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AIRWAYS

Explanation of symbols:

-  Alcohol Store
-  Airport
-  Aquarium
-  ATM
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-  Bus
-  Camping
-  Church
-  Cinema
-  Doctor
-  Excavation
-  Filling station
-  Fitness centre
-  Ferry
-  Garage
-  Golf course
-  Grocery
-  Helicopter
-  Hiking
-  Hospital
-  Hotel/Guesthouse
-  Knitwear Factory
-  Library
-  Memorial
-  Museum and other sights
-  Parking
-  Parking, time limit
-  Pharmacy
-  Pleasure Boat Harbour
-  Police Station
-  Post Office
-  Post Office w/postmark
-  Restaurant/Café
-  Shopping Centre
-  Sports Area
-  Sport Fishing
-  Sports Hall
-  Swimming pool
-  Taxi
-  Tent
-  Tennis Court
-  Terminal (Ferry/bus)
-  Theatre
-  Toilet
- Tourist Information
- Watermill
- WiFi
- Wildlife Acc.
- Youth Hostel

What to do 6

Hot Spots on the Faroe Islands 10

Map, regions and transport 14

Facts about the Faroe Islands 16

Introduction and Themes

Faroese festival and music life18

The world's biggest playground20

Taste the Faroe Islands 22

Design and fashion 24

Challenged by the Faroe Islands 26

The world's most appealing destination 28








The language and the dance 30

History 31

The special nature 32

About the 6 Regions (see map on page 14)

Each area has a colour, used throughout the guide

-  The capital Tórshavn - and Streymoy southern part 36
-  Northern Streymoy 52
-  Eysturoy 56
-  Norðoyggjar (The northern islands) 65
-  Vágur and Mykines 72
-  Sandoy, Skúvoy and Stóra Dimun 79
-  Suðuroy and Litla Dimun 83

Yellow Info 87

Practical information 100

Hotels, guesthouses and youth hostels 104

Calendar of events 2016 106

Regional Festivals107

Distributor: VisitFaroelands, í Gongini 9, P.O. Box 118, FO-110 Tórshavn, Tel. +298 206100, www.visitfaroelands.com, info@visitfaroelands.com

Publisher: Sansir, Lucas Debesar gøta 3, FO-100 Tórshavn, Faroe Islands, Tel. +298 355 355, Fax +298 355 350, www.sansir.fo, info@sansir.fo.

Layout & print administration: Sansir.

Advertising: Sansir.

Cover photo: Tosskorarhorn near Vestmanna, Streymoy. Photo: Osvald P. Hansen

Printing: TrykTeam.

Text: Gunnar Hoydal, Dánial Hoydal, Katrina í Geil, Tatjana Johnsson and others.

Proof reading and translation: Claire Thomsen

Special thanks to: The tourist informations and VisitFaroelands.

Number printed: 22.500 DK, 17.500 UK, 15.000 DE.

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”

Impressive landscapes, unspoiled nature, inspiring climate, great hiking trails, good infrastructure, rich culture, so many good musicians and painters, nice people and few tourists.

Frédéric, 59 years, France



come see nature

UNVEILED

before your eyes

Impressive view: To the right is Skælingur mountain on Streymoy, 767m. Vágar island is in the background

WHAT TO DO

Although small and remote, the Faroe Islands are packed with unique and authentic adventures for every kind of visitor. The setting is a colourful and truly stunning place. The Faroese nature is very real, always challenging you to explore it by sea or land. Just be ready to give it an open mind and you will have the experience of a lifetime. The Information Offices around the islands are ready to help you make the most of your trip.

HIKING

In this hiking paradise, surrounded by unspoilt nature, it is completely up to you when to stop the car, get off the road and start hiking up in the mountains. Wander the ancient paths marked by cairns, visit remote lighthouses and abandoned villages, or just take the most beautiful route to the next village. You will be surrounded by hundreds of sheep and birds, giving you an unforgettable memory to take home. Hike on your own or with a professional guide who will tell you stories on your way.

BOAT TRIPS

Whether it is fishing, bird watching, sailing through narrow sounds into deep grottoes, listening to amazing concerts in the grottoes or just taking the ferry to another island, the experience of being surrounded by the open Atlantic Ocean will make you feel closer to nature. As you sail in a small wooden boat or aboard an old schooner, listen to the birds calling from their nests on the steep cliffs rising hundreds of metres above your head. The ever changing weather, shifting light and smell of the sea, will help you to understand, that here, nature is the only true ruler.

ROAD TRIPS

The infrastructure on the Faroe Islands is very good, connecting every small village either by road or by ferry. In your own car, a rented one or on your motorcycle, you can travel from one end of the islands to the other within hours. Make the most of the freedom and stop wherever you like. Take the picturesque roads with the best view and visit all the remote places. Experience the most amazing thing ever whilst driving above the fog, 'Heaven on Earth'.

FISHING AND ANGLING

Fishing is what the Faroese people do best, whether by boat or from the shore. You too can enjoy a spot of angling in the peace and quiet of the lakeside, surrounded by steep mountains. Bring your own fishing rod or hire one and you can enjoy fishing from a small pier in a beautiful lagoon or as you sway to and fro in a small boat. Watch as the fish gather around the bait and look forward to eating your catch at the end of the day.

BIRD LIFE

Depending on the location, you can observe a variety of birds including Puffins, Storm Petrels, and Gannets, Merlin, King Eider or any of the 300 different species living on or visiting the islands. Just open your eyes and ears to the various birdsongs as you walk between the colourful houses, in the small woods, up the mountains, on the sea shore or as you sit in the midst of the enormous bird colonies. Perhaps you will see and hear a bird you haven't met before, one that has adapted to the special climate and nature and is now a Faroese species in its own right.

ADVENTURE

The more adventurous experiences span from rappelling down the cliffs into the sea and swimming ashore, kayaking around the islands, to diving in the clear waters and exploring the underwater world with a local guide. Diving is an all year experience on the Faroe Islands, while riding the waves is more a winter sport, gathering surfers

” An exciting, but at the same time peaceful and unexploited destination. An opportunity to explore somewhere different and beautiful.

James, 56 years, Great Britain

stories UNTOLD

big fish, big landscape, big tales

Fly-fishing in the lagoon at the foot of Saksun village. North Streymoy

WHAT TO DO

WHAT TO DO

from all over the world to this extreme sport in extreme weather. Perhaps your idea of adventure is horseback riding over the mountains, close to the birds, sheep and wildlife, at one with nature.

CULTURE

The people of the Faroe Islands are proud of their culture, language, knitting industry, boats, stone houses with grass roofs and their national costume, which is often seen at weddings or on special occasions. Dotted around the islands are museums telling stories from ancient times about how the Faroese people made their living, about their lifestyle and handicrafts. There are also many old and new churches, art museums, culture centres and other museums, all with their own stories to tell about the inhabitants of the islands and all just waiting for you to come and visit.

FESTIVAL

Faroese contemporary music is surprisingly good bearing in mind the sparse population. Spanning opera and the chain songs “kvæði”, over poetic Eivør to the ballads of Teitur and Viking metal band Týr, there is something for everyone’s taste. Although the music calendar is packed year round, the biggest music events are the festivals of Summer, Summartónar and GI, where thousands of people gather together to enjoy local and international bands in amazing scenery. For more information look at the article about the festivals on page 18.

CITY LIFE

Strolling around the streets of Tórshavn, you will experience the air of a capital rather than that of a small sized European town. With its designer shops, jewellers, wellness and beauty salons, even an intercoiffure salon, the city is more than meets the eye. Enjoy the cultural events in cosy cafés by

the harbour, concerts on the pedestrian street and in the old church, the energetic paintings at the Art Museum and the beautiful Nordic House, packed with Scandinavian culture and esprit.

GOURMET

With exquisite commodities recognized by the elite of gourmet chefs of the world, there is every reason to taste the local food, regardless of being traditionally prepared by a housewife at home or at a gourmet restaurant. If the aim is for a more international cuisine, especially Tórshavn boasts an impressive range of restaurants for its size, the range going from fastfood like burgers, bagels and fish & chips to Mediterranean and Chinese kitchen.

MORE INFO

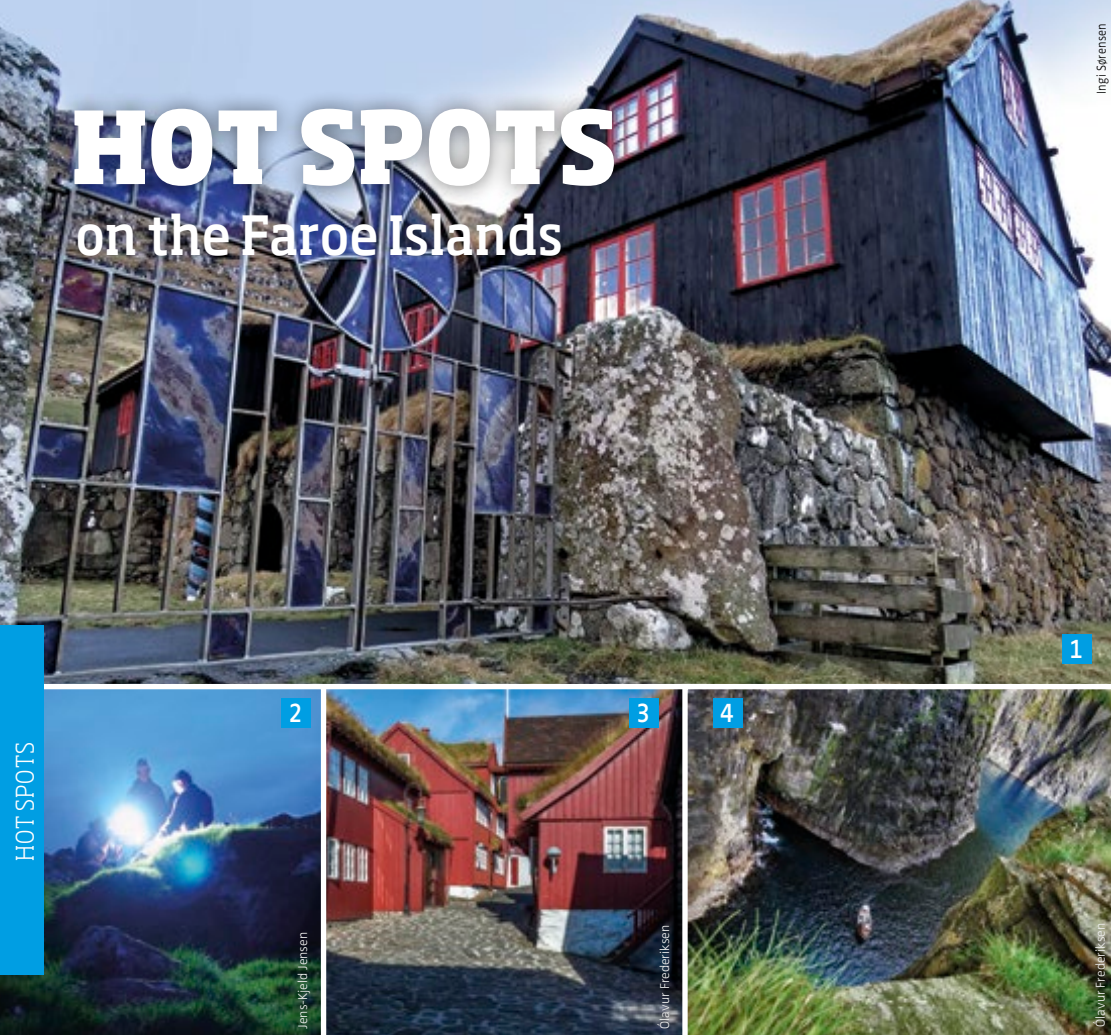
See the various excursions available under each of the six areas on these pages:

- Streymoy side 55
- Eysturoy side 64
- Norðoyggjar side 71
- Vágar og Mykines side 78
- Sandoy side 82
- Suðuroy side 86

See page 99 in the yellow info for tour operators and further information on the nearest tourist information.

HOT SPOTS

on the Faroe Islands



Ingj Sørensen

5

6



Olavur Frederiksen

7



Kasper Søberg

8



Sansir

9



Olavur Frederiksen

10



Olavur Frederiksen

HOT SPOTS

1 Historic Kirkjubøur Kirkjubøur is one of the Faroe Islands most important historic places with a church from the Middle Ages still in use, one of the world's oldest inhabited log houses and the ruins of the St. Magnus Cathedral dating from the 13th century. See more about the area on page 46.

2 World's largest colony of storm petrels The colony can be found on the island of Nólsoy. Nighttime excursions are arranged during the summer to see and hear this special bird. See more about the area on page 48.

3 Tórshavn old town Tinganes is one of the world's oldest courts dating from approximately 825. Travel back in time as you stroll around Tinganes and Tórshavn's oldest part called Reyn, with its narrow lanes and small houses with

grass roofs. See more about the area on page 36.

4 Fantastic Vestmanna bird cliffs Sail into deep grottoes through narrow straits, close to the almost 700 metre high sheer cliffs, where thousands of sea birds such as puffins, guillemots and fulmars breed every summer. See more about the area on page 52.

5 Picturesque Saksun Saksun is surrounded by high mountains and in the fjord at the foot of the village, lies a lagoon. A walk from the village out to the sea is strikingly beautiful, but beware high and low tide times. See more about the area on page 52.

6 Visit fantastic Gjógv The idyllic village of Gjógv is known for its magnificent scenery and special natural

harbour. The surrounding landscape offers many memorable walking trips. See more about the area on page 56.

7 Magnificent view from the Faroes highest mountain From the top of Slætтарatindur, 880m, you will have a view of all the islands. On 21 June, the longest day of the year, it is a tradition to climb Slætтарatindur and watch the sun set and rise again. See more about the area on page 56.

8 Architecture old Nordic style Visit Christian's church in Klaksvík, one of the first major churches in Scandinavia to be inspired by the old Nordic style. See more about the area on page 65.

9 Statue of the Seal Woman Visit Mikladalur village, well-known for its artists and sagas. Down by the sea, you will find the 3m tall statue of the Seal Woman. She defies the wind and rain to catch a last glimpse of her children who she was forced to leave behind when she returned to the sea where she belonged. A sad tale but a fantastic sight. See page 66.

10 Enniberg - one of the world's tallest headlands North of Viðareiði, the Faroe Islands most northern village and one of the islands most attractive, is the bird cliff Enniberg, rising like a 750m wall up from the ocean. In the summer it is possible to sail out to Enniberg and experience the fantastic scenery and abundant bird life. See more on page 65.



11

Ólavur Frederiksen



15

Ólavur Frederiksen



12

Ólavur Frederiksen



13

Ólavur Frederiksen



16

Ólavur Frederiksen



14

Jan Jónsen

11 Mykines bird paradise Thousands of migratory birds breed on Mykines every summer. Puffin, guillemot, cormorant, razorbill and gannet - king of Faroese birds - and only found on Mykines. See more about the area on page 74.

12 Faroes largest lake Take an unforgettable hike out to the end of the Sørvágsvatn/Leitisvatn lake, where the Bøsdalafossur waterfall cascades 35m directly down into the open Atlantic Ocean. See more about the area on page 72.

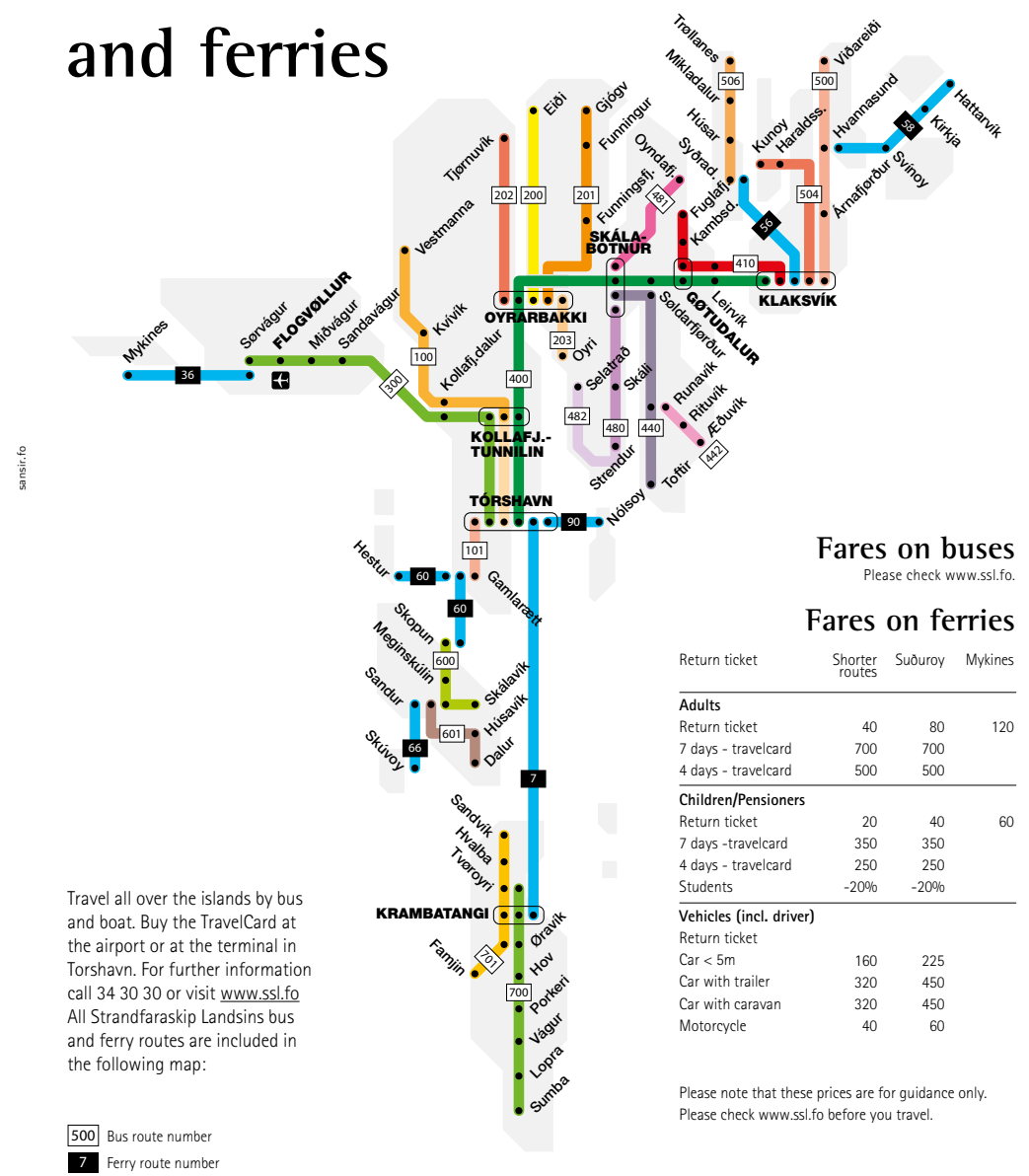
13 Rapelling from 300m If you dare, there is an opportunity to rapelle 300m from Lonin on Sandoy's western side. See more about the area on page 79.

14 Get up close to the bird cliffs in Søltuvík Søltuvík lies to the west of Sandur village. It is a very beautiful, unspoilt place and one of the few places on the Faroes where you can get up close to the bird cliffs. See more about the area on page 79.

15 Scenic hiking Hvannhagi is a beautiful and unspoilt natural area on Suðuroy. Hiking here will give you the opportunity to experience the east side of Suðuroy with magnificent views of the two small islands of Líttla Dímun and Stóra Dímun. See more about the area on page 83.

16 Magical Beinisdvørð As you walk, enjoy the panoramic view, see the birds glide and land on the mountain sides, watch as the fog sweeps in from the ocean, see the sun go down and look at the surf 300m below. See more about the area on page 83.

Domestic buses and ferries



sansir.fo

Fares on buses

Please check www.ssl.fo.

Fares on ferries

Return ticket	Shorter routes	Suðuroy	Mykines
Adults			
Return ticket	40	80	120
7 days - travelcard	700	700	
4 days - travelcard	500	500	
Children/Pensioners			
Return ticket	20	40	60
7 days - travelcard	350	350	
4 days - travelcard	250	250	
Students	-20%	-20%	
Vehicles (incl. driver)			
Return ticket			
Car < 5m	160	225	
Car with trailer	320	450	
Car with caravan	320	450	
Motorcycle	40	60	

Travel all over the islands by bus and boat. Buy the TravelCard at the airport or at the terminal in Tórshavn. For further information call 34 30 30 or visit www.ssl.fo
All Strandfaraskip Landsins bus and ferry routes are included in the following map:

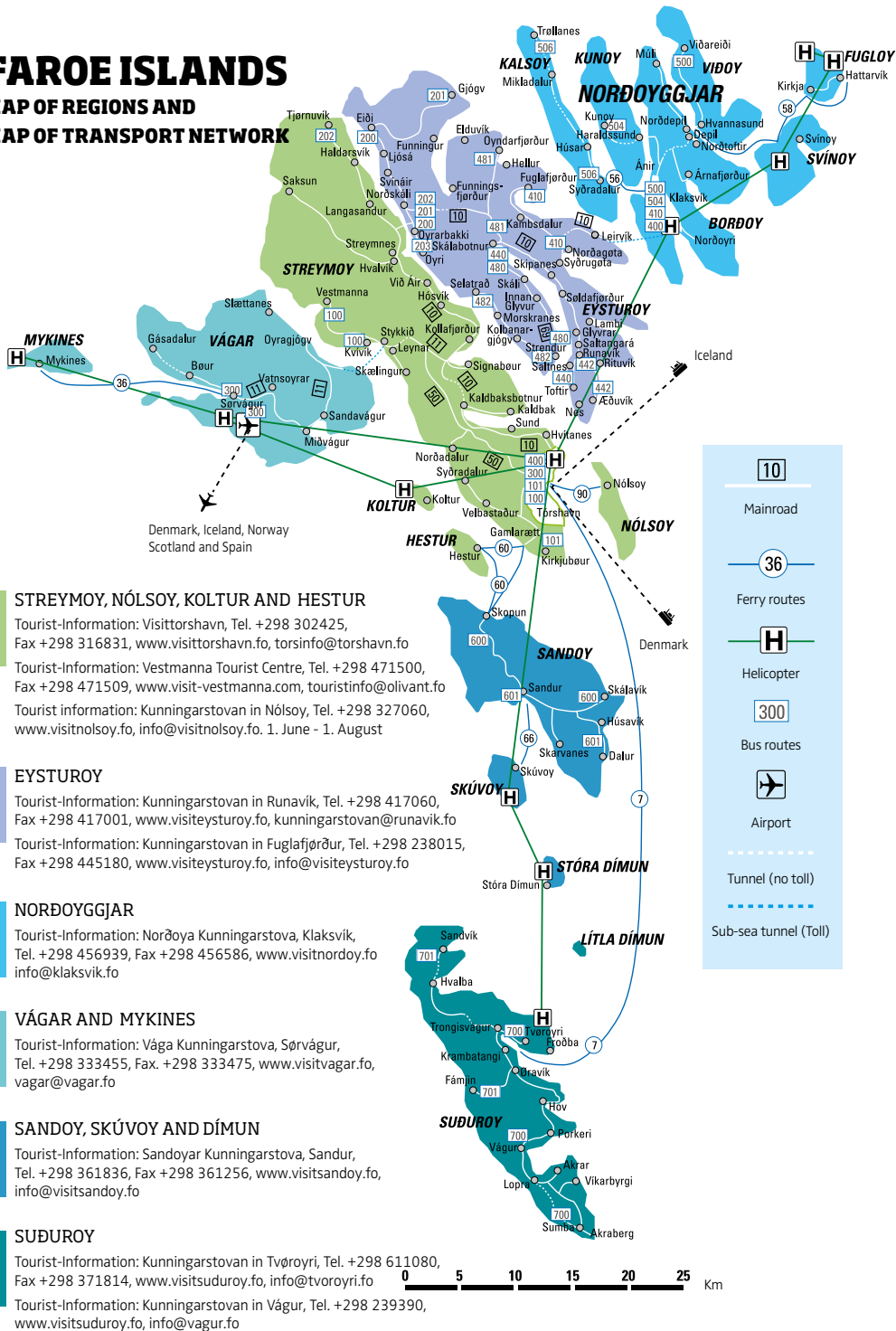
500 Bus route number
7 Ferry route number

Please note that these prices are for guidance only. Please check www.ssl.fo before you travel.



