

Norway Arts & Culture Uniquely Augsburg University Alumni & Friends Tour May 8-18, 2020



Photo: Bergen's historic waterfront

Hosted by
**Darcey Engen &
Luverne Seifert**

Highlights & Inclusions

Celebrate Augsburg's 150th anniversary on this custom-designed sesquicentennial tour.

Experience educational enrichment and fellowship as part of a traveling community under the leadership, teaching and hospitality of Darcey Engen and Luverne Seifert.

Be inspired visiting Oslo, Fjord Country and Bergen with the services throughout of English-speaking tour manager along with local guides in Oslo and Bergen, and use of audio headset system for touring.

Travel on flights from Minneapolis/St. Paul to Oslo, returning from Bergen including taxes and surcharges.

Stay in select accommodations for nine nights, based on sharing a room in hotels described in the itinerary. Single rooms available at supplemental cost.

Journey throughout in private, deluxe motorcoaches along with handling of one piece of baggage at hotels.

Enjoy 15 included meals of Scandinavian buffet breakfast daily and five dinners plus one lunch.

Feel the ease and comfort of knowing entrance fees for inside visits and activities described in itinerary are included along with the gratuities for tour manager, motorcoach drivers, local guides, restaurant and hotel staff plus group travel insurance.

Husband and wife team, **Darcey Engen '88** and **Luverne Seifert '85**, are thrilled to lead this travel experience exploring Norway's arts and culture. Both theater artists, Luverne and Darcey met at Augsburg, were married in 1992 and brought together their love for teaching and theater when in 2011 they originated Sod House Theater.

Darcey is Professor and Chair of the Augsburg Theater Arts Department. She teaches over seven courses in the department including Advanced Acting, Voice for Stage and Screen and Movement for the Actor as well as directs a main-stage production each season.

Luverne has been acting and directing professionally for over 30 years. He is currently a Senior Teaching Specialist in the Department of Theater Arts and Dance at the University of Minnesota where he has been teaching for 15 years. Luverne has performed nationally at The La Jolla Playhouse, The New Victory Theater in NYC and most recently at the Wilma in Philadelphia in addition to performing locally at The Guthrie Theater, The Children's Theater, and Ten Thousand Things to name a few.

Darcey and Luverne look forward to traveling with Augsburg alumni and friends to experience and discover the vibrancy and traditions of Norway's visual arts, literature, music and architecture along with much more. Norway is a place of ancestry for the university and many in the Augsburg community, and we are excited to learn and discover more about ourselves and our heritage.

Customized Program Itinerary

Friday, May 8 MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL DEPARTURE.

Depart on overnight Icelandair flight from Minneapolis-St. Paul to Keflavik, Iceland. (inflight meal for purchase)

Saturday, May 9 OSLO ARRIVAL.

Icelandair connects this morning through Keflavik, Iceland, arriving into Oslo airport early afternoon. Meet tour manager and awaiting private motorcoach for drive to Frogner Park and admire the more than 200 sculptures in Vigeland Sculpture Garden before arriving at [Clarion Hotel The Hub](#) to get settled for a four-night stay. Early dinner at hotel or a local restaurant within walking distance. (inflight meal for purchase, D)

Sunday, May 10 OSLO.

Full day to explore Oslo. Morning walking tour along what is known as Ibsen Sitat with a guide from the Ibsen Museum. The walking tour highlights the life of Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen with 69 quotes of Ibsen's well-known plays set in steel letters in the pavement. Guided tour of Oslo's magnificent [Opera House](#). Break for lunch on own before continuing to Bygdoy to visit the [Viking Ship Museum](#). Return to hotel for the evening free. (B)

Monday, May 11 OSLO.

Full day for more discovery of the history, culture and arts of Norway's capital city with a local Oslo guide. Guided visit of [Ekeberg Park](#), one of the top five sculpture parks in the world. Drive about 20 minutes outside of Oslo to learn about famous Norwegian artist Edvard Munch exploring his [studio at Ekely](#), which he purchased in 1916 and became his residence for the remainder of his life. The studio offers an exhibition based on documentary material presenting what it was like during his time. Guided exploration of the [National Theater](#) prior to attending a performance (tour and performance based on availability when schedule is released). (B)

Tuesday, May 12 OSLO.

