

20 Day Best of Scandinavia & The Baltics

Copenhagen - Bergen - Oslo - Stockholm - Helsinki - Tallinn - Riga - Vilnius -
Gdańsk - Warsaw

From **\$4,240** Typically \$5,745 pp Twin Share



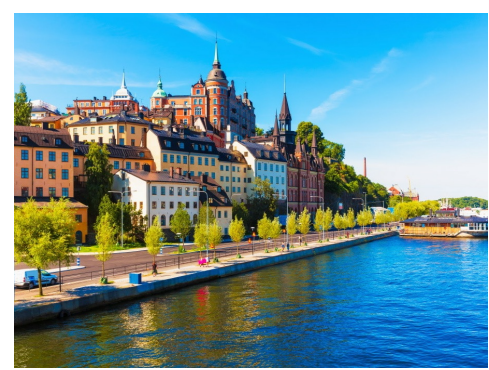
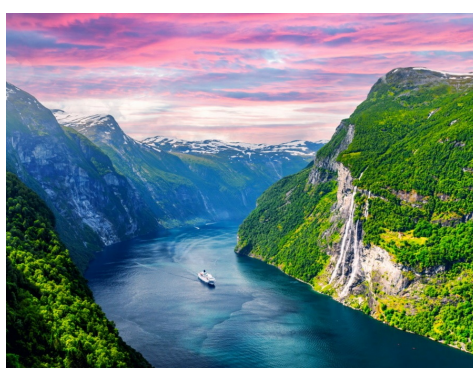
Cruise through Norway's magnificent fjords & see quaint villages

Explore the cool neighbourhoods of Copenhagen

Experience the beauty and charm of the Baltics

Includes 19 nights of accommodation, tour guide, modern coach, a range of meals and much more!

Description



2024 Dates AVAILABLE NOW!

20 Days, 8 countries and countless incredible experiences. This is what awaits on this jam-packed tour of Scandinavia and the Baltic States! Begin in Denmark, travel through Norway's Fjords, experience Sweden's captivating charm and explore Finland's capital. Next, the Baltics are calling! Experience the old-world atmosphere of Tallinn, Estonia, marvel at the mysterious Hill of Crosses and explore lesser-known destinations in Latvia and Lithuania. Wrap up this European adventure in Warsaw, Poland.

Follow in the footsteps of expert local guides, visit off-the-beaten-track spots and see unforgettable historic sights - this tour will have you reminiscing for years to come!



Itinerary

Day 1

Copenhagen

Welcome to Copenhagen! Today is the beginning of this exciting Best of Scandinavia and the Baltics tour! Arrive in Copenhagen, Denmark's capital city and meet up with your tour leader and the rest of the tour group this morning. Later, it's time to head off on an exciting city tour of Copenhagen with an expert local guide! Complete the first day of the tour with an included group dinner this evening in the city centre. It's the perfect opportunity to get to know more about your tour leader and fellow travellers. Adventure definitely awaits over the next 20 days!

Meals: Dinner

Day 2

Copenhagen: Free Day

Explore Copenhagen at your leisure during the free day today! Copenhagen is a colourful and creative city, home to ornate royal palaces and modernist buildings. There is no chance of boredom setting in today. You could enjoy a visit to Tivoli Gardens, Copenhagen's famous amusement park, and see the Rundetaarn which is an astronomical observatory which offers stunning views of the city and is home to a unique equestrian staircase (a ramp designed to give a horse and carriage access to the library at the top). A visit to Freetown Christiania (a commune established by non-conformist squatters in 1971) is sure to be intriguing! To finish off your free day, enjoying dinner at the Nyhavn Waterfront is highly recommended!

Meals: Breakfast

Day 3

Copenhagen Odense Aarhus Hirtshals (ferry port)

Take in the marvellous views of the Danish countryside as the coach travels to Hirtshals - a seaport town on the coast. Along the way, enjoy a stop in Odense and embark on an orientation tour before enjoying free time. Denmark's third-largest city has the claim to fame of being the birthplace of fairytale writer Hans Christian Andersen. Next, hit the road and arrive in Aarhus, Denmark's second-biggest city, and set off on an orientation tour of this lively city. Aarhus is a mix of contemporary artwork and architecture, Viking exhibits and an old town, open-air museum! Later on, arrive in Hirtshals and hop aboard the overnight ferry which will cruise to Bergen in Norway.