FAROE ISLANDS

MAP OF REGIONS AND MAP OF TRANSPORT NETWORK



STREYMOY, NÓLSOY, KOLTUR AND HESTUR

Tourist-Information: Visittorshavn, Tel. +298 302425, Fax +298 316831, www.visittorshavn.fo, torsinfo@torshavn.fo
 Tourist-Information: Vestmanna Tourist Centre, Tel. +298 471500, Fax +298 471509, www.visit-vestmanna.com, touristinfo@olivant.fo
 Tourist information: Kunningarstovan in Nólsoy, Tel. +298 327060, www.visitnolsoy.fo, info@visitnolsoy.fo. 1. June - 1. August

EYSTUROY

Tourist-Information: Kunningarstovan in Runavík, Tel. +298 417060, Fax +298 417001, www.visiteysturoy.fo, kunningarstovan@runavik.fo
 Tourist-Information: Kunningarstovan in Fuglafjørður, Tel. +298 238015, Fax +298 445180, www.visiteysturoy.fo, info@visiteysturoy.fo

NORÐOYGGJAR

Tourist-Information: Norðoya Kunningarstova, Klaksvík, Tel. +298 456939, Fax +298 456586, www.visitnordoy.fo, info@klaksvik.fo

VÁGAR AND MYKINES

Tourist-Information: Vága Kunningarstova, Sörvágur, Tel. +298 333455, Fax. +298 333475, www.visitvagar.fo, vagar@vagar.fo

SANDOY, SKÚVOY AND DÍMUN

Tourist-Information: Sandoyar Kunningarstova, Sandur, Tel. +298 361836, Fax +298 361256, www.visitsandoy.fo, info@visitsandoy.fo

SUÐUROY

Tourist-Information: Kunningarstovan in Tvøroyri, Tel. +298 611080, Fax +298 371814, www.visitsuduroy.fo, info@tvoroyri.fo
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FACTS ABOUT THE FAROE ISLANDS

Location and size

Situated in the heart of the Gulf Stream in the North Atlantic at 62°00'N, the Faroe Islands lie northwest of Scotland and halfway between Iceland and Norway. The archipelago is composed of 18 islands covering 1399 km² (545.3 sq.miles) and is 113 km (70 miles) long and 75 km (47 miles) wide, roughly in the shape of an arrowhead. There are 1100 km (687 miles) of coastline and at no time is one more than 5 km (3 miles) away from the ocean. The highest mountain is 882 m (2883 ft) above sea level and the average height above sea level for the country is 300 m (982 ft).

Climate

The weather is maritime and quite changeable, from moments of brilliant sunshine to misty hill fog, to showers. The Gulf Stream encircling the islands tempers the climate. The harbours never freeze and the temperature in winter time is very moderate considering the high latitude. Snowfall occurs, but is shortlived. The average temperature ranges from 3,5°C in winter to 12°C in the summer. In sheltered areas, the temperature can be much higher, but the air is always fresh and clean no matter what the season.

Population

The population is 48.693 (1st February 2015). More than 20.000 people live in the metropolitan area which comprises Tórshavn, Kirkjubøur, Velbastaður, Nólsoy, Hestur, Koltur, Hoyvík, Argir, Kaldbak, Kaldbaksbotnur, Norðradalur, Syðradalur, Hvítanes, Sund, Kollafjørður, Signabøur and Oyrareingir, while about 4,600 people live in Klaksvík, the second largest town in the Faroe Islands.

Form of Government

Since 1948, the Faroe Islands have been a self governing region of the Kingdom of Denmark. It has its own parliament and its own flag. It is not, however, a member of the European Union and all trade is governed by special treaties.

Languages Spoken

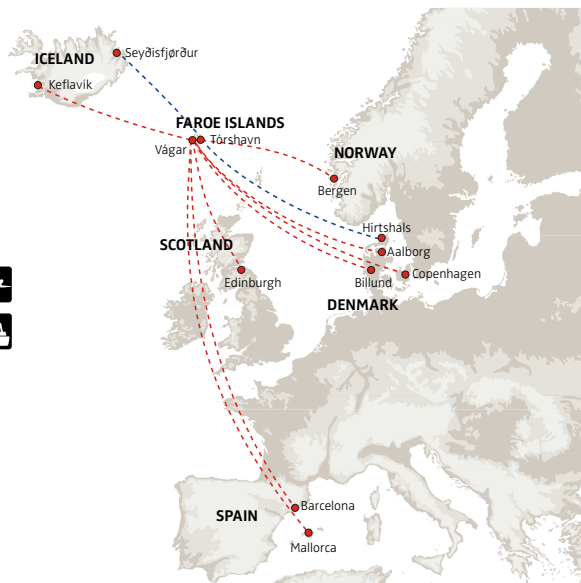
Faroese is the national language and is rooted in Old Norse. Nordic languages are readily understood by most Faroese, and English is also widely spoken, especially among the younger people.

Religion

Religion plays an important part in Faroese culture and over 80% of the population belong to the established church, the Evangelical-Lutheran. 10% of the population belong to the Christian Brethren (Plymouth Brethren).

Industry

The fishing industry is the most important source of income for the Faroes. Fish products account for over 97% of the export volume. Tourism is the second largest industry, followed by woollen and other manufactured products.



See the timetables for airlines and ferries on:
www.atlantic.fo og
www.smyril-line.fo

INFORMATION CENTRES

Visit us for information, accommodation, cultural education, travel organisation - or just ask about the weather, we know just about everything



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Vága Floghavn, vagar@vagar.fo

Tel +298 33 34 55

VisitSandoy

www.visitsandoy.fo

Sandur, info@visitsandoy.fo

Tel +298 36 18 36

VisitSuduroy

www.visitsuduroy.fo

Tvøroyri, info@tvoroyri.fo

Tel +298 61 10 80

Vágur, info@vagur.fo

Tel +298 23 93 90



” The Faroe Islands gives me the opportunity to be close to nature and build relationships with people from a different cultural background. I enjoyed finding and experiencing the differences and sharing the similarities. My only disappointment was when the time came to leave it all behind.

Hannah, 56 years, England



Fantastic atmosphere at the G! Festival on the beach in Syðrugøta, Eysturoy

FAROESE FESTIVAL AND MUSIC LIFE

Considering the size of the population, the Faroese music life is of a surprisingly high quality with numerous festivals and events throughout the year.

Spiced with well-known Nordic and international artists, the fundamental Faroese music scene spans folk music, through pop to doom metal. You may be lucky enough to hear up and coming artists such as Greta Svabo Bech, Byrta and Hamferð or internationally established artists such as Eivør, Teitur and Týr. Otherwise follow them all through their tour calendars around Europe.

G! Festival 🎵 Mid July, the international orientated and progressive G! Festival takes over the small village of Syðrugøta and transforms it to one enormous experience. The setting is a wonderful combination of magnificent nature and Faroese hospitality, with five concert stages dotted in between the colourful houses. The main stage is situated down on the beach next to the Finnish sauna and the hot pools, where you can admire the view of the tall green mountains as you warm through after a dip in the cold open sea. With names such as Natasha Bedingfield, The Guillemots, the American Young Dubliners and the Dixie Hummingbirds heading up the programme, established and up and coming Faroese bands get a chance to meet the world's press. Changes in weather from brilliant sunshine and Copacabana mood to extreme downpours of rain, are all part of the scene beyond human control. Programme changes are more the rule than the

exception, but are always taken in good humour as part of the experience. It is not just the music that draws the crowds. The atmosphere is unique, people are happy, relaxed and open to whatever the music and weather has to offer, regardless of whether they are living in a tent, on a boat or sleeping in a small outhouse. This is a surreal mix of an international music festival and good old-fashioned Faroese village life.

Summer Festival 🎵 With several thousand guests expected over a single weekend in August, the Summer Festival has grown to be the island's largest music and family festival. This is a people's party with activities for children, funfair and clowns. Spread over three concert platforms in the centre of Klaksvík, the second largest town, international and Faroese artists deliver mainstream pop music that everyone knows and can sing along with. Without being small-minded about the type of music on offer and with many established names such as Mika, The Scorpions, Ronan Keating and D-A-D pulling in the crowds; several generations are drawn to Klaksvík where they overnight with family, friends, in caravans, tents or even boats. Anything goes in order to feel the companionship, closeness and the opportunity to experience some of the best-known international artists on the local stage.

Summartónar 🎵 The Summartónar festival is organised by Faroese composers and functions as a platform for new contemporary and classical works. There are daily concerts throughout the summer months by Faroese and international musicians. Many of the compositions will be performed for the first time out in the small villages and islands, churches, forge or an abandoned school where it is often quite cramped. The music, combined with an intimate atmosphere and stunning scenery, is often what is best remembered from the holiday. Once a week there is a concert in the large Klæmingsgjógv grotto on Hest Island. In order to reach it you will have to sail from Tórshavn in an old wooden boat that anchors at the mouth of the grotto. Wearing your life vest, you will transfer to a rubber boat and sail into the enormous cliff caverns, where the music rings out as the musicians who are almost invisible in the dark perform it.

Voxbotn 🎵 Voxbotn is 12 hours non-stop entertainment with pop music to suit everyone between the ages of 15 and 60 years. It is held in Tórshavn at Vágsbotn, the capital's best location. With the concert stage situated downtown between the beautiful old warehouses, cosy cafés and restaurants, it is a foregone conclusion that the 3-4000 people gathered to listen to the popular local and international musicians such as Iron Maiden and Killer Queen, will experience an intense festival atmosphere in the long light summer night. For the Faroese, it is a prelude to the national day celebrations with sun, newly graduated students, children's playground and plenty of room for all the family. After

the concert that carries on late into the night, people party on in the streets until the early morning.

Country-festival 🎵 Country & blues music is enormously popular on the Faroe Islands and it has its own festival in the little village of Sørvágur. In true country style, food is grilled over the open fire as people line-dance in between the bales of hay in their finest cowboy clothes and hats. With a close connection to Nashville, where many of the Faroese country and blues bands have recorded their music, there is a regular opportunity to hear well-known international country musicians at the festival.

Winterjazz 🎵 As in Oslo, Reykjavik, Helsinki, Stockholm and Copenhagen, the Faroe Islands also have their own Winterjazz. At the end of January, the islands large jazz population hold a series of concerts around the country. The common thread to these concerts is improvisational jazz music but blues and folk are also performed. Folk dancing holds its own festival called Springfolk in March and Blues music is concentrated into a week in April.

Living room concerts 🎵 Hoyma and Fljóð are concerts held in people's homes. These give an opportunity to curl up on the sofa in between the family photos and landscape paintings whilst listening to a live performance.

See pages 106-107 for dates and more info.



” It was fantastic weather, but there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing! There was an amazing calm, as if time stood still, but in a good way. The children played down by the stream and there were no worries. Lovely.

Liselotte, 27 years, Denmark

Olavur Frederiksen

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Wildlife and diving

With a good book about Faroese wildlife in hand, it is

both fun and educational encountering the rocky islands inhabitants; where birds such as the puffin, razorbill, cormorant, black guillemot and large gannet are distinctive to this part of the world. The tiny Faroese mouse, like the hare, sheep and Faroese horse, are unique having adapted to the climate over a long period of time. If you are a fan of the water, put on your wetsuit and plunge into the blue ocean where snorkelling and diving reveal a unique, exotic and unspoilt world under the sea.

Catch and eat!

Find your inner hunter instinct and experience the thrill of the catch from start to finish. From the harbour's edge or boat, the silvery saithe can be hauled up out of their element, wriggling as they land on the deck. The excitement and joy of fishing in the Atlantic Ocean is surpassed only by the taste of freshly caught fish.

Festivals

This immense playground also offers music festivals both big and small, attracting famous Faroese and foreign artists. In many places whole villages are involved for days on end. Besides the alternative G! Festival in Gøta and the family friendly Summer festival in Klaksvík, you can experience the international orientated Faroese music scene in Voxbotn in Tórshavn, the Wacken Heavy Metal Battle and the talent competition, Sement. See more on page 18.


Do a somersault

Most large villages have a football pitch that is free to use. Many are covered with artificial grass and suitable for various ball games, jogging, 'catch', sack races, gymnastics or just remembering how it feels to do a somersault in the open air! There are kindergartens with purpose-built playgrounds that can be used after normal closing hours and in the capital; you will find a free outdoor fitness area and a swimming pool with family-friendly prices. There is also a waterpark in Klaksvík.

Calm rainy days

On a beautiful rainy day, you can enjoy sitting in the exquisite Nordic House, visit one of the many museums or put on your 3D glasses and see a good film in Tórshavn's old cinema. Follow it with fish and chips from the stall next to the town hall.




For addresses and opening times etc. see the Yellow Info, page 87-99


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” Many amazingly beautiful scenic experiences, lots of cultural experiences, not least Steinprent. Fantastic food adventures such as, Etika and Aarstova. Numerous experiences of a cosy atmosphere, not least Kaffihúsið, and we had wonderful weather.

Bjørn, 57 years, Norway



In 2013, Hotel Føroyar was chosen by The Danish Food Guide to receive the 'Arets Bo & Spis' award and the restaurant KOKS in Hotel Føroyar was amongst the nominations for best restaurant in the Danish kingdom.

Clas Bech-Poulsen

TASTE THE FAROE ISLANDS

Here on the Faroes you can experience the pleasing taste of some of the world's finest raw produce.

Here on the Faroes you can experience the pleasing taste of some of the world's finest raw produce. However, the quantity of produce available is limited and its high quality can be attributed in part to the slow growing conditions created by the cold climate, where the vegetation is able to draw all the nutrients from the earth on the steep mountain slopes before being eaten by the sheep. This gives a particularly delicious organic meat, some of which is dried to become 'skerpikjøt, a Faroese delicacy perhaps best enjoyed by the islanders themselves. The high quality can also be attributed to the Faroese species, for example Cod, mistaken for shellfish by a Spanish chef due to its succulent taste. Also angler and

cultivated salmon are luxury items exported all over the world. The shellfish and Norway lobster are amongst the best in the world and much sought after by the Michelin starred elite.

Preserving Faroese food through the ages

Oblivious to the high quality of its produce, the traditional Faroese cuisine has wind dried, salted and hung its meat, fish and birds, eating them with boiled potatoes and turnips. To avoid deficiency diseases, the diet was supplemented with wild herbs and grasses. The most luscious and diverse vegetation grows in rock crevices, ditches and between houses. Here you can find Angelica, rich in

vitamin C and effective against scurvy, the Common Nettle with its high iron and mineral content and Scurvy grass, whose sour leaves can compensate for the lack of fresh vegetables. Potatoes and turnips, juicy as pears, are grown in the meadows.

New Nordic food

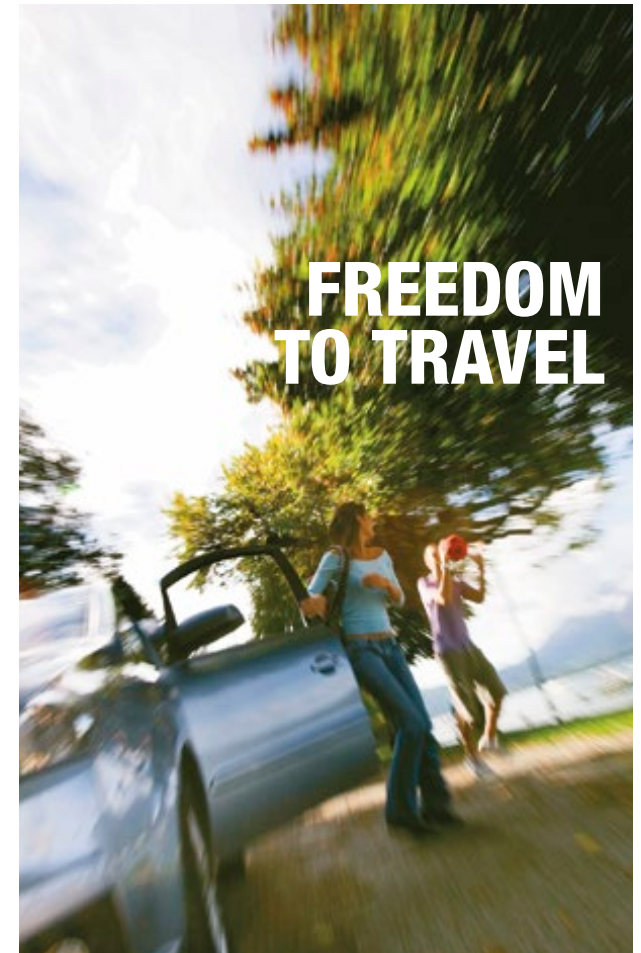
The Faroese restaurants are active participants in the successful initiative called New Nordic Food and are acutely aware of the high quality Faroese produce and the expectations in its preparation. Here, in the world's smallest capital, you will find world class Sushi, famous far beyond the Nordic borders. There is rustic food interpreted and prepared à la 21st century, alongside avant-garde gourmet cuisine of an international standard that delights the eye and palate. Unusual combinations conjured up to seduce the discerning senses with a symphony of tastes, sounds, smells and colours; all of course, inspired by the nature, country and tradition.

Faroese beer is world class

– cheers!

The large selection of quality Faroese beers has also caught the attention of the outside world. The 125 year old prize winning Føroya Bjør, one of Scandinavia's oldest breweries, together with Okkara, are just two breweries at the forefront of developing a small niche market of beers containing rhubarb, angelica and other herbs. The high quality and modern twist of these beers is celebrated by top chefs, beer enthusiasts and collectors the world over.

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” Browsing in shops with exciting knitwear, jewellery and other handicrafts, is always a pleasure. Taking part in the Faroese events with singing and dancing, just lifts the whole mood.

Lene, 37 years, Denmark

INTRODUCTION AND THEMES



Guðrun&Guðrun sell their designs worldwide

DESIGN AND FASHION

Faroese design has from the earliest of times, been based upon the functional and practical everyday.

Wool has always been the main material, taken from over 75.000 sheep that freely graze on the mountains. Its insulating and water-repellent characteristics have been vital qualities in the clothes worn by these outdoor working and seafaring people.

The unique Faroese wool

Depending on the type of garment being made, there were various different techniques used in the spinning, weaving and knitting processes. Wool taken from the belly of sheep that had been grazing high up on the mountains was hand spun and made into underwear that would keep the Faroese men warm whilst fishing in the icy weather of Iceland and East Greenland. Woollen socks containing lanolin kept the shepherds warm

and dry on long rainy days in the mountains and the prickly wool from the backs of the sheep would gently massage frozen limbs, stimulating the circulation after long days at sea in rowing boats.

The Danish army in Faroese sweaters

The 'King's farms' with large numbers of sheep, exported many of the beautifully patterned Faroese sweaters to Denmark. Transportation was via 'The Icelandic Company', which has misleadingly given the sweaters the name 'Icelandic'. The pretty patterns, with names such as Wave, Seven star and Sheep path, were not only for decoration but actually made the sweaters more durable and better able to insulate. They were so popular, that an agreement was made in



the 1900's that all soldiers in the Danish army should have a Faroese sweater as part of their uniform.

Faroese high street design

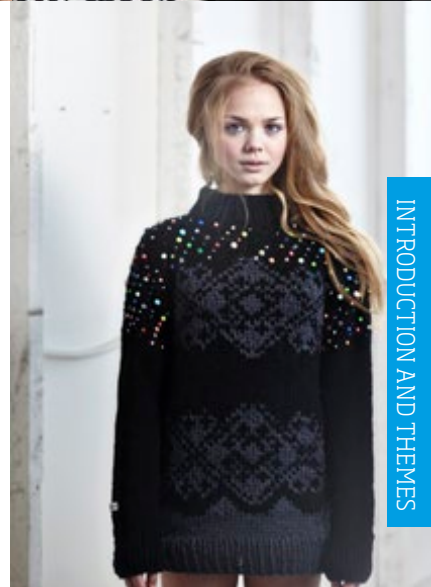
Even though the Faroe Islands, like most other modern societies, has been influenced by the opportunities of globalisation, the competent and internationally successful Faroese designers are very conscious of their roots. They travel to Denmark, England, Italy and Japan for educational purposes and inspiration. They experiment with traditional patterns and materials whilst developing their own style based on the Faroese nature. All this and more, interpreted into a wonderfully useful garment to enjoy everyday, just as they do in the fashionable high-street shops of New York, Paris and Tokyo. Places where people have also discovered the unique Faroese style and where they tell each other stories about the tiny country in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, where famous designers make genuine hand-knitted sweaters, avant-garde dresses and colourful jumpers, all with a little flavour of the Faroes.

Top left picture: Sirri has specialised in producing Faroese woollen clothes, designed by Faroese and international designers. Sirri yarn made from 100% Faroese wool is very popular.

Top middle picture: Soul Made combine traditional Faroese handknits with feminine, modern and classic design.

Top right picture: Geometric lines and oval silhouettes are characteristic of the Faroese designer Barbara í Gongini's MAN and WOMAN collections, that are sold in Copenhagen, Milan and Paris.

STEINUM's designs are characteristic for their strong colours and eye-catching patterns. The designs are humorous and flavoured with the naivety of a child.



INTRODUCTION AND THEMES

ÖSTRÖM

FAROESE DESIGN STORE AND CAFÉ

ÖSTRÖM IS HOUSED IN ONE OF THE OLDEST INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS IN THE FAROE ISLANDS OVERLOOKING THE SCENIC MARINA IN TÖRSHAVN



OSTROM.FO

” Rode on an Icelandic horse over the Faroese mountains. Flew with the helicopter and saw the Faroes from above. Fishing trips on the fjords. Ate in amazing restaurants.

Marie, 29 år, Denmark

CHALLENGED BY THE FAROE ISLANDS

Generations of experience and training combined with modern professional equipment, has today made it possible for the uninitiated to experience first hand the unspoilt Faroese nature.

Repelling

With safety a top priority, highly trained instructors offer you the opportunity to step off the cliff edge and abseil down the precipice, passing the basalt formations, hovering between heaven and sea. You will have the chance to see the chicks in their nests, whilst the adult birds glide on the airstreams out to sea in search of food.

Diving

Below the surface of the sea is a contrasting world of spectacular rock formations, rapidly changing landscapes, a vast array of fauna, and sensational changes of light and exotic colours. Guided by expert local instructors through the current filled waters, you will quickly reach the deep water with its cloisters, deep canyons, underwater grottoes with

sandy bottoms or forests of seaweed that sway in the strong current. The cold water gives a high level of visibility and the relatively large fauna caused by the high level of salt in the water, gives the diver a unique opportunity to swim through shoals of young coalfish, stroke an aggressive catfish or watch the octopus crawl across the sandy seabed, climbing over the large edible crab whilst the colourful sea anemone unfolds its tentacles.

Boat trips

Seen from the sea, the Faroe Islands are truly magnificent, be it in a kayak, speedboat, fishing boat or on one of the old wooden sloops; and what could be more natural than to complement the captivating views, by fishing for your own supper in one of the world's cleanest oceans. With local fishermen on

hand, you can enjoy a memorable experience on-board an ultramodern fishing boat, rocking on the waves with cod, haddock or halibut on the hook and the bracing Atlantic Ocean air rushing through your lungs.

Angling

Alone, surrounded by the beautiful nature on a quiet misty morning, concentrating only on the movement of the fishing rod, eager to catch a sea trout or a salmon; this is the life for a freshwater fisherman. As with deep-sea angling, you may use your own equipment as you make yourself at home in a private paradise amongst the islands many lakes and streams.

Riding

What about a spot of adventure riding over the mountains on horseback, swaying to and fro over the stony wilderness and gurgling streams, close to the birds and sheep and at one with nature?

Bicycles and MC

If four legs are not to your liking, then you can travel around the Faroe Islands well- developed infrastructure using a bicycle. The steep hills are a

View across to Tindhólmur from Gásadalur on the island of Vágur

challenge for even the most enthusiastic of cyclists but the views are fantastic. Alternatively, attach a motor and you will be able to explore the most remote corners in true biker fashion.

Hiking

Nothing beats the peace and quiet of moving at your own speed along the old paths between villages with the cairns to guide you. Enjoy the sounds and smells; sense the wind against your skin as the fog slowly creeps along the water's edge below. Far in the distance a lamb calls for its mother, a bird shoots from its nest - otherwise it is calm and beautiful. Everywhere the eye can see is breathtakingly beautiful. This is the Faroe Islands.

See the various excursions available under each of the six areas on these pages: Streymoy page 55, Eysturoy page 64, Norðoyggjar page 71, Vágur and Mykines page 78, Sandoy page 82, Suðuroy page 86.

See also page 91 in the Yellow Info for excursions and for further information contact the nearest tourist information.



Village of Tjørnuvík on the island of Streymoy

THE WORLD'S MOST APPEALING DESTINATION

The islands received top marks for its preservation of nature, historic architecture and national pride.

National Geographic (Traveler and Center for Sustainable Destinations), conducted a comprehensive survey of 111 island communities throughout the world. A panel of 522 well-travelled experts in sustainable tourism assessed the islands, rating them on a list of the most unspoiled.

