Midsummer Viking Voyage
Shetland Islands to Northern Norway
Twelve Nights Aboard Hebridean Sky

Paul Bracken ‘82 PhD
Professor of Management and Political Science
Dear Yale Travelers

I warmly invite you to journey with me from Aberdeen, Scotland to the Shetland Islands, then along the Norwegian Coast above the Arctic Circle to Tromsø. We'll view magnificent landscapes, remote islands, ancient settlements, and idyllic villages of Norway and northern Scotland, cruising at the height of summer when sunlight extends late into the evening.

This is truly one of my favorite parts of the world. I look forward to returning with you, my fellow Yalies, and making new friends as we cruise aboard a beautiful ship, *Hebridean Sky*, and explore the region's famed natural beauty. In addition to the must-see fjord networks of Norway, we also call at Stavanger to learn about the history of oil and its exploration in the North Sea. In Bergen we explore the well-preserved Hanseatic wharf district of Bryggen, then experience lovely Art Nouveau architecture in the scenic port of Ålesund. Throughout the trip we'll experience gorgeous wild landscapes and fascinating ancient settlements.

On this trip my lecture topics will include the United Kingdom’s role in the world today, politics and business in Scandinavia, and the current education landscape. I will be accompanied by my wife, Nanette. Together we have participated in many alumni travel programs and have enjoyed the comradery and stimulating discussions on each journey.

I hope you will join us in midsummer on this terrific “Viking voyage” which we’ll be sharing with members of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Williams alumni, and Stanford alumni. To learn more about this wonderful program, please visit www.yaleedtravel.org/viking20 or call 203-432-1952 or email edtravel@yale.edu.

Sincerely,

Paul Bracken ’82 PhD
Professor of Management and Political Science

yaleedtravel.org/viking20
Paul Bracken, Professor of Management and Political Science at Yale University, specializes in global business and international security. Bracken is a respected thought leader in global competition and the strategic application of technology in business and defense. He is a leading teacher in executive education and has run many programs for companies in finance, technology, and retail. He is a consultant to Fortune 500 corporations and private equity funds, as well as to many parts of the U.S. Government, and he is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. At Yale he is a Fellow of Silliman College and a member of the Elizabethan Club. Professor Bracken teaches a signature Yale College class on Strategy, Technology, and War. In the School of Management he teaches Technology and Global Strategy, and the widely acclaimed course, Problem Framing. Students and alumni admire the clarity of Professor Bracken’s presentations and the real-world examples he uses to illustrate points. His most recent book is The Second Nuclear Age. Other books have dealt with global business, political risk, national security and world order. Dr. Bracken has also written for The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Financial Times and Foreign Affairs to name a few. He is included in Princeton Review’s The Best 300 Professors in America.

Professor Bracken grew up in Philadelphia and earned his Ph.D. in operations research from Yale and his B.S. in engineering from Columbia. Professor Bracken's wife, Nanette, will accompany him on this program. In his lectures for this trip to Scotland and Norway Professor Bracken will discuss such topics as UK unity and Brexit; politics and business in Northern Europe; and the future of the EU.

ADDITIONAL LECTURERS on the cruise include Scott Pearson, Professor Emeritus at Stanford’s Food Research Institute, teaching about the peoples of Scotland and Scandinavia – Celts, Anglo-Saxons, Vikings and the Sámi, as well as the German Hansa, and Norway’s economic rise from the 19th to the 21st centuries; Markes Johnson, Professor Emeritus at Williams College, and his wife Gudveig Baarli, who grew up in Norway and earned a Ph.D. in paleontology from the University of Oslo, both lecturing about the geological clues relating to the separation of Scotland and Scandinavia from North America and the birth of the modern Atlantic Ocean, as well as the mythology and cultural history of the region.

Yale Study Leader

Delight in the long days of summer in the Land of the Midnight Sun, when temperatures are mild and the countryside is carpeted in flowers.

Meet local Shetlander musicians during a performance on board, and delight in a memorable private piano recital of Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg’s music at his former estate, nestled on a hillside by a bay just south of Bergen.

Upcoming Trips

Portugal and Northern Spain
May 17-27, 2020
Professor Steven Smith

Adriatic
June 8-19, 2020
Professor Ivo Banac

UK Rail
October 1-12, 2020
Professor Gordon Turnbull
ITINERARY
JUNE 5-18, 2020

WELCOME CALL
Monday, May 11 (Tentative)
Join Professor Bracken at 4 p.m. Eastern for a pre-trip welcome call to learn more about what to expect and ask questions.

