K12 ACADEMICS — STUDY ABROAD SERIES

Study Abroad in Norway

A guide for students planning a semester or year abroad — program types, credit transfer, costs, the student visa, and how to find the right program.

K12 ACADEMICS

Find Your Community

2026 EDITION

The world's largest education resource.

Online since 2004, K12 Academics has helped millions of families, students and educators **find the right school, college, camp, business and program in their community** — for every kind of learner.

NORDIC QUALITY WITH DRAMATIC NATURE

Norway is a stunning Nordic study-abroad destination — strong universities, English-taught programs, and breathtaking fjords and mountains (fees now apply for non-EEA students). This guide is for students planning a **semester or year abroad**: it covers **program types, credit transfer, costs, and the student visa**, and points you to the K12 Academics directory to find and compare programs.

General guidance, not legal, immigration, academic, or financial advice. Norwegian rules, fees, and program details change and vary by institution. The details here are recent examples and **must be confirmed with your home study-abroad office, the host institution or provider, and the relevant consulate**. K12 Academics does not run or endorse any specific program — use the K12 Academics directory to find and compare your options.

1

STEP 01 OF 10

Understand Why Students Choose Norway

WHAT TO KNOW

Norway offers **strong universities, English-taught programs, breathtaking fjords and mountains, and a high quality of life** — one of the most rewarding places to spend a semester or year abroad.

BY THE NUMBERS

Strong	Breathtaking	High
universities	nature	quality of life

HOW TO HELP

Weigh Norway—s **English-taught quality and quality of life** against very high living costs (and new fees for non-EEA students) — for innovative, English-taught study in a superb setting, it—s a strong choice.

WATCH OUT

Norway offers **strong universities amid breathtaking fjords** — though non-EEA students now pay tuition.

2 STEP 02 OF 10

Understand the Types of Study Abroad Programs

WHAT TO KNOW

Your main options: **direct enrollment** (you enroll at a local university — the most immersive), **exchange** (through your home university—s partnership — you pay home tuition), **third-party provider programs** (which bundle courses, housing, and support — the most guided), and **faculty-led short programs** (a few weeks with your own professors). Browse and compare options in **the K12 Academics directory**.

BY THE NUMBERS

Direct enrollment	Exchange	Provider / faculty-led
most immersive	pay home tuition	most guided

HOW TO HELP

Match the **program to your goals** — direct enrollment for immersion, exchange for value, a provider for support, or a faculty-led program for a short taste — then find options in the K12 Academics directory.

GOOD TO KNOW

Find and compare **specific programs, providers, and host universities** in the K12 Academics directory — this guide stays program-neutral.

3

STEP 03 OF 10

Understand Credit Transfer & Academics

WHAT TO KNOW

Credits use the **ECTS system** (30 ECTS ≈ a full semester). Before you go, **get your courses pre-approved by your home study-abroad and academic advisors** so credits transfer cleanly toward your degree. You—ll receive a **transcript** to bring home — keep syllabi and coursework in case of later evaluation.

BY THE NUMBERS

ECTS	Pre-approve	Transcript
30 ECTS	courses before you go	keep syllabi

HOW TO HELP

Protect your credits — get courses **pre-approved by your home office**, understand ECTS and local grading, and keep syllabi for transfer.

GOOD TO KNOW

Pre-approve your courses with your home study-abroad and academic advisors before departure — it—s the key to clean credit transfer.

4

STEP 04 OF 10

Know the Costs & Funding

WHAT TO KNOW

Costs vary by route: **exchange** students usually pay **home tuition**; **provider programs** charge a program fee (bundling tuition, housing, and support); **direct enrollment** means modest or no tuition for EEA students, but tuition fees now apply for non-EEA students, and living costs are among the world's highest. Norway—s cost of living is **high**. Look into **scholarships** (the Gilman (US students), Erasmus+ (Europeans), and provider aid), and check whether your **financial aid travels** with you.

BY THE NUMBERS

Exchange	Provider	Scholarships
pay home tuition	one bundled fee	Gilman, Erasmus+, scholarships

HOW TO HELP

Budget by route — exchange (home tuition), provider (one bundled fee), or direct enrollment; Norway costs are high. Pursue scholarships and check aid portability.

GOOD TO KNOW

Check whether your **home financial aid can be applied** to study abroad — many students fund part of the cost this way.

5 STEP 05 OF 10

Understand the Student Visa & Entry

WHAT TO KNOW

Norway is in the **EEA and Schengen but not the EU**. EEA students need no visa; other students need a **student residence permit** (with proof of funds and insurance). Note **tuition fees now apply for non-EEA students** (from 2023). You—ll typically show **proof of acceptance, sufficient funds, housing, and health insurance**. Shorter programs often need only standard Schengen entry. Start early — the process takes time. Confirm current rules with the relevant consulate.

BY THE NUMBERS

EEA	Others	Fees
no visa needed	student residence permit	now apply (non-EEA)

HOW TO HELP

Know your entry — EEA students need no visa; others need a **student residence permit** (with fees now applying for non-EEA students); shorter programs often use standard Schengen entry; start early.

