

PROVISIONAL ITINERARY & GENERAL INFORMATION



During this tour, for both aviation enthusiasts and historians, we will focus on the Allied help given to Norway during April – May 1940. What was to start as a brave and daring enterprise was to end in defeat and disaster for the British Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force who could ill-afford such losses of men and material at this critical time in the war.

In March 1940 Britain was on the brink to send an expeditionary force to Narvik in support of the Finns in their war against the Soviet Union. A peace treaty between Finland and the Soviet

Union made this unnecessary, but when, on 9th April 1940, Nazi Germany attacked the small peaceful country, suddenly Norway was one of the Allied forces and Britain, Poland and France committed their military forces to help in the uneven fight against the Germans. It was at Narvik that the Germans suffered their first defeat of the Second World War.

We will see where the German heavy cruiser “Blücher” was sunk, making it possible for the King of Norway and his Government to flee in exile. Through talks by well-known, knowledgeable Norwegians, and visits to aviation and military history museums, we learn about the British and Allied campaign in Norway.

Included in the tour price is an aviation book of your choice from the collection of Norwegian aviation author Rob Mulder: choose from a number of his books on the last evening at the Flysamlingen Museum.

We fly on the scheduled international and domestic services of Norwegian Airlines from London’s Gatwick Airport; stay 7 nights in 3-star hotels on a Full Board basis: bed, breakfast, lunch and evening meal; travel around Norway by air, chartered coach and ferry; and are accompanied by an Ian Allan Tour Manager.

Given that Norway (indeed, the whole of Scandinavia) is very expensive to visit, our tour price – which includes all meals – is incredible value for money.

It’s an early departure from London’s Gatwick Airport on the Wednesday morning, so why not contact Deborah for discounted rates at airport hotels.

PROVISIONAL ITINERARY (all times local)

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, 8th APRIL

Between 04:20–04:50 please check-in with Norwegian Airlines in the South Terminal at London’s Gatwick Airport. Then meet your Ian Allan Tour Manager who will be standing adjacent to the check-in area. Latest check-in time we recommend is 90-minutes prior to departure: i.e. 04:50hrs.

✈ Gatwick Airport, South Terminal
✈ Oslo

Flight: DY 2800

Departs: 06:20
Arrives: 09:25

After the usual arrival procedures we board our chartered coach and drive to Drøbak, and board the ferry for the short crossing to the Oscarsborg Fortress situated on the inner Oslo Fjord. We will be guided through the fortress and told the unbelievable story of the sinking of the German heavy cruiser "Blücher": better known as the Battle of the Drøbak Sound. Website: www.admiral-hipper-class.dk/bluecher/miscellaneous/oscarsborg_bluecher_wreck_site_today/oscarsborg_bluecher_wreck_site_today.html

Returning to the mainland we transfer to, and check-in, for one night's stay at the Quality Hotel Expo on Fornebu peninsula. From this former Oslo Airport, 2 Me-109s took off on the 9th April 1940 to shoot down the first British aircraft over Norway, a Short Sunderland (L2167) flying boat, above Tyrifjord.

In the evening we will drive to the Forsvarsmuseum (Norwegian Defense Museum) for a visit to the museum (guided tour included) and its auditorium, where the well-known Norwegian aviation historian and author Cato Guhnfeldt will give a 45-minute talk on the RAF squadrons in Norway during the Allied campaign. The lecture will be in English. Mr. Guhnfeldt is author of a series of 5 books called "Spitfire Saga" about the Norwegian Spitfire squadrons during the Second World War.

Website: <http://translate.google.co.uk/translate?hl=en&sl=no&u=http://forsvaret.no/om->

DAY 2: THURSDAY, 9th APRIL

In the morning we drive back to Oslo and join the national commemorations marking the start of the German occupation of Norway in April, 1940. At Akershus Fortress, King Harald of Norway will lay a wreath at the monument marking those who lost their life during the Second World War.

After the ceremony, there is time for lunch before we visit "Vestre Gravlund" Cemetery, where about 100 British and Commonwealth war graves are situated. Among those buried here are 5 British soldiers from "Operation Freshman" near Rjukan in 1942, who survived the air crash, but were later executed by the Germans. Also buried here are 20 soldiers who tragically died in an air crash near Gardermoen on 10th May 1945, 2 days after VE Day (Victory in Europe), the 8th May.

Proceeding north we pass Gardermoen and Eidsvoll, where in 1814 the Norwegian constitution was drafted. Just south of Hamar, we leave the main road and drive to Elverum where we stay the night at the Rica/Scandic Elgstua Hotel. Theme of the hotel is the Norwegian moose! Elverum is also the spot where the first civil flight in Norway was made, back in July 1910. We also find a military camp here (infantry and cavalry). During April 1940 the village was bombed by the Germans as they believed King Haakon was hiding there.

