



We have put together a selection of books that we feel would provide the perfect accompaniment to your voyage.

Available from all good book stores.

## READING GUIDE

### THE NORWEGIAN FJORDS

*Copenhagen to London*

#### NON-FICTION

*Helen Russell*

#### **A Year of Living Danishly: Uncovering the Secrets of the World's Happiest People**

ISBN: 9781785780233, Paperback

When she was suddenly given the opportunity of a new life in rural Jutland, journalist and archetypal Londoner Helen Russell discovered a startling statistic: the happiest place on earth isn't Disneyland, but Denmark, a land often thought of by foreigners as consisting entirely of long dark winters, cured herring, Lego and pastries. What is the secret to their success? Are happy Danes born, or made? Helen decides there is only one way to find out: she will give herself a year, trying to uncover the formula for Danish happiness.

*Michael Booth*

#### **The Most Nearly Perfect People**

ISBN: 9780099546078, Paperback

Michael Booth has lived among the Scandinavians, on and off, for over ten years, perplexed by their many strange paradoxes and character traits and equally bemused by the unquestioning enthusiasm for all things Nordic and hygge that has engulfed the rest of the world.

*Robert Ferguson*

#### **Scandinavians: In Search of the Soul of the North**

ISBN: 9781781858950, Paperback

Robert Ferguson digs down through two millennia of history to tell stories of extraordinary events, people and objects – from Norwegian Death Metal to Vidkun Quisling, from Agnetha Fältskog to Greta Garbo, from Lurpak butter to the Old Norse rune stones – that richly illuminate our understanding of modern Scandinavia, its society, politics, culture and temperament.

*Tilly Culme-Seymour*

#### **Island Summers: Memories of a Norwegian Childhood**

ISBN: 9781408843314, Paperback

*'My grandmother bought the island. The year was 1947 and she was thirty-three, a couple of years older than I am now. She was the visionary sort of person who can make something magical out of very little.'* From the moment that Tilly's grandmother, Mor-mor, set eyes on the rocky outline of Småhølmene, it captured her imagination. Legend has it that she bought the island in exchange for a mink coat. This is the captivating story of the women who made Småhølmene their own: a land of childhood adventures, of magical summers, and of Tilly's first romance.

*A. Heaton Cooper*

#### **The Norwegian Fjords**

ISBN: 9780282045500, Paperback

This is a reprint of a classic piece of early travel writing first published in 1914 about the region:

*"The fjords of Norway, by their unique charm, annually attract an increasing number of English and American tourists. This volume, the artist hopes, may be found useful to the traveller who desires a more intimate acquaintance with the country and its people than may be acquired from a casual visit to its shores."*

*Else Roesdahl*

#### **The Vikings**

ISBN: 9780141984766, Paperback

Far from being just 'wild, barbaric, axe-wielding pirates', the Vikings created complex social institutions, oversaw the coming of Christianity to Scandinavia and made a major impact on European history through trade, travel and far-flung consolidation. This encyclopedic study brings together the latest research on Viking art, burial customs, class divisions, jewellery, kingship, poetry and family life. The result is a rich and compelling picture of an extraordinary civilisation.

*Dayanna Knight*

#### **The Viking Colouring Book**

ISBN: 9780866985826, Paperback

What do you think of when you think of the Vikings? Fierce warriors? Sailors of magnificent dragon-prowed ships who terrorised North-Western Europe? The Vikings were much more complex than the modern world sees them as. This coloring book is meant to show that. It is designed to provide scenes of the beauty of the early medieval world the Vikings inhabited.

*Magnus Magnusson*

#### **The Vikings**

ISBN: 9780750978583, Paperback

The Vikings hold a particular place in the history of the West, both symbolically and in the significant impact they had on Northern Europe. Magnus Magnusson's indispensable study of this great period presents a rounded and fascinating picture of a people who, in modern eyes, would seem to embody striking contradictions. They were undoubtedly pillagers, raiders and terrifying warriors, but they were also great pioneers, artists and traders – a dynamic people, whose skill and daring in their exploration of the world has left an indelible impression a thousand years on.

*Marjolein Stern and Roderick Dale*

#### **Vikings: Raids, Culture, Legacy**

ISBN: 9780233004945, Hardback

From the remote and unforgiving landscape of northern Europe, the Vikings voyaged to far-flung areas of the world with extraordinary consequences. *Vikings* examines the origins, explorations and settlements of these seafaring people, exploring their impact on the world as colonisers, craftsmen, traders and state-makers. This highly illustrated book provides a revealing portrait of the Vikings' incredible legacy with a collection of photographs and rare documents.

*Eleanor Rosamund Barraclough*  
**Beyond the Northlands: Viking Voyages and the Old Norse Sagas**

ISBN: 9780198701293, Paperback

The Norsemen travelled to all corners of the medieval world and beyond; north to the wastelands of arctic Scandinavia, south to the politically turbulent heartlands of medieval Christendom, west across the wild seas to Greenland and the fringes of the North American continent, and east down the Russian waterways trading silver, skins and slaves. *Beyond the Northlands* explores this world through the stories that the Vikings told about themselves in their sagas. But the depiction of the Viking world in the Old Norse-Icelandic sagas goes far beyond historical facts.

*Carolyne Larrington*  
**The Norse Myths**

ISBN: 9780500251966, Hardback

Who were the Norse gods – the mighty Æsir, led by Óðinn, and the mysterious Vanir? In *The Norse Myths* we meet this passionate and squabbling pantheon, and learn of the mythological cosmos they inhabit. Passages translated from the Old Norse bring this legendary world to life, from the myths of creation to ragnarök, the prophesied end of the world at the hands of Loki's army of monsters and giants, and everything that comes in between.

*Neil Gaiman*  
**Norse Mythology**

ISBN: 9781408891957, Paperback

The great Norse myths are woven into the fabric of our storytelling – from Tolkien, Alan Garner and Rosemary Sutcliff to Game of Thrones and Marvel Comics. They are also an inspiration for Neil Gaiman's own award-bedecked, bestselling fiction. Now he reaches back through time to the original source stories in a thrilling and vivid rendition of the great Norse tales.

*Tom Blass*  
**The Naked Shore**

ISBN: 9781408834039, Paperback

Saturnine and quick-tempered, the formidable North Sea is often overlooked – even by those living within a stone's throw of its steel-grey waters. But as playground, theatre of war and cultural crossing-point, it has shaped the world in myriad ways, forged villains and heroes, and determined the fates of nations. With a wry eye and a warm coat, Tom Blass travels the edges of the North Sea meeting fishermen, artists, bomb disposal experts, burgermeisters – and those who have found themselves flung to the sea's perimeters quite by chance. In doing so he attempts to piece together its manifold histories and to reveal truths, half-truths and fictions otherwise submerged.

*Liz Hanson*  
**Edinburgh History Tour**

ISBN: 9781445656076, Paperback

A fascinating insight into the illustrious history of Scotland's capital, its well-known streets and famous faces, and explains what they meant to local people throughout the nineteenth and into the twentieth century. Readers are invited to follow a timeline of events and watch

the changing face of Edinburgh as author Liz Hanson guides us through its streets.

*Jenni Calder*  
**Essence of Edinburgh: An Eccentric Odyssey**

ISBN: 9781912147540, Paperback

Existential Edinburgh is a personal journey through a city that has for centuries inspired many. An exploration, an evocation of the city's past and present it weaves together personal experience, memory and history. It takes the reader beyond the city's historic centre, looking out to surrounding areas that are inseparable from Edinburgh's story.

