

Norwegian Fjord Road Trip: Bergen to Ålesund - 7 Days



Visit Norway's spectacular coastal and inland fjords at your own pace.

Your Itinerary

Experience Norway's stunning fjord landscapes on this week-long driving tour. Starting in the historic Hanseatic city of Bergen, you'll explore the country's salty Atlantic coast, tasting the region's island and maritime culture both figuratively and literally. Heading further inland, you'll cruise through two of Scandinavia's most famous and dramatic fjord landscapes -- Hjørundfjord and Geirangerfjord -- before finishing your trip with a relaxed stay in Art Nouveau gem Ålesund, Norway's prettiest city.

Brief Itinerary

Day	Highlights
Day 1	Arrive in Bergen
Day 2	Værlandet & the Fjord Coast
Day 3	Explore Kalvåg
Day 4	Norangs fjord & Øye
Day 5	Fjordcruise in Geirangerfjord -> Ålesund
Day 6	Explore Ålesund
Day 7	Depart Ålesund

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Bergen

Welcome to Bergen! Situated on Norway's west coast, this small wharf city (one of the oldest port cities in Europe) is surrounded by ocean, mountains, and fjords, including Sognefjord, the country's longest and deepest.

Explore the town on your own or meet up with a guide for a local tour of Bergen -- the second largest city in Norway, with about 300,000 residents. Rich in culture and seafaring history, this city boasts a vast selection of cultural and outdoorsy activities.

- Be sure to take the Fløibanen funicular (or hike the trail on foot) to the top of Mount Fløyen -- one of Bergen's seven peaks -- for the best views of the city, and take a leisurely stroll back down the path while discovering hidden troll sculptures along the way.
- Check out the Bryggen area of downtown to view old wooden houses dating back to the 1700s (a protected UNESCO World Heritage Site), along with Bergen's best historical sites and museums. For a rest, stop in one of the charming local cafés and bakeries.

The cobblestoned streets are compact and walkable, so get out and explore Bergen's lively restaurants and nightlife, thanks in part to a young student population.

Stay overnight in Bergen.



Day 2: Værlandet & the Fjord Coast

After breakfast in Bergen, pick up a rental car and begin your drive northward to the coastal island of Værlandet. This 120-mile (190 km) drive takes approximately 4.5 hours, including a ferry ride to your destination.

Explore the beautiful archipelago Værlandet and Bulandet at your own pace. Or simply unwind and take in the views from your room! Endless horizons and the majestic cliff island of Alden await.

Stay overnight in Værlandet.



Day 3: Explore Kalvåg

Spend ample time at the seaside before continuing to Kalvåg. Like yesterday, you'll be driving for 4.5 hours (140 miles, 220 km), including ferry transport.

Kalvåg's pleasant atmosphere, good food, and coastal culture make this fishing village a standout in the region. You'll discover numerous fishing huts within walking distance around the small bay. This evening's dinner will be one to remember, as locals pride themselves on serving fresh seafood straight from their own nets.

Stay overnight in Kalvåg.



Day 4: Norangsfjord & Øye

Enjoy a relaxed morning before heading to the Hjørundfjord and its peaceful countryside. Another 4.5-hour drive with ferry (120 miles, 190 km) brings you to Øye and the stunning Norangsfjord, an arm of the Hjørundfjord towered over on all sides by the Sunnmørsalpene mountains.

It's possible to explore this beautiful area either by car, fjord cruise, fjord boat charters (express or high-speed boats), or simply on foot.

You'll savor panoramic views and the changing colors of the fjord at sunset over dinner or an evening cocktail.

Stay overnight in Øye.



Day 5: Fjordcruise in Geirangerfjord -> Ålesund

Use the morning to get deeper into nature on foot, by fjord cruise, or even by kayak.

Total driving time today is just 2.5 hours (80 miles, 130 km), so you can take your time and stop whenever the mood strikes. The landscapes on your drive to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Geirangerfjord are stunning in any weather, and your pictures today will be among the best of your entire trip.

Drive down to Hellesylt, where you'll join an hour-long cruise through this breathtaking fjord. The Geirangerfjord is the world's most famous fjord, and the cruise's spacious external deck is ideal for those interested in landscape photography. While Geirangerfjord's sheer mountain cliffs and many waterfalls are dramatic, it's the evidence of people who once lived and worked here – some until the 1960s – but who have now abandoned their farms and shoreline smallholdings that will leave a lasting impression. The cruise acquaints you with stories and local legends of these remote dwellers.

From here, it's onward to Ålesund, often referred to as Norway's prettiest city. Distinguished by its numerous spires, towers, and ornate buildings, this town is renowned for its beautiful Art Nouveau architecture. Return your rental car, as everything here can be reached on foot or by bus.

Stay overnight in Ålesund.



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Day 6: Explore Ålesund

Wake up in Ålesund and enjoy the views!

Ålesund has a breathtaking location stretching out into the Atlantic Ocean. The heavy presence of Art Nouveau architecture is a result of rebuilding efforts following a devastating fire in 1904. Today, the city is the cultural center of the region.

If you're looking to get beyond the city's typical sites, take a hike up Ålesund's Sukkertoppen (Sugar Top) hill, which affords excellent views of the city, fjord, and coast. Plan at least 2.5 hours for this excursion.

Stay overnight in Ålesund.



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Day 7: Depart Ålesund

It's time to say farewell to Norway! Enjoy your last few hours walking around Ålesund's neighborhoods, relaxing in a café, or visiting local boutiques for one-of-a-kind souvenirs.



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