WHAT’S NEW IN OSLO?

Three new signature buildings are visible along the harbour of Fjord City Oslo.
In this photo: MUNCH – the new Munch museum – which will open in the Summer of 2021.

2020 has no doubt been a challenging year so far, for Oslo like for the rest of the World…
But there has also been something to celebrate, and we have two amazing cultural openings to look forward to in the years to come. This summer (June 18th), Oslo’s new cultural hub, the new Deichman Bjørvika library, opened in Bjørvika by the Opera house. In Summer 2021, MUNCH (the new Munch museum) will open in the same area, in Oslo’s newest neighbourhood Oslobukta; and in 2022 the new National Museum will open next to Oslo City Hall! (Exact opening dates not yet announced.)

Download our Media kit Oslo – The Cultural City 2021/2022
Watch video: Oslo Moves 2020
MAJOR EVENTS AND EXHIBITIONS

- **The new Deichman Bjørvika Library** opened June 18th 2020. (Culture Oslo Press room)
- **MUNCH** – the new Munch Museum – opens in Summer 2021 (Read latest press release. Watch animation)
- **The Mother** - a 9-meter tall bronze sculpture by Tracey Emin. The sculpture is to be unveiled 2021. The area where the sculpture will stand, the area around MUNCH, will be opened to the public in the spring of 2021. Read more here.
- **The new National Museum** opens in 2022. (Watch animation)
  - The marketing director of the National Museum kick-starts his day with a morning run followed by ice bathing in the Oslo fjord! Watch video.
- **SNØ Oslo** opened January 2020. Norway's first and the world's largest indoor winter sports arena offering 40 000 km2 of year-round winter fun, with 4 downhill slopes, a big jump, 2 km of cross-country ski trails and more, only 20 minutes by train from Oslo Central Station.
- **The Climate House** opened in the Botanical gardens of Oslo in the spring/summer 2020. The Climate House is a new and exciting arena for communicating research on climate and environmental issues.
- **MAAEMO HAS MOVED!** Maaemo moved to a new location across the Acrobat bridge (to the Bjørvika Barcode district). Maaemo 2.0 opened on March 2nd 2020.
- Maaemo’s side kick/little sister **The Vandelay** opened next door to Maaemo on September 4th!
- **Roseslottet**: Temporary art installation by Veibjørn Sand, a short walk from Frognereseteren station, opened on June 13th 2020.
- **Future Library**: Public artwork by Scottish artist Katie Paterson that will unfold over 100 years in the city of Oslo. Every year a new contributing author to the Future Library anthology is announced and a handover ceremony is held in the Nordmarka forest. The manuscripts will be held in a specially designed room in the new Deichman Bjørvika library. The Future Library Room will open in connection with the Future Library ceremony (this year’s event has been postponed indefinitely due to Covid-19). Watch video; Meet the project manager of Future Library, Anne Beate Hovind.
- **Yonder – Edvard Munch and Nature & The Experimental self – Edvard Munch’s Photography**: Exhibitions in the current Munch Museum at Tøyen. The Scream is displayed as part of the exhibition along with other famous Munch artworks.
- **Kistefos** opened for the season on May 24th 2020. (The Sculpture Park is open all year round.) Kistefos is an industrial museum and sculpture park located in idyllic surroundings about an hours’ drive north of Oslo. The highlight at Kistefos is the spectacular new 3-in-1 museum/ bridge/ sculpture which opened last summer, The Twist!
- In 2021, **The Viking Ship Museum** will close to expand and become the world's largest experience center for Viking culture. The new museum of the Viking Age is opening in 2025. Read more and have a look at pictures of the new museum.
- **VIKINGR**: Viking Age exhibition at the Museum of Cultural History, containing some of the most exquisite objects ever found from the Norwegian Viking Age. The exhibition has been designed by Snøhetta.
- **#osloBIENNALEN**: An evolving five-year programme of art in public space, from 2019-2024.
- **Tons of Rock** (June 24-26 2021): Norway’s largest rock and metal festival moved from Halden to Oslo in 2019. Tons of Rock 2020 was cancelled due to Covid-19.
- **Øya Festival** (August 10-14 2021): In August every year the Øya Festival draws around 60,000 music lovers to Oslo’s east side, where they can enjoy four days of everything from international stars to up-and-coming artists. Since 2002, Øya has worked in collaboration with Greener Events to find new ways of saving energy, making responsible purchases, reducing waste and shorten the travel distance for goods to the festival. Øya was awarded as Outstanding at the “A Greener Festival Award” in 2018 and 2017. ØYA 2020 was cancelled due to Covid-19.

