

2011



*The world's most beautiful voyage*

# VOYAGE INFORMATION HURTIGRUTEN NORWEGIAN COASTAL VOYAGE





## HURTIGRUTEN

*Dear Guest,*

It all started in the rich fishing grounds along the Norwegian coast where it was important to find a safe trade route between the southern and northern regions of Norway. A safe seaway was needed that weaved its way between dangerous reefs, islands and inlets.

Maritime maps were unreliable and there were only a few lighthouses. When the Norwegian government finally decided to create a connection between the North and the South, Richard With and his friend Anders Holthe took on the job of thoroughly mapping the seas along the Norwegian coastline. In 1893, Captain Richard With's Steamer DS Vesterålen was brought into regular service along the coast of Norway. First from Trondheim to Hammerfest and later from Bergen to Kirkenes – in only 7 days, he called this important connection 'hurtig ruten' (fast route).

Today, 118 years later, Hurtigruten still carries freight and passengers. Our Captains use their extensive maritime expertise to ensure that passengers and goods are carried safely from port to port.

*Welcome on board for an adventure of a lifetime.*

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## GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION

### PASSPORT/ID CARD

All guests checking in at the Hurtigruten Terminal or on board our ships have to present a valid Passport or government approved ID Card.

### VACCINATIONS

At the time of printing there are no compulsory vaccinations or health requirements for travelling to Norway. It is however the responsibility of all passengers to ensure they comply with any health requirements at the time of travel. We suggest you consult your doctor or the relevant health authorities about any precautions you should take with regard to Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT).

### TIME NORWAY

CET (GMT + 1)

CEST (GMT + 2 in the period 27. March – 30. October 2011)

## ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT

Hurtigruten's Geotourism efforts are tied to the company's focus on climate and environmental targets. As a key enterprise, we are conscious of our responsibility for safe operation and protection of the environment and will ensure that our operations and priorities yield an improvement in environmental performance.

Within the framework provided by technological developments and economic conditions, we will continuously tailor our business to eliminate or minimise harm to the environment. Hurtigruten complies with the requirements enshrined in national and international regulations and seek to contribute to sustainable development in the areas in which we operate.



## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

### BEFORE YOU GO

Please check your itinerary and that you have all the appropriate vouchers required. If you think you are missing anything or have any queries, contact our reservations team or your booking agent immediately.

Preparation is part of the pleasure of your holiday; add to your enjoyment by finding out about your destination before you travel: the climate, terrain, places of interest, local customs, public holidays, activities and food and drink.

### CURRENCY IN NORWAY

We suggest that you take a small amount of local currency (Norwegian Kroner-NOK) in cash. Major credit cards are widely accepted except possibly at smaller businesses. You may be asked to provide identification when you pay by credit card or exchange money. Please also see: Currency on board under LIFE ON BOARD.

### INSURANCE

It is a condition of the contract with us that every member of the booking has travel insurance in force for the entire duration of the holiday, covering at least the cancellation of the booking and providing medical cover for illness or injury and repatriation while overseas. Please provide us with the name of your insurer, together with their 24-hour emergency number.

### LUGGAGE

We recommend that you only take luggage that you are able to carry yourselves as luggage handling is normally not provided in Scandinavia. Please remember to take any medication you rely on as well as your passport and glasses in your hand luggage at all times. You can hand in your suitcase for storage at the ship's reception.

### TRANSFERS

#### Bergen & Trondheim:

Hurtigruten operates a transfer shuttle bus service between the Hurtigruten Terminal, Bergen airport, city centre hotels and the Bergen railway station and between the Hurtigruten pier, city centre hotels and the railway station in Trondheim.

This service operates DAILY during the summer season (15 April to 30 September) and ON DEMAND ONLY when booked in advance during the winter season (01 October to 14 April).

#### Kirkenes:

Transfers to and from the Hurtigruten pier in Kirkenes are operated by the official airport bus in Kirkenes. These buses operate all year. Please check the schedules posted locally at the Kirkenes airport and city centre hotels for departure times. Transfer from the Hurtigruten pier takes place upon arrival and disembarkation of the ship.

## LIFE ON BOARD HURTIGRUTEN

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements on board are made in several languages. These announcements may also be heard in your cabin by activating the telephone system. No public announcements are made at night so if you would like a call, for example to view an appearance of the Northern Lights, please advise the reception.

### BRIDGE VISITS

Visits to the bridge may be booked on board. These visits include a welcome drink and an informal talk by the Captain or one of his officers. The price and times will be announced by the Tour Leader on board.

### CABINS

The times for checking out of cabins are according to the ship's timetable and may vary from day to day. **On arrival in Bergen, Kirkenes and Trondheim (southbound) special rules apply:**

- Cabins for departure from Bergen are available from 18:00 hrs.
- Check-out on arrival at Kirkenes is before 8:30 hrs.
- Check-out on arrival at Trondheim (southbound) is before 8:00hrs.
- Check-out on arrival at Bergen is before 10:00 hrs.

