

Stokmarknes, Vesterålen, Norway

The birthplace of Hurtigruten, Stokmarknes is a quiet Vesterålen harbor town where a 1956 coastal steamer sits preserved under glass — and the mountains tumble straight into the fjord.

Pier (docked)

Typical call: 1-3 hrs

Norwegian Krone (NOK) — cards accepted everywhere

Norwegian (English widely spoken)

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Pier — ships berth at Stokmarknes Havn, 1 min walk to town

Best For: Maritime history, Arctic scenery, off-the-beaten-path Norway

Walk to center: Under 2 minutes from gangway

Don't Miss: MS Finnmarken — the 1956 Hurtigruten ship inside a glass building

Getting around: Taxi NOK 150–250 · Rideshare not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Hurtigruten Museum & MS Finnmarken** — The must-do in Stokmarknes.
 - Hadsel Bridge Walk** — Walk or cycle across the Hadsel Bridge (Hadselbrua) for panoramic views of the harbor, fjord, and distant Lofoten peaks.
 - Whale Watching — Vesterålen Waters** — The waters around Vesterålen are prime sperm whale habitat year-round, with humpbacks
- and orcas visiting seasonally.
 - Storheia Hill Hike** — A moderately easy hike up Storheia gives sweeping views over Stokmarknes, the harbor, and the surrounding islands.
 - Hadsel Church (Hadsel Kirke)** — A striking octagonal red wooden church dating to 1824, set on a scenic waterfront spot about 5 km outside of Stokmarknes.

BEST WALKS

- Harbor to Hurtigruten Museum** 0.1 km · 1 min · Flat — Step off the gangway and walk directly to the glass-enclosed MS Finnmarken.
- Town Center Stroll to Hadsel Bridge** ~5 km return · 1–1.5 hrs · Flat — From the pier, walk through the compact town center — passing local shops, a bakery, and the Richard With statue — then continue out to the Hadsel Bridge for fjord...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	40°	32°	17d
Jun	55°	45°	15d
Aug	60°	50°	16d
Sep	53°	46°	15d
Oct	44°	37°	15d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:05AM–8:57PM · Aug 4:15AM–9:50PM · Sep 6:16AM–7:32PM · Oct 8:07AM–5:22PM

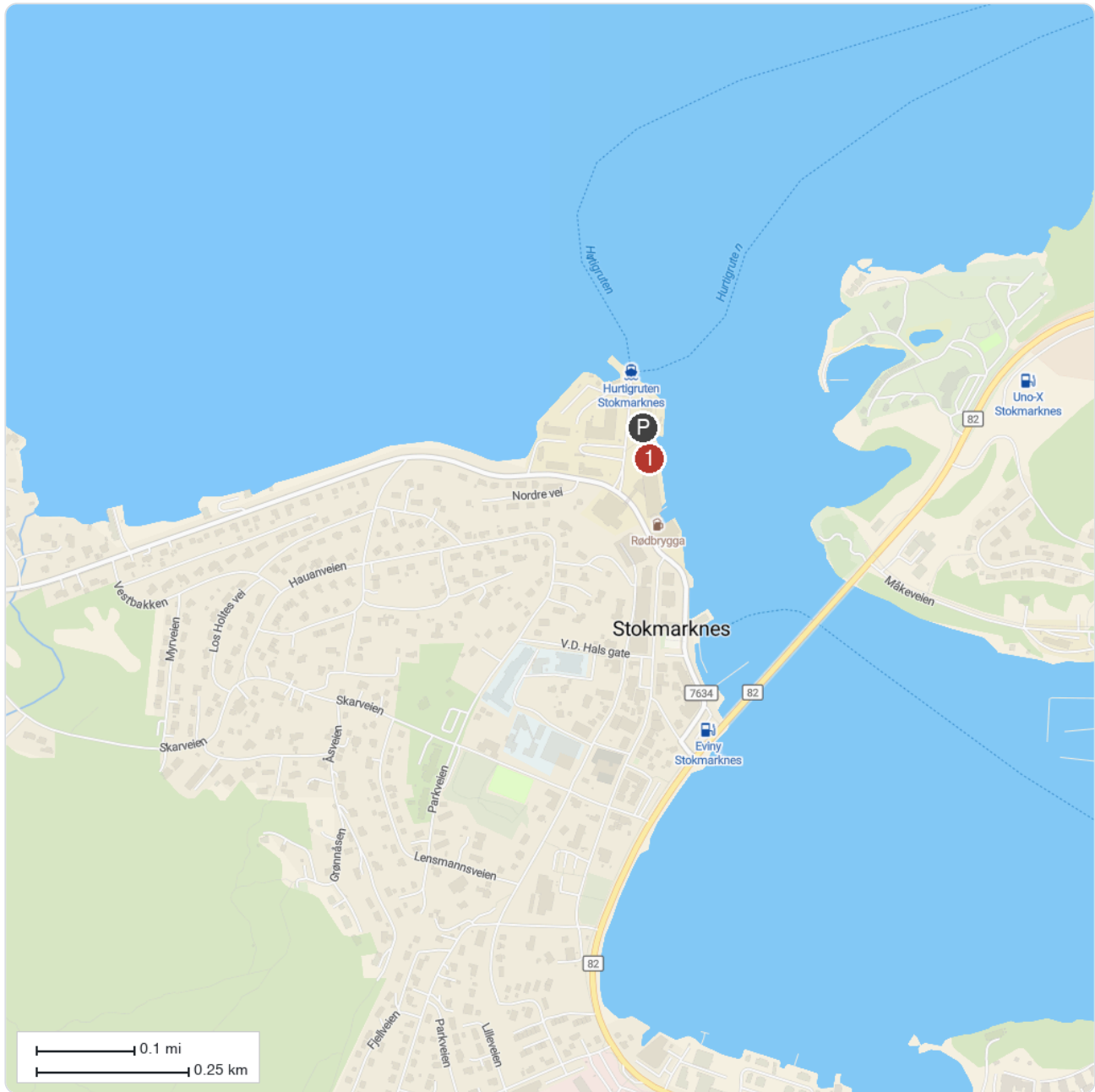
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Cashless Norway:** You don't need Norwegian Krone. Every shop, café, museum, and taxi takes Visa/Mastercard and Apple Pay. Skip the currency exchange entirely.
- Short stops are common:** Hurtigruten and Havila ships typically call for only 1–2 hours. Head straight to the Hurtigruten Museum first — it's literally next to the gangway.
- Layer up:** Even in summer, Vesterålen weather is unpredictable — temperatures 10–15°C with wind and rain possible any day. A windproof jacket is essential.
- Midnight Sun:** From late May through mid-July, the sun doesn't set. The outdoor scenery and beach at Taen are especially magical in the long Arctic evening light.
- Try a Skolebrød:** Look for a local bakery and grab a Skolebrød — a cardamom bun with custard and coconut — or a waffle with brunost (sweet brown goat's cheese). Very Norwegian.
- Sundays:** Grocery stores and most retail close on Sundays by law. The Hurtigruten Museum, cafés, and souvenir shops serving cruise passengers typically remain open.

Stokmarknes, Vesterålen, Norway — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



- 1** **Hurtigruten Museum** Museum built around the retired 1956 coastal steamer MS Finnmarken, telling the story of Norway's Hurtigruten line founded here in 1893.

- P** **Cruise port / terminal**