HOME / ABERDEEN /
EMBARK HEBRIDEAN SKY
Friday & Saturday, June 5 & 6
Depart home on overnight flights to Aberdeen. Upon arrival on Saturday, relax before a Captain’s welcome reception and dinner. Hebridean Sky (R,D)

FAIR ISLE /
SHETLAND ISLANDS
Sunday, June 7
Anchor off of Fair Isle, the most remote inhabited island in the UK, known for the intricate and distinctive knitting patterns which originate here, and also home to large breeding colonies of seabirds. The tiny population of 60 or so islanders extend us a warm welcome, walking with us on a 3-mile roundtrip hike to the newly refurbished bird observatory, and stopping at the community hall for a cup of tea and homebaked treats. Arrive this evening in Lerwick, and enjoy a folk performance by local musicians on board. Hebridean Sky (B,L,D)

LERWICK,
SHETLAND ISLANDS
Monday, June 8
Visit the extraordinary archaeological site of Jarlshof, embracing 4,000 years of near-continuous settlement, from Bronze Age stone houses and an Iron Age broch, to examples of Pictish art and the most extensive Viking remains left anywhere in the United Kingdom. After a local lunch, enjoy a free afternoon to explore the historic port of Lerwick, with time to wander through its narrow stone lanes as well as visit the excellent Shetland Museum, containing artifacts from shipwrecks and the whaling era. Hebridean Sky (B,L,D)

STAVANGER, NORWAY
Tuesday, June 9
Tour the city of Stavanger, once the port from which thousands emigrated to the U.S. and now the heart of Norway’s international oil industry. Choose between a guided hike up to the iconic Preikestolen (Pulpit Rock), or stay in Stavanger for a highlights tour of the city, including a visit to the landmark Norwegian Petroleum Museum. Enjoy leisure time in port in the early evening, with the option for an early dinner ashore, before the ship departs. Hebridean Sky (B,L,D)

ROSENDAL /
HARDANGERFJORD
Wednesday, June 10
Explore Hardangerfjord, the third largest fjord in the world. Dock in Rosendal, with a choice of fullday options: a scenic three-mile roundtrip walk to Bondhus Lake along an enticing stream through idyllic birch forests carpeted with moss, before stopping for a local lunch, OR a journey by coach and ferry to the north side of the fjord for live demonstrations of Norway’s traditional shipbuilding techniques and a farm lunch at fjordside fruit orchard. Both options will experience views of waterfalls and an arm of the Folgefonna glacier. Hebridean Sky (B,L,D)

BERGEN
Friday, June 12
Over breakfast arrive in the lovely fjord capital of Bergen. Enjoy a walking tour of the historic waterfront merchant district, built in
the Middle Ages by the Hanseatic League, and visit the lively fish market. After some free time for independent exploration, gather for afternoon visits to the Fantoft Stave Church—an excellent reconstruction of the original 12th-century church that burned down in 1992—and Troldhaugen, the former home of famous Norwegian composer, Edvard Grieg. A special highlight is a private, virtuoso piano recital of Grieg’s music in the turf-roofed concert hall that blends perfectly into the forested hillside overlooking the hut on the bay where he composed. *Hebridean Sky (B,L,D)*

**RUNDE / ALESUND**

**Saturday, June 13**

Cruise by the bird cliffs at Runde, one of the largest nesting cliffs in Norway and home to half a million birds. More than 240 species have been observed here, including puffins, gannets, razorbills, and northern fulmar. Continue to Alesund, explore the harbor and streets with their Art Nouveau buildings, or the more active may like to take the 418 steps up Mount Aksla for panoramic views of the town center, archipelago, and Sunnmøre Alps. *Hebridean Sky (B,L,D)*

**MOUNT TORGHATTEN**

**Sunday, June 14**

This morning, one of the most famous landmarks on the Norwegian coast will come into view: Mount Torghatten, with the iconic natural hole ice-eroded right through it. After a beautiful drive from the port of Brønnøysund, there is an optional, fairly strenuous walk up to and through the enormous hole, with a pretty good chance of eagles, but gorgeous woods and views for sure. For those wishing a more easygoing morning, our naturalists will lead gentler walks along the emerald shore. Enjoy an afternoon of cruising, with the possibility of an expedition stop at one of the local islands, conditions permitting. Cross the Arctic Circle tonight and raise a glass to our first midnight sun. *Hebridean Sky (B,L,D)*

