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Geirangerfjord, Norway

Endless summer

The **Scandinavian** coastline offers scenery on an epic scale, together with a wonderful feeling of peace and tranquility. The timeless quality of scenes that have changed little over the past centuries create a unique atmosphere that is best enjoyed from the decks of a superyacht.

—
by Miriam Cain



From their sleepy fishing villages to medieval castles, the Baltic nations provide an abundance of charter experiences. Spend time ashore in the cosmopolitan city of Stockholm followed by a cruise down Sweden's glistening eastern coast; cruise the dramatic fjords of Norway, appended by a few days exploring the alluring coastline of Denmark and its islands; or discover the natural wonders and vibrant cities of Finland. And for those looking for a more adventurous charter, the spectacular coastline of Iceland provides an intriguing backdrop with dramatic scenery.

Sweden

Sweden is at the centre of Scandinavia's yachting scene. A coastline dotted with cities like those of Stockholm and Gothenburg, where surprisingly warm waters are a treasure trove for any cruising itinerary. Often referred to as the Venice of the North, the fairy-tale city of Stockholm is spread across 14 islands connected by bridges, with a cobblestoned Old Town and a smattering of elegant parks. Spend a few days exploring the lively city, with its Scandinavian architecture, fairytale castles, museums and historical attractions, before boarding your yacht in the Port of Stockholm. Cruise south to Gotland, the largest island in the Baltic, enjoy breathtaking scenery, and perfect waters for all manner of water sports. Further south, at the tip of Sweden's coastline, the stylish city of Malmö offers charming waterfront districts, a dynamic city centre with cafés and restaurants, and modern design stores, for which Sweden is famous. Cruising up the west coast you will come to cosmopolitan Gothenburg. The second largest city in Sweden, the city boasts numerous restaurants, cafés and bars, and designer boutiques. The coastline between Gothenburg and the Norwegian border is one of Scandinavia's most scenic. Intertwining medieval towns with stretches of wilderness, and thousands of small islands, the waters teem with marine wildlife.

BEST FOR...

Fishing, swimming, kayaking and hiking.

DON'T MISS...

From fashion to furniture, Sweden is known for its design. Step ashore to the design shops in Malmö.

Denmark



Norwegian Fjords

The dramatic fjords of southwest Norway are what draw most charterers to explore these majestic cruising grounds. Springtime sees the snow retreat to the mountaintops, leaving meadows and forests scattered with waterfalls and streams that flow to reach the magnificent fjords. Located on the southern tip of Norway, the waterfront capital Oslo is in a spectacular position overlooking the Oslofjord. Buffered by islands and woodlands, it is an ideal starting point for a cruise to Stavanger and then up to Bergen, the gateway to Norway's famed fjords.

The most popular itinerary for any cruise in Norway begins in Bergen. Spend a day ashore exploring the city's medieval architecture, restaurants and cafés, before embarking on a cruise around the fjords, including the famed Hardangerfjord and Sognefjord. Depart from Bergen's colourful harbour and cruise through the deep blue fjord waters of Sognefjord, passed sheer cliffs and cascading waterfalls. Stretching more than 127 miles from the sea to the mountains of Jotunheimen National Park, the coastline is dotted with farms and villages. Take a detour into striking Geirangerfjord, now a UNESCO World Heritage site, before continuing to the northern part of Norway and the Lofoten Islands. Part of the Arctic Circle, the approach to the islands offers beguiling views of the towering peaks of the Lofoten Wall, a 200 mile range of mountains. The tranquil islands are a delightful contrast to the buzzing energy of the Arctic capital city, Tromsø. An ideal disembarking point, the lively city is also where you might catch the northern lights (in colder months).

BEST FOR...

Dramatic fjords.

DON'T MISS...

For magnificent views over your cruising grounds, take the funicular railway to the summit of Mount Floyen.



Top Left

—
Stortorget Square,
Stockholm

Top Right

—
Lofoten, Norway

Above

—
Puffins in Iceland
+ Icelandic Ponies

Above, right

—
Islands near Helsinki



Finland

Finland has been attracting seafarers with its natural wonders and vibrant cities for hundreds of years. Surrounded by the Baltic Sea wherever it doesn't touch Russia and Sweden, the cruising grounds are ideal for an action packed cruise, with activities aplenty including fishing, hiking and kayaking. The top quarter of the country lies in the Arctic Circle so the sun does not set at the northernmost point for more than two months during summer. The active waterfront capital of Helsinki is rich in artistic heritage, and its surrounding waters patterned with bays and offshore islands.

BEST FOR...

Action packed itineraries.

DON'T MISS...

To the west of Helsinki, the Turku archipelago boasts more than 20,000 islands perfect for yachting.



Bordered to the east by the Baltic Sea and to the west by the North Sea, the waters surrounding the coastline of Denmark offer excellent sailing conditions. The coastal landscape is peppered with fishing villages and long, white sandy beaches. Inland the country is sprinkled with vibrant towns comprised of Renaissance castles, centuries old half timbered houses and churches that hark back to medieval times.

BEST FOR...

Cuisine - thanks to the 'Noma effect' Copenhagen now has numerous Michelin-starred restaurants, including the world's best restaurant Noma, the pioneer of New Nordic cuisine.

DON'T MISS...

Copenhagen is undeniably hip, from the restaurant scene to the chic Danish boutiques, the city has it all. Its cultural scene is pretty exciting too. Castles, sculpture galleries, marble churches, vintage theme parks... there's almost too much to do.

Iceland

INTERTWINING MEDIEVAL TOWNS WITH STRETCHES OF WILDERNESS, AND THOUSANDS OF SMALL ISLANDS, THE WATERS TEEM WITH MARINE WILDLIFE

The rugged and remote beauty of Iceland has been attracting explorers for centuries, but today it is emerging as one of the latest cruising hotspots. Dotted with glaciers, dramatic fjords and ice caps, the coastline is home to plenty of wildlife.

BEST FOR...

The truly adventurous.

DON'T MISS...

The vibrant city of Reykjavik.

The climate and weather in the Baltic is very much influenced by Atlantic weather disturbances, thus it can be changeable throughout the year. The recommended time for superyacht cruising is from early May until late August. For more information on cruising in Scandinavia, as well as details on yachts that cruise in this region, please contact your Camper & Nicholsons charter broker, see page 6.