

Simply Lofoten

6 Nights / 7 Days
Self - Drive



Lofoten – a charming archipelago in Northern Norway. That is where we want to whisk you. On these small islands you will encounter friendliness and local traditions. Fishing is one of the main themes of the Lofoten islands and many cosy fishermen's villages bear witness to this. Travel back to the past and live in the traditional accommodation the fishermen used during the fishing season – a rorbu, These shacks were built as a temporary shelter in regions where a normal living was not possible. Now many of them have been restored and offer a comfortable but still authentic living experience.

The magical Lofoten islands of beautiful nature and friendly culture invite you to explore the area of traditions, food, activities, changing weather and northern splendor. Experience the islands and if you are lucky you might even catch a glimpse of the magical Midnight sun!

Day 01: Arrival in Svolvær

Arrival in Svolvær according to your own itinerary. Svolvær is the biggest town on Lofoten and the administrative centre of the island of Vågan. The main industry of the town is fishing, in particular cod fishing. Every year between January and April fishermen from all over Lofoten are coming here and 50 000t of cod are caught. The fish is dried (Stockfish), which has been the Lofoten's largest industry for centuries, and sent to Southern Europe. The main sight of Svolvær is the breath-taking Svolværgeita (goat of Svolvær) a mountain top with two peaks, which are just 1.8 m apart. Svolvær offers the atmosphere of a harbour, a small town and art centre simultaneously. This is a bustling trading and communications centre. The town has many art galleries to visit, and we recommend Northern Norway's Art Centre, Gallery Dagfinn Bakke and Magic Ice which displays ice sculptures. (gallery exhibitions subject to change).

You will spend the next nights in Svinøya Rorbuer, a small, vibrant fishing hamlet at Svolvær harbour. Svinøya, has welcomed visitors to their typical rorbu cabins and run the fishing station which is the very life nerve of the community, for almost 200 years

Accommodation in Svinøya Rorbuer

Day 02 - 03: Svolvær and the Lofoten islands

Breakfast at the hotel and your two days can be enjoyed at leisure as you explore the Lofoten islands, which stretch like a wall of mountains from the southwest in the sea. Lofoten means mountain peaks, open sea and protected bays. Thanks to the Golf Stream the climate here is milder than in other parts of the world at the same latitude. To get to know the archipelago we recommend a scheduled guided trip, which takes you all over Lofoten and gives you a first impression of the beauty of the archipelago. Let a guide do the job for once and pick what you want to discover more closely during the coming days.

For the more active amongst you we recommend a scheduled hiking trip. Forget your everyday stress and get immersed into the stunning and pure landscape around you. A guide will lead the way, so you can't get lost.

Accommodation in Svinøya Rorbuer

Day 04: Svolvær – Tind (135 km)

Breakfast at the hotel. Today you will travel to the southernmost tip of the Lofoten islands. From Svolvær you will drive along the ragged coast – having rough mountains blocking the sight to the sky on one side and the open sea on the other. You will pass Leknes, where you can find the famous Lofotr Viking Museum, a historical museum based on a reconstruction and archaeological excavation of a Viking chieftain's village in Borg, north of Leknes. The museum includes a full reconstruction of an 83-meter long chieftain's house (the largest ever found in Norway), a blacksmiths forge, two ships and their boathouses, and various re-enactments intended to immerse the visitor in life at the time of the Vikings.

Continue across several bridges and through many tunnels to Å. Å is a small village in the south of the archipelago and belongs mainly to one family. The village is a museum with typical rorbu, bakery and boathouses, which are more than 150 years old and still on their original place. In Å you will pick up the key for your rorbu, which is located in Tind Rorbuer, right at the sea. You will stay in the recently renovated, cosy rorbu for the following three nights.

Accommodation in Haman Rorbu 13 in Tind

Day 05 - 06: Tind and the Lofoten islands

The following two days at your own leisure to discover the southern part of the Lofoten Islands. Spend some time in Å and have a look at the historic buildings or discover the Stockfish Museum, which is fully dedicated to this salty delicacy. Moreover we recommend a visit to Stamsund – to explore and enjoy this delightful region. Stamsund is still a vibrant fishing port in Lofoten, but is also a culturally interesting town with several local artists, theater groups and an art gallery. Or just spend the day strolling along one of the many sandy beaches here. It is almost a Caribbean feeling you'll get – fine white sand, clear turquoise water and not a cloud in the sky. But keep your jacket close by; the temperatures are slightly lower here. You are looking for a bit more adrenalin? Then you can engage in a kayaking, hiking or climbing excursion. From end of May to the end of July you have a date in the evening. The sun will wait for you at Midnight peaking over the horizon.

Accommodation in Haman Rorbu 13 in Tind

Day 07: Departure from Svolvær

It is time to say goodbye today. Enjoy the stunning scenery once again as you drive up to Svolvær, to return your car. The mountains and some seagulls will keep you company on the way back. Sit back behind the wheel and let the impressions flood your senses. It's pure, it's beautiful, it's simple – simply Lofoten.

Departure according to own itinerary.

End of services

Services:

- 6 nights rorbu accommodation with shower/WC on self-catering basis
- towels, bed linen
- end cleaning

Please note that the rental car price is not included

Car rental prices on request!

The price is valid from the 01.07. – 30.09. 2012

Enjoy Lofoten with a scheduled guided tour! The choices are many...

