — you can see a real difference in water level between the current trying to come in and the one trying to get out, creating the famous maelstroms.



How to see the Saltstraumen

- On **your own**: go to the edge of the Saltstraumbrua, on the side with the big parking lot. You can get really close to the current, it's great fun. Be sure to walk onto the bridge too — that's where you can best see its movements.
- By **boat**, to really "feel" the effects of the current. There you have two types of trips:
    - The **electric boat** which goes to see the current and cruises around the fjords, really lovely
        - *Info and booking*
    - The **RIB boat** which dives right into the current to give you your fill of thrills
        - *Info and booking*

RIB ride into the heart of the Saltstraumen from Bodø

📍 Departure from Bodø · 2 h · Explore Salten RIB boat

The thrill option: 2 hours on a rigid inflatable boat racing up close to the whirlpools of the Saltstraumen, the world's most powerful maelstrom. With a safari on the lookout for the fjord's white-tailed eagles.

- ✓ 2 h of RIB action: speed, sea spray and thrills
- ✓ Direct approach to the giant Saltstraumen whirlpools
- ✓ White-tailed eagle safari along the way

Free cancellation

From **118 €** / pers.

Discover the tour

Silent Beiar Fjord & Saltstraumen cruise from Bodø

📍 Departure from Bodø · 4 h · Brim Explorer hybrid catamaran

The contemplative option: 4 hours on a silent hybrid-electric catamaran through the Beiar Fjord and the Saltstraumen, with biologist guides on board. Longer, cheaper and far cleaner than the RIB version.

- ✓ 4 h on a hybrid-electric catamaran: silence and total comfort
- ✓ Saltstraumen + Beiar Fjord, two discoveries in one trip
- ✓ Biologist guides on board, a scientific take on the fjords

Free cancellation

From **91 €** / pers.

Discover the tour

Follow the coast and enjoy the beaches at sunset

The Bodo coastline is really beautiful. Follow the road north of Bodo and you'll find quite a few beaches, pretty viewpoints and walks to do. The landscapes are really lovely too

SEEING THE NORTHERN LIGHTS IN BODO

Bodo is a well-located city for the northern lights. Above the Arctic Circle, you have quite a few opportunities. As soon as the weather allows, you need to find yourself a patch of clear sky. And since Bodo is the windiest city in Norway, the chances of the sky clearing up are pretty high.

So here are my tips:

- Get away from the city (Bodo and its surroundings are very bright) to avoid light pollution
- Find an unobstructed view, mainly facing north. The beaches I told you about on the previous page are perfect for that!
- And be patient!

Seeing the northern lights with a tour company

Even though Bodo is less touristy, there are companies that will take you hunting for the northern lights. If you don't know how to go about it, or you don't want any hassle, then they're made for you.

Northern lights cruise by electric boat from Bodø

📍 Departure from Bodø · 3 h · Brim Explorer hybrid catamaran

The sea-and-silence option: 3 h on a hybrid-electric boat out of Bodø harbour, looking for auroras offshore. Heated indoor lounges, toilets, WiFi and coffee on board — the comfortable aurora, without the cold of the polar night.

- ✓ Silent hybrid-electric boat, observation offshore
- ✓ Heated indoor lounges, coffee on board, free WiFi
- ✓ Weather guarantee: reschedule or refund if conditions are poor

From **€68** / pers.

Discover the tour

Northern lights hunt by car from Bodø

📍 Departure from Bodø · 3 to 5 h · Rampen nature guide

The aurora-hunter option: 3 to 5 h by car with a local guide who takes you to Bodø's best spots depending on the weather, far from the city lights. Hot chocolate and cookie break while the sky comes alive.

- ✓ Guide who picks the spots based on weather and solar activity
- ✓ Pick-up possible at the Wood Hotel Bodø or Rampen Adventure Hub
- ✓ Hot drinks (chocolate, tea, coffee) and cookies included
- ✓ **Free cancellation up to 24 h before**

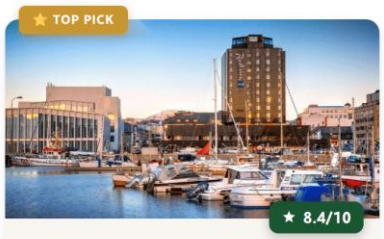
From **€207** / pers.

Discover the tour

PRACTICAL INFO

Where to stay in Bodo

You'll find all the classic chains in Bodo (Thon, Radisson, Scandic…). Prices are very seasonal but much more reasonable than in Tromso, for example. We stayed at the *Radisson* and honestly had no issues at all. Here are 4 examples of great places to stay in Bodo:
If you have a car, it's easy to park in the city center, and parking isn't particularly expensive.



Radisson Blu Bodø

📍 City centre · facing the harbour

The comfort address in Bodø, right in the centre facing the harbour. We slept there: ultra central, parking close by and not especially expensive for a Radisson.

- ✓ Ultra central, facing the harbour
- ✓ 5 min walk from the station and the Hurtigruten terminal
- ✓ Parking close by, handy on a road trip

✓ Free cancellation

From **€103** / night

Check availability

Wood Hotel Bodø

📍 On the heights of Bodø

Up on the heights of Bodø, the Wood Hotel has an absolutely insane view over the city and the fjord. A quality hotel, and for the bravest: there is a pool!

- ✓ Absolutely stunning view from the heights
- ✓ Pool on site for the bravest
- ✓ 4★ hotel certified for sustainability

✓ Free cancellation

From **€135** / night

Check availability

Aurora Central Premium Apartment

📍 Bodø · 900 m from the centre

Large 80 m² apartment with 2 bedrooms, 1 living room, 1 fitted kitchen and 5 beds. Ideal for a family or a small group on a stopover in Bodø.

- ✓ 80 m² · 2 bedrooms + living room + fitted kitchen
- ✓ 5 beds, perfect for a family
- ✓ 900 m from the centre, everything within walking distance

✓ Free cancellation

From **€190** / night

Check availability

FIND YOUR DREAM STAY IN BODO

Comfort Hotel Bodø, modern 4★ between the harbour (Lofoten ferry) and the airport

★★★★ ½ **8.6/10 · Superb** · 4,134 reviews · value for money 8.8/10

The detail that makes the difference: free self-service coffee and tea 24/7 in the lobby — the single most-mentioned thing in the reviews, just ahead of the comfortable beds and the charming staff (9.3/10). It's the typical Norwegian efficiency of the Strawberry group, no frills but with value for money that is rare in Norway — hence its success as a stopover before or after Lofoten.

- Modern 4★ design · air conditioning · family rooms · pets allowed
- Bodø airport 1 km on foot · train station 900 m · harbour (Lofoten ferry) right nearby
- Breakfast buffet (continental/English/veggie/gluten-free) · bar · gym · free Wi-Fi

Free cancellation

From **80 €**

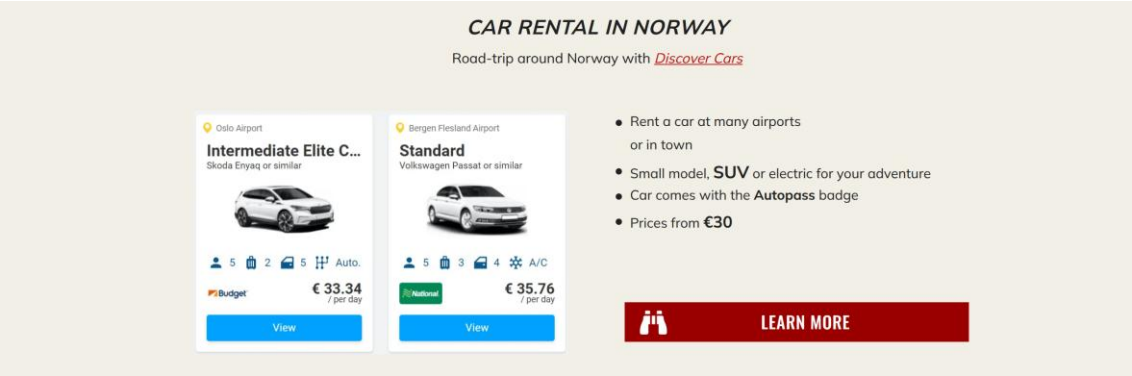
Check availability

Renting a car in Bodo

It's very easy and even **very convenient** to rent a car in Bodo because:

- You'll be arriving by plane to visit the Lofoten Islands, so Bodo is the perfect place to pick up your car
- There's much more choice than in Moskenes, after taking the ferry
- Definitely compare prices and the different rental companies, and check the reviews
    - I mainly use *Discover Cars* for its prices and the clarity of the information

Then you can take the ferry to the Lofoten Islands and return the car at the end of your stay.



Taking the ferry between Bodo and the Lofoten Islands

The easiest ferry to get to the Lofoten Islands. But also the most popular! *All the information can be found here*.

Should you book the ferry in advance:
50% of the spots are available for booking. If you're going in high season, then yes, book several weeks in advance. Otherwise, arrive at least 2 h before departure.
In low season, there's no need to book.

How much does the crossing cost:

- Free for foot passengers without a reservation
- 605 NOK for a standard car

How many crossings per day:

- There are between 1 (low season) and 10 (high season)

FAQ

How long to stay in Bodo
The city is small and pleasant, and you can quickly see it all. But if you want to enjoy a region where there's absolutely no one around, then take a few days to wander, and hike if it's the season.

Is it really worth it
If you're passing through on a road trip, if you're going to take the ferry to Moskenes, then at least take the time to go see the Saltstraumen. If you have time, drive the road to Narvik because it's really beautiful.

How to get to Bodo
Super simple! There's an **airport** served from Oslo several times a day (1 h 30). If you book early, flights aren't expensive. And from Bodo, it's the gateway to the Lofoten, so it's a very good

- *Find your flight to Bodo*

Bodo is also served by the **Hurtigruten** if you prefer to come by boat
But Bodo is also on the Norwegian **train** network. It's the northernmost city on the entire network, so you can come by train from Oslo or Trondheim.

What's the best season to visit Bodo
I'd say it's whatever season you're visiting Norway. Bodo isn't really a holiday destination in itself. It's either on your way, or the starting point of your trip. But it's pretty nice in any season (it is very windy)

- In autumn and winter you have the northern lights. There's wind, there's snow.
- Spring, summer, autumn: you can do some great hikes
- And generally speaking, there are few tourists all year round

THE ATLANTIC ROAD

Full article here

WHAT IS THE ATLANTIC ROAD

It's one of Norway's best-known scenic routes, yet it's one of the least easy to get to. It is, however, open all year round, except in a big storm. It's just that it's located in an area with few tourists, far from the fjords, far from the north, on the coast between Trondheim and Alesund.

This scenic route is different from the others you've probably seen in Norway. No dizzying hairpin bends, no mountains, no walls of ice. The Atlantic Road, Atlanterhavsveien, is a coastal road of around thirty kilometers, a succession of small bridges linking lots of little islands together. Some of the bridges are spectacular, raised and curved to embrace the waves that come crashing in during storms.

Do you absolutely have to go see the Atlantic Road

To be honest, I was disappointed. I was expecting something more spectacular, bigger, longer.

Given the detour it takes to get there, I find it much less spectacular than all the other roads in Norway. A spoiled-child problem, I suppose.

So if you're on a road trip, in a campervan, and you have the time, then yes, go for it, come see it. If you're in a car and counting the kilometers, this trip probably isn't worth it. Because it's between Molde and Kristiansund (two towns that are worth a visit), so a tad far from everything!

Seeing the Atlantic Road without a car

If you're in Molde, you don't feel like driving or you don't have a car, you can visit the Atlantic Road and its surroundings (like the stave church of Kvernes) by going through a tour company.

💰 BUDGET OPTION

★ 4.1/5

Atlantic Ocean Road & Varden — bus with audio guide

📍 Molde · 3h30 · West Norway Travel

The budget option: 3h30 by bus with an audio guide (EN/DE via the GuideToGo app). The Atlantic Road's iconic bridges, the wild Hustadvika coast and the Varden viewpoint at 407 m — Molde's essentials without a live guide.

- ✓ Atlantic Ocean Road: spectacular bridges & photo stop
- ✓ Varden viewpoint (407 m): Molde, fjord & 222 peaks
- ✓ Hustadvika coast, Farstadsanden & Molde Panorama

✔ Free cancellation

From **€81** / pers.

Discover the tour

⭐ TOP PICK

★ 4.3/5

Atlantic Ocean Road, Kvernes Stave Church & Farstad

📍 Molde · 4h30 · West Norway Travel

The complete option: 4h30 with a live local guide. On top of the Atlantic Road highlights come the interior visit of the Kvernes stave church and Farstad beach — the richest experience for discovering the Romsdal region.

- ✓ Interior visit of the Kvernes stave church
- ✓ Atlantic Ocean Road & Varden viewpoint
- ✓ Farstad beach — the most northerly dunes in Europe

✔ Free cancellation

From **€118** / pers.

Discover the tour

SLEEPING NEAR THE ATLANTIC ROAD

Kristiansund is a nice little town to base yourself in, as is Molde — two pleasant towns.

★ 7.8/10

Scandic Kristiansund

📍 Kristiansund · by the harbour, sea view

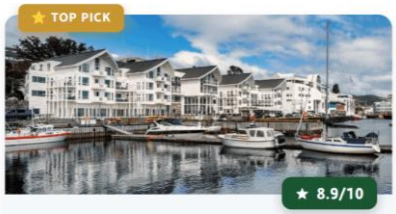
Hotel set right on the harbour with a private maritime jetty, a few steps from the centre. Elegant rooms with sea views for most, sauna and gym — the comfort option for watching the Hurtigruten enter the strait.

- ✓ Sea view from most of the rooms
- ✓ Sauna, gym and EV charging point
- ✓ Private jetty to watch the Hurtigruten

✔ Free cancellation

From **€110** / night

Check availability



⭐ TOP PICK

★ 8.9/10

Molde Fjordhotell · Classic Norway

📍 Molde · on the quayside, facing the Romsdal Alps

Hotel set on Molde's quay, with a panorama over the 222 snow-capped peaks of the Romsdal Alps. Fjord-view balconies, the Hav restaurant renowned for its seafood — location rated 9.6/10 and loved by couples (9.7/10).

- ✓ Panoramic view of the Romsdal Alps
- ✓ Hav restaurant renowned for its seafood
- ✓ Location rated 9.6/10 on Booking

✔ Free cancellation

From **€140** / night

Check availability

👑 TREAT YOURSELF

★ 8.0/10

Scandic Seilet Hotel · Molde

📍 Molde · on the fjord, inside an architectural sail

Icon hotel shaped like a sail, set on the Romsdal fjord. Skybar on the 14th floor with a 360° view over the fjords, the adjoining Seilet spa and huge picture windows in every room — for a night that looks like a Norwegian postcard.

- ✓ Panoramic skybar on the 14th floor
- ✓ Seilet spa and wellness centre adjoining
- ✓ Iconic architecture set on the fjord

✔ Free cancellation

From **€95** / night

Check availability

B E R G E N

Full article here

BERGEN AT A GLANCE

3 most beautiful places to see in town

- The historic docks of Bryggen
- The funicular up Floyen
- The Nordnes peninsula for its wooden houses

3 most beautiful places to see around Bergen

- Naeroyfjord
- *Flam and its train*
- The church of Bordung

3 Best activities

- *A guided tour of Bergen*
- *A day in the fjords*
- *Naeroyfjord + the Flam train in one day*

3 Favorite restaurants

- *The fish market*
- *Pingvinen*
- *Bryggeloftet*

3 Best places to stay

- *Radisson Blu*
- *Hanseatiske Hotel*
- *Bergen Bors Hotel*

3 Cafés to unwind

- *Café Pomme*
- *Løvetann Café & Bistro*
- *Fjåk chocolate shop*

Car rental comparison sites

- *Discover Cars*
- *Booking.com*

Best time to visit

- To enjoy Bergen and its surroundings: April to October is great
- Summer is fantastic but very very touristy
- From June to October, all the roads in the fjord region are open
- A Bergen + Oslo combo works all year round, with a train connection

How long to stay to make the most of the city

- Bergen itself needs at least 2 days
- But to explore the nearby surroundings, you'll need 5 days (Flam, Naeroyfjord, Borgund, Aurlandsfjord…)
- With 2 days more, cross the Sognefjord and go to Fjaerland

PLACES TO SEE IN TOWN

Bergen is probably the most beautiful city in Norway thanks to its architecture and its wooden houses.