*Sophia Kingshill & Jennifer Westwood*  
**The Fabled Coast**

ISBN: 9780099551072, Paperback

Pirates and smugglers, ghost ships and sea-serpents, fishermen's prayers and sailors' rituals – the coastline of the British Isles plays host to an astonishingly rich variety of local legends, customs and superstitions. In *The Fabled Coast*, renowned folklorists Sophia Kingshill and Jennifer Westwood gather together the most enthralling tales and traditions, tracing their origins and examining the facts behind the legends.

*Neil Oliver*  
**A History of Scotland**

ISBN: 9780753826638, Paperback

The dramatic story of Scotland – by charismatic television historian, Neil Oliver. Scotland is one of the oldest countries in the world with a vivid and diverse past. Yet the stories and figures that dominate Scottish history – tales of failure, submission, thwarted ambition and tragedy – often badly serve this great nation, overshadowing the rich tapestry of her intricate past.

*Edited by Peter Ackroyd & Thomas Wright*  
**London: A Traveller's Reader – A Traveller's Companion**

ISBN: 9781472141651, Paperback

Drawing on letters, diaries and memoirs of London's most interesting inhabitants and visitors, this anthology compiled by acclaimed historian Thomas Wright and with an introduction by Peter Ackroyd tells the story of the city from its earliest years.

*Brett Jarrett and Hadoram Shirihai*  
**Whales, Dolphins and Seals**

ISBN: 9780713670370, Paperback

This new field guide is a complete and convenient reference to every species of cetacean, pinniped and sirenian in the world, along with the Marine and Sea Otters and the Polar Bear.

*Sharon Chester*  
**The Arctic Guide: Wild Life of the Far North**

ISBN: 9780691139753, Paperback

*The Arctic Guide* presents the traveller and naturalist with a portable, authoritative guide to the flora and fauna of earth's northernmost region. Featuring superb colour illustrations, this one-of-a-kind book covers the complete spectrum of wildlife – more than 800 species of

plants, fishes, butterflies, birds and mammals – that inhabit the Arctic's polar deserts, tundra, taiga, sea ice and oceans.

**Collins Bird Guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe**

ISBN: 9780007268146, Paperback

Comprehensive Bird watching guide.

**Concise Coastal Bird Guide**

ISBN: 9781472921796, Paperback

Simple pocket reference of key species

**FICTION**

*Rose Tremain*  
**Music and Silence**

ISBN: 9780099268550, Paperback

In the year 1629, a young English lutenist named Peter Claire arrives at the Danish Court to join King Christian IV's Royal Orchestra. Designated the King's 'Angel' because of his good looks, he finds himself falling in love with the young woman who is the companion of the King's adulterous and estranged wife, Kirsten.

*Jo Nesbo*  
**The Snowman**

ISBN: 9781784704759, Paperback

The first snowfall in Oslo brings a series of gruesome murders, and Harry Hole is pitted against a brutal killer who will drive him to the edge. Recently released as a major feature film starring Michael Fassbinder as Harry Hole.

*John Holten*  
**Oslo, Norway**

ISBN: 9783943196221, Paperback

An intriguing story of love and loss set in the affluent and rapidly growing city of Oslo, Norway. It follows the story of William Day, an economic migrant who moves to the city to work as a mechanical engineer before chance thrusts him into the fascinating world of Sybille and her artist friend Camille. As they do their best to reconcile growing differences in personality and culture, Camille's growing influence over Sybille threatens the relationship.

*Knut Hamsun*  
**Hunger**

ISBN: 9781782117124, Paperback

Nineteenth-century Kristiania is an unforgiving place, and work is thin on the ground. Roaming the streets of Norway's capital, a penniless young writer searches for inspiration whilst trying desperately to make ends meet. *Hunger* was Knut Hamsun's first novel and earned him the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1920. A disturbing and darkly humorous masterpiece of existential fiction, *Hunger* anticipated and influenced some of the twentieth century's most acclaimed writers including Camus, Kafka and Fante.