Please contact the reception for more information. If you are travelling in a suite different check-out timings may apply, please contact the reception.

The facilities of the cabins vary between the ships and the various cabin grades. Towels and shower gel are provided and hairdryers are available on all ships except for MS Vesterålen (some cabins), MS Lofoten and MS Nordstjernen. Tea/coffee making facilities are available in suites only.

It is possible to hire cots on board; a limited number can be pre-booked. Please note that cots do not fit into all cabins. Please contact Hurtigruten for further information. For bookings with unspecified cabin grades/numbers, requests for adjacent cabins or accommodation in a specific area of the ship etc cannot be guaranteed.

On MS Lofoten, MS Nordstjernen and MS Vesterålen some cabins have portholes which might be covered during the winter period.

There are no safety deposit boxes in the cabins (except in some suites on MS Trollfjord and MS Midnatsol) and Hurtigruten cannot accept liability for any loss. Valuables may be handed in at reception to be kept in the ship's safe.

### CAFETERIA

Hot and cold drinks and snacks may be bought in the cafeteria, usually open 24 hours a day. During the winter, times are advised on board. When leaving from Bergen the cafeteria opens at 16:00 hrs.

### CARS AND VEHICLES

Please meet at the quayside latest 1 hour prior to departure in Bergen, Trondheim, Bodø, Tromsø and Kirkenes.

#### Times in Bergen for driving the cars on board:

- In the summer season (15 Apr-30 Sep): from 18:00 hrs.
- In the winter season (01 Oct-14 Apr): between 19:30 and 21:30 hrs.

For all other ports, please be at the quayside latest 30 minutes prior to departure. If you are bringing a car from Bergen and further north than Bodø, please be at the quayside latest 2 hours prior to departure. Passengers must embark with their luggage via the Hurtigruten Terminal. Only the driver is allowed in the car when driving on or off the ship. The control key card for your car must be shown to the crew on the car deck (you will receive this at check-in). Your car key will be kept by the crew on the car deck. In the high season there is limited car capacity on certain short stretches. Please note that there will be no access to the car deck during the voyage and it is not possible to go ashore by car when the ship calls at ports.

Caravans cannot be brought on to the ships. MS Lofoten and MS Nordstjernen do not have a car deck.

### CHILDREN'S PLAYROOM

There is a playroom for children on all ships except on MS Lofoten and on MS Nordstjernen. MS Trollfjord and MS Midnatsol have a separate area where children can play.

### CONFERENCES

Most ships have conference facilities. If there is a meeting in progress you may find that a section of the dining area or public area has been reserved for this purpose.

### CRUISE CARD AND CURRENCY ON BOARD

For your convenience, we offer a Cruise Card system on board all ships. This system allows you to charge all on board purchases to your cruise card. Cruise card accounts can be created at all points of payment on board the ship. We accept VISA, MasterCard, Diners, American Express or cash (NOK, EUR, GBP, USD) as deposit. On your last night on board, an itemised statement will be delivered to your cabin door. The cruise card account needs to be settled by 22:00. For your convenience, your cruise card charges will be billed automatically to your credit card. Any discrepancies must be reported before disembarkation. This also applies if you want to pay part cash and part credit card.

The currency used on board is Norwegian Kroner. Exchange rates are similar to those in a hotel. Please check with the reception for methods of payment. Please note that a PIN code is required when paying with your personal credit card on board.

### **ELECTRIC CURRENT**

220v AC. – 2 pin Continental-type for which an adapter is required. If you need an adapter/converter, please bring your own with you.

### **EMBARKATION/DISEMBARKATION**

In Bergen the Hurtigruten ships sail from the Hurtigruten Terminal, Nøstegaten 30, N-5010 Bergen. Taxi drivers will understand if you ask to be taken to the Hurtigruten Terminal and it is sign-posted as such locally. Luggage lockers are available in the terminal at a charge of NOK 30 (3 x 10 kroner coins are required.)

The terminal is staffed and open for luggage check-in from 13:00 hrs. Passenger check-in begins at 15:00 hrs and embarkation takes place from 16:00 hrs. Cabins are available from 18:00 hrs.

| Period           | Departure | Embarkation    |
|------------------|-----------|----------------|
| 01 Oct – 14. Apr | 22:30 hrs | From 16:00 hrs |
| 15 Apr – 14 Sep  | 20:00 hrs | From 16:00 hrs |
| 15. Sep – 31 Dec | 22:30 hrs | From 16:00 hrs |

There are no restaurant facilities in the terminal and passengers are free to explore Bergen until embarkation time. A buffet dinner is served in the evening of departure from Bergen, usually between 18:00-21:00 hrs. It is open seating this evening only. Round Voyage guests will find their table assignment for the rest of the voyage in the envelope they receive at check-in.

When disembarking in Bergen, luggage will be delivered to the baggage belt in the terminal. On the last day of the round voyage you will be asked to vacate your cabin a few hours before arrival. Information regarding luggage handling and disembarkation at other ports is available on board.