DAY 3: FRIDAY, 10th APRIL

After our Norwegian-style buffet breakfast we drive through the lovely Østerdal Valley to the small village of Tolga and visit a small private museum called the Nord-Østerdalen Fly-og Militærhistorisk Museum, the Northern Østerdal Valley Air-and Military Historical Museum.

This is a privately run museum with artifacts from the military history of the Østerdal Valley area. Remains of German aircraft are exhibited here. In "Hangar 10" the society has its exhibition which includes the remains of Northern Europe's only DFS 230 cargo sailplane and a Junkers W-34 (photo of type, right). There are also parts of German, British and American engines and artifacts of the last aircraft to be shot down in Norway in World War Two: a Junkers Ju 88, G2+DH (c/n 1231) that crashed at Høggia, Einunndal Valley on 8th May 1945. We will be given a short talk about the exhibition and the military activities in the area. Website: www.nofmf.org/html/linker.html



After the visit we have dinner in the Malmplassen Gjestegård before we continue to Røros for a one night stay at the Røros Hotel.

DAY 4: SATURDAY, 11th APRIL

Leaving Røros we now have 1½ days drive ahead of us - Norway is a long country and sometimes you have to drive hundreds of miles in order to get somewhere! Today we will travel to Mosjøen, passing Namsos, where British forces landed; and Åndalsnes where more troops landed, with the aim of attacking Trondheim from both sides, but this plan had to be abandoned.

We have dinner and stay tonight at the Fru Haugans Hotel.



DAY 5: SUNDAY, 12th APRIL

We have travelled so far north that we cross the Polar (Arctic) Circle and continue to Fauske and Bodø; pictured is Bodo with the airfield at the left.

Out of Bodø airfield the RAF flew Gloster Gladiators; Blackburn Skua's were also involved in air attacks and dogfights: see <http://freespace.virgin.net/john.dell/norway.htm> . On 26th May, 1940 3 Gladiators, led by Rhodesian-born Flight Lieutenant Caesar Hull, landed and made the first airborne defence for the city. The area was swampland, and the first makeshift runway consisted of wooden planks floating on the water.

North of Narvik at Bardufoss, a squadron of Hurricanes attempted to thwart the mighty Luftwaffe.

Located next to Bodo Airport, and the airbase, is the Norwegian Aviation Museum, the national aircraft collection, which has a large collection of civil and military aircraft, including: Avro 504, PBV-5A Catalina, DH 98 Mosquito (*pictured*), DH 82 Tiger Moth, Fairchild PT-19 Cornell, Fw-190 A3/U3 "Svart 3", Fokker C-5D, Gloster Gladiator II, Hawker Hurricane Mk II, Ju-88 A4 (wreckage), Kjeller FF9 Kaje I, NA T-6/J Harvard, Petlyakov Pe-2FT, Spitfire LF. Mk IXe, UH-1B Iroquois, CF-104 Starfighter, L-19 Bird Dog, Cessna T-37, DH 100 Vampire, Lockheed U-2, Northrop F-5A Freedom Fighter, Northrop RF-5A, L-18C Super Cub, F-84G Thunderjet, RF-84F Thunderflash, and Saab 91B Safir. Civil aircraft in the collection includes a Ju-52/3m on floats, Fokker F-28-1000 Fellowship and a DHC-6-200 Twin Otter. *Website: <http://luftfartsmuseum.no/en/>*



We then drive to the Clarion Hotel Grand Bodo for dinner and our overnight stay.

At the hotel, after dinner, Ulf Larsstuvold will give a talk about British operations in Ofot Fjord and around Narvik and Bodø. Ulf is a Captain with Widerøe's Flyveselskap and an aviation historian; he also works as editor of the Norwegian historical aviation magazine "Flyhistorie".

DAY 6: MONDAY, 13th APRIL

Today we continue to the next highlight of the tour: Narvik. We depart Bodø in the early morning, after breakfast, and drive to Fauske and Bognes. We take the ferry crossing to Skarberget and continue to Narvik.

Here we will visit the "Krigsmnneuseum" (War Memorial Museum). This museum is being extended but is open as normal. The Battle of Narvik and the fight for iron ore ended with the city being razed to the ground and 5 years of German occupation. Through exhibitions of pictures and equipment from World War II, the museum focuses on these fateful years for Narvik and the Ofoten region. The group will be given a short introduction by an English-speaking employee from the museum, shown a film, after which we can walk around the museum as we wish.

