



Farewell mini-cruise!

A four day/three night round trip from Newcastle to Stavanger and Bergen with DFDS Seaways Monday to Thursday 18 - 21 August 2008



LEFT: Cruise Club guests will sail on Queen of Scandinavia's penultimate trip between Newcastle-upon-Tyne (North Shields) and Bergen.

The historic North Sea ferry route between England and Western Norway will close when the DFDS Seaways vessel Queen of Scandinavia makes a final Newcastle (North Shields)-Stavanger-Bergen sailing at the end of August. The Ships Monthly Cruise Club is marking the end of this fascinating service with a Farewell Mini-Cruise on the Queen of Scandinavia's penultimate return trip to Norway, departing on Monday 18 August and returning to the Tyne on Thursday 21 August.

There will be daylight passages along the Norwegian coast in either direction and we will also be treated to a spectacular early evening arrival in Bergen and a morning departure at the start of the return sailing. The tour includes three nights' accommodation in en-suite cabins, two buffet dinners and three breakfasts together with a full programme aboard Queen of Scandinavia culminating with a presentation reflecting the history of ferry services between England and Western Norway.

There will also be time for an evening walking tour into Bergen for an ascent of the Floibahn funicular offering stunning views over Norway's second city and the fjords before the night is spent on board the 1,205 passenger, 33,575gt Queen of Scandinavia at her berth in the port.

When completed as Silja Line's Finlandia in 1981, Queen of

Scandinavia shared with sister Silvia Regina (now Stena Saga) the distinction of being the world's largest passenger ferries. Finlandia was bought by DFDS in 1990 and Ships Monthly groups have enjoyed sailings during her previous spells on the Oslo-Copenhagen and North Shields-IJmuiden routes. We have also visited Bergen on several occasions with DFDS route predecessors Color Line and Fjord Line.

The tour is organised for the Cruise Club by Ships Monthly ferry writer Russell Plummer who will be your host aboard Queen of Scandinavia, along with a member of the magazine's editorial team. High demand is expected for this tour and bookings will close on Monday July 14.

Sharing two berth ferry cabin £199pp

Supplement for en-suite single room/cabin: £70

WHAT THE PRICE INCLUDES:

Mini-cruise Newcastle (North Shields)-Bergen and return sharing a two berth en-suite inside cabin for three nights on board; Welcome Cruise Club Reception; three breakfasts and two buffet dinners; Floibahn funicular ascent in Bergen; Queen of Scandinavia on board programme; Souvenir Itinerary.

NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE:

Travel to and from North Shields; lunches throughout the tour and Tuesday evening dinner in Norway; beverages with inclusive dinners; incidental and personal expenses.



ABOVE: *Queen of Scandinavia* berths overnight in Bergen's attractive harbour prior to an early morning departure to Stavanger.



ABOVE: *The Bryggen* is all that remains of an ancient wharf located on the east side of Bergen close to where *Queen of Scandinavia* berths.

Farewell DFDS mini-cruise to Bergen

MONDAY 18 AUGUST: Meet at Newcastle's Royal Quays Terminal, North Shields, at 13.30 for 15.00 DFDS Seaways departure to Norway by *Queen of Scandinavia*. Secure parking is available adjacent to the terminal at a cost of £8 per day and prior reservation is not necessary. There is a bus connection from Newcastle Central rail station (single fare £3). Cruise Club guests meet for a welcome drink prior to buffet dinner in the ship's Seven Seas Restaurant and the night on board.

TUESDAY 19 AUGUST: After Scandinavian buffet breakfast, *Queen of Scandinavia* reaches Stavanger at 10.30 and then heads north inside the coastal island chain with a further stop in Hantsholm at 13.30. Bergen is reached at 18.00 and we disembark to walk through the Bryggen district with its historic wooden buildings to enjoy an ascent by the Floibahn funicular up mount Fløyen for impressive views over the city and fjord from 320 metres above sea level. We return to the ship for a night on board at her berth in Bergen.

WEDNESDAY 20 AUGUST: Breakfast will be available prior to departure at 09.00 with calls at Hantsholm (13.30) and Stavanger (17.30). A Ships Monthly on board programme will be arranged during the day and after buffet dinner there will be final night on board.

THURSDAY 21 AUGUST: After breakfast as *Queen of Scandinavia* approaches the mouth of the river Tyne, arrival at North Shields is scheduled for 10.30. There will again be a bus connection to Newcastle Central station.

RIGHT: *The terminal for the spectacular Floibahn funicular is only a short walk from the DFDS ferry terminal.*



BELOW: *The view over Bergen and the fjord from the top of Mount Fløyen.*



PASSPORTS AND INSURANCE

All tour participants must be in possession of a valid passport and give a signed undertaking on the Booking Form that they will arrange, or have, adequate Travel Insurance for the duration of the itinerary.

BOOKINGS AND DEPOSITS

Please send completed booking form with full payment (including any supplements) via cheque in favour of Charisma Agency to: CMT, The Old Police Station, 30 South Street, Stanground, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire PE2 8ET. We reserve the right to pass on any additional costs caused by significant currency fluctuations or fuel surcharges imposed by transport providers. Please note that bookings close for this tour on Monday 14 July 2008.

TOUR ARRANGEMENTS

This tour is organised for the Ships Monthly Cruise Club by Russell Plummer, Charisma Media and Travel. CMT is an independent operation set-up solely to arrange tours for ship lovers. It is not bonded to, or affiliated with, any travel organisation or industry body and relies solely on a reputation for efficient, value for money organisation of more than 40 tours since 1986. Travel throughout the tour is subject to the conditions of DFDS which are available on request.

CONTACTS

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