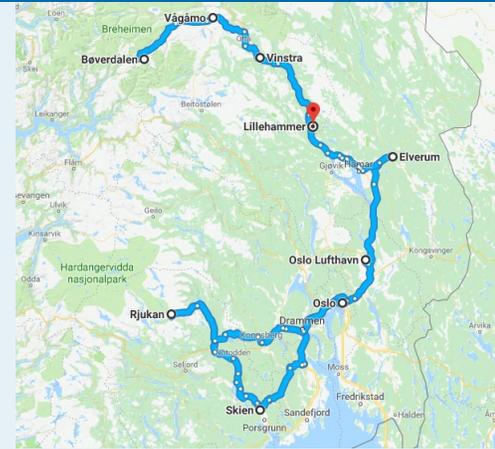


Gudbrandsdalslag of America...
**A Journey through the
 Heart of Norway**
 August 18 - 31, 2019



Join the Gudbrandsdalslag of America on a 14-day journey featuring Norway's natural beauty, history and culture.



PRELIMINARY ITINERARY

DAY 1 SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

Mpls/St. Paul – Reykjavik – Oslo: Depart the USA on your transatlantic flight. To request alternate dates or for estimated airfare supplements from other US cities, please note on application.

DAY 2 MONDAY, AUGUST 19 [D]

Oslo – Skien: Arrive at Gardermoen Airport. Travel to Telemark, a region often referred to as “Norway in Miniature.” Arrive Skien, the main city in Telemark and a center of trade and cultural activity. Dinner and overnight at Høyers Hotel.

DAY 3 TUESDAY, AUGUST 20 [B,D]

Skien: Morning visit to Brekke Park and the Telemark Museum, featuring heritage buildings from across Telemark. Lunch on own. Proceed to Venstøp, the childhood home of Norway’s internationally-known playwright, the late Henrik Ibsen. Learn about the craft of porcelain at the Porcelain Museum in Porsgrunn. The gift store offers design items such as porcelain, jewelry and textiles. Dinner and overnight at hotel.

DAY 4 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21 [B,L,D]

Skien – Rjukan: Morning drive to Morgedal. Tour the Norwegian Ski Adventure Center. Continue to the Hardangervidda National Park Center for lunch. Learn about the thousands of wild reindeer roaming the Hardangervidda Plateau through a variety of interactive exhibits. Discover more about the German occupation of Norway during World War II at Vemork, the hydroelectric power plant where the Nazis produced “heavy water” for their atomic bomb experiments. Dinner and overnight at Gaustablikk Hotel located on Norway’s most beautiful mountain (Gaustatoppen – 6200 ft above sea level), offering a view of 1/6th of Norway. Following dinner join Goldsmith Sando, for a presentation of the bunad brooches and their hidden messages.

DAY 5 THURSDAY, AUGUST 22 [B,D]

Rjukan – Kongsberg – Oslo: Morning visit to the shop of Silversmith Sando. Drive to Heddal. Tour Norway’s largest stave church from the 12th century. Lunch on own. Continue to Kongsberg, gateway to the Numedal Valley. Previously an old mining community, the city developed around the rich silver mines from the 1600s. Today the town is a high-tech center, also hosting the Norwegian mint, producing all Norwegian coins since 1686. Tour the Norwegian Mining Museum. Proceed to Oslo. Dinner and overnight at the Thon Bristol or Grand Hotel.

DAY 6 FRIDAY, AUGUST 23 [B]

Oslo: Depart for Drøbak. Ferry to Oscarsborg Fortress for a 2-hour tour of the grounds which gives an insight into the events leading up to WWII and the sinking of the German flagship, *Blucher*, which enabled the King, Parliament and the government to flee to Elverum and later organize the resistance from abroad. Lunch on own in the charming village of Drøbak. Upon returning to Oslo, the coach will stop at the Resistance Museum. Option for further independent explorations or return to hotel independently.

DAY 7 SATURDAY, AUGUST 24 [B,D]

Oslo – Løiten – Elverum: Morning drive to Løiten in Hedmark. Learn about the famous Norwegian painter, Edvard Munch’s connection to the area and the famous Løiten aquavit. Tour the Løiten Braenderi and enjoy lunch with a taste of aquavit. Before departure, visit Løiten Lys, Norway’s largest manufacturer of candles. Continue to Elverum a regional center for trade and industry. Late afternoon visit to Glomsdal Museum featuring an exhibition (“Kongens Nei” / “The King’s No”) on the historic happening which took place over three days during April of 1940. Dinner at the museum. Overnight at Scandic Elgstua.