Dinner tonight will be at our hotel, the Rica Hotel Narvik.

DAY 7: TUESDAY, 14th APRIL

This morning we transfer from Narvik to Evenes Airport for return flight to Oslo:

✈ Narvik
✈ Oslo

Flight: DY 365

Departs: 11:05
Arrives: 12:50

Upon arrival at Oslo Gardermoen Airport we first transfer to, and check-in, at the Best Western Oslo Airport Hotel, where we stay overnight.

We then walk across the street to the Flysamlingen, the Norwegian Armed Forces Aircraft Collection at Gardermoen. These aircraft could not be moved when the new museum in Bodø was opened and have been put on display at a special museum; there is also a restoration workshop.



This unique collection includes: Auster J/1 Autocrat, Bell 47D-1, UH-1B Iroquois, O-1A Birdog, C-130 Hercules, DHC-6 Twin Otter, DH Vampire F.3, C-47A Dakota, Fairchild M-62A/PT-19, Farman F.46, Heinkel He 111P (pictured left), Interstate S.1A Cadet, Ju-88C-2 (wreckage), Ju-52/3m (Luftwaffe), Kjeller PK X-1 (Norwegian helicopter), Lockheed C-60A Lodestar, TF-104G Starfighter, T-33A, Norseman Mk.IV, F-86F Sabre, F-5A Freedom Fighter, Northrop N3PB, F-84G Thunderjet, RF-84F Thunderflash, Royal Aircraft Factory BE.2e, Rumpler Taube, Saab 91B-2 Safir, Saab Viggen (cockpit), Sikorsky H-19D-4 Chikasaw, and Spitfire PR.XI.
 Website: www.akersmus.no/flysamlingen-gb/

The group will have a buffet-style dinner in the museum.

Rob Mulder will give a presentation about Fornebu Airport, its construction and use from 1934 to 1945. Rob has written 12 aviation books and numerous aviation related articles that were published in Norway and abroad. He regularly writes for the British magazine "The Aviation Historian".

DAY 8: WEDNESDAY, 15th APRIL

At 09:30 we transfer by coach from the hotel to the terminal and check-in with Norwegian Airlines for our flight back to Gatwick; latest check-in time is 11:30hrs.

✈ Oslo	Flight: DY 2805	Departs: 13:00
✈ Gatwick Airport, South Terminal		Arrives: 14:20

Whilst waiting for our luggage in Baggage Reclaim we take the opportunity to bid each other farewell – until the next time.

TOUR PRICE PER PERSON	TOUR: 227523
From: £1,755.00	Package price based on sharing a twin bedded room on a Full Board basis
From: £150.00	Single room supplement
On request	Land-only (NO flights) <i>PLEASE SPEAK WITH ONE OF OUR CONSULTANTS BEFORE BOOKING</i>

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- Flights on the scheduled services of Norwegian Airlines from London's Gatwick Airport, as stated
- UK & Norwegian airport taxes & UK Passenger Service Charge, currently £68.00 (*subject to change*)
- Ferry to and from Oscarborg Fortress
- Ferry crossing for coach and passengers from Bognes to Skarberget
- Day 1: Private motor coach from airport to Drøbak and back to Oslo
- Day 1: Return transfer Fornebu to Forsvarsmuseum
- Days 2-7: Private motor coach from Oslo to Evenes
- Day 7: Transfer by private motor coach from Gardermoen Airport to Best Western Hotel Oslo Airport
- Day 8: Transfer by private motor coach from Best Western Hotel Oslo Airport to Gardermoen Airport
- 7 nights 3-star hotel accommodation with en-suite facilities
- 7 Norwegian buffet style breakfasts
- 7 lunches (*some may be of the packed variety*)
- 5 dinners in the hotels (either 3 courses or buffet style, depending on the respective hotel)
- 1 dinner at a local restaurant in Tolga
- 1 buffet style dinner in the Flysamling at Gardermoen
- Guide and admission to the Oscarborg Fortress
- Guide and admission to the Forsvarsmuseum in Oslo
- Talk at the Forsvarsmuseum in Oslo by Cato Guhnfeldt
- Talk and admission to the NØFMF-Museum in Tolga
- Guide and admission to the Norwegian Aviation Museum in Bodø
- Admission, film and information at the Narvik War Museum in Narvik
- Aviation book of your choice from the collection of Rob Mulder
- Coach driver's hotel and meals
- Services of an Ian Allan Tour Manager throughout

NOT INCLUDED

- Meals, other than those as stated above
- Travel insurance – see General Information
- Visas, if required – see General Information
- Personal expenditure, e.g. telephone calls, laundry, drinks, etc.
- Gratuity for coach driver (we recommend £1.25/day = £10.00)
- Tips and gratuities

Payment for Ian Allan Aviation Tours

A deposit of £300.00 per person should accompany your Booking Form, with the balance due 10 weeks prior to the tour's departure. Please see your Booking Confirmation/Invoice for the exact date. Please note that a reminder of the payment date will not be sent.

