

Topdeck

NORTHERN EXPOSURE



TRIP CODE:

EERSGT-9

Topdecker, MEET EUROPE

Don't just take our word for it, come and see for yourself why Scandinavia is so awesome. Beginning in buzzing Berlin, we'll take you north through the jaw-dropping landscapes of fjords, glaciers, forests, lakes and mountains of Scandinavia. We'll hit up Denmark, Sweden and Norway and then carry on all the way up to the Arctic Circle. On the way down we'll pass through Finland before finishing up in Estonia. Let's go!

WORTH NOTING...

A Sector trip is part of a larger journey, meaning your new friends might continue on or after you leave, or you might be joining a trip already in progress.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Hostel Plus



Nights



Android/iPhone app
download info



This is a sector trip.

Hi, AND THANKS FOR CHOOSING TO HOLIDAY WITH TOPDECK

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We really appreciate your decision to travel with us, and rest assured that the entire Topdeck team will be pulling out all the stops to make your trip an unforgettable one.

Now it's time to get excited and get ready for a fantastic holiday!

From all the crew at Topdeck Travel

ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs, including where to meet, what to bring and what you can expect on your trip of a lifetime! Also, you can easily download and print this document off so you can check off the lists or bring it with you when you travel.

Please do bear in mind though, some points should be taken as a guide only - after all, everyone's different! For example, daily spending money and clothing lists can vary greatly from one person to the next so don't be alarmed if you don't expect to spend (or even wear) so much! However, we're sure you'll find the information in general to be very useful.

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PLEASE NOTE: We strongly urge you to refresh this document as close to the time of your departure as possible to ensure you have the most up-to-date accommodation list and information available.

ON THE BUCKET LIST (INCLUDED)

- + Enjoy a Polar plunge & wood
- + fired sauna in Skibotn
- + Visit the Arctic Circle
- + Welcome dinner in Berlin
- + Visit Santa's Village
- + Cruise the majestic Geirangerfjord

MORE INCLUSIONS

- + Driving tour of Copenhagen
- + Walking tour of Stockholm
- + Driving tour of Oslo
- + Visit the Ringebu Stave Church
- + Drive the famous Trolls' Path Crossing
- + Cruise the majestic Geirangerfjord
- + Visit Trondheim and the town of Hell
- + Visit the Arctic Circle
- + Warm up in a wood-fired sauna
- + Do a 'polar plunge' in an Arctic river
- + Visit Santa's Village
- + Driving tour of Helsinki
- + Walking tour of Tallinn

YOUR TRIP WILL START

PICK UP:

Berlin
Europe

Trip currencies

- + Germany - EUR
- + Denmark - DKK
- + Sweden - SEK
- + Norway - NOK
- + Finland - EUR
- + Estonia - EUR

Your Itinerary



**AWESOME TRIP
LEADER**

DAY 1 | BERLIN, GERMANY

With more museums than rainy days and some of the best DJs on the continent, the only thing you'll miss out on in Berlin is sleep – but there's plenty of time for that later. Drop your bags and get the trip admin sorted at the hostel before getting to know your new trip pals over dinner.



MEALS:

- + Dinner

DAY 2 | BERLIN

We'll drive you around to see (what's left of) the Berlin Wall, Checkpoint Charlie, the Brandenburg Gate and the Reichstag building. Afterwards, why not step out on an optional Third Reich walking tour for a local insight into what the city was like under Nazi rule during World War II? Tonight: explore the city after dark on an optional alternative street art and nightlife tour.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Third Reich walking tour
- + Street art and nightlife tour

DAY 3 | BERLIN TO COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

On to Copenhagen to find out why this city keeps popping up among the top five most liveable cities in the world. Get your bearings on a guided driving tour and discover why Copenhagen is home to half of the nation's population.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Driving tour of Copenhagen

DAY 4 | COPENHAGEN

Today you have the chance to explore the city in true local fashion: on a bike. Romantic streak? Check out The Little Mermaid, a tribute to the fairytale writer Hans Christian Andersen's pre-Disney masterpiece. Spoiler alert: the original version has the lovestruck mermaid become foam on the sea after she fails to win the prince's affections. Even back then, it seems, #thestrugglewasreal.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast

DAY 5 | COPENHAGEN TO STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

You know it for the IKEA hotdogs and meatballs (plus ridiculously good-looking people), but Sweden's capital also punches way above its weight in design, fashion and some multicultural vibes you wouldn't expect this close to the Arctic Circle.

MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner

DAY 6 | STOCKHOLM

Today we've cleared your schedule, so you can wander the city to your heart's content. Take an optional guided tour of Stockholm City Hall (the famous Nobel Prize banquet venue), or spend the day strolling through one of Stockholm's many museums. Wanna take in some views? Then gaze at the greenery of Djurgården or let a hop-on-hop-off boat transport you around the city's 14 islands.

MEALS:

- + Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Walking tour of Stockholm



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Guided tour of Stockholm City Hall

DAY 7 | STOCKHOLM

The day is yours to do as you please. Need some suggestions? Well, you could always pay an optional visit to the Vasa Museum or watch the changing of the guards at the Royal Palace and drink copious amounts of quality coffee. Note: Swedes treat caffeine the way they do their style: very seriously.

MEALS:

- + Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Visit the Vasa Museum

DAY 8 | STOCKHOLM TO OSLO, NORWAY

From the cosmopolitan city vibes of Stockholm to a more laid-back experience in Oslo. Check out endless stretches of Christmas trees and pretty lakes as you settle in for a day of nature-filled sights on the way to Norway's capital. By the afternoon, you'll be all gawped out and more than ready for dinner in the land of the midnight sun.

MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner

DAY 9 | OSLO

There's just enough time to wake up and take a stroll through Gustav Vigeland's bizarre and eccentric sculpture park this morning. Then: a comprehensive driving tour and an optional visit to the Viking Ship Museum, Kon-Tiki Museum and Fram Polar Ship. Take the rest of the day off to soak up Oslo's funky 60s vibe.

MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Driving tour of Oslo



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Visit The Viking Ship Museum
- + Visit The Kon-Tiki Museum
- + Visit The Fram Polar Ship Museum

DAY 10 | OSLO TO ÅNDALSNES, VIA LILLEHAMMER

On to Lillehammer, home of the 1994 Winter Olympics. Do an optional run down the bobsled track before we move on to Åndalsnes for a full day on the Geiranger Fjord. To call the scenery epic would be an understatement (check out Google Images for proof). Also today: a visit to the distinctive Ringebu Stave Church.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit the Ringebu Stave Church



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Ride the Lillehammer Olympic Bobsleigh

DAY 11 | ÅNDALSNES

Grab yourself a window seat as we wind our way around some of Europe's most scenic roads en route to the famous Trolls' Path Crossing. Sit back and drink in the sheer scale of the breathtaking fjords - long recognised as some of the world's greatest natural attractions. Later, we'll get up close and personal with the impossibly beautiful Geirangerfjord on a sightseeing cruise. One word: wow.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Drive the famous Trolls' Path Crossing
- + Cruise the majestic Geirangerfjord

DAY 12 | ÅNDALSNES TO STEINKJER, VIA TRONDHEIM/HELL

Today we chase the sun to Trondheim, the religious capital of Norway. Repent your sins – the next stop is Hell. Yes, really (only this one is usually frozen over). Temperatures can dip down as low as -25°C. After snapping up some photographic proof of our visit, we're off to Steinkjer for the night.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit Trondheim and the town of Hell

DAY 13 | STEINKJER TO BJERKA

Today we embark on a coastal drive to Bjerka, an inland village surrounded by mountains. Look forward to some peace and quiet – not to mention more greenery than you can poke a pine tree at.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner

DAY 14 | BJERKA TO TYSFJORD, VIA SVARTISEN GLACIER

On to Tysfjord for the night to experience the narrowest point in Norway. Look forward to the chance to check out Svartisen, Norway's second largest glacier. Covering a full 370 square kilometres and at just 20 m above sea level, it's the lowest glacier in mainland Europe – making it easily accessible for hikes and nature-based experiences. Top tip: wear your comfy shoes.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner
- + Optional activity:
- + Visit Svartisen (weather dependent)



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit the Arctic Circle

DAY 15 | TYSFJORD TO SKIBOTN

Today, we're headed for Skibotn – where polar ice baths and wood-fired saunas await your arrival (lifelong bragging rights are awarded to those who take the plunge).



