



24 HOURS IN OSLO

Oslo is surrounded by the fjord on one side and by the green hills of Oslomarka Forest on the three others. This proximity to nature is in the very soul of the city's residents. If you arrive in Oslo on a crisp Sunday morning in winter, you might find the city centre fairly empty. Cross-country is the national passion and everyone participates – from newborn babies pulled in *pulk* sledges to spry octogenarians. The sun sets around 5pm in winter, but no worries. Snow brightens everything and there are candles in windows, on shop counters, and in restaurants. Just remember to dress warmly.

7:00

Try the sumptuous breakfast buffet at **Grand Café**. Don't miss the back-wall mural depicting the Christiania Bohemians, an eclectic group of artists who frequented Grand Café in the 1880s. Famous playwright Henrik Ibsen is on the left.

10:00

Take the tram to vibrant, trendy **Grünerløkka**. Explore the many quaint, independent shops, relax in the parks, and have morning tea at **Tea Lounge** or a hot chocolate at **Cocoa**.

12:00

Oslo Opera House opened in 2008 and resembles an ice floe gliding slowly into the water. Lunch at **Brasserie Sanguine** in the foyer, then take a stroll on the roof. Fabulous fjord views from the top.

13:00

Catch the hop-on hop-off sailing ship to the **Bygdøy Peninsula** to get a feel for Norway's maritime history. There are Viking ships, the famous raft *Kon-Tiki*, the polar ship *Fram*, and much more.

15:00

Hop back on the ship and get off at **City Hall**. Take in the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony venue, the **Nobel Peace Center**, and the medieval **Akershus Fortress** on top of the hill.

17:00

Wander around the renovated shipyard **Aker Brygge and Tjuvholmen**. Visit fashionable shops, cosy pubs, elegant restaurants, art galleries, and spectacular architecture, including the **Astrup Fearnley Museum**.

20:00

Housed in a wonderful rambling 17th-century building, **Statholdergaarden** is one of Oslo's very best restaurants, run by Bocuse d'Or winner Bent Stiansen.

23:00

Pop into **Radisson Blu Plaza**, Northern Europe's tallest hotel, and take the lift to the top floor. The elegant **34 Skybar** offers festive drinks and stunning fjord and city views.

01:00

Still not tired? Most nightclubs stay open until 1am on weekdays and 3:30am on weekends. Try **Revolver** for rock'n'roll, **The Villa** for electronica, and the popular riverside club **Blå** for R&B and jazz. 🍷

By Anne-Sophie Redisch

GETTING AROUND



Taking one of the many blue trams is a good way to get a feel for the city and its architecture.



metro

The T-bane (metro) efficiently connects the heart of Oslo with surrounding areas. Oslomarka Forest – and skiing – is only 15 minutes from the city centre.



walk

Walking is the locally preferred method of transportation. You'll also see Osloviens on bicycles fitted with studded snow tyres.



boat

Stopping at City Hall, the Opera House, and Bygdøy, the hop-on hop-off old wooden sailing ship plying the harbour is a great way to see Oslo.

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