Passports and Visas

Citizens of the UK are required to be in possession of a Full UK Passport, which must be valid for at least 6 months from the date of your return. You may also refer to the World Travel Guide: www.worldtravelguide.net for general information on passports, visas and health requirements.

UK and EU passport holders do not require a visa to enter Norway.

Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO) Consular Advice

The FCO's consular service is a major operation. Every hour of every day consular staff around the world are advising and helping British nationals. For up-to-date passport, visa and security information, we suggest you visit www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice

In addition, the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) provides both a *web site* <http://abta.com/go-travel> and an Information Line, telephone: 020 3117 0599. This line is open between the hours 10:00 – 16:00, Monday-Friday (excluding bank holidays).

Coach Travel

Ian Allan Aviation Tours only use coaches chartered from reputable companies, with a driver. Where we have had to cancel a tour, due to the small number of bookings, we have looked at the possibility of renting a 16-18 seater minibus, with our tour manager driving. However, without exception, the hiring of such a vehicle is illegal if any of the occupants make any payment towards the rental price, fuel and/or other expenses - known as "for hire or reward". Any such rental, made without these facts being known to the rental company at the time of booking, also invalidates all insurance covering the vehicle, contents and persons. The DVLA has also confirmed that any "for hire or reward" rental could breach the normal driving classification of a standard UK driver's license. Therefore, we do not undertake any tours using 9-18 seater minibuses from a rental company; either with our tour manager, or a member of the group, driving.

Baggage Regulations – Norwegian Airlines – Departing from London's Gatwick Airport

Checked Baggage: Norwegian Airlines will transport 1 piece of 'checked' baggage per person free of charge, the total dimensions of which must not exceed 75in x 29½in x 25½in (190cm x 75cm x 65cm) including the handle, pockets and wheels. Maximum weight 44lbs (20kgs).

Cabin Baggage: you may take 1 carry-on bag (and 1 personal item). Your main piece of hand baggage can be up to the dimensions of 22in x 16in x 10in (55cm x 40cm x 23cm) s. Your personal item (e.g. small handbag or laptop case) must fit comfortably under the seat in front of you.

Restrictions remain in place for the carriage of liquids, gels, and creams in hand baggage for all passengers departing from and transferring through all EU airports. Some other airports around the world operate their own restrictions. Customers are advised to check before they travel.

Limited quantities of liquids (individual containers must not exceed 100ml or 3.5 fl oz), are allowed as hand baggage but must be carried separately through security in a clear plastic, zip-top or re-sealable bag that does not exceed 20cm x 20cm (8 inches x 8 inches), or quart size. Items must fit in the bag comfortably and the bag must be completely closed.

The bag can only contain liquids such as shampoo, suntan lotions, creams, toothpaste, hair gel and hair spray, perfumes, cosmetics such as mascara and lip gloss, water and other drinks, soups and syrups and other items of a similar consistency.

Cigarette lighters are NOT permitted in hold baggage or through the security search. These may be purchased airside.

Hand baggage can also include electronic equipment such as mobile phones, digital cameras and MP3 players (such as i-Pods). Laptops must be removed from the bag for x-ray.

All equipment which contain batteries must be fully charged, e.g., mobile phone and cameras. Any that are not fully charged will be taken by airport security staff and returned to you when you next pass through the airport. Should you be detained for questioning and miss your flight, Ian Allan Travel cannot be held responsible.

Prescription medicines in liquid form, e.g. diabetic kit can also be included.

At security all remaining items should be placed in the tray provided for screening, e.g. car keys and fobs, cash, solid food, books, newspapers, cigarettes and tobacco, belts and shoes. Pushchairs and walking aids are permitted but must be x-ray screened. All wheelchairs will be subject to search. Please note: you may be subject to a hand search by the security team and required to remove footwear to be x-ray screened.

Baggage Weight Restrictions – UK Airports

Since 1st June 2004, any single piece of checked baggage weighing more than 70lbs (32kgs) has not been accepted at check-in by any airline operating from London's – and many U.K. regional airports.