For more upcoming events, go to our event calendar for Oslo.
Edvard Munch’s *The Scream* in Oslo in 2020

There are two versions of the Scream in Oslo: one at MUNCH (the Munch Museum) and one at the National Museum. [Munch’s art in Oslo](https://www.munchmuseet.no/en)

MUNCH’s version of The Scream is currently on display in the current Munch Museum at Tøyen. *The National Gallery closed in January 2019*. It was part of the National Museum, which consisted of several locations in Oslo. The National Museum – Architecture, Villa Stenersen and Mellomstasjonen are still open to the public. Check [website](https://www.nasjonalgalleriet.no) for opening hours.

When the new National Museum opens, with their collections of art, architecture, decorative arts & design and contemporary art all gathered under one roof, the Munch room will finally be available to the public again. [Edvard Munch and The Scream at the National Museum](https://www.nasjonalgalleriet.no/en)

**TRENDS AND CITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

- **Urban sauna culture** has taken Oslo by storm, and the Oslo harbour now boasts several options for sauna sessions followed by refreshing dips in the fjord. Watch our video: *“Oslo – Cool in the Winter”*.  
  - New addition to Oslo’s buzzing sauna scene
- **Oslo, a green capital!** Oslo was the [official European Green Capital 2019](https://www.oslo-green-capital.org) and will continue its efforts to be a leading green capital in the years to come. Read [Stories from Oslo](https://www.oslo-green-capital.org/stories) on the official website of Oslo European Green Capital 2019.
- **Car-free City Life: Car free city life in Oslo** (official website): [Green Oslo/Best Practices, Car-free Livability Programme 2019](https://www.sleeposlo.com) (PDF), see [map](https://www.sleeposlo.com) of Oslo’s car-free zone, article: "What happened when Oslo decided to make its downtown basically car-free?" (FastCompany.com, 24.1.2019)
- Oslo has been named the [Electric Vehicle Capital of the World](https://www.electric-vehicle-capital.org). Norway’s biggest EV charging facilities can be found here, beneath [Akershus fortress](https://www.akesthusforterest.com) and at [Vulkan](https://www.vulkan.no) (in addition to charging points along the streets).
  - ALD Automotive, Vy & GreenMobility launched an [electric car sharing service](https://www.aldmobility.com) in Oslo in January 2019.
  - [Now you can rent electric scooters in Oslo](https://www.electric-scooter-rental.com)
  - [GreenBoats](https://www.greenboat.no): GreenBoats find old boats destined for the scrap yard, equips them with electric motors and give them a new life lease of life! [Boating on the Oslo Fjord](https://www.greenboat.no)
  - Oslo is hosting the world’s largest [Electric Vehicle conference and exhibition -EVS35](https://www.evs35.org) - in 2022.
What’s New in Oslo?

- Norsk elbilforening / The Norwegian Electric Vehicle Association
- **Norway’s first electric aircraft** was tested at Oslo airport on June 18th 2018 (see [video](#)).
- Development in the **electrification of aviation in Norway**
- Oslo gets **driverless electric busses**

**Fossil Free 2020**: Oslo’s public transport company **Ruter** plans to power all public transport using renewable energy sources by 2020. The three public **Nesodden ferries** travelling from Aker brygge turned full-electric in 2019. Read more about [the part public transport plays for a greener capital](#).

**Future Built** is a ten-year programme (2010-2020) with an aim to develop 50 pilot projects for climate neutral buildings and urban areas by 2020.

**Green Visits** Oslo Region: Green Visits organizes professional visits for international delegations visiting the Oslo region. Learn about the different plants, companies, projects and research infrastructure that make Oslo region a green innovation leader.

**Urban beekeeping and rooftop farming** can be found all over the city, on top of buildings like **Vulkan, Scandic Vulkan, Barcode** (Beecode), **Vippa Oslo, Bruket, Vega**. Oslo has in fact created the world’s first bee highway to protect endangered bees. The **bee highway** aims to give the endangered pollinators a safe passage through the city, aided by flower-filled cemeteries, rooftop gardens, parks and balconies. See also: [ByBi](#) (Oslo’s urban beekeeping society)

**Nuart RAD**: A pilot project in areas adjacent to the Akerselva river, stretching 8.2 km through the centre of Oslo. The project is part of Oslo Municipality’s five-year action plan for street art, which promotes graffiti and street art as part of contemporary art in public spaces. See also: [VisitOSLO's guide to urban art](#).