### **ENTERTAINMENT**

There is usually music in the bar area and occasional visits by local choirs and musicians, but there is no organised entertainment programme (except as specified on theme voyages) as the emphasis of the voyage is on relaxation and scenery.

### **GRATUITY POLICY**

It is not common practice to tip on Hurtigruten ships on the coastal voyage, but if you feel that individual crew members should be rewarded for providing exceptional service, this is entirely at your discretion.

### **HAND HYGIENE**

Hurtigruten wishes to ensure that your voyage will be as pleasant as possible and would like to ask you, for the sake of your own health and that of other people, to be especially careful with hand hygiene during your voyage. Anti bacterial hand gel is available throughout the ship.

### **HURTIGRUTEN'S 1893 AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME**

Hurtigruten is proud to introduce our new 1893 Ambassador Programme offering special privileges to returning customers who have sailed with us for 3 or more consecutive nights. Within this programme you will find a host of benefits specially chosen to ensure that every voyage you take with us in future is a special and memorable experience. For full details how to join, please visit our website:  
[www.hurtigruten.co.uk](http://www.hurtigruten.co.uk) [www.hurtigruten.us](http://www.hurtigruten.us) [www.hurtigruten.com](http://www.hurtigruten.com)

### **INTERNET**

There is an internet café on board all ships except MS Lofoten and MS Nordstjernen. Be aware that the bandwidth is low. Wireless networks in most public areas to connect laptops, mobile phones etc., will be implemented on all ships during 2011.

### **ITINERARY/WORKING SHIPS**

Hurtigruten ships are working vessels operating a regular service to a set timetable, as shown in our brochures and on our website. Our ships carry goods, vehicles and foot passengers between ports, by night and day, as an integral part of Norwegian daily life. Some noise may be experienced during docking and loading/unloading. It may very occasionally be necessary to omit or curtail stops due to weather or other conditions. Some stops may be very short and some are at night.

With the exception of MS Nordstjernen and MS Lofoten, our vessels are equipped with stabilisers. On the Norwegian coast the ships enter the open sea for a few hours on only a few occasions during the whole voyage. The majority of the time the ships sail between mainland Norway and the coastal islands where the sea is generally calmer.

As Christmas approaches itineraries may change in order for ships to host dinners and celebrations for local communities. Please ensure that you are back on board by sailing time, especially if the ship has arrived late as it may leave as scheduled to make up time. The departure time is advised at the gangway and ships are not able to wait for passengers who are late. If you miss the ship it is your responsibility to make arrangements to rejoin the voyage at the next possible stop or to return home.

### **LANGUAGE**

Norwegian and English are the official on board languages. The personnel at the Reception and some of the service crew often also speak German. The Tour Leader speaks Norwegian, English and German.

## LAUNDRY

Laundry rooms with washing machines, dryers and irons are available on all ships except MS Lofoten and MS Nordstjernen. Tokens may be purchased from reception. On board MS Lofoten and MS Nordstjernen arrangements for laundry can be made with the crew at a fee.

## MEALS/SPECIAL REQUESTS

### The usual meal times are:

- Breakfast from 07:30 to 10:00 hrs (open sitting)
- Lunch from 12:00/13:00 hrs (open sitting)
- Dinner from 18:30/19:00 hrs (assigned seating)

During the high season, there may be two meal sittings (times advised on board).

Full board begins with a buffet dinner on departure from Bergen and ends with brunch on the arrival day back in Bergen.

The food is Norwegian and breakfast is buffet style with a selection of cold meats, cheese, eggs, cereals and fruit. Lunch is the famous Cold Table with a choice of fish dishes, cold meats, salads, a selection of hot dishes, desserts and fruit. Dinner is a three-course set meal from our coastal menu; there is not usually a choice of menu. Occasionally the Cold Table may be served in the evening and the set meal at lunch time.

It is safe to drink tap water on board. Ship's purified water and mineral water in bottles, soft drinks, wine and our coffee deal can be purchased on board. Wine packages are also available; these include one bottle of ship's purified water every day.

**Coffee deal:** passengers can purchase a thermo coffee cup with the ship's logo and have as much coffee as they want. It is only valid on the ship where it was purchased and you can fill as much coffee and tea you want from the date you bought the mug and throughout the year.

Specific diets, e.g. vegetarian, gluten-free etc., are generally available if sufficient notice (at least two weeks) has been given to us in order to advise the ship. All ships are fully licensed; the price level is the same as on mainland Norway. Restaurant opening hours vary depending on season and number of guests on board. Further information is available on board.

## MEDICAL

On the Norwegian Coastal Voyage ships do not leave territorial waters and are rarely far from land. There is no doctor or pharmacy on board and medical assistance is available at ports or, in an emergency, by helicopter. Some of the crew are trained in first aid and there is a First Aid cabin on all ships. If you need assistance please contact the reception. At the time of printing there are no compulsory vaccinations or health requirements for travelling to Norway.

