

Sustainable development

To preserve a clean North Sea is a high priority issue for all the North Sea Regions. However, a variety of human activities have different impact on the sea and its multiple ecosystems. We have challenges like avoiding damaging impact from oil and gas activity; reduce pollution from marine farming and controlling acidification of the sea from air pollution. Furthermore, a very important political issue at the time is whether or not sedimentary rocks under the seabed can be used for storage of CO₂. Focus is therefore set on marine research. The tour goes to IRIS Research laboratory at Mekjarvik 10 km outside Stavanger. (Akvamiljø Marine Environmental Research Centre).

IRIS is a research institute, based at the University of Stavanger, that deals with research within fields of petroleum technology, biological sciences, gas and energy, social sciences and business development. There will be introduction to important research topics and lunch served at the premises, followed by a visit to the laboratories.

The tour will also be a round trip to the scenic landscape of Northern Jæren, followed by information of land use, urban development and conservation issues given on board the bus.