

**INCLUSIVE
SIGHTSEEING***

**SMALL
GROUPS***

**AUSTRALIAN-
BASED TOUR
HOST***

**AIRFARES
INCLUDED***

**VISAS, TIPPING
& TRANSFERS
INCLUDED***



**escorted
ESCAPES**

With you every step of the way

SCANDINAVIA & NORTHERN LIGHTS

23 DAYS



2020 DEPARTURES

DATE	TWIN	SOLO
27 Feb - 19 Mar 20	\$15,495*	\$18,495*

For additional information on this trip, including tour suitability and activity levels, please refer to the detailed trip notes at www.escortedescapes.com.au. Prices are per person.

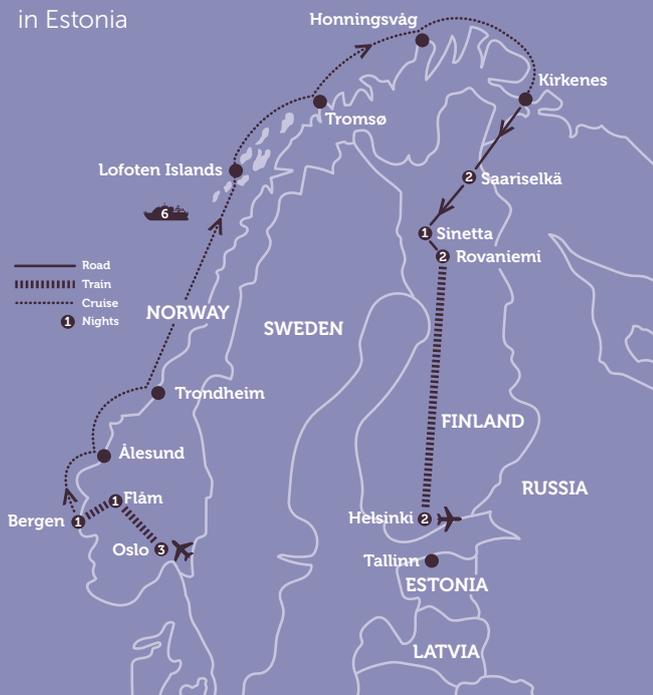
The Northern Lights are a natural phenomenon and sightings can never be guaranteed. The sightings you may experience are highly weather and nature dependent. All cruise pricing is based on Category N Polar outside cabin. Other cabin types may be available. Please contact us for pricing.

THE ESCORTED ESCAPES INCLUSIONS

- ✓ AIRFARES INCLUDED*
- ✓ FULLY ESCORTED HOLIDAYS*
- ✓ VISAS, TRANSFERS, TIPPING INCLUDED*
- ✓ SMALL GROUPS*
- ✓ INCLUSIVE SIGHTSEEING*

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- Spend the night in a spectacular glass igloo gazing at the stars and, if you're lucky, the Northern Lights
- Visit Rovaniemi, the home of Santa Claus and one of Finland's best areas for winter activities
- Cross the Arctic Circle under the amazing colour displays of the Northern Lights
- Discover the rich history of Norway at the Viking Ship and Kon-tiki Museums
- Experience the legendary Flåm Railway, considered one of the most beautiful rail journeys in the world
- Learn about the lives and training of the well known Huskies at a working Husky farm
- Cruise Norway's coastline with Hurtigruten, a world leader in exploratory travel
- Take in the spectacular beauty of the UNESCO World Heritage listed Norwegian fjords
- Take a day trip to the medieval town of Tallinn in Estonia



SPECTACULAR SCANDINAVIA & NORTHERN LIGHTS

DAY 1 AUSTRALIA - OSLO

Our Escorted Escape begins today as we fly from Australia to Oslo. Tonight will be spent in the air en-route to Norway.

DAY 2 OSLO

On arrival in Oslo we will be met by our tour leader and transferred to our hotel. The rest of the afternoon is at your leisure before we meet up for our group welcome dinner.

Meals: D Accommodation: Thon Hotel Opera

DAY 3 OSLO

Today we embark on an orientation tour of Oslo, which includes the Opera House and Vigeland Sculpture Park. The afternoon is at your leisure - you may wish to rest and relax or further discover the city.

Meals: B Accommodation: Thon Hotel Opera

DAY 4 OSLO

We spend today further exploring Oslo. Admire the views across Oslo from the Holmenkollen Ski Jump, and visit the Viking Ship Museum and Kon-tiki Museum.