*Translations by various authors with a forward by Jane Smiley*

### **The Sagas of the Icelanders**

ISBN: 9780141000039, Paperback

In Iceland, the age of the Vikings is also known as the Saga Age. A unique body of medieval literature, the Sagas rank with the world's great literary treasures – as epic as Homer, as deep in tragedy as Sophocles, as engagingly human as Shakespeare. A superb collection.

*Per Petterson*

### **Out Stealing Horses**

ISBN: 9780099506133, Paperback

In 1948, when he is fifteen, Trond spends a summer in the country with his father. The events – the accidental death of a child, his best friend's feelings of guilt and eventual disappearance, his father's decision to leave the family for another woman – will change his life forever. An early morning adventure out stealing horses leaves Trond bruised and puzzled by his friend Jon's sudden breakdown. The tragedy which lies behind this scene becomes the catalyst for the two boys' families gradually to fall apart.

*Tarjei Vesaas*

### **The Ice Palace**

ISBN: 9780720613292, Paperback

A new edition of what is commonly seen as the legendary Norwegian writer's masterpiece, this story tells the tale of Siss and Unn, two friends who have only spent one evening in each other's company. But so profound is this evening between them that when Unn inexplicably disappears, Siss's world is shattered. Siss's struggle with her fidelity to the memory of her friend and Unn's fatal exploration of the strange, terrifyingly beautiful frozen waterfall that is the Ice Palace are described in prose of a lyrical economy that ranks among the most memorable achievements of modern literature.

*Kate Atkinson*

### **One Good Turn**

ISBN: 9780552772440, Paperback

It is summer, it is the Edinburgh Festival. People queuing for a lunchtime show witness a road-rage incident – a near-homicidal attack which changes the lives of everyone involved. Jackson Brodie, ex-army, ex-police, ex-private detective, is also an innocent bystander – until he becomes a murder suspect.

*Alexander McCall Smith*

### **44 Scotland Street**

ISBN: 9780349118970, Paperback

The story revolves around the comings and goings at No. 44 Scotland Street, a fictitious building in a real street in Edinburgh. Immediately recognisable are the Edinburgh chartered surveyor, stalwart of the Conservative Association, who dreams of membership of Scotland's most exclusive golf club. 44 Scotland Street is vintage McCall Smith, tackling issues of trust and honesty, snobbery and hypocrisy, love and loss, but all with great lightness of touch. Clever, elegant and funny, this is a novel that provides huge entertainment but which is underpinned by the moral dilemmas of everyday life and the characters' struggles to resolve them.

## MAPS & GUIDES

*AA Map*

### **Western Europe**

ISBN: 9780749579135

*Marco Polo Map*

### **Norway**

ISBN: 9783829767248

*Marco Polo Map*

### **Great Britain, Ireland**

ISBN: 9783829767224

### **Eyewitness Cruise Guide to Europe**

ISBN: 9781409370222, Paperback

A multi-country guide to Europe's most spectacular cruising destinations. From Oslo to Athens, it covers 70 ports of call. It also features photos and illustrations, unique 3-D models, and bird's-eye-view maps of all the major sites.

*Dorling Kindersley Eyewitness*

### **Denmark**

ISBN: 9780241305973, Paperback

*Dorling Kindersley Eyewitness Top 10*

### **Copenhagen**

ISBN: 9780241296271, Paperback

*Insight Pocket Guide*

### **Norway**

ISBN: 9781786718082, Paperback

*Marco Polo Pocket Guide with Map*

### **Oslo**

ISBN: 9783829707206, Paperback

*Bradt Guide*

### **Northern Lights**

ISBN: 9781784770716, Paperback

*Marco Polo Pocket Guide with Map*

### **Edinburgh**

ISBN: 9783829706599, Paperback

*Marco Polo Guide with Map*

### **London**

ISBN: 9783829706681, Paperback

### **Blue Guide to Museums & Galleries of London**

ISBN: 9781905131006, Paperback

*Eyewitness Travel Guide*

### **Great Britain**

ISBN: 9780241204559, Paperback