

## An Agricultural Tour through the Nordic Countries

Let us introduce a tour through the four Nordic countries Norway, Denmark, Sweden and Finland with scenic cruises connecting each new experience. In each country you will get a professional agricultural program, meeting farmers who will open their farms to new friends and share their knowledge of the farming.



This is a sample tour with 5-6 days in each country. Choose if you want to make the whole tour as it is or just focus on one or more parts/countries. Don't hesitate to contact us, and we will start working on your tailored tour to the Nordic countries!



## TOUR TO SCANDINAVIA – NORWEGIAN PART

*There are mountains plunging into the sea from hundreds of meters, there are fjords, tall mountain peaks, northern lights and midnight sun. Norway is a country of endless rivers and powerful waterfalls which have contributed to making the country known abroad. There is a big diversity among the farms in Norway because of the changing landscape from North to south. The modern farming with larger dairy, grain and vegetables you will find in the south while the mountain region in the middle of Norway you find a big diversity of productions and there are still some farms having the old tradition with mountain farming in the summer. In the northern Norway, after you have passed the Arctic Circle, you find yourself in an area close to where you can hardly grow anything at all. This is where you find the midnight sun. All the sun in the summer gives a very good taste to the agricultural products that can be grown here.*

### Day 1 Bergen (-/-/D)

Arrival at **Bergen** airport Fliesland where your guide and bus driver will meet you. Bergen is an international town with small-town charm and atmosphere.

After check in at the hotel you will have time to explore the city on your own or relax.

**Dinner** and overnight at the hotel.

### Day 2 Bergen (B/L/D)

After breakfast you will have a 2 hour **guided tour in the city** by bus and by feet. We will for example visit one of the UNESCO World properties, the old harbor of Bryggen. Bergen was one of the most important bureau cities of the Hanseatic League. It was the largest city in Norway until the 1830's and has a long maritime history in shipping and finance. The tour ends with **lunch**.

After lunch you will go for a **cruise** through Bergen's characteristic harbor area, where you get a good view of Old Bergen Museum and the Aquarium, two of the city's main attractions.

**Dinner** and overnight at the same hotel.

### Day 3 Bergen – Kaupanger – Sogndal (B/L/D)

Breakfast and check out.

Depart for the tour to Gudvangen there we will board for a **cruise** through the famous Naeroyfjord, One of the world's most beautiful and dramatic fjords "King of the Fjords".

In 2005 it became a UNESCO World Heritage. **Lunch** at the boat.

After arrival in Kaupanger a **visit of an organic farm**. Here we will be served coffee and cake. Transfer to Sogndal for **dinner** and overnight.



**N&N Resor Agritours Sweden**

Malma Gård, 533 96 Götene

tel: +46 511-502 46

info@nnresor.se www.nnresor.se

**Day 4** **Sogndal – Hafslo – Lom** **(B/L/D)**

Breakfast and check out.

The bus takes us to Hafslo for a **visit to a dairy farm** that is located 180 meters above the sea level and has been in the family for 300 years.

After the farm visit we continue to Lom along the Sognefjell Road that runs across the mountain plateau with panoramic view of glaciers and towering mountains.

**Lunch** in Lom and after that time for leisure.

**Dinner** and overnight at hotel in Lom.

**Day 5** **Lom – Nord-Sel – Lillehammer** **(B/L/D)**

Breakfast and check out.

The travel continues to Nord-Sel there we will **visit a saeter** (mountain farm). This is a typical way of farming in Norway during the summer. The farmers use the resources where “the grass is greenest”. It’s only possible to stay in the mountains from June to September, the rest of the year the animals are in the valley. Lecture about farming at the saeter.

Depart to Lillehammer. **Lunch** en route.

Close to Lillehammer we **visit a dairy farm**. Modern joint operation of four farms.

After arrival in Lillehammer, visit to **Maihaugen**, an open-air museum depicting Norwegian farm life over centuries.

**Dinner** and overnight in Lillehammer.

**Day 6** **Lillehammer – Oslo** **(B/L/D)**

After breakfast and checkout from the hotel a **short visit to the Olympic facilities** in Lillehammer. Departure to Oslo.

