# Ancient traditions & Norwegian Fjords

From **10/04/2024** to **20/04/2024** 

Ship: *LE BELLOT* 

From **Tromso** to **Copenhagen** 



Set off with **PONANT** on an itinerary along the Norwegian coastline, where cliffs carved by the sea and the wind produce still wild fjords, between snow-capped mountains and frosted landscapes. From **Tromso**, set off aboard *Le Bellot* for a **11-day cruise** discovering these natural beauties.

Your embarkation in **Tromso** will mark the start of your **immersion in the land of the Sami**, a **reindeer-herding ancestral people.** From **fascinating Alta** to **historic Narvik**, you will be privileged to encounter one of the last indigenous cultures on European soil, during the visit of a **traditional camp or the telling of age-old stories.** 

Your ship will then make its way south. You will witness the mysterious charm of the **Lofoten** archipelago. These islands have landscapes of surreal beauty alternating between sea, spectacular fjords, mountain slopes and bright-coloured huts on stilts.

After crossing the **Arctic Circle**, the ship will reach the Norwegian conurbation of **Geiranger** and its magnificent **fjord**, **a UNESCO World Heritage Site**.

You will take the Eagle Road - the only road in winter, - which offers breathtaking views of the fjord, the impressive Seven Sisters waterfall and the farms in Eisdal village.

You will then reach **Bergen**, a city founded by the Vikings almost a thousand years ago, and renowned for its seven mountains encircling the city centre and the Hanseatic wharf in the charming and picturesque historic district of Bryggen, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Your ship will finally head for Copenhagen, your disembarkation port.



The information in this document is valid as of 24/04/2024

# Ancient traditions & Norwegian Fjords **YOUR STOPOVERS**:

# TROMSO

Embarkation 10/04/2024 from 16:00 to 17:00 Departure 11/04/2024 at 15:00

In the north of the Arctic circle you'll discover **Tromsø**, a secluded town located in the county of Troms. Norwegians call it the "Paris of the north". You'll soon see why when you discover its extensive neoclassical architectural heritage. A stunning example is the **Arctic cathedral**, a major monument whose stylistic purity echoes the outline of the mountains surrounding the town.

# ALTA

Arrival 12/04/2024 early morning Departure 12/04/2024 late evening

Beyond the Arctic Circle, **Alta**, in the far north of Norway, is the biggest city in Finnmark county. Alta will reveal itself to you at the end of the eponymous fjord, Altafjorden. The region offers a mix of forest, mountainous and coastal landscapes. It is on the verge of obtaining the "sustainable destination" label, a national label awarded to destinations that are committed to a sustainable approach to tourism for the long term. Alta invites you to experience unique moments, whether meeting the **Sami people** reindeer herders who have ancestral traditions and yet embrace modernity or during walks, snowshoe hikes or dog sledding, depending on the season.

#### AT SEA

Arrival 13/04/2024 Departure 13/04/2024

During your journey at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This journey without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, depending on the activities offered, or to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

# NARVIK

Arrival 14/04/2024 early morning Departure 14/04/2024 late evening

Beyond the Arctic Circle, you will discover Narvik, nestling in the heart of impressive mountains that plunge into the

Ofotfjord. It is on the verge of obtaining the "sustainable destination" label, a national label awarded to destinations that are committed to a sustainable approach to tourism for the long term. You will be mesmerised by its scenery. From Narvik, it is possible to take the Ofoten Line towards Sweden. This historic railway once linked the mineral-rich mines of Kiruna in Sweden to the ice-free port of Narvik. You will experience unique moments whether meeting the Sami people reindeer herders who have ancestral traditions and yet embrace modernity.

#### LEKNES, LOFOTEN

Arrival 15/04/2024 early morning Departure 15/04/2024 late afternoon

Way beyond the Arctic Circle, **Lofoten Islands** are truly considered to be in "another world". A jewel of nature in its most pristine state, this archipelago with its jagged coastline offers you majestic settings of high alpine summits, sandy beaches, green prairies and fjords of a deep blue, where countless bird colonies make their nests. Whether you visit Å, or Nusjford, listed by UNESCO, enjoy authentic and memorable moments.

#### **AT SEA**

Arrival 16/04/2024 Departure 16/04/2024

During your journey at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This journey without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, depending on the activities offered, or to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

#### GEIRANGER

Arrival 17/04/2024 early morning Departure 17/04/2024 early afternoon

A must-see stopover in Norway, located halfway between Bergen and Trondheim, **Geiranger** offers the stunning beauty of a natural decor, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site. You will be able to admire the splendour of the sheer cliffs, dark rocks and crystal-clear water that make the place famous, like the **majestic and mythical Seven Sisters waterfall.** The sides of the fjord offer many possibilities for hiking: the **Eagle's Road** takes you up to a steep stretch offering a gorgeous panoramic view. A visit to **Geiranger** village will immerse you in the rhythm of life in the little local community.

#### BERGEN

Arrival 18/04/2024 early morning Departure 18/04/2024 late afternoon

Located at the end of Byfjord, Bergen was the capital of Norway in the 12th and 13th Centuries and has preserved

some very beautiful monuments from the time when it was home to royalty. Wandering through Bergen's streets means going back in time, in search of the hidden treasures that have been listed as **World Heritage Sites by UNESCO**. A veritable openair museum, Bergen is home to a thriving artistic community of painters, potters, jewellers. The Bergen cable car offers you a splendid panorama over the port and the surrounding fjords. Do not miss the visit to the old quarter with its narrow streets, a testimony of the power of the hanseatic League that controlled trade in Northern Europe at the end of the Middle Ages.

#### AT SEA

Arrival 19/04/2024 Departure 19/04/2024

During your journey at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This journey without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, depending on the activities offered, or to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

# COPENHAGEN

Arrival 20/04/2024 early morning Disembarkation 20/04/2024 at 07:00

Connected to the far eastern side of Sealand island, a few kilometres away from the Swedish coasts, **Copenhagen** offers you the high colour of Scandinavian capitals. You can discover the city's riches that weaves through the canal networks through the historical districts of **Christiansborg** and **Nyhavn.** Many palaces provide an apercu of Danish history. For eating, you can try out the smorrebrod, traditional danish sandwiches made with ham, cheese or smoked fish.