Faroe Islands on top as the most appealing destination in the world

Rated ahead of the Azores, Lofoten and exotic islands such as Bermuda and Hawaii, the Faroe Islands received these remarks from the panel: "Lovely unspoiled islands - a delight to the traveller." The islands earned high marks for preservation of nature, historic architecture and local pride. National Geographic Traveler chose in particular, small and medium-sized islands or island groups, but made a few exceptions with large uniform countries such as Iceland and Tasmania. The magazine asked the experts to evaluate the islands that they knew, using six different criteria: environmental and ecological quality, social and cultural integrity, condition of historic buildings and their archaeological interest, aesthetic appeal,

responsible management of tourism and outlook for the future.

Expert's review

Here is a summary of the expert's review: "Superb glaciated landscape with incredibly steep slopes. Only a small amount of flat land. A unified local community, resolutely Faroese not Danish, with its own language. It has a unique architectural heritage, right down to the grass roofs, quite rightly preserved and cherished." They went on to explain that, quite naturally, tourists were expected to do as the Faroese such as travelling on the rolling ferries and hiking through all sorts of weather.

Welcome to the world's most unspoilt islands!

However, National Geographic Traveler warned its readers that it was necessary to 'tread carefully' in order not to destroy the very places that we love the most, especially islands of such a modest size. Nevertheless, as the expert panel concluded, where there is a strong sense of identity and cultural heritage, there is a solid foundation for sensible development.



Felix van der Grint

ver

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Faroese chain dancing



The old fort Skansin in Tórshavn

THE LANGUAGE AND THE DANCE

The Faroese language has its roots in Old Norse from the Viking age.

The Vikings, who came mainly from Norway, sailed westwards looking for new land and reached the coasts of Scotland, Shetland, Orkney, the Hebrides, the Faroes and Iceland. In due course, the various countries developed their own culture and Old Norse split into different dialects, dying out completely in some places.

Survival of the language

The Faroese language was for a long time threatened with extinction. After the reformation, Danish became the language of the church, also the written language and was eventually used in all official matters. When the first research into the Faroese language was started at the end of the 18th century, its aim was to collect and document the remains of the old language. But research revealed an overwhelming and living collection of old words and sayings, established turns of speech, legends and ballads. The ancient and heroic ballads alone numbered 70,000 verses, all of which had been handed down orally from generation to generation.

Importance of the Chain dance

How could this be, in a population that for hundreds of years had numbered between 4,000 and 5,000 people? An important part of the answer lies in the renowned Faroese dance, for which it is necessary to learn and remember a long story. This dance is a direct

continuation of the medieval ring dance that began in France and spread throughout Europe. The ring dance went out of fashion or was forbidden by the authorities, but lived on in the Faroes.

Cultural pride

The special features of the Faroese dance are the song and story. There is no instrumental accompaniment, only the voices and feet are heard. While a single or a few singers lead the song, the others take part with their dance steps and by singing the refrain after each verse. There is a live bond between the story of the ballad and the mood of the dance. The dance steps are always the same, if the story is a sad one, the steps are soft; if dramatic, the feet tramp hard. If it is a ballad that makes fun of something, the rhythm is springing and light. It is a dance where many take part, faces pass by one another; the dancers face inwards and it can be difficult to appreciate from the outside. You have to participate and when it is at its best, the chain fuses together and you feel a part of something vast. The collection and documentation of the enormous amount of oral material formed the foundation for the preservation of the language. The establishment of the written language in the middle of the 19th century created the basis for the renewal that has taken place. While other languages disappear, the Faroese language is developing and is today the pride of Faroese culture.

HISTORY

For millions of years the Faroe Islands stood alone and uninhabited in the heart of the North Atlantic.

The first settlers may have been Irish monks seeking a tranquil refuge, probably in the middle of the seventh century. What is better known and well documented, is the Norwegian colonization, beginning about a hundred years later and developing throughout the Viking Age, making the Faroes a central part of the Viking territories. The Viking settlers established their own parliament with local courts in different areas of the islands and the main court on Tinganes in Tórshavn.

Christianity comes to the Faroe Islands

Around the year 1000, Christianity came to the Faroe Islands and shortly after this the islands came under the control of the Norwegian kings. One of these was the famous King Sverre who grew up at the Faroese bishop's seat at Kirkjubøur.

Later the Norwegian crown came under the Danish monarchy, and with the Reformation, the independent Faroese bishopric was abolished and its properties taken over by the Crown. With the Reformation, the Danish king increased his control of the trade and established a trade monopoly, operated by different merchants and companies. However, in 1709 the king took control by establishing the Royal Trade Monopoly. The islands were now governed directly from Copenhagen. Danish officials arrived to oversee the trade and protect it from competing merchants and

the bands of pirates. Fort Skansin, overlooking Tórshavn harbour, is the remnant of the historic fortification.

Royal Trade Monopoly abolished

In 1856, the Royal Trade Monopoly was abolished and soon enterprising Faroese businessmen were exploring new connections with the outside world. In 1872, an old English sailing smack named the Fox was purchased for deep-sea fishing far from the Faroese shore. The Faroese quickly earned the reputation of being amongst the best sailors and fishermen in the world. The fishing industry grew until it became the main source of income for the islands. Now the Faroes are avidly engaged in exploring the potential for oil production in the seas around the islands.

Modern times mixed with ancient history

You can stroll about on Tinganes, now the home of the national government, established according to the Home Rule constitution adopted in 1948. And here, in his office in one of the former Royal Trade Monopoly storehouses, you might see the Prime Minister raise his eyes up from his computer and look out of the window to reflect on the passage of a thousand years carved into the stones on the tip of the peninsula.



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THE SPECIAL NATURE

The Faroe Islands are built up of layers of volcanic basalt and appear tilted with the eastern shores sloping into the sea and the western coasts rising up in soaring cliffs.

Colourful towns and villages lie along the shores of the fjords and sounds, with a green belt of cultivated pastureland beyond them. Above this, the mountains rise with their green sloping fells divided by dark stony crags, which give the mountains their layered look. The craggy protrusions are the vestiges of enormous layers of basalt laid down by gigantic volcanoes in the tertiary period some 60 million years ago. Each basalt layer represents one or more volcanic events. In between the basalt layers are bands of red tuff, which is the compressed ash, spewed out by the volcanoes between eruptions. Tuff is softer than basalt and erodes more quickly. The basalt layers gradually erode and eventually crumble down on to the layer below.

Winter's dark nights

The western and northern coasts are the shoulders

of the country and face the mighty power of the sea when a storm breaks out. The sea rushes in, roaring and rumbling, lashing its full power against the cliffs. The noise reverberates from bottom to top as if coming from the very core of the earth. Land and sea wage an endless battle that continues throughout the dark, lonely nights of winter, year after year, century after century.

Long light summer days

Eventually the soft light of summer returns and all is peaceful once again. The sea stretches out calm, friendly and inviting. The long summer days teem with seabirds flocking to the soaring cliffs. Ornithologists have identified around 300 species of bird in the Faroe Islands, whereof 40 are regular breeding birds and another 40 are infrequent guests. Now and again a seal sticks its dark and shiny head

up out of the water to see what is happening just as the individual hiker, having forsaken the delights of the sea, takes to the mountain landscape. On occasions the weather may not look so promising to the novice hill walker; the clouds sweep in low and wisps of tattered cloud play about the mountain slopes. But the experienced local guide is confident and quickly selects the right path, eventually emerging from the woollen kingdom to behold the endless world at your feet.

Faroes unique flora

Of course, there are days when the fog envelops everything and all you can see is the closest surroundings. It is now that the flowers come into their own, undisturbed by what is around them, they stand and nod to the attentive observer. There is

 A boat with people navigating a narrow, rocky channel. The text 'SIGHTSEEING Experience the biggest tourist attractions in the Faroe Islands by boat. Book tours www.rib62.com' is overlaid.

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the marsh marigold, recently appointed the Faroese national flower, found in ditches and wet places in the early summer months. Then there are all the other more humble flowers, different from island to island and from hollows to heights. Notice the heather flowers, the scotch heather and the bell heather or the moss campion. What about all the saxifrage flowers, ragged robin and the spotted orchid which in its day, together with the vigorous rose root, was regarded as nature's own viagra? Or the Faroese lady's mantle that grows nowhere else in the world or the glacier buttercup only found up on the highest mountains?

Stillness and nature's own sounds

You don't need to go far from the newly asphalted roads before you feel a sense of independence and freedom in the mountains. Time rewinds, nature's own time and a silence reigns punctuated only by nature's own sounds such as running water over stones or tufts of grass, the sea or birdsong. Enjoy being offline and let yourself be captivated by an inner peace and amazement that such a little country can possess such a magnificent nature. Take pleasure in just 'being' and you will discover that the natural wonders of the Faroe Islands cannot be measured in size or distance, but by their eternal essence.



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norden
The Nordic House



See map of towns, villages and infrastructure on page 14



Aage De Jong

THE CAPITAL TÓRSHAVN - AND STREYMOY SOUTHERN PART

It began with a Viking "Thing", followed by a market, later it became a thriving town, and today it is one of the smallest and most pleasant capital cities in the world.

History Proudly named by the Vikings, the capital takes after the Nordic God of war - Thor. With its location in the middle of the country situated on a narrow quay, the parliament - 'løgtingið' and commercial life, have been important hubs of the city for centuries. Without a catchment area and with only two small bastion constructions to ward off the numerous pirate attacks, the inhabitants of the city have over the years slowly but steadily developed a charming and concentrated mini version of a modern city. Rising between the old and new is the cathedral, Havnar Kirkja. In this area named 'Tinganes', the narrow alleys meander between old black tarred houses with traditional grass roofs and white paned windows,

alongside modern architectural buildings with facades in a variety of rich colours. Along the streets one will see a mix of nature and culture, hip and happening designer clothes and freshly caught fish, all in an eclectic mix of Faroese and the cosmopolitan.

Downtown One of the best locations in town is the harbour front Vágsbotnur with idyllic old warehouses, nice cafés, modern restaurants and fun pubs. With a warm blanket wrapped around you, feel free to enjoy a chai latté and the sunshine whilst sitting outside at one of the café tables. If you feel the urge for food, the variety of choices for a meal are many ranging from

The red buildings on Tinganes house the Faroese government. Behind these is the ferry, Norröna

Italian pizza and American burgers, to Japanese sushi and superb gourmet dishes with Faroese ingredients and specialities, served with all kinds of fancy drinks and cocktails imaginable. Alongside the old wooden boats, you will find internationally acclaimed Faroese design labels and all the up and coming designers too. Happy colours and patterns have made Faroese knitting known around the world and the best selection can be found in the capital. Along the harbour front there are steel tables where you can buy freshly caught fish and birds. In season, look out for home grown potatoes, beets and rhubarb.

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The largest shopping center in the Faroe Islands

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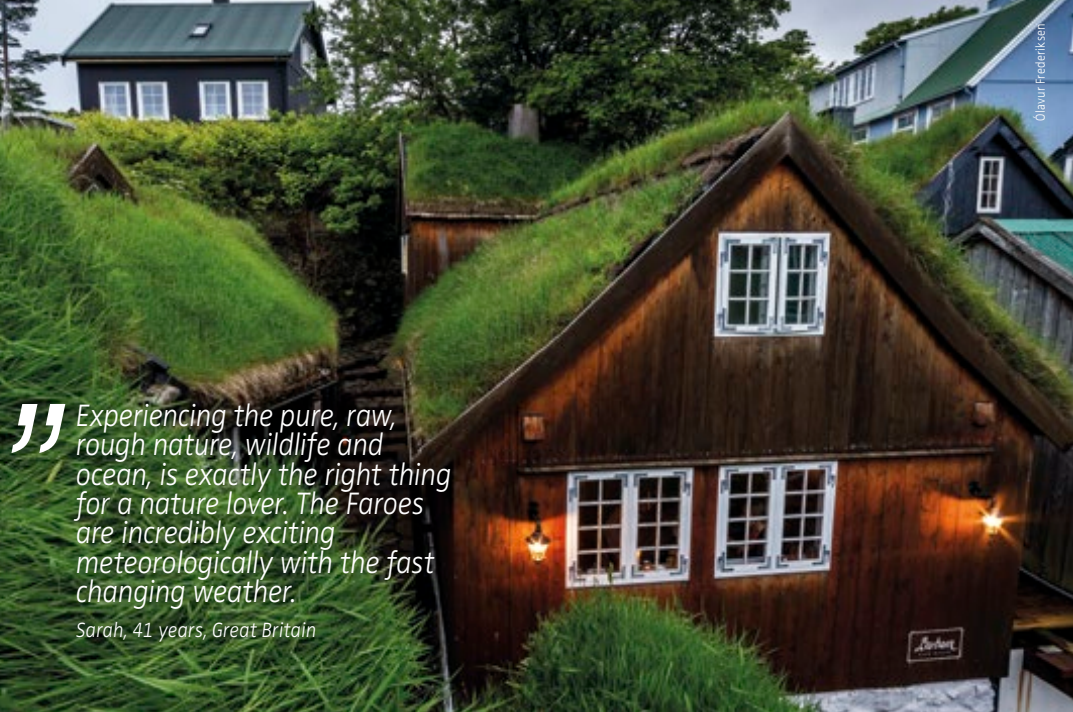
WELCOME TO TÓRSHAVN

As one of the smallest capitals in the world, everything in Tórshavn is easy. Forget traffic-clogged highways, forget crowds of people, forget fighting for a seat on the bus. Here, we live life as it should be lived.

With plenty of space and clean, fresh air, there's a real sense of well-being in the Faroese capital. This is the sort of place where people still have time for each other, where people are concerned about each other and where life moves at a civilised pace.

“ Experiencing the pure, raw, rough nature, wildlife and ocean, is exactly the right thing for a nature lover. The Faroes are incredibly exciting meteorologically with the fast changing weather.

Sarah, 41 years, Great Britain



The popular and cosy fish restaurant "Barbara" in Tórshavn's old town

Uptown ■ With the harbour as the centre, it is best to explore the town in a radius of approximately one and half kilometres. From Vágsothn take a stroll through the intricate alleys of the old part of town to the square named 'Vaglid', where the idyllic bookstore is situated next to the 'Lagtinget', the parliament and the city council. The pedestrian street begins here with its fancy designer shops, banks and the library that has a nice café. Further up this street you pass over the stream named Havnará running through the small park - 'Platasjan', where the Faroese Art Museum is located. In this area you will also find the stadium with football pitches and a family friendly indoor swimming pool offering a sauna and spa. Beyond the pool is the magnificent Nordic House rising as an architectural pearl and looking like something out of a fairy tale. If more shopping is on the agenda – then SMS is the islands top modern shopping centre offering everything your heart can desire.

Along the beach ■ On the other side of 'Tinganes' you can see the harbour from where the ferries are sailing to the islands of Nólsoy and Suduroy. Passenger ferries sailing the routes to Denmark and Iceland also dock here. You can also see the old star shaped bastion

where canons were placed to keep the pirates away, although not always to the benefit of the Faroese people. There are two huge canons that were used during the Second World War still on view. Following along the coast road, you will arrive at the beautiful valley of Hoydalar where the former tuberculosis sanatorium today houses the high school. On the other side of the hill is the old farm of Hoyvik – now a part of the National Museum, situated a few hundred metres up the old path between the villages. Here you can see the permanent exhibition of the fascinating Kirkebø chairs. The bay at Hoyvik is used for swimming in the sea, snorkelling and diving. Take a dip in the refreshing water by the small campfire.

Across the shipyard ■ On the other side of the bay is the industrial area. In the old fish oil factory of Østrøms, Müllers Warehouse and the Leaning Warehouse, there are creative workshops and exhibitions. Repairs to smaller ships and boats are made on the shipyard, where some of the local artists have workshops in one of the halls. Further afield is the hospital where the newly refurbished foyer is well worth a visit. Below the hospital is the bay of Sandagerd with its old rectory. From here daily swimming takes place, also

Olavur Freudenthal



Cosy atmosphere by the harbour in Tórshavn

FACILITIES IN THE VILLAGES

Kaldbak 228 inh.	Hoyvik 3.813 inh.
Tórshavn 12.616 inh.	Argir 1.971 inh.
Kirkjubøur 74 inh.	Nólsoy 217 inh.
Hestur 18 inh.	Kollafjørður 742 inh.

See explanation of symbols on page 4



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Inga Sørensen



High waves at "Hoyvíkshólmur" in Hoyvík



Christmas in Tórshavn's town centre

during the winter months. Follow the river up to the bridge and the old spinning mill and you will arrive at the Faroese Aquarium where it is possible to meet some of the inhabitants of the sea.

Things to do for free ■ Apart from the clean fresh air and water, the town busses are also free. They drive around the town and out to the small villages nearby within the district of Tórshavn.

The fitness wave has also hit the Faroe Islands and around the clock you will meet joggers on the track of the new athletic stadium or on the small paths in the beautiful valley of Hoydalar. Here as well as other places in town, you can find outdoor fitness equipment to tighten up those flabby muscles.

If interested in art, then get a map from the tourist information about the towns many sculptures and statues, mostly created by Faroese artists. Remember to stop by the outdoor sun clock at the very end of Tinganes - next to the office of the President.

If you are more meditative orientated, then visit the old and peaceful graveyard or find a quiet spot in the park - Plantasjan and listen to the birds singing and the ripples of the stream.

Street life at Olai ■ Fascinating female fashionistas in customized Faroese national wear, walk up and down the streets - alone or in the company of their relatives and families. This is the street life of Olai, the annual national celebration of Saint Olaf, known to have brought Christianity to the Faroe Islands around the year 1000. During Olai, politicians from all over the

islands meet up after the summer holiday and parades take place with members of the parliament – a parliament known to have been in existence for a thousand years.

The weather influences everything on the islands, if it is dry - dancing and singing in the streets will take place until the early morning. If it is pouring down, the celebrations will take place inside warm locations - the temperature is sure to rise in more ways than one! The party will only end the next day when the last person stumbles out to meet the morning fresh joggers on the 10 km Ringvejen road, bringing home freshly baked bread to visitors from far and near staying over for the Olai celebration.

Music Life ■ The Faroe Islands might be a Lilliput nation, but the music life is amazingly rich in variety offering everything from folk to rock, to traditional Faroese chain dance and opera! During the week and weekends, investigate the islands musicians playing live at bars and restaurants - the nightlife is far from boring. Be sure to end the night at one of the many stylish clubs with impressive surroundings in interior décor and themes.

All summer long, discover the music on the pedestrian street in town. At the tourist information check out more intimate summer concerts available and other bigger concert events with international acclaimed local artists such as Eivør and Teitur, or guest musicians like Elton John and Bryan Adams.

CHRISTMAS IN TÓRSHAVN

If you are looking for a different holiday experience, then Christmas is the perfect time to be in Tórshavn. The town is decorated with thousands of lights, a skating rink and a little Christmas village.

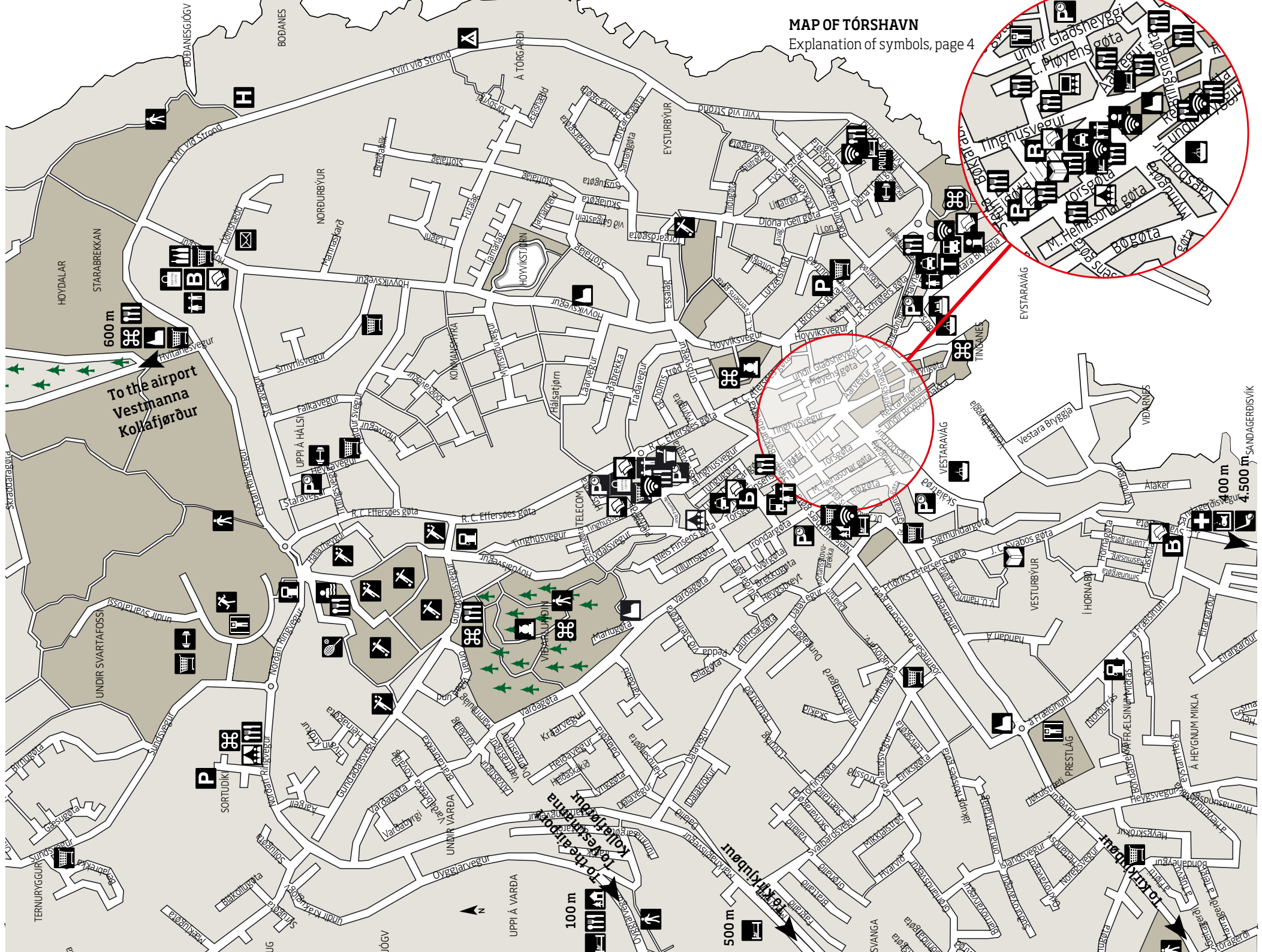
Vaglið ■ In Tórshavn, Christmas begins in earnest on the last Saturday in November. It is the day we turn on the town Christmas lights and also the day that Father Christmas comes to turn on the lights of the huge Christmas tree that stands at Vaglið in the centre of town. Hundreds of people gather here in the twilight to witness the great occasion. Even though there may not be snow, it can be cold and the adults keep warm by drinking hot chocolate from a stall in the Christmas market in the square. The children wait with great excitement for the sound of the shiny red fire engine's siren that heralds the coming of Father Christmas. When he arrives he goes up the ladder and as the children shout the magic words the tree lights turn on and the whole town is lit up.

Christmas market ■ After the tree lights have been turned on we can really begin to celebrate Christmas, or at least that is what we do in Tórshavn. There is live music and the Christmas market is full of exciting handicrafts and stalls with Christmas goodies. Our outdoor skating rink is decorated with coloured lights and the loudspeakers play Christmas music everyday in December. Last but not least, the little Christmas village opens, always a pleasant surprise for young and old alike. The small houses that stand dotted

in between the pretty trees, are decorated both in and out and the doors are open for guests to walk in.

Vágsbotn ■ On the last Saturday before Christmas, a telegram arrives from the Christmas ship telling us that several Father Christmases' are on their way to Tórshavn. The ship is one of our beautiful 100-year-old schooners that slowly glides into the harbour in Vágsbotn, which has been decorated with lights and flags. The brass band stands ready to play Christmas music as dozens of children gather to greet the Father Christmases' on-board, waving and shouting to each other impatiently waiting for the customary sweets to be given out.

Shopping ■ Finally it is Christmas week and a good time to be in Tórshavn as you walk up and down the pedestrian street, visit the Christmas market and maybe buy the last presents or listen to the choir singing Christmas songs outside. The church is open and invites you in everyday to hear live music performed by the talented pupils from the local music school. There is something and somewhere for everyone. Shops are open longer than usual in the last week before Christmas and as the Faroe Islands are not part of the EU, you can buy your presents tax-free.





Jørgen Hansen

St. Olav church dating from 1111. On the right of the picture is the St. Magnus Cathedral 'Múrin'

KIRKJUBØUR

During the Middle Ages, Kirkjubøur was the ecclesiastical and cultural centre of the Faroes. Here was the bishop's residence until the Reformation, when the Faroese diocese was abolished, but the imposing ruin of Saint Magnus Cathedral still dominates the site.