Meals: B + L Accommodation: Thon Hotel Opera

DAY 5 FLAM

This morning we depart Oslo on the Bergen Railway. Sit back and enjoy the idyllic scenery as we make our way to Myrdal. On arrival in Myrdal we join one of the world's most famous and spectacular rail journeys, the Flåm Railway.

Meals: B + D Accommodation: Flamsbrygga Hotel

DAY 6 BERGEN

We farewell Flåm this morning and sail through the picturesque World Heritage listed Aurlandsfjord and on to Nærøyfjord, one of the most dramatic fjords in Norway. We disembark in Gudvangen and make our way to Voss where we board the train to Bergen.

Meals: B + D Accommodation: Clarion Admiral Hotel

DAY 7 COASTAL VOYAGE

Today we tour Bergen, including a drive past St Mary's Church and Haakon's Hall, and a walk through the old Hanseatic wharf at Brygge. We also visit Trolldhaugen, the home of composer Edvard Grieg. Later in the afternoon we board the MS Finnmarken for our Norwegian coastal voyage.

Meals: B + D Accommodation: MS Kong Harald

DAY 8 ÅLESUND

Rise early to enjoy the breathtaking beauty of the Nordfjord. As we sail past the West Cape, we will experience a rare venture into open sea. The ship navigates skerries and islands before reaching Ålesund, a town renowned for its beautiful art nouveau architecture.

Meals: B + L + D Accommodation: MS Kong Harald

DAY 9 TRONDHEIM

The ship docks early in Trondheim so we have plenty of time to explore Norway's first capital. Trondheim's architecture and surroundings create an almost mythical ambience. In the afternoon the ship sets a northwest course, passing the beautiful Kjeungskjær lighthouse and numerous charming islets and rocky outcrops.

Meals: B + L + D Accommodation: MS Kong Harald



DAY 10 ARCTIC CIRCLE & LOFOTEN ISLANDS

Today we cross the Arctic Circle, where the hunt for the Northern lights begins! Cruise through the Lofoten Islands, an archipelago known for its exceptional natural beauty and picturesque fishing villages.

Meals: B + L + D Accommodation: MS Kong Harald

DAY 11 TROMSØ

After a morning in Finnsnes, the ship stops in Tromsø, the gateway to the Arctic Circle. This region is where we'll have the best chance of seeing the Northern Lights.

Meals: B + L + D Accommodation: MS Kong Harald

DAY 12 HONNINGSVÅG & THE NORTH CAPE

Enjoy magnificent sub-Arctic landscape on our journey towards North Cape, one of the northernmost points on the European continent.

After brief, early stops in Hammerfest and Havøysund you arrive in Honningsvåg, the gateway to the spectacular North Cape.

Meals: B + L + D Accommodation: MS Kong Harald

DAY 13 SAARISELKÄ

After breakfast we arrive in Kirkenes, where our cruise ends. Enjoy a short drive through Kirkenes and learn more about its history before crossing the border into Finland and heading for Finnish Lapland. After a visit to the Sami Museum in the small village of Inari, we continue to Saariselkä, where we'll spend the next two nights.

Meals: B + D Accommodation: Santa's Hotel Tunturi

DAY 14 SAARISELKÄ

Today we visit a husky farm. The head musher will lead an engaging talk about the life and training of these well known Arctic animals. This afternoon is at your leisure to enjoy the picturesque surroundings.

Meals: B + L + D Accommodation: Santa's Hotel Tunturi

DAY 15 SINETTA

Depart Saariselkä to pay a visit to Santa's Village. Our next stop is Sinettä where we will spend the night in a glass igloo - a true wonder of Finnish Lapland. The igloo village is set in an opening surrounded by pine trees, which creates ideal conditions to see the Northern Lights in a starry night sky. Sleep peacefully as the 'Aurora Alarm' searches the skies for you. Once the alarm has signalled, open your eyes to view the glowing night sky from the comfort of your cosy bed!

Meals: B + D Accommodation: Arctic Snow Hotel & Glass Igloos

DAY 16 ROVANIEMI

Today we head to Rovaniemi, the capital of Lapland and the 'official' hometown of Christmas, where culture, winter activities and fairytales come together. The day is free for you to enjoy Finland's northernmost province or participate in one of the optional excursions.

Meals: B + D Accommodation: Sokos Hotel Vaakuna

DAY 17 ROVANIEMI

You are free to explore the 'official' hometown of Santa Claus today. Rovaniemi is home to attractions like Santa Claus Village and Santa Park, as well as Lapland's Provincial Museum, the forest themed Pilke Science Centre and the Korundi House of Culture. Your host and tour leader can help organise any activities you wish to do.