- The docks of **Bryggen**, of course
    - And the Hanseatic Museum (interesting, and its renovation should be finished by now)

Bryggen is also great to admire from the other side of the wharf

- **The panoramic view from Floyen**
    - Funicular tickets can be bought at the entrance
    - *Or you can also buy them in advance to avoid the line*

- **The stave church** of Fantoft

- The harbor and the **fish** market

- The **fortress** of Bergenhus
    - The Rosenkrantz tower
    - King Hakon's hall

- The **wooden districts**
    - Vagsbunnen
    - Nedre Fjellsmauet
    - The Nordnes peninsula
    - Nostet

- Mount Ulriken, accessible by cable car, a great spot for hiking on Bergen's most beautiful mountain

- **Guided** tour
    - With a local guide

PLACES TO SEE IN THE SURROUNDING AREA

I'll tell you all about them in the following pages, with all the details, but in one day from Bergen you can discover:

- A cruise on the Osterfjord and Mostraumen
- The village of Alversund, reachable by boat
- Flam and its little train
- The Naeroyfjord
- The stave churches
    - Undredal
    - Borgund
    - Hopperstad
- Odda
- Hardangerfjord

Flam and its little train

ACTIVITIES AROUND BERGEN

- Cruise on the **Naeroyfjord** + the train from **Flam** in one day,
    - *Info and booking*

- Cruise on the **Naeroyfjord** + the view from **Stegastein**
    - *Info and booking*

- **Norway in a Nutshell**: the classic fjord tour (Naeroyfjord, Flam, Aurlandsfjord, Stegastein) in one day from Bergen, with boat and train
    - *Info and booking*

- **Cruise** to discover Osterfjord and Mostraumen
    - *With the Rodne company*

- Discover Bergen by **Segway**
    - A guided tour on wheels

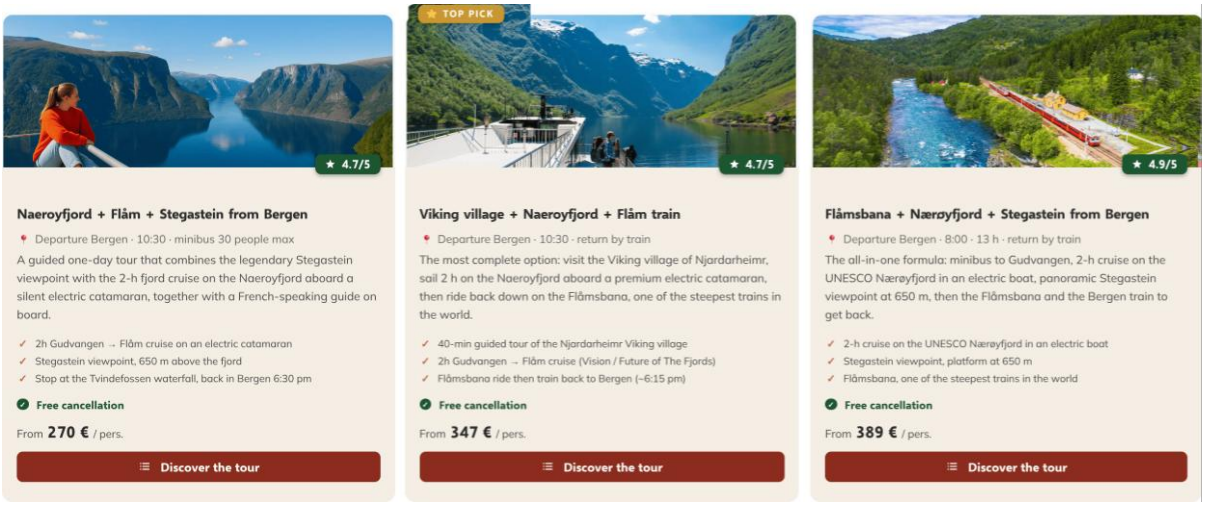
ALL THE CRUISES AROUND BERGEN AND THE FJORDS

Full article on *all the one-day fjord cruises around Bergen*

- **Bergen - Flam**:
  - from early May to late September
  - 5 h 30 for the one-way trip
  - Goes through the Sognefjord, the Aurlandsfjord and then arrives in Flam
  - Around €120
  - ***Info and booking***

- **The Naeroyfjord**
  - From Gudvangen to Flam or the other way around
  - Two fjords: Naeroyfjord and Aurlandsfjord
  - The trip takes 2 h
  - Prices start from 625 NOK
  - Book a bus to get back to the starting point
  - ***Info and booking***

- If you want to leave from Bergen and **go through a tour or an agency**, then you have several options to discover the Naeroyfjord on a day trip:
  - The Naeroyfjord + the Flam train
    - ***info and booking***
  - The cruise on the Naeroyfjord + the viewpoint at Stegastein in Aurland
    - ***info and booking***



- **The Kaupanger - Gudvangen ferry**
  - One of the most beautiful ferry rides in the country
  - Three fjords: Sognefjord, Naeroyfjord and Aurlandsfjord
  - The trip takes 2 h 20
  - Prices start from 2200 NOK for 1 car and 5 people
  - ***Info and booking***

- **Bergen – cruise on the Osterfjord and Mostraumen**
  - Departure point: Bergen
  - The Osterfjord and the strait of Mostraumen
  - The trip takes 4 h
  - The price is around €70
  - ***Info and booking***

- **Bergen – Fjaerland**
  - Fjaerland is one of the most beautiful places in the country
  - ferry from Bergen to Balestrand on the superb Sognefjord, then a small tourist boat from Balestrand to Fjaerland
  - visit to the Norwegian Glacier Museum
  - visit to the Bøyabreen glacier
  - day of 13 h
  - price around €235
  - ***Info and booking***

ALL THE ACTIVITIES IN BERGEN

Guided tours of Bergen

★ 4.9/5

Past & present walking tour

Bergen · 2h

With a licensed local guide, wander through Bryggen, the old fortress and the hidden alleyways that only the locals know.

- ✓ Fortress + Bryggen UNESCO
- ✓ Small group, passionate guide

From **23 €** / pers.

See the tour

★ 4.8/5

Walking tour + ferry (in French)

Bergen · 2h

Discover Bergen from land and sea with a French-speaking guide, in a small group.

- ✓ French-speaking guide available
- ✓ Bryggen + ferry crossing

From **41 €** / pers.

See the tour

★ 4.7/5

Old town, waterfalls & waffles

Bergen · 6h

Bryggen, the Hardangerfjord and a walk right behind the Steinsdalsfossen waterfall, along with local tastings.

- ✓ Walk behind a waterfall
- ✓ Waffles + a local drink

From **125 €** / pers.

See the tour

★ 4.6/5

Food & culture walk

Bergen · 3h

A gourmet and historic stroll between the fish market and Bryggen, with plenty of local tastings.

- ✓ Norwegian tastings
- ✓ Fish market + Bryggen

From **122 €** / pers.

See the tour

★ 3.7/5

Hop-on Hop-off bus 24 h

Bergen · 24h

24-h pass to explore the city at your own pace, with a multilingual audio guide on board.

- ✓ 13 stops around the city
- ✓ Audio guide in English

From **40 €** / pers.

See the ticket

🚢 Cruises & fjords

Fjærland: fjords & glaciers

Sognefjord · 13h

The big Norway combo in a single day: Bøyabreen glacier, the Sognefjord, the Fjærlandsfjord and Tvindefossen.

- ✓ Glacier + Glacier Museum
- ✓ Sognefjord + Fjærlandsfjord

From **326 €** / pers.

See the tour

Original Mostraumen cruise

Bergen · 3h30

Sail the Osterfjord, hug the cliffs and slip through the narrow currents of the Mostraumen strait.

- ✓ Powerful waterfall up close
- ✓ Audio guide + comfortable cabin

From **82 €** / pers.

See the tour

Mostraumen safari aboard a premium RIB

Bergen · 2h30

The sporty, immersive option: a high-end RIB races along the Osterfjord all the way to the Mostraumen channel.

- ✓ Premium RIB boat
- ✓ Suit + equipment included

From **127 €** / pers.

See the tour

Rosendal cruise via the Hardangerfjord

Bergen → Rosendal · 7h

Modern catamaran to the village of Rosendal, at the mouth of the Hardangerfjord. 3.5 h free to explore.

- ✓ 3.5 h free in Rosendal
- ✓ Hatteberg waterfall + manor

From **80 €** / pers.

See the tour

Viking village + Nærøyfjord + Flåm train

Flåm · 10h30

The complete Norway combo: the Njardarheimr Viking village, the UNESCO fjord and the legendary Flåm railway.

- ✓ Nærøyfjord cruise (UNESCO)
- ✓ Viking village + Flåm train

From **330 €** / pers.

See the tour

Nærøyfjord UNESCO + Stegastein

Flåm · 11h

A 2-h cruise on the Nærøyfjord, a visit of Flåm and the panoramic Stegastein viewpoint perched at 650 m.

- ✓ Stegastein viewpoint 650 m
- ✓ Lunch included + Tvindefossen

From **266 €** / pers.

See the tour

Viking ship sailing trip

Bergen · 1h30

Sail under a square sail on a Viking-style ship all along the historic seafront.

- ✓ Traditional square sail
- ✓ Mackerel fishing possible

From **101 €** / pers.

See the tour

Ferry Bergen → Flåm

Bergen · 13h

Panoramic ferry along the Sognefjord, the longest and deepest in Norway, all the way to Flåm.

- ✓ Sognefjord one-way or return
- ✓ Flåm railway connection

From **182 €** / pers.

See the ticket

Adventure & outdoor

Guided kayaking around the islets

Øygarden · 4h30

A beginner-level guided trip between the islets, with eagle watching and a local snack included.

- ✓ Small group (8 max)
- ✓ Equipment + transport included

From **138 €** / pers.

See the tour

Trolltunga, Hardangerfjord & waterfalls (FR)

Odda · 15h

The famous Troll's Tongue with a French-speaking guide, a local breakfast and waterfalls on the way.

- ✓ French-speaking guide, 7 max
- ✓ Steinsdalsfossen + Låtefossen

From **225 €** / pers.

See the tour

Bondhus glacial lake & Folgefonna

Folgefonna · 10h

An easy hike to the glacial lake, a ferry ride on the Hardangerfjord and the Steindalsfossen waterfall.

- ✓ Walk behind a waterfall
- ✓ Picnic by the lake

From **189 €** / pers.

See the tour

Bondhus lake & hot lunch

Folgefonna · 10h30

A day trip out to the glacial lake with 2 ferry crossings and a hot lunch served in the village of Rosendal.

- ✓ Hot lunch in Rosendal
- ✓ 2 Hardangerfjord ferries

From **201 €** / pers.

See the tour

Ulriken cable car (return)

Bergen · 1-2h on site

Bergen's highest mountain and the very best view over the fjords, reached in just a few minutes by cable car.

- ✓ Summits + hiking trails
- ✓ Cable car every 5 min

From **44 €** / pers. return

See the ticket

Fløyen funicular (return)

Bergen · 1h+

The unmissable panorama from Mount Fløyen, at 320 m, 10 min from the centre by funicular.

- ✓ Panoramic view at 320 m
- ✓ Booking ahead recommended

From **13 €** / pers. return

See the ticket

Experiences & transfers

Airport ↔ city transfers

Bergen ↔ BGO airport

Private transfer between Bergen airport and your hotel, day or night, with WhatsApp contact.

- ✓ 3-seat saloon or 7-seat minivan
- ✓ WhatsApp communication included

From **100 €** / vehicle

See the price

The Troll Museum

Bergen · 1-2h

The largest Norwegian museum devoted to trolls and tales of folklore, with an augmented reality experience.

- ✓ Audio guide in English
- ✓ Immersive augmented reality

From **23 €** / pers.

See the ticket

Magic Ice Bar

Bergen · 30-45 min

A gallery of ice sculptures inspired by famous Norwegian works of art, with a drink served in a glass made of ice.

- ✓ Sculptures + ice glass
- ✓ Poncho + gloves provided

From **27 €** / pers.

See the ticket

WHERE TO STAY IN BERGEN

Here's a summary table of the accommodations featured here. If you want more info, you'll find the card for each place just below!

Hotel	Neighborhood	Price / night	Rating	Link
Our favorites				
Kong Oscars Apartments	Historic center	€130	9.1/10	→
Clarion Hotel Admiral	Facing Bryggen	€130	8.4/10	→
Hotel Park Bergen	Near Nygårdsparken	€165	8.6/10	→
Bergen Børs Hotel	Vågsallmenningen	€194	8.7/10	→
Radisson Blu Royal Hotel	Foot of Bryggen	€123	8.4/10	→
Det Hanseatiske Hotel	On Bryggen UNESCO	€152	8.5/10	→
Home Hotel Bryggen	Facing the harbour	€199	8.6/10	→
Home Hotel Havnekontoret	Slottsgaten 1	€212	8.8/10	→
Family & apartments				
Charming Bergen House	Sandviken	€114	9.3/10	→
Veversmauet Apartments	Centre, 250 m from station	€120	8.9/10	→
Nordnes – Amazing view of Bryggen	Nordnes, 8th floor	€213	9.0/10	→
Nygårdsgaten Apartments	Centre · 100 m²	€400	9.2/10	→
Treat yourself (luxury)				
Grand Hotel Terminus	Opposite the station	€172	8.6/10	→
Bergen Børs Hotel	Vågsallmenningen	€194	8.7/10	→
Skostredet Hotel & Spa	Skostredet lane	€198	8.8/10	→
Opus XVI	Vågsallmenningen 16	€273	9.1/10	→
Charmante Skostredet Hôtel	Skostredet · 5★	€217	9.1/10	→
Value for money				
Citybox Bergen City	Nygårdsgaten	€97	8.1/10	→
Magic Kløverhuset Harbour Hotel	Strandgaten 15	€108	8.3/10	→
Ole Bull Hotel & Apartments	Ole Bulls plass	€109	8.6/10	→
Scandic Torget Bergen	Fish Market	€110	8.2/10	→
Budget options				
City Hostel Bergen	Kong Oscars gate	€30 / bed	8.3/10	→
Bergen Hostel Montana	Hills above Bergen	€40 / bed	8.6/10	→
Scandic Neptun	Walckendorffsgate	€79	7.9/10	→
Citybox Danmarksplass	Solheimsgaten	€80	8.4/10	→
Nordnes				
Comfort Hotel Bergen	Strandgaten 190	€108	8.1/10	→
Klosterhagen Hotel	Heart of Nordnes	€116	8.6/10	→

