

Europe, July to September 2026

August 27, Faroe Islands

Out of Iceland and over to one of the Faroes, one of the more remote archipelagos of the world, about half way between Iceland and Scotland. Really a beautiful place. I could spend quite a bit of time here if I were a bit younger. A lot of beautiful hiking locations, but a lot of steep terrain to access them.

The territory has 18 major islands of which 16 or 17 are populated. Many are connected through a series of four under-ocean tunnels and one bridge. One of the tunnels connects three islands and has the world's only under-water roundabout.



We did not see this. I got the picture off the internet.

The Faroes are in the Atlantic Ocean. Being small, the water around them is still called the Atlantic Ocean. Not like parts around mainland Europe that undergo name changes like North Sea, Baltic Sea, and English Channel. This gives the Faroe Islands a unique claim to fame. The bridge connecting two of the closer islands is, officially, the only bridge over the Atlantic Ocean. A good trivia question to keep in mind.

Facts about the Faroe Islands. There are no trees. Possibly because the winds frequently deposit sea water and trees do not live in the salt water. The guide admits that no one knows, but this might be the reason.



Second. There are about 54,000 people on the islands and 70,000 to 80,000 sheep. Sheep are allowed to roam free anywhere in the Faroes, and we saw them everywhere. They are all treated well and immunized against diseases. The guide said they are treated well and loved until they aren't. Mutton harvesting season is in October.

Mutton is dried by hanging in an outdoor shed. After a while, you get dried mutton. After a little bit longer you get fermented mutton, *skerpikjöt*, a delicacy. A delicacy for Faroese people, that is.

The outing we took was a boat ride to the sea cliffs and to see puffins. Again, too late for puffins, but the cliffs were tremendous. These are volcanic islands that just rise from the sea. Harry Potter could not have done a better job making them. The ship captain managed to take us out of a fjord and into the open Atlantic, where he sailed next to the island and entered some of the tight inlets between some very tall cliffs.

To be honest, pictures do not give justice to what we saw. There is one video just to the right that you can click. That does a better job.

That was the day. A 2-hour boat ride with a 1-hour in each direction bus ride. Enjoy the video. Tomorrow is a sea day.

