

The Unique Birkebeinerrennet in Norway,

March 16 through March 18, 2012 - Guided Trip for 3 Days

Welcome to the 75th Birkebeiner Ski Race! The Birkebeinerrennet is one of the oldest and most challenging races in the Worldloppet series with 16,500 participants. This cross-country course is 54 Km long and should be skied using classic technique only. The start is at Rena; the finish is reached at the Birkebeineren area at Lillehammer, the famous stadium from the 1994 Olympic Games. All competitors must carry a backpack that weighs at least 3.5 kg. This backpack weight is supposed to mirror the weight of the baby who became the future king Håkon.



Your Lodgings, Radisson Blu Hotel Lillehammer****

The hotel is situated centrally in Lillehammer, 200 meters from the Maighausen Museum and the Olympic stadium and 600 meters from the main street. You have a swimming pool, a sauna, and 2 restaurants in the hotel. And there is a place to wax your skis. Every room is a double with two twin beds, shower, WC, and TV, plus Internet connection.



Specific Dates during Your Trip

You can start your trip any day before Friday or stay longer after Sunday to visit Oslo or come earlier at Lillehammer! Please ask for more specific details.

Friday, March 16, 2012

You can take any international flight you wish. The bus departs from Oslo Central Station downtown via Gardamoen-Airport heading for Lillehammer, approximately 2.5 hours drive. You'll pick up your individual bibs and race packets at Håkon Hall. Then you can visit the town and especially the mainstreet called Storgatta. We will eat a special menu for diner in view of the next day's big event. After diner, we will have a visit from an experienced Birkebeiner who will share his experiences with us. You'll want to prepare your skis for the current snow conditions and then rest for the race.

Saturday, March 17, 2012

The big race day. You will get up at the crack of dawn and eat as big a breakfast as you can. There will be a bus to take you from the hotel to the start of the race in Rena, which is 8:00 in the morning. The bus will be waiting at the parking lot in Rena so if you have a later start, you can wait in the bus. All luggage can be left in the bus and will be transported back to the hotel After the race, you can walk back to the hotel by yourself. In the evening, you will have the last celebratory dinner with all of the other tour group members. By now you will have made lots of friends, to be sure.

Sunday, March 18, 2012

You will go by bus to Oslo-Gardamoen airport or back to downtown Oslo if you've decided to extend your trip to visit this fantastic city.

How Much Will It Cost to Enter to the Races?

The sooner you enter a race, the cheaper it is. If you wait too long, you will have to pay an additional fee. Here are your choices.

Birkebeinerrennet, 54km classic, **Saturday March 17 2012** 150 Euros until september 1
 After that date nothing can be guaranteed, the Cost can be up to Euro 200,- depending of the booking situation.

Possible Dates

You can either go from Friday to Sunday, March 16th to March 18th or extended your trip as long as you want before or after this date. Please, ask for more details.

What You Get for Your Money

- Bus transfers to and from the airport or the city if you are downtown
- 2 nights in the Radisson Blu Hotel in Lillehammer
- 2 days and evenings of half pension with a buffet breakfast and a dinner
- The bus transfer to the course during the day of the race
- Free use of sauna and swimmingpool
- A place to wax your skis
- Full local english guiding

What You Have to Pay For Yourself in Addition

- Race inscription fees included one day licence Euro 150,-
- Individual trip insurance
- Air transportation

Price per Person:

Date	Double room	Additional costs for single room during stay
2 days (Friday – Sunday) March 16 th to March 18 th	€ 700,-	€ 860,-

It is time to reserve your place NOW! You should make up your mind by September 1, 2011. After that date nothing can be guaranteed