Heimen Hotel	Entrance to Nordnes	**€118**	**8.2/10**	→
Bergen Beds Apartments Urban Escape	Holbergsallmenningen	**€150**	**9.1/10**	→
Outside Bergen				
Fjellhagen	Bjørkheim (1 hr)	**€123**	**9.3/10**	→
Quality Hotel Edvard Grieg	Sandsli	**€147**	**8.3/10**	→
Cottage in Bekkjarvik	Bekkjarvik (60 km)	**€180**	**9.7/10**	→
Floating Villa Bergen	Katlavika	**€500**	**9.3/10**	→
Near the airport				
Thon Hotel Bergen Airport	Flesland	**€147**	**8.1/10**	→
Scandic Flesland Airport	Flesland	**€147**	**8.6/10**	→
Comfort Hotel Bergen Airport	Flesland	**€152**	**8.4/10**	→
Clarion Hotel Bergen Airport	Flesland	**€196**	**8.5/10**	→

The best places to stay in Bergen

★ 9.1/10

Kong Oscars Apartments

📍 Historic centre · 250 m from the station

- ✓ 50 m² flat: 1 bedroom + bunk bed, perfect for a family of 4
- ✓ Equipped kitchen, washing machine, Fløyen view from some units
- ✓ Self check-in, responsive hosts, 5 min from the harbour

✅ Free cancellation

From **130 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.4/10

Clarion Hotel Admiral

📍 Vågen quay · facing Bryggen UNESCO

- ✓ Facing Bryggen, harbour-view balconies in some rooms
- ✓ Legendary breakfast buffet + Duxiana beds
- ✓ Social Bar & Bistro restaurant, Nordic Swan & BREEAM certified

✅ Free cancellation

From **130 €** / night

Check availability

★ TOP PICK

★ 8.6/10

Hotel Park Bergen

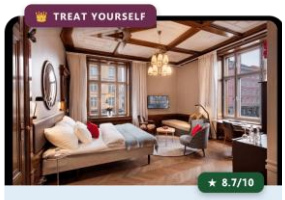
📍 Near Nygårdsparken park · centre

- ✓ Charming family-run hotel in 2 late-19th-century buildings
- ✓ Unique rooms, antiques, original parquet floors
- ✓ Superb continental breakfast + indoor parking with EV charging

✅ Free cancellation

From **165 €** / night

Check availability



👑 TREAT YOURSELF

★ 8.7/10

Bergen Børs Hotel

📍 Vågsallmenningen · heart of the centre

- ✓ Former 1862 stock exchange turned boutique hotel
- ✓ 2 restaurants + cocktail bar in a spectacular wine cellar
- ✓ VIP service, airport shuttle, fitness centre

✅ Free cancellation

From **194 €** / night

Check availability

💰 BUDGET OPTION

★ 8.4/10

Radisson Blu Royal Hotel

📍 Dreggsallmenningen 1 · foot of Bryggen

- ✓ Unbeatable location, 30 sec from the Bryggen wharves
- ✓ 4★ chain, restaurant, bar, sauna
- ✓ 9,310 Booking reviews, a very safe big-hotel choice

✅ Free cancellation

From **123 €** / night

Check availability

★ TOP PICK

★ 8.5/10

Det Hanseatiske Hotel

📍 Finnegården 2A · on Bryggen UNESCO

- ✓ Boutique hotel in the original Hanseatic buildings
- ✓ Exposed wooden beams, decor true to the soul of the place
- ✓ To Kokker gourmet restaurant, Michelin-starred

✅ Free cancellation

From **152 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.6/10

Home Hotel Bryggen

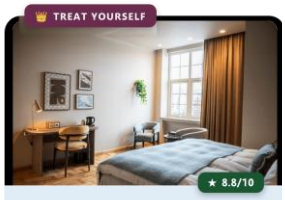
📍 Bryggen · facing the harbour and quays

- ✓ Right opposite Bryggen, harbour view from some rooms
- ✓ Home concept: free coffee/tea/snacks at any hour
- ✓ Breakfast and light dinner included with some rates

✅ Free cancellation

From **199 €** / night

Check availability



👑 TREAT YOURSELF

★ 8.8/10

Home Hotel Havnekontoret

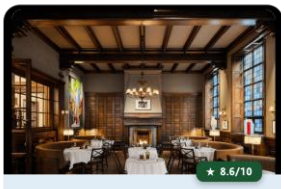
📍 Slottsgaten 1 · on the quayside

- ✓ Historic 1921 building, the former Havnekontoret
- ✓ Coffee/tea + evening buffet included in the rate
- ✓ Spectacular views of Bergenhus, the harbour and Fløyen

✅ Free cancellation

From **212 €** / night

Check availability



★ 8.6/10

Grand Hotel Terminus

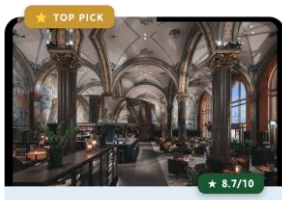
📍 Zander Kaaes gate 6 · opposite the station

- ✓ Historic 1928 hotel, a Norwegian classic
- ✓ Exceptional whisky bar (500+ references)
- ✓ Gourmet restaurant, 30 sec from the station

✅ Free cancellation

From **172 €** / night

Check availability



★ TOP PICK

★ 8.7/10

Bergen Børs Hotel

📍 Vågsallmenningen 1 · heart of the centre

- ✓ Former 1862 stock exchange, ornate ceilings and grand staircases
- ✓ Cocktail bar in a spectacular wine cellar
- ✓ VIP service, airport shuttle, fitness centre

✅ Free cancellation

From **194 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.8/10

Skostredet Hotel & Spa

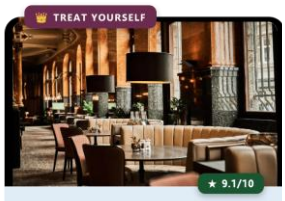
📍 Skostredet · historic cobbled lane

- ✓ Boutique hotel with spa: sauna, hammam, treatments
- ✓ Cobbled Skostredet lane, historic Bergen atmosphere
- ✓ In-house restaurant + cocktail bar with sleek design

✅ Free cancellation

From **198 €** / night

Check availability



👑 TREAT YOURSELF

★ 9.1/10

Opus XVI

📍 Vågsallmenningen 16 · historic centre

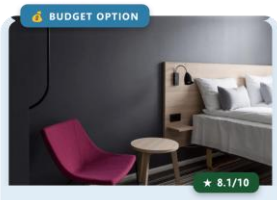
- ✓ Edvard Grieg's former family house, steeped in history
- ✓ High-end boutique hotel, refined Scandinavian decor
- ✓ Lounge bar, music salon, fabulous breakfast

✅ Free cancellation

From **273 €** / night

Check availability

Excellent value for money



BUDGET OPTION

★ 8.1/10

Citybox Bergen City

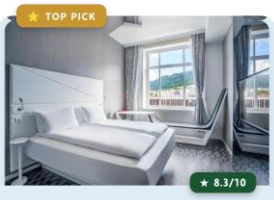
Nygårdsgaten 31 · centre near the university

- Low-cost design concept: self check-in, simple and efficient
- 500 m from Torgallmenningen, 1 km from Bryggen
- 7,308 Booking reviews, a safe central budget bet

Free cancellation

From **97 €** / night

Check availability



TOP PICK

★ 8.3/10

Magic Kløverhuset Harbour Hotel

Strandgaten 15 · just a 400 m walk from Bryggen

- Radisson Individuals brand, 400 m from Bryggen
- Harbour view from some rooms, breakfast rated 8.8/10
- On-site Sjø restaurant, 7,234 Booking reviews

Free cancellation

From **108 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.6/10

Ole Bull Hotel & Apartments

Ole Bulls plass · heart of the centre

- On Ole Bulls plass square, right in the centre
- Rooms AND apartments, ideal for short or long stays
- 2,224 Booking reviews, an 8.6 score steady for years

Free cancellation

From **109 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.2/10

Scandic Torget Bergen

Vågsallmenningen 16 · facing the market

- Facing Fisketorget (fish market), steps from Bryggen
- Scandic brand, reliable chain quality
- Restaurant + bar + generous breakfast buffet

Free cancellation

From **110 €** / night

Check availability

For travellers on a budget

BUDGET OPTION

★ 8.3/10

City Hostel Bergen

Kong Oscars gate · centre, 5 min from the station

- City-centre hostel, dorms and private rooms
- Shared kitchen, lounge, individual lockers
- 4,466 reviews, a steady 8.3 score for a hostel

Free cancellation

From **30 € / bed** / night

Check availability

TOP PICK

★ 8.6/10

Bergen Hostel Montana

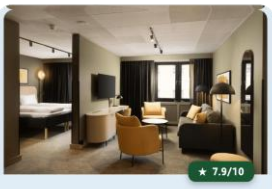
Johan Blytts vei · up on the heights

- Panoramic view over Bergen from the heights
- Dorms and private rooms, equipped shared kitchen
- 4,440 reviews, rated 8.6 Superb — the best-rated

Free cancellation

From **40 € / bed** / night

Check availability



★ 7.9/10

Scandic Neptun

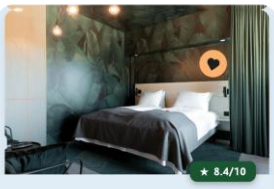
Walkendorffsgate · centre

- Scandic brand, reliable chain quality
- 5 min on foot from Bryggen and Torgallmenningen
- Buffet breakfast included with some rates

Free cancellation

From **79 €** / night

Check availability



★ 8.4/10

Citybox Danmarksplass

Solheimsgaten · 10 min from the centre

- Low-cost design concept, self check-in
- 100 m from the Bybanen light rail (10 min to the centre)
- 8,088 Booking reviews, the cheapest Citybox

Free cancellation

From **80 €** / night

Check availability

Staying on the Nordnes peninsula

BUDGET OPTION · ★ 8.1/10

Comfort Hotel Bergen

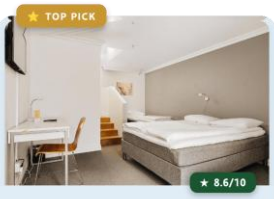
Strandgaten 190 · entrance to Nordnes

- Nordnes entrance, 10 min on foot from Bryggen
- Modern rooms, colourful Scandinavian decor
- 2,936 reviews, no-frills but efficient Comfort concept

Free cancellation

From **108 €** / night

Check availability



TOP PICK · ★ 8.6/10

Klosterhagen Hotel

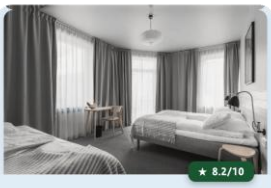
Strangehagen 2 · heart of Nordnes

- Charming hotel in the Michael Monastery garden
- Staff rated 9.5/10 — exceptional
- Quiet and picturesque, 10 min on foot from the centre

Free cancellation

From **116 €** / night

Check availability



★ 8.2/10

Heimen Hotel

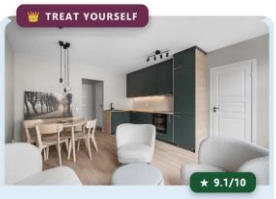
C. Sundts Gate 18 · Nordnes entrance

- Augustin family hotel, original paintings/sculptures
- Pets allowed, family rooms, lift
- Fabulous breakfast, harbour/Bryggen view from some rooms

Free cancellation

From **118 €** / night

Check availability



TREAT YOURSELF · ★ 9.1/10

Bergen Beds Apartments Urban Escape

Holbergsallmenningen 10 · heart of Nordnes

- 68 m² flat: 2 bedrooms, up to 4 people
- Equipped kitchen, washing machine, modern Scandinavian design
- Family score 9.9/10, 850 m from Bryggen

Free cancellation

From **150 €** / night

Check availability

Renting an apartment for families

TOP PICK · ★ 9.3/10

Charming Bergen House

Sandviken · just after Bryggen

- Entire 43 m² house, 1 bedroom + sofa bed, perfect for a family
- Terrace, view over the inner courtyard, street parking
- Pets allowed, exceptional Wi-Fi, wheelchair accessible

Free cancellation

From **114 €** / night

Check availability

BUDGET OPTION · ★ 8.9/10

Veversmauet Apartments

City centre · 250 m from Bergen station

- Studio or 2-room flat with equipped kitchenette + washing machine
- Family-friendly, balcony available on the 2-room flat
- Exceptional Wi-Fi, 250 m from the central station

Free cancellation

From **120 €** / night

Check availability

★ 9.0/10

Nordnes – Amazing view of Bryggen

Nordnes · 193 Strandgaten, 8th floor

- 60 m² flat: 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, sleeps up to 4 people
- 8th floor with Bryggen view + panoramic sea view
- Indoor parking, fully equipped kitchen, superb Wi-Fi

Free cancellation

From **213 €** / night

Check availability

TREAT YOURSELF · ★ 9.2/10

Nygårdsgaten Apartments

City centre · Nygårdsgaten 29

- Large 100 m² apartment for a big family or a group
- City centre, a stone's throw from transport and restaurants
- Exceptional 9.2/10 score (255 reviews) — fabulous

Free cancellation

From **400 €** / night

Check availability

CHARM & LUXURY

Charming Skostredet Hotel — a 5-star gem in a cobbled lane

9.1 **Superb** · 890 reviews · 5★ hotel · Location 9.6/10 · 250 m from Fløibanen

Tucked away at 14 Skostredet, one of the most charming cobbled lanes in Bergen's historic centre, this boutique 5-star puts everything into its decor — a subtle marriage of hand-picked antique furniture and contemporary design pieces. Cocktail bar, gourmet restaurant, veggie/vegan/gluten-free breakfast, VIP service: the place to treat yourself.

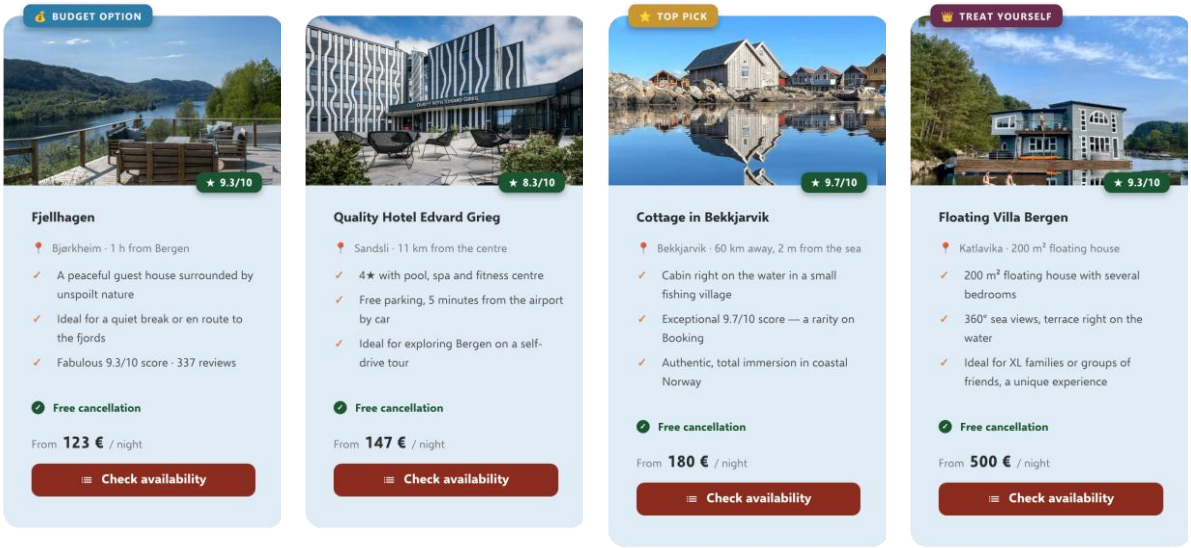
- 5★ boutique hotel in a cobbled lane of the historic centre
- Sublime decor blending antique furniture and contemporary design
- Cocktail bar, restaurant, breakfast options for every diet