GOOD TO KNOW

As of 2023, **Norway charges tuition to non-EEA students** — a change from its previously free model; check current fees and scholarships.

6 STEP 06 OF 10

Plan Health, Safety & Insurance

WHAT TO KNOW

Arrange **health insurance** that covers you in Norway (some programs include it). Norway is **very safe**. Know your **program—s support and emergency contacts**, register with your **home country—s embassy** if advised, and keep copies of key documents.

BY THE NUMBERS

Health insurance	Safety	Know
required (some included)	very safe	program support

HOW TO HELP

Cover the essentials — health insurance (some programs include it), sensible precautions, and your program—s support and emergency contacts.

GOOD TO KNOW

Know your **program—s in-country support and emergency contacts** before you go — a good provider makes this easy.

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STEP 07 OF 10

Prepare Language & Culture

WHAT TO KNOW

The main language is **Norwegian**, and **many programs are taught in English**. Some Norwegian helps daily life, though English is very widely spoken. Housing options include **university residences, homestays (great for language), and shared apartments**. Embrace the cultural differences — they—re the point.

BY THE NUMBERS

Language	Housing	Immersion
English-taught (widely spoken)	residence, homestay, apartment	the point

HOW TO HELP

Prepare to immerse — many programs are in English (some Norwegian helps), choose housing that fits your goals (a homestay boosts language), and embrace the culture.

GOOD TO KNOW

A **homestay** is a fast route to immersion — a homestay is the fastest route to language immersion.

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STEP 08 OF 10

Plan the Timeline & Apply

WHAT TO KNOW

Apply **well ahead** — typically **a semester or two before** you go. The usual order: **meet your home study-abroad office**, choose and apply to a **program**, secure **course pre-approval**, then arrange your **visa, housing, and insurance**. Norway offers **fall, spring, summer, and full-year** options. Deadlines and visa processing drive the schedule.

BY THE NUMBERS

Apply	Order	Intakes
a semester+ ahead	home office → program → visa	fall, spring, summer, year

HOW TO HELP

Plan the sequence — start with your home study-abroad office, apply to a program, pre-approve courses, then handle visa, housing, and insurance; apply a semester or two ahead.

GOOD TO KNOW

Start with your **home study-abroad office** — they guide approvals, credit, aid, and often have partner programs ready.

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STEP 09 OF 10

Make the Most of It

WHAT TO KNOW

Once in Norway, **engage fully**: hike the fjords and mountains, chase the northern lights, travel Scandinavia, and pick up some Norwegian. Keep an eye on **credit and attendance requirements**, document your experience, and use your program—s support. A semester abroad is as much about growth as academics.

BY THE NUMBERS

Engage	Travel	Track
join student life	Scandinavia	credit & attendance

HOW TO HELP

Thrive abroad — hike the fjords, chase the northern lights, and travel Scandinavia, and stay on top of credit and attendance while making the experience your own.

GOOD TO KNOW

Build friendships **beyond fellow exchange students** — local connections deepen both language and experience.

10 STEP 10 OF 10

Find Your Program & Get Started

WHAT TO KNOW

Once you know your route, **find and compare specific study-abroad programs, providers, and host universities in the K12 Academics directory**. Work with your home study-abroad office, pre-approve credits, apply, and arrange your visa. Confirm current rules with the Directorate of Immigration (UDI) and the host university and the relevant consulate.

BY THE NUMBERS

Find & compare	Work with	Arrange
programs & providers	your home office	credits & visa

HOW TO HELP

Use **the K12 Academics directory** to find and compare study-abroad programs, providers, and host universities, work with your home office, pre-approve credits, apply, and arrange your visa.

WATCH OUT

Browse **the K12 Academics directory** to find the specific programs and providers that fit your goals and field of study.

QUICK REFERENCE

Study Abroad in Norway: The Essentials

A snapshot — program-neutral. Confirm details with your home office, the host institution, and the consulate.

The destination

A stunning Nordic study-abroad destination — strong universities, English-taught programs, and breathtaking fjords and mountains — with bases in Oslo, Bergen, Trondheim, and Tromsø.

Program types

Direct enrollment (most immersive), exchange (pay home tuition), provider programs (bundled courses and support), and faculty-led short programs — find and compare in the directory.

Credit & academics

Credits use ECTS (30 ECTS ≈ a full semester); get courses pre-approved by your home study-abroad and academic advisors so they transfer cleanly; you receive a transcript — keep syllabi.

Costs & funding

Exchange (home tuition), provider (one bundled fee), or direct enrollment; costs are high; pursue scholarships (Gilman, Erasmus+, scholarships) and check whether home aid travels with you.

Visa & move

In the EEA and Schengen but not the EU: EEA students need no visa; others need a student residence permit; tuition fees now apply for non-EEA students (from 2023); shorter programs use Schengen entry; budget for very high living costs.

YOUR STUDY-ABROAD-IN-NORWAY JOURNEY STARTS HERE

Find Your Community.

Explore our other Study Abroad in [Country] guides, and find and compare programs and providers in the K12 Academics directory — among **1,297 free resources**.

tools.k12academics.com →

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