**The Fjord City Programme**: Find a short summary about the extensive renewal of Oslo’s waterfront [here](#). For more information: [Oslo’s Fjord City (PDF)](#).

**Havnepromenaden (The Harbour Promenade)** opened back in 2015 and stretches nine kilometres along Oslo’s waterfront. Interpretive stations describe local history at fourteen sites along the route. The Promenade ties the city together from east to west, turning different parts of town into a string of great experiences such as: [Losåter](#) Urban farm, Sørenga seawater pool, [the new Munch Museum](#) (opening Summer 2020), the Opera house, the saunas of **Oslo Fjord Sauna, KOK Oslo, SALT** and **Greenboats Oslo** (the latter at Aker brygge), Vippa Oslo food hall, [the new National Museum](#) (opening in 2022), Aker Brygge, the Astrup Fearnley Museum at Tjuvholmen, Skur 13 indoor skate park and the [Oslo Tree light sculpture](#) at Filipstad and all the way to the Bygdøy peninsula.

**New Nordic cuisine**: A feast of flavours awaits in Oslo, the capital of fresh ingredients.

**Oslo is Scandinavia’s new coffee mecca** – Explore Oslo’s coffee scene

**Meet Oslo's social entrepreneurs**

**Oslo – a knitting capital**

**AQUAVIT – The resurrection of a Norwegian Classic** (featuring Himkok and Svanen Oslo)

### HOTELS

**Opened in 2019:**

- **Clarion Hotel Oslo** – **Oslo’s new art hotel** with its very own **art concierge** – opened August 1st 2019 in Bjørvika next to the Opera House.
- **Amerikalinjen**: Neighbouring the Opera House and the Oslo Central Station, this architectural landmark turned luxury boutique hotel opened on March 15th 2019 in the original 1919 offices of the Norwegian America Line, once responsible for ferrying hopeful Norwegians across the Atlantic Ocean to the land of opportunity.
- **Clarion hotel The Hub** (formerly known as Clarion Hotel Royal Christiania) opened March 1st 2019 opposite Oslo Central Station. Norway’ largest hotel, with 810 rooms and **Norway’s largest rooftop field** GrowHub!
Upcoming hotel openings:

- **2021**: Nordic Choice Hotels will open a new hotel in one of Oslo’s new neighbourhoods – HasleLinje, near Hasle, Økern & Løren subway stations.
- **2021**: The Well Resort, the largest spa in the Nordic region, is planning to open a resort hotel.
- **2021/2022**: Norway’s first Radisson RED is set to arrive in Oslo.
- **2022**: Maraowell Hotels Oslo Airport City
- **Spring 2022**: Sommerro (by Nordic Choice Hotels) will be a high end hotel consisting of 232 unique rooms and suites designed by GreceDeco. It will boast four in-house restaurants, three bars, an event and conference space, incl. a rooftop bar, restaurant and an adjacent outdoor pool with panoramic views of the hills of Holmenkollen. Meet the interior designers behind Sommerro: watch video.

RESTAURANTS, BARS AND CULTURAL VENUES

Follow Anders Husa & Kaitlin Orr’s blog for the latest rumours from Oslo’s restaurant scene

- **The Vandelay**, Maaemo’s side kick/little sister, opened next door to Maaemo on September 4th!
- **CENTROPA**: Restaurant & cafe inside the new Deichman Bjørvika library, with outdoor seating on the terrace overlooking the Opera house and the Bjørvika bay. Opened on May 14th, by the chefs behind restaurant Stock in Barcode.
- **Maaemo** ("Maaemo 2.0") by chef Esben Holmboe Bang has reopened in a new location in Bjørvika. A new, casual sister restaurant, The Vandalay, opens in the same area this summer/fall.
- **Imperial and The Tea Room at Imperial**: Imperial is a new wine and snack bar at Youngstorget combined with a fine-dining restaurant, The Tea Room at Imperial.
- **Hyde**: British gastro pub in the old venue of - and founded by the same people as - former Pjoltergeist. Will Hyde be able to build a cult following as quickly and as large as Pjoltergeist? The first review by Norwegian DN certainly looks promising…
- **IVY**: New night club near Solli plass. Part of byOSLO.
- **Silk Road**: A 100% plant based concept offering casual fine-dining, cocktails, wine and beer at Skillebekk, and creative street food inside Oslo Street Food, Torggata. Silk Road is focused on creating an ethically and environmentally sustainable dining experience. For the sale of each menu and dish, Silk Road donates a part of the profit to selected charities.
- **Restaurant Stallen**: New fine-dining restaurant by Sebastian Myhre, the man behind FYR Bistronomi. As one of Norway’s smallest and most intimate restaurants, the place is tiny, so make sure to book in advance.
- **Brasseri Rivoli**: New restaurant at Munch Brygge, next door to the new Munch Museum in Bjørvika. An informal French brasserie with one foot in the Norwegian kitchen. By chef Kari Innerå.
- **Neongrut**: The award-winning barista Anton Söderman recently opened his own Coffee Truck in cooperation with his two best friends, animator Julian Vargas and dancer/actor Adil Khan.
- **Oslo Street Food**: A new street food market in the historic Torggata Bad in central Oslo, opened February 2nd 2019. Oslo’s third food hall, after Mathallen and Vippa.
- **Svanen cocktail bar**, in what used to be Oslo’s first pharmacy est. in 1625, on Oslo’s main street Karl Johan.
- **Pier 42**: Cocktail bar at the new Amerikalinjen hotel.
- **Norda Oslo**: Restaurant on the top floor of Clarion Hotel The Hub. The vegetables and herbs on your plate are grown on the hotel’s 200-sqm rooftop field, GrowHub.
What’s New in Oslo?

