



# A SUMMER IN SCANDINAVIA

with YourClassical MPR Host Steve Staruch

Featuring the Copenhagen & Oslo Classical Festivals!

August 1 - 12, 2024



Join YourClassical MPR host **Steve Staruch** of **Minnesota Public Radio** and fellow classical music lovers to experience the Nordic world of fjords, castles, glaciers, and the legacy of the Vikings on this Minnesota Public Radio adventure. Travel by train, ferry, and coach through Sweden, Denmark, and Norway. Ride one of the world's most scenic railway line to Bergen, tour Danish castles and palaces and attend the **Oslo and Copenhagen classical music festivals**. See the Danish

crown jewels, beautifully preserved Viking ships and the amazing 17<sup>th</sup> century warship MS *Vasa*. To top it off, you'll be treated to a performance in the home of Edvard Grieg in Bergen! Our 12-day Minnesota Public Radio classical Scandinavia journey has it all!

## TRIP AT A GLANCE

- 3 Nights Stockholm, Sweden
- 3 Nights Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1 Overnight ferry ride to Oslo, Norway
- 2 Nights Oslo, Norway
- 2 Nights Bergen, Norway



**EARTHBOUND  
EXPEDITIONS**

Earthbound Expeditions Inc.

P.O. Box 11305, Bainbridge Island, WA 98110 USA

T. 800.723.8454 / T. 206.842.9775 / F. 206.238.8480

[www.EarthboundExpeditions.com](http://www.EarthboundExpeditions.com)

## JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

Scheduled to take place, the Oslo and Copenhagen Classical Music Festival! ✦ A concert in the home of Edvard Grieg Music Fest ✦ The awe-inspiring scenic rail journey from Oslo to Bergen ✦ Traditional dining experiences ✦ Viking Museum of Oslo ✦ Backstage tour of the Royal Opera House ✦ A fjord cruise in Norway ✦ Travel with like-minded friends of Public Radio

## IT'S INCLUDED

- With Minnesota Public Radio host, Steve Staruch
- An expert Earthbound Expeditions guide
- Tickets to the Oslo and Copenhagen Classical Music Festivals
- Walks with knowledgeable fascinating local guides
- Transport by private air-conditioned motor coach
- 11 nights in centrally-located, four-star hotels
- Overnight ferry from Copenhagen to Oslo
- All breakfasts, plus 11 additional meals featuring regional specialties
- Scenic train from Oslo to Bergen

## TRIP FACTS

12 Days/ 11 Nights *(not including air travel)*

\$6,395 per person, double occupancy

\$1,950 single supplement (waived if a roommate is found)

