



## Reading Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April

Today, I'd like to share another fantastic book which is all about different countries in the world. This page is about Norway, and it some amazing facts (I can't believe it about the polar bear!) and the fantastic things you can do there. It sounds great and it's made me want to go.

Your task is to read the text and list three things that you'd like to see or do in Norway. Explain why you find them interesting!


**ERIC THE BLOODAXE**  
 Once upon a time, more than 1,000 years ago, Eric Fairhair was the son of the Viking king of Norway. His father, Harald Fairhair, had many sons who could inherit the throne. Eric solved that problem by murdering all his brothers, a fact that earned him his nickname 'Bloodaxe'.




**NORWAY** 

Polar bears, skiing, ice driving, glaciers, fjords – Norway has these and loads more besides.

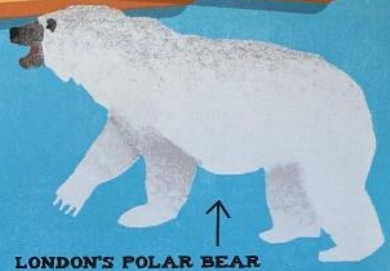
Wrap up warm, because there are so many amazing outdoor events to do in Norway – the land of the north – that you won't want to miss out.




Pop. size	<b>5,084,190</b> (119 <sup>TH</sup> )
Landmass (km <sup>2</sup> )	<b>323,802</b> (68 <sup>TH</sup> )
Life Expectancy	<b>81.6</b> (14 <sup>TH</sup> )



**JOSTEDALSBREEN**  
 The world's glaciers – massive chunks of slow-moving ice – are disappearing by the second. So, before it vanishes forever, take a walk over Jostedalsgreen, the largest glacier in Europe.



**LONDON'S POLAR BEAR**  
 In 1252, Henry III of England received a present from King Haakon of Norway. It was a polar bear. The bear lived in the Tower of London but had a very long leash, which meant it could swim and catch fish in the River Thames!

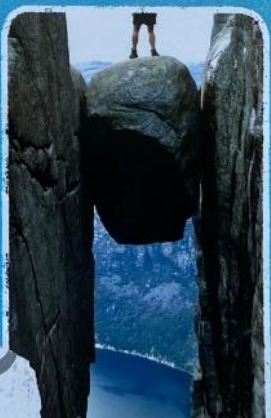



**FAMOUS FJORD**  
 Fjords are formed when glaciers retreat, leaving sea waters to rise and flood the valleys created by the glaciers. Norway has the highest concentration of fjords in the world. The mighty Geirangerfjord is the country's most visited natural landmark and is in the shape of a 'U'.

**MUSH! MUSH!**  
 Head north to Finnmark for the nation's best dog sledding. When a driver calls 'mush!', a pack of strong huskies dashes off at speed, pulling a sled behind them. Each year Norway hosts two world-famous dog-sled races. It's the only way to travel!

**GLOBAL SEED VAULT**  
 On the remote Norwegian island of Svalbard is a vault where scientists are keeping 2.25 billion of the world's flower, vegetable and grain seeds. Stored at a very low temperature, the seeds can last for thousands of years. If there were ever a global disaster that wiped out the world's crops then Norway would come to our rescue!

**BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE**  
 A rock, called the Kjeragbolten boulder, lodged 1,000m (3,280ft) above the ground, is one of Norway's greatest places to get your adrenalin pumping. Climbers, daredevils (and some sheep!) psyche themselves up to walk out onto the rock for a photo opportunity. However, if the wind picks up... it's a long way down!





**WOW!**