Meals: Breakfast

Day 4

Hirtsals Overnight Ferry to Bergen

Say hello to Norway! This is the second Scandinavian country of the tour. Admire the views of Norway's famous fjords as the ferry cruises towards Bergen. Arrive in Bergen and set off on an orientation tour of the city. Bergen is home to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Bryggen Quay and is known as the gateway to Norway's spectacular fjords - seeing the fjords is a highlight of any Norway tour package! This afternoon, enjoy free time to explore the city. Explore more of the town and enjoy the beautiful green spaces! Alternatively, join the optional excursion outside of the city centre and pay a visit to Gamle Bergen (Old Bergen). You are free to enjoy dinner at your leisure tonight - why not enjoy a meal at the waterside in the famous harbour?

Meals: Breakfast

Day 5

Bergen: Free Day

Bergen is yours to explore on this free day. There are a number of fun things to see and do around the city! You could enjoy amazing views by taking a trip on the Fløibanen, the Bergen funicular railway, which will hoist you one thousand feet up Fløyen mountain! Or explore some of Bergen's beautiful natural surroundings on a walk or hike. Alternatively, spend more time in the city centre; admire the medieval architecture, see markets and warehouses and re-visit Bryggen Quay to explore more of the historic area. The choice is all yours today!

Meals: Breakfast

Day 6

Bergen Gudvangen Flam Borgund Oslo

Journey into the scenic heartland of Norway today! Depart Bergen in the morning and travel towards Gudvangen. This popular village is located at the end of Nærøyfjord, one of Norway's most famous fjords! Arrive in Gudvangen and choose to join today's exciting optional excursion to a Viking Village followed by a sightseeing cruise through the Nærøyfjord and Aurlandsfjorden fjords. Marvel at the striking views before arriving in Flam to meet up with the coach again. Travel onwards and enjoy a stop at Borgund's famous Stave Church. Next, continue the journey to Oslo. Arrive in Oslo in the late evening and enjoy an included group dinner at the hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 7

Oslo Karlstad

It's time to discover Oslo, Norway's compact and captivating capital city. Head out for a walking tour of Oslo with a local guide. Learn more about the city which is surrounded by mountains and water and is home to Norway's royal family. Highlights of the city include the Royal Palace and the Akershus Castle. Enjoy free time before travelling onwards to a new country this afternoon. The tour makes its way to Karlstad in Sweden - tonight's overnight destination. Located halfway between Oslo and Stockholm, Karlstad sits on the shores of Lake Vänern and is a hot spot for fun outdoor activities plus great culture and Swedish cuisine.

Meals: Breakfast

Day 8

Karlstad Sigtuna Stockholm

Swedish adventure is on the agenda today! Sigtuna is the first stop of the day. This picturesque mediaeval town is the oldest in the country! Arrive and enjoy an orientation tour and free time. Next, it's time to travel onwards to Stockholm, Sweden's vibrant capital which encompasses 14 islands. Arrive in Stockholm and join an expert local guide for a driving and walking tour of the city. See the Royal Palace, AF Chapman ship and enjoy a walk through Gamla Stan - Stockholm's Old Town. Enjoy an included group dinner in the city centre tonight - Swedish meatballs are on the menu - delicious!

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 9

Stockholm: Free Day

See more of the city during this free day in Stockholm. You could spend time exploring Gamla Stan - the old town complete with terracotta-coloured buildings and cobblestoned lanes. Spend a few hours in one of the city's museums and learn about Vikings, Abba and more! Or visit one of the numerous islands that make up Stockholm which offer great walks. Djurgården, home to Skansen, the open-air Swedish history museum, is a great destination. Alternatively, you could join the Best of Stockholm optional excursion. Look forward to enjoying a scenic drive, seeing historic seaside towns and visiting the world-famous Vasa Museum. Experience the best that Stockholm has to offer!

Meals: Breakfast

Day 10

Stockholm Lidingö Island Overnight Ferry to Helsinki

Today, it's time to say farewell to Sweden and continue with the next leg of the trip. Journey onwards to Helsinki in Finland. Take a late morning drive to Lidingö Island in the Stockholm archipelago along the way and enjoy free time to explore. Afterwards, travel onwards to the port and get ready to catch the overnight ferry to Helsinki. Hop on board and look forward to great onboard entertainment as well as stunning views as you cruise along.