It is however the responsibility of all passengers to ensure they comply with any health requirements at the time of travel. We suggest you consult your doctor or the relevant health authorities about any precautions you should take with regard to Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT).

If you have any mobility or hearing/sight problems, please advise reception on arrival. This will ensure that you receive assistance in the event of any emergency.

If you are prone to seasickness, we suggest you carry effective medication. Some tablets are available on board, for which a charge is generally made, but they may not be appropriate for every passenger.

## SAFETY

An Information Meeting is usually held on the evening of departure from Bergen and Kirkenes and includes details about safety on board. Please familiarise yourself with the emergency procedures as shown in the cabins (there is a diagram on the cabin door and in public areas), and ask at reception if in doubt.

Passengers with limited mobility or who have difficulties with vision or hearing are asked to advise the reception desk if they will need assistance in case of an emergency. In many ports there may be a good deal of activity on the quay with cars joining/leaving the ships and/or goods being loaded or unloaded. Please be alert to such traffic when embarking and disembarking.

Do not carry large amounts of cash and keep valuable items, including mobile telephones and cameras, out of sight.

## SHORE EXCURSIONS

Pre-booking excursions, where possible, is recommended as only remaining places will be sold on board. Excursions booked on board will be payable in Norwegian Kroner and the price may vary as a result of exchange rate fluctuations. Pre-booking of shore excursions is possible until 4 weeks prior to departure. If you choose to pay by credit card, pre-bookings can be made until 2 weeks prior to departure.

Excursions and their contents are subject to maximum/minimum numbers, sailing times and weather and/or local conditions. If pre-booked excursions have to be cancelled, you will get a refund on board in NOK.

## SHOPS

There is a shop on board all ships. They sell souvenirs, knitwear, books, postcards, postage stamps and a limited supply of toiletries. On MS Lofoten and MS Nordstjernen this service is handled by the coffee shop.

## SMOKING

Smoking is only permitted in designated areas on the outside decks. It is not permitted when the ships are in port. To show respect for the environment, please use the provided ashtrays. Throwing cigarette ends overboard is strictly prohibited. Smoking in the cabin is prohibited and fined with NOK 1.500.

## SNOW, ICE AND PRECIPITATION

Please take care when walking on the outside decks as surfaces may be slippery.

## SUITE SERVICE

We are pleased to introduce a range of extras if you book a suite on board one of our ships. They include a fruit basket upon embarkation, bathrobe, tea/coffee making facilities, an invitation to visit the bridge, complimentary coffee deal on board throughout your voyage and late check out. For a fee you also have the option to have breakfast served in your suite and to use the mini bar. If there is available capacity you may book and pay for an upgrade to a suite when on board.

## TELEPHONE/MOBILE PHONES

All ships have pay phones. Phone cards can be purchased from reception. Private mobile phones may be used on board although reception may vary. Check with your provider for costs when using your phone abroad. Passengers are requested to restrict the use of mobile telephones in public areas to avoid disturbing fellow travellers.

## TOUR LEADER

Each ship has a Tour Leader on board who informs about and sells excursions, issues a daily programme and news bulletin and makes announcements regarding places of interest, disembarkation, etc. Occasionally this service may be carried out by the reception. All Tour Leaders speak Norwegian, English and German.

## WAKE-UP CALLS

When arriving at night, disembarking passengers will be woken half an hour to an hour before arrival. On early morning arrivals a wake-up call will be made to allow time for you to vacate the cabin for it to be prepared for the next occupants. You may use the ship's public facilities and the luggage room until you disembark.

## WHAT TO WEAR

Dress on board is informal. Although some passengers choose to change for dinner the dress code is 'smart/casual' rather than formal. The weather in Norway can vary during the course of each voyage or even during the day. To cater for these variations we recommend the layered dress approach that enables you to adapt to changes in temperature, wind and precipitation conditions easily. Where necessary, excursions include use of appropriate clothing. Please also see the equipment list in this booklet.

## WHEELCHAIR USERS/DISABLED PASSENGERS

With the exception of MS Lofoten and MS Nordstjernen, all of our ships have elevators/lifts and at least one wheelchair accessible cabin for disabled passengers. Please contact our reservations department for further information and advise us at the time of booking if special transfers need to be arranged. Guests who require a wheelchair must bring their own foldable wheelchair and travel with a companion who is able to assist them. There is a ramp in all ports, but, as working ships, no designated crew member will be able to assist. NB: Airlines usually do not allow wet battery wheelchairs on aircraft.

Excursions are not suitable for passengers with electric wheelchairs although some are possible with a manual, foldable chair. Please contact the Tour Leader on board who will be able to advise which excursions are suitable. Drivers and guides are not permitted to lift wheelchairs or passengers at any time.

For assistance at train stations please call NSB (Norwegian State railways) on: +47 815 815 00 888, for assistance when using the Oslo airport train (Flytoget) please call +47 64 821772.

Please call at least 24 hours before you travel.

## WILDLIFE

The Hurtigruten brochures include pictures and descriptions of wildlife which may be seen from the ships and during excursions. Spending time on outside decks increase your chance of spotting wildlife, but there is no guarantee of sightings.