Free cancellation

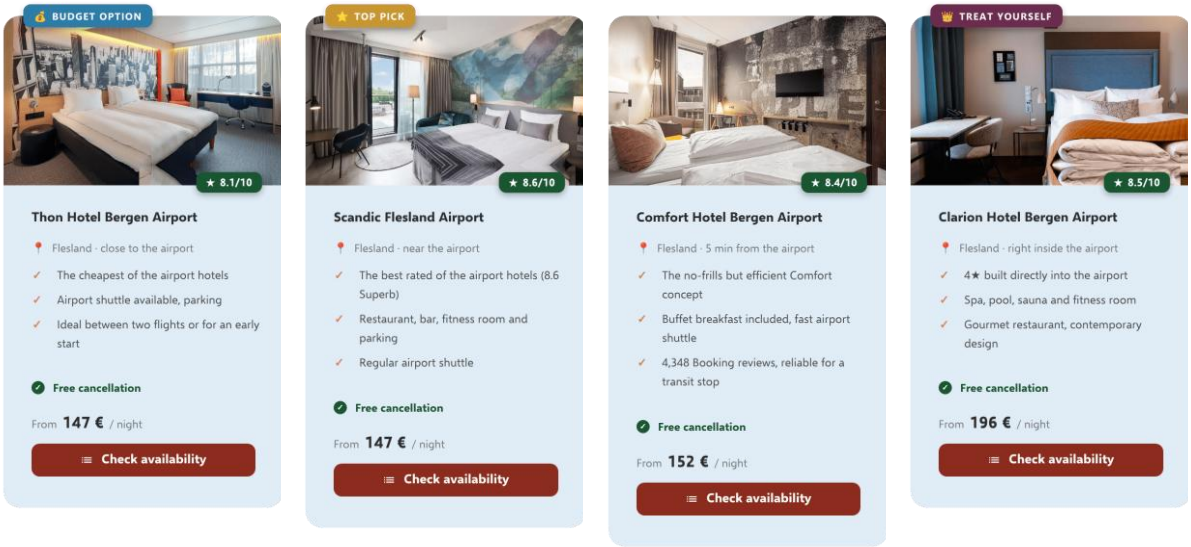
From **217 €**

Check availability

4 places to stay near Bergen



Staying near the airport



In the following article, you'll find [all the places to stay in Bergen]

WHERE TO EAT

You can eat really well in Bergen (ok, it's not exactly cheap), here are a few examples:

- Pingvinen – Norwegian, and not too pricey
- The market on the harbour – keep in mind it's pricey, but the fish and seafood dishes are great
- Bryggeloftet - Norwegian
- Spisekroken - Norwegian
- Savanna - African
- Marg & Bein - Norwegian
- Fjellskål – seafood
- Enhjørningen Fiskerestaurant – seafood

HOW TO GET THERE AND GET AROUND

- Nearest **train** station: Bergen (obviously).
  - Bergen is perfectly connected to the rail network. The Oslo–Bergen line is one of the most beautiful train rides in the world. You can also hop off at Myrdal to head down to Flam
  - For routes and tickets, head to Vy.no

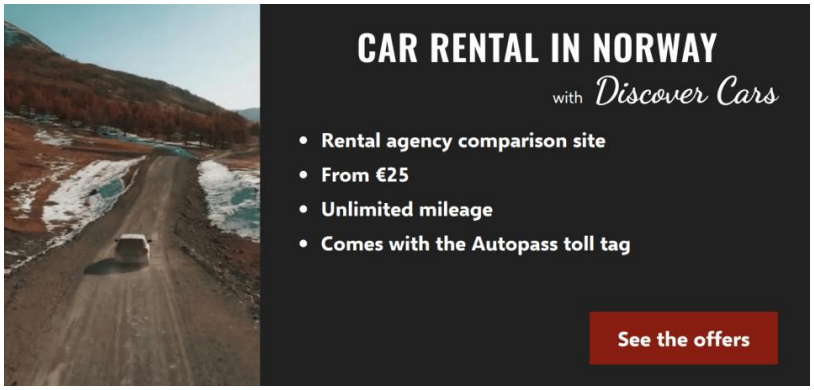
- **Nearest** airport:
  - Bergen, 15km to the south
    - In the following article I give you *all the transport options between Bergen airport and the city center*
      - Tram: line 1, 40 minutes, cheap
      - Bus: Flybussen, 20 minutes, goes straight to the center, convenient but pricier
      - Taxi: expensive for the distance but reliable
      - Private driver: you can book a driver to wait for you at the airport (*info and booking*)
  - Compare flights and airlines, as prices vary enormously from one day to the next. I use Kayak, very reliable in my experience.
  - AIR FRANCE has direct flights

- There are bus options, both in town and in the surrounding area. **Journey planner**:
  - https://entur.no/
  - In town, public transport is free if you have the Bergen Card
  - In town, you can mostly get around on foot, the city center is small

- The starting point for many cruises
  - The famous Hurtigruten :a
    - The famous cruise to Kirkenes
    - The port-to-port routes
  - Compare all the cruises in Norway
    - *Sometimes the direct link doesn't work, so you have to filter by Hurtigruten or the "Northern Europe" section*

- Renting a **car**:
  - For Bergen itself, you don't need to have a car. Plus, parking is difficult. However, as soon as you want to explore the surrounding area, a car comes in handy
  - There are car rentals at
    - Bergen airport
    - City center (Hertz)

It's essential to COMPARE prices and reviews. I use *Discover Cars* or *Booking.com*, both very reliable with no nasty surprises. But using two of them to compare is really useful.


CAR RENTAL IN NORWAY
with Discover Cars
• Rental agency comparison site
• From €25
• Unlimited mileage
• Comes with the Autopass toll tag
See the offers

THE FJORD REGION FROM THE LYSEFJORD TO ALESUND

Full article here

MAP OF THE NORWEGIAN FJORDS

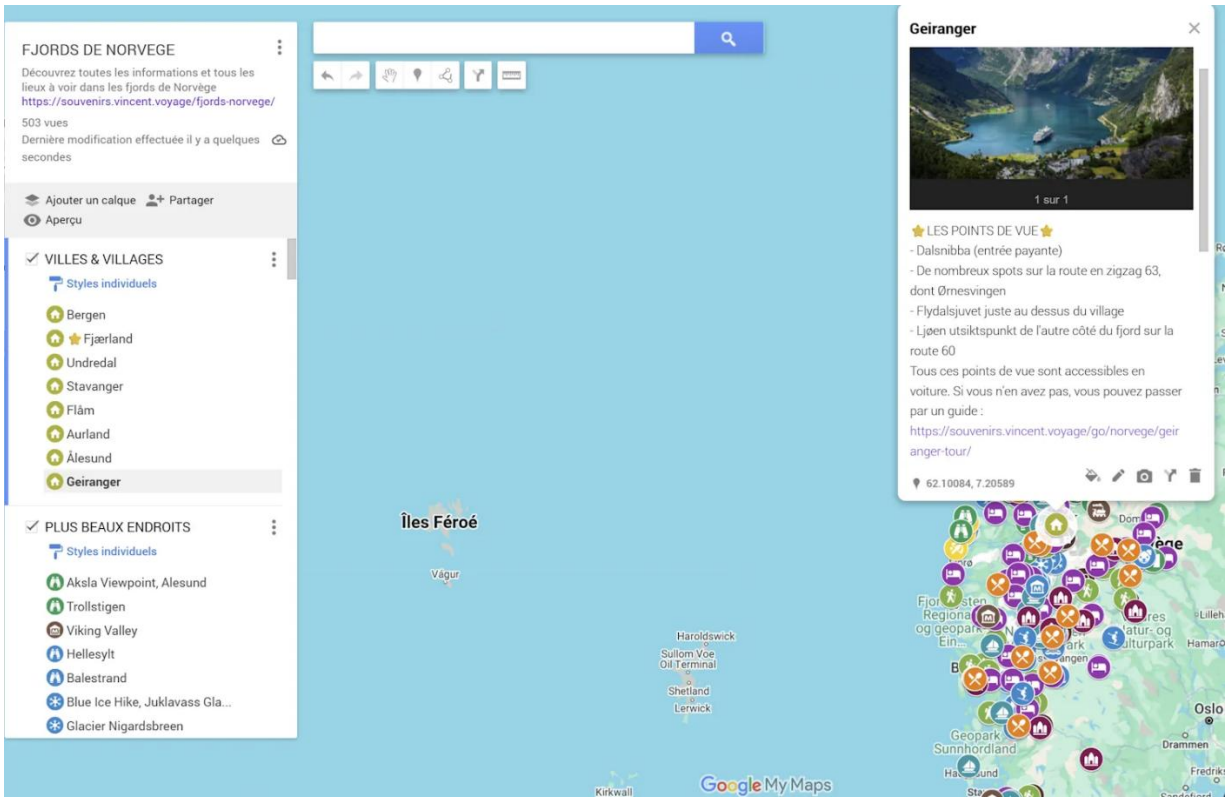
Here, in one place, are all the essentials you need to plan your stay in the Norwegian fjords.

In this interactive map created with Google Maps, you have access to:

- All the most beautiful spots and panoramas
- The scenic routes
- The activities
- The fjord cruises
- Accommodation, both great-value finds and more comfortable options
- Dozens of hikes
- The waterfalls
- And the restaurants and cafés

It works with a system of layers, and in the following article I explain *how to use the map*

⭐ ***Click here to access the map!*** ⭐



PLACES TO SEE IN THE FJORD REGION

You should know that the fjord region is really big. From the southwest (Stavanger) to Alesund, roughly speaking.

- **Stavanger** and its surroundings
  - Lysefjord
  - Trolltunga
  - Prekeistolen
  - Odda

- **Bergen**
  - See the previous section

- **Naeroyfjord** (take the boat to Flam)

- **Flam** and its train

- **Fjaerland**
  - Ideal for slowing down in an idyllic setting

- **Stave churches** (Viking wooden churches)
  - Roldal
  - Hopperstad
  - Undredal
  - **Borgund**
  - Kaupanger
  - **Urnes**
  - Lom

- **Glaciers**
  - Nigardsbrenn
  - Kjenndalsbreen
  - Briksdalsbreen

- **Geiranger**
  - The fjord cruise from Hellesylt (the route from Valldal has been discontinued)
  - The viewpoint at Dalsnibba
  - The Ørnevegen

- **Alesund**
  - Runde island to see the puffins
  - The city center, very Art Nouveau in style
  - The Atlantic Road

- **Trollstigen**

- The park of **Dovrefjell**
  - Mainly to see the musk oxen

- **Stryn**
  - and Lovatnet in particular just next door, with crazy views and roads

- The road over the **Sognefjell**
  - Perhaps the most beautiful road in Norway

- The **Snoveggen**

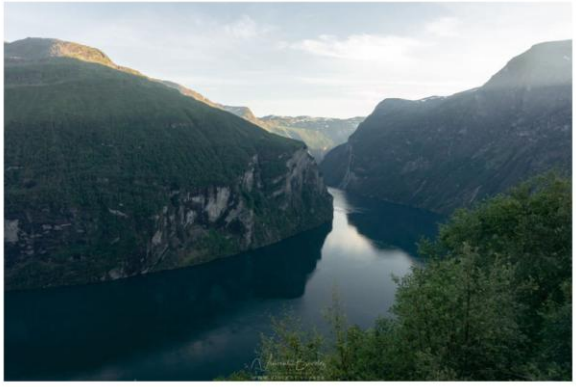
ACTIVITIES IN THE FJORD REGION

- **Geiranger**
  - Ferry Geiranger – Hellesylt (with or without a car)
  - Sightseeing cruise Hellesylt – Geiranger - Hellesylt
  - Cruise Alesund – Geiranger – Alesund (9 h)
  - Discover Geiranger and its surroundings

- **Alesund**
  - The Trollstigen road from Alesund
  - See the puffins on Runde (no guide needed)
    - From May to September

- The train from **Flam**
  - Information and booking with NorwaysBest
  - Flam from Bergen (with the Naeroyfjord and Stegastein)
  - Cruise from Flam to Gudvangen

- The **Nigardsbreen**
  - A walk on the glacier with the guides from Jostedalen Bréfórarlag



The Geirangerfjord

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Buy me a coffee

ALESUND

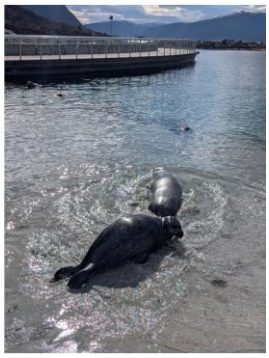
Along with Bergen, it's the prettiest town in Norway, and on top of that it's unique thanks to its Art Nouveau architecture built after a fire that destroyed almost the entire town.

A very pleasant town, it's the northern gateway to the fjords, especially since you're close to everything (Geiranger, Trollstigen…).

The town, which you can explore in more depth *in this article*, is small, but ideal for taking a bit of time after your fill of roads and emotions in the fjords.

What to visit in Alesund and nearby

- The viewpoint on Mount Aksla
- The aquarium
- A visit to the Art Nouveau Centre
- See the Sunnmore museum, an open-air museum about Norwegian rural life
- Take a *guided tour of the center*
- Runde island, home to the puffins in particular, from April to early August
- Godoy island and the Alnes lighthouse
- The Troll Road (Trollstigen)



Things to do

There are plenty of activities on offer, especially **the cruises**. Two of them are genuinely must-dos:

- The round trip to Geiranger on a silent boat
- The cruise on the Hjorundfjord, one of the most beautiful yet least-known fjords in Norway

Ålesund: round-trip cruise to the Geirangerfjord

★ ★ ★ ★ ½ **4.7/5 · Excellent** · 704 reviews · 9 h 30 · audio guide · UNESCO

A silent crossing to the Geirangerfjord (UNESCO) aboard a hybrid electric catamaran — no bus, no noise, panoramic lounges and open decks for photos. Out via Storfjord and Sunnylvsfjord, the Seven Sisters and Suitor falls, free time in the village before returning.

- ~3 h out + 2 h in Geiranger + 3 h back · audio guide + kiosk on board
- Wheelchair accessible (2 spots) · strollers OK · free bikes
- ⚠️ 2 h in village in low season (little for a hike) · passenger info required (maritime law)

Free cancellation

From **192 €**

Check availability

Ålesund: RIB fjord safari in the Hjørundfjord

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **4.8/5 · Exceptional** · 104 reviews · 1 h 45 · Fjord Guiding

Head for the Hjørundfjord, considered one of Norway's most beautiful fjords — wild, unspoilt, nestled in the Sunnmøre Alps. The fast, open RIB darts under the waterfalls and slips to the foot of vertical cliffs, where the big boats cannot go.

- 1 h 45 on a fast RIB · flotation suit + life jacket provided
- Guided photo stops · guide (Uri, often praised) shares local wildlife and history
- ⚠️ In English · not advised: back issues/pregnancy/seasickness · not wheelchair accessible

Free cancellation

From **134 €**

Check availability

If you feel like getting a bit of exercise, there's something really cool. You can **go kayaking** in the canals of Alesund

Ålesund: guided sea kayaking tour

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **5/5 · Top rated** · 3 reviews · 2 h 30 or 6 h · Uteguiden

Paddle a stable kayak around Ålesund to discover its Art Nouveau architecture from the water, an unusual angle. Two options: the classic 2 h 30 accessible to the whole family, or a 6 h day with a hike and Norwegian lunch for sportier teens and adults.

- Classic 2 h 30 (7 km · ages 5+ · 16 max) or 6 h (10 km + 4 km hike · ages 13+)
- Wetsuit + life jacket + paddle + spray skirt + dry bag · paddling briefing included
- ⚠️ Guides in English/Norwegian · strict cancellation (but weather guarantee)

Weather guarantee

From **81 €**

Check availability

Finally, if you don't have a car but want to explore the surrounding area and the famous **Troll Road**, then you can absolutely do it from Alesund with a tour operator.

