

Cruising the Historic Cities of the Baltic Sea – with Smithsonian Journeys

From **18/5/2022**
to **25/5/2022**

Ship: **LE CHAMPLAIN**

From **Stockholm**
to **Copenhagen**



Shore excursion or activity in each port of call +
transfers included

In alliance with Smithsonian Journeys.

This cruise is part of a collection of PONANT voyages that are specially-tailored for English-speaking travelers who want to engage with the world. In addition to the usual elements of the PONANT experience, the listed price for these voyages includes transfers to and from the ship, talks and discussions aboard ship by world class experts, and a shore excursion or activity in each port of call that encourages guests to embrace the sights, sounds, tastes, and smells of the local environment and culture.

PONANT invites you to discover **Saint Petersburg** and other cities steeped in history of the **Baltic Sea**.

From **Stockholm**, you will board *Le Champlain* for an **8-day cruise**, including 3 exceptional days in the former capital of the Tsars.

Your ship will first head to **Helsinki**. Located on a peninsula surrounded by almost 300 islands, the verdant capital of Finland will charm you with its Art Nouveau architecture.

You will then visit **Saint Petersburg**. Architectural gems in the Baroque style, churches with domes so elaborate they seem otherworldly, palaces, gardens, canals, and the famous "perspectives" that criss-cross the city: at each street corner a new theatrical decor is revealed. We invite you to visit this colourful city where the atmosphere is rich with the splendour of the Tsars and the traces of the Russian Enlightenment.

Your next port of call will be **Tallinn**, a site that was important for the Hanseatic League in the Baltic Sea around the 13th century. UNESCO Heritage Site, this once opulent city still has remarkably well-preserved ramparts, public buildings, merchant houses and warehouses.

Your ship will finally head for **Copenhagen**, your disembarkation port.



The information in this document is valid as of 4/12/2021

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YOUR STOPOVERS :

STOCKHOLM

Embarkation 18/5/2022 from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Departure 18/5/2022 at 5:00 pm

The capital of Sweden occupies an archipelago in the east of the country at the junction of Mälär Lake and the Baltic sea. In **Gamla stan**, meaning “old town” in Swedish, you can stroll at your leisure in picturesque medieval streets until you reach the majestic Royal Palace. On the green island of **Djurgården**, you can visit several very different kinds of cultural centres: the Vasa museum is dedicated to a 17th century three-mast, the ecomuseum of Skansen presents traditional customs, and the ABBA museum is dedicated to the legendary pop group. For a fantastic, all-encompassing view of Stockholm, you can take a ride in **SkyView**, a glass-encased sphere gondola that takes you to the top of the world’s largest building, the Ericsson Globe, a Stockholm landmark.

HELSINKI

Arrival 19/5/2022 early afternoon

Departure 19/5/2022 late afternoon

Seated in the southern peninsula of Finland, **Helsinki** offers the buzz of a cosmopolitan city that has opted for both elegance and beauty. Explore its historical centre where the soft hues of neoclassical buildings are juxtaposed with spectacular modern constructions. The bustling **Kallio** district is teeming with boutiques and restaurants where you can taste some local specialities like graavilohi - a sweet, marinated, aromatic salmon dish. **Keskuspuisto** park, a stone’s throw from the centre, is a good place to sit and unwind.

SAINT PETERSBURG

Arrival 20/5/2022 mid morning

Departure 22/5/2022 late afternoon

Founded in 1703 by Tzar Peter the Great, **Saint Petersburg** has kept its original aura and is still one of the world’s most beautiful cities. It is listed as a UNESCO world heritage site. Bathed by the waters of the Neva, the “**Venice of the North**” boasts an impressive wealth of historic and artistic features. From the emblematic **Nevsky Propect**, the city’s main thoroughfare, exploring the city by foot is a pleasure. With its baroque cathedrals, imperial palaces, suspended bridges, theatres and museums, Saint Petersburg is a jewel of a city.

TALLINN

Arrival 23/5/2022 early morning

Departure 23/5/2022 early afternoon

Opening onto the Baltic sea, to the far north of Estonia, the town of **Tallin** will win you over with the picturesque charm of its architecture. You can meander through its little streets in the heart of the medieval centre where its gothic **town hall** has been standing since 1404. The **Kiek in de K ok tower**, the **Orthodox Alexander Nevski cathedral**, or **Toompea castle** give visitors a taste of this town's rich past. The city was particularly active during the medieval period, as is demonstrated by the very beautiful monuments from this period that are still visible. Don't hesitate to lose yourself in the heart of Tallinn, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

AT SEA

Arrival 24/5/2022

Departure 24/5/2022

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

COPENHAGEN

Arrival 25/5/2022 early morning

Disembarkation 25/5/2022 at 8:00 am

Connected to the far eastern side of Sealand island, a few kilometres away from the Swedish coasts, **Copenhagen** offers you the high colour of Scandinavian capitals. You can discover the city's riches that weaves through the canal networks through the historical districts of **Christiansborg** and **Nyhavn**. Many palaces provide an apercu of Danish history. For eating, you can try out the smorrebrod, traditional danish sandwiches made with ham, cheese or smoked fish.