Meals: Breakfast

Day 11

Arrive in Helsinki

Welcome to Helsinki, the capital of Finland! This vibrant, seaside city is known for its beautiful islands and gorgeous green spaces. Dock at the port, travel to the harbourside hotel and get ready to meet up with a local guide this evening for a Helsinki walking tour. See famous sights including the Havis Amanda, Senate Square and Helsinki Cathedral. Not forgetting Uspenski Cathedral and Kauppatori Market! Helsinki offers a wealth of things to see and experience! Tonight, enjoy an included dinner with the group.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 12

Helsinki: Free Day

Enjoy a free day to experience Helsinki today! Explore the diverse city at your leisure. Helsinki is a quirky city which is a centre for design, architectural innovation and Finnish culture. It is also a hub for delicious Finnish food! You could spend some time relaxing and soak in one of the saunas around town. Beautiful natural spots surround the city offering great escapes into nature. Discover more on the Suomenlinna walking trails and museum. Take a trip back in time and see how Finnish life would have been centuries ago with a visit to the Seurasaari open-air museum or marvel at modern masterpieces as the Kiasma contemporary art museum. Make the most of your time in Helsinki today.

Meals: Breakfast

Day 13

Helsinki Tallinn

Today, it's time to travel onwards to the Baltic States! First stop is Tallinn in Estonia. Catch a ferry and sail across the Gulf of Finland. Arrive in Tallinn, Estonia's wonderful capital city, and enjoy an included lunch at a medieval restaurant in the atmospheric Old Town Square. Afterwards, get ready to embark on a walking tour of Tallinn, led by an expert local guide! See the city's highlights and historic sites including St Olav's Church and Tall Hermann Tower. Afterwards, enjoy free time to explore before meeting up with the group for an included dinner at a local restaurant.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 14

Tallinn Pärnu Latvian Military Cemetery Riga

Wave goodbye to Tallinn and get ready to visit a brand new country today! The tour continues to Riga in Latvia. Along the way, make a stop in the resort city of Pärnu in Estonia to sightsee and shop for keepsakes and souvenirs. Next, cross the border into Latvia and enjoy a visit to Saulkrasti, a scenic, coastal beach town on the Gulf of Riga. Arrive in Riga, Latvia's capital city, and experience the Brothers' Cemetery before checking into the hotel for tonight. Once settled in, it's time for an orientation walking tour of Riga's old town and its popular attractions. Highlights of this historic and cosmopolitan Baltic capital city include Riga Dom Cathedral, the Old City Wall and more!

Meals: Breakfast

Day 15

Riga Hill of Crosses, Vilnius

Wake up bright and early today as the journey continues into the next country - Lithuania! Few people know much about this intriguing Baltic state which makes it the perfect place to explore! The first stop is the Hill of Crosses, a famous religious sight. Next, the capital is calling! Arrive in Vilnius, Lithuania's historic, cultured and quirky capital city. Explore Vilnius on an orientation tour. This beautiful Baroque city is home to sights like the Vilnius Cathedral, the Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania and the Church of St Anne. Enjoy free time after the city tour before enjoying an included dinner with the group tonight.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 16

Vilnius 🚗 **Trakai** 🚗 **Masurian Lake District** 🚗 **Gdansk**

Another exciting new country is on the agenda for today - Poland. Along the way, the tour will stop at the stunning Trakai Castle which offers fantastic photo opportunities! Then, it's time to travel onwards and cross the border in Poland. Next, the tour travels through the spectacular Masurian Lake District in northeastern Poland where there will be an included group lunch in the area. Home to over 2,000 lakes, pockets of dense forest, small farms and charming towns, this popular outdoor destination is a must-see for nature lovers! Later this evening, arrive in Gdansk and embark on an orientation tour of this beautiful, historic port city. Afterwards, enjoy free time for dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 17

Gdansk: Free Day

Learn all about Gdansk on a full day in the city! Start off by joining a local guide for a walking tour of the city to see the highlights and important historic areas. Afterwards, the day is free to spend as you wish! Explore more of Gdansk - see the Old Town, Long Market square and admire the historic architecture with its unique Dutch influence. Meander along the waterfront areas or even head to the nearby beach town of Sopot and experience the Polish Riviera! History buffs will enjoy a visit to the European Solidarity Centre which covers the Polish fight for freedom from the USSR while the Museum of the Second World War is another cultural institution well worth a visit.