Today's activities include **alumni and friends of both Norway tour groups**. Morning visit to City Hall to admire the massive murals by famous Norwegian artists illustrating the country's history. The main hall is the location of the annual Nobel Peace Prize ceremony. Walk to the nearby [Nobel Peace Center](#) to explore the exhibits. Continue by foot to the [Norwegian Nobel Institute](#) for a greeting and lecture. Walk back to hotel or continue on own for individual exploration. Group dinner at a restaurant within walking distance of hotel, and with other tour group this evening. (B,D)

Wednesday, May 13 OSLO/FJORD COUNTRY/

STALHEIM. Depart Oslo this morning on a touring motorcoach for Norway's Fjord Country along the route to Stalheim via [Laerdal](#). Visit [Blåvarveverket](#), where from 1773 to 1893 the cobalt works and mines supplied the world with the stunning blue pigment. Entrance to Blåvarveverket includes the Gallery, Kittelsen Museum and Nyfossum, along with a guided tour at Haugfossen to see the small exhibition about Edvard Munch's visit in 1884. Perhaps an outside view of Borgund Stave Church

before continuing the day's travel to [Stalheim](#), a small town dating back to 1647 when it was a postal farm on the Oslo-Bergen route. Many artists found inspiration in the nature around Stalheim with the best-known painting "From Stalheim" by J.C Dahls. Arrive at the [Stalheim Hotel](#) for a two-night stay and dinner. (B,D)

Thursday, May 14 FJORD COUNTRY.

Today is the famous "Norway in a Nutshell" fjord experience with transport via motorcoach, boat and train. The morning begins with a scenic drive to Gudvangen to board the ferry to Flåm passing through magnificent [Narøyfjord](#). Upon arrival into the small town of Flåm, enjoy a break for lunch on own before taking the [Flåm Railway](#) to Myrdal and connect to the Bergen Railway to Voss. Return to Stalheim by motorcoach for dinner and overnight. (B,D)

Friday, May 15 STALHEIM/BERGEN.

Leave Stalheim this morning by motorcoach and take the ferry from Kinsarvik to Utne. Visit the Hardanger [Folkemuseum in Utne](#) with cultural exhibits of Hardanger embroidery, traditional costumes, and Norway's national instrument, the fiddle. On another ferry from Utne to Kvanndal, continuing on the [Hardanger Tourist Route](#). Visit [Kabuso](#) to view the SkySpace art installation and other works of art (changing exhibitions). Lunch included at a restaurant en route today. Photo stop at [Steindalsfossen Waterfall](#). Arrive into Bergen for three nights at the [Thon Hotel Orion](#), located in the Hanseatic waterfront area. (B,L)

Saturday, May 16 BERGEN.

Full day exploration with a local guide including a visit to Norway's oldest permanent theater, [Den National Scene](#), founded in 1850 and where Henrik Ibsen was one of the first writer-in-residence. Learn about the life of composer Edvard Grieg with a tour of his home [Troidhaugen](#) and featuring a noontime concert. View the exhibit on Norwegian theater at the University of Bergen, and at Schoestuene see some of artifacts of the Hanseatic Museum on display during museum renovations. Evening at leisure for dinner on own. (B)

Sunday, May 17 BERGEN.

Enjoy [Syttende Mai](#), **Norwegian Constitution Day**, festivities on this national holiday. Tour manager to escort those interested in viewing the parade. Free time for lunch and to take in the traditions of this significant holiday. Afternoon walking tour among the historic Hanseatic wharf and buildings with tour manager including a ride on the [funicular up Mount Floyen](#). Farewell dinner this evening at hotel with the other alumni & friends Norway tour group. (B,D)

Monday, May 18 BERGEN/RETURN MINNEAPOLIS-

ST. PAUL. After leisurely breakfast at hotel, transfer to airport. Icelandair departs early afternoon, connecting through Iceland and arriving into Minneapolis-St. Paul early evening. (B, inflight meals for purchase on Icelandair)

Included meals: B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner

Itinerary subject to change due to local scheduling.

Click hotel names or other sites in blue for website link.

Passport, Health, Insurance and Travel Information

U.S. citizens need a passport valid at least six months beyond the tour return date. Passport applications are available at the [U.S. Department of State website](#). No vaccination or visa requirements for U.S. citizens to enter Norway. Consult your physician and utilize information on the [Centers for Disease Control website](#) for precautions.

Non-U.S. citizens are responsible for their own passport and any visa requirements for the countries visited and must travel with a permanent resident card or other documentation to re-enter the U.S. Without proper documents, entry could be denied at participant's expense.

For international travel information, including country specific background, travel advisories and alerts [click here](#).

Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI) group insurance included in cost covers evacuation and major medical as described in Statement of Conditions. **Cancellation insurance and coverage for pre-existing medical conditions is not included and highly recommended for health situations that may prevent you from traveling or interrupt your travels.**

Travel Guard is recommended for travel cancellation insurance. Access insurance options using this link to [Travel Guard](#) and completing a worksheet. For coverage questions, call Travel Guard at 800-826-4919 and use Seminars International referral number 14847980. Thoroughly read the coverage to ensure it meets your needs. Purchasing travel insurance within 15 days of enrollment may waive pre-existing medical conditions.

