






Best of Scandinavia & the Baltics Christmas & New Year

Tour Overview

 Start Point Copenhagen	 End Point Warsaw	 Meals 19 Breakfasts 1 Lunch 8 Dinners	 Transport Air-conditioned coach	 Tour Type Fully-guided tour
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Itinerary

Day 1: Start of tour in Copenhagen

 Dinner  Moxy Copenhagen

Your Best of Scandinavia and the Baltics Christmas tour begins today in wintery Copenhagen! Meet up with your tour leader at the hotel before joining an expert local guide to discover Denmark's enchanting capital. Tick off some of the city's top sights including the Little Mermaid Statue and the picture-perfect Nyhavn Waterfront. This evening, enjoy a group welcome dinner.

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - Enjoy a guided tour of Copenhagen

Day 2: Copenhagen: Free Day

 Breakfast  Moxy Copenhagen

Look forward to a free day in Copenhagen! This charming city is full of colour and creativity. Join today's optional excursion and experience Freetown Christiania, learn more about Denmark's royal history with a visit to Christiansborg Palace and enjoy lunch at a cosy local restaurant. This is the best way to experience Copenhagen's local culture.

Optionals:

Winter Wonders of Copenhagen

Day 3: Copenhagen - Odense - Aarhus - Hirtshals (ferry port)

 Breakfast  Fjord Line Hirtshals-Bergen Ferry

Today's first stop is Odense, famously the birthplace of fairytale author Hans Christian Andersen. Next stop is Denmark's second-biggest city, Aarhus. Embark on an orientation tour of this buzzing city which offers a blend of contemporary architecture and Viking history. Finally, arrive at the Hirtshals ferry port and settle in for an overnight ferry towards Bergen, Norway!

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - Discover Odense on an orientation tour

ESHWXMASNY - Explore the unique city of Aarhus

ESHWXMASNY - Relax on an overnight ferry cruise to Norway

Day 4: Overnight ferry - Bergen (Christmas Eve)

 Breakfast  Scandic Bergen City

Hei Norway! Wake up and admire the beauty of Norway's nature while cruising towards Bergen. Upon arrival, embark on an orientation tour. See the UNESCO-listed Bryggen Quay, decorated with sparkling Christmas lights, and the picturesque city centre. This afternoon, join an excursion to some quaint fishing villages near Bergen for a glimpse into local life and a Christmas Eve lunch.

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - See Norway's fjords

ESHWXMASNY - Explore Bergen on an orientation tour

Optionals:

Day 5: **Bergen: Free Day (Christmas Day)**

 **Breakfast, Dinner**  **Scandic Bergen City**

Merry Christmas! Or, "God Jul". Enjoy a free day to experience this magical city in all its festive glory. Join the popular Festive Bergen+ optional excursion. Embark on a guided Bryggen tour and a ride on the Fløibanen funicular up Fløyen mountain! End this festive day with a drink at Bergen's incredible Magic Ice Bar before an included Christmas dinner.

Optionals:

Festive Bergen+

Day 6: **Bergen - Flam - Gudvangen**

 **Breakfast, Dinner**  **Gudvangen Fjordtell**

After breakfast, head to today's first stop, Gudvangen, a breathtaking village at the end of Nærøfjord - one of Norway's most spectacular fjords. Embark on an exciting optional excursion to a Viking village followed by a fjord cruise through the Nærøfjord and Aurlandsfjorden fjords! Enjoy free time in Flam before heading to tonight's accommodation. Dinner is at the hotel tonight.

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - Experience Norway's scenery

ESHWXMASNY - Visit Gudvangen

Optionals:

Viking Village and Norwegian Fjords Cruise

Day 7: **Gudvangen - Oslo**

 **Breakfast**  **MOXY Oslo X**

Today, travel to Oslo, Norway's effortlessly cool capital city. En route, stop at the fascinating Gol Stave Church and snap some pictures of this unique structure! Upon arrival in Oslo, set off on a walking tour of this compact city. Admire the Royal Palace and Akershus Castle. The rest of the afternoon is free to explore at your own pace.

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - See Gol Stave Church

ESHWXMASNY - See the highlights of Oslo with a local guide

Day 8: **Oslo - Karlstad - Stockholm**

 **Breakfast, Dinner**  **Môtel L**

Travel to Sweden today! Halfway between Oslo and Stockholm lies the city of Karlstad. Sitting on the shores of Lake Vänern, Karlstad is beloved for its natural beauty. In the evening, arrive in Stockholm, Sweden's captivating capital, and check into the hotel. Traditional Swedish meatballs are on the dinner menu tonight!

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - Discover Karlstad on an orientation tour

ESHWXMASNY - Tuck into Swedish meatballs

Day 9: **Stockholm: Free Day**

 **Breakfast**  **Môtel L**

God morgon, Stockholm! Today is free to experience this captivating city as you wish. But first, join a local guide for a tour of Stockholm's most iconic sights including the Royal Palace and Gamla Stan (the old town). Later, join an optional excursion, which includes a tour of the historic Royal Palace and a visit to the fascinating Vasa Museum!

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - Explore Stockholm with a local guide

Optionals:

Royal Stockholm

Day 10: **Stockholm - Sigtuna - Overnight ferry to Helsinki**



Breakfast



Viking Line

Leaving Stockholm this morning, travel to Sigtuna. Discover Sweden's oldest town on an orientation tour. This afternoon, hop aboard the overnight ferry from Sweden to Helsinki. Enjoy a range of onboard entertainment and admire the views as you cruise to your next destination overnight.