On foot and by bus ■ The prettiest way to Kirkjubøur from Tórshavn is a relatively easy walk of about two hours along the path over the mountain. The pointed cairns are close together so it is easy to find the way. The stillness and views of Koltur, Hestur, Vágar and Sandoy are breath-taking and in good weather, you can see over to Skúvoy and Suðuroy. On the way you will pass Reynsmúlalág, a natural amphitheatre in the landscape. Public meetings have been held here since 1850, as the acoustic is particularly good. The return trip can be made by taking the bus, which departs several times daily from Kirkjubøur to Tórshavn.

Cultural centre ■ In the Middle Ages, Kirkjubøur was the ecclesial and cultural centre of the Faroe Islands. It was here that the bishop lived and the cathedral was built. Today the cathedral ruins called Muren, the parish church and the island's largest King's farm dominate the village. The farmhouse has been built over a part of the obsolete diocese that as a result of the Reformation lost all its possessions to the King. The old village is said to have been situated on a plain that stretched from the King's farm out to

a holm. Legend has it that most of the plain disappeared in a storm and today there are just a few ruins left. Nowadays the black painted houses with red windows are safely situated further inland below the mountain.

Muren ■ The Gothic St. Magnus Cathedral, better known as Muren, is reputed to have been one of the finest churches in the Nordic countries when it was completed in around 1330-1340. The latest research indicates that it was dismantled when the diocese was shut down during the Reformation in approximately 1560. The exquisitely beautiful chair headboards, which are reputed to have come from Bergen in 1400 and were used in the cathedral choir as priest chairs, can be seen in the National Museum in Tórshavn. Also on exhibition is a beautiful picture of the Madonna from 1300, originally painted but now presented in wood and a figure of Christ dating from before 1100 and considered to be one of the first in Scandinavia.

St Olav Church ■ The present parish church was built in 1111 and is the only church dating from the

Middle Ages still in use on the islands. In the middle of the east church wall is a hole where the lepers who lived on the other side of the mountain in Argir, could stand outside and listen to the sermon.

Today, the church with its half-metre thick walls is a harmonic mix of the old and new with an expressive altarpiece by the Faroese artist Samuel Joensen Mikines. Its colourful presence is a feature against the white chalk interior.

The church is open daily from 8am-8pm with services on the first Sunday in each month.

Roykstovan ■ The King's farmhouse dates from the 11th century and was originally part of the diocese and therefore the oldest inhabited wooden house in Europe. The farmhouse originates from Sognefjord in Norway, where it was dismantled piece by piece, numbered and shipped to Kirkjubøur to be rebuilt. It stands on a stone foundation that in places has up to two-metre thick walls. Today the house is occupied by the 17th generation of the Patursson family of farmers. Stokkastovan, the oldest part of the farmhouse, is open to visitors from 9am-5pm. The locked room in the attic, reached by a small staircase, was the former bishop's office.

Legend says that King Sverre of Norway was born in Kirkjubøur after his mother Gunnhild, fled from Norway. She found work at the bishop's palace and hid the baby in a small cave in the mountainside that is marked with a red cross.

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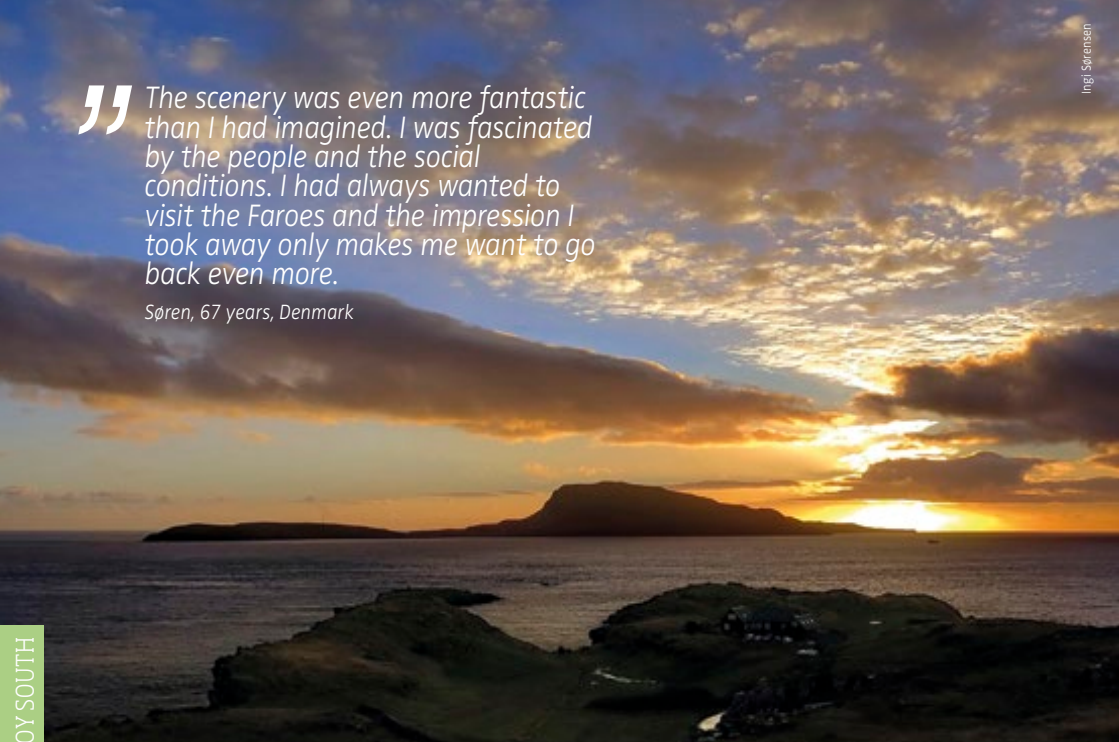
The Atlantic Swan
HOTEL APARTMENTS

” The scenery was even more fantastic than I had imagined. I was fascinated by the people and the social conditions. I had always wanted to visit the Faroes and the impression I took away only makes me want to go back even more.

Søren, 67 years, Denmark

Ingi, Svendsen

TÓRSHAVN / STREYMOY SOUTH



Sunrise over Nólsoy, seen from Hoyvík

NÓLISOY

Nólsoy lies like a giant buffer protecting Tórshavn from the eastern storms.

Unspoiled village life ■ So close and yet a world of difference. That is the normal reaction after sailing the 20-minute trip with the ferry 'Ternan' from Tórshavn to the little island of Nólsoy situated opposite the capital. It is almost as though time has stood still in the beautiful picture-postcard scenery of the island, which is suitable not only for a concentrated exploration of a few hours, but also interesting enough for an excursion of several days enjoying the bustle of life between the colourful houses.

The Tourist Information office is situated down on the harbour. Here you can book guided trips around the island, get permission to see the old wooden church and visit the local museum 'Við Brunn'. Displayed in the basement is a small wooden rowing boat called 'Diana Victoria'. This was the boat used by the island's hero, Ove Joensen in 1985 when he

used it to row the 900 sea miles from Nólsoy to Copenhagen to kiss the Little Mermaid. Ruins of the old village that was abandoned in the 17th century can be seen on the way out to the mountain. Folk stories tell of a Scottish princess who fled to the Faroe Islands with her lover and settled down here.

Ecology and local delicacies ■ Hunger pangs? Then the Tourist Information is the place to go where you can enjoy home-cooked eco food with the focus on local delicacies and edible plants, all with an unrivalled view. The nearest neighbour is the Kaffistovan café, open all year in the evenings. It is also possible to stay overnight here. The local grocer's shop with a post office is just down the road along with the old grocer's shop where the locals sell knitted jumpers, rhubarb and pickled Angelica during the summer months.

Experience the world's largest colony of Storm Petrels

■ One of the island's greatest tourist magnets is the local taxidermist and ornithologist, Jens Kjeld Jensen. Besides stuffed puffins, gannets and hares, a visit to his workshop will reveal one of Europe's largest private collections of bird lice. He also provides guided tours around the island and from June to August, you can accompany him on a night excursion to the island's east coast, home to the world's largest colony of night bird, the tiny Storm Petrel. You can sit here in the twilight and hear rather than see the tiny bird's whereabouts as it flies along the mountainside in its hunt for food.

Hike to the lighthouse on Borðan

■ The hike from the village out to the lighthouse on the island's southern tip is a relatively easy walk of 5-6 hours there and back, where the fantastic views in the summer are accompanied by birdsong and a light breeze. The lighthouse and lighthouse keeper's accommodation is constructed of carved boulders and was completed in 1893. The lens, whose light can be seen 16 sea miles away, weighs 4 tons, is 2.82 metres in diameter and rests on a bearing of quicksilver and is the world's largest lens apparatus. Before automation, there were 30 people including 10 children living out at the lighthouse and the place had its own landing stage. At the end of the headland is the little light, which can be seen from Tórshavn.



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NORTHERN STREYMOY



Morten Mortensen

Grotto on the dramatic western side of Hestur

HESTUR OG KOLTUR

Grotto concerts in the troll-like caves and unspoilt cultural landscape.

Hestur ■ In the middle of the island's eastern side lies the tranquil village of Hestur. There are two paths from the village that lead up to the island's back, which untypically for the Faroes, has an unusually flat plain with several small idyllic lakes. From here it is possible to see down into the dramatic gorge Álvagjógv that cuts deep into the island and also experience the western side's steep bird cliffs from above. Ask the locals for advice if you plan to hike to the top of Eggjarók or Múlin, the island's highest points. You will be rewarded with a picturesque view over to the neighbouring island of Koltur.

Grotto concerts ■ As a contrast to the island's green eastern side, the western side is rough and dramatic where steep bird cliffs, with thousands of breeding sea birds, rise up out of the ocean in amazing rock formations and marvellous giant halls that go deep into the mountain. During the summer months, tours are arranged from Tórshavn where you can experience a concert whilst sitting in a boat in the troll-like and acoustically unique caves.

Koltur ■ Jump in the sea from the white sandy beach with a view of Streymoy or take the steep hike

up the grass covered south side of Kolturshamar mountain that rises 478 metres up above the island's only inhabited farm. There is a very pretty view across the nearby islands from the little platform at the top; a motif with a very characteristic shape, easily recognized and a favourite with Faroese artists.

A pearl of cultural history ■ The Faroe's third smallest island is a compact natural and cultural history experience. Isolation has in many ways freed Koltur from civilisations changeability, whereby it is still possible to find such an unspoilt and rich cultural landscape from shore to mountain as here. Within the stonewalls, there is a large cultivated area where a significant part is old farmland used to grow grain. With finance from the Mærsk Foundation, amongst others, some of the old buildings in the abandoned dwelling Heimi í Húsi have been restored. One of the reasons why Koltur is well worth a visit. The Tourist Information in Tórshavn can advise on the one-day trips that are available to Koltur, depending on weather conditions and if it is possible to moor on the island.



Ólavsøka parade in the centre of Tórshavn, featuring athletes, horses and the local brass band

ÓLAVSØKA, CULTURE AND MUSIC

Ólavsøka is the Faroe Islands national celebration, held on 29 July, in honour of King Olav the Holy who died on this day in 1030 at Stiklestad in Trondheim, Norway.

Nationalsport ■ The Faroese begin the celebrations the day before with a parade through the town after which, the national championships in rowing are held over a short stretch of water inside the harbour. The spectators are cheering on their local favourites as they drive themselves towards the finishing line in their characteristic Faroese wooden rowing boats.

Streetscape ■ In the town you will see people dressed for a party walking around in their colourful national costumes, greeting friends and acquaintances that they have not seen for a long time. The streets are packed all day long. Even the national costumes have almost become a fashion phenomenon as the traditional boundaries are pushed in both colour and style. On the second day there is a procession of the priests and politicians from the Parliament to the Cathedral and back again. Afterwards a choir performs on the lawn in front of the Parliament building before the Prime Minister delivers his speech to open the new Parliamentary year. Art exhibitions, children's amusement park, sports, public singing, chain dancing and good food are all part of a tightly-packed programme for this folk festival, which is held in high spirits and with the hope of good weather. Out come the umbrellas if the rain does not stay away and the party goes on.

Culture night & Tórshavn Marathon ■ The Culture night is held in June, when institutions that are normally closed to the general public, open their doors wide open. Music is performed along with other cultural events, as the town's museums and commercial businesses stay open late into the night. The Tórshavn Marathon takes place the next day over long and short distances in beautiful surroundings.

Tórsfest ■ On the last Saturday before Ólavsøka, there is a massive party in the pedestrian street in Tórshavn - an outdoor event in preparation for the coming festivities, where music is played until the early hours. More information on: www.facebook.com/torsfest.

Faroe Pride ■ A street party held the day before Ólavsøka. Thousands of happy people take part in the parade which ends with a big music event in the town centre. For more info see: www.lgbt.fo.

Reinsariid ■ In the centre of Tórshavn is Reinsariid, the old laundry, which has been re-developed into a music hall where you can experience concerts, lectures and exhibitions etc. For more information: www.reinsariid.fo.

Ólavsøkafeðilsken

Ólavsøkafeðilsken

“I had never heard of the Faroe Islands until recently. I have since wondered why I didn't know about them, as they are fantastic and unspoilt by man.

Juan, 23 years, Cayman Islands



Alessio Miesiano

Saksun, a natural gem

STREYMOY - NORTHERN PART

Beyond the bustling city centre of Tórshavn, beyond the tunnel to Kollafjørður, lies Northern Streymoy, the broad and mountainous part of the main island of the Faroes.

The unforgettable Oyggjarvegur ■ From Tórshavn there are two roads north to the more mountainous region of Streymoy. The old route to and from the capital is the Oyggjarvegur going over the mountain. It is one long sightseeing tour over mountain peaks and deep down into the fjord valleys, a reason why it is one of the Sólju routes. One of the more demanding jogs is Top Run, where the route takes you from the valley in Kollafjørður up the Oyggjarvegur to the disused Danish radar station; a stretch of 10 km with an ascent of 500 metres.

The other road is the low-lying Kaldbaksvegur, which stretches along the coast to Kaldbak. From here you can travel to the northern villages via tunnel.

LEYNAR

Salmon and trout fishing ■ Steep mountains surround the beautiful lake of Leynavatn. In the summer season it is possible to fish for salmon and trout both here and in the nearby lakes called Mjávotn. In periods with a lot of rain, the salmon climb up the salmon ladder in the river in the old village of Leynar. The required fishing license can be purchased in the nearby petrol station or at the Tourist Information in Tórshavn.

Sun and swimming in the sea ■ The combination of sea and mountain can result in localised thick fog whilst elsewhere in the country there is baking sun. On such a day, the sunny Faroese beaches and especially the one at Leynar, are tightly packed with people and their picnic baskets playing with sand between their toes, as they soak up the sun and swim in the sea.

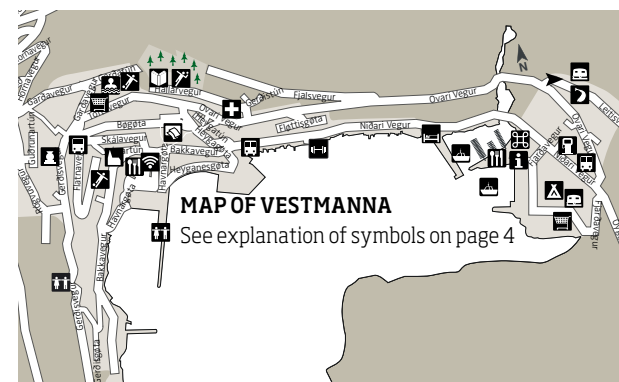
KVÍVÍK

Viking houses ■ The old houses in the charming village of Kvívík are situated close together on both sides of the river Stórá which runs through the valley, past the white painted church, past the rectory and out into the sea. Archaeologists have found the remains of two Viking longhouses by the harbour. Toys, ornaments and other artefacts that were discovered in and around the houses have been preserved in the National Museum in Tórshavn.

VESTMANNA

Bird cliffs from the sea ■ There is no sight so fantastic and overwhelming as that of the bird cliffs seen from the sea. Therefore a boat trip to the west coast between Vestmanna and Saksun is a must for everyone. With a safety helmet firmly on your head, you sail in close under the steep mountainsides and enormous rock

columns rising several hundred metres above sea level. As the small boats sail silently through the grottoes of the soaring cliffs, the light dances in the clear water and you are slowly rocked by the waves into the small lagoons whose lush slopes are in stark contrast to the cliff walls facing out to sea. Up above, hundreds of sea birds throw themselves off the rock shelves and fly out over the open sea to catch food for themselves and their young.



MAP OF VESTMANNA

See explanation of symbols on page 4

Saga Museum ■ Next to the landing pier for excursion boats is the Vestmanna Tourist Centre, a place to enjoy a lovely bowl of fish soup. The building also houses the Faroe Islands exclusive wax museum, where dramatic tales of pirates, troll men and sheep thieves are re-enacted. These tales are taken from the islands history beginning with the age of settlement until the 17th century. A calming walk over the mountain between Vestmanna and Hvalvík or Saksun will give plenty of opportunity to enjoy the green landscape from the top. The path is marked with cairns, takes about three hours and is so easy that almost everyone can manage it.

If you prefer to get out on the ocean, then it is possible to rent a boat and relatively quickly sail out to the northern and western banks where fishing opportunities are good.

VIÐ ÁIR

Whaling station ■ The old whaling station Við Áir, which is the only one of its kind left in the northern hemisphere, was built by Norwegians in 1905. There was a lot of work here right up until the 1960's where Fin, Sperm and Blue whales

Vestmannabjörgini
Sightseeing boat-tours

Saga Museum

Restaurant

Souvenir Shop

www.puffin.fo, Tel +298 471 500



The schooner "Norðlýsið" with the island of Koltur to the right

were dragged up on land, cut up and processed for export. Today the whaling station looks like a tired Hollywood film set and is waiting to be renovated so that it can serve as a maritime museum in the future.

HVALVÍK

Faroe Islands oldest wooden church ■ The idyllic old church in Hvalvík dates from 1829 and is the oldest wooden church in the Faroes. It is a typical example with a stone foundation, black-tarred walls, white windows and topped with a grass roof with wild flowers and a little tower. The old pulpit dating from 1609 originally stood in the Cathedral in Tórshavn. It is exquisitely beautiful and well worth a visit. As with other churches on the islands, Sunday services are either at 11am or 12am.

SAKSUN

Beauty spot ■ From Hvalvík take the road through the pretty river valley to the remote village of Saksun. There is no public transport to the village so you will have to walk, cycle or drive the last 12 km. Alternatively, you can book a bus trip that departs from the Tourist Information in Tórshavn.

First stop is the pretty Saksun lake that is a popular place with anglers. Fishing licenses can be purchased at the Tourist Information or at nearby petrol stations. From here the river runs steeply down the valley that divides the village in two, each side with a handful of houses that cling to the sides of the mountain. The valley opens out into a magnificent bay surrounded by steep mountain sides and is overlooked by the white church that towers over the amphitheatre shaped former natural harbour.

Next to the church is the 200-year-old farm called Dúvugarðar, which is a museum today. Both the church and the farm are favourite postcard motifs and have been used as backdrops in several films, for example, "Barbara" a film by Nils Malmros based on an adaptation of the novel by Jørgen-Frantz Jacobsen.

From the western side of the river it is possible to walk out to the sea at low tide in order to see the surf. As there is a vast difference between high and low tides, it is advisable to ask at the Tourist Information for when it is safe to walk out.

HALDARSVÍK

Faroe Islands highest waterfall ■ On the way to Haldarsvík, you will pass Fossá where the Faroes

highest waterfall drops 140 metres down over two stages before it runs under the road and out to the sea. The unique eight-sided church is idyllically situated between the old houses down at the estuary in Haldarsvík. The older exterior is in stark contrast to the modern altarpiece. This depicts the 'Last Supper' and was painted by the Faroese artist Torbjørn Olsen who is known as one of Scandinavia's most skilful portrait artists. Several of the characters represented in the altarpiece have the facial features of contemporary Faroese people.

TJØRNUVÍK

Surfer's paradise ■ The narrow road to Tjørnuvík seems to be carved into the mountain that rises straight up from the sea. Suddenly, after turning the final bend, a beautiful valley appears complete with grass-covered terraces decorating the mountainside, picturesque old houses at the bottom of the vale and white waves rhythmically lashing the dark sandy beach. Viking graves have been found in the eastern part of the valley, proving that the area has been inhabited since the first Vikings came to the Faroes.

The village faces the open sea, which makes landing conditions very difficult. However, this has proved to be an advantage for surfers who come from all over the world to surf the enormous waves.

There is a spectacular view from Tjørnuvík of the two freestanding rocks known as Risin and Kellingin. Legend has it that the rocks are fossils of an old woman and a giant who tried to drag the Faroe Islands back home to Iceland. They were surprised by the sunrise and were turned to stone out at sea.

FACILITIES IN THE VILLAGES	
Tjørnuvík 56 inh.	
Haldarsvík 125 inh.	
Saksun 10 inh.	
Hvalvík 230 inh.	
Hósvík 315 inh.	
Leynar 101 inh.	
Kvívik 364 inh.	
Vestmanna 1.224 inh.	

See explanation of symbols on page 4

EXCURSIONS IN STREYMOY, NÓLSOY, KOLTUR AND HESTUR

BOAT TRIPS

Tinganes: By arrangement with Visittorshavn, there are guided walks around the old town and Tinganes, where the Vikings lived their daily lives.

Skælingsfjall: Around midsummer, it is possible to arrange a guide with Visittorshavn for a midnight trip to the top of Skælingsfjall mountain (768 m). The tour is quite strenuous and not for those who are afraid of heights.

Fishing trips: Whether fishing for cod, halibut or shark, a fishing trip in the Faroe Islands is something quite special. Contact the organizers: www.fishingwithblastein.com or the tourist information.

BUS TOURS

Tora Tourist has a weekly programme from May to August that includes the Northern Isles: Klaksvík and Viðareiði, Eysturoy: Eiði, Gjógv and Oyndarfjørður, Streymoy: Vestmanna, Kvívik, Kirkjubøur and Tórshavn, in addition to the villages on Sandoy. The guided bus tours may include museum visits and/or a meal. Brochures available at tourist information centres.

RIDING TREKS

Berg Hestar arrange a variety of treks with experienced guides in and around Tórshavn, including Havnardalur and Glyvursnes. Contact the tourist information or Berg Hestar direct.

BIRD WATCHING TOURS

Many species of birds can be found on Nólsoy including the world's largest colony of Storm Petrels. They are only seen at night, but tours are available by arrangement with the local ornithologist. Contact the tourist information for bookings.

HIKING AND WALKING TOURS

Tinganes: By arrangement with Visittorshavn, there are guided walks around the old town and Tinganes, where the Vikings lived their daily lives.

Skælingsfjall: Around midsummer, it is possible to arrange a guide with Visittorshavn for a midnight trip to the top of Skælingsfjall mountain (768 m). The tour is quite strenuous and not for those who are afraid of heights.

FAROESE EVENING

From the beginning of June until the middle of July, Havnar Sjonleikarfelag, Tórshavn's Theatre Society, arrange by agreement a Faroese evening for groups, providing a variety of entertainment, Faroese chain dance and a tasting of Faroese specialities. Hotel Hafnia have a special fish buffet every Tuesday evening in June, every Tuesday and Thursday evenings in July and every Tuesday evening in August. Information from the Tourist Office.

TOURS FROM VESTMANNNA

The boat trip to the cliffs north of Vestmanna will give you a fantastic experience of the birdcliffs and sailing between the free-standing rocks and into deep grottos. There are several departures in the summer, weather permitting. Operators: Palli Lamhauge and Skúvadal.

Package tour: „Fisking og Fritíð“ offer a complete holiday package where you will stay in a caravan next to one of the lakes near Vestmanna. You will have the opportunity to fish in the lakes, ride or walk in the mountains around Vestmanna.

TOURS ON NÓLSOY

Borðan: The tourist office on Nólsoy arranges hiking tours to the Nólsoy lighthouse. The tour is either by boat to Borðan and then walking to the village, or walking both ways. The tours are with a guide and end with coffee and cake in the village. A picnic is available on the longer tour.

Korndalur and the Princess: Taking a guided tour through the village you can see where a Scottish princess used to live and where people used to hide from pirates. Going in the other direction you can see Stongin, which was the first lighthouse to be built in the Faroe Islands. These tours are not scheduled in advance, so ring the tourist information for details and they will arrange coffee and waffles while you wait for the boat to Tórshavn.

For more information, please contact:

Kunningarstovan i Tórshavn
Tel. +298 302425, fax +298 316831
torsinfo@torshavn.fo, www.visittorshavn.fo

or

Kunningarstovan i Nólsoy
Tel. +298 327060,
info@visitnolsoy.fo, www.visitnolsoy.fo
- open 1 June - 31 August

or

Vestmanna Tourist Centre
Tel. +298 471500, fax +298 471509
touristinfo@olivant.fo
www.visit-vestmanna.com



See map of towns, villages and infrastructure on page 14



Ingi Sørensen

Winter clouds over Eysturoy. The village of Strendur to the left and to the right, Toftir village on the eastern arm of Skálafjørður

EYSTUROY

The only bridge over the North Atlantic it is sometimes called, and it spans the narrow channel of Sundini to connect Eysturoy with the larger island of Streymoy.

EIÐI
Risin and Kellingin - the giant and the witch ■ When the giant and the witch, perhaps Faroe Islands first tourists, decided to haul the Faroe Islands back home to Iceland, they put a rope around the Eiðisköllur mountain. They forgot the time as they pulled and tugged and as the sun's first rays shone on them, they turned to stone. Intrepid climbers have since managed to climb these two basalt columns out at sea, but most people enjoy the impressive view from a safe distance through the binoculars that are on the side of the road to Gjógv.

Panoramic views and knitting patterns ■ There are panoramic views whichever way you look, a rich bird life around the idyllic lake in the middle of the village, and a pretty church and museum in the old farmhouse that was responsible for giving many of the Faroese knitting patterns to the book of the same name; visitors are recommended to allow plenty of time to enjoy all the delights on offer. There is a large lake called

Eiðisvatn on the moor above the village where you can fish or go canoeing.

GJÓGV
Life at sea ■ The sound of children's laughter echoes between the old houses, as homemade rafts and soaking wet clothes congregate at the little dam in the stream. Coffee drinking adults up to their thighs in water are close by giving the novice sailors a helping hand. The water has a completely different type of danger on winter days when the waves roar into the natural harbour down in the gorge on the other side of the houses.

Faroe Island's roof ■ With a detailed map in hand, a picnic and some good advice about safety; it is straight up to the top of Slættaratindur, Faroe Islands highest mountain at 882 metres. From the plain on the top, there is a most wonderful view overlooking the entire country and down into the beautiful deep Ambadalur valley with Kalsoy's characteristic contour in



Welcome to Eysturkommuna

www.eysturkommuna.fo

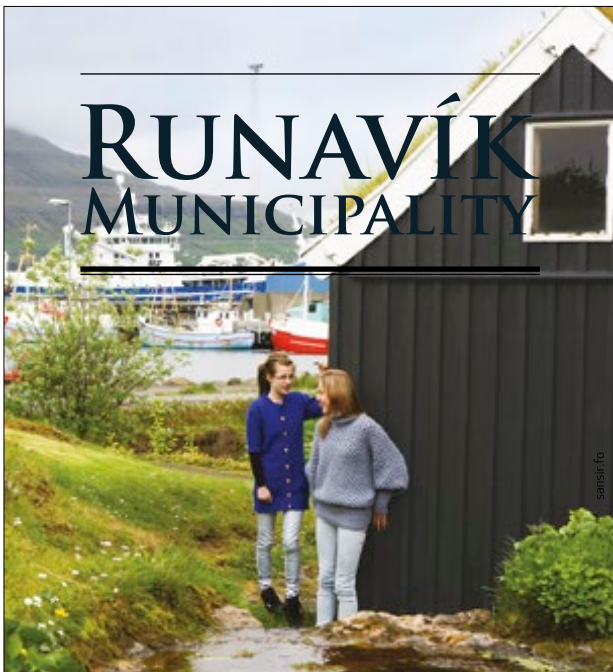


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www.runavik.fo



Tourist Information Centre in Runavik

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Tel. (+298) 423171
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the background. After such a tour, it is good to 'tank up' again with some freshly baked pancakes and home-made rhubarb jam at Gjáargardur.

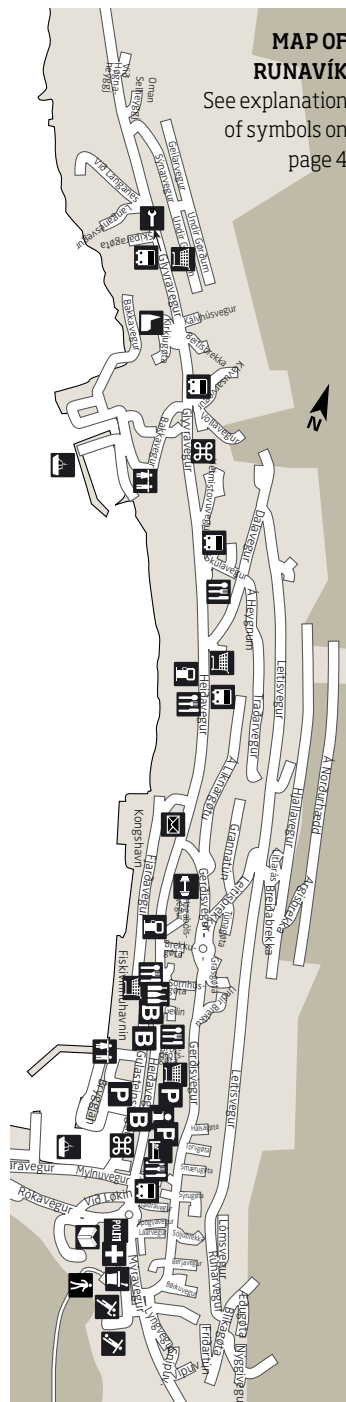
FUNNINGUR AND ELDUVÍK Meditation retreat

Situated on the riverbank out to sea, there is a tarred wooden church with tower and storm shutters surrounded by a low stonewall incorporating the church cemetery. Inside, the sound of hymns being sung echoes around the tree-lined walls, where well-worn pews, carved boards in the walls and hand-woven textiles bear witness to a much loved place where eye and soul find rest from the hardships of life.

Forests under the water

Out from the charming village of Elduvik there is a silent world that offers a truly amazing sensory feast for swimmers, divers and snorkelers alike. In the incredibly clear water, you can swim across the sandy bottom through metre high forests of seaweed and dramatic rock formations as the sun's rays break the surface and reveal an unspoiled and extremely varied flora and fauna.

**OYNDARFJØRÐUR
Rocking pirate ships** They had raped and pillaged in the southeastern villages on the island and were now rowing with full force into the fjord towards the village. The witch came out and conjured the two pirate ships into stone as she condemned them to stand and rock in the sea for eternity. They are still there, observing the cosy village with its shop and church with altarpiece by C.W. Eckersberg, no doubt wishing that they had taken

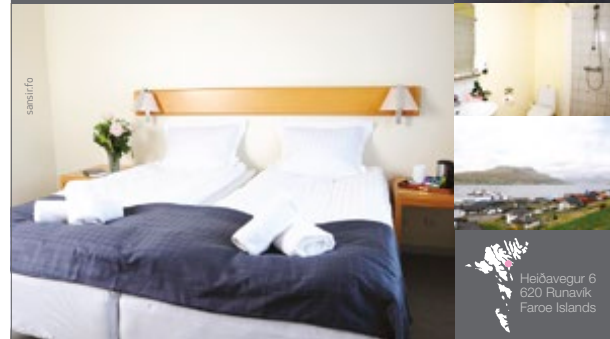


MAP OF RUNAVÍK
See explanation of symbols on page 4

Welcome to Runavik

Hotel Runavik is conveniently located in the Faroe Islands. The hotel is situated close to the harbour and shops.

All rooms are bright well-equipped and meet all requirements of a modern hotel. Free wi-fi for all guests. Easy access for people with disabilities.



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Welcome to our cosy cafe

the path over the mountain from Fuglafjørð to Hellurnar, at least they would have had dry feet.

FUGLAFJØRÐUR

Cultural powerhouse ■ Proactive and visionary inhabitants have been responsible for developing the natural harbour between the high mountains, into a pelagic powerhouse of international standard. The lively harbour area with local and foreign ships gives input to the many cultural events held around the town. The staff at the tourist information centre in the old library is happy to point in the direction of the Viking ruins and the inconspicuous but healing spring, Varmakelda, on the other side of the bay.

LEIRVÍK

Past and present ■ The restored Viking ruins, the chapel ruins with surrounding graves and the village museums give a fairly good insight into the way of life and its changeability over a thousand years. The nearest neighbour is the bowling hall with pool and air hockey, where you can return to the present day before putting on your hiking boots to walk over the mountain to the neighbouring village of Gøta.

GØTA

Aesthetic room ■ Modest from the outside yet extremely beautiful on the inside, the black-tarred church from 1833 and the superbly restored farmhouse Blásastova from 1835, together with three other fisherman's cottages, boathouses and rowing boats, all form the old part of Norðragøta, which was once an ancient Chief's settlement. The well-informed custodian is on hand to show visitors around this aesthetic universe with traces back to Viking times and will gladly answer any questions the curious visitor may have.

G! ■ With names such as Natasha Bedingfield (UK) and Dixie Hummingbirds (USA), together with local artists Eivør and Teitur, Europe's next best music festival kicks off every year in July. The location is Syðrugøta; where a blast of a three-day party takes over the beach, village and fields with happy guests, top quality food, sauna and companionship all whilst listening to world-class innovative music.

SKÁLA, STRENDUR AND SELATRAÐ

Faroese spinning mill ■ The fabulous palette of

yarn produced from Faroese wool by the spinning mill Snældan, is more than enough to tingle the fingers of happy knitters the world over. It is the fourth generation who now owns the mill, production and shop down on the quay in Strendur, where they have been producing yarn for the most discriminating handcraftsmen since 1949. As is usual, the protected church at Sjógv is situated at the bottom of the village.

Active summer camps ■ In summer, the scout camping site at Selatrað offers masses of opportunities for adrenalin highs, laughter and fun together. With activities such as paintball, rappelling, climbing, archery and canoeing, there is something for everyone. In the evening everyone gathers around the campfire or grill before retiring in the light summer nights.

LAMBA AND SØLDARFJØRÐUR

Slave ship ■ On New Year's Eve in 1707, the former Danish slave ship 'Norske Løve' was blown off course as it sailed to Tranquebar in India with 120 men. It was crushed as it was driven onto the rocks at Lamba. The crew and most of the riches on-board were rescued and brought ashore. The story is still told in the ballad 'Norske Løve' which was written by one of the crew.


































































































































Quiet pleasures ■ Follow the cairns from Lamba towards Rituvík, past moors of peat and the stone weighing 440 pounds, which only a few have managed to lift - or take the trip to Söldarfjørður and enjoy some tasty soup and bread in the intimate garden 'Uppi í Gørðum'.

GLYVRAR, SALTANGARÁ AND RUNAVÍK

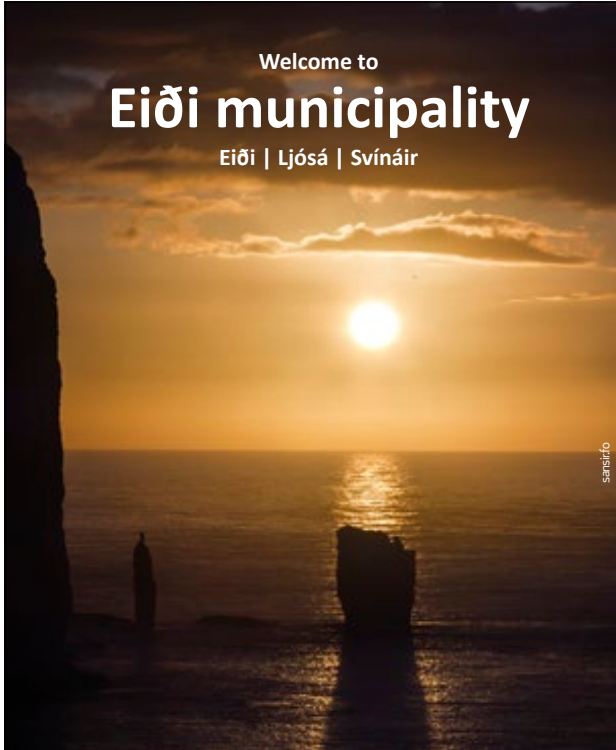
Skálafjørður ■ The farming villages along the east side of Skálafjørður have grown together to form one town whose busy harbour is home to the head office of the world's largest salmon farmers, fish factory and marine supply service to the oil industry. The past's history can be seen in the small houses and the local museum 'Forni', whilst the present reflects itself in the glass of the brand new gymnasium. This building together with the school and scout house, form an interesting architectural terminus for those visiting the many shops on the high street.

Toftavatn ■ The large lake Toftavatn with its heather covered heath, the largest in the Faroes, is a

FACILITIES IN THE VILLAGES


Oyri 135 inh.	
Oyrarbakki 148 inh.	  
Norðskáli 298 inh.	    
Eiði 630 inh.	         
Gjógv 28 inh.	      
Funningur 51 inh.	 
Funningsfjørður 53 inh.	
Elduvík 19 inh.	  
Oyndarfjørður 133 inh.	  
Hellurnar 14 inh.	 
Skála 670 inh.	         
Strendur 773 inh.	         
Selatrað 39 inh.	   
Syðrugøta 416 inh.	
Gøtugjógv 39 inh.	   
Norðragøta 624 inh.	      
Leirvík 898 inh.	         
Fuglafjørður 1.505 inh.	         
Söldarfjørður 328 inh.	 
Lamba 141 inh.	
Glyvrar 371 inh.	   
Runavík/ Saltangará 522/ 979 inh.	         
Rituvík 267 inh.	   
Æðuvík 106 inh.	   
Nes 334 inh.	   
Toftir 794 inh.	      

See explanation of symbols on page 4



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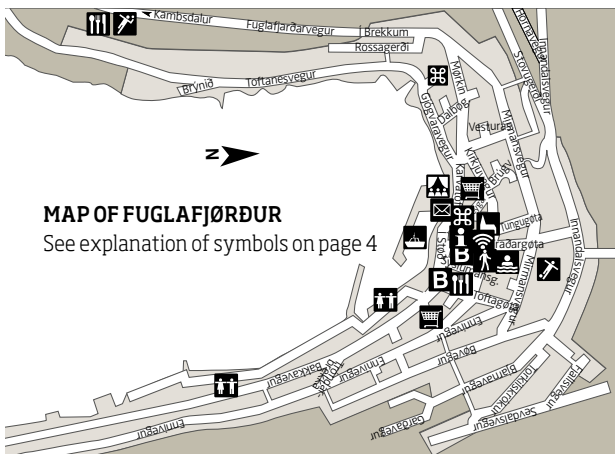
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- the past and present meet



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 info@visitesturoy.fo

THE MUNICIPALITY OF FUGLAFJØRÐUR
 Fuglafjarðar kommuna
 info@fuglafjordur.fo, www.fuglafjordur.fo



MAP OF FUGLAFJØRÐUR

See explanation of symbols on page 4



The picturesque village of Gjógv

sanctuary for the visitor wanting to investigate the rich bird and plant life. No matter whether you like to barbecue after work, jog across the heath or study the migratory birds building their nests, everything helps the body to store some peace and tranquillity from this calm and secretive landscape.

ÆÐUVÍK, TOFTIR AND NES

Elves ■ Æðuvík was previously known for its many elves. When the first settlers came in 1897, they asked the provost Evensen to move them to the outer fields. Today it is peaceful in the village but the elves can still be heard in the settlement at Promsgil on the path between Æðuvík and Nes. The village is best known nowadays as the Faroe Islands 'Christmas village', where in the dark days of winter the entire village is lit up with thousands of lights and flashing fairy lights.

Memories ■ The view from Nes towards Tórshavn and Nólsoy was the reason why the British set up their canon and searchlights here to protect their ships in Skálafjørð from the German ships and bomber planes. The canons are still in the bunker although nowadays, instead of storing handgranades, you will find potatoes. The cosy church at Nes and the rectory from 1843 and 1863 respectively, are now museums. Elisabeth, who was married to V.U.Hammershaimb the local priest, designed the rectory and his cousin Maid Schrøter helped her.

World-class stadium ■ "The most picturesque and wind-blown stadium in the world" is how the world's press describe the internationally recognized athletics and football stadium Svangaskarð at Toftir, where the Faroese national team has played – and also won – many matches.

Museum in Gøta

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” To climb Slættaratindur was fantastic. We stood on the top in baking sunshine, no wind, no rain.

Göran, 34 years, Sverige



Enjoying the view from the top of the Faroes-Slættaratindur, 880m

Kaspar Solberg

See map of towns, villages and infrastructure on page 14



Olavur Frederiksen

Klaksvík - capital of the Northern Isles

EXCURSIONS IN EYSTUROY

HIKING

The two tourist offices in Eysturoy have several guided hikes on their programme. For instance:

Slættaratindur: On this tour we climb the highest mountain in the Faroe Islands, Slættaratindur (882 m). From the top we have a fantastic view of all the Faroes.

The refuge Uppi á Húsi: In Fuglafjørður there is a refuge in the mountain west of the village. In the old days, a small house was built here for people to hide in when pirates ravaged the village. Many exciting stories are told on this trip.

The old road over the mountain from Leirvík to Norðragøta: The hike starts at the Viking settlement of Leirvík and continues over the mountain to Norðragøta. The trip ends in the old part of town in Norðragøta, where coffee will be served at GlyvraHanusar Hús.

Lamba – Rituvík: This mountain hike starts off in the idealistic village of Lamba, continuing up the mountain, and then follows the cairns to the village of Rituvík. The guide will provide entertainment with the authentic story of the ship Norske Løve. Dried fish will be served in a sheephouse on the mountain.

Around Toftavatn: Join a guided tour around the Toftavatn lake. It starts at the rectory dating from 1863, continues

with a visit to the wooden church built in 1843 and the Fríðrikskirkjan from 1994. We also visit the Toftir stadium and walk over the heather covered hills around the idyllic Toftavatn lake.

Skarð: The tour along the cairn path up to the mountain pass Skarð, between Fuglafjørður and Hellurnar, and further on up to the vantage point above is a magnificent experience.

If you prefer to go on your own, the booklet *The Faroes on foot* is available. This booklet will tell you how to manage, which way to go and what is worth seeing as you pass by. The booklet is for sale at the tourist offices.

FAROESE EVENING

Faroese evening with traditional food and culture. Please contact the tourist information in Eysturoy.

SCUBA-DIVING:

A magnificent experience. Nearly everyone remembers their first encounter with the underwater world the rest of their lives.

ROWING

Boat racing in typical Faroese rowing boats can be arranged for groups in Skálafjørður.

ADVENTURE GARDEN UPPÍ Á GØRÐUM

Visit the old Faroese adventure garden where you can listen to birdsong, experience the beautiful nature and enjoy the view over all of Skálafjord. You can buy coffee and homemade cakes which you can enjoy sitting in one of the garden's many cosy corners. It is particularly pretty in the evening by candlelight. The owners of the garden can also arrange:

1. Walking tour followed by fish soup and a tour of the garden.
2. Fishing by rod in the local area followed by a meal served in the garden.

For more information about tours, please contact:

Kunningarstovan in Runavík

Tel. +298 417060
fax +298 417001
kunningarstovan@runavik.fo
www.visitesturoy.fo

or

Kunningarstovan in Fuglafjørður

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NORÐOYGGJAR - THE NORTHERN ISLANDS

The Northern Isles comprise six islands situated in the northeast of the country. Three of the islands are connected by dams with a road and the other three can be reached by boat or helicopter. The Northern Islands are distinctive for their high, steep mountains. Seven of the Faroe Islands ten highest mountains, can be found in this area.

KLAKSVÍK

Fishing capital ■ With energetic and visionary entrepreneurs at the forefront, Klaksvík has developed from a farming community to become the Faroes fishing capital. The high street with its many shops, cafés, museum and cinema, runs around the bay where top modern trawlers, purse-seiners and pleasure boats lie side by side together with traditional rowing boats. One of only two breweries on the Faroes is situated here, the prize-winning family-run brewery, Føroya Bjór.

History saturated church fixtures ■ The altarpiece in the magnificent Christian's Church is the 57 square metre fresco "The Last Supper", painted by J. Skovgaard for Viborg Cathedral. The fresco's 0,5 mm thin coloured chalk layer was damaged by salt, taken down and later sent to Klaksvík. The christening font is 4.000 year's old and was used in the Stone Age as a hearth temple. Hanging from the ceiling is the old priest's boat from Viðareiði, which was also used as a fishing and whaling boat on Fugloy.

Waterpark ■ Swimming was a very cold affair in the Faroes first outdoor pool built in 1906 at the little plantation known as Úti í Grøv. The river water has since been replaced with heated water in a modern swimming pool complete with water slide and a sauna. People still swim in the bay, albeit novice divers training their skills before being let loose in the sea around the Faroe Islands.

Summer Festival ■ Every year in August, the family-friendly Summer Festival draws thousands of happy Faroese to a festive meeting with international names such as Ronan Keating, The Scorpions and Roxette, backed by a mixed variety of local musicians.

BORDOY

Quiet moments ■ The road north passes through two small tunnels where you are quite likely to meet some elves, especially in one in particular. In the valley between the tunnels is the peaceful Árnafjørður where the sandy beach is perfect for a relaxing picnic. Peace is

NORÐOYGGJAR

exactly what has descended over Múli, where the only sounds to be heard nowadays are those of the birds, sheep and ocean since the last inhabitant left the village in 1998. In the little valley between the dark mountains, there once lived the famous wizard Guttormur í Múla, who on more than one occasion came to the help of the priest on Viðareiði with his knowledge of sorcery.

KUNOY

Highest island ■ Just like the village, the small plantation at Kunoy snuggles in between the awesome mountainsides on the island of the same name. Here are six of the highest mountains on the Faroes, all over 800 metres high. The impressive scene with its small houses, the protected church and a wonderful view of Kalsoy, is a favourite excursion destination. In the centre of the plantation next to the little brook is a rock known as Eggjarsteinur just waiting for the next person eager to climb up on top.

Climbing and hiking ■ The path from Kunoy to Skarð via the sometimes vertical, gravelly hillside at a height of 618 metres is only recommended for the experienced climber and then only with a guide. The three hour walk from Haraldsund along the coast is much more straightforward. The memorial among the ruins tells about the tragedy on the day before Christmas Eve in 1913, when seven men were drowned in a storm at sea, leaving families that had

no means of survival there. The last residents left in 1919.

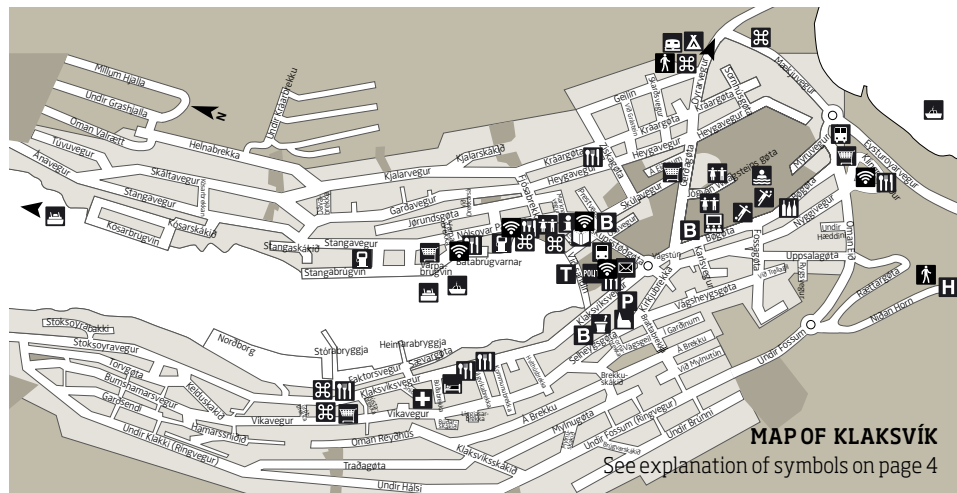
KALSOY

Skilled craftsmen ■ The dual track road and four tunnels make it easy to come around the villages on the distinctive island of Kalsoy, which is renowned for its skilled artists and craftsmen. Besides the obligatory tour to the island's most northerly point called Kallurin to admire the fantastic view, it is well worth looking in on Mikkjal's smithy in Trollanes to see if the forge is hot.

Kópakonan-the Seal Wife ■ Metre high waves crash in over the bronze statue of the Seal Woman that was erected in 2014 on the landing stage at Mikladalur. Well bolted to the rock, she represents the seal girl with whom a boy from Mikladal fell in love. Legend says that he fell in love as she, together with other seals, were shedding their skins on Twelfth night. The boy hid her skin, forced her to marry him and had several children with her. One day due to his negligence, she managed to retrieve her skin and jumped straight back into the sea.