Tours of historic city centers are usually all by foot. **Fully participating requires:** walking some days up to four miles; walking often one mile at a time at a moderate pace; managing uneven surfaces, steps and inclines without assistance. Itinerary is not wheelchair, scooter or walker accessible. Consult with Seminars International (SI) or tour host with questions about walking and mobility requirements. SI, in consensus with tour hosts and destination partner, reserves the right to not accept or withdraw any participant whose ability to participate in the tour or whose conduct is incompatible with the operation of tour or the interests of the entire group.

For travel and destination information, click website link: [Norway](#) • [Oslo](#) • [Bergen](#)

Further Information

AUGSBURG
UNIVERSITY.

Katie (Koch) Code '01

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SEMINARS INTERNATIONAL
The Educational Travel Architects
Chicago, IL 60603-5713

312-332-7027 • 800-541-7506

travel@semint.com • www.semint.com

Registration

To secure registration, you must complete the enrollment form **and** pay the required deposit. You need passport details (unless applying for a passport) and emergency contact information to properly fill out the enrollment form.

Step 1: \$600 deposit due immediately to secure registration. Make check payable and mail to Seminars International, 55 E. Monroe, Suite 2870, Chicago, IL 60603. Please add **Tour# 5205** to the memo portion of your check

Payment is available by credit card at <http://www.semint.com/payments.html> or by calling 800.541.7506. A 3% service fee is added to all credit card transactions.

Step 2: If this is an electronic brochure, click below to fill out one enrollment form per person. The **T# is 5205**. A printed copy of the enrollment form is also available by contacting Jeaneen Lincoln at 800-541-7506 or jeaneen@semint.com. Deposit payment must be received within 10 days of completing enrollment form to maintain your registration. **A letter of confirmation is emailed after receipt of both the deposit and the enrollment form.** If program is full upon submitting enrollment form, you will be notified.

Passport Name: Complete this form with your **full name exactly as it appears on your passport**. Include your middle name or initial plus any suffix (Jr., Sr., or III) exactly as printed on your passport. If you do not have a passport at this time, enter your name exactly as it will appear on the passport. There may be a fee for any name changes.

[If this is an electronic brochure, click here for link to enrollment form.](#)

Note: If you need an electronic brochure, email travel@semint.com and reference T# 5205.

Program Cost

\$4,800* from Minneapolis/St. Paul

Supplement for single accommodations - \$650
Limited availability of single accommodations.

This comprehensive cost includes estimated airline ticket taxes and surcharges, gratuities, and CISI group insurance (approx. \$75 value). These costs are often not packaged into other travel programs and instead listed as additional costs in the fine print. Program cost based on a group size of 33 and will increase if group size is smaller.

***Note about cost at time of printing brochure:**

The program cost has been calculated on the best available information over a year in advance. The flights are not in range to confirm requiring the use of an estimated airfare. When flights are confirmed in July 2019, participants will be advised the final cost.

Statement of Conditions

Program cost and minimum number group size: \$4,800.00, based on a group size of 33 participants. Program cost will increase if group size is smaller. *Program cost based on exchange rates and tariffs in effect as of May 2019 subject to change in the event that there is a fluctuation of more than 4%.*

Air transportation included in cost: From Minneapolis/St. Paul to Oslo, returning from Bergen on estimated airfare by Icelandair, subject to restrictions and cancellation penalties by the airline; estimated taxes and surcharges are included and subject to change until ticketed.

Surface travel and transfers: By private, deluxe motorcoach for all transfers and touring plus handling of one piece of baggage in/out of hotels.

Accommodations and meals: Shared occupancy at hotels listed in itinerary or similar as hotels subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Single accommodations supplement is \$650.00 and limited. Scandinavian buffet breakfast daily, one lunch and five dinners for a total of 15 meals as indicated in the itinerary. Upon request, Seminars International and sponsor/host(s) will try to pair participants traveling as a single with a roommate. There is no guarantee of a roommate and if one is not available, the single supplement is assessed at time of invoice. Some hotels provide a smaller room size for single occupancy.

Program arrangements: English-speaking professional tour manager upon arrival in Oslo and throughout Norway; local guides in Oslo and Bergen; use of audio headsets; inside visits described in itinerary include entrance fees or donations as needed; lectures by Augsburg faculty leaders and local speakers arranged by the university; gratuities for tour manager/guides, motorcoach drivers, and hotel/restaurant wait staff. **Note:** Participants with special needs may incur surcharges for additional services. Accessibility for people with disabilities varies significantly from country to country. Be advised the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States, and facilities outside the United States, such as ramps, elevators and hand railings may be limited. This itinerary is not wheelchair, scooter or walker accessible.

