



THE BALTICS STATES, RUSSIA & SCANDINAVIA

Day: 1

Location: ARRIVE IN COPENHAGEN-DENMARK

Description: Check into your hotel. The rest of the day is free to explore the Danish capital. Tonight, meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers.

Day: 2

Location: COPENHAGEN-FERRY CROSSING-BERLIN

Description: A morning of guided sightseeing to enjoy the famed charms from the past and present, including the LITTLE MERMAID and the rococo Amalienborg complex of royal palaces. In the afternoon, head for Gedser for the 2-hour FERRY crossing to Rostock. Then, onward by road to Berlin.

Day: 3

Location: BERLIN-POZNAN

Description: Enjoy a morning at leisure in Berlin or join the optional sightseeing—a must for all who wish to experience the German capital's fascinating mix of history-laden past and confident present. This afternoon, cross the Oder River into Poland on the way to Poznan.

Day: 4

Location: POZNAN-WARSAW

Description: Touring eastwards this morning through pleasant agricultural lowlands, reach the Polish capital, Warsaw. Discover the city on your own, or find out more about its sights and history on the optional sightseeing tour. This is an excellent introduction to Warsaw's historic center, and you'll see why Warsaw is considered to be a phoenix "par excellence," as European cities go.

Day: 5

Location: WARSAW-VILNIUS

Description: Journey northeast towards Augustów and Suwalki to reach the biggest of the three Baltic states, Lithuania. Overnight in quaint Vilnius—the pretty wedding-cake capital since the 13th century and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Day: 6

Location: VILNIUS

Description: On the included sightseeing walk, visit the historic streets of the OLD TOWN. Later, enjoy some leisure time or take the optional excursion to visit medieval Trakai Castle on the shores of a picturesque lake. This evening, how about an optional folklore dinner?

Day: 7

Location: VILNIUS-RUNDALES PILS-LATVIA-RIGA

Description: An interesting journey as you travel right across Lithuania into Latvia for a stop in Pilsrundale to visit the restored baroque PALACE OF RUNDALE, the former summer residence of the Duke of Courland. The palace was built by the great architect Rastrelli, who also designed the Winter Palace in St. Petersburg. Enjoy more lovely countryside before reaching the capital of Latvia,

Riga.

Day: 8

Location: RIGA

Description: On the included tour of the OLD CITY with a Local Guide, walk through the narrow streets to the town center. Founded in 1201 by Bishop Albert, head of the Order of Teutonic Knights, Riga still boasts a multicultural population.

Day: 9

Location: RIGA-PARNU-ESTONIA-TALLINN

Description: Visit the lively historical seaside town of Parnu, then take a stroll on the sandy beach before continuing to Tallinn.

Day: 10

Location: TALLINN

Description: Start the day with an included walking tour to appreciate Tallinn's history and beauty. The Old Town, now on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, is certainly the most interesting part of the city. Worth noting are the Hanseatic merchant houses, the mile-long town wall, the medieval Town Hall, and the House of the Brotherhood of the Blackheads.

Day: 11

Location: TALLINN-ST. PETERSBURG-RUSSIA

Description: Drive east today towards the border town of Narva and cross into Russia. Then, start the journey to St. Petersburg, considered by most travelers to be Russia's most fascinating city.

Day: 12

Location: ST. PETERSBURG

Description: St. Petersburg was created in 1703 by the iron will of Peter the Great. He made it the capital of all the Russias and ensured that it should rival any other European capital in splendor, beauty, and distinction. The included city tour with a Local Guide introduces you to the palaces, parks, monuments, squares, wide boulevards, and 600 bridges that delight visitors with their symmetrical beauty.

Day: 13

Location: ST. PETERSBURG-VYBORG-HELSINKI-FINLAND

Description: Realize the huge expanse of Russia as you take a last glimpse of St. Petersburg. Then, set off north, traveling through dense pine forests dotted with numerous lakes. Cross into Finland and head for Helsinki.

Day: 14

Location: HELSINKI-OVERNIGHT BALTIC SEA CROSSING TO STOCKHOLM-SWEDEN

Description: The included sightseeing of the Finnish capital covers the Empire-style palace on Senate Square and the cathedral. The afternoon is free for your own exploration. This evening, embark on the FERRY to Stockholm. On board, you can enjoy music, dancing, and shopping.

Day: 15

Location: STOCKHOLM

Description: Dock in Stockholm, perhaps the most beautiful of the Scandinavian capitals. The effect of its crystalline waters flowing through the city's intersecting canals gives a luminous appearance to palaces, castles, and parks. The best way to see and appreciate the highlights of Sweden's capital is to join the included sightseeing tour with a Local Guide.

Day: 16

Location: DEPARTURE-STOCKHOLM

Description: Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning.