



Quilters' Cruise 2026

In Search of the Northern Lights

4 – 14 January 2026



Japan Journeys is collaborating once again with our expert quilter, to bring you a quilting cruise in search of the Northern Lights to Norway. Join Judi Mendelsohn for this wonderful cruising experience with Fred. Olsen Lines.



Judi Mendelsohn

Our Quilt Expert

With the sea crossing taking two days on the outward journey and one day on the return journey, along with two days sailing along the coast of Norway, there will be a wide selection of hand stitching workshops for you to join, reflecting the colours and sights we'll experience during the cruise. All the workshops will be fully kitted so all you will need to bring is your own personal hand sewing kit. Along the way there will be assorted more informal afternoon and evening sessions as well as lots of fun and laughter.

A former Editor for (British) Patchwork & Quilting magazine, Judi gives talks and teaches patchwork workshops and classes around the UK and abroad and has joined Japan Journeys on several cruises and their quilt tours to

Japan.





The Olsen Art Studio where some of the quilt workshops are conducted

Your Cruise

Embark on a captivating adventure, designed to afford the possibility of sighting the Northern Lights, a cosmic phenomenon casting ethereal ribbons of colour across the night skies. After crossing the Arctic Circle, explore the enchanting ports of Narvik and Bodø, offering yet more opportunities to spot the lights. You can immerse yourself in the rich cultural tapestry of the Sámi, the indigenous people of Norway. Discover their fascinating history and nomadic lifestyle in the cosy setting of a traditional tepee-style lavvu tent. Unravel the science behind the Aurora Borealis, enhancing your experience with a deeper understanding of the celestial wonder that graces the skies.

Life North of the Arctic Circle

Throughout your Borealis cruise, you are ideally placed to witness the way of life in the Arctic. When in Narvik, you will have the unique opportunity to interact with the local Sámi community and learn about their rich culture, which is typified by their distinctive language, traditional dress, music, and folklore, as well as their livelihoods of fishing, hunting, and reindeer herding. You will also be able to enjoy spending time feeding the reindeer and hearing stories of daily life for the Sámi in the comfort of a lavvu tent; while in Alesund you can discover the distinctive Art Nouveau architecture and vibrant fishing culture of the adventure capital of the fjords.

Seeking out the Elusive Aurora Borealis

This cruise aboard Borealis has been carefully planned to give you the best chance of seeing the elusive Northern Lights. In Northern Norway, the winter months are marked by long, dark nights and brilliant auroras that dance across the sky. You will have plenty of time to search for the Northern Lights from the decks of Borealis while we sail between our exciting Arctic destinations. When in Narvik, you'll be in an ideal location to seek out the enigmatic Aurora Borealis, and on board your ship, you can enjoy the dark starry skies with minimal light pollution while you wait for the lights to appear magically overhead.

Quilters' Cruise 2026

The Itinerary

DATE	LOCATION	ARRIVE	DEPART
4 Jan	Portsmouth		Late afternoon
5 – 6 Jan	At Sea		
7 Jan	Alesund	Early morning	Late afternoon
8 Jan	At Sea		
9 Jan	Narvik	Early morning	Late Night
10 Jan	Bodo	Early morning	Late afternoon
11 Jan	At Sea		
12 Jan	Stavanger	Early morning	Late afternoon
13 Jan	At Sea		
14 Jan	Portsmouth	Early morning	



Suites & Cabins

BALCONY JUNIOR SUITE (BJ)



SUPERIOR OCEAN VIEW (B)



SUPERIOR OCEAN VIEW (C)



SUPERIOR OCEAN VIEW FULLY RESTRICTED (CO)



Suites & Cabins (cont'd)

OCEAN VIEW (D)



OCEAN VIEW (E)



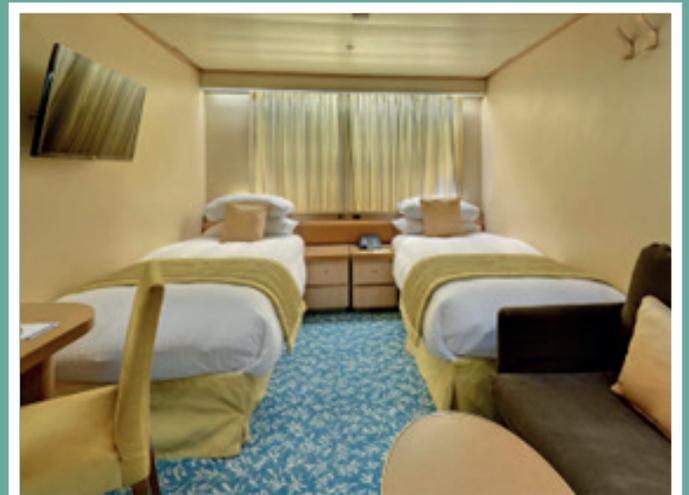
SINGLE OCEAN VIEW (K)



INTERIOR ROOM (H)



INTERIOR ROOM (I)





Your Ship - Borealis

Borealis joined the fleet 2020, and is perfectly suited for enjoying scenic cruising of the world's lesser-known waterways. From cruising past remarkable landscapes and historical sites to capturing the beauty of the natural world.

Redecorated and refurbished in order to meet the high standards of the Olsen family, Borealis features a wonderful series of lounges, bars, elegant restaurants and wide-open deck spaces, as well as 702 beautiful cabins and suites; perfectly suited to the Fred. Olsen style of cruising.

Enjoy one of the Signatures Experiences of Scenic Discoveries from the perfectly-appointed Observatory, where guests will be able to see outstanding natural scenery and iconic landmarks, accompanied by commentary from our on board teams; or sample delicious Treats of the Region in the Auditorium where our talented chefs will prepare dishes that are local to the exciting destinations you're visiting. Our friendly crew will be on hand throughout your cruise, providing the personal service they're known for.

GRADE	SUITE/CABIN (TWIN USE)	DECK	SIZE	PRICE (GBP) Shared Basis	PRICE (GBP) Sole Occupancy
BJ	BALCONY JUNIOR SUITE	6 & 7	280 -290 SQ FEET	£3,549.00	£5,899.00
B	SUPERIOR OCEAN VIEW	3	190 SQ FEET (APPROX)	£2,399.00	£3,745.00
C	SUPERIOR OCEAN VIEW	2	214 SQ FEET (APPROX)	£2,299.00	£3,899.00
CO	SUPERIOR OCEAN VIEW FULLY RESTRICTED	3	214 SQ FEET (APPROX)	£2,199.00	£2,999.00
D	OCEAN VIEW	1 & 2	214 SQ FEET (APPROX)	£2,099.00	£3,329.00
E	OCEAN VIEW	1 & 2	214 SQ FEET (APPROX)	£1,999.00	£3,279.00
H	INTERIOR ROOM	1 & 2	182 SQ FEET (APPROX)	£1,699.00	£2,749.00
I	INTERIOR ROOM	1 & 2	182 SQ FEET (APPROX)	£1,599.00	£2,699.00

Price Includes:

- 10 nights' aboard Borealis (operated by Fred Olsen) sailing from Portsmouth
- Visits to Alesund, Narvik, Bodo & Stavanger
- Fantastic on board workshops with Judi Mendelssohn
- All meals on board
- On board entertainment
- Goodie bags
- Gratuities



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