Ålesund: Trollstigen, Trollvegen & fjord day trip

★ ★ ★ ★ ½ **4.5/5 · Excellent** · 719 reviews · 6 h · hotel pickup

A day in the "land of the Trolls" south-east of Ålesund. On the road, Norway's fjord villages roll by: Sjoholt and its furniture industry, Valldal and its strawberries, Åndalsnes at the foot of Romsdalen. At the end: landscapes that fed Norwegian mythology.

- Trollstigen (11 hairpins) · Stigefossen 240 m · Trollvegen · Gudbrandsjuvet gorge
- 6 h air-conditioned bus · English-speaking guide · photo stops + hotel pickup
- ⚠️ Geared to cruise passengers (ship-return guarantee) · Trollstigen may close (rockfalls)

Free cancellation

From **161 €**

Check availability

Where to stay in Alesund

There are lots of lovely little hotels in town, especially in the streets with Art Nouveau architecture. In high season it's rather expensive. Outside summer, it's really much cheaper than the rest of Norway.

Thon Hotel Ålesund

📍 Molovegen · seafront · location 9.4/10

The seafront design hotel near the quay, with top-floor balcony rooms overlooking the fjord and a "fabulous" 9.1/10 breakfast in the panoramic room.

- ✓ Sea-view rooms available (top floor with balcony)
- ✓ Free bike loan, gym, private parking
- ✓ Brasseriet restaurant (fresh fish, local barbecue)

Free cancellation

From **140 €** / night

Check availability

Hotel 1904

📍 Løvenvoldgata · Ålesund's oldest hotel · location 9.6/10

The 1904 Art Nouveau boutique hotel (the oldest in town) with custom-designed rooms, the Green Garden café-bar and a terrace in the inner courtyard.

- ✓ Original Art Nouveau building (1904, 100+ years)
- ✓ Green Garden indoor/outdoor bar + courtyard terrace
- ✓ Rooms decorated by the architect owners

Free cancellation

From **160 €** / night

Check availability

Hotel Brosundet

📍 Apotekergt · on the strait · location 9.7/10

The former waterside Art Nouveau warehouse with exposed beams: sauna with a sea plunge and a red/white lighthouse room unique in Norway.

- ✓ Red & white lighthouse room (book well in advance)
- ✓ Sauna with direct plunge into the sea + gym
- ✓ Apotekergata No. 5 restaurant (seafood, local chefs)

Free cancellation

From **210 €** / night

Check availability

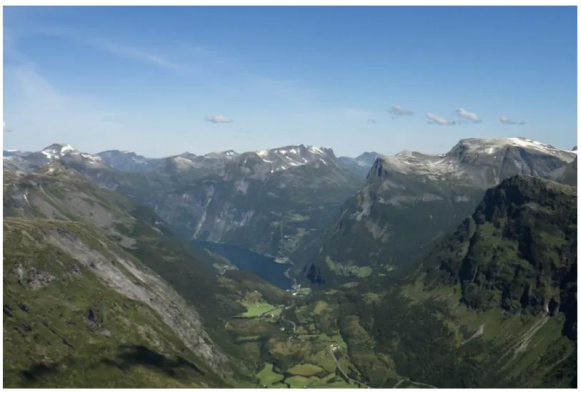
GEIRANGER

So yes, it's probably the most touristy fjord in Norway, and cruise ships do come here. But there's a reason for that: it really is truly beautiful! So don't hesitate, go!

All around the fjord there are superb viewpoints, beautiful hikes and even water activities.

The different viewpoints over Geiranger

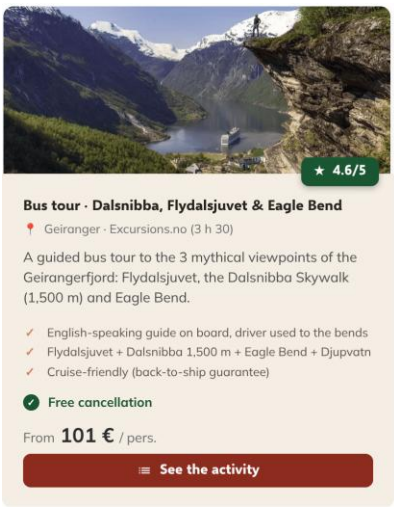
- **Ljøen utsiktspunkt**, a viewpoint on the Hellesylt side, letting you see the Geirangerfjord in all its depth
- **Ørnesvingen** on the famous road 63 that zigzags down into the fjord; it's the best-known platform, but there are others on other bends that also offer superb views
- **Flydalsjuvet**, a crazy view above the village of Geiranger that lets you take in the whole fjord
- **Dalsnibba**, a magnificent view, further away, offering a superb panorama over the whole valley with the fjord in the background! Note there's an entrance fee (but it's worth it!)
- **Skageflå**, accessible via a hike of 4 h there and back, superb view!

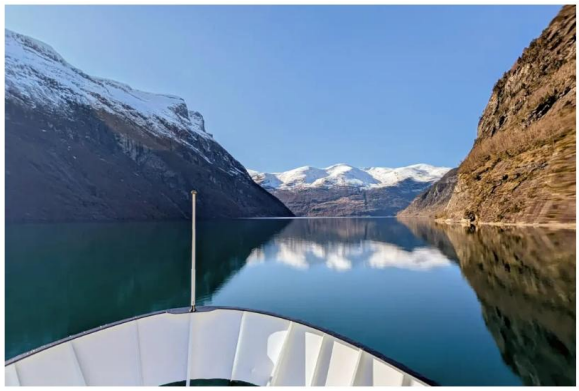


Visiting Geiranger and its surroundings without a car

If you want to discover Geiranger, its fjord and its viewpoints, and you don't have a car, there are several options:

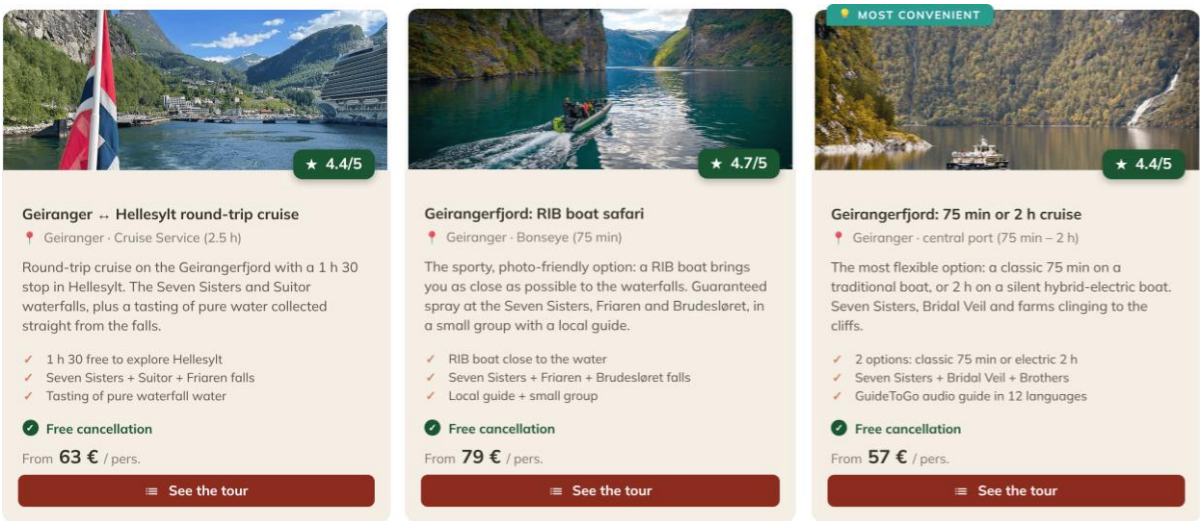
- You can explore the area by **minibus** with a guide
  - *Info and booking*
- You can take a cruise on the Geirangerfjord **from Alesund**
  - *Info and booking*
- A cheaper option: if you're in Geiranger you have the **sightseeing bus** which takes you past the main spots
  - *Info and booking*





Activities and cruises to try

- Discover the Geirangerfjord on a sightseeing boat cruise
  - *Info and booking*
- Take a RIB boat ride on the fjord at Geiranger
  - *Info and booking*
- Go kayaking on the fjord
  - *Info and booking*
- If you're traveling by car, you can take the ferry between Geiranger and Hellesylt to continue your journey towards Stryn
  - *Info and booking*



Where to stay in Geiranger

What's great about Geiranger is that with a setting like this, you're guaranteed an insane view of the fjord. And the accommodation on offer really doesn't disappoint! Here are a few little recommendations. Just know that it's best to book ahead in high season, and prices can double in July and August, gulp!

I'm going to show you some lovely hotels, some hytte, campsites — in short, something for every taste!

★ 9.2/10

Grande Fjord Hotel ★★★★

📍 Geiranger · 2 km from centre · Value for money 8.6

A 4★ hotel beautifully located on the shore of the Geiranger fjord with a 6th-floor panoramic restaurant, jacuzzi and sauna. Free shuttle to the village included.

- ✓ Panoramic restaurant, jacuzzi and sauna on site
- ✓ Buffet breakfast included in the rate
- ✓ Free shuttle to Geiranger village

✔ Free cancellation available

From **170 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.7/10

Hotel Utsikten ★★★

📍 Geiranger · 1.3 km from centre · Staff 9.5/10

A historic hotel perched above the Geirangerfjord with exceptional panoramic fjord views from the rooms and lounge. Norwegian cuisine, buffet breakfast included.

- ✓ Sweeping view of the fjord from the rooms
- ✓ Buffet breakfast included in the rate
- ✓ 100 m from the Flydalsjuvet cliff

✔ Free cancellation available

From **150 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.9/10

Hotel Union Geiranger Bad & Spa ★★★★

📍 Geiranger · town centre · Location 9.5/10

A 4★ spa hotel overlooking the Geirangerfjord with 3 pools (one heated outdoor), sauna, jacuzzi and 3 restaurants. Gargantuan buffet breakfast and vintage car museum included.

- ✓ 3 pools incl. a heated outdoor one, sauna & jacuzzi
- ✓ 3 restaurants and a superb breakfast rated 8.9/10
- ✓ Full spa with massages, hammam and treatments

✔ Free cancellation available

From **318 €** / night

Check availability

★ 9,3/10

Hole Hytter

📍 Hole · 3 km centre · situation 9,8/10 (top)

Les emblématiques cabanes rouges à toit d'herbe en hauteur, avec terrasse et vue panoramique sur le Geirangerfjord, à seulement 500 m du point de vue Flydalsjuvet.

- ✓ Cabanes à toit d'herbe iconiques, vue fjord panoramique
- ✓ Point de vue Flydalsjuvet à 500 m (l'un des plus fameux)
- ✓ Kitchenette, terrasse meublée, parking privé gratuit

✔ Annulation gratuite

À partir de **130 €** / nuit

Voir les disponibilités

★ 9,2/10

Vinje Camping

📍 Geirangervegen · 1,5 km centre · situation 9,6/10

Sept chalets bien équipés entre cascades et montagnes, avec balcon vue sur le fjord, feu de camp sous abri, aire de jeux et coussin sauteur pour les enfants.

- ✓ Chalets 1-2 chambres avec kitchenette, balcon vue fjord
- ✓ Feu de camp couvert + aire de jeux + coussin sauteur (familles)
- ✓ Kiosque sur place (pain frais en haute saison), parking gratuit

✔ Annulation gratuite

À partir de **140 €** / nuit

Voir les disponibilités

★ 9,1/10

Grande Hytteutleige og Camping

📍 Ørnevegen · bord du fjord UNESCO · situation 9,8/10

Les cottages directement au bord du Geirangerfjord classé UNESCO, avec cheminée, petite plage aménagée en contrebas et vue plongeante sur les eaux du patrimoine mondial.

- ✓ Bord du fjord UNESCO + petite plage privée aménagée
- ✓ Studios avec cheminée, machine à café, terrasse vue mer
- ✓ Au pied de la route panoramique Ørnevegen (Trollstigen)

✔ Annulation gratuite

À partir de **190 €** / nuit

Voir les disponibilités

FLAM

A major stop in the Norwegian fjords. A legendary UNESCO-listed fjord, a railway line considered one of the most beautiful in the world, and breathtaking scenery. Welcome to Flam! (*check out the full article on Flam*)

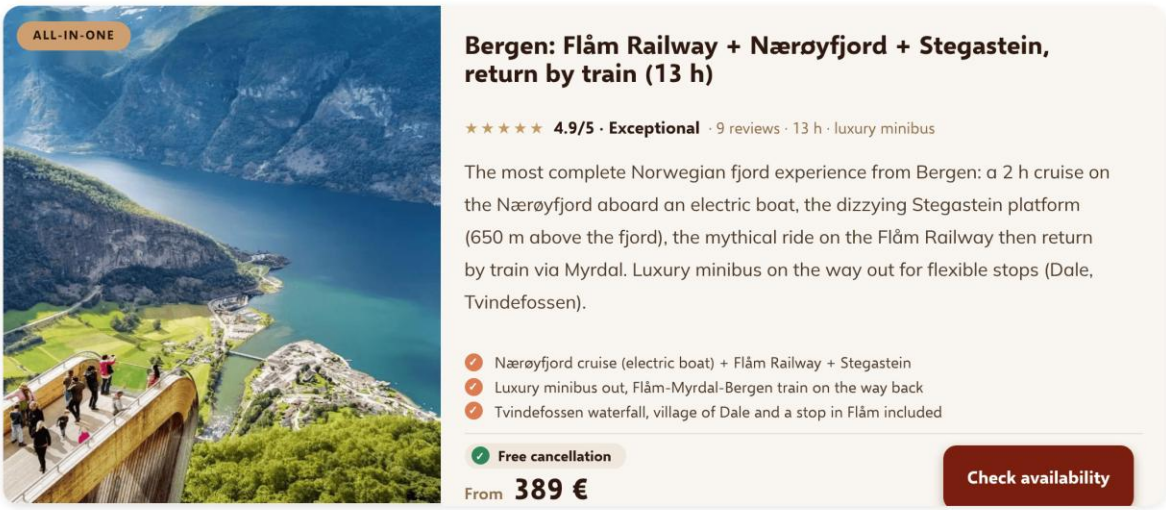
The Flam Railway - Flamsbana

- This train runs the Flam – Myrdal route (one-way or round trip)
- It makes several trips every day
- You need to book several weeks in advance for high season (July and August)
- The trip takes 50 min one-way (if you do the round trip, you spend 30 min in Myrdal and the return also takes 50 min)
- Prices for the round trip start at NOK 675 (one-way from NOK 399)
- To buy your tickets, you have two options:
    - The *Norway's Best* website for buying the round trip
    - The *Norwegian VY trains website* for one-way or round trip
    - Do **NOT** book through the likes of RailNinja, they resell the tickets at a huge markup.

A cruise on the Naeroyfjord

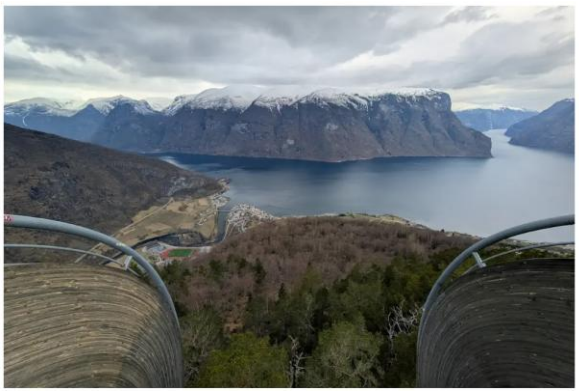
An absolute must! For me it's the most beautiful fjord in Norway (and they have quite a few). The cruise goes from Gudvangen to Flam (or the other way round) and sails along the Naeroyfjord and the Aurlandfjord.