Deposit and payment schedule: \$600 per participant due to secure enrollment no later than **January 8, 2020 as long as space is available.** A waiting list is maintained when registrations exceed 33. **Full payment due February 21, 2020.** Upon receipt of enrollment and deposit, a confirmation of registration is sent by Seminars International via email. Any payments by credit card incur an additional 3% to cover merchant fees. Invoices are sent in advance of final payment.

Group insurance: The following Cultural Insurance Services International (CISI) group insurance coverage is included for each participant. **This insurance does not include individual trip cancellation and pre-existing medical condition coverage, additional insurance is highly recommended.**

Schedule of Benefits Policy # GLM N0496486A

Coverage and Services Maximum Limits:

- Accidental Death and Dismemberment Per Insured Person \$10,000.
- Medical expenses (per Covered Accident or Sickness).
- Deductible zero.
- Basic Medical \$100,000 at 100%.
- Home Country Coverage Limit \$10,000.
- Emergency Medical Reunion \$3,000.
- Team Assist Plan (TAP): 24/7 medical, travel, technical assistance.
- Emergency Medical Evacuation 100% of Covered Expenses.
- Repatriation/Return of Mortal Remains 100% of Covered Expenses.
- Security Evacuation (Comprehensive) \$100,000.
- Trip delay of \$100 per day to a maximum of \$500/5 days if delayed more than 12 hours.

[Click here](#) to access further information on travel insurance.

Trip delay: In the unforeseen circumstance your program experiences travel delays and unexpected expenses are incurred, Seminars International will invoice participants for any additional costs associated with the delay minus the \$100 per day CISI trip delay coverage, if qualified. Obtaining additional travel insurance as recommended on page three may offset these expenses.

Cancellation and refund policy: Should cancellation occur prior to 120 days before departure, the initial deposit will be refunded less a \$100 fee per person. In addition to airline penalties, the following specified costs are non-refundable: **120-90 days = half of deposit; 89-75 days = full deposit; 74-46 days = 50% of program price; 45-31 days = recoverable costs only (possible forfeiture of entire program cost); cancellations received 30 days or fewer from departure will receive no refund. Cancellations must be submitted in writing; the date such notification is received by Seminars International is the cancellation date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended.**

Leadership: The person(s) identified as the leader/host is subject to change in the event of unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Seminars International. In the unlikely event of a change in leadership, a qualified replacement will be selected by the sponsoring organization or previous leader. Seminars International will operate the program as planned and is not responsible for the change in leadership. The cancellation and refund policy remain as stated.

Exclusions: Items not listed above, including but not limited to meals other than those indicated; beverages except at breakfast; baggage handling at airports; optional entertainment and excursions; any baggage charges; all personal items, such as telephone calls, laundry expenses, individual room service; cancellation insurance; non-tour related gratuities; passport fees; increases in air ticket taxes or fuel surcharge; increases in VAT or city/hotel taxes.

Management and responsibility: Seminars International (SI) acts only as an agent and neither SI nor any employee or appointee nor any other person, party or organization or agency collaborating with it is or shall be responsible or liable for any injury or loss, accident or damage, delay or deviation or curtailment, howsoever caused or arising or the consequences thereof, which may occur during any part of the travel or program or during such free time as the members may elect to spend independently on the program. The airlines or commercial carriers concerned are not to be held responsible for any acts, omissions, or events during the time the passengers are not on board their planes or conveyances. The passage contracts in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, will constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this program and/or passenger.

Deviations policy: Some participants may wish to extend their stay, originate or deplane from different cities or purchase the land program only. Early flight departure on group airfare is not permitted. Every effort will be made to assist program participants within the rules of the group air contract for a \$100 per person service charge, plus any additional charges levied by the airline or other supplier. Once the deviation has been booked, any changes may incur additional costs. Please note you are purchasing a group program and any deviation from the program arrangements requires staff time not calculated in the program cost. No refund may be granted to participants who wish to omit portions of the itinerary. **All deviation requests must be submitted in writing by January 10, 2020; requests made after this date incur additional fees or may be unavailable.**

Seminars International

Seminars International, with fifty years of experience crafting faith-based, educational, performing arts and special interest programs on seven continents, is proud of a proven record in providing attention to detail, safety, security, creativity and value. Our services allow leaders to focus on the purpose and goals of their program while we take care of the travel logistics, providing peace of mind from beginning to end.

Custom Design - We design customized international programs sensitive to the needs and interests of a group while focusing on value and affordability.

Pre-Departure - Our services include customized travel e-packets and tour literature focusing on being prepared and responsible travelers.

While Abroad - Along with our Chicago-based team, our network of on-the-ground international partners and CISI Team Assist are prepared 24/7 to provide support and assistance, particularly with an emergency situation.

Program Evaluation - Upon return we invite you to complete an evaluation to share feedback on how we may enhance your experience in the future.