Meals: B Accommodation: Sokos Hotel Vaakuna

DAY 18 HELSINKI

Start the day with a scenic train ride to Helsinki. Sit down for a meal in the onboard restaurant and bar for a full experience of this iconic journey. On arrival we'll embark on a panoramic city tour to get acquainted with Finland's cosmopolitan capital.

Meals: B Accommodation: Holiday Inn City Centre Hotel

DAY 19 HELSINKI

Enjoy a full-day private excursion to medieval Tallinn in Estonia. We begin with a ferry crossing then embark on a walking tour to explore the city, which includes stops at the baroque Kadriorg Park, Song Festival Grounds and the seaside district of Pirita. We then visit the Aleksander Nevskij Cathedral and the Dome Church. You can spend some time at leisure in Tallinn before we board the ferry back to Helsinki and head out for our group farewell dinner.

Meals: B + D Accommodation: Holiday Inn City Centre Hotel

DAY 20 HELSINKI - AUSTRALIA

Today is free to do any last minute shopping or relax and enjoy the hotel facilities before a late afternoon transfer to the airport for our flight home.

Meals: B

DAY 21 IN TRANSIT

Today is spent travelling.

DAY 22 AUSTRALIA

Our Escorted Escape ends. On arrival, farewell your new friends and tour host as you head home.



TOP 10 REASONS TO TRAVEL WITH US

“Once a year,
go someplace you’ve
never been before.”

Dalai Lama

AUSTRALIAN-BASED TOUR HOST

Each and every tour is hosted by an experienced travel professional. Our hosts have travelled extensively themselves and have a passion for exploring our wonderful world. We are there to liaise with the local operators to ensure you relax and enjoy your holiday while we take care of the details.

AIRFARES INCLUDED

Every Escorted Escape includes return economy airfares from Australia (Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne or Adelaide), plus all internal flights as per the itinerary. For available upgrades (at additional cost) or departures from Australian cities not listed above please contact your consultant for pricing. We generally use premium airlines for all long haul travel, to give you the most direct flights and best connection times to our destination. Deviations from the group are often possible, please contact your consultant who will customise your itinerary to make the most of your trip.

SMALL GROUPS

We offer a small-group experience on all of our Escorted Escapes. We guarantee our group size will never exceed 20 travellers on any one tour. With fewer travellers in our groups, you'll spend less time checking into hotels and getting on (and off) transport and more time seeing the sights.

INCLUSIVE SIGHTSEEING

While our trips are leisurely paced, we pride ourselves on including the very best sightseeing on offer in each location. Please refer to the itinerary and trip notes for daily inclusions. Optional activities (at additional cost) may also be available in certain locations.

VISAS, TIPPING & TRANSFERS INCLUDED

We believe travel should be simple and easy for you, which is why we include as many costs as possible, including transfers from your home to the airport (to the value of \$100). Visa costs for Australian passport holders are also included in every tour. We take care of tipping for group activities as well as for your tour leader, local guides and drivers.

UNIQUE ITINERARIES

Each itinerary is carefully planned and unique to Escorted Escapes. They are individually designed with our clientele in mind, reflecting our extensive travel industry experience and valued customer feedback. We prefer to travel at a leisurely pace, minimising one night stays in favour of two and three-night stays at key destinations.

OUR ACCOMMODATION

We use a range of quality accommodation including hotels, lodges, luxury tented

camps and cruise cabins. We take pride in selecting the best locations and guarantee that all accommodation includes private ensuite facilities. With our small group sizes, we have the flexibility to stay in smaller boutique properties, where available, to further enhance your travel experience. Please refer to the trip itinerary for the hotels we have carefully selected for your trip*.

TOUR LEADERS & LOCAL GUIDES

Each of our trips include a local English-speaking tour leader who is your destination expert, in addition to your Australian-based tour host. We also utilise the services of expert local guides where appropriate to enhance your experience in the key destinations.

SOLO TRAVELLERS

If you're travelling solo you don't need to be travelling alone. With our Escorted Escapes, you have the opportunity to travel with a whole new set of friends. Our single supplements are designed to keep the cost down and remove the stress of travelling by yourself.

MEAL INCLUSIONS

Breakfast is included each day for your convenience. We also offer a selection of included meals as per the trip itinerary, while allowing plenty of opportunities for you to sample the local cuisine at your leisure.

escorted ESCAPES®

With you every step of the way

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Escorted Escapes

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Your local Travel Agent: