






Best of Scandinavia & the Baltics

Tour Overview

 Start Point Copenhagen	 End Point Warsaw	 Meals 19 Breakfasts 1 Lunch 7 Dinners	 Transport Air- conditioned coach	 Tour Type Fully- guided tour
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Itinerary

Day 1: Start of tour in Copenhagen

 Dinner  Best Western Plus Park City Globetrotter Copenhagen Airport

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 group. Later, head off on an exciting tour of Copenhagen with a local guide! Complete an exciting first day with a welcome dinner in the city centre.

Included:

ESHW - Enjoy a guided tour of Copenhagen

Day 2: Copenhagen: Free Day

 Breakfast  Best Western Plus Park City Globetrotter Copenhagen Airport

Explore Copenhagen at your leisure during the free day today! Enjoy a visit to Tivoli Gardens, Copenhagen's famous amusement park, or see the Rundetaarn, an astronomical observatory which offers stunning views. The best way to soak up Copenhagen's history and culture is with today's optional excursion. Start with a canal cruise, visit the National Museum, and explore a local food hall before discovering Freetown Christiania.

Optionals:

Discover Copenhagen

Day 3: Copenhagen - Odense - Aarhus - Hirtshals (Overnight Ferry)

 Breakfast  Fjord Line Hirtshals-Bergen Ferry

Take in views of the Danish countryside as the coach travels to Odense. Embark on an orientation tour of this city which is the birthplace of fairytale writer Hans Christian Andersen. Next, head to Aarhus and experience its contemporary artworks, Viking exhibits and an open-air museum! Later, arrive in Hirtshals and hop aboard the overnight ferry to Bergen in Norway.

Included:

ESHW - Discover Odense on an orientation tour

ESHW - Explore the unique city of Aarhus

ESHW - Relax on an overnight ferry cruise to Norway

Day 4: Overnight ferry - Bergen

 Breakfast  Scandic Bergen City

Say hallo to Norway! Admire the natural scenery as the ferry cruises towards Bergen. Arrive and set off on an orientation tour. Bergen is home to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Bryggen Quay and is known as the gateway to Norway's spectacular fjords! This afternoon, join the optional excursion to experience some of the picturesque fishing villages around Bergen.

Included:


ESHW - See Norway's fjords

ESHW - Explore Bergen on an orientation tour

Optionals:

Coastal Norway: Fishing Villages & Norwegian Dinner

Day 5: **Bergen**

 Breakfast

 Scandic Bergen City

Bergen is yours to explore on this free day. The Bergen+ optional excursion is highly recommended to get a true taste of the city. This excursion includes a ferry cruise, a guided tour of Bryggen and a trip on the Fløibanen funicular up Fløyen mountain! Look forward to breathtaking views of the city. Finally, visit Bergen's unique Magic Ice Bar!

Optionals:

Bergen+

Day 6: **Bergen - Flam - Oslo**

 Breakfast, Dinner

 MOXY Oslo X

Depart Bergen and travel to Gudvangen, located at the end of Nærøyfjord, one of Norway's most famous fjords! Join today's optional excursion to a Viking Village followed by a scenic cruise through the Nærøyfjord and Aurlandsfjorden towards Flam. Later, stop at Borgund's famous Stave Church en route to Oslo. Arrive in the evening and enjoy dinner at the hotel.

Included:

ESHW - Experience Norway's scenery

ESHW - Visit Gudvangen

ESHW - See Borgund's Stave Church

Optionals:

Viking Village and Norwegian Fjords Cruise

Day 7: **Oslo**

 Breakfast

 MOXY Oslo X

Discover Oslo, Norway's compact and captivating capital. Head out for a walking tour with a local guide. Highlights include the Royal Palace and the Akershus Castle. Afterwards, enjoy a free day to experience all that Oslo has to offer. Explore on your own or discover some of Oslo's gorgeous green spaces and fascinating museums with the Oslo+ optional excursion.

Included:

ESHW - See the highlights of Oslo with a local guide

Optionals:

Oslo+

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

 Breakfast, Dinner

 Môtel L

Located halfway between Oslo and Stockholm, Karlstad is today's first stop. Then, visit Örebro, home to Sweden's most beautiful city centre as well as a striking 13th-century castle. Next, travel to Stockholm, Sweden's vibrant capital. Get your first glimpse of Stockholm upon arrival and, after checking into the hotel, enjoy traditional Swedish meatballs for dinner!

Included:

ESHW - Discover Karlstad on an orientation tour

ESHW - Marvel at the historic Örebro

ESHW - Explore Stockholm with a local guide

ESHW - Tuck into Swedish meatballs

Day 9: **Stockholm**

 Breakfast

 Môtel L

See more of Stockholm on a locally-guided tour this morning. See the Royal Palace, AF Chapman ship and walk through Gamla Stan. The rest of the day is free. Visit a museum to learn about Vikings, Abba and more! Alternatively, join today's optional excursion for a deep dive into the historic Royal Palace and the world-famous Vasa Museum.


Included:

ESHW - Explore Stockholm with a local guide

Optionals:

Royal Stockholm

Day 10: **Stockholm (Overnight Ferry)**

 Breakfast

 Tallink

Enjoy one last morning in Stockholm, with time to explore, shop or simply soak it all in. This afternoon, travel to the port to catch the overnight ferry to Helsinki. Look forward to great onboard entertainment and scenic views. Tonight, choose to treat yourself to a Baltic Ferry Feast, a massive buffet dinner with unlimited drinks!

Included:

ESHW - Catch an overnight ferry to Finland

Optionals:

Baltic Ferry Feast

Day 11: **Helsinki**

 Breakfast, Dinner


 Radisson Blu Seaside Hotel

Welcome to Helsinki, the capital of Finland! Dock at the port, travel to the harbourside hotel and meet up with a local guide for a driving and walking tour. See famous sights including the Havis Amanda, Senate Square and Helsinki Cathedral. Not forgetting Uspenski Cathedral and Kauppatori Market! Tonight, enjoy an included dinner with the group.

Included:

ESHW - Discover the highlights of Helsinki with a local guide

Day 12: **Helsinki: Free Day**

 Breakfast

 Radisson Blu Seaside Hotel

Experience Helsinki and explore this diverse city at your leisure today. Join the Helsinki+ excursion to discover Suomenlinna Fortress, have a picnic lunch on the island, then enjoy a Finnish pastry and coffee at a famous café. Alternatively, explore at your own pace. Visit one of the many museums, marvel at Helsinki's unique architecture or enjoy a meal with an ocean view.

Optionals:

Helsinki+

Day 13: **Helsinki - Tallinn**

 Breakfast, Lunch

 Metropol Hotel

Travel to the Baltic States! Catch a ferry and sail across the Gulf of Finland. Arrive in Tallinn, Estonia's capital city, and enjoy lunch at a medieval restaurant in the atmospheric Old Town Square. Afterwards, embark on a walking tour led by a local guide! See historic sites including St Olav's Church and Tall Hermann Tower. Enjoy a free evening.


Included:

ESHW - Catch a ferry from Helsinki to Tallinn

ESHW - Enjoy lunch at a mediaeval restaurant in Tallinn

ESHW - Tour Tallinn with a local guide

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

 Breakfast

 Hestia Hotel Jugend

The tour continues to Latvia. Along the way, stop in the Estonian resort city of Pärnu. Next, cross the border into Latvia and enjoy a visit to Saulkrasti, a scenic, coastal town. Arrive in Riga, Latvia's capital, and experience the Brothers' Cemetery before checking into the hotel. Later, embark on an orientation walking tour of Riga's striking old town.

Included:

ESHW - Sightsee in Pärnu

ESHW - Enjoy a stop in Saulkrasti

ESHW - Visit the Latvian Military Cemetery

ESHW - Discover Riga; Latvia's vibrant capital

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

 Breakfast, Dinner

 Green Vilnius Hotel

Lithuania awaits! First stop is the Hill of Crosses, a famous religious sight. Next, visit Trakai, known for its magical island castle! Finally, arrive in Vilnius, Lithuania's historic, cultured and quirky capital. Explore Vilnius's Baroque Old Town and sights like the

Vilnius Cathedral and the Church of St Anne on an orientation tour. Enjoy a local dinner tonight.

Included:

ESHW - Visit the Hill of Crosses

ESHW - Discover Trakai Castle

ESHW - Explore Vilnius; capital of Lithuania

Day 16: **Vilnius - Masurian Lake District - Gdansk**

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

Another exciting new country is on the agenda for today - Poland. Enjoy a drive through the Masurian Lake District, home to over 2,000 lakes! Admire the stunning scenery and find a spot to enjoy lunch. Later this evening, arrive in Gdansk and embark on an orientation tour of this beautiful, historic port city. Afterwards, enjoy an included dinner.

Included:

ESHW - Enjoy a scenic drive through the Masurian Lake District

ESHW - Discover Gdansk; an enchanting Polish port city

Day 17: **Gdansk**

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

This morning, join a local guide for a walking tour of Gdansk's highlights and important historic areas. Afterwards, the day is free to spend as you wish! Admire the city's unique Dutch-influenced architecture or meander along the charming waterfront. History buffs will enjoy a visit to the European Solidarity Centre which covers the Polish fight for freedom from the USSR.

Included:

ESHW - Explore Gdansk with a local guide

Day 18: **Gdansk - Malbork Castle - Toruń - Warsaw**

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

Today's first stop is Malbork Castle - a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the largest castle in the world! Next up is Toruń. This UNESCO-listed, mediaeval town is charmingly renowned for its Museum of Gingerbread! Take part in a fun and interactive gingerbread workshop. Finally, head to Warsaw, the capital of Poland. Enjoy dinner at the hotel tonight.

Included:

ESHW - Explore Malbork Castle

ESHW - Enjoy a gingerbread workshop in Torun

Day 19: **Warsaw**

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

After breakfast, embark on a locally-guided tour of Warsaw. The rest of the day is yours. To gain further insight into this fascinating city, join the Warsaw Cultural Highlights optional excursion. This evening's optional Chopin & Polish Flavours Evening offers a concert in Warsaw's Royal Castle, and a three-course Polish dinner at a cosy restaurant in the Old Town.

Included:


ESHW - Explore Warsaw with a local guide

Optionals:

Warsaw Cultural Highlights

Chopin & Polish Flavours Evening

Day 20: **End of tour in Warsaw**

 **Breakfast**

Enjoy one last breakfast with the group as the trip comes to an end this morning. 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!



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