VIÐOY

Viðareiði ■ Protected from the open sea by Villingardalsfjall, the highest mountain in the northern isles lies the beautifully situated village of Viðareiði. It is the Faroe Islands most northern community boasting a view of its neighbours on both sides of the island. The



Sub-sea tunnels



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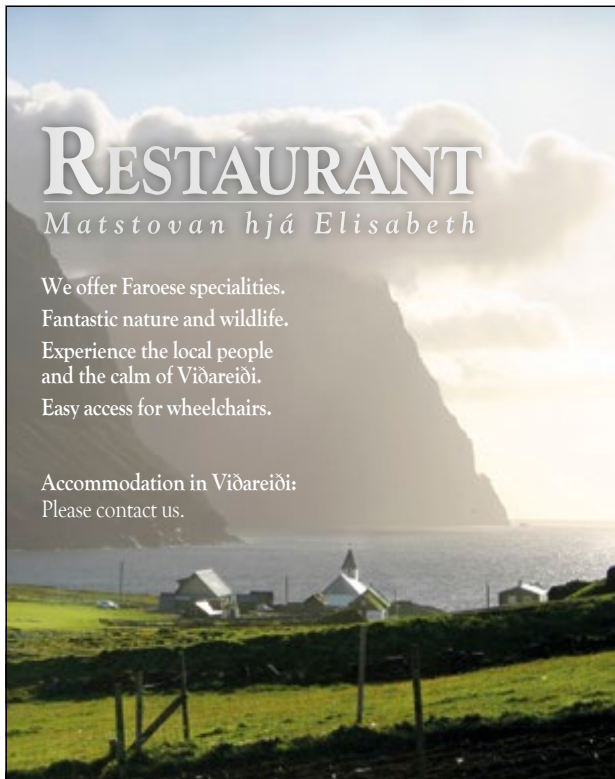
VÁGATUNNILIN



NORÐOYATUNNILIN

Hoyvíksvegur 65, P.O.Box 1010, FO-110 Tórshavn, Faroe Islands
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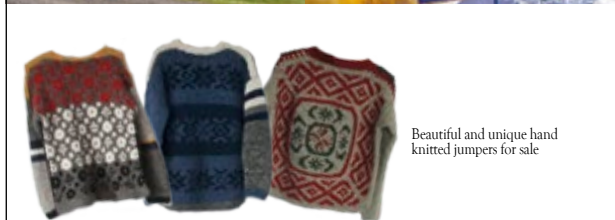


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For reservation, please call: Tel. 298 451 275 / +298 451 093 / +298 222 450

old rectory was once home to the priest's wife Beinta who inspired Jørgen-Frantz Jacobsen to write his novel "Barbara". The magnificent church silver was given to the village by the British government in recognition of the charity and hospitality shown to the crew of the "Marwood" which was shipwrecked in 1847.

One of the world's highest promontories ■ Enniberg is the Faroe Islands most northerly point and at 754 metres, one of the highest promontories in the world. The daylong hike over steep slopes requires an experienced local guide and some good weather in order to safely navigate past the gorge and out to the edge. The tender breast of guillemot from the local restaurant, Matstovan hjá Elisabeth, tastes especially good after the rigours of the tour.

SVÍNOY Journey ■ The journey to the secluded islands of Svínoy and Fugloy is an experience in itself starting with the departure from Hvannasund where the little ferry "Ritan" is moored. Bobbing like a cork on the waves, it follows the current in and under the island's vertical cliff face where the seabirds float around in their quest to find food for their young. The landing stages on both islands show signs of erosion by the sea and therefore it is necessary to jump quickly on land. Alternatively, the helicopter flies to the islands several times a week affording a bird's eye view of the tall uneven mountains.

Green spaces ■ The wide-open green spaces around the village on



The gateway to
the Northern Isles

www.visitnordoy.fo

Accommodation – Summerhouses – Daily fishing trips
 Sightseeing trips to Enniberg the second highest promontory in Europe
 Hiking tours – Sightseeing in Klaksvík and much more



February	June	August	August
Torrádagur	Norðoyastevna	Summarfestival	Sjómannadagur
Cultural Event	Town Festival	Musical Festival	Sailors Event

Whichever season you visit
 you will find a wide variety of activities
 such as cultural events,
 town festival, musical festival
 and regional events as sailors event.
 Welcome to Klaksvík.





One of the Faroe Islands prettiest villages - Viðareiði, also the most northerly village

Svínoy are uncharacteristic for the geography of the area. The mountains are high but not so close, so it is easy to come around the island. The rocks down by the landing stage in the village are a great place to check out the beach flora and fauna. In the church you can see the gravestone with a cross that was laid over the grave of the Viking Bjarni frá Svínoy. He was the uncle of the Chief Tróndur í Gøta, famous from the Saga of the Faroe Islanders. The cross was discovered under the old church floor when it was demolished in 1828.

FUGLOY

Stylish churches ■ As a former lawman's seat, hugely plagued by trolls and home to a group of rebels who planned to take power over the country, Fugloy is a place with many stories to tell. However, life today is somewhat more peaceful in the two villages of Hattarvík and Kirkja. Both villages have a church, which are stylistically very different. The famous Faroese artist Mikines has painted the altarpiece in Kirkja whereas the church in Hattarvík, which was renovated at the turn of the century, has an altarpiece that is composed of 14 modern graphic prints.

Olavur Frederiksen



The statue of the Seal Woman stands in Mikladalur, Kalsoy

FACTS

The toll for driving through the sub sea tunnel between Leirvík (Eysturoy) and Klaksvík (Borðoy), can be paid at any petrol station. See advertisement on page 67.

Roystovan
Klaksvíkvegur 41
Klaksvík • Tel. 456125

Monday - Thursday 11.00-23.00
Friday & Saturday 11.00-04.00
Sunday 14.00-23.00

FACILITIES IN THE VILLAGES

Kirkja 26 inh.	[Icons: Church, Shop, Restaurant, Bar, Pub, Toilet, Wheelchair, Baby, Boat]
Svínoy 26 inh.	[Icons: Church, Shop, Restaurant, Bar, Pub, Toilet, Wheelchair, Baby, Boat]
Viðareiði 348 inh.	[Icons: Shop, Restaurant, Bar, Pub, Toilet, Wheelchair, Baby, Boat]
Hvannasund/Norðepil 228/164 inh.	[Icons: Shop, Restaurant, Bar, Pub, Toilet, Wheelchair, Baby, Boat]
Klaksvík 4.605 inh.	[Icons: Shop, Restaurant, Bar, Pub, Toilet, Wheelchair, Baby, Boat, Pharmacy, Post, Bank, Museum, Library, Sports, Music, Theater, Cinema, Hotel, Car Rental, Taxi, Ferry, Boat]
Kunoy 70 inh.	[Icons: Shop, Restaurant, Bar, Pub, Toilet, Wheelchair, Baby, Boat]
Húsar 43 inh.	[Icons: Shop, Restaurant, Bar, Pub, Toilet, Wheelchair, Baby, Boat]
Syðradalur 6 inh.	[Icons: Shop, Restaurant, Bar, Pub, Toilet, Wheelchair, Baby, Boat]

See explanation of symbols on page 4

“ I am in love with the cold, unknown, wild and beautiful nature. I love the magical landscape and enjoy being far from noisy towns.

Olga, 31 years, Poland

Davur Winter

EXCURSIONS IN NORÐOYGGJAR

Norðoya Kunningarstova arranges several excursions daily, if the attendance is sufficient. Among the excursions are:

BUS TOURS

Viðareiði. We start by visiting the village of Árnafjørður and continue to Viðareiði, where we visit the church and have a cup of coffee. We end the tour with a visit to the museum Norðoya Fornminnisavnn.

HISTORIC SIGHTSEEING TOUR OF KLAKSVÍK

A tour of the town where we visit the Christianskirkjan, the museum Norðoya Fornminnisavnn and the plantation "Úti í Grøv".

BOAT TRIPS IN NORÐOYGGJAR

Three of the six northern islands, Fugloy,

Svínoy and Kalsoy, have no road connection to the other islands due to the distances involved. There is a ferry sailing to Kalsoy from Klaksvík, but Svínoy and Fugloy are dependent upon the post boat and today, this is a popular tourist attraction due to the wonderful scenic experience.

LEGENDARY TRIP WITH LOCAL DELICACIES

Walk in the footsteps of the Selkie and see the legendary statue of the Sealwoman by the sea in Mikladalur, and enjoy local delicacies in Húsar.

WALKING TOURS

The tourist information in Klaksvík arranges several guided walking tours. Arranged in cooperation with the guide,

they are an experience for both mind and soul. There are easy tours and more difficult ones for the experienced hiker.

For more information and booking of tours, please contact:

Norðoya Kunningarstova

Tel. +298 456939, fax +298 456586
info@klaksvik.fo, www.visitnordoy.fo



See map of towns, villages and infrastructure on page 14

Alessio Mesiano



The village of Gásadalur on Vágur is surrounded by the island's highest mountain

VÁGAR AND MYKINES

VÁGAR AND MYKINES

Vágur and Mykines are the two western islands of the Faroes. Vágur hosts the modern international airport, which is situated on a level plain outside Sørvágur.

SØRVÁGUR

Faroe Islands from the air ■ The island of Vágur welcomes airline passengers to the Faroes. It was here, between the mountains near the village of Sørvág during World War 2, that the British occupying force chose to build the island's only airport. The landing strip could not be seen or shelled on from the sea.

In good weather, the approach gives a fantastic view of the island's beautiful landscape. If you wish to see more of the landscape, then take a trip with the helicopter from the airport. There is a 3 star hotel and conference centre next to the airport.

The island's largest sandy beach ■ The village of Sørvágur was originally situated higher up on one side of the bay's mountainside, whilst the current old town with church and museum, is situated in the 'El Dorado' between two creeks at the bottom of the bay and straight out to the sandbanks which border the islands largest sandy beach. There is a vast difference between high and low tides, so it is advisable to keep a watchful eye if you decide to take a walk out to see Sørvág from the sea side.

MYKINES

An absolute 'must-see' ■ Throughout the summer, tourists flock to the island to experience the beauty and drama. An absolute 'must-see' is the massive bird population. Many people choose to take the boat one-way and the helicopter the other way in order to experience the island by sea and air. There are several possibilities if you want to stay overnight on the island.

Besides the island's mysterious beauty, the stone forest in Korkadalur, the idyllic village with its white church, the cemetery's metre high angelica plants, the museum celebrating the island's famous artist Samuel Joensen- Mikines and the small stream that runs from the cattle trail through the island's ice-cold swimming pool; there is also the exciting trip out to the islet which draws the tourists. Tourists are advised to plan their trip to Mykines at the beginning of their holiday as weather conditions can prevent departure from the island for 1-2 days.

Faroe Islands exclusive gannet colony

The path to the islet passes over green slopes and continues right out to the end of the island, past a

Visit Mykines & Tindhólmur

We sail every day to Mykines from 1. May - 31. August:
Sørvágur - Mykines 10.20 and 16.20
Mykines - Sørvágur 11.05 and 17.05

We can also arrange guided tours of Mykines and Tindhólmur. Sailing from Sørvágur.

For more information see:
www.mykines.fo



Booking, tel. +298 210870 or
e-mail: mykines.maja@gmail.com

www.mykines.fo



memorial to those who died on the mountains and at sea. From here, the path continues down small steps in the side of the mountain, to a cliff path several hundred metres above sea level, through 'puffin land' over the bridge.

Having successfully negotiated the bridge you will see the lighthouse and keeper's house with a direct view down to the Faroe Island's unique gannet colony. The adventure is constantly accompanied by the inescapable presence of the birds, but despite the noise, here on the edge of the continent, there is a magical feeling of inner peace and greatness.

BØUR AND GÁSADALUR

Magnificent view ■ West of Sørvágur lies the idyllic village of Bøur whose inhabitants have one of the country's best views. From the grass roofed houses and church that lie lumped together along the river close to the white sandy beach, there is a magnificent view of Tindhólmur, Gáshólmur and Mykines; seemingly so close and yet, so far.

The green valley ■ "1700 metres from the future" is the name of a film by Ulla Boje Rasmussen about the village of Gásadalur, which until 2003 only had a connection to the outside world via helicopter. Alternatively you could do as the villagers and postman did up until 2003 and walk the 4 km over the steep mountain passing dangerously close to the edge in parts. Today the new tunnel is the lifeblood for the few villagers who live in the green valley.

VATNSOYRAR

Between two lakes ■ The village of Vatnsøyra is situated in the scenic area between Leitisvatn and Fjallavatn, two of the largest lakes on the Faroe Islands. From here there sails a houseboat out to the impressive landscape by the Bøsdalafoss waterfall and Trælanipan, the place from which the Vikings threw their worn out slaves into the sea. The unspoilt landscape around Fjallavatn and nearby Hvilvtkinnvatn is a paradise for anglers and hikers. With the tempo screwed right down, you can enjoy the beauty and nature's apparent constancy and take a walk eastwards to the abandoned village of Slættanes.

MIÐVÁGUR

International songwriter ■ As you sit in comfortable seats acquired from Amalienborg castle, the old hotel will serve up local delicacies to tempt your taste buds. You can also listen to songs by Mikkjal á Ryggi and Greta Svabo Bech who was nominated for a 'Best Dance Record' Grammy in 2011. A gentle walk around the village will take you up to the church with its impressive altarpiece by the artist Torbjørn Olsen, through the plantation, past the old rectory, over the cemetery and down to the beach to enjoy the birds and the peace and calm.

Barbara's heritage ■ Jørgen Frantz-Jacobsen's novel about the lively "Barbara", is based on the life of Benita, a pastor's widow who was married three times and ended her days in the widow's seat of Kálvalið, far up the mountainside and almost invisible from the village. Pastor's widows lived their sedate lives here right up until 1965.

English invasion ■ With an occupying force of approximately 6.000 British soldiers to preside over the islands 2.000 inhabitants, for better or worse, the Second World War left its mark on Vágur. The changed times during the war meant an unequal distribution of men and women, different ways of dancing, cinemas and parades with uniformed young men as well as air attacks, bombings, the construction of an airport and a compulsory visa for the local inhabitants. A turbulent time that ended almost as suddenly as it had begun; a moment in history captured in the display at the Kríggssavnið in Miðvágur.

SANDAVÁGUR

Runes from Rogaland ■ "Thorkild Onundarsonur from Rogaland was the first to settle here", is the inscription on a rune stone from the Viking Age that was discovered quite by chance in a field close to Sandavágur in 1917. The stone is now kept in the picturesque Sandavágur church, a village landmark, and was inaugurated the same year. There is a 313 metre high freestanding rock to the east of the village called Trøllkonufingur, which means Witch's finger. In 2012, seven men attempted to climb this rocky column; four were successful in reaching the top for the first time since 1844.

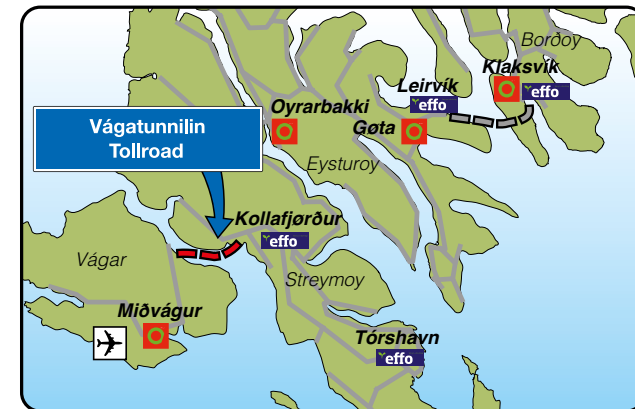
Sub-sea tunnels



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VÁGATUNNILIN



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- Guesthouse and café in Sørvágur - in a cosy retro-style
- Unique situation by the sea
- Fantastic views
- Just a few minutes to the sea and departures to the bird paradise of Mykines



Welcome

samsir.fo

Father of the written language

The Law speaker's residence Á Steig is situated next to the river in the centre of the town. It was here that the Faroese leaders of parliament lived from 1555 until 1816. The clergyman V.U. Hammershaimb, son of the last law speaker, was the engineer of the Faroese written language in 1846. It is still in use today albeit with some modifications.

FACTS

The toll for driving through the sub sea tunnel between Streymoy and Vágur can be paid at any petrol station. See the advertisement on page 75.

FACILITIES IN THE VILLAGES

Sandavágur 876 inh.	
Miðvágur 1.058 inh.	
Sørvágur 985 inh.	
Bøur 68 inh.	
Gásadalur 17 inh.	
Vatnsøyrar 50 inh.	
Mykines 13 inh.	

See explanation of symbols on page 4

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Visit the exciting War Museum

KRÍGSSAVNIÐ

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Come stay with us... and explore our beautiful and breathtaking nature at your own pace.

Accommodation, a total of 40 beds. Excellent rates, reservation suggested. Restaurant and snack bar. Picnic lunches packed to order

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Welcome to Vágur and Mykines

www.visitvagar.fo

Unspoiled, Unexplored, Unbelievable

Visit Vágur, Vága Floghavn, 380 Sørvágur, Tel. +298 333 455, vagar@vagar.fo, www.visitvagar.fo

” The beautiful landscape was amazing, people were very friendly, birds were fantastic.

Alice, 49 years, Ireland



Morian Mortensen



Ingi Sprensen

See map of towns, villages and infrastructure on page 14

Puffins on Mykines

Twilight over Stóra Dímun, Líta Dímun and Suðuroy

EXCURSIONS IN VÁGAR AND MYKINES

BOAT TOURS

Daily Tours: It is possible to take a boat trip to the bird cliffs south of Sørvágur, Vágar's west and north coasts and the coast of Mykines. Contact the Tourist Information in Vágar.

Vágar Tourist Information arranges a 6-hour tour to the pearl of the Faroes, Mykines. The passenger boat takes you from the quay in Sørvágur to the island where the scenery and birdlife are unique. Please contact Vágar Tourist Information.

The trip with the boat Lakeside on the Sørvágsvatn/Leitisvatn lake, is the only one of its kind in the Faroes. Here you will sit in comfort as in a conservatory with a fantastic view and glide across the large expanse of water. We sail from a jetty in the village of Vatnsøyra, which

was called 'Lakeside' by the English soldiers who were stationed here during the Second World War, over to the lake's south side where we disembark and walk to the Bøsdalafossur.

FAROESE FOOD

Traditional Faroese food from the 'hjállur' (outhouse), can be sampled at Eddie's on Mykines.

RIDING TOURS

Davidsens Hestar arrange rides according to your wishes, both short and long tours in the fantastic landscape with horses to suit all levels of experience. Duration and difficulty can be arranged to accommodate all.

WALKING/HIKING

There are good opportunities for hiking on Vágar, both easy walks and hikes in

hilly terrain for the more experienced. Tours are arranged in cooperation with a guide and promise an experience for mind and soul.

For more information about all the tours, please contact the tourist information:

Vága Kunningarstova
Tel. +298 333455,
fax +298 333475
vagar@vagar.fo,
www.visitvagar.fo

SANDOY, SKÚVOY AND STÓRA DÍMUN

Sandoy is a mild and green island. Sandoy is good for cyclists and hikers because of its relatively flat terrain.

SKOPUN

The old town ■ Negotiating the labyrinth of roads that make up the old town in Skopun, is an experience in itself as the small houses appear to be quite haphazardly built, creating many narrow alleys.

World's largest post box ■ One of a sailor's landmarks is the colossus blue post box, which once placed Skopun in the Guinness Book of Records. With a letterbox outside of normal peoples height, the 7.42 metre high and 4.45 metre wide post box still ranks as one of the largest in the world.

The headless troll ■ The idyllic Høvdahagi lies off Trøllhøvdi (troll head). Legend has it that the troll unfortunately lost his head as he was trying to tie Nólsoy and Sandoy together. Apparently the rope was

placed around the island but the loop had also fallen around his neck and as he tightened it, his head fell off.

SANDUR

Walking and cycling ■ With its gentle inclines and wide-open spaces, Sandoy is ideal for walking and cycling. Drop the pace and enjoy the exquisitely beautiful places such as Søltuvík with its distinctive landscape. Follow the cairns to the peaceful valley called Slavansdal or go on a guided night tour to Borgin, where you can see a colony of Petrels. Take a break amongst the Lyme grass on the sand dunes and dip your toes in the stream that runs quietly by.

Viking settlement ■ The excavations of the Viking settlement 'Undir Junkarinsfløtti' and around the charming wooden church dating from 1838, has

“ We, a family with 4 children, had an unforgettable holiday with hiking on Sandoy and Skúvoy, a generous neighbour in Skálavík, a storytelling bus driver, an exciting helicopter trip and many sailing trips.

Anette, 32 years, Denmark



The village of Sandur on Sandoy

come to the attention of the world. The old fisherman's house 'Norðari Koytu' from 1812 is well worth a visit.

Something for everyone ■ Sandur is full of a motley range of stories about despicable priests, sprites, trolls and witches who have lived on the island through the ages. Concrete evidence such as the troll woman's cave, giant's footprints and knuckle marks chiselled in stone, prove that they must be true. If this is not scary enough, then maybe one or all of the following will excite you; a tour around the art museum, sightseeing in a boat to the western bird cliffs, rappelling from 300 metres height, a successful angling trip followed by a picnic with fresh bread and cakes from the local bakery.

SKÁLAVÍK AND HÚSAVÍK

History and legends ■ Just like Cinderella, Sissal also escaped her previous life and became the 'Lady of the house in Húsavík'. She was the most powerful woman in the Faroe Islands owning all the land in Húsavík and Skarvanes in addition to possessions on the Shetland Isles. Between the houses close to the large sandy beach, you can still see the ruins of large houses, a boathouse for ocean-going ships and the churchyard, where the captured sprites worked as slaves. The legend says that a sprite jumped into Lítlavtn lake when his tail fell off due to a large stone shifting position. Rumour has it that he still lives there today.

De-stress and idyll ■ Grass-covered open spaces, a stone church with the Faroe's oldest organ and a modern hotel complete with outdoor spa given as a gift to the village from a grateful former inhabitant. All of

these make Skálavík a comfortable and de-stressing starting point for excursions around the island. Make sure you take a detour to the remote house in Norðasta Haga where you can also stay overnight.

DALUR AND SKARVANES

Faroe evenings ■ After a hair-raising drive along the single-track road, which seems as though it desperately clings to the side of the mountain, you will be rewarded with a view of the picturesque village of Dalur. In this pretty valley you can experience some of the Faroe Island's best ballad singers, traditional Faroese wool work and knitting, and traditional children's games as you enjoy Faroese delicacies at one of the popular Faroe evenings. With the help of a local guide, the return trip can be made by walking over the mountain to Skarvanes.

Skarvanes' enchanting view ■ With one of the country's prettiest views, it is understandable that the roots of Faroese art were laid in the picturesque village of Skarvanes. It was here in the disused farm Kárastova, that Dðrikur made his bird drawings. He was born in 1802, the son of the farmhand on Stóra Dímun. The Art Museum in Tórshavn exhibits five of his colourful bird drawings in gouache on paper.

SKÚVOY

Packed with history ■ The Viking Chief's island of Skúvoy gets its name from the Great Skua that can be found in large numbers on the island. This was the place where Sigmundur Brestisson was born; he was one of the principle men in the Faroese Saga. After his father's

violent death, he grew up as a herdsman at the court of Olaf the Holy of Norway. He converted to Christianity and went on the King's command back to the Faroe Islands, where in 999 he brought Christianity to the islands by the sword. The island is packed with places that are brought to life by skilled storytellers as they recount tales of his life and the drama that ensued between him and the northern chief Tróndur í Gøtu, who wanted to kill him.

STÓRA DÍMUN

Almost self-sufficient in the 21st century

■ With only a sporadic boat service and the narrow mountain-shelf 'Kleivin', not entirely without danger, as the only means of getting to the top from the sea, the helicopter is a lifeline for the two families living

and working on the farm on Stóra Dímun. Their main income is from sheep farming, the associated abattoir and tannery, bird catching and tourism which all combine to make this little island community almost self-sufficient. The eighth generation of farmers on the island has learnt to combine ancient knowledge with a modern lifestyle, so that the daily life on this natural fort is as much like any other family as possible. The island's history and fascination as home to 'hermits', draws a steady stream of guests, journalists and tourists from home and abroad who want to experience how people can live and survive so far off the beaten track in the 21st century.

FACILITIES IN THE VILLAGES

Sandur 529 inh.	
Skopun 443 inh.	
Skálavík 140 inh.	
Húsavík 71 inh.	
Dalur 34 inh.	
Skúvoy 33 inh.	
Stóra Dímun 10 inh.	

See explanation of symbols on page 4



Kittiwake nests on Stóra Dímun

An unforgettable boat trip from Sandoy

Experience the fantastic nature and unique bird life of Skúvoy or Sandoy. Fishing trips can also be arranged.