August 1, 2024: Trip begins in Stockholm, Sweden

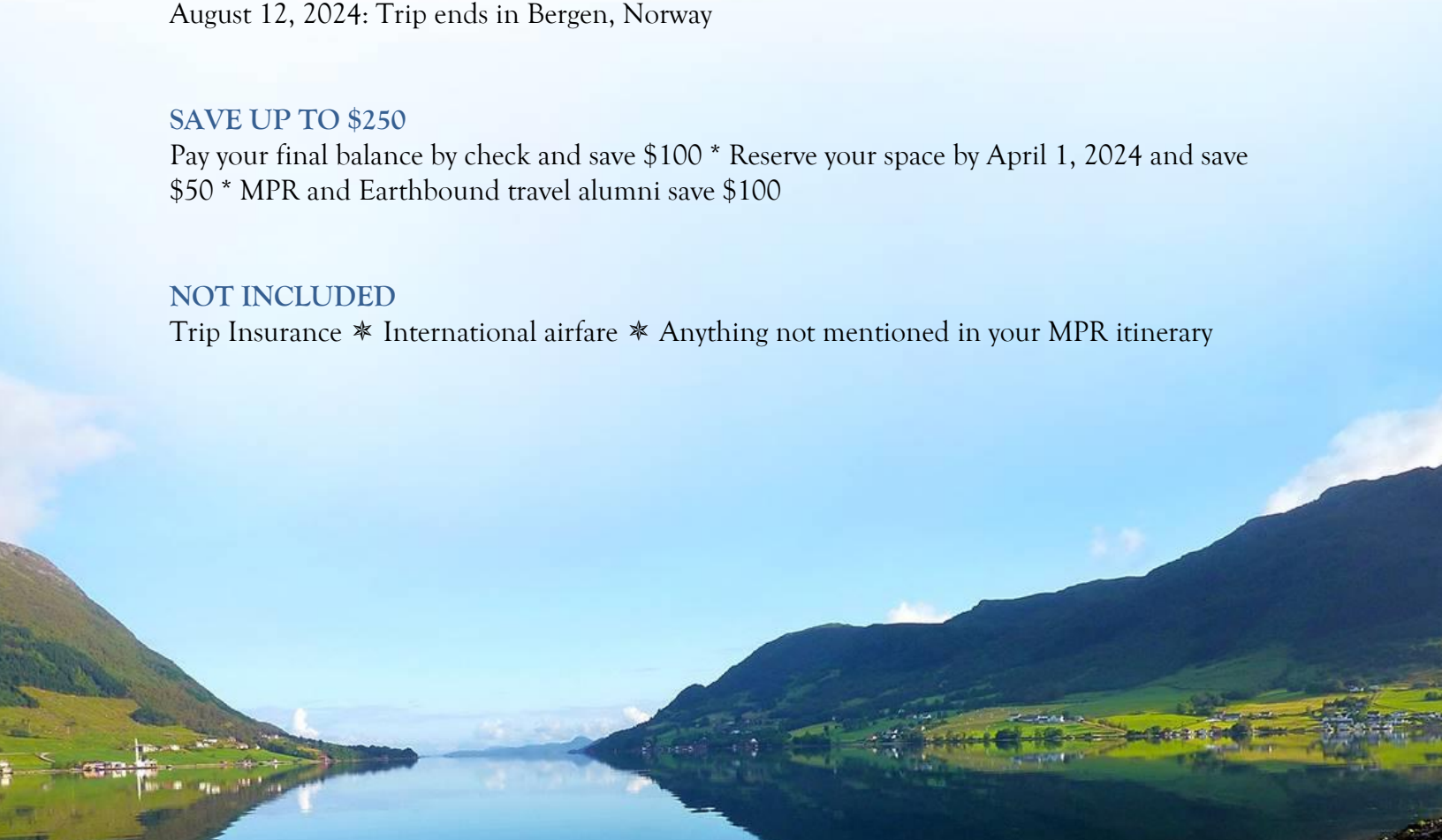
August 12, 2024: Trip ends in Bergen, Norway

## SAVE UP TO \$250

Pay your final balance by check and save \$100 ✦ Reserve your space by April 1, 2024 and save \$50 ✦ MPR and Earthbound travel alumni save \$100

## NOT INCLUDED

Trip Insurance ✦ International airfare ✦ Anything not mentioned in your MPR itinerary





Tour the 18<sup>th</sup> century Drottningholm Palace Theatre

“Life itself is the most wonderful fairy tale.”  
Hans Christian Andersen

## YOUR CLASSICAL MPR ADVENTURE BEGINS...

**Day 0: Wednesday, July 31 – Depart the USA for Stockholm, Sweden!**

**Day 1: Thursday, August 1 – Välkommen till Sverige! Welcome to Sweden!**

Your Scandinavia journey begins at 6:00pm at the group hotel in Stockholm. Meet your host and travel companions at your Stockholm hotel in the heart of this historic city for an introductory walk of the city center. This evening you'll enjoy a welcome reception and included dinner. *Sleep in Stockholm (D)*

**Day 2: Monday, August 2 – Discover Stockholm!**

After breakfast begin your discovery of Sweden's capital with a guided visit to the impressive City Hall, where the annual Nobel Prize festivities take place. Tour the Vasa Museum, featuring the impressive *Vasa*, an ornate royal warship that sank in Stockholm's harbor following its launch in 1628. With your free afternoon, you may want to take a canal tour or stroll the cobbled streets of medieval Gamla Stan (Old Town). *Sleep in Stockholm (B, L)*



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*Discover wonderful, wonderful Copenhagen*