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - Catch an overnight ferry to Finland

ESHWXMASNY - Visit Sigtuna; Sweden's oldest town

Day 11: **Helsinki (New Year's Eve)**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Radisson Blu Seaside Hotel

Welcome to Helsinki, the seaside capital city of Finland. Set off on a walking and driving tour with a knowledgeable local guide. Discover some of the many highlights of Helsinki including Senate Square, the towering Helsinki and Upsenski cathedrals and Havis Amanda. Tonight, sit down for a group dinner and celebrate the last night of the year together!

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - Discover the highlights of Helsinki with a local guide

ESHWXMASNY - Celebrate New Year's Eve with a local Helsinki dinner

Day 12: **Helsinki: Free Day**


 Breakfast  Radisson Blu Seaside Hotel

After last night's celebrations, enjoy a free day to wander around the city, relax or sightsee. Join today's optional excursion to visit the nearby Suomenlinna island and enjoy lunch at a local restaurant! Finland consumes more coffee than any other country. Be sure to try out some beloved brew at one of the city's many cafés!

Optionals:

Suomenlinna Tour & Taste

Day 13: **Helsinki - Tallinn**

 Breakfast, Lunch  Metropol Hotel

Depart Helsinki this morning and catch a ferry to Tallinn, Estonia's enchanting capital city. Arriving in the afternoon, soak up Tallinn's unmatched medieval atmosphere with lunch at a historic restaurant in the Old Town square. Then, join a local guide on a walking tour of this fairytale city's striking spires, colourful houses and incredible viewpoints.

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - Catch a ferry from Helsinki to Tallinn

ESHWXMASNY - Enjoy lunch at a mediaeval restaurant in Tallinn

ESHWXMASNY - Tour Tallinn with a local guide

Day 14: **Tallinn - Pärnu - Latvian Military Cemetery - Riga**

 Breakfast  Hestia Hotel Jugend

This morning, head to Pärnu, a resort city home to picturesque houses and creative street art. Then, travel to Riga, Latvia. First stop is the Latvian Military Cemetery, a national monument honouring over 2,000 Latvian soldiers. After hotel check-in, enjoy an orientation tour through Riga's Old Town which is renowned for its exceptional Art Nouveau architecture.

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - Sightsee in Pärnu

ESHWXMASNY - Visit the Latvian Military Cemetery

ESHWXMASNY - Discover Riga; Latvia's vibrant capital

Day 15: **Riga - Hill of Crosses - Vilnius**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Green Vilnius Hotel

The last (but certainly not least) of the Baltic states awaits! Cross the border into Lithuania and visit the mysterious Hill of Crosses. Later, arrive in Vilnius, Lithuania's beautiful capital. Set off on an orientation tour. Discover the UNESCO-listed Old Town and exquisite Baroque architecture. Enjoy free time to explore before sitting down for dinner at a traditional restaurant.

Included:

Day 16: Vilnius - Trakai - Gdansk

 **Breakfast, Dinner**  **Hampton by Hilton Gdansk Old Town**



Before leaving Lithuania, travel to Trakai, a quaint town home to a magnificent island castle which is particularly magical in winter. Then, relax as the coach crosses the border into Poland. Arrive in Gdansk, a charming and scenic port city, this evening. Marvel at Gdansk's blend of architectural styles on an orientation tour before tonight's included dinner.

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - Discover Trakai Castle

ESHWXMASNY - Discover Gdansk; an enchanting Polish port city

Day 17: Gdansk: Free Day

 **Breakfast**  **Hampton by Hilton Gdansk Old Town**

Begin the day with a locally guided walking tour of this beautiful city. Experience the gorgeous Old Town and Long Market Square. The rest of the day is free to spend however you wish. Take a stroll along the Motława riverside, admire the ornate interior of Gdansk Town Hall or take in the views from the Amber Sky ferris wheel!

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - Delve into Gdansk's history with a local guide

Day 18: Gdansk - Malbork Castle - Toruń - Warsaw

 **Breakfast, Dinner**  **Radisson Blu Sobieski Hotel**

Say goodbye to Gdansk and take a trip to the UNESCO-listed Malbork Castle, the world's largest! Embark on a guided tour of this awe-inspiring 13th-century castle and fortress. The next stop is the medieval town of Toruń, yet another UNESCO site! Here, enjoy an interactive gingerbread demonstration! Then, head to Warsaw and check into the hotel for the evening.

Included:

ESHWXMASNY - Explore Malbork Castle

ESHWXMASNY - Enjoy a gingerbread workshop in Torun

Day 19: Warsaw

 **Breakfast**  **Radisson Blu Sobieski Hotel**

Witam Warsaw! Discover Poland's historic and enigmatic capital city this morning with a local guide. The rest of the day is free to explore or to join the Warsaw Cultural Highlights optional excursion. Dive deep into Warsaw's delicious cuisine and Jewish history on this unmissable tour. Celebrate the last night on tour with the Chopin & Polish Flavours Evening excursion!

Included:


ESHWXMASNY - Explore Warsaw with a local guide

Optionals:

Warsaw Cultural Highlights

Chopin & Polish Flavours Evening

Day 20: End of tour in Warsaw

 **Breakfast**

After a jam-packed 20-day festive journey through Scandinavia & the Baltics, the tour comes to an end this morning after breakfast. Don't forget to exchange content details with your newfound travel buddies before travelling onwards to your next destination. Expat Explore wishes you a safe trip home and cannot wait to see you on tour again with us soon!