Meals

On this tour continental breakfast, lunch (some may be packed variety) and evening meal is included in the tour price.

Health Requirements

There are no known mandatory or recommended precautions for visiting Norway; however, we recommend you consult your local doctor or health centre for the latest information.

Climate and Dress

The weather in spring can be very varied. There may be days when it is cold enough to snow, and days when it is warm enough to sit outside in the sunshine. As we are travelling from the south to the north of the country, temperatures will vary from 0 to +10°C degrees – so warm winter clothing is recommended.

Local Currencies

In Norway it is the Krone (NOK).

- **ATMs:** PLUS, Cirrus, and other networks connecting automated teller machines (ATMs) operate throughout Norway. The easiest and best way to get cash away from home is from an ATM. Important note: make sure that the PIN on your bank cards and credit cards will work in Norway. You'll need a four-digit code (six digits won't work); if you have a six-digit code, contact your bank and get a 4-digit PIN.
- **Credit Cards:** credit and debt cards are a safe way to carry money, and cheaper than the fees charged for using an ATM or cashing traveller's cheques.
- **Traveller's Cheques:** small denomination cheques can be exchanged at most hotels.

Travel Insurance

For citizens of the United Kingdom, Ian Allan Aviation Tours are able to offer competitive and comprehensive insurance cover. However, if you do not wish to take out our insurance, you must ensure that comparable or greater cover is taken. The number of your Insurance Policy should be written, if known, on your Booking Form at the time of making the reservation, but no later than the date when final payment is due. A copy of the policy must be forwarded to Ian Allan Aviation Tours.

Individual insurance policies are arranged through CoverMore Insurance Services Limited; the premiums for which will vary according to your circumstances. Full details are available on request.

These policies also include cover for non-scheduled flights, i.e. pleasure flights, where the aircraft is licensed and insured to undertake such flights, and where a payment is made.

Wheelchair Assistance at Airports.

Anyone requiring wheelchair assistance at airports must have this service requested and confirmed in advance. Airlines and/or airports can no longer provide this service without prior confirmation, therefore, please annotate your booking form accordingly.

Flexible Itinerary

We are very happy for enthusiasts to take time away from the printed itinerary to pursue their own interests so long as they inform the Tour Manager. It will be the individual's responsibility to ensure that they re-join the group in the hotel at the stated time on the day of departure.

Land Only Price

For enthusiasts who would prefer to join the tour in Oslo (instead of flying from London's Gatwick Airport with the main group), we will be very pleased to provide a 'Land Only' price: NO FLIGHTS will be included.

You are strongly advised to contact us before making your own flight arrangements in the event that there has been a change to the published itinerary.

Please note that the 'Land only' price is based on you meeting up with the group at Oslo Airport; it does not include the transfer from the hotel to Oslo Airport on the final day, however, should your departure plans coincide with that of the group, a seat will be offered on the coach if available.

Flight Timings & Connecting Travel Arrangements to Departure Airport

All flight departure and arrival times are correct at the time of preparing each itinerary; however, airlines may change these times with little or no prior warning. In practice such changes are only a few minutes either way and the final itinerary will show the actual times. Clients making their own arrangements to get to the departure airport by air, rail, coach etc., should bare the above in mind if purchasing non-refundable or non-changeable tickets. Ian Allan Aviation Tours cannot be held responsible for any changes to flight times and any privately arranged travel tickets to the airport becoming invalid.

Pre-departure

For connecting flights from UK regional airports - please call Ian Allan Aviation Tours on 01932 255625 for the latest special offers available.

Airport Hotel and/ or Car Parking: we can offer special rates for the above at most UK airports, please ask for details.

"Purple" Meet & Greet Car Parking at London's Gatwick Airport, South Terminal: from your home or overnight hotel, simply drive to the terminal, towards the "Pick-Up and Departure" and hand your car over to the waiting driver who will then take it to an off-airport, secure, car park. On your return, the driver and your car will be waiting for you in the same location. Simple and very convenient. Recommended by our Tour Managers. Please call for details.

Pleasure Flights – Disclaimer

Should you decide to undertake any pleasure/sightseeing flights which have not been offered or sanctioned by us, Ian Allan Aviation Tours will not be held liable for any injuries or death resulting thereon.

Tours Affected by World Events or Unforeseen/ Unplanned Circumstances

In an ever-changing world, events may occur immediately before or during a tour that result in cancellations or changes to the tour itinerary. For example, an increase in security may result in an approved visit being cancelled by the host, etc.. Ian Allan Aviation Tours cannot be held responsible for any tour being cancelled, or itineraries affected, due to world events or circumstances beyond our control.

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