## DAY TO DAY PROGRAMME

### Hurtigruten classic voyages

«A round voyage from the cultural centre of Bergen to Kirkenes and back again is the ultimate voyage with Hurtigruten. The complete voyage takes 12 days. There are also shorter alternatives like Bergen – Kirkenes – Trondheim, or only northbound Bergen – Kirkenes and southbound Kirkenes – Bergen».



### NORTHBOUND VOYAGE ITINERARY

#### Day 1 Embarkation in Bergen

Port visited today: **Bergen**

Before you check in, explore the charming port and Hanseatic city of Bergen. Stroll through the narrow streets of the medieval Hanseatic Bryggen quarter, which is on UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites, the Hanseatic Museum or the fish market. Take the funicular railway up to the 320m Mount Fløyen, just outside the city, and you'll enjoy the best view of Bergen and its fjords. In the evening the Hurtigruten voyage sets off through the Hjeltefjord, from where the Vikings once sailed to the Shetland Islands and beyond.

#### Day 2 Ålesund and Geirangerfjord

Ports visited today: **Florø, Måløy, Torvik, Ålesund, Molde**

Your ship navigates past skerries and islands further north to Ålesund. Explore the inspiring architecture in the Apotekergate and Kongensgate pedestrian areas, perfect examples of the art nouveau style. And don't miss out on the view from Mt Aksla – there are 418 steps to the top. In the summer months your Hurtigruten ship sails into the spectacular Geirangerfjord – officially praised by National Geographic and placed on UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites. En route into this beautiful fjord we pass sheer, 800m high cliffs and impressive waterfalls.

#### Day 3 The royal city of Trondheim

Ports visited today: **Kristiansund, Trondheim, Rørvik**

In the old royal city of Trondheim, you get a good view from the Gamle Bybrua ("Old Town Bridge"). This neo-gothic wooden bridge dating from 1861 used to be the only way into the town centre. The Nidaros Cathedral, built in the period 1070 to 1300, is Norway's largest gothic religious edifice. In the neighbouring Arch Bishop's Palace the Norwegian Regalia (Crown Jewels) are on display. The storehouses built on wooden stilts are as attractive as the Rococo style Stiftsgården, the largest wooden building in Norway and residence of the Royal Family when visiting Trondheim. We then set course for the northwest, past the beautiful Kjeungskjær lighthouse and thousands of little islands and picturesque rocky outcrops. After passing through Stokksund, the ship will arrive at Rørvik.

#### Day 4 Arctic Circle and Lofoten Islands

Ports visited today: **Brønnøysund, Sandnessjøen, Nesna, Ørnes, Bodø, Stamsund, Svolvær**

In the morning we cross the Arctic Circle between Nesna and Ørnes, marked by a globe on a small islet. Passengers sailing in Arctic waters for the first time are given an Arctic Circle ceremony by Njord, the ruler of the Seven Seas. When the 'Lofoten Wall' appears on the horizon, a mountain range of up to 1,000m high, the Landegode, Helligvær and Vestfjord are behind you. Cod is caught from January to April and in keeping with tradition, is dried in the cool sea air and exported as stockfish. In the evening we reach Svolvær, the main settlement on the Lofoten Islands. The charms of Lofoten are revealed in the small, picturesque fishing villages with their bohemian atmosphere. Tucked in between majestic granite cliffs and white sandy beaches, Lofoten is an experience that's out of the ordinary. Stroll between stock-fish racks and 'rorbuer', the traditional fishermen's houses.

#### Day 5 Tromsø, gateway to the Arctic

Ports visited today: **Stokmarknes, Sortland, Risøyhamn, Harstad, Finnsnes, Tromsø, Skjervøy**

During the night the ship navigates the narrow Raftsund strait. After a stop in Harstad, situated on the largest island of Norway, Hinnøya, we continue via Finnsnes to Tromsø for a longer stay. Many epic Arctic expeditions used Tromsø as a starting point and the famous explorer Roald Amundsen sourced both crew and supplies here. With the presence of the Norwegian Polar Institute, the city has cemented its position as the Polar Capital of Norway. 'Ishavskatedralen', The Arctic Cathedral, is the most famous landmark with its progressive design and extraordinary stained glass mosaic. The northernmost university and large numbers of people arriving here have created a vibrant cultural scene. The numerous restaurants and cafes are always teeming with life.



### **Day 6** Honningsvåg and the North Cape

Ports visited today: **Øksfjord, Hammerfest, Havøysund, Honningsvåg, Kjøllefjord, Mehamn, Berlevåg**

Following the scenic sailing through Magerøysund, after an early stop in Hammerfest, you arrive in Honningsvåg. This is the gateway to the wonders of the spectacular North Cape, rising from the ocean at 71° 10' 21" North, putting you a mere 2000 kilometres from the Geographical North Pole. Standing atop the 307m North Cape plateau gives you a sublime feeling of being at the end of the world. The area is also known for its birdlife, and Gjesværstappan, a bird sanctuary with up to 250,000 sea-birds, including some high Arctic species that can only be observed here on the Norwegian mainland. Travelling in the heartland of the indigenous Sami people we pass their ancient sacrificial site, the rock formation; Finnkjerka as we approach Kjøllefjord.