Jóan Petur Clementsen
FO-210 Sandur · Faroe Islands
Tel. 361019 / 286119
tojo@olivant.fo

Sandoy Tourist information
tel. + 298 361836 · fax +298 361256
www.visitsandoy.fo · info@visitsandoy.fo

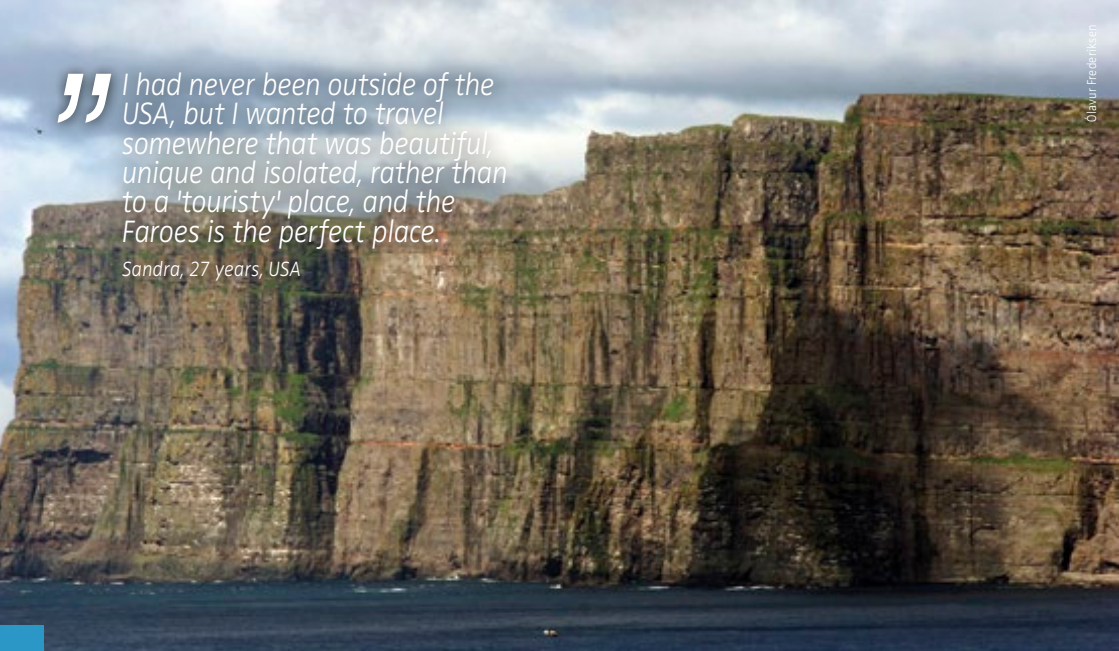
- Accommodation
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on Sandoy, Skúvoy og Stóra Dímun

• Sands kommuna · Húsavíkar kommuna · Skopunar kommuna
• Skálavíkar kommuna · Skúvoyar kommuna

“ I had never been outside of the USA, but I wanted to travel somewhere that was beautiful, unique and isolated, rather than to a 'touristy' place, and the Faroes is the perfect place.

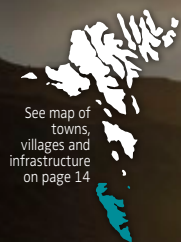
Sandra, 27 years, USA



Skúvoy bird cliffs



Captivating light over Lopra village



See map of towns, villages and infrastructure on page 14

Ólavur Frederiksen

Mortan Mortensen

SANDVOY, SKÚVOY, STÓRÁ DÍMUN

SUÐUROY, LÍTLA DÍMUN

EXCURSIONS ON SANDVOY, SKÚVOY AND STÓRÁ DÍMUN

HIKING TOURS

The tourist office on Sandvøi is able to arrange various guided hikes, including a trip to Høvdarhagi on the west coast of Sandvøi where one can experience a magnificent vista toward the bird cliffs. From Skopun to Sandur.

Hikes to the east side of Sandvøi also offer spectacular and unique vistas, including the craggy Dysjarnar and the majestic cliffs of Borgin.

On Sandvøi, Skúvoy and Stóra Dímun you have the possibility to follow in the footsteps of the ancient sagas, many of which go back to the Viking and Chieftain times on the Faroes. You can experience the meeting of past and present. All these fantastic sagas were set in the magnificent nature of these three islands.

RAPPELLING FOR GROUPS

If you enjoy extreme sports and a challenge, then you can rappel from a height of 300m on the western side of Sandvøi at Lonin, if weather permits. The tour, which takes

approximately 5-6 hours, leads you through beautiful scenery and gives you a chance to enjoy some Faroese food. Find out more about rappelling for groups at the local tourist information. The tour can also be arranged without rappelling, if you prefer to enjoy the nature with both feet on the ground!

BOAT TOURS

From May to August the breathtakingly beautiful soaring cliffs of Sandvøi and Skúvoy become a veritable seabird paradise for guillemot, puffin, cormorant, fulmar, and razorbill. Weather conditions permitting, the Hvíthamar sails along the coast of Sandvøi or around Skúvoy. On the trip there is a good chance that you will encounter curious or slumbering seals. Contact Jóan Petur Clementsen, local boat builder, for details. The tourist office also arranges a number of tours to the solitary and enigmatic island of Stóra Dímun.

FAROESE EVENING

Traditional kvøldseta or evening gatherings are offered regularly featuring traditional food and demonstrations that share aspects of the old Faroese culture such as wool spinning, carding, etc. Guests will also have the opportunity to participate in the Faroese chain dance together with villagers from the isolated and unique village of Dalur. By arrangement, ask at the local tourist information.

For more information about tours, please contact:

Sandvøi Tourist Information
Tel. +298 222078 / +298 361836
info@visitsandvøi.fo,
www.visitsandvøi.fo

SUÐUROY AND LÍTLA DÍMUN

Suðuroy is the southernmost island in the Faroes and it is this distance from the rest of the country, which partly explains its uniqueness, not only geographically but also in terms of language and culture.

TVØROYRI

Cultural SALT silo ■ One of the landmarks when arriving in Trongisvágssjard is the characteristic Norwegian wooden church, dating from 1908. Another is SALT, an old salt silo that was built in 1938 by a French-Faroese business coalition to store salt from Ibiza. There are plans to restore and transform this into a cultural centre. Tvøroyri had its heyday in the first half of the 1900's when trade and the fishing industry drew people from all over the country to the town. Several of the buildings from that period have been beautifully restored and are now in use as a restaurant, pub, conference venue and museum.

Hvannahagi ■ North of Tvøroyri is the deep and serene Hvannahagi, with fantastic views of Stóra and Líttla Dímun. Moving along a small path will take you down into the idyllic basin, whose geographical feature is internationally known. At the bottom of the valley there is a small lake called Hvannahvatn, which attracts many birds.

Basalt columns ■ The characteristic columns of basalt, that rise vertically and zigzag up from the sea, were once hosts to the Danish King Frode who settled here having been blown off course on his way to Iceland, this is the reason why the village of Frøðba is said to be the oldest Faroese settlement.

HVALBA AND LÍTLA DÍMUN

Black gold ved Hvalba ■ The mineworkers lead tourists through the narrow and pitchblack mineshafts whilst they tell about their lives underground. This workplace is the only place in the Faroes where the 'black gold' is still extracted from the mountain.

Rappelling ■ Hanging over the edge of the mountain, men would dangle on the end of a rope as they were lowered down the dizzy heights of the mountainside, in order to get hold of the eggs, young and adult birds. Anchored by several men at the other end of the rope, this was the way the Faroese harvested

“The nature was as impressive as I had expected. The people were much more open and welcoming than I had expected.

Marie, 67 years, Denmark



View from Stóra Dímun to Litla Dímun, the only uninhabited island on the Faroes

Ólavur Frederiksen

the riches of the vertical mountain face. An adventure the fearless tourist can also experience.

LÍTLA DÍMUN

Litla Dímun is a steep, conical shaped island that is privately owned and inhabited only by birds and sheep. Three examples of the wild, goat like species of sheep that originally grazed on the island are displayed in the National Museum. The last one was killed in the 1860's.

SANDVÍK

Seafarers ■ Sigmundur Brestisson, who Christianised the Faroes with bible and sword in 999, originally came from the island of Skúvoy. During an attack on the island, he threw himself into the sea and swam to the village of Sandvík where a farmer who wanted his gold bracelet beheaded him. The puffin's favourite place in the southern part of the Faroe Islands is Ásmundarstakur, an incredibly beautiful area west of Sandvík.

FÁMJIN AND ØRAVÍK

The first flag ■ The first example of the Faroese flag called Merkið, which now hangs in the church in Fámjin, waved for the first time in connection with a church service in Fámjin in 1919. It was designed by Faroese students living in Denmark and took its basic idea from the cross and the colours of the Nordic flags, red, white and blue. Kirkjuvatn, one of the island's largest lakes, is situated just above the village in a valley. There are good opportunities for anglers here together with many other places on the island. On the way over the pass to the distinctive valley at Øravík, you will see the ancient ting site, Uppi millum Stovur.

HOV

Viking chief's grave ■ Beneath the impressive basalt columns at Hovsegg lies the village named Hov. It gets its name from the Norse description for an altar (temple, court) where sacrifices were made to the Nordic gods. Havgrímur, Viking Chieftain for a large part of the Faroe Islands lies buried here close to the site of his main settlement.

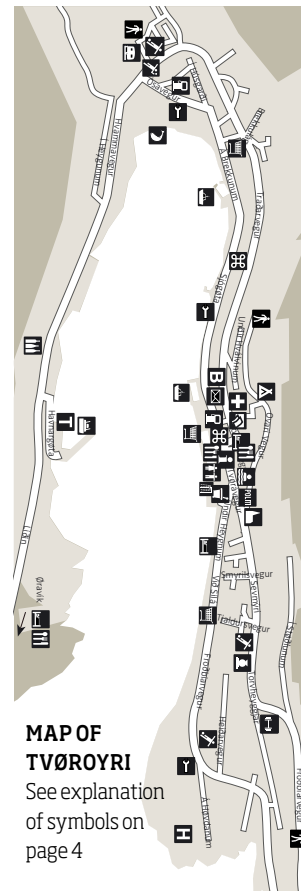
PORKERI

Wooden church from 1847 ■ The old wooden church, which dates from 1847, is situated close to the shore. Its interior of untreated wood is a suitable setting for the many gifts the church has received from members of the congregation in thanks for having been rescued at sea. The local museum, neighbour to the church, also owns the old farm "Í Eystrum", situated high up in the pretty landscape.

VÁGUR

Memories of the island's heyday ■ Vágur also shows signs of its heyday. Old trading houses and warehouses, houses where fish was cleaned, sail maker's houses and drying places for clip fish, all bear witness to an era of great activity with many ships and people. The church, whaling boats and the local museums all tell stories from that time in history.

View overlooking majestic bird cliffs ■ The Faroe Islands first hydroelectric power station was constructed in a particularly attractive area known as "Í Botni". Hydropower was needed to pull the boats up and down from the high rails on the impressive Vágseiði. High



MAP OF TVØROYRI
See explanation of symbols on page 4

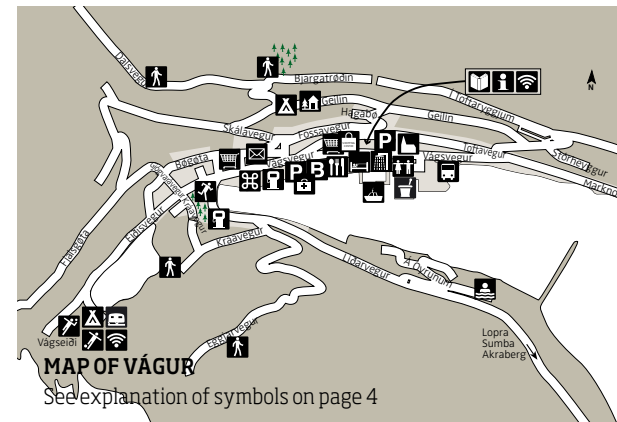
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MAP OF VÁGUR
See explanation of symbols on page 4

up on the mountainside south of Vágseiði, is Eggjarnar, from where there is a magnificent view overlooking the majestic bird cliffs on the island's western side.

Swimming pool for an Olympic swimmer

In order to improve the training facilities for Pál Joensen, the local Olympic swimmer, a leisure centre has been built complete with a 50-metre pool, children's pool, waterslide, whirlpool bath and other wellness facilities.

Colouristic master ■ One of Scandinavia's outstanding yet most underrated artists is Ruth Smith. In 1948 she returned to the village of Nes near Vágur after completing her education at the Academy of Fine Arts School Of Painting. Even though her self-portraits are colouristic masterpieces, there was not much that survived her critical eye and for that reason, the modest

museum that bears her name has a small yet impressive collection of her artwork on display.

LOPRA AND SUMBA

Land of contrasts ■ The contrast between the gentle east facing slopes and the vertical cliff-faces to the west, where the Atlantic Ocean's waves violently rage, is most strongly experienced at the west facing isthmus or out on the edge of the bird cliffs, for example, Beinivørð where the luscious green grassland suddenly changes to an alluring drop into the abyss.

Storytellers ■ Superstition, wizardry, giants, legends and tales from Europe's medieval history all meet in the southernmost village on the Faroe Islands. Fascinating storytellers bewitch us with dramatic fighting songs and stories from their forefathers, about

SUÐUROY, L. DÍMUN

SUÐUROY, L. DÍMUN

FACILITIES IN THE VILLAGES

Sandvík 87 inh.	
Hvalba 637 inh.	
Tvøroyri/Trongsivágur 824/518 inh.	
Øravík / Øravíkarlið 32 / 69 inh.	
Fámjin 92 inh.	
Vágur 1.328 inh.	
Lopra 87 inh.	
Sumba 248 inh.	
Hov 118 inh.	
Porkeri 303 inh.	

See explanation of symbols on page 4

the Frisians in Akraberg, the troll girl Títill-Táta, the Harga brothers and Barbara the witch, plus more modern stories about the local poet Poul F.

Hiking and Faroe Islands southernmost point ■ At the end of the way are the lighthouse, the keeper's house and other outbuildings. This is a popular place to start several of the walking tours around the island, many of which go all the way to Sandvík. Five kilometres south of the lighthouse at Akraberg is the rock formation known as Munkurin, this is the most southerly point of the Faroe Islands.



EXCURSIONS IN SUÐUROY

BUS TOURS

Sumba: On this special bus tour to Sumba, the southernmost village on Suðuroy, we stop in Vágur to savour an extraordinary bit of sea coast known as Vágseiði, as well as the woollen mill, Ullavirkið, which designs and manufactures knitwear using only Faroese wool. Further south, we visit the site near Lopra of the geological test well. We experience the dramatic vista of Beinivørð, the 469 metres high promontory, and linger in Akraberg at the lighthouse.

HIKING

Hvannahagi: With a breathtaking view of Lítli and Stóri Dimun, Hvannahagi is located north of Tvøroyri. Besides being one of the most beautiful and distinctive places in the Faroe Islands, Hvannahagi is a very interesting place as regards geology.

Walking in Fámjin: An easy walk in Fámjin. We visit the church first, where the original Faroese flag hangs, as we listen to exciting stories about the church and village. We then walk up to Kirkjuvatn and continue on to the beautiful viewpoint "Nev" where we have the chance to enjoy the fantastic

view of the steep west coast. The whole tour takes approx. 1½ hours.

Kasparshól, near Sumba: Tour to the Kaspar cave and Meat cave where the brothers Kaspar and Sjørður lived, having escaped from the fort in Tórshavn in the 18th century. They were jailed having been accused of stealing sheep and were to be sent to Bremerholm in Copenhagen. They used a cave higher up on the mountain for drying the mutton, hence the names given to the caves, Kaspar cave and the Meat cave. We will visit both. The area, Blæðing, is very special, strewn with large white stones.

RAPELLING

Rapelling at Norðbergseiði. In Hvalba you have the chance to try the old tradition of "sígging" where you will be lowered down the Norðbergseiði cliff west of Hvalba, just as the Faroese have done for centuries as they catch the birds.

BIRD TRIPS

Akraberg has a wonderfully rich bird life and tours can be arranged with a bird enthusiast from Sumba. You will need to bring your own binoculars. Contact the Tourist Information in Vágur for more details and booking.

VISIT TO THE LOCAL ART GALLERY

Gallery Oyggjin arranges art shows by well known Faroese and Nordic artists. It is open Tuesday - Sunday from 14.00-18.00. The owner of the gallery also arranges art tours.

EXOTIC DAY TRIP TO LÍTLA DÍMUN

This exotic tour is only made once a year. The trip starts by boat from Hvalba or by helicopter from Tvøroyri. A fantastic experience of the island's nature, witnessing birds and sheep. It is possible to stay overnight under primitive conditions.

For more information about all the tours, please contact the tourist information:

Kunningarstovan in Tvøroyri

Tel. +298 372480, fax +298 371814
sout-inf@post.olivant.fo,
www.visitsuduroy.fo

or

Kunningarstovan i Vágur

Tel. +298 239390,
info@vagur.fo,
www.visitsuduroy.fo

YELLOW INFO

The following pages will give you any information you may need as a tourist in the Faroes. You can check opening hours, find places of interest, look up accommodation facilities and many other things. The index below will show you how the yellow info is arranged.

1. ACCOMMODATION	p. 88	Sea Angling	27. SOUVENIRS	p. 97
Accommodation for groups			Art	
Bed & Breakfast		14. HOSPITALS	Books	p. 92
Guesthouse		15. INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT	Ceramics	p. 92
Hotel		Airlines	Embroidery	
Hotel Apartments		Ferry	Gifts	
Self-catering		16. INTERNET CAFÉ/SERVICE	Glass Art	p. 92
Youth Hostel		17. LAUNDRIES	Jewellery	p. 92
2. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	p. 89	18. LIBRARIES	Knitwear	p. 93
3. BANKS	p. 89	19. MOTORCYCLE RENTAL	Music	p. 93
4. BICYCLE RENTAL	p. 89	20. MUSEUMS AND GALLERIES	Stuffed Birds	p. 93
5. BOOK SHOPS	p. 89	Aquarium	Wooden Art	
6. BOWLING	p. 90	Art Gallery	28. SWIMMING POOLS	p. 98
7. BREWERIES	p. 90	Historical Museum	29. TAX FREE	p. 98
8. BUS RENTAL	p. 90	Museum of	30. TAXI	p. 98
9. CAMPING SITES	p. 90	Natural History	31. TENNIS COURTS	p. 98
10. CAR RENTAL	p. 91	21. NIGHTCLUBS AND DISCOTHEQUES	32. THEATRE/CULTURAL CENTRES	p. 98
11. CINEMAS	p. 91	22. PETROL STATIONS	33. TOURIST BOARD	p. 99
12. DOMESTIC TRANSPORT	p. 91	23. PHARMACIES	34. TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICES	p. 99
Buses		24. PLACES TO EAT	35. TOUR OPERATORS	p. 99
Ferries		Cafés	36. TRAVEL AGENCIES	p. 99
Helicopter Service		Cafeterias		
13. EXCURSIONS	p. 91	Fast Food	25. POLICE STATIONS	p. 96
ATV bikes		Pizzerias	26. POSTAL SERVICES	p. 97
Birdwatching Tours		Restaurants		
Boat Trips		Sushi		
Bus Tours				
Diving				
Fishing				
Hiking/Guided Walks				
Horseback Riding				
Hunting trips				
Kayak				
Rapelling				

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The following pages will give you information about:

1. Alcoholic Beverages	p. 100	13. Driving in the Faroes	p. 101	26. Postal Services	p. 102
2. Animals	p. 100	14. Duty-Free Shopping	p. 101	27. Public Holidays	p. 102
3. Banking Hours	p. 100	15. Electricity	p. 101	28. Services for the Physically Disabled	p. 102
4. Business Hours	p. 100	16. Emergency Assistance	p. 101	29. Shopping/Souvenirs	p. 103
5. Camping	p. 100	17. Entry Regulations	p. 101	30. Sport fishing	p. 103
6. Churches	p. 100	18. Faroese Dance	p. 102	31. Tax-Free Shopping	p. 103
7. Clothing	p. 100	19. Health Insurance	p. 102	32. Tipping	p. 103
8. Communication	p. 100	20. Hiking	p. 102	33. Travel in the Faroe Islands	p. 103
9. Consulates	p. 101	21. Local Radio	p. 102	34. Travel to the Faroe Islands	p. 103
10. Currency, Credit Cards and Foreign Exchange	p. 101	22. Local Time	p. 102	Tunnels in the Faroe Islands	p. 103
11. Cycling	p. 101	23. Lost and Found Articles	p. 102		
12. Deep-sea fishing	p. 101	24. Luggage Storage	p. 102		
		25. Newspapers	p. 102		

1. Alcoholic Beverages

The legal drinking age in the Faroes is eighteen. Light beer may be purchased in shops and unlicensed restaurants and cafés. Stronger beer, wine and spirits may only be purchased in Government Monopoly stores in major towns. (See page 89) and in licensed restaurants, café's, nightclubs, etc.

2. Animals

The transportation of any animal into the Faroes is strictly forbidden. For more information call 556400, www.hfs.fo

3. Banking Hours

Banks in major towns and some villages are open from 9:30 to 16:00 weekdays. All banks are closed on Saturdays and Sundays. Secure Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) are available from 6:00 until 02:00 every day.

4. Business Hours

Most shops are open from 10.00-17.30. On Thursday and Friday many are open until 18.00. Shops close on Saturday at 14.00. SMS shopping centre in Tórshavn is open until 18.00. Most shops are closed on Sunday. Kiosks, petrol stations and most bakeries do not close until 23.00, also on a Sunday.

5. Camping

There are no public wilderness or common areas in the Faroes. As a consequence, camping is only permitted at designated campsites (See page 90). Moreover, it is not permitted to stay overnight in your camping cars along the road, at rest stops, lay-bys or view areas. Be aware that many camping sites are designated only for tents. Campers ought to be considerate of the environment, keep the camping areas tidy and clean up thoroughly upon departure. Because of the unpredictable weather even in summer, it is advisable to have sturdy, waterproof and windproof camping equipment. Fuel for camping stoves is available at petrol stations.

6. Churches

Many villages have their own churches and in several places you can see examples of the old Faroese wooden church with black walls, turf on the roof and a white belfry. Visiting the modern churches, decorated with Faroese art, is an interesting experience as well. Church services are held every Sunday at 11:00 or 12:00. Some of the churches are open at fixed hours or on request in the summer. Contact the local tourist office for information.

7. Clothing

Unique to the Faroe Islands is the chance to experience several seasons weather in the space of a short time, therefore it is always wise to be prepared for the unexpected. A waterproof rain jacket is highly recommended and a warm sweater, as well as a warm hat, especially when voyaging out to sea. An extra sweater might prove handy for mountaintops. Rubber boots or waterproof hiking boots are a must along the trails in the mountains. Dressing in layers is always the best option. Sunglasses and binoculars might prove useful. Sunglasses and a good sunscreen to shield against the bright sun when it bursts through the clouds and binoculars to enjoy the splendid vistas and rich bird life.

8. Communication

When calling from abroad, the Faroese national code is +298. Calling from the Faroes you must dial 00, then the national code and the telephone number. For further information, please contact the telephone number information on 118.

Mobile phones: The GSM system is the most commonly used mobile phone system in the Faroes and can be used throughout the islands. Føroya Tele (Faroese Telecom) and Vodafone have many cooperation agreements with other countries, so-called roaming agreements, so that foreign visitors can make use of their own mobile phones while they are in the Faroes, and Faroese mobile phones can be used in large parts

of the world. Føroya Tele and Vodafone also provide prepaid telephone cards. This is a service for which the customer pays a sum in advance into a GSM account, which can then be used up as required. With this service you avoid unexpected bills. Prepaid telephone cards can be purchased in the Teleshops, kiosks, petrol stations, post offices, hotels and tourist offices. It is possible to send MMS and use GPRS data in the Faroes. Whether this is possible with your telephone, it will depend on your operator having a GPRS roaming agreement with the Faroese telephone companies. **Internet and WiFi:** Internet cafés can be found in the Tourist Information Offices in Sandoy and Runavík and in all libraries. All cafés and shopping centres offer free WiFi.

9. Consulates

The following countries maintain consulates in Tórshavn: Brazil, Britain, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Russia Sweden.

10. Currency, Credit Cards and Foreign Exchange

As a self-governing region of the Kingdom of Denmark, the Faroese government prints its own currency, the króna, although Danish coins are used. The exchange value is equivalent to the Danish krone, and there is no service charge on exchange, as Danish notes are equally acceptable as the Faroese króna throughout the country. Banks and Visittorshavn provide foreign exchange services. Automatic teller machines (ATMs) are available for MasterCard/Euro-card, Visa and Dankort at various locations, e.g. at the banks located along the pedestrian mall in the centre of Tórshavn. Most banks provide cash advances on credit cards. Some villages have an ATM but no bank.

