

Make a Bucket List

Things to do in Stavanger Norway



Old Stavanger (Gamle Stavanger)
Historic district of beautifully preserved 250 white wooden houses from the 18th and early 19th century. Wander the cobbled streets, admire flowers and cute shops, and enjoy this free and charming area.

Stavanger City Sightseeing – Hop on Hop Off Bus
Easy way to explore with 12 stops including the Cathedral, Petroleum Museum and Ledaal Royal Residence. Runs 10am–4pm. Hop on and off or stay on for the full loop with an audio guide.

Øvre Holmegate (Fargegaten)
The colourful street of Stavanger! Bright buildings, street art and decorated mailboxes make this pedestrian street a fun spot for photos, drinks and people watching.

Stavanger Cathedral
Norway's oldest cathedral, built around 1150 in beautiful grey stone. Features stunning architecture, sculptures and a crypt. Entry fee applies.

Valberg Tower (Valbergtårnet)
Former observation tower built in 1850–1853. Visit the museum on the first floor and climb to the top for great views of the port and city.

Stavanger Museums
Many museums to explore natural, cultural and maritime history. Options include:

- **Stavanger Maritime Museum** – Shipping and fishing history with historic sailboats.
- **Stavanger Museum of Natural History** – Zoology and cultural history with exotic birds and mammals.
- **Norwegian Canning Museum** – History of Stavanger's canning industry in an old cannery.
- **Norwegian Children's Museum** – Fun exhibits on toys, play and childhood.
- **Stavanger Art Museum** – Over 2,000 works by Norwegian and international artists.
- **Norwegian Printing Museum** – Printing industry in a restored building from 1913.
- **Stavanger School Museum** – School history in a 1920's schoolhouse.
- **Norwegian Petroleum Museum** – Interactive exhibits on oil and gas and Norway's industry.
- **Museum of Archaeology** – 11,000 years of history from Stone Age to Middle Ages.
- **Ledaal** – Historic royal residence and museum from around 1800.
- **Breidablikk** – Well-preserved merchant's mansion built 1881–1882.
- **Viking House** – Virtual reality Viking adventure about Harald Fairhair and the battle of Hafsrfjord.

Wander Around Breivatnet Lake
A peaceful lake in Byparken perfect for relaxing. Enjoy statues, ducks, swans and a fountain in beautiful surroundings.

Enjoy a Drink on the Skagenkaien
Lively waterfront with colourful houses, pubs, bars, restaurants and shops. Named after the oldest street race 'Skagen', it's the perfect spot to relax by the harbour.

Visit the Local Craft Market
Find it near Burger King, a 5-minute walk from the cruise port. Great for souvenirs, wooden ornaments, Christmas decorations, hats and scarves.

Head to the Shopping District
The Østervåg area has the best shops, especially Nordic brands. Expect boutiques, independent stores and higher prices.

Decorative Grates and Plaques
Look out for the quirky decorative grates and plaques around the city – a unique detail you won't want to miss!

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Popular Shore Excursions from Stavanger
See more of the stunning region with these popular excursions. Book with Viator for the best prices.

Lysefjord Cruise and Pulpit Rock
Cruise the 42km Lysefjord with dramatic waterfalls and mountains, then visit Pulpit Rock (Preikestolen) – a steep cliff 604 metres (1,982 ft) above the fjord. Easy hike with breathtaking views. Approx. 4 hours.

Lysefjord RIB Ride
For thrill seekers! Speed along the Lysefjord in a RIB boat, see more in less time and enjoy live commentary. Thermal suits provided and dry bags for belongings.

Flor og Fjære
A stunning man-made tropical garden on the island of Sør-Hidle. Just a 15-minute walk from the cruise port. Open May–September. Explore beautiful gardens and enjoy a rotating buffet at the island's restaurant.