### **Day 7** Kirkenes, the turning point

Ports visited today: **Båtsfjord, Vardø, Vadsø, Kirkenes**

When you arrive in Kirkenes, at longitude 30 east, you are actually further east than Istanbul and St. Petersburg. The Russian border and the Kola Peninsula are close by and you may find it intriguing that the road signs are written in both Norwegian and Russian. It is here that the Hurtigruten ships will turn south again. Spending time in Kirkenes gives you an opportunity to take part in some of the adventurous activities offered in this Arctic environment.

## **SOUTHBOUND VOYAGE ITINERARY**

### **Day 7** Kirkenes, the voyage south begins

Ports visited today: **Kirkenes, Vardø, Båtsfjord, Berlevåg**

From 1 October 1908 the previous Hurtigruten line was extended from Vadsø to Kirkenes. Around 1900 Kirkenes was just a small settlement with a church (Norw. kirke) on a promontory (nes). For the around 7000 inhabitants, the main industries are fishing and service. More recently, jobs have been made available at the re-commissioned iron ore mine. As you turn south, the northbound ports previously visited by night are now seen by day. In the afternoon the ship docks in Vardø, Norway's easternmost port. We continue along the Varanger peninsula to Båtsfjord before reaching Berlevåg in the evening.

### **Day 8** Hammerfest and Tromsø

Ports visited today: **Mehamn, Kjøllefjord, Honningsvåg, Havøysund, Hammerfest, Øksfjord, Skjervøy, Tromsø**

Having breakfast at the North Cape, as part of the early morning optional excursion, together with visit a Sami family, is one of the highlights of the day (summer excursion). Hammerfest, the world's northernmost town, where signs of settlements date back to the Stone Age, is still playing an important role as a fishing settlement. Founded in 1789 to develop trade with Russia, Hammerfest reconfirmed its position as Norway's Polar capital of the time. Preparing hunting expeditions to Spitsbergen in the high Arctic was an important undertaking.

In Hammerfest the Meridian Column, erected in 1854, commemorates the first precise measurement of the globe, an achievement so important that it's become a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Wave energy provided power to the first electric street lighting in Northern Europe in 1891 – energy innovation is still a signature for Hammerfest with its large Liquid Gas Plant just outside town. In Tromsø around midnight you may be able to enjoy a very special musical experience; The Arctic Cathedral Midnight Concert. Or why not check out one of the town's many friendly pubs and try the local brew – Mack's Arctic Beer.

### **Day 9** Vesterålen and Lofoten Islands

Ports visited today: **Tromsø, Finnsnes, Harstad, Risøyhamn, Sortland, Stokmarknes, Svolvær, Stamsund**

The Vesterålen and Lofoten Islands are on today's agenda. Risøyrenna was constructed especially for Hurtigruten providing the vessels an "inside route" between Harstad and Vesterålen. Stokmarknes, where Hurtigruten was founded, is the location of the Hurtigrutemuseum. Entry is free for all Hurtigruten passengers.

Continuing through the Raftsundet, which is the narrow channel between Vesterålen and Lofoten we may take a detour (weather permitting) into the most spectacular Trollfjorden where steep cliffs hug the ship's sides. Then we continue to Svolvær, the main settlement on the Lofoten Islands and then on to Stamsund, where the majestic peaks of the huge Lofoten wall can be viewed. We leave the islands during the evening and set course for the mainland.

### Day 10 Arctic Circle, Seven sisters

Ports visited today: **Bodø, Ørnes, Nesna, Sandnessjøen, Brønnøysund, Rørvik**

The Helgeland coast with hundreds of islets, fertile farmland and steep granite walls is worth getting up early to experience. Crossing the Arctic Circle at 66° 33' N we are now leaving the Arctic. Legends and myths are numerous along this part of the coast; there's the legend of the Seven Sisters, a row of peaks and the myth about how the arrow from 'Hestmannens' bow formed the hole in the mountain Torghatten.

The UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Vega Islands is close to the port of Sandnessjøen. The islands were inscribed on this prestigious list due to the unique interaction between man and biosphere – over centuries the local population have protected the eider duck nests in return for the highly valuable down from the birds.

### Day 11 Trondheim and Kristiansund

Ports visited today: **Trondheim, Kristiansund, Molde, Ålesund**

Today gives you another opportunity to explore the city of Trondheim. The Nidaros Cathedral, in which three Queens and seven Kings have been crowned, is Scandinavia's largest medieval edifice, and Norway's crown jewels are on display in the adjacent Archbishop's residence. Passing the islands of Munkholmen and Hitra we then cross the open sea to Molde, which is also known as the "city of roses" due to its lush Gulf Stream location. The steep, grey, pointed peaks of the Romsdal Alps glint in the sun. The town of Kristiansund is regarded as Norway's "cured cod capital" and has long been the main export port for the popular salted dry fish.