Discover the archipelago – Full day tour

This full day tour takes you on a journey through the beautiful Lofoten archipelago. You will experience charming fishing villages, un-spoilt nature and the most extraordinary and genuine part of the islands. Passing by the ancient fishing village of Kabelvåg the tour leads you towards Eggum, on the western part of Lofoten. Here, looking right at the ocean, you meet the true strong, rough and expressive beauty of the archipelago. The next stop will be the stunning Utaaleiv and the unforgettable view it offers. Continue to the soft, white sand beaches of Ramberg and then the beautiful village of Nusfjord. This village was listed by the UNESCO as a

world heritage site and all its completely wooden buildings date from the 18th century. Return to Svolvær.

Departure: 9:00 from Svolvær

Price: **130,-EUR** per adult / **65,-EUR** children up to 12 (incl. English-speaking guide, lunch bag)

Exploring Viking history – Full day tour

This tour makes you wander in the footsteps of the ancient true Norwegians – the Vikings! From Svolvær you will head towards Eggum, the rough beauty of Lofoten facing the sea. Continue to the stunning Utafleiv and the beaches and unforgettable view it offers. After a little break to take all that in, the tour continues to Borg, where you will visit the Viking museum. The museum is in place since 1981, after a farmer coincidentally discovered the remain of a house of an important Viking leader. Discover the museum with a guide. The tour will then lead you to Henningsvær a charming and characteristic fishing village. Return to Svolvær.

Departure: 9:00 from Svolvær

Price: **130,-EUR** per adult / **65,-EUR** children up to 12 (incl. English-speaking guide, entrance and guided tour of Viking museum, lunch bag)

ACTIVITIES

Midnightsun watch

Whether you find yourself walking on a beach or along a mountain track, your thought will travel to the rest of the world, where everyone is sleeping under the starry sky, while warm rays of sun are still touching your skin. This is the Midnight Sun, which can be seen on Lofoten from 27.05. – 17.07.. On this excursion you will have the opportunity to observe the midnight sun on the western part of the archipelago. Here, facing the ocean, the nature is harsh and the midnight sun shows in its entire splendor. You depart for Eggum in the evening and relax there waiting for the sun. At the stroke of midnight you'll raise your glass to the unbelievable beauty nature has to offer.

Departure: 21:00 from Svolvær

Price: **130,-EUR** per adult / **65,-EUR** children up to 12 (incl. small evening supper, hot drinks)

Guided Hiking Tours on the Archipelago

Lofoten are an Eldorado for hikers, with rugged mountain peaks rising directly from the sea. When you walk around the scenery will change with each of your steps and a beautiful surprise will await you behind every corner. Forget your day to day stress and just get absorbed in the breath taking and still so pure landscape. You don't want to get lost alone? No problem! A specialized guide will lead the way and show you some real undiscovered treasures.

Hiking tours are available at different levels of difficulty and durations.

Price: Starting from **60,-EUR**

Biking around Grimsøya

Walking is too slow for you? Why not see the beautiful nature and feeling the wind on your face during a bike tour! On this tour you will bike around Grimsøya Island on a flat route. The tour goes along the coast and marshland and next to the steep mountains right next to the ocean.

Departs only on Sundays

Price: **155,-EUR**

Kayak on the fjords and lakes of Lofoten

The Lofoten islands are embedded in beautiful waters and deep fjords. This offers numerous possibilities for kayaking. Discover those stunning islands from the sea. Doesn't it sound fantastic to enjoy the calm sea in the middle of the night, having the midnight sun as your only companion?

Several tours with guide can be offered:

- **Beach of Bunes:** On this tour you will paddle from Reine harbor and enter the Reinefjord into direction of the narrow Bundesfjord. To enter the fjord you will cross a little stream. Put your kayak aside here and the guide will show you some stunning and

dramatic sand beaches, which are sprinkled like cosy hammocks in between the rough mountains. At midnight you will go for a swim with the sun.

Duration: 5 – 6 hrs, Price per person: **140,-EUR** incl. kayak, wet suite and guide

- **Lake of Å:** Enjoy a 2-3 hours paddling tour on Lofoten's most beautiful freshwater lake. This lake is surrounded by steep mountainsides and is well protected from the wind. You will cross the lake and will have a short break on land in between. This tour will give you a fantastic overview of the beautiful nature of Lofoten, seen from a whole different angle. This tour is suitable for beginners.

Duration: 2 – 3 hrs, Price per person: **75,-EUR** incl. kayak, wet suite and guide

Climb the many peaks of Lofoten

Water is not so much your element? You feel more comfortable with your head in the clouds? Then we recommend a climbing tour up some of the many peaks of Lofoten - may it be the famous Svolværgeita, the impressive Stetind or a more relaxed climb, you have a lot to choose from. A certified guide will accompany you.

Prices on request

Hiking in the peaceful nature

The Lofoten islands are the ideal place to go hiking. There will be a new highlight around each corner and you can just decide spontaneously where to go. We also recommend a stunning tour up the mountain Hermansdalstind, the highest peak of western Lofoten. From here you will have a great view over whole of Lofoten and even parts of mainland Norway. The tour starts with a short RIB-boat ride across the Reinefjord and the Forsfjord, where you will pass waterfalls and lots of untouched nature. After that you will continue up the mountain – the air will get thinner and the view more amazing. For his tour good physical condition is required.

Duration: 8-10 hours. Price per person: **160,-EUR** incl. guide and RIB boat trip.