PRELIMINARY ITINERARY:

- Roundtrip airfare from Mpls / St. Paul, including taxes, fees and fuel surcharge
- 12 nights accommodations, 1st class/superior tourist class, double occupancy
- Daily breakfast [B], 3 lunches [L] & 10 dinners
- 1st-class touring coach
- Museum visits include: Telemark Museum, Porcelain Museum, Norwegian Industrial Museum (Vemork), Norwegian Mining Museum, Glomsdal Museum, Norwegian Forestry Museum, Emigration Museum, Gudbrandsdal War Museum, Transportation Museum
- Church visits include: Heddal Stave Church, Sør Fron Church, Espedalen Church, Lillehammer Church, Ostre Gausdal Church, and Tretten Church
- Visits to Norwegian Ski Adventure Center, Hardangervidda National Park Center, Oscarsborg Fortress and home of Sigrid Undset
- Entrance fees to all sites outlined in itinerary
- Luggage handling at hotels for 1 suitcase (subject to availability)
- Tour information kit

For more information, contact:

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A Journey through the Heart of Norway

Itinerary Proposal



Spend time exploring some of Norway's most beautiful regions such as Telemark, Hedmark, Oslo & Gudbrandsdal.



DAY 8 SUNDAY, AUGUST 25 [B,L,D]
Elverum – Hamar – Vågåmo: Prior to departure from Elverum, tour the Norwegian Forestry Museum, Norway's national museum for hunting, fishing, forest and forestry. In Ottestad, visit the Emigration Museum dedicated to the nearly 1 million Norwegians who since 1825 have migrated to overseas destinations. The museum features a log house from Kindred, North Dakota; a rural church from Houston, MN; and a country school from Mt Vernon, South Dakota. Lunch and lecture on emigration. Proceed past Norway's largest lake, Lake Mjøsa to Lillehammer and through the Gudbrandsdal Valley to Vågåmo for dinner and overnight.

DAY 11, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28 [B,L,D]
Vinstra – Lillehammer: Morning visit to Hundoro farm with its ancient grave mounds. Tour the Sør Fron Church, referred to as the Cathedral of Gudbrandsdal. Drive to Espedalen with its rich flora and fauna and beautiful lakes. Visit a local farmer and his wife who spend most of the summer fishing in the high mountain lakes. Learn about the history and importance of fishing from early times. Lunch at the farm. Tour the Espedalen Church with its unusual graveyard. During the 17th century there were copper works in the valley and from 1846 to 1878 nickel was also mined. Helvete (Hell) Nature Park has some of the largest potholes in Northern Europe, many of them more than 160 ft deep and 65 ft wide. Proceed to Lillehammer. Dinner and overnight at Scandic Victoria.



DAY 9 MONDAY, AUGUST 26 [B,D]
Vågåmo – Lom – Bøverdal: Meet with Vågåmo Historielag as per own arrangements. Drive to Lom. Opportunity to visit the stave church or explore the Stone Museum and shop in the jewelry gallery at the Fossheim Steinsenter. Proceed to Skjaak and Uppigard Skjaak where we visit a typical farm complex in Gudbrandsdal, with its famous woodcarvings. Dinner and overnight at the historic Elveseter Hotel.

DAY 12 THURSDAY, AUGUST 29 [B]
Lillehammer: Tour the Lillehammer Church followed by a tour of the home of Sigrid Undset, the famous Norwegian novelist who was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1928. Afternoon free for shopping, an independent visit to Maihaugen and/or Oppland Arkivet. People with a genealogical question about Gudbrandsdal could visit the arkivet instead of Maihaugen. Overnight at hotel.



DAY 10 TUESDAY, AUGUST 27 [B,D]
Bøverdal – Otta – Vinstra: Depart for Otta. Meet with historielag members as per own arrangements. Lunch on own. Drive to Dombås before visiting Kvam where we see the English War Memorial and tour the Gudbrandsdal War Museum which offers an insight into the events which took place in this valley during WWII. Dinner and overnight at Fefor Hotel in Vinstra.

DAY 13 FRIDAY, AUGUST 30 [B,D]
Excursion in Area: Morning visit to the Transportation Museum in Fåberg. Continue to Gausdal where we are invited for lunch by members of the Gausdal Historielag. Following a visit to the Ostre Gausdal Church, proceed to Tretten. Tour the church. Possible lecture and discussion about "kommuner," local municipalities. Enjoy a farewell dinner at Glomstad with representatives of the of the local "historielag." Return to Lillehammer for overnight.



DAY 14 SATURDAY, AUGUST 31 [B]
Lillehammer – Oslo Gardermoen – Depart: Transfer to Oslo Gardermoen Airport for return flight.

www.BrekkeTours.com

For more information, contact:
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