**City sightseeing in Oslo** including the Vigeland park and the Viking-ship museum. Oslo is the oldest of the Scandinavian capitals and it’s history goes back 1000 years. The city is characterized by a mix of old and new architecture, parks, hills, museums, monuments, lakes and the fjord.

**Lunch** in Oslo.

In the afternoon **departure to Copenhagen by ferry**.

**Dinner** and night at the ferry.



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## TOUR TO SCANDINAVIA – DANISH PART

*Located in the fertile and mild southern Scandinavian region at the shores of the estuary between the mighty Baltic Sea and the North Sea. The country has a strong agricultural history, and is among the most important on the world market for fresh meat, living animals (export of genetics), cereals, enzymes, and grass seed.*

*Heavy research takes place in an attempt to modernize our society, such as animal welfare, new energies (wind and bio), commercial relations as well as our “open door” attitudes to the traveler, makes a visit worth it.*

### **Day 7** **Copenhagen** **(B/-/D)**

Arrival in Copenhagen harbor with ferry from Oslo. You meet your Danish guide and start the **guided city tour of Copenhagen** by bus and by foot, including the palace of the Danish Royal Family, the Little Mermaid sculpture, MAERSK Shipping headquarters, Parliament and other buildings. Free time for lunch on your own in the old quarter Nyhavn close to the medieval canals of the city center and to explore the charming atmosphere in the small streets of the old part of the city or enjoy the pedestrian streets with a large diversity of shops.

Check in at a central located hotel, **dinner** at the hotel and overnight.

### **Day 8** **Copenhagen – Roskilde – Copenhagen** **(B/-/D)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Departure to Roskilde for a **visit to the Viking Boat Centre** where you will see a film with introduction about the Viking ships and in particular the newly built boat “The sea Stallion”. Time to experience the museum and have lunch on your own in the café.

Free time to visit Roskilde Cathedral where most Danish kings and queen Margareth I are buried, or enjoy the old city center.

Travel back to Copenhagen and make a **visit to Carlsberg** Visitors center at the old Carlsberg breweries **OR** the “**The Carlsberg Glyptotek**” with big collections of both ancient art but also modern French paintings dating back to 1870s.

**Dinner** at the hotel and overnight in the same hotel as previous night.

### **Day 9** **Copenhagen – Hasley – Odense** **(B/-/D)**

Breakfast and check out. Departure from the hotel to Haslev.

**Farmvisit at Assendrupgaard**, research farm milk cattle (Red Danish) and continue to Odense over the Storebelt Bridge. Visit the open Air Museum “**The Funen Village**”. Have a look into real authentic farms and habitations collected by the authorities among the best of the island of Funen. The buildings date back several 100 years.

In the late afternoon depart to Odense where you check in at hotel situated right in the center of the 1200 years old city. Odense is also the birthplace of the famous fairytale author HC Andersen. **Dinner** and overnight.



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**Day 10** Odense – Aarhus – Randers **(B/-/D)**

Breakfast and check out. We make a first stop at the fiord dividing the islands Jutland and Funen, a very particular place, where French general Bernadotte settled and planned his dreams of becoming king of Sweden.

We make a **visit at a jersey dairy farm**, situated at the highest hill top of Jutland. The owner has long experience of the work in the local farmers union and the board of ARLA Foods. This farm was among the first to grow maize for cattle fodder, now widely used.

Lunch on your own in a big shopping mall outside Aarhus (second city in Denmark) – opportunity for shopping before continuing to Randers.  
Check in to the charming 150 years old hotel in the center. **Dinner** and overnight.

**Day 11** Randers - Auning– Roende -Randers **(B/-/D)**

Breakfast. Visit the **Farmers Union of Djursland**, part of the National farmers Unions and advisory center- originally founded end of 1800. Short introduction about Danish Agriculture advisory services, agricultural politics and skills, our EU regulations as well as local agreements for the individual farmer.

Short stop at the coast with view at the **Kaloe castle ruins**. Lunch on your own in Roende or if time permits a picnic at the beach (buy own food at supermarket)

Early afternoon drive to Stenvad Gartneri to investigate **cauliflower production** (app. 80 ha). One of many farms in this fertile area of Jylland. Time on your own in the town Auning with possibility to visit the National Agricultural Museum and the Castle Old Estrup  
In the evening a buffet **dinner** (drinks included) in a private home at Auning. A few Danish farmers will join the group for dinner. Depart to hotel. Overnight same hotel in Randers

**Day 12** Randers – Als – Aalborg – Fredrikshavn **(B/L/-)**

Breakfast and check out. Drive north to Als area not far from the sea of Kattegat.

