**Oslo**

**Day 1**

**Cruising in Oslo Harbor (Option 1)**

https://www.expedia.com/things-to-do/city-cruise-hop-on-hop-off-on-boat.a192628.activity-details

* USD 28 per person
* You can board at City Hall, the Opera House, Vippa, Clorline quai or the Bygdoy Museum Island—then you can simply hop on and hop off as many times as you like in 24 hours.
* Soups and hot drinks are available to purchase at the bar, so you can sit back and relax on the lovely deck, and admire the stunning views outside.
* With access to the 4 stops along the route, you're within walking distance of Oslo's best attractions, including: Nobel Peace Center, Oslo City Hall, The Opera House, Bygdoy Museum Island, Viking Ship Museum, Norsk Folk Museum, Kon-Tiki Museum, Maritime Museum, Holocaust Centre, Polar Ship Fram Museum

The Oslo fjord is spectacular. There are a few ways to see the fjord: the hop-on-and-off boat that shuttles people from the various attractions and museums, or a proper two-hour cruise through the fjord. I recommend the two-hour cruise since it goes deeper into the harbor and you see a lot more.

**We need to ask the hotel helpdesk about the boat (Option 2)**

* Ferry: <http://nyc.no/boatservice-sightseeing/>
* City hall (Rådhusbrygge 3, City Hall pier 3)
* Dronningen Marina: the stop for the Viking ship museum and Folkemuseet
* Bygdøy: Fram, Kon-Tiki and the Norwegian Maritime Museum

**From hotel: City hall (Rådhuset 140 m)**

**Viking Museum**

**(Bus stop: The Vikingship Museum)**

**(Boat stop: Bygdoy – ask the hotel helpdesk)**

**9 am to 6 pm (closed only on 1-JAN)**

Located on Bygdøy Island, this museum is home to Viking longships found at burial sites around Norway. In addition to two 1100-year-old Viking ships (apparently the best preserved in the world), there are three other ships and a lot of information about life during the Viking age. There’s also a Viking burial chamber with skeletons.

**Folk Museum (400m from Viking Museum)**

**10 am to 6 pm (Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day)**

Next to the Viking Museum is a large open-air re-creation of traditional Norwegian buildings from various periods throughout Norwegian history. The most famous building is the intricately carved church.

**Fram Museum (stop: Norwegian Maritime Museum)**

**(Boat stop: Bygdoy – ask the hotel helpdesk)**

**9 am to 6 pm (closed only on 1-JAN)**

This museum features the Fram, the world’s first ice-breaking ship and the last one made out of wood. The Fram made many trips to the North and South Poles, and the exhibit is very detailed and offers a lot of history, as well as photographs.

**Kon-Tiki Museum (40m from Fram Museum)**

**9:30 am to 6 pm (closed only on 1-JAN)**

Right next to the Fram, this museum has famous historian and explorer Thor Heyerdahl’s balsa rafts, which he used to sail the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Thor showed that it was possible for ancient cultures, using their own technology, to have traveled across the large oceans. His trips offered important insight to historical migration theories.

Remember that you can purchase joined tickets for the Norwegian Maritime Museum, The Kon-Tiki Museum and the Fram Museum (or just two of them) that gives you a discounted price when you visit more than one museum in the same day. The ticket can be purchased at The Norwegian Maritime Museum, The Kon-Tiki Museum or here at The Fram Museum.

**Oslo City Hall**

**9 am to 6 pm**

As you take the boat back across the harbor, you’ll come to City Hall. It is open to the public and free to enter. It’s open late, so making this your last stop will ensure you have enough time to visit all the museums. The main banquet hall is where the Nobel Peace Prize is given, and there’s an excellent mural symbolizing Norway’s struggle for freedom on the far wall.

**Day 2**

**Tours: HOHO (https://www.hop-on-hop-off-bus.com/oslo/oslo-hop-on-hop-off-tour\_23375?\_$ja=tsid:|cid:166597877|agid:10334894357|tid:kwd-29126187461|crid:277098191027|nw:g|rnd:18242978906269952450|dvc:c|adp:1t2&gclid=EAIaIQobChMI9MyOpYjJ3AIVx7bACh1BaA3XEAAYAiAAEgJ6yPD\_BwE)**

* Your ticket is valid for 24 hours.
* On this tour you will see the recently built Oslo Opera House, the Vigeland Sculpture Park and the Viking ship Museum.
* You must print and surrender a paper version of your booking voucher for this activity (showing your voucher on a smartphone is not accepted). No refund can be given for customers without a printed copy of their voucher.
* Buses depart between 10:00am - 4:30pm, every 30 minutes.
* Some of the attractions covered by the tour are: Akershus Fortress, Oslo Opera House, The Norwegian Parliament, Hard Rock Cafe Oslo, The National Gallery, The Royal Palace, The Ibsen Museum, The Vigeland Sculpture Park, The Vikingship Museum, and The Norwegian Maritime Museum
* Price per person: USD 39

**From hotel: Noble Peace Center (500 m). Our hotel is centrally located.**

**Vigeland Park and Frogner (stop: The Vigeland Sculpture Park)**

**Open 24 hours**

Since most museums don’t open until 10am, spend the morning walking around the city. A good walking path is to head to Vigeland Park, look at the statues, and walk through the Frogner neighborhood, which houses some very nice buildings. Head down to Bygdøy island, where you’ll find many of Oslo’s main museums.

**Royal Palace and Park (stop: The Royal Palace)**

**The changing of the guard is a daily event taking place at 1:30 p.m. at the Royal Palace**

The center of this park is the Royal Palace, where you can watch the changing of the guards in the morning. Its central location means you will probably criss-cross it a few times. It’s very big, with a lot of open space and trails. During nice weather, the park is filled with locals enjoying what little sun they get throughout the yearDuring the summer months, parts of the palace are open to the public.

**Akershus Castle (stop: Akershus Fortress)**

**800 meters from hotel**

Akershus Castle is a medieval fortress from 1290, though it’s changed greatly over the years, especially when Danish King Christian IV turned it into a Renaissance palace. The grounds of the castle are open from 6am to 9pm and provide excellent views of the city and fjord. The castle itself is open from 10am to 4pm. The interior isn’t Versailles, but the free audio tour provides a detailed history of the castle and Norway.

**After all, this is a country where McDonald’s costs $15 USD for a meal. Food isn’t cheap.**