- The cruise lasts 2 h
- You depart from Gudvangen or Flam
- The return trip is either by boat or by bus
- Price: NOK 640 one-way, NOK 960 round trip
- 2 departures a day in winter, 4 in summer (*prices and timetables here*)
- Book on *Norway's Best*



The viewpoint at Stegastein

One of the most beautiful viewpoints in the country, with a crazy view over the Aurlandsfjord, reached either from the Snovegen or from the village of Aurland (15 min from Flam by car). Don't forget to stop at an even better viewpoint a few bends further down.



Seeing Stegastein from Flam without a car

If you don't have a car and you're staying in Flam, you can absolutely still come and see the Stegastein viewpoint by bus:

- The *Eidfjord Shuttle Bus*, €45, several buses a day
- The buses from *Norway's Best*, €44, several buses a day

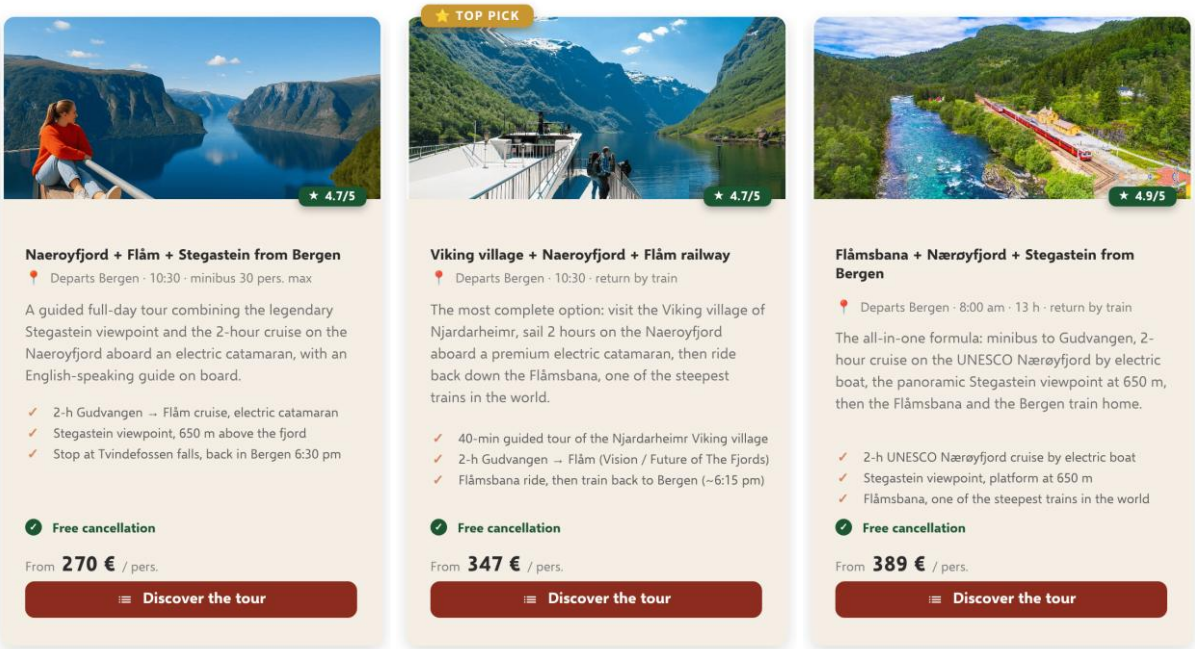
Or with a tour company that will take you to see Borgund church, Stegastein and the village of Laerdal.

- *More information*

From Bergen: Flam Railway + Cruise on the Naeroyfjord

If you're in Bergen and fancy a package combining the Flam Railway + a cruise on the Naeroyfjord as a day trip (returning to Bergen), it's totally doable! There are 3 options, some include Stegastein, others don't. Here are the 3 options, with prices

- OPTION 1: Cruise on the Naeroyfjord, a visit to the village of Flam (not the train), and the viewpoint at Stegastein. €270, *More info*
- OPTION 2: Cruise on the Naeroyfjord, the Viking village of Gudvangen, and the Flam Railway. €347, *more info*.
- OPTION 3: Cruise on the Naeroyfjord, the Flam Railway, and the viewpoint at Stegastein. €389, *more info*



Other cruises to Flam or Gudvangen

- The **Bergen – Flam** cruise, 5 h along the Sognefjord then the Aurlandfjord. Available one-way or round trip
  - *Info and booking*

- Norway's most beautiful ferry ride, between **Kaupanger and Gudvangen**, running only from May to September. 2 h 30, from NOK 599
  - *Info and booking*

This guide is free and ad-free. If it has been useful for planning your holidays, you can support the free content on Buy Me a Coffee.

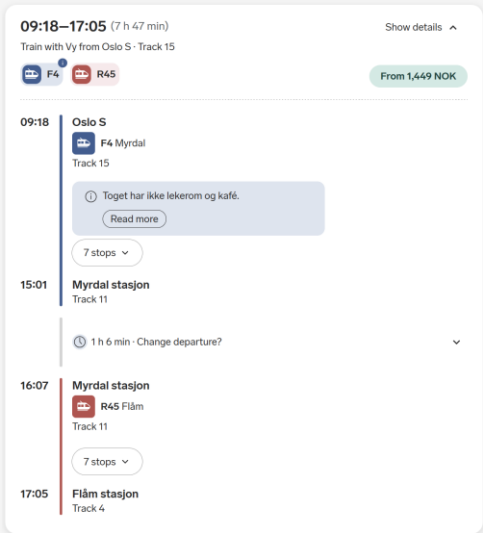
Buy me a coffee

Getting to Flam from Bergen

- By **train**, with Bergen – Myrdal – Flam (a superb route), almost 3 h, from NOK 678
- By **bus**: the VY450, around 2 h 30
- By **boat**: the Bergen – Flam route, along the Sognefjord and the Aurlandfjord. A 5 h trip, available one-way or
  round trip
    - *Info and booking*
- With a **tour company** for a cruise on the Naeroyfjord and the Flam Railway
    - *Info and booking*
- **Combo**: take the train to Voss, then the bus from Voss to Gudvangen, then the boat from Gudvangen to Flam via the Naeroyfjord

Getting to Flam from Oslo

- You can take the Oslo – Myrdal – Flam train
    - Book your tickets on the *Norwegian VY trains website*
- There's the VY450 bus, which takes 7 h



Where to stay in Flam

Between Flam, Undredal and Aurland, there are some superb options, most of them with insane views over the fjord. However, prices climb in summer and above all the accommodation gets snapped up fast, so don't hesitate to book well in advance! It's beautiful, but it costs an arm and a leg!

Svingen Guesthouse

📍 Flåm · on the heights facing the fjord

A 1938 family house perched on the heights of Flåm, run by the endearing Cathy & Wayne. Retro charm and fjord views at the fairest price.

- ✓ Panoramic Aurlandsfjord view from every room
- ✓ Shared fitted kitchen, free coffee and tea
- ✓ 500 m from Flåm station and the ferry pier

✅ **Free cancellation**

From **160 €** / night

Check availability

Flåmsbrygga Hotel

📍 Flåm · 150 m from the station

Hotel at the foot of Flåm station, rooms panelled in Norwegian pine and the house Ægir brewpub on site. 3★ comfort with the soul of the fjord.

- ✓ Ægir Brew Pub: craft beer brewed on site
- ✓ Nærøyfjord (UNESCO) cruises 50 m away
- ✓ Children's playground and family rooms

✅ **Free cancellation**

From **210 €** / night

Check availability

Flåm Marina

📍 Flåm · on the marina, Sognefjord view

Apartments set right on the marina, with spectacular views over the Sognefjord. Kitchenette, private terrace and total silence — the independent favourite.

- ✓ Fitted kitchen and fjord-view terrace in most units
- ✓ Restaurant and café on site with sea views
- ✓ 550 m from Flåm station

✅ **Free cancellation**

From **250 €** / night

Check availability

Lunde Camping

📍 Aurland · riverside · Flåm 10 km away

The budget campsite by the river with clean, well-equipped cabins, free washing machine and dryer, a 20-min walk from the centre along a cycle path.

- ✓ Riverside chalets & cabins, fitted kitchenette
- ✓ Free washing machine + dryer on site
- ✓ Cycle path to Aurland (20 min), EV chargers 2 min away

✅ **Free cancellation**

From **75 €** / night

Check availability

Gudvangen Fjordtell

📍 Gudvangen · on the Nærøyfjord · location 9.2/10

The hotel at the heart of the UNESCO Nærøyfjord: unique Viking rooms (starry sky), 5 restaurants and the Viking village next door.

- ✓ 40 m from the pier for the Nærøyfjord cruise (UNESCO)
- ✓ Unique Viking rooms (themed decor, starry ceiling)
- ✓ 5 restaurants on site (gourmet, seafood, pizza, Viking)

✅ **Free cancellation**

From **175 €** / night

Check availability

Vangsgaarden Gjestgiveri

📍 Aurland · beachfront · location 9.5/10

Aurland's oldest buildings (1770), now fishermen's cabins on the Aurlandsfjord shore, 1 min from the quay for the Nærøyfjord boats.

- ✓ Traditional 1770 fishermen's cabins, private kitchen
- ✓ Beachfront + 1 min from the quay (Nærøyfjord cruise)
- ✓ Gastropub on site (April to mid-Dec), lovely garden

✅ **Free cancellation**

From **200 €** / night

Check availability

FIND YOUR DREAM STAY IN FLAM!

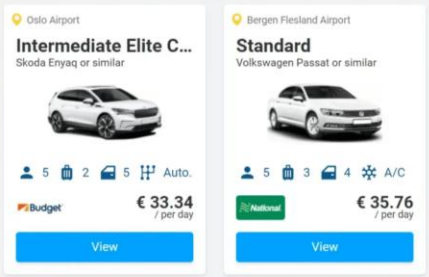
What to see near Flam

Not far away, there are some superb places to discover

- The Viking church of Borgund
- The Viking church of Urnes
- The scenic road Snovegen
- The road tunnel at Laerdal, the longest tunnel in the world
- Undredal and Aurland with the viewpoint at Stegastein
- ***Visit Borgund and Stegastein from Flam!***
    - *Info and booking*

CAR RENTAL IN NORWAY

Road-trip around Norway with *Discover Cars*



- Rent a car at many airports or in town
- Small model, **SUV** or electric for your adventure
- Car provided with the **Autopass** badge
- Prices from **30€**

LEARN MORE

WHERE TO STAY IN THE FJORD REGION

So earlier I gave you my accommodation picks for Alesund, Flam and Geiranger. Except that the region is huge and there are plenty of other great places to stay. Here's a small selection. The spots I'd recommend basing yourself in are Fjaerland, Lom, Eidfjord… let's take a look!

Preikestolen Panorama - Seaside

📍 Strand · fjordside · location 9.9/10 (top)

Brand-new apartments right at the water's edge, with a private beach, paddleboard and rowing boat available, 20 min from the start of the Preikestolen (Pulpit Rock) trail.

- ✓ Preikestolen 20 min by car (free hiking guide)
- ✓ Private beach + free paddleboard & boat on a private pontoon
- ✓ 2-3 bedroom apartments, full kitchenette, Jørpeland on foot

Free cancellation

From **250 €** / night

Check availability

Vikinghaug

📍 Odda · between lake and fjord · location 9.9/10

Exceptional 9.6/10 apartments between Lake Sandvevatnet and the fjord, with plunging views of waterfall and glacier, the dream base for the Trolltunga hike.

- ✓ Simultaneous fjord + lake + waterfall + glacier views
- ✓ Ideal base for the Trolltunga hike (Odda 15 min)
- ✓ Penthouse and Top Suite available, washing machine

Free cancellation

From **300 €** / night

Check availability

Fjærland Fjordstove Hotell

📍 Mundal · on the Sognefjord · location 9.7/10

Charming family-run hotel from 1937 set on the Sognefjord, between glacier and 'book town', with a restaurant acclaimed for its 3-course evening menu.

- ✓ On the Sognefjord + Mundal village ('booktown')
- ✓ Acclaimed 3-course restaurant (local produce)
- ✓ Bike & kayak rental, fishing from the terrace

Free cancellation

From **260 €** / night

Check availability

Visnes Hotel Stryn

📍 Stryn · facing Stryn Bay · 19th-century hotel

Charming 19th-century hotel run by a passionate couple, authentic furniture, private balconies and an acclaimed restaurant with great value for money.

- ✓ 19th-century building facing Stryn Bay, tasteful decor
- ✓ Self-catering cottage possible for families on long stays
- ✓ Free washing machine (rare on a Norway road trip)

Free cancellation

From **230 €** / night

Check availability

Hjelle Hotel

📍 Hjelle · on Lake Oppstrynsvatnet · location 9.8/10

A 1900s villa kept in its original charm, on the shore of the Oppstrynsvatnet fjord-lake, with a free rowing boat, sauna, gym and the Jostedalsbreen national park 5 km away.

- ✓ Authentic 1900s villa, dinner with a speech by the host
- ✓ Free rowing boat on the lake + sauna + gym
- ✓ Jostedalsbreen national park 5 km away, private beach

Free cancellation

From **180 €** / night

Check availability

Melkevoll Bretun Camping

📍 Briksdal valley · facing the glacier · location 9.8/10

Comfortable cabins facing the Briksdalsbreen glacier, with sauna, heated bathroom floors and hiking trails leading straight from the campsite to the glaciers.

- ✓ Facing the Briksdalsbreen glacier (Jostedalsbreen park)
- ✓ Sauna on site + heated bathroom floors
- ✓ New cabins, 3-bedroom options, fully equipped

Free cancellation

From **115 €** / night

Check availability

Jotunheimen Husky Lodge

📍 Randsverk · at the gates of Jotunheimen · husky-pen view

Modern apartments looking straight onto the husky pen, at the gates of the Jotunheimen national park: you can join the feeding sessions and cart/sled rides.

- ✓ Room view over the husky pen + join the feeding
- ✓ Husky cart rides in summer / sled in winter (to book)
- ✓ Fully equipped 2-3 bedroom apartments, café 3 min away

Free cancellation

From **200 €** / night

Check availability

Toftemo Turiststasjon

📍 Dovre · E6 Oslo-Ålesund road · location 9.2/10

Historic 1820 tourist station by the river and forest, with an outdoor pool heated to 27 °C, ideal as a base camp for the Rondane and Dovrefjell national parks.

- ✓ 1820 Scandinavian-style station, very quiet (river/forest)
- ✓ Outdoor pool heated to 27 °C (summer) + playground
- ✓ Rondane / Dovrefjell base camp + EV chargers next door

Free cancellation

From **115 €** / night

Check availability

Valldal Fjordhotell (Classic Norway)

📍 Valldal · fjordside · location 9.8/10

High-end design hotel on the fjordside at the start of the mythical Trolls' Road (Trollstigen), with an acclaimed seasonal restaurant and a fjord trout pen.