Visit at a good **farm with pig production and cereals**, in the coastal areas fjord of Mariager and the sea, Kattegat. The owner who meets us, is member of the board of the National knowledge center for Pigs. The landscape is very particular silt and low land, former sea, surrounded by low moraine hills. **Lunch** at Als Inn.

On the way to Frederikshavn we make a short stop in Aalborg at the harbor front

In Frederikshavn you say goodbye to Denmark and board **the express ferry** to Sweden.



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## TOUR TO SCANDINAVIA – SWEDISH PART

*Sweden is a long country, the south is close to the continental climate and the very north offers a wild mountainous landscape. The best variety of agriculture is offered in the part from our capital Stockholm and south. On a tour in Sweden we want to show you the typical landscape; forest, open land and water. We want you to meet representatives for traditional livestock- and grain farming, forestry, bioenergy, small scale food production and tourism. Accompanied by the technical visits you will also get to try some of the traditional food and see some of the most famous touristic sights.*

### Day 12 Fredrikshavn – Göteborg (-/-/D)

At arrival to Gothenburg you meet your Swedish guide and make a **short sightseeing** through the second largest town of Sweden, Gothenburg. Arrival to your hotel located by the water on the west coast. The local specialty – a large Shrimp sandwich will be served as **dinner** this evening.

### Day 13 Göteborg – Lidköping (B/L/D)

Breakfast at hotel and check out. Travel along the west coast with its beautiful archipelago. See the seaside towns surrounded by sand beaches, granite slabs and picturesque harbors.

#### **Visit to an organic beef farm.**

The tour continues on to the islands and the fishing village Mollösund where **lunch** is served. Free time to stroll around the harbor. We travel inland and make a farm **visit at a typical family owned arable farm**. Departure to Lidköping where you check in to your hotel for the evening. **Dinner** is served at a farm that developed their business to also consist of a restaurant, hotel and farm shop.

### Day 14 Lidköping – Jönköping (B/L/D)

Breakfast at the hotel and check out. You start the day with a visit to Sweden's first bishop church, Husaby Church dated from the 12<sup>th</sup> century and said to be where the first Christian king was baptized. We continue to the Nordic champion in **artistic black smith**.

**Lunch** in an old Inn, working to the fullest extent with organic and locally produced ingredients.

Technical **visit to a farm with grain, pigs, forest and wind power** and time to discuss Swedish agricultural in comparison with other countries.

Continue towards Jönköping, by lake Vättern where you check in to the hotel. **Dinner** in town.



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**Day 15** \_\_\_\_\_ **Jönköping – Stockholm** \_\_\_\_\_ **(B/L/D)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Check out. We will travel east along the scenic coast of lake Vättern towards Stockholm. This area is the black earth area of Sweden and has a big variety of productions, we will **visit a farm with grain and egg** production and a **dairy farm**.

**Lunch** will be served along Göta Canal, the biggest man-built construction in Sweden. It stretches from east to west and is in total 390 km long. The work was started in 1810 and ready in 1832.

Arrival in Stockholm and check in to your centrally located hotel. **Dinner** in the Old Town with its narrow streets and historic atmosphere.

**Day 16** \_\_\_\_\_ **Stockholm** \_\_\_\_\_ **(B/-/D)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Join a 3 hours **city sightseeing** with visit to the old town. Stockholm is generally referred to as Beauty on Water, or Venice of the North, which is understandable, as the city is built upon 14 islands. It is surrounded by Lake Mälaren, and by the Baltic Sea.

**Visit Vasa Museum**, the warship Vasa sunk on her maiden voyage when leaving Stockholm 1628. She was brought up to land 1961 and restored and is now a worldwide sensation in her museum.

Lunch on your own and free time in Stockholm.

Farewell evening with a start at the **Absolute Icebar**, all made by ice. **Dinner** will be served at Skansen, the first open air Museum in the world and also a zoo for Nordic animals  
Overnight at same hotel in Stockholm.