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Warm up in a wood-fired sauna
- + Do a 'polar plunge' in an Arctic river

DAY 16 | SKIBOTN TO OLDERFJORD

Onwards and upwards, we're heading north for the last time to witness the height of the midnight sun (so named as it doesn't set between May and June). If you're lucky with the weather, you can expect to see nature at its absolute best.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Midnight sun Nordkapp experience (weather dependent)

DAY 17 | OLDERFJORD

Fuel up with a late breakfast. Then: a hike through the rugged countryside. After an included dinner with the crew, you'll go to bed counting reindeer and dreaming of fjords.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner

DAY 18 | OLDERFJORD TO ROVANIEMI, FINLAND

Cross back over the Arctic Circle and practise your best 'Jingle Bells' as we make our way to Rovaniemi for a trip to Santa's Village. Excitement level: 100/10. Keep your eyes peeled for Santa's reindeer from your window seat.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit Santa's Village

DAY 19 | ROVANIEMI TO JYVASKYLA

Next up: the university town of Jyväskylä. This Finnish city boasts a party scene to rival some of the best, so this is your chance to let your hair down and rub shoulders with the locals.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch
- + Dinner

DAY 20 | JYVASKYLA TO HELSINKI

A short trip south to the quirky Finnish capital, Helsinki. Kick back and let us show you the highlights of this funky town on a driving tour. Think: art-nouveau buildings and oh-so-fancy cafés.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Lunch



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Driving tour of Helsinki

DAY 21 | HELSINKI TO TALLINN, ESTONIA

More fairytale magic as we hop across to Tallinn with its old city walls and medieval buildings. A walking tour will show you the highlights before we hand you over to the city.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast
- + Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Walking tour of Tallinn

DAY 22 | TALLINN

It's all about whatever tickles your fancy today as the trip ends after breakfast. See the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral or check out the KGB museum for a history lesson on the antics of the Soviet Union's former security agency. Pro tip: Old Town is where you'll get the best kind of Estonian #throwback vibes. See you next time!



MEALS:

- + Breakfast

Meals

Breakfasts are included every day (except on the first morning). Included meals will be a combination of those prepared by Topdeck On-Site Chefs, local restaurants and places in which we stay.

If you have any dietary requirements we will make every effort to cater to your specific needs as long as you advise your travel agent or Customer Service Consultant when you book, or make note of this in the Topdeck app when you check in (refer below). However, please be aware that although we will do everything in our power to arrange it, we cannot guarantee that every restaurant we use will be able to cater to all dietary needs, particularly in Eastern Europe. We also cannot cater for tastes or dislikes, as most of our included evening meals feature a set menu

Topdeck Travel App

Our travel app is **AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD BEFORE YOU TRAVEL**. With a range of cool features including a Currency Converter, Budget Planner, Check-In tool and Social Timeline (so your next #TravelEnvy post is never too far away) you can plan your trip like a pro.

Think of it like your very own Topdeck Trip Leader, always on call with the latest info, weather, maps and city guides to give you the trip of a lifetime, all in the palm of your hand.

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Passenger safety

One of the best parts of travelling is experiencing the nightlife and entertainment each city has to offer. However, amidst the fun and excitement, it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety as well. Before you hit the road with us, be sure to familiarise yourself with the following safety information.

When you're on a night out, remember to avoid walking alone, particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation details so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. It's also a good idea to get your Topdeck trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking, and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

OTHER INFORMATION



THAT'S IT!