

The Faroe Islands

July 1 - 5, 2024

Blue Dot Travel



\$5,290 pp

Twin-share
Excluding airfares
Single supp \$780



THE FAROE ISLANDS

The Faroe Islands are not on many Australians' travel list. But they should be because they are a hidden treasure! Every village seems to be perched on the most picturesque bay overlooking the Atlantic. The houses are quaint. There are waterfalls at every turn. Salmon is abundant. There are sheep everywhere and their wool makes fabulous jumpers - famous in many parts of Europe.

The early history of the rugged and rocky Faroe Islands is shrouded in as much mist as mystery, but it was probably settled by Norsemen in the 800's, who introduced the area's signature sheep and goats. While once a Norwegian asset, these fishing islands have been under Danish control/support since 1388. Having said that, The Faroe Islands is a separate self-governing state.

The 18 islands of Faroe are roughly halfway between Great Britain and Iceland with a population of around 50,000 people. The official language of the Faroe Islands is Faroese which is a Germanic language that descended from Old Norse. Since they are within the Kingdom of Denmark, the locals generally converse in Danish, but most also speak English (sometimes even German and Norwegian). Absence of other distractions has led to a strong music culture here, with hearty music festivals in summer.

Despite its remote location, the Faroe Islands has excellent infrastructure. A number of tunnels make it easy to traverse the mountain ranges, and a further two connect the islands. Between navigable roadways and its small size, the Faroe Islands create an unforgettable road trip with extraordinary views at every turn.

Note, the weather in The Faroes is unpredictable. This may affect sightseeing and flights. We will do our best to ensure you see as much as possible but we cannot guarantee that each place on the itinerary will be visited. The good news is that the distances between places are relatively short and the roads are very good.



Day 1, Monday 1st July KIRKJUBØUR & TÓRSHAVN

Please note that the order of our Faroe Islands itinerary will remain flexible due to the weather. You can expect to see the following sites and places of interest over your stay. All our breakfasts in The Faroes are at our hotel. Dinners will be a mix of local restaurants and hotels. Lunches are at each individual's cost.

Upon arrival at the airport at 12.15 hrs, the group will be transferred to our hotel, Hotel Brandan, in the capital, Tórshavn (4 nights). On this 40-minute journey, we'll cross the first subsea tunnel in the Faroe Islands, with the deepest point 105 m below sea level. On the way, we visit Kirkjubøur, an important historical and cultural place where we visit Roystovan, the oldest wooden house, 900 years old, the oldest Church in the Faroe Islands, from the year 1111, and the ruins of the cathedral of Saint Magnus, built around 1300. Upon arrival in Tórshavn, the smallest capital in the world, your tour leader will take the group for a walking tour around Tinganes, the oldest neighbourhood in the city. Dinner tonight is at the hotel. **D**

Day 2, Tuesday 2nd July MYKINES ISLAND

After breakfast, we will meet the guide in the hotel reception at 7.55 am and then transfer by minibus to Sørvágur and take the ferry to Mykines Island. Here, we'll enjoy a walk of approx. 2 hours passing through the famous puffin colony. This is a spectacular place to spot puffins and many species of birdlife. On this easy hike, you also explore other areas of the island, from spectacular purely Atlantic cliffs to the narrow streets of the cozy village, which is unique on the island. After a few unforgettable hours in Mykines, we will return by ferry to Sørvágur and the hotel in Tórshavn overnight. Dinner at a local restaurant, Hvonn Brasserie. **B/D**

B/D



Icon indicates a day where there is **moderate physical exertion**. A basic level of fitness is required: eg. A trek over 'mostly flat' terrain or climbing several flights of steps without the support of handrails or elevators.



Icon indicates a day where there is a **particularly active section**. A good level of fitness is required: eg. A longer trek over non-groomed, uneven terrain, or ascending to reach a panorama. May also include exposure to higher altitude. **An alternate activity may be offered if you choose to sit out an active section**. Please call - we are happy to discuss each tour in more detail.



Day 3, Wednesday 3rd July VESTMANNA & VÁGAR

Our guide will meet us today in the hotel reception at 9.00 am. After crossing the Funningsfjørður, one of the most beautiful fjords of the archipelago, we arrive at the village of Gjógv, one of the beautiful villages of the Faroe Islands. Today, the route continues to the Fossá Waterfall (140m), the highest in the Faroe Islands. Next is a visit to Tjørnuvík, where we take a walk on the beach and observe the famous "Risin og Kellingin" rocks in the ocean (The Giant and the Witch). Finally, we'll visit the village of Saksun, which is surrounded by high mountains and a lake that leads to the Atlantic. Dinner is at Angus Steakhouse. **B/D**



Day 4, Thursday 4th July EYSTUROY & STREYMOY

We'll meet the guide at 9.15 in the hotel before departing for the fishing port of Vestmanna. We will sail on a 2-hour boat trip to the high cliffs of Vestmannabjörgini. We'll navigate narrow passes and caves next to 600-metre-high cliffs where birds such as puffins, guillemots, fulmars and kittiwakes nest every summer. We'll continue to a panoramic tour of the Sørvágsfjørð fjord with views of Tindhólmur islet and Mykines Island. You will visit the picturesque villages of Bøur and Gásadalur. Here you visit Mulafoosur, the famous Waterfall that falls into the sea. Until recently, the only way to get to Gásadalur was on foot across the mountains, although a tunnel now connects both villages. Even so, Gásadalur still retains its authenticity and charm. Return to Tórshavn, with dinner at the hotel. **B/D**

Day 5, Friday 5th July DEPARTURE

Departure from the hotel reception at 10.30 hrs. The journey to the airport is 40 minutes. The flight departs for Copenhagen at 13.05 hrs. **B**

MODERATE

ACTIVE