Meals: Breakfast

Day 18

Gdansk 🚗 **Malbork Castle** 🚗 **Toruń** 🚗 **Poznań**

Bid farewell to Gdansk as the tour continues. Today's first stop is Malbork Castle - a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the largest castle in the world! The 13th century landmark is a castle lover's dream. Next up is Toruń. This mediaeval town is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is well known for being the hometown of astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus and, charmingly, it is renowned for its Museum of Gingerbread! Here, enjoy taking part in a fun and interactive traditional gingerbread workshop. Finally, it's time to head to Poznań. Arrive and embark on an orientation tour with the tour leader after which there will be free time for dinner.

Meals: Breakfast

Day 19

Poznań Warsaw

Departing Poznań, the tour travels towards the historic city of Warsaw. Join a local guide for a walking and driving tour. See the highlights of the city and learn more about how Warsaw played a pivotal role during WWII. Admire the city's architecture which is a testament to the gritty history that shaped Warsaw. See Gothic churches, Neoclassical palaces and stark, Soviet-era apartment blocks side by side with modern skyscrapers. Enjoy some free time this afternoon to explore the city on your own. Tonight, join the group for a final farewell dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 20

Warsaw: Final Day

Enjoy one last breakfast with the tour group as the trip comes to an end this morning. After 20 incredible, fun-filled days, you will have visited nine amazing countries in Scandinavia and the Baltic states! Be sure to swap contact details with your newly made travel friends so that you can stay in contact after returning home. We hope to see you back on an Expat Explore coach again very soon!

Meals: Breakfast

Inclusions & Exclusions

Inclusions

- 19 nights' accommodation in twin rooms with private en-suite facilities
- Meals: 19 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 6 dinners
- Modern air-conditioned coach with reclining seats and toilet onboard
- Any public transport used as part of the tour (excludes free days)
- Services of your tour leader, who will be on hand with advice and tips to ensure that you get the most from your trip
- All taxes and fees included

A range of amazing experiences, including:

- Guided tour of Copenhagen; Denmark's capital city
- Explore Odense; hometown of Hans Christian Anderson
- Visit Aarhus; a captivating Danish city
- Catch an overnight ferry to Norway
- Cruise through Norway's magnificent fjords
- Explore Bergen; known as "the city among the seven mountains"
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- Marvel at the views of Norway's spectacular natural scenery
- Visit Gudvangen; a village at the end of Norway's most famous fjord
- Enjoy a photo stop at Borgund's Stave Church
- See the highlights of Oslo with a local guide
- Visit Sigtuna; Sweden's oldest town
- Explore Stockholm with a local guide
- Tuck into Swedish meatballs in Stockholm
- Embark on a driving tour of Helsinki; Finland's capital city
- Join a local guide for a walking tour of Helsinki
- Included dinner in Helsinki
- See the top sights in Tallinn with a local guide
- Stop off at the seaside town of Saulekrasti
- Visit the Latvian War Cemetery
- Orientation tour of Riga
- Visit the Hill of Crosses faith site
- Orientation tour of Vilnius
- Guided tour of Minsk
- Explore the Brest Hero Fortress Complex
- Local-guided tour of Warsaw
- Farewell dinner in Warsaw

Exclusions

- Travel insurance (highly recommended)
- Flights
- Meals & sightseeing not specified
- Optional tours



- Tipping & gratuities (optional)
- Items of a personal nature, such as drinks, snacks, laundry etc
- Any items or services not listed in the above inclusions

Important Info and Terms & Conditions

Child Policy: No children under 10 years of age are allowed on this tour. Contact us if you are after a family-friendly trip!

Single supplement: Travelling solo? The single supplement is \$1000 and is available on check-out.

Fitness levels: These tours require a moderate level of fitness and are not ideal for people travelling with wheelchairs or severe mobility issues.

Travel Insurance: We recommend Covermore travel insurance. To quote and book, please click [HERE](#).

Want to stay longer, add on another tour or need help with flights? Get in touch with us today!