

# Vikings, Trolls & Fjords: Monte Strand Stran

## June 3 - 14, 2025

*To register:* https://ed-ventures.grcoll.co/ v2/go/gvn225









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**Day 1: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 • Departure** Our tour begins with our departure to Bergen, Norway.

### Day 2: Wednesday, June 4, 2025 • Bergen

We arrive in Bergen this afternoon, where we meet our driver, and travel a short distance to our hotel in the heart of the city. After some time to freshen up from our flight, we have time to explore the beautiful and historic Hanseatic Waterfront. A stroll to the fish market will be a perfect way to stretch and relax after our flight. Dinner is at our hotel this evening. **D** 

### Day 3: Thursday, June 5, 2025 • Bergen

This morning a local guide meets us at our hotel and takes us on a panoramic tour of this amazing city. We are formally introduced to the Hanseatic Waterfront, learning about its fiery history and profound impact on the city. We also travel through a portion of the city by bus to see other sights, and travel to Troldhaugen, home of Norway's beloved composer Edvard Grieg. We have the rest of the afternoon free to enjoy Bergen on our own, including a chance to explore one of the many restaurants. **B** 

### Day 4: Friday, June 6, 2025 • Balestrand

We depart this morning as we head north toward Stalheim to the Stalheim Hotel. This historic hotel boasts the finest view in Norway with beautiful panoramic views of the fjord. We move on to Flam, on the shore of the Aurlandsfjord. This afternoon we board the world-famous Flam Train and enjoy a round trip ride on one of the world's most scenic railways. We continue to Balestrand and en route travel through the Lærdal Tunnel, the





world's longest road tunnel before our overnight in one of the most beautiful hotels in all of Norway, Kviknes Hotel. **B**,**D** 

### Day 5: Saturday, June 7, 2025 • Geiranger

Our first stop this morning is at Boyabreen, a scenic stopping point to get up close to the fastest moving glacier in Norway, Jostendalsbreen! We continue to Skei, where we stop at the best souvenir shop in Norway, run by the kindest shopkeeper. With our pewter and sweaters stowed in our bags, we continue north to Hellesylt, where we board a ferry and spend an hour cruising on the most breathtaking fjord in Norway – the Geirangerfjord. We spend the night in Geiranger tonight, and after dinner, those who are willing are welcome to a traditional swim in the fjord. Others are welcome to photograph the breathtaking plunge – and reaction. **B**,**D** 

### Day 6: Sunday, June 8, 2025 • Molde

In order to depart Geiranger this morning, our driver has to ascend the steep, winding slopes of the Eagle's Road, into the mountains overlooking the Geirangerfjord. We then travel across the beautiful, rugged mountain plateau leading to the Troll's Highway, where our driver is even more challenged to descend this even steeper and windier road down a nearly sheer mountain face. We then take in more beautiful fjord scenery en route to Molde, famous for roses and jazz, and a breathtaking panoramic view. **B**,**D** 

### Day 7: Monday, June 9, 2025 • Trondheim

We depart Molde and travel to Trondheim, the millennia old city, which was the original capital of Norway, Trondheim. We





visit the Ringve Museum of Musical History, where the history of Norway's music to life. This beautiful manor house was the childhood home of Norwegian naval hero Petter Wessel Tordenskiold and is surrounded by a wonderful botanical garden. The Museum is conveniently located just outside Trondheim and represents an idyllic spot to enjoy the beautiful views of both the city and the fjord. Tonight, we enjoy dinner together. **B,D** 

### Day 8: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 • Trondheim

Few large cities have managed to preserve their intimacy as effectively as Trondheim. An ancient city, it was founded by the Viking King Olav Tryggvason as early as 997. A local guide joins us as we begin with Norway's national shrine, Nidaros Cathedral - Norway's only Gothic style cathedral, built over the burial place of St. Olav, Norway's patron saint. After we marvel at the cathedral's incredible architectural details and exquisite works of art, we have some free time. **B** 

### Day 9: Wednesday, June 11, 2025 • Lillehammer

We turn south today, traveling through the interior of Norway, via the Gudbrandsdal Valley to Lillehammer, home of the 1994 Winter Olympic Games. We visit the ski jump area and might even see some summer skiers working out on the slopes. **B**,**D** 

### Day 10: Thursday, June 12, 2025 • Oslo

Our route to Oslo takes us by Hamar where we view the upsidedown ship. When we arrive in Oslo, we meet our guide who takes us on a panoramic tour of the attractions of the capital of Norway. Highlights include Frogner Park, with its famous Vigeland Sculptures, downtown Oslo and then free time for shopping or to dine at one of the many restaurants. **B** 

### Day 11: Friday, June 13, 2025 • Oslo

We spend the morning on Bygdoy Island where we see a stave church from the year 1200, Kon Tiki Museum and the Fram Museum – all about the polar ship. The afternoon is free in Oslo, perhaps to buy that last souvenir or gift. Tonight, we enjoy our farewell dinner at a unique restaurant that blends local ingredients and traditional Norwegian recipes with top-notch cooking skills to produce culinary masterpieces. **B**,**D** 

### Day 12: Saturday, June 14, 2025 • Return

Sadly, this morning, we must bid our driver farewell, after we are transferred to Oslo's Gardermoen International Airport, where we board our flight for the return across the Atlantic. We bring with us memories of some of the world's most beautiful scenery, centuries old buildings, the history of the Vikings, and the friends we have met along the way. **B** 

### **TOUR COST: \$6,629\***

Land only per person, double occupancy

Single supplement = \$950

with a minimum of 15 participants

### **Your Tour Includes:**

- Estimated Roundtrip Airfare (Chicago to Bergen, return from Oslo) and related taxes, fees and fuel charges (estimated at \$1800, other cities available)
- Land Transportation via private deluxe airconditioned motor coach
- Accommodations (double occupancy) in 3 and 4 star hotels
- Meals per the itinerary
- Admission to all activities indicated in the itinerary except those listed as optional
- Services of professional tour manager
- Local **step-on guides** for city tours and major attractions
- Luggage handling of one piece per person
- All taxes and tips for provided services on land tour, except as noted below

### Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Meals other than indicated above
- Beverages, except with breakfast
- End of tour gratuity for coach driver and tour manager
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees. (Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return date.)
- **Optional insurance** for health, baggage and cancellation. (*This insurance is available and recommended.*)

### **Payment Schedule:**

A deposit of \$500 per person is due with reservation. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure date. Invoice will be sent out prior to final payment. Passengers may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures has received a final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

### **Currency:**

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

### **Refund/Cancellation Policy:**

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. From the time of deposit to 119 days before departure a \$100 administrative fee plus any airfare penalties will be assessed. From 119-31 days, a \$500 cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets once purchased are nonrefundable. Anyone canceling 30 days or less prior to departure will receive **no refund**.

Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/ interruption insurance is strongly recommended.

> Abbreviations for Meals B=Breakfast D=Dinner

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### **Terms and Conditions**

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

Due to COVID-19, we have a right to adjust the tour in order to follow the guidelines and policies set by the CDC, the WHO, and the local governments.

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