- ✓ Start of the Trolls' Road (Trollstigen) + Geiranger 35 km
- ✓ Classic Norway restaurant (fjord trout, local produce)
- ✓ Design rooms with sea-view balcony available

Free cancellation

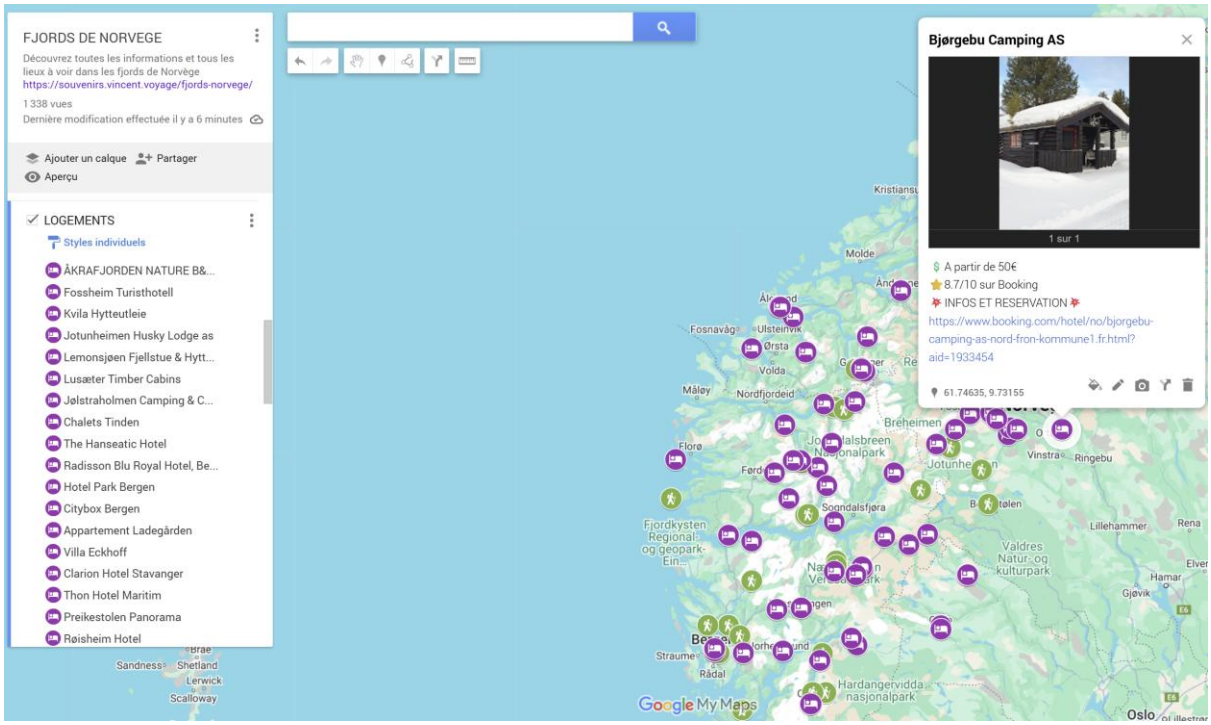
From **180 €** / night

Check availability

On the Norwegian fjords map, you have access to a much wider selection of accommodation all over the region, with prices and ratings.

To see only the accommodation, as on the map below, just turn off all the other layers!

⭐ ***Click here to access the map!*** ⭐



HOW TO GET THERE AND GET AROUND

- Nearest **train** station:
  - Bergen / Flam / Myrdal
  - For routes and tickets, head to Vy.no

- **Airports** that are the most convenient:
  - Bergen
  - Alesund
  - Oslo can be a good alternative, taking the train from there to Bergen
  - Compare flights and airlines, as prices vary hugely from one day to the next. I use Kayak, which I find very reliable.

- Quite a few buses in the area. **Journey planner**:
  - https://entur.no/
  - Plan ahead, as there aren't necessarily many daily connections

- Exploring the fjords on a **cruise**
  - The famous Hurtigruten
  - Compare all the cruises in Norway

- Taking the various **ferries** and fjord crossings
  - Usually done without a reservation
  - You pay with Autopass
  - The Geiranger–Hellesylt and Lauvvik–Lysebotn routes are the most popular and require arriving very early
  - The journey planner ENTUR also includes the ferries

- Renting a **car**:
  - You can rent cars in the major cities and at the airports. So Stavanger / Bergen / Alesund / Oslo

You absolutely have to COMPARE prices and reviews. I mainly use two sites: *Discover Cars*, a safe bet, and *Booking.com*, with no nasty surprises.

O S L O

Full article here

OSLO AT A GLANCE

Most beautiful spots to see in the city

- The park of Vigeland
- The new waterfront, from the Opera to Aker Brygge
- The city center, from the Domkirke to the National Theatre

3 Best museums

- *FRAM*
- *Norwegian Folklore*
- *Kon Tiki*

3 Best activities

- *A guided tour of Oslo*
- *A cruise through the archipelago*
- *An intro to snowshoeing*

3 Best places to stay

- *Karl Johan Hotel*
- *Clarion Hotel Oslo*
- *City Box Oslo*

Car rental comparison sites

- *Discover Cars*
- *Booking.com*

3 Favorite restaurants

- *Den Glade Gris*
- *The Salmon*
- *Rorbua Aker Brygge*

3 Cafés to relax in

- *Fuglen*
- *Café Provence*
- *Tullins Cafe*

Best time to visit

- Oslo can easily be visited all year round
- From late April to September, it's really lovely

How long to enjoy the city

- Central Oslo with just the essential museums takes 2 full days
- 3 days let you enjoy it more and see more museums
- In a week you can visit both Oslo and Bergen

PLACES TO SEE IN OSLO

Oslo is a really pleasant city. It's not an imperial city like the great European capitals, and it doesn't have the architecture of Copenhagen or Stockholm, but wandering around is a real treat, especially in nice weather. I recommend the historic center, the new waterfront, Vigeland Park, the area around the Royal Palace. For the wooden houses and old-fashioned Oslo, you need to go to Gamlebyen. And of course the many museums!

- The **museums**. Oslo has some really fascinating museums, especially for getting to know and soaking up Norwegian culture
    - **FRAM**, the polar expedition museum (a must, really)
        - Tickets and information
    - **Kon Tiki**, about crossing the Pacific on an Inca raft. An odyssey that's hugely famous in Norway and Peru
        - Tickets and information
    - The Norwegian **folklore** museum, to understand Norwegian life
        - Tickets and information
    - The **Nobel** Peace Museum
        - Tickets and information
    - The **Viking Ship** Museum (closed for renovation)
        - Information
    - The Ski Museum, by the **ski jump at Holmenkollen**, with a superb view over the city
        - Information
    - The Norwegian **Maritime Museum**
        - Tickets and information
    - The **National Museum**
        - Tickets and information
    - The **Munch Museum**
        - Tickets and information
    - →**OSLO PASS**

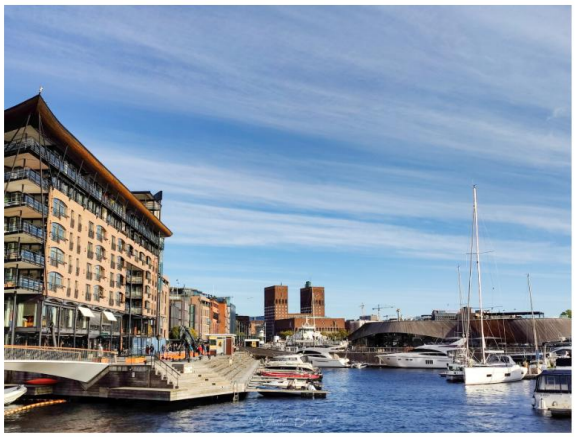
- The **fortress** of Akershus

- The **Royal Palace**, but the interior is only open in summer

- The park of **Vigeland**
    - And its little museum
- The peninsula of **Bygdoya**
    - It's home to all the main museums, but Bygdoya is a really lovely place for a stroll, with even a few small beaches
    - You get there via the shuttle boat by the city hall

- The **historic** city center
    - From the Opera to the Castle via Banksplassen
    - The cathedral
    - Stortinget / Karl Johan Gate

- The new waterfront of **Aker Brygge**



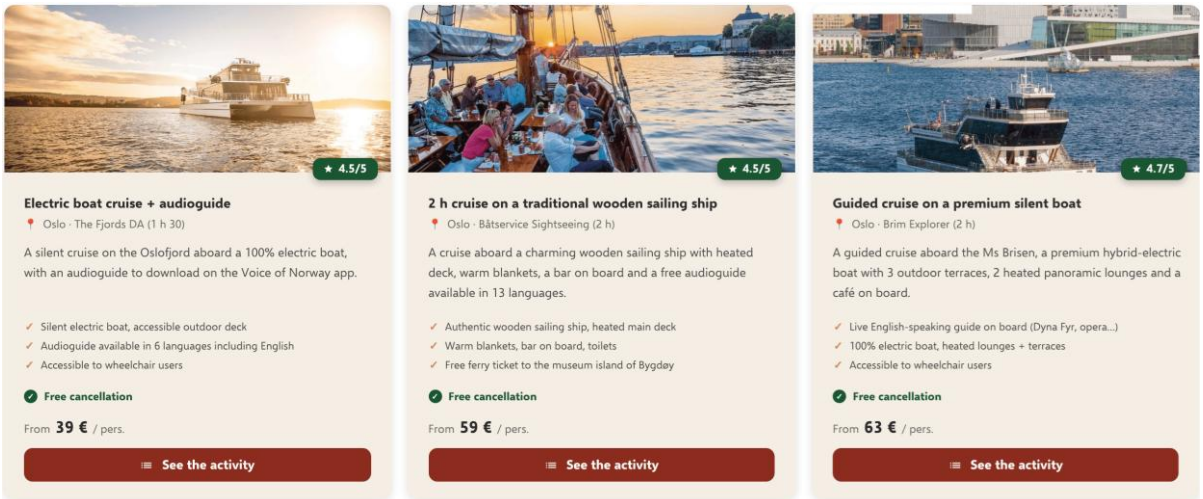
THINGS TO DO IN OSLO

- OSLO **PASS**
    - 1 day: €53 adult / 2 days: €77 adult / 3 days: €90
    - Entry to all museums included
    - Access to all public transport in zones 1 and 2
    - Access to the boat that goes to the museums
    - *Info and booking*

- A **boat** trip through the archipelago

Ok, it's not as impressive as the fjords of Geiranger or Flam, but a boat trip through the Oslo archipelago is great fun. Especially if you've packed some drinks and nibbles!

- 2 hours on the fjord aboard a sailboat
- A 3-hour boat trip with a shrimp buffet



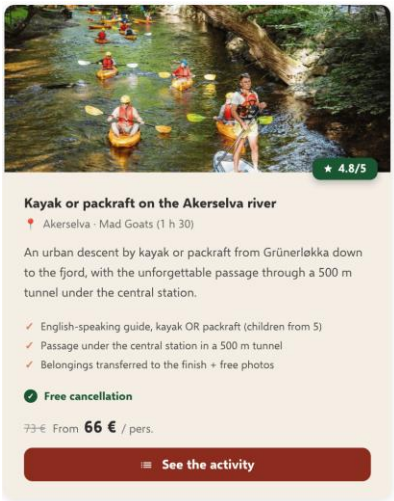
- **Guided tours of Oslo**

Taking a guided tour in Oslo can be worthwhile. Not absolutely essential, but a nice way to discover the city's history and little secrets

  - *A **Free tour** of Oslo (you pay what you want!)*
  - *A 2 h guided tour of the **main sights** of the city*
  - *A food tour to discover the (more or less strange) culinary specialties of Norway*
  - *A 3 h excursion **by bike** to explore Oslo*

3 sporty activities in Oslo

Summer or winter, you're bound to find something you fancy to stretch your legs!



WHERE TO STAY IN OSLO

Oslo is an expensive city for accommodation. Really. There are a few options at almost reasonable prices, especially off season and outside summer, but I recommend booking early. That said, it's expensive, even mid-range, but what you get is really quite good. Good bedding and a good little breakfast, you won't be disappointed. Here are a few examples.

My 6 favorite hotels in Oslo

★ 9.0/10

Radisson RED Oslo Økern

📍 Grünerløkka · Økern metro 500 m · fabulous 9.0/10

Oslo's best value for money: a 4-star design hotel with rooftop, a much-praised « fabulous » breakfast and a games area (ping-pong, table football).

- ✓ Økern metro 500 m away (T1/T2 to the centre in 8 min)
- ✓ Panoramic rooftop with blankets for chilly evenings
- ✓ 9/10 buffet breakfast, ping-pong & table football room

Free cancellation

From **105 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.8/10

Clarion Hotel Oslo

📍 Barcode / Gamle Oslo · location 9.6/10 · 650 m station

In the modern Barcode district facing the Opera and the new Munch museum: rooftop, Rituals products in the room and an « extraordinary » breakfast buffet.

- ✓ Facing the Opera and the new Munch museum (steps away)
- ✓ Oslo central station 650 m away, free gym
- ✓ Rooftop, Rituals products, eco-friendly buffet

Free cancellation

From **190 €** / night

Check availability

TOP PICK

★ 9.2/10

Hotel Continental

📍 Stortingsgaten · opposite the National Theatre · location 9.7/10

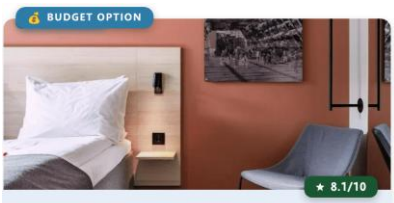
Norway's only 5-star (Leading Hotels of the World): timeless elegance opposite the National Theatre, 150 m from Karl Johan and 5 min from the royal palace.

- ✓ Norway's ONLY 5-star (Leading Hotels of the World)
- ✓ 5 restaurants including Theatercaféen (an icon for 100 years)
- ✓ Karl Johan 150 m, royal palace 5 min, airport Flytoget next door

Free cancellation

From **350 €** / night

Check availability



BUDGET OPTION

★ 8.1/10

Citybox Oslo

📍 Prinsens gate · 250 m central station · location 9.5/10

Oslo's best value for money: ultra-functional Scandinavian design rooms 150 m from Karl Johans, with 24/7 self check-in.

- ✓ Central station 250 m + Karl Johans 150 m
- ✓ Self check-in at a kiosk, open 24/7
- ✓ Shared kitchen (fridge, microwave, cutlery) · 25,000 reviews

Free cancellation

From **80 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.6/10

Scandic Holmenkollen Park

📍 Holmenkollen hill · 350 m altitude · metro 650 m

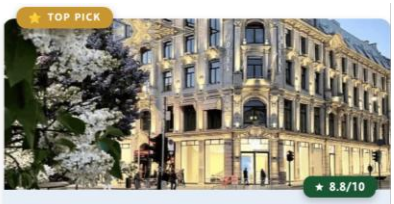
The nature escape at 350 m altitude with panoramic views over Oslo and the fjord, in a magnificent old building freshly renovated near the Olympic ski jump.

- ✓ Panoramic Oslo view + direct access to the Nordmarka forests
- ✓ Renovated historic Dragon-style building, 376 rooms
- ✓ Spa & pool (195 NOK/entry), sauna, 1,100 m² gym

Free cancellation

From **90 €** / night

Check availability



TOP PICK

★ 8.8/10

Karl Johan Hotel

📍 Karl Johans gate 33 · location 9.8/10 (unbeatable)

The charming hotel right on Karl Johans, Oslo's iconic street: a renovated historic building and an « exceptional » breakfast served under a glass roof.

- ✓ On Karl Johans itself (Parliament, Royal Palace on foot)
- ✓ « Exceptional » breakfast under a bright glass roof
- ✓ Stortinget metro 250 m · central station 750 m

Free cancellation

From **215 €** / night

Check availability

This guide is free and ad-free. If it has been useful for planning your holidays, you can support the free content on Buy Me a Coffee.

Buy me a coffee

It's a bit of a hoity toity neighborhood, the hotels are often set in historic buildings, you're close to everything, it's classy, but it comes at a price.

★ 8.1/10

Grand Hotel Oslo

📍 Karl Johans gate 31 · Historic palace · location 9.7/10

Oslo's legendary palace hotel on Karl Johans, with the Grand Café where Ibsen was a regular, an indoor pool, a spa and the Eight rooftop bar on the top floor.

