STUDY IN NORWAY.
WELCOME TO NORWAY.

STUDY OFF THE BEATEN TRACK – GO NORTH!

Education for all, high academic quality, a modern society and an attractive lifestyle. These are key phrases used by international students in Norway, and it is all true.

STUDYINNORWAY.NO
STUDY IN NORWAY

“Education for all” is the basic principle of the Norwegian educational system. According to the law, every child is ensured a minimum of 13 years’ education, regardless of social or cultural background and possible special needs. The Ministry of Education and Research is determined to make the Norwegian educational system one of the best in the world, based on a framework of lifelong learning.

Compulsory schooling in Norway is ten years, and children start school at the age of six. Everyone between the age of 16 and 19 has a statutory right to three years’ upper secondary education qualifying either for higher education or leading to vocational qualifications.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Norway has a variety of higher education institutions, from universities and university colleges to specialised universities, private institutions and national institutes of the arts. The Norwegian institutions are listed at studyinnorway.no.

Most higher education institutions are public and owned by the state, with the exception of the private university colleges.

Norway has adapted to the objectives of the Bologna process in European higher education. A central issue has been the implementation of a 3 + 2 + 3 degree system with Bachelor, Master and PhD structures following European standards. This makes it possible for students who complete all or part of their education in Norway to obtain recognition for their qualifications in other countries.

In addition to the diploma, all students will also receive a Diploma Supplement (DS) from their Norwegian institution. The DS gives a supplementary description of the qualification obtained with a view to ensuring international transparency.

Degrees and Admission

Completion of advanced secondary education, equivalent to the level of Norwegian upper secondary school, is the basic requirement for entry to Norwegian universities and university colleges. Note that entry requirements will vary depending on your home country. The Bachelor’s degree is obtained after three years of study.

Applicants for Master programmes have normally obtained an undergraduate/Bachelor’s degree of at least three years’ duration. The Master’s degree is obtained after one to two years of study. The thesis forms in most cases an important part of this degree.

All the state higher education institutions and a number of the private higher education institutions also offer a number of various professional qualifications. These degrees are of four to six years’ duration.

See studyinnorway.no for an overview on study programmes in English.

Doctoral Degrees

PhD positions, which are essentially research programmes, are offered by all university-level institutions, some state university colleges and a few private institutions. In Norway, PhD candidates are considered employees and are paid a salary.

Credit system and Grading

The academic year normally runs from mid-August to mid-June and lasts for ten months. Courses are measured in credits according to the ECTS standard (European Credit Transfer System). The full-time workload for one academic year is 60 ECTS credits.

Grades are awarded according to a graded scale from A (highest) to F (lowest), with E as the minimum pass grade.
RESEARCH
Through internationalisation, basic research and innovation, Norway seeks to become a leading nation within research.

The Research Council of Norway can provide you with more information about research in Norway: www.rcn.no.

EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES AND GRANTS
All Norwegian higher education institutions have exchange agreements with institutions all over the world. If you would like to enrol on an exchange programme and study for part of your degree at a Norwegian university or university college, we recommend that you start by contacting the International Office at your home university. You can enrol on an exchange programme at any stage of your education: Bachelor, Master or PhD level.

As an exchange student, you can expect to receive administrative support both from your home institution and from the Norwegian institution. In some cases you will also receive a grant.

You may also be eligible for a grant. For more information concerning exchange programmes and grants, please go to studyinnorway.no.
LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS
If you want to obtain your full degree in Norway, you can choose between a number of Master’s degrees taught in English as well as a smaller number of Bachelor’s degrees. Of course, you can also apply for programmes where the tuition language is Norwegian. Both options require a certain level of language proficiency.

Courses offered to exchange students are normally given in English. If you are applying for a master programme, language requirements vary depending on institution.

STUDY PERMIT
If you come from a country outside the EU/EEA and wish to study in Norway, you must apply for a student residence permit, also known as a study permit.

If you are from the EU/EEA and are staying longer than 90 days, you need to register as a student. You may register after you have arrived in the country.

We urge you to carefully read study permit regulations to avoid problems during the application process. Applications that are incomplete will not be processed and your entry to Norway can be delayed.

For complete information please visit www.studyinnorway.no.

ACADEMIC CULTURE
Egalitarian values are a cornerstone of Norwegian culture, also when it comes to education. Everyone is welcome as a student in Norway, as long as they fulfil the requirements and have the requisite language skills.

As a student in Norway, you will be expected to develop your own critical thinking and work independently. The relationship between lecturer and students is informal, defined by common goals and mutual respect. Asking questions and discussing during class are considered positive contributions. Approaching the lecturer about academic matters also outside the lecture hall should be no problem.

Engaging in both academic and social life throughout your stay in Norway will give you a lot of advantages. Not only will you get to know your Norwegian fellow students; you will also gain in-depth knowledge of Norwegian culture and thus benefit even more from your stay.
LEARN.

EXPERIENCE.
LIVING IN NORWAY

Norway, with its population of just over 5 million, is one of the three Scandinavian countries. It is ranked as one of the best countries to live in and has one of the lowest crime rates in the world. Equal rights and gender equality are values highly respected by most Norwegians, as is the Norwegian welfare state.

The country is located in Northern Europe – with borders to Sweden, Finland and Russia on the east side, and an extensive coastline facing the North Atlantic Ocean on the west side. Here the climate is wet and mild compared to the east and the north, where winters are colder and longer.

The main official language in Norway is Norwegian. However, if you speak English you should have no problem. Children start learning English at school from the age of six, and you will find that all foreign films and television series are subtitled rather than dubbed.

STUDENT LIFE

The number of foreign students in Norway is growing, but there is plenty of room for more! The universities and university colleges focus on making international students feel welcome during their stay, and often arrange activities for international students when they arrive.

It is also worth noting that all education institutions will have a number of student associations. You will find associations dedicated to sports, music, debating and much more. Seize this opportunity to get to know students from other courses and make memories for life!

Many students wish to get a part time job. International students can work part-time in addition to their studies. However, depending on if you are an EU/EEA national or not, there are limits for how many hours you can work during your studies.
THE NORWEGIAN LIFESTYLE

The Norwegian lifestyle is strongly connected to the time spent on studies and work. The work/life balance has become more demanding, with increasing expectations of professional and personal availability.

In Norway it is generally accepted to be personal at work. In return, it is also expected that work can be done at home.

Norwegians study and work hard during the week and the year – but are also good at resting and relaxation. An average working week consists of five seven-and-a-half-hour workdays.

For most Norwegians, good health and an active lifestyle are important. Evenings and weekends are often filled with activities, from theatre performances and concerts to outdoor activities and sports. Norwegians have also become an adventurous people who love to travel.

NORWAY WILL OFFER YOU GREAT THINGS AS AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT – MORE THAN YOU THINK IN ADVANCE.

MASTER STUDENT, KENYA