

# Bleiksøya Island, Vesterålen, Norway

A steep, cone-shaped bird rock rising from the Norwegian Sea, Bleiksøya is home to 80,000 pairs of Atlantic puffins. Ships anchor off Bleik village — one of Norway's most spectacular Arctic beaches — and tender passengers ashore for wildlife safaris unlike anything else in Europe.

Tender port

Typical call: 5–7 hrs

Norwegian Krone (NOK)

Norwegian

Wildlife & nature focus

## MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Arrive: \_\_\_\_\_

All aboard: \_\_\_\_\_

Excursion: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## GETTING ASHORE

- Docking:** Anchor & tender — ships anchor offshore; tenders land at Bleik village harbour (~400 m from anchorage)
- Best For:** Puffin & seabird safaris, whale watching, Arctic beach walks, midnight sun
- Walk to center:** Bleik village is tiny — café, shop, and beach are within 5–10 min on foot from the tender pier
- Don't Miss:** A boat puffin safari around Bleiksøya (April–August): 80,000 breeding puffin pairs on the cliffs

Getting around: **Taxi** 280–340 NOK (~\$25–\$32 USD)

## TOP THINGS TO DO

- Puffin Safari Around Bleiksøya** — Small boats circle the protected cone-shaped island while 80,000 pairs of Atlantic puffins wheel overhead and perch on sea-level rocks.
- Sperm Whale Safari — Bleik Canyon** — The Bleik Canyon, a deep submarine trench roughly 10 nautical miles (~17 km) offshore, draws sperm whales year-round.
- Bleik Beach Walk (Bleiksstranda)** — One of Norway's longest white-sand beaches stretches along the village, backed by dramatic dunes — an extraordinary sight in the high Arctic.
- Hike Måtinden** — Vesterålen's signature hike (405 m) above Bleik rewards with panoramic views over Bleiksstranda beach, Bleiksøya bird island, and the surrounding...

## BEST WALKS

- Bleik Village & Beach Stroll** 1–2 hrs | Easy | Free — From the tender pier, walk through the small village to Bleiksstranda — one of Norway's most photographed beaches.

## WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

**CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)**

|     | Mon | High | Low | Rain |
|-----|-----|------|-----|------|
| Apr |     | 39°  | 33° | 16d  |
| Jun |     | 51°  | 44° | 14d  |
| Aug |     | 56°  | 50° | 15d  |
| Sep |     | 52°  | 46° | 15d  |
| Oct |     | 44°  | 39° | 18d  |

**DAYLIGHT & MONEY**

Apr 4:56AM–8:58PM · Aug 4:03AM–9:54PM · Sep 6:11AM–7:29PM · Oct 8:06AM–5:15PM

## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Puffin season is everything. Puffins are present mid-April to mid-August. Outside this window, Bleiksøya's main draw disappears — whale safaris still run year-round.
- Book safaris before you arrive. Puffin and whale tour boats are small and sell out. Pre-book through your ship or operators like puffinsafari.no or whalesafari.no.
- Tender conditions can change. This is an exposed stretch of the Norwegian Sea — tender operations may be cancelled in rough weather. Have a flexible day plan.
- Cash and cards. The village is tiny with minimal services. Bring Norwegian Krone (NOK) or a card — tour operators generally accept cards, but don't rely on ATMs.
- Midnight sun. Summer calls here can experience near-24-hour daylight — bring sunglasses and sunscreen regardless of temperature. Wind can be cold even on sunny days.
- Telephoto lens recommended. Puffins on the cliffs and whales at sea are best captured with at least 200mm zoom. The boat safaris get reasonably close but not arm's reach.

## Bleiksøya Island, Vesterålen, Norway — Port Map

[cruiseports.org](https://cruiseports.org)

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



- |                           |                                                                       |                                 |                                                                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> Puffin Safari AS | Boat tour operator for observing puffins and other seabirds.          | <b>2</b> Andøymuseet            | Local museum showcasing cultural history and nature of Andøy.   |
| <b>3</b> Spaceship Aurora | Interactive science center about space, rockets, and northern lights. | <b>4</b> Bleik, Vesterålen      | Charming fishing village with stunning views and local culture. |
| <b>5</b> Bleik sandstrand | Beautiful white sandy beach perfect for walks and relaxation.         | <b>P</b> Cruise port / terminal |                                                                 |