**Day 3: Friday, August 3 – Stockholm Royal Drottningholm Palace**

After breakfast, enjoy a boat cruise to the remarkable Drottningholm Palace Theatre. Included in your tour, the palace opera house! It is one of the few 18th century theatres in Europe that still functions and is still in use today for operas and plays. What makes historic space so very special is that it still has its original stage machinery. After, enjoy lunch and a free afternoon in Stockholm. *Sleep in Stockholm (B, L)*

**Day 4: Saturday, August 4 – From Sweden to Denmark**

Depart Stockholm for Copenhagen today. You'll arrive just in time to stroll through the old harbor. Stretch your legs and enjoy a short stroll along the waterfront to view the *Little Mermaid* sculpture and the Amalienborg Palace before dinner. This evening, enjoy a "Welcome to Denmark" drink followed by dinner. *Sleep in Copenhagen (B, D)*

**Day 5: Sunday, August 5 – Charming Copenhagen**

This morning you are invited to join a knowledgeable local guide for a fascinating walk through the old alleyways of Copenhagen. We'll visit the city's charming harbor of Nyhavn and stroll down the Stroget, Copenhagen's main pedestrian avenue.

Our walking tour of the old town center will end right before lunch and your local guides will be available to offer you lunch restaurant suggestions as well as ideas for how to spend your free afternoon. This evening you have tickets to the fabulous Copenhagen classical festival. *Sleep in Copenhagen (B, L)*



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*Tour Oslo's Opera House*

#### **Day 6: Monday, August 6 – Legendary Castles**

Today we journey to North Sealand, filled with quaint villages, historic palaces, lovely lakes, and dense forests. We'll visit 17th-century Frederiksborg Castle, built by Christian IV in Danish Renaissance style. You'll savor regional fare at local restaurant and drive the Yellow Roads along the "Danish Riviera" back to Copenhagen. The evening is yours.

*Sleep in Copenhagen (B, L)*

#### **Day 7: Tuesday, August 7 – Free morning in Copenhagen and sunset cruise to Norway**

The morning is yours to stroll the merry streets of Copenhagen. Art lovers might consider visiting the National Gallery, while history buffs might choose to visit the impressive National Museum. Spend the morning in the Tivoli Gardens or explore the Renaissance Rosenborg Palace, home to the Danish crown jewels.

This afternoon we meet back at the hotel and transfer to the ferry terminal. Board the overnight ferry to Norway. Enjoy an included dinner and a sunset cruise on the Baltic Sea.

*Sleep onboard the ferry (B, D)*

#### **Day 8: Wednesday, August 8 – Oslo, Sculptures and Viking ships**

Enjoy awe-inspiring scenery as you cruise up Oslo Fjord. Upon arrival in Norway's capital city, we'll have a private tour of Oslo's highlights, including the Viking Ship Museum, which features three well-preserved Viking ships dating to 800 AD, found in royal burial mounds with fascinating artifacts. You'll also have time to see the Vigeland Sculpture Park, with its 212 life-sized sculptures by Norwegian sculptor Gustav Vigeland, who devoted his career to the project. *Sleep in Oslo (B, L)*



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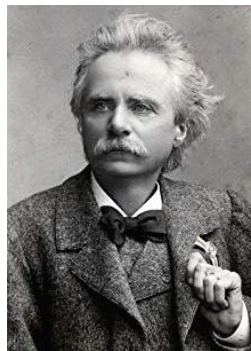


*Discover the Beauty of Bergen, Norway*

**Day 9: Thursday, August 9 – Free day in Oslo**

This morning, meet your fellow travelers for an exclusive tour of the Norwegian National Opera House. After, enjoy the many sights of Oslo. We suggest a visit to the Fram Polar Ship Museum or the Edvard Munch Museum. This evening you have tickets to the celebrated Oslo Chamber Music Festival! *Sleep in Oslo (B)*