**Day 17** \_\_\_\_\_ **Stockholm** \_\_\_\_\_ **(B/-/D)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Enjoy a day at leisure before the **evening cruise** taking you through the Stockholm Archipelago with its 24.000 islands on the way to Finland.

Overnight and **dinner** at ferry.



## TOUR TO SCANDINAVIA – FINNISH PART

*Finland, an unfound pearl between Scandinavia and Russia! It is like a wonderland with more trees than people, with its tens and thousands of lakes and with its unique archipelago. The summers are warm and winters cold, but people are always friendly. All the areas differ from each other. Also the character of people is different in north and south. When travelling in Finland you feel like travelling from another country to the other.*

### Day 18 Helsinki – Forssa (B/L/-)

Breakfast on board while approaching the capital of Finland, Helsinki. Meet your Finnish guide and travel to **Honkarakenne** in Järvenpää. This is the leading manufacturer of energy efficient custom built homes, solid timber houses, single residential houses, eco- friendly houses and leisure homes. The enterprise is operating worldwide.

Drive to Loppi for **lunch** at Marskin maja with a history of hunting interest and the Finnish army. Transfer to Forssa /Tammela and check in to central located hotel.

Free evening and dinner on your own.

### Day 19 Forssa – Turku - Forssa (B/L/D)

Breakfast. Visit in one of the first **Hereford breeding farms** in Finland. The farm has about 70 mother cows and heifers. The present size of the herd is about 150 head, including breeding bulls and calves.

We drive on to Naantali and enjoy our **lunch** in a seafront restaurant. Naantali is a holiday town with the Moominworld as the top spot for children and families. The town's atmosphere is a mixture of the charm of the archipelago, the diversity of history and the idyllic present day.

**Visit the gardens** of the summer residence of the President of the Republic of Finland.

**Turku** came into existence during the 13<sup>th</sup> century and it is the oldest city in Finland and also the former capital of Finland. **Guided city tour** after which you have free time for your own activities, shopping etc.

**Dinner** on the way back to your hotel in Forssa.

### Day 20 Forssa with surroundings (B/L/D)

Breakfast. Depart for a **dairy farmvisit** in Somero. There will be meeting/lectures with some of the following topics: Farm and forest management, EU and its influence for the farmer. Milk prices for producers and customers. Feeding etc.

Head further to Luontokeskus Tammela where you will get a good impression of the nature of the southern Finland. You'll hear of the animals in our wild forests: Moose, lynx, bears, wolfs birds etc.



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**Lunch** will be served in a historic atmosphere along one of the oldest roads in Finland, so called OXROAD; which for more than 1000 years has been a busy road for soldiers, monks, dealers, thieves and beggars and naturally for workers.

After **dinner** you will be taken to the middle of forest, by the lake, to very remote area. Those who want can try a **real smoke sauna**. We have sausages, beer, nice talking and singing by the lake. (Please take your swimming gear with you.) This is the way Finnish people spend the long summer evenings. In this way you get to know the real Finnish soul.

**Day 21** **Forssa – Helsinki** **(B/L/D)**

Breakfast and check out. Visit to one of the **largest farms in Finland with grain** as main production. To the manor belongs also 1000 ha of forest, which is managed together with Metsäliitto. The forest fulfils the requirements of the Pan European Forest Certificate and the annual growth is 5000 m<sup>3</sup>. On the farm you also get the explanations of Finland, the economy, the way of our government is facing up to carbon trading issues, environmental work etc.

**Lunch** on the farm and time to visit the museum of old cars.  
Drive to Helsinki where you check in to your centrally located hotel. **Dinner**.

**Day 22** **Helsinki** **(B/-/D)**

Breakfast. **Guided Helsinki city tour** where you will see the main sights in Helsinki, including The Senate Square, Uspenski Cathedral, the Parliament Building and the Olympic Stadium. Stops are made at the Sibelius Monument and, when possible, the Tempeliaukio Church. The tour will end to your to the famous market place "Kauppatori".

Free afternoon. **Farewell dinner**.

**Day 23** **(B/-/-)**

Breakfast check out.  
Transfer to airport depending on departure time.