### Day 12 Rocky Islands, disembarkation Bergen

Ports visited today: **Ålesund, Torvik, Måløy, Florø, Bergen**

Make the most of your final day on board as today we say goodbye. Soon you'll have to leave the Hurtigruten ship you've grown to love. But before that, you still have a few nautical miles of fascinating scenery ahead of you; such as the picturesque Nordfjord below the enormous Jostedalsglacier. A few nautical miles south of this we navigate the estuary of the mighty Sognefjord. You also get the best views of the archipelago en route to Bergen, the city with the seven mountains. Take home your memories of the world's most beautiful voyage and the many seafaring companions and friends you've met along the way.

## SAILING SCHEDULE

### TIMETABLE – DAY BY DAY

| NORTHBOUND       |                   |             |                            | SOUTHBOUND        |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Day              |                   | 15.04-14.09 | 01.01-14.04<br>15.09-31.12 | Day               |   | 15.04-14.09         | 01.01-14.04<br>15.09-31.12 |              |       |       |
| 1.               | from Bergen       | 20.00       | 22.30                      | 7.                | from Kirkenes<br>from Vadsø<br>to Vardø | 12.45<br>—<br>16.00 | 12.45<br>—<br>16.00        |              |       |       |
| 2.               | from Florø        | 02.15       | 04.45                      | 8.                | from Vardø                              | 17.00               | 17.00                      |              |       |       |
|                  | from Måløy        | 04.30       | 07.30                      |                   | from Båtsfjord                          | 20.30               | 20.30                      |              |       |       |
|                  | from Torvik       | 07.30       | 10.45                      |                   | from Berlevåg                           | 22.30               | 22.30                      |              |       |       |
|                  | to Ålesund        | 08.45       | 12.00                      |                   | 9.                                      | from Mehamn         | 01.15                      | 01.15        |       |       |
|                  | from Ålesund      | 09.30       | —                          |                   |   | from Kjøllefjord    | 03.30                      | 03.30        |       |       |
| to Geiranger*    | 13.30             | —           | from Honningsvåg           | 06.15             |   | 06.15               |                            |              |       |       |
| from Ålesund     | 18.45             | 15.00       | from Havøysund             | 08.30             |   | 08.30               |                            |              |       |       |
| from Molde       | 22.00             | 18.30       | to Hammerfest              | 11.15             |   | 11.15               |                            |              |       |       |
| 3.               | from Kristiansund | 01.45       | 23.00                      | from Hammerfest   | 12.45                                   | 12.45               |                            |              |       |       |
|                  | to Trondheim      | 08.15       | 06.00                      | from Øksfjord     | 15.45                                   | 15.45               |                            |              |       |       |
|                  | from Trondheim    | 12.00       | 12.00                      | from Skjervøy     | 19.45                                   | 19.45               |                            |              |       |       |
|                  | from Rørvik       | 21.15       | 21.15                      | to Tromsø         | 23.45                                   | 23.45               |                            |              |       |       |
| 4.               | from Brønnøysund  | 01.00       | 01.00                      | 10.               | from Tromsø                             | 01.30               | 01.30                      |              |       |       |
|                  | from Sandnessjøen | 04.15       | 04.15                      |                   | from Finnsnes                           | 04.45               | 04.45                      |              |       |       |
|                  | to Nesna          | 05.30       | 05.30                      |                   | to Harstad                              | 08.00               | 08.00                      |              |       |       |
|                  | from Ørnes        | 09.30       | 09.30                      |                   | from Harstad                            | 08.30               | 08.30                      |              |       |       |
|                  | to Bodø           | 12.30       | 12.30                      |                   | from Risøyhamn                          | 11.00               | 11.00                      |              |       |       |
|                  | from Bodø         | 15.00       | 15.00                      |                   | from Sortland                           | 13.00               | 13.00                      |              |       |       |
|                  | from Stamsund     | 19.30       | 19.30                      |                   | from Stokmarknes                        | 15.15               | 15.15                      |              |       |       |
|                  | to Svolvær        | 21.00       | 21.00                      |                   | to Svolvær                              | 18.30               | 18.30                      |              |       |       |
| from Svolvær     | 22.00             | 22.00       | from Svolvær               | 20.00             | 20.00                                   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
| 5.               | from Stokmarknes  | 01.00       | 01.00                      | from Stamsund     | 22.00                                   | 22.00               | 11.                        | to Trondheim | 06.30 | 06.30 |
|                  | from Sortland     | 03.00       | 03.00                      | from Trondheim    | 10.00                                   | 10.00               |                            |              |       |       |
|                  | from Risøyhamn    | 04.30       | 04.30                      | from Kristiansund | 17.00                                   | 17.00               |                            |              |       |       |
|                  | to Harstad        | 06.45       | 06.45                      | from Molde        | 21.30                                   | 21.30               |                            |              |       |       |
|                  | from Harstad      | 08.00       | 08.00                      | to Ålesund        | 24.00                                   | 24.00               |                            |              |       |       |
|                  | from Finnsnes     | 11.45       | 11.45                      | 12.               | from Ålesund                            | 00.45               |                            | 00.45        |       |       |
|                  | to Tromsø         | 14.30       | 14.30                      |                   | from Torvik                             | 02.15               |                            | 02.15        |       |       |
|                  | from Tromsø       | 18.30       | 18.30                      |                   | from Måløy                              | 05.45               |                            | 05.45        |       |       |
| to Skjervøy      | 22.45             | 22.45       | from Florø                 |                   | 08.15                                   | 08.15               |                            |              |       |       |
| from Øksfjord    | 02.15             | 02.15       | to Bergen                  |                   | 14.30                                   | 14.30               |                            |              |       |       |
| to Hammerfest    | 05.15             | 05.15       |                            |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
| from Hammerfest  | 06.45             | 06.45       |                            |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
| from Havøysund   | 09.45             | 09.45       |                            |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
| to Honningsvåg   | 11.45             | 11.45       |                            |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
| from Honningsvåg | 15.15             | 15.15       |                            |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
| from Kjøllefjord | 17.45             | 17.45       |                            |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
| from Mehamn      | 20.00             | 20.00       |                            |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
| from Berlevåg    | 22.45             | 22.45       |                            |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
| 7.               | from Båtsfjord    | 01.00       | 01.00                      |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
|                  | to Vardø          | 04.00       | 04.00                      |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
|                  | from Vardø        | 04.15       | 04.15                      |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
|                  | from Vadsø        | 08.00       | 08.00                      |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |
|                  | to Kirkenes       | 09.45       | 09.45                      |                   |   |                     |                            |              |       |       |