**REINE, LOFOTEN ISLANDS**

**Monday, June 15**

Enjoy Lofoten Archipelago, composed of some of the oldest rocks on earth, forming a dramatic backdrop. Dock in Reine, revered as the most beautiful fishing village in Norway, for scenic drives and visits to two additional photogenic villages. *Hebridean Sky (B,L,D)*

**SVOLVÆR / TROLLFJORDEN, LOFOTEN ISLANDS**

**Tuesday, June 16**

Dock in Svolvær, a vital fishing town on the island of Austvågøya in the Lofoten archipelago. Take a panoramic drive across Vestvågøya Island for a visit to the Lofotr Viking Museum in Borg. Explore the picturesque village of Henningsvær, with a wide range of handicrafts shops, galleries, a candle foundry and a glass-blower’s cabin. Enjoy time on deck as we sail through the narrow and steep-sided Trollfjorden, witnessing the birdlife, waterfalls and dramatic scenery. *Hebridean Sky (B,L,D)*

**TROMSØ / HOME**

**Thursday, June 18**

Disembark in Tromsø, and transfer to the Tromsø Airport for flights home. (B)

Included meals indicated each day as B/L/D = Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner.
**HEBRIDEAN SKY**

The all-suite Hebridean Sky is a spacious, yet intimate, expedition vessel. After a major refurbishment in 2016, she now boasts beautifully designed public spaces that include a single-seating dining room, large lounge, elegant club and bar with piano, library and two outdoor seating areas. All suites have an ocean view and feature a sitting room, ensuite bathroom, TV, spacious wardrobes and dressing table. The Hebridean Sky’s fleet of Zodiacs is available to us for accessing remote shorelines and islands.

**Program Rates, per person**

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<th>SINGLE</th>
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<td>STANDARD SUITE FORWARD with portholes &amp; queen or twin beds, 238 sq. ft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>STANDARD SUITE with portholes &amp; queen or twin beds, 238 sq. ft.</td>
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**WHAT IS INCLUDED:**

- Twelve nights aboard the Hebridean Sky
- Meals as specified in the itinerary, including six lunches ashore
- Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures and presentations
- Group airport transfers on program arrival and departure days
- Baggage handling
- Gratuities to porters, waitstaff, guides, drivers, and shipboard personnel
- Port charges • Entrance fees
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions
- House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners
- Bottled water on motor coaches
- Emergency medical evacuation services

**WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED:**

- Airfare
- Travel insurance
- Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour
- Excess baggage charges
- Transfers other than those specified as included
- Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and alcoholic beverages not part of the included meals
- Laundry or dry cleaning
- Telephone, email, and fax charges
- Room service
- Other items of a personal nature

**ITINERARY CHANGES:**

The itinerary presented for this tour is subject to modification and change by Yale Educational Travel and Criterion Travel (the tour operator). Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, Yale Educational Travel and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

**A NOTE ABOUT COSTS:**

Tour costs are based upon current taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

**AIR ARRANGEMENTS** Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 1 (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice. PLEASE NOTE: U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates.
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, AND FINAL PAYMENT: To reserve a space on this tour, please mail a deposit of $1,000 per person payable to “CRITERION TRAVEL,” along with the completed reservation form, to: Yale Educational Travel, Yale Alumni Association, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010 or fax the completed form to (203) 432-0587. Deposits may be charged to a credit card. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt. Final payment is due February 5, 2020.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: All cancellations must be in writing to Yale Educational Travel. Refunds, less a cancellation fee of $300 per person, are made if we are notified in writing on or before February 5, 2020. No refunds are made after that date. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features.

WHAT TO EXPECT: We consider this a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and busy. Daily excursions involve up to one mile of walking at a time, often on uneven terrain. Hiking options are available in many ports, with distances of up to three miles. In some instances, elevators are unavailable and stairs may not have handrails.

INSURANCE: Yale Educational Travel highly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. If participants purchase trip insurance, and we hope that they do, participants are free to purchase the insurance of their choice. Most travel insurance must be purchased within 7-10 days of paying a deposit in order to include certain provisions including pre-existing conditions.

PHOTO CREDITS

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Shetland Islands to Northern Norway
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Discover Scotland's Shetland Islands and Norway's Lofoten Islands, lingering for two days in each of these remote regions. Explore Norway's longest and deepest fjord, including its most dramatic and narrow arm, UNESCO-listed Nærøyfjord, and the renowned Flåm railway.