- **Godthåp**: Vegan bar&café at Grenland, with a cozy backyard.
- **KUMI**: Vegetarian/vegan café & juice bar in Gamlebyen serving breakfast, brunch and lunch all day. Opened May 2018.
- **Rest**: Fine Dining Restaurant using leftover food, opened Nov 21st 2018 in Kirkegata, central Oslo. Watch our video about Rest and #GreenOslo!
- **Hарalds Vaffel**: The King of Waffles! Delicious waffles and ice cream at Olaf Ryes plass, Grünerløkka. Jonathan started selling waffles from his apartment window, and pretty soon his unconventional recipes had made the waffle cool again. See video.
- **Hallen spiseri & fiskeutsalg (@oslofishmarket)**: Fresh and tasty seafood at reasonable prices right next to Vippa food hall.
- **The Good Knight**: Norway is home to Magnus Carlsen, the world’s number one chess player. Only natural then that Oslo finally got its first chess bar in Nov 2018. One week after opening, the Good Knight had already generated considerable buzz (link to article on nytimes.com, 21.11.18, “The Magnus effect: Norway Falls Hard for Chess”).
- **Katla**: Opened August 28th 2018 to rave reviews! By Icelandic chef Atli Már Yngvason.
- **Bygdøy Alle 3**: Restaurant, bar & café located at the same address as Oslo’s former Michelin starred restaurant Bagatelle.
- **Vippa food hall**: a hip food hall located inside an old depo on Oslo’s waterfront (image above left).

**SHOPPING**

- **Valkyrien**: New high-end department store at Majorstuen, opened April 23rd.
- **Promenaden**: With Promaden shopping district, Oslo has gotten its very own high-end shopping area right in the heart of the city. (Oslo’s new luxury shopping district - link to SAS Scandinavian Traveler magazine.) You will find many shops along Prinsens gate with a focus on Norwegian and sustainable fashion (many of them featured on NorwegianFashionHub.com).
- **Paleet**: Stylish shopping gallery with high-end fashion and lifestyle shops, bars, cafés and restaurants situated on Oslo’s main street, Karl Johans gate.
- Shopping guide on visitoslo.com: Shopping in Oslo

Watch our latest videos from Oslo!

- **Cheap & tasty – Lunsjklubben’s (“the lunch club”) Oslo Top 10**
- **Oslo Moves 2020**
- **Quoted Oslo**: The real Oslo through the eyes of locals.
- **Oslo is Rubbish**: Oslo has innovated lots of sustainable solutions for travel, eating and cultural experiences, simply by harnessing power from the waste it produces. That’s why we say Oslo is rubbish - in a good way!
- **Green Oslo**: Using food waste to cook gourmet meals at Oslo’s Restaurant REST.
- **The Proud Experience**: When three young Europeans; Kadir, Anna and Klára, was invited to take part in Oslo Pride - Norway’s largest celebration of love, freedom and diversity, it was Oslove at first sight!
- **Oslo – Cool in the Winter**
- **Oslo’s Urban Farmer**: Urban farming at Losæter in the middle of Oslo city
- **Street food in Oslo**: The last hotdog stand in town and Waffles are back!
- **Black Metal History**: Oslo is the birthplace of Norwegian black metal

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