- ✓ Historic building on Karl Johans (Nobel Peace Prize)
- ✓ Heated indoor pool + Artesia spa + gym
- ✓ Eight rooftop bar & the iconic Grand Café

✔ Free cancellation

From **170 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.6/10

Thon Hotel Opera

📍 Dronning Eufemias gate · 100 m station · Opera 300 m

Convenience at its best: 100 m from the station for the airport express train, 300 m from the Opera for strolls along the fjord, with a fabulous breakfast.

- ✓ Central station 100 m (direct airport express train)
- ✓ Opera & fjordside 300 m away, location 9.7/10
- ✓ 4th-floor gym with view terrace, Chromecast in the room

✔ Free cancellation

From **170 €** / night

Check availability

★ TOP PICK

★ 8.9/10

Amerikalinjen

📍 Jernbanetorget · opposite the station · location 9.8/10 (Oslo's top)

The design boutique hotel in the former headquarters of the Norwegian America Line shipping company, with a cocktail bar, an intimate jazz club and a 24/7 gym.

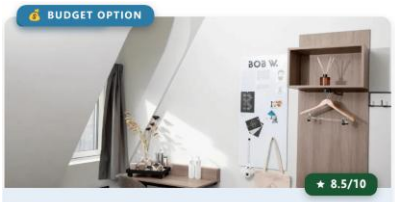
- ✓ Opposite the station (300 m), Karl Johans steps away
- ✓ Intimate New York-style jazz club + cocktail bar
- ✓ 24/7 gym, Finnish sauna, Nespresso in the room

✔ Free cancellation

From **300 €** / night

Check availability

3 places to stay with excellent value for money



💰 BUDGET OPTION

★ 8.5/10

Bob W Oslo Sentralen

📍 Kirkegata · 450 m station · location 9.7/10

The self-service design boutique hotel with phone-code check-in, fully equipped modern rooms and a refillable coffee maker/kettle in every studio.

- ✓ Self check-in by phone code (24/7)
- ✓ 17-24 m² studios with coffee maker and kettle refills
- ✓ 24/7 WhatsApp support, gym access included

✔ Free cancellation

From **110 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.4/10

Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel

📍 Sonja Henies Plass · 100 m station · 37-floor tower

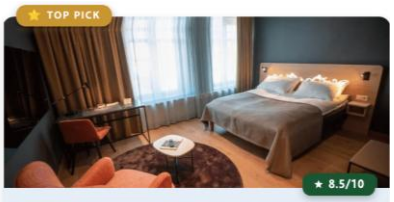
The 37-floor tower right by the station, with an indoor pool, a spa with sauna and the Top Restaurant on the 31st floor for dinner facing the Oslofjord.

- ✓ Central station 100 m (airport express train)
- ✓ Indoor pool + sauna + steam bath + massages
- ✓ Top Restaurant & Bar on the 31st floor (panoramic fjord view)

✔ Free cancellation

From **120 €** / night

Check availability



★ TOP PICK

★ 8.5/10

Hotell Bondeheimen

📍 Kristian IVs gate · 100 m Karl Johans · location 9.6/10

The address for a taste of the real Norway: the Kaffistova restaurant with potato dumplings and salmon, the Heimen craft shop and a « superb » breakfast.

- ✓ Kaffistova restaurant (traditional Norwegian cuisine)
- ✓ Heimen craft shop on site (guests' discount)
- ✓ Karl Johans 100 m + National Theatre next door

✔ Free cancellation

From **140 €** / night

Check availability

3 budget-friendly places to stay in Oslo

Luckily, it's possible to stay in Oslo without breaking the bank. It's basic but does the job very well, as we saw with the Citybox, among my favorite hotels. These ones are also very good for their category.

★ 7.8/10

Smarthotel Oslo

📍 St. Olavs gate · next to Karl Johans · Royal Palace 400 m

Oslo's smart concept: compact, well-designed mini rooms with premium Dux bedding, digital check-in and a 24/7 self-service kiosk.

- ✓ Royal Palace 400 m, Karl Johans 2 min on foot
- ✓ National Theatre & Airport Express 2 min on foot
- ✓ Premium Dux bedding, digital check-in, 24/7 kiosk

Free cancellation

From **80 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.2/10

Anker Hotel

📍 Storgata · hipster Grünerløkka district · 900 m station

The traveller's address in the lively Grünerløkka district: bright colourful rooms, a lobby with a bar and a small garden, self-service check-in and on-site parking.

- ✓ Grünerløkka (bars, hipster cafés) 15 min on foot
- ✓ Colourful 18-20 m² rooms, on-site parking
- ✓ Lobby bar + small garden, family rooms for 5

Free cancellation

From **80 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.1/10

Comfort Hotel Børsparken

📍 Tollbugt · 350 m central station · location 9.5/10

The best location for the price: 3 min from the station and 500 m from the Opera, with a top-floor balcony overlooking the port and a CrossFit room on site.

- ✓ Central station 3 min away (airport express train)
- ✓ Top-floor balcony with port view + terrace
- ✓ CrossFit gym + 24/7 reception bar

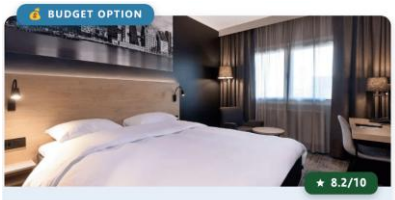
Free cancellation

From **80 €** / night

Check availability

Staying near Oslo Airport Gardermoen

There are plenty of options for sleeping right by the airport. The best are the two Radissons, since they're literally a 2-minute walk away (well, mostly the Blu — the Red is 5 min away). The others are a few minutes away by shuttle, they're much cheaper, and really quite good!



💰 BUDGET OPTION

★ 8.2/10

Park Inn by Radisson Oslo Airport West

📍 Museumsvegen · 6 min by car from the airport · shuttle 80 NOK

The smart budget option around Gardermoen: soundproofed rooms, the Cockpit restaurant on site and an airport shuttle every 20 min from 4 am.

- ✓ Airport shuttle every 20 min (4:18 am-0:50 am, 80 NOK)
- ✓ Breakfast from 4 am (ideal for early flights)
- ✓ Soundproofed 18 m² rooms + Cockpit restaurant

Free cancellation

From **80 €** / night

Check availability

★ 8.6/10

Radisson RED, Oslo Airport

📍 Henrik Ibsens veg · 5-10 min walk terminal · location 9.4/10

4-star design 5-10 min on foot from the airport via a covered walkway, with air-conditioned 22 m² rooms and the RBG Bar and Grill brasserie on site.

- ✓ 5-10 min walk to the terminal via a covered walkway
- ✓ Air-conditioned 22 m² rooms, Nespresso in superior rooms
- ✓ GAMO Bar & Grill restaurant + gym on site

Free cancellation

From **140 €** / night

Check availability

COMFORTABLE

★ 8.4/10

Radisson Blu Airport Hotel

📍 Hotelvegen · linked direct to the terminal · location 9.6/10

Unbeatable in practice: linked directly to the terminal by a pedestrian walkway (3 min), very comfortable soundproofed rooms and breakfast from 5 am.

- ✓ Direct pedestrian walkway to the terminal (3 min)
- ✓ Oslo Airport station 200 m (train to the centre in 20 min)
- ✓ Breakfast from 5 am + soundproofed 22 m² rooms

Free cancellation

From **145 €** / night

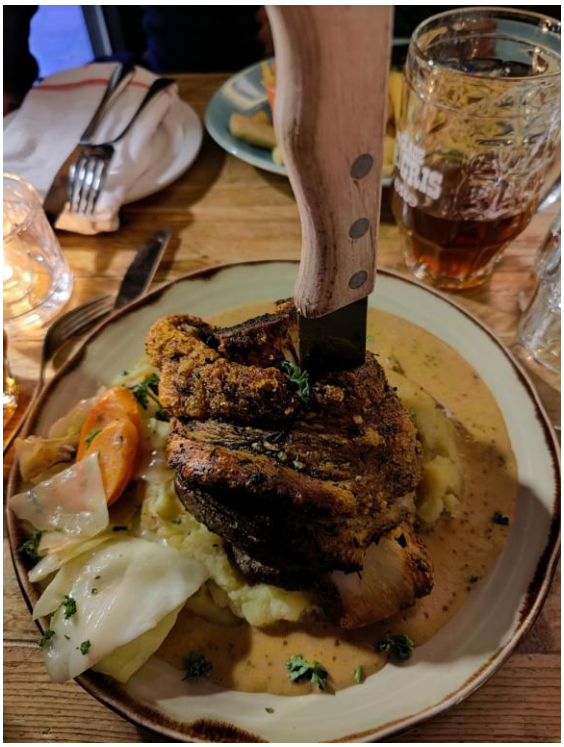
Check availability

FIND YOUR DREAM STAY IN OSLO!

WHERE TO EAT

Likewise, restaurants are expensive in Oslo, but you can eat incredibly well!

- Lots of great restaurants around Aker Brygge
    - The Salmon, unsurprisingly a restaurant all about… salmon
    - Døgnvill Burger
    - Rorbua Aker Brygge
    - Eataly, pretty good
    - The Paradis ice cream parlor
- Den Glade Gris, all about pork (with a fantastic ham hock)
- Statholderens mat og vinkjeller, Michelin-starred (get that credit card ready!)



HOW TO GET THERE AND GET AROUND

- Nearest **train** station:
  - Oslo Central station
  - For routes and tickets, head to Vy.no

- **Closest** airport:
  - Oslo Gardermoen (*find out how to get to the city center from the airport*)
    - *And here, find out where to stay near Oslo airport*
  - Plenty of direct flights from France and Belgium
  - To get from the airport to the city center, take the Flytoget train (faster but pricier) or the VY train (slower but cheaper)
  - Compare flights and airlines — prices vary enormously from one day to the next. I now use Booking Flights, which I find very reliable thanks to its price-prediction tool.

- **Getting around** the city center
  - Several metro and tram lines
  - Covered by the *OSLO PASS*
  - The **RUTER** app to buy transport tickets

- Quite a lot of public transport in the surrounding area. **Journey planners**:
  - General: https://entur.no/
  - Within Oslo: Ruter.no
    - The Ruter app for buying tickets and checking maps

- Arriving by **ferry** from abroad
  - Hirtshals (Denmark) – Larvik (the main one)
  - Kiel (Germany) - Oslo
  - Frederikshavn (Denmark) - Oslo
  - Copenhagen (Denmark) – Oslo
  - Compare ferries with Direct Ferries

- Renting a **car**:
  - You don't really need a car in Oslo. Public transport is good and parking is expensive. However, to get out and explore the region or go further afield, it works really well.
  - All the big brands are there, either at the airport or at the central station and in the city center. So it's impossible to recommend one in particular
  - You absolutely have to **COMPARE** prices and reviews. I mainly use *Booking.com*, reliable and with no nasty surprises. But these days I still book a lot through ***Discover Cars***
- Car rental with **GETAROUND**
  - Very reliable, with lots of choice in Oslo
  - Sign up and get €15 off your first rental

THE VIKING CHURCHES

Full article here

WHAT ARE THE VIKING CHURCHES OF NORWAY

All over the country, especially in the center, you'll find churches that are unique in the world: the stave churches, stavkirke, typical of the Vikings after their conversion to Christianity:

- 28 churches remaining
- The oldest are 900 years old
- Beautifully carved
- A smell of tarred wood still lingering centuries later

WHERE TO FIND THESE CHURCHES

- The Google maps map with all the locations can be found here

- Oslo region
  - Gol – Norwegian folklore museum (Oslo)
  - Høyjord – south of Drammen
  - Flesberg – west of Oslo

- Bergen region
  - **Fantoft** – in Bergen, a reconstruction of the church that burned down in 1992
  - **Urnes** – a UNESCO World Heritage site
  - Hopperstad – on the shores of the Sognefjord
  - Undredal – next to Flam
  - Kaupanger
  - **Borgund** – one of the most famous and most impressive

- Southwest of the country, between Oslo, Bergen and Stavanger
  - Røldal – not far from Odda
  - Eidsborg – in Telemark
  - Heddal – in Telemark
  - Rollag
  - Nore
  - Uvdal

- Center of the country
  - Torpo
  - Hedalen
  - Reinli
  - Garmo – in Lillehammer
  - Hore
  - Lomen
  - Hegge
  - Ringebu
  - **Lom**

- Between Alesund, Kristiansund and Trondheim
  - Rødven – next to Andalsnes
  - Kvernes – next to Kristiansund
  - Grip – in Kristiansund
  - Haltdalen – in Roros

WHO AM I

Well then, I'm Vincent, from the blog Vincent Voyage (super original, right?!) In love with Norway and the Nordic countries for many years now, I spend several months a year
up there enjoying the calm of the region and its fantastic landscapes, all under the northern lights of course.

I'm also a travel blogger, specializing in Norway, the northern lights but not only ! I love Iceland just as much as the castles of the Loire Valley. I have a passion for Myanmar and Peru, and dream of going back to New Zealand.

This blog is mainly here to show that it's simple. Traveling is simple, and I try to answer all the questions I once asked myself. Because whatever questions you have, you're not the first to ask them, so I'll do my best to make your trip easier 😊

Very recently, I've also started offering northern lights tours around Tromso, Senja and the Lofoten Islands.

And I suggest the following articles:

- Discover Norway
  - Tromso
  - Senja
  - Lofoten Islands
  - Bergen
  - Oslo
  - The Fjords of Norway
- Discover Iceland
- Discover Finnish Lapland
- Everything you need to know about the northern lights

SOCIAL MEDIA

You can find me on several social media platforms:

- ***Instagram*** : photos and videos mainly about Norway and the northern lights. Account: Vincentvoyage

Join me on **Instagram!**

- **My page on Facebook** : photos and videos but not only that! I share my work and the work of others, and it's an easy place to chat with the community. It's a really simple way to interact, and I often ask people's opinions on various topics there. Account: Vincentvoyage.

You can contact me at contact@vincent.voyage

And if you're not there already, you can join us in the Facebook group about Norway , we're not far from 40,000 members!

HOW TO SUPPORT THE BLOG AND THE FREE CONTENT

Contrary to what some might think, blogging and photography are not my job. It's a passion I pursue in my free time. The advantage is that I don't want it to become a job, precisely so I don't lose that freedom and that passion (plus, I love my "real" job and have no intention of quitting it).

I try to make the blog earn a little money while being as transparent as possible with my readers.

I don't work with tourist offices, I don't run any ads; everything you see here in this guide, if I've tested it, it means I paid for it and enjoyed it. So you won't have any problem with the honesty of my reviews 😊

If I haven't tested something, it means I've checked that the reviews were good and that the quality was truly there.

As for monetizing the blog and the guide, there are sometimes affiliate links. This means, and it's completely transparent for you, that if you use some of my links to book with booking or getyourguide for example, you won't pay any more and I receive a small percentage. I insist on this: you will not pay any more.

I refuse to work with certain partners who inflate prices in exchange for a higher commission. So EVERYTHING I suggest here has been checked to make sure you get the lowest price with a trusted partner. I generally make sure you have free cancellation so you don't end up stuck.

So, to support the blog and help it pay for itself, you can use the links provided in the guide.

But you can also, if you're traveling elsewhere, use these generic links (next page) when planning your trips, and even bookmark them for later. It still won't cost you anything more, and I'll get that small commission. A big thank you in advance! 😊

If you enjoyed this free guide, you can also leave a little something on *Buy Me a Coffee*, a website for supporting creators

- **Tickets** for museums, castles and parks:
  - Tiqets

- **Activities** : you can book your activities using the following links
  - Getyourguide
  - Viator
  - Civitatis (especially for guided tours!)

- **Accommodation** :
  - Booking

- **Car rental** :
  - Discover Cars

- **Ferry**
  - Direct Ferries