**Day 10: Friday, August 10 – A Scenic Train to Bergen and the Home of Edward Grieg:**



Today we travel west past the gorgeous fjords and mountains – aboard the Oslo to Bergen scenic train. Bergen is located on the Byfjord and is famous for its ancient harbor and open-air fish market. Your hotel is located right on the harbor in the city's old wharf district, featuring traditional wooden buildings and a medieval atmosphere. Founded in 1070 during the days of the Hanseatic League, it is one of the oldest large trading ports in Northern Europe and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Upon arrival in Bergen, we'll tour the home of Edward Grieg and enjoy a piano concert featuring works by Grieg. *Sleep in Bergen (B, L)*

**Day 11: Saturday, August 11 – White Lady Cruise to the Fjords of Norway**

Today, enjoy a fjord cruise to Mostraumen. On this half day excursion, you will see western Norwegian scenery at its best, with narrow fjords and majestic mountains. Since we'll be departing early tomorrow morning, join your host and fellow travelers for a farewell luncheon feast featuring regional specialties. *Sleep in Bergen (B, L)*

**Day 12: Friday, August 12 – Return Home with a Lifetime of Memories!**

Your Scandinavia tour ends after breakfast in Bergen, Norway. You may wish to stay on and further explore the fjords and enjoy the beauty of Norway!

*-Itinerary subject to change-*



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*Enjoy a scenic cruise to the fjords of Norway*

## YOURCLASSICAL MPR PUBLIC RADIO HOST



**Steve Staruch** is a seasoned music host at **YourClassical MPR**. He presents classics from the ancient to the modern weekdays from 3 to 7 pm. In addition to his radio work Staruch is a violist and singer. He was a member of the Minnesota Beethoven Festival Chorale, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra Chorale and was a frequent soloist with the Dale Warland Singers. He also freelances as a violist in the region, and frequently performs with his American Roots Music ensemble, Belvidere Oasis.

He and his wife Naomi have hosted tours to European classical music festivals, having also travelled several times to India. A trained yoga instructor, he holds yoga classes for his MPR colleagues. His garden and his kitchen are some of his favorite places to be.

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## RESERVATIONS & QUESTIONS

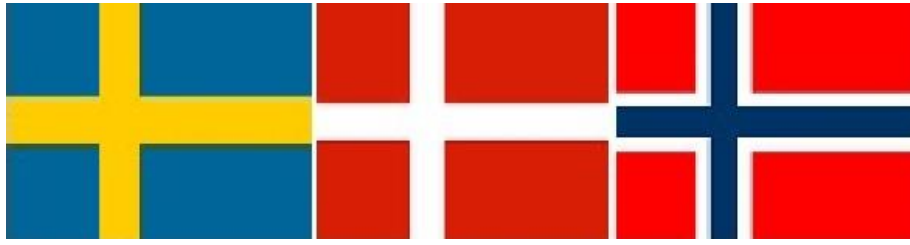
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## *Know Before You Go!*

**Reservations and Deposits:** A \$500 per person deposit is needed to confirm your space on this journey. You can make a credit card deposit online or by phone. Once the deposit is processed, a deposit packet is emailed with pertinent journey details. Deposits are refundable, minus a \$150 per person cancellation fee, for 60 days from the processing date or until 90 days prior to departure, whichever comes first. Deposits made 90 days prior to a trip departing are not refundable. Final payment is also non-refundable, which is why we strongly urge guests to purchase travel insurance.

**Not Included:** International airline tickets, alcoholic beverages, room service and gratuities for hotel staff, travel insurance, meals not listed in brochure, and any activities or items not listed in your itinerary.

**Physical Requirements:** It is the responsibility of each guest to be aware of their physical abilities or limitations and to be in sufficient good health to undertake the trip. [Click here](#) to read “Is an Earthbound trip right for you?” or call the Earthbound office for more details.

**Travel Insurance:** Earthbound Expeditions strongly encourages the purchase of travel insurance coverage. We include information on trip insurance in your deposit information.

**Events and Hosted Journeys:** If a planned event is cancelled for any reason, another event will be included in its place. This is not cause for refund. Events are subject to change. Also, if a host or special guest is unable to attend as planned, Earthbound Expeditions will do its utmost to find another host who has similar interests, talents, and expertise. The inability of a host to participate in a tour is not grounds for a full or partial refund.

**Terms & Conditions:** Click [here](#) to read the full terms and conditions.



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