The coastal ships make stops at all the ports mentioned in our itineraries. In the larger towns and cities you may have several hours to spend ashore, or maybe take part in one of the excursions. At the smaller ports, the stops are brief, approximately 30 minutes. Please check on board to ensure that you return to the ship in time for departure. Hurtigruten reserves the right to make alterations to this timetable without prior notice.  
\*At Geiranger embarkation/disembarkation is by small tender. Timetable per July 2010

## EQUIPMENT LIST

### CLOTHING:

- The dress code aboard the ship is informal. Bring casual and comfortable indoor clothing.
- Water - and windproof jacket
- Comfortable shoes/walking shoes
- Cap or headband
- Scarf
- Gloves or mittens
- Swimsuit (many of the ships offer Jacuzzi on board)

In winter: Woollen underwear and spikes for your shoes and boots can be useful.

### OTHER RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT:

- Backpack: Bring with you a small waterproof backpack, which is necessary for carrying essentials on excursions and trips ashore.
- UV protective sun glasses (even during winter as the reflections of snow and ice can be harmful to the unprotected eye)
- Camera and films: During your voyage you will have the opportunity to photograph wonderful nature and unusual scenery so we strongly recommend that you bring your camera equipment that will allow you to capture this unforgettable experience. A UV or skylight filter and lens hood may be useful. If you use special brands of film make sure you bring your own. We advise you to bring extra batteries and memory cards with a large capacity if you have a digital camera. There are sockets in the cabins for charging your camera/batteries.
- Coastal/city maps and travel guides
- Binoculars: To get a closer look at wildlife and scenery

Our on board shop carries a small selection of warm clothes in various sizes and sells postcards, stamps, souvenirs and a limited supply of toiletries.

## RECOMMENDED READING

- Lonely Planet: Norway
- DK Eyewitness Travel Guide: Norway
- Paul Watkins: The Fellowship Of Ghosts
- Erling Storrusten: Hurtigruten, the World's Most Beautiful Sea Voyage
- Norway Insight Travel map
- Bradt Travel guides: Wildlife of the North Atlantic

## MARITIME EXPRESSIONS

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Stern         | Rear of the ship  |
| Bow           | Front of the ship   |
| Port          | The left side of the of the ship                          |
| Starboard     | The right side of the ship                                |
| Bridge        | The area from which the ship is navigated                 |
| Cruise Card   | On board payment card                                     |
| Gangway       | Walkway between land and sea                              |
| To hoist      | To raise flag or banner                                   |
| Ballast       | Water used to maintain ship stability                     |
| Knot          | Speed of the ship, nautical mile (1.852 km) per hour      |
| Galley        | Ships kitchen   |
| Leeward side  | Downwind  |
| Windward side | Upwind  |
| Mess          | Dining facilities for the crew                            |
| Pier          | Place where the ship docks                                |
| Nautical mile | Distance measure: 1 nautical mile = 1.852 km              |
| Stabilisers   | Ship equipment to counteract roll caused by wind or waves |

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

### In Norway to call:

|               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| Police:       | 112 |
| Ambulance:    | 113 |
| Fire Service: | 110 |



# NORWAY