11. Cycling

There are no public wilderness or common areas in the Faroes, and cycling other places than on the road is prohibited. All land is privately owned and public access, therefore, limited. Conservation of the fragile soil is very important, especially on the mountain trails where erosion is closely monitored. The roads are often steep and good brakes are an absolute necessity. Cycling in some of the longer tunnels where ventilation is poor is not recommended. Some tunnels are narrow with few passing places so that cycling is hazardous. The inter-village buses, however, can often accommodate cycles for easy transit in hazardous areas. Consult with the various tourist offices on local conditions and on scenic roads. For bicycle rental, see page 89.

12. Deep-sea fishing

There are several operators that offer deep-sea fishing. Ask at the local tourist information. If you want to bring your own fishing vessel for fishing in the Faroes, please enquire about licence regulations with the local authorities.

13. Driving in the Faroes

Driving is on the right and most road signs follow international standards. The use of seat belts is required. The speed limit is 50 km in the towns and villages and 80 km on the main roads. For cars with trailers, the speed limit is 50 kph and for caravans the speed limit is 70 kph. The

consequences for speeding are severe. Parking in the towns of Klaksvík, Tórshavn, Runavík and the Airport is restricted. Parking discs must be displayed in the lower right hand corner of the front windscreen showing the time you parked your car. These display discs are available at no charge from banks and the tourist offices. There is a fine of DKK 200 for parking violations. Headlights must be on when driving and seat belts fastened. As you drive along, please be aware that the sheep may be startled and leap out in front of you. If you happen to collide with a sheep, immediately contact the police in Tórshavn at tel 351448 for assistance.

14. Duty-Free Goods

Travellers to the Faroe Islands are permitted to purchase the following items duty-free:

Travellers aged over 18:

1 litre of spirits (maximum of 60% alcohol) and
1 litre of fortified wine or other beverage (maximum of 22% alcohol by volume) or 2 litres of table wine and
2 litres of beer (maximum of 5,8% alcohol) and
100 cigarettes or 100 cigarillos or 50 cigars or 250 grams of tobacco.
You may also import:
perfume up to 50 gr, aftershave 25 cl, chocolate/sweets 3 kg, fizzy drinks 10 litres

15. Electricity

The current is AC 220 volts, 50 cycles. The electric outlets take round plugs, common to most European countries. To be on the safe side, however, invest in a converter with a variety of adapter plugs so you will have just what you need for your hair dryer or shaver.

16. Emergency Assistance

Dial 112 for any type of emergency assistance anywhere in the country. First aid is provided at the hospitals in Tórshavn, Klaksvík and Tvøroyri. (See page 92) General Practitioners are also available for non-emergency consultations over the telephone, usually between 08:00 and 09:00 in the morning. Emergency medical treatment can be obtained in Tórshavn between 16:00 and 08:00 by telephoning to the emergency medical service tel. 1870. Pharmacies in Tórshavn, Runavík, Klaksvík and Tvøroyri provide after hours assistance as well. Emergency dental service (tel. +298 314544) is also available in Tórshavn. The emergency dental clinic is open Saturdays and Sundays and bank holidays from 10:00 to 11:00.

17. Entry Regulations

Nordic Region: Passports and/or entry visas are not required for citizens of Nordic countries. Identity documents are required, however.

EU-Countries, SHENGEN-Countries and other Countries:

Passports are required. For most countries entry visas are not necessary unless your stay will be longer than three months. Consult the Danish Embassy or consulate for specific requirements.

18. Faroese Dance

The old Faroese chain dance is our most important heritage. (See page 30) But the chain dance is not only ancient culture, it is also a living tradition, and danced at nearly all festive occasions, private or public. Societies are founded around the islands to preserve the old dancing variations and the ballads. The members meet once a week in winter time, but it is an old tradition not to dance during Lent, so the Faroese do not dance the chain dance between Shrove-tide and Easter Monday. The Faroese dance is a natural part of the many summer festivals and a must at the Faroese Cultural Evenings arranged for tourists. It is possible to contact the union of the dancing societies "Sláid Ring" www.sr.fo.

19. Health Insurance

Citizens of Nordic countries and Great Britain are covered under their respective public health plans while in the Faroes. Residents of other countries will need to acquire their own traveller's health insurance.

20. Hiking

Hiking in the mountains is one of the many delights awaiting the visitor. Here are a few suggestions to make your trek pleasant and safe. Always travel with a waterproof windbreaker and dress in layers so you can adjust as you go. A knapsack for your extra clothes along with some food, especially chocolate bars or similar quick energy food, and a thermos of your favourite hot drink is a must. Obtain a detailed map before you head out and tell someone your destination, planned route and your expected time of return. Be sure to let them know when you finally return so they won't come looking for you. Follow the footpaths and avoid walking on the grass in the cultivated infields. Avoid climbing where the soil is very fragile and loose and remember that the stony terrain along the cliffs and at the higher elevations can be quite dangerous because of slippage. Be observant of bird nests hidden away in the grass and avoid disturbing nesting birds. Usually they will let you know by their distress calls if you are wandering too close to their nests. You just might find them swooping down on you as well. If the hill fog suddenly surrounds you, sit down and wait until it clears. Hiking on unfamiliar terrain in such circumstances can be quite dangerous. Observing these few hints will help assure you have a safe and pleasant experience.

21. Local Radio

Kringvarp Føroya FM 89,9

The national Faroese radio station broadcasts every day from early morning to late in the evening. There are also local radio stations: **Rás 2 FM 102,0 / 107,0** which transmits a varied programme, **Lindin, FM 101,0**, whose transmissions are mainly of a religious character, **KissFM 98,7** transmits music from the 80's, 90's and millennium shift and **VoxPOP 104,1** which transmits current hit music.

22. Local Time

Local time is Greenwich Mean Time (GMT). Daylight saving time (GMT+1) is observed in the Faroes from April until October.

23. Lost and Found Articles

Contact the local police for assistance. (See page 96). Local tourist offices can also direct you to the proper authorities if you lose something during your travels. If your luggage is misdirected and does not arrive with you on the plane, contact the airline agents on duty or the Airport Tourist Office Desk, tel. 353300 for assistance. Normally luggage is located quickly and arrangements can be made for delivery.

24. Luggage Storage

Limited locker space is available at the bus terminal in Tórshavn. There are approximately 20 coin-operated lockers. Contact the local tourist information for other options.

25. Newspapers

Most Scandinavian newspapers are available in the pleasant reading area near the information kiosk at the Nordic House. Other foreign language newspapers are available in larger hotels, mini-markets and some kiosks. Libraries also carry an assortment of international newspapers and magazines.

26. Postal Services

The main post office in Tórshavn is open Monday to Friday 09.00-17.00. Village post offices have shorter opening hours. Please note that all post offices are closed on Saturdays and Sundays (See page 97). "Posta her" is a service providing stamps, postcards, envelopes, etc. This service is available in all supermarkets called Samkeyp - Mailboxes are available in the same supermarkets. Post boxes are blue and are situated all around the islands.

27. Public Holidays

Friday 1 January	New Year's Day
Thursday 24 March	Maundy Thursday
Friday 25 March	Good Friday
Sunday 27 March	Easter Sunday
Monday 28 March	Easter Monday
Friday 22 April	Prayer Day
Monday 25 April	National Flag Day (1/2)
Thursday 5 May	Ascension Day
Sunday 15 May	Whit Sunday
Monday 16 May	Whit Monday
Sunday 5 June	Constitution Day (1/2)
Thursday 28 July	St. Olav's Eve (1/2) (Ólavskvøftan)
Friday 29 July	St. Olav's Day (national day) (Ólavskudagur)
Saturday 24 December	Christmas Eve
Sunday 25 December	Christmas Day
Monday 26 December	Boxing Day
Saturday 31 December	New Year's Eve

28. Services for the Physically Disabled

Wheelchair access at most visitor destinations is limited. For a worry-free holiday, take the time to plan ahead. There is a comprehensive booklet available detailing wheelchair access. This booklet and more information can be obtained by contacting the Faroese Association for the Disabled, MBF, Íslandsvegur 10c, FO-100 Tórshavn, tel. +298 317373 /280203. mbf@mbf.fo, www.mbf.fo

29. Shopping/Souvenirs

Among Faroese souvenirs of particular interest are the numerous woollen goods, stuffed birds, ceramics, wood articles, jewellery, music, stamps and posters (see page 97).

30. Sport fishing

Fishing permits are required for certain lochs. Regulations for fishing in the lochs are printed on the permit. The fishing season in brooks and streams is 1 May to 31 August. Coastal fishing is generally permitted. Please enquire about local exceptions. You can purchase permits in most of the tourist information offices (See page 99). All equipment, including rods, reels, rubber waders, or lures, must be disinfected prior to arrival in the Faroes.

31. Tax-Free Shopping

As a guest in the Faroes, the holiday and business traveller is exempt from the 25% value added tax (VAT) on purchases over DKK 300. Look for the blue and white "Tax Free for Tourists" sign in the shop window. Over a hundred shops at various locations in the Faroes are members of the "Faroese Tax-Free System" and will gladly help you to obtain your tax refund. Ask the sales clerk at the time of purchase for a "Tax Refund Cheque." Complete the necessary information requested on the form and have the sales clerk validate the Cheque. Upon arrival at the airport or harbour, contact the customs officials before you check-in your luggage. Contact the customs agents either in the airport or onboard the ferry to get your VAT refunded. If you are on a cruise liner, you can get the VAT refunded at Visit Torshavn. The customs agent may ask to see your purchases before validating your Tax Refund Cheque. Proceed to the Tax Refund Agent, either at the airport or on board your ferry or cruise ship, for a full refund of the VAT. If you forget to cash your Cheque before you leave the Faroes, the stamped Cheque can be sent to "The Faroese Tax-Free System" (See page 98), who will send you the money or transfer it to your bank account.

Tax Free at the airport

There is a Tax Free shop in Vágur airport which is open during arrivals and departures.

32. Tipping

Although it has not been the custom to tip in the Faroe Islands, it is however becoming more widespread especially in restaurants, bars, cafés and taxis. You are not obliged to tip.

33. Travel in the Faroe Islands

Buses and Ferries

A well-developed, national system of roadways and ferries connects most towns and villages in the Faroes and is operated by Strandfaraskip Landsins. (See page 91). The inter-town bus system (Bygdaleiðir) operates daily to most areas. The buses are blue in colour. See bus and ferry timetable on www.ssl.fo. As well as children, pensioners and students are eligible for discounts on fares provided they show a pensioner or student identity card. The capital Tórshavn offers an efficient local bus service (Bussleiðin) with four routes that reach most areas of the town. The red-coloured buses operate two or three times each hour

during the day and hourly in the evening and Saturday mornings. Kirkjubøur, Velbastaður, Argir, Hvítanes, Kaldbak and Kollafjørður is also included in the local bus service. Route maps and timetables can be seen on www.torshavn.fo as well as at bus stops. It is free to travel on the red town buses. A map of the bus routes and timetables can be seen on www.torshavn.fo as well as at all bus stops.

Helicopter Service

Atlantic Airways offers a scheduled helicopter service to selected towns and villages throughout the Faroes. Contact Atlantic Airways directly at station@atlantic.fo, phone no. 341060. Booking is required, book in advance (See page 92).

34. Travel to the Faroe Islands

By ship: The Faroese shipping company Smyril Line, operates an all year cruise and car ferry service with regular sailings to the Faroe Islands from Iceland and Denmark. Contact the head office (See page 92) for more information about timetables, brochures and international sales agents or visit www.smyril-line.fo.

By air: Atlantic Airways, the national airline, (see page 92) flies several times daily to the Faroe Islands. Contact the airline direct or your local travel agent for information about flights. For more information, see www.flyfaroe.com and the advertisement on page 3. There is a direct bus service between the airport and Tórshavn in connection with arrival and departure times.

TUNNELS IN THE FAROE ISLANDS

Location	Construction	Height	Length	Light	Lane
Streymoy					
Leynar	1977	4,5 m	760 m	yes	2
Kollafjørður	1992	4,6 m	2816 m	yes	2
Eysturoy					
Norðskála	1976	4,5 m	2520 m	yes	2
Leirvíkar	1985	4,6 m	2238 m	yes	2
Borðoy					
Arnafjørður	1965	3,1 m	1680 m	no	1
Hvannasund	1967	3,1 m	2120 m	no	1
Kalsoy					
Villingardalur	1979	3,4 m	1193 m	no	1
Ritudalur	1980	3,8 m	683 m	no	1
Mikkaladalur	1980	3,7 m	1082 m	no	1
Teymur i Djúpadal	1985	3,5 m	220 m	no	1
Trøllanes	1985	3,5 m	2248 m	no	1
Kunoy	1988	4,6 m	3031 m	no	1
Vágur					
Gásadalur	2006	4,5 m	1410 m	yes	1
Suðuroy					
Hvalba	1963	3,2 m	1450 m	yes	1
Sandvík	1969	3,2 m	1500 m	no	1
Sumba	1997	4,6 m	3240 m	no	2
Hov	2007	4,6 m	2435 m	yes	2
Streymoy-Vágur					
Sub-sea tunnel	2002	4,6 m	4940 m	yes	2
Eysturoy - Borðoy					
Sub-sea tunnel	2006	4,6 m	6300 m	yes	2

NAME
AND
ADDRESS



(+298)

T: Telephone
F: Fax

Classifi-
kation

H: Hotel /
Conference

YH: Youth Hostel,
rooms, 2-8 beds

B&B: Bed &
breakfast

Open

■ 1/1- 31/12

● Groups on
request
all year

◆ Winter on
request



Total number
of beds/
rooms

FACILITIES

A: Suite
B: Lift
C: Sauna
D: Solarium
E: TV-room
F: Billiard
G: Table
tennis

H: Lounge
I: Internet
J: Laundry
K: Fitness
L: Hot tub
M: Indoor
play area

In the rooms
L: Telephone
M: Radio
N: TV
O: Fridge
P: Minibar
Q: Internet

Meeting
room
capacity



Suitable
for
disabled



①: Cafeteria
②: Meals on request
③: A la carte restaurant
④: Automat with soft
drinks, sandwich etc.

Credit
cards

1. Eurocard
2. VISA
3. Dankort
4. JCB
5. Master
6. Am. Expr.
7. Diners
8. All cards



Public
parking

Other
information

●: Rooms with
more than 2
beds
Ⓜ: Guest Kitchen
Ⓝ: Access to
kitchen

Bláðýpi - hostel.fo Dr. Jacobsens göta 14-16, FO-100 Tórshavn www.hostel.fo	T: 500600 F: 319451	VH	■	50 / 25	ABEHIJ	NQ	50		②	8	Publ.park.	●●
		B&B	■	15 / 5	EIJ	Q	50		②	8	Publ.park.	●●●
Guesthouse undir Fjalli Marknagilsvegur 75, FO-100 Tórshavn www.undirfjalli.com	T: 605010 F: 605011			27/6-15/8	EFGIJ		10-70		①②	2345	35	●●
Hotel Föroyar Oyggjarvegur 45, P.O.Box 3303, FO-100 Tórshavn www.hotelfooyar.com	T: 317500 F: 317501	★★★★	■	212 / 106	ABEFHI	LMNPQ	3-340	X	③	8	100	●
Hotel Hafnia Áarvegur 4-10, P.O.Box 107, FO-100 Tórshavn www.hafnia.fo	T: 313233	★★★★	■	2/1-23/12	ABCHI	LNPQ	120		③	8	7 +Public parking	●
Hotel Havn Dr. Jacobsens göta 16, FO-100 Tórshavn www.hotelhavn.fo	T: 500600 F: 319451	■	■	40 / 19	ABEFHIJ	NQ	50		②	8	Public parking	●
Hotel Streym Yviri við Strond 19, FO-100 Tórshavn www.hotelstreym.fo	T: 355500 F: 355501	★★★	■	1/1-31/12	EIK	LMNOQ	5-10		②④	8	16	●
Hotel Tórshavn Tórsgöta 4, P.O.Box 97, FO-100 Tórshavn www.hotelatorshavn.fo	T: 350000 F: 350001	★★★	■	78 / 43	ABEHI	LMNQ	8-60		③	8	Public parking	●
Kaffistovan FO-270 Nólsoy	T: 327175/327025 F: 327176		■	8 / 4					①③	123		
Kerjalon Hostel Tórshavn Oyggjarvegur 49, P.O.Box 3303, FO-110 Tórshavn www.hosteltorshavn.fo	T: 318900 F: 317501	VH	■	98 / 22	EIJ				②	8	100	●●
Guesthouse Gjáargarður FO-476 Gjógv, www.gjaargardur.fo	T: 423171 F: 423505	★★	■	1/3-1/11	EGI	NQ	10-80	X	①②	12345	20	●
Hotel Runavík Heiðavegur 6, FO-620 Runavík, www.hotelrunavik.fo	T: 663333	★★★	■	/ 19	ABIJ	RNQ		X	③	8	10	●
Hotel Klaksvík Vikarvegur 38, FO-700 Klaksvík, www.hotelklaksvik.fo	T: 455333 F: 457233		■	54 / 25	AEIJ	NQ	150	X	①③	12345	30	●
Giljanes FO-360 Sandavágur, www.farhostel.fo	T: 333465	VH	■	25 / 8	EI						20	●●●
Gamla Hotellið Jatnavegur 31, FO-370 Miðvágur, www.magenta.fo	T: 332408/217408	H	■	13 / 7	AHIJ	Q	8-22		②	2	Public parking	●
Hotel Vagar FO-380 Sørsvágur, www.hotelvagar.fo	T: 309090 F: 309091	★★★	■	50 / 23	AEIJLM	LMNQ	12-150	X	②③	8	90	●
Gula Húsið FO-388 Mykines, www.gulahusid.com	T: 532614/312914/ 512914		■	1/5-31/8			25					●●
Guesthouse Kristianshús FO-388 Mykines, www.mikines.fo	T: 312985/212985 F: 321985		■	1/5-1/9			30 / 9		①②	2		●●
Hotel Skálavík FO-220 Skálavík, www.hotelskalavik.fo	T: 345900/235911		■	100 / 25	EGIJLM	EGIJL	200	X	①②	8	100	●
Guesthouse undir Heygnum FO-800 Tvøroyri, www.guest-house.dk	T: 372046 F: 372446		■	18 / 9	EIJ	NQ	12	X		23	4 +Off.park.	●●●
Guesthouse FO-800 Tvøroyri	T: 259777		■		EIJ	Q				123456	6	●●
Hotel Bakkin FO-900 Vágur	T: 373961 F: 373962		■	16 / 10	I	NQ			①②	12345	4	
Hotel Tvøroyri FO-800 Tvøroyri	T: 371171 F: 372171	★★	■	28 / 14	EI	MNQ	25		①②	8		●



The Nordic House



Faroese National Gallery of Art



Summar Festival in Klaksvík



Women's race in Tórshavn

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2016

THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS CAN BE SUBJECT TO CHANGES

The Nordic House

The Nordic House is a multi-cultural venue offering a wide range of exciting events all year round, including concerts, exhibitions, theatre performances and much more. See the programme of events for the Nordic House at: www.nlh.fo

Faroese National Gallery of Art

The Faroese National Gallery of Art in Tórshavn offers many exciting exhibitions of artists from all over the world, in addition to the permanent exhibition of older and more modern Faroese art. Here you can see several works of one of the most famous Faroese artists, Sámal Joensen-Mykines (1906-1979). See the programme of exhibitions at the National Gallery of Art at: www.art.fo

Music festivals and outdoor concerts

During the summer months you will have more opportunities than you could possibly have imagined to enjoy the musical life of the Faroes. The local music scene has virtually exploded over recent years and you will be able to experience this fantastic variety of local music in all genres, plus top foreign groups and musicians at the various festivals and concerts.

- 10.-11. June:** Country- and Bluesfestival in Sjørvggur - www.country.fo
- June:** Við Múrin, Music festival in Kirkjubøur - www.vm.fo
- 14.-16. July:** G! Festival, Music festival in Gøta - www.gfestival.com
- 25. June:** Voxbotn - one-day festival in Tórshavn
- www.facebook.com/voxbotn
- 23. July:** Tórsfest - outdoor concert in Tórshavn in connection with festivities
- 4.-6. August:** Summar Festivalurin, Music festival in Klaksvík
- www.summarfestivalur.fo
- Beginning of June-end of August, every tuesday:** Grotto concerts with various musicians, sailing with the schooner Norðlýsið - www.nordlysid.com
- Mid June-Mid August:** Free live concerts - with a cup of coffee - exciting Faroese names - in the music store "Tutl" in the main street of Tórshavn, everyday - www.tutl.com
- June-August:** Summartónar - www.composers.fo
- All year:** Living room concerts - www.facebook.com/hoyma and www.facebook.com/Filjodstovukonsertir_og_kvoldsetur

Run for fun and Marathons

There are various runs arranged throughout the year, both for the experienced runner and also for those who run for fun and to exercise.

- 25 April:** Flag Day Run in Tórshavn, 7km and 2km - www.athletics.fo
- June:** Klaksvík (during the "Norðoyastevna" festival): - www.renn.fo
- June:** Hósvík (during the "Sundalagsstevna" festival): - www.renn.fo
- June:** Tórshavn Marathon: Full and half marathon or 5 km
- www.torshavnmarathon.com
- June:** Vestmanna (during the "Fjarðastevna" festival): - www.renn.fo
- June:** Vágur (during the "Jóansøka" festival): - www.renn.fo
- July:** Runavík (during the "Eystanstevna" festival): - www.renn.fo
- July:** Miðvágur (during the "Vestanstevna" festival): 7.5 km
- www.renn.fo
- July:** Tórshavn: Race (during "Ólavssøka"): - www.renn.fo
- August:** Kvinnurenningin: Women's race in Tórshavn: 5 km/2.5 km
- www.kvinna.fo



Faroe Pride i Tórshavn



Race rowing

Other special events

- 14.-16. April** Knitting Festival in Fuglafjørður - www.bindifestival.com
- 7. May:** Á grynnuni - free family event with focus on the sea's resources. Tastings of all the sea has to offer!
- www.facebook.com/Ein_dagur_á_grynnuni
- 7. May** Boat Festival in Toftir
- 20.-21. May:** Boat Festival in Vestmanna
- Ultimo maj:** Animal Day in Havnardali, Tórshavn. Family fun with animals and their young, plus many activities for the children
- www.ross.fo
- 24.-28. May:** Nordic Performing Art Days - 5 fantastic days of performing arts in and around the capital
- www.nordicperformingartsdays.fo
- 3. June:** Culture Night in Tórshavn - www.visittorshavn.fo
- 8.-10. July** Faroe Islands Regatta - sailing with traditional wooden boats
- Medio July:** Market day in Runavík. Salmon for sale
- www.visiteysturoy.fo
- 27. July:** Faroe Pride is the annual Gay Pride held in Tórshavn
- www.lgbt.fo, [Facebook: lgbtforoyar](https://www.facebook.com/lgbtforoyar)
- July:** Quayside dance on the western harbour in Tórshavn
- www.visittorshavn.fo
- 20. August:** Sjómannadagur (Seaman's Day) in Klaksvík. Plenty of exciting activities for all ages - www.klaksvik.fo

REGIONAL FESTIVALS

A highlight of the Faroese summer is the range of local festivals that give rise to a frenzy of activity in all regions. Main attractions of all festivals are the fun fair, sporting events and dancing. Boat races in traditional Faroese boats take place at the festivals competing in the FM challenge, and these are considered by many to be the absolute highpoint of the festivals. These festivals participate in the FM challenge for boat races:

- 06. June 2016 Norðoyarstevna in Klaksvík
- 11. June 2016 Sundalagsstevna in Hvalvík
- 18. June 2016 Eystanstevna in Runavík
- 02. July 2016 Jóansøka in Vágur
- 09. July 2016 Vestanstevna in Sjørvggur
- 16. July 2016 Fjarðastevna in Vestmanna
- 28. July 2016 Ólavssøka in Tórshavn

Other festivals:

- July Varmakelda in Fuglafjørður
- August Ovastevna in Nólsoy
- August Sandoyarstevna on Sandoy

Other useful websites

Keep up to date with events for 2016:

- www.visitfaroeislands.com
- www.visiteysturoy.fo
- www.visitsuduroy.fo
- www.kunning.fo
- www.visitsandoy.fo
- www.visitvagur.fo
- www.visittorshavn.fo
- www.visitnolsoy.fo
- www.visitnordoy.fo
- www.visit-vestmanna.com

Sleeping & Eating in the Faroe Islands



KOKS



Hotel Føroyar



Aarstova



Hotel Tórshavn



etika

Hotel Føroyar

Tel. +298 317500
hf@hotelforoyar.fo
hotelforoyar.fo

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