

Historic Cities of the Baltic Sea

From **2/5/2022**
to **11/5/2022**

Ship: **LE CHAMPLAIN**

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



Embark on a **Baltic Sea** cruise to discover the highlights of **Baltic cultural heritage** on a 10-day trip from Stockholm aboard *Le Champlain*.

Your cruise begins with a visit of the medieval Finnish city of **Turku**. At the mouth of the River Aura, discover this lively, modern city that proudly bears the traces of its rich history.

You will discover **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 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.

During your cruise, you will also visit two sites that were important for the Hanseatic League in the Baltic Sea around the 13th century: **Tallinn and Visby. UNESCO Heritage Sites**, these once opulent cities still have remarkably well-preserved ramparts, public buildings, merchant houses and warehouses.

Then your ship will chart a course towards the charming town of **Ronne**, on the small Danish island of **Bornholm**, which is greatly appreciated by the Danish for its variety of landscapes ranging from granite to great sandy beaches.

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



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

Historic Cities of the Baltic Sea

YOUR STOPOVERS :

STOCKHOLM

Embarkation 2/5/2022 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Departure 2/5/2022 at 6:00 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.

TURKU

Arrival 3/5/2022 midday

Departure 3/5/2022 late afternoon

In the south-west of Finland, at the mouth of the Aura River, welcome to lush **Turku!** It’s ideal to wander about: travellers will be able to walk along the paved streets of the medieval town-centre or the lively banks of this charming city. Founded in the 13th century and controlled by the Kingdom of Sweden until 1812, Turku has a rich heritage that you will be able to discover during a visit to the Sibelius Museum, its famous castle or its cathedral. The exceptional natural setting constituted by the Turku Archipelago is a real haven of peace, which is full of walking trails.

HELSINKI

Arrival 4/5/2022 early afternoon

Departure 4/5/2022 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 5/5/2022 mid morning

Departure 7/5/2022 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 Prospect**, 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 8/5/2022 midday

Departure 8/5/2022 late 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.

VISBY, GOTLAND

Arrival 9/5/2022 midday

Departure 9/5/2022 early evening

This old Hanseatic city lies to the west coast of Gotland, a Swedish island in the Baltic sea. Pass through the spectacular Visby fortifications and visit the **old town**, a UNESCO World Heritage site. You'll discover the grand Visby homes of rich merchants as well as the lovely low wooden houses in the little cobbled streets. Don't miss **Saint Mary's cathedral** with its octagonal steeples, as well as Powder tower along the fortifications. Make sure you stop over in one of the rose-adorned caf es; indeed roses abound in this town where you can taste one of the island's specialities, namely saffron pancakes with red fruit.

RONNE

Arrival 10/5/2022 midday

Departure 10/5/2022 early evening

To the south-west of the Baltic Sea, the small Danish island of Bornholm is a magnificent and light-filled setting for the charming town of Ronne, its capital. Close to Sweden, Poland and Germany and coveted many times for its strategic position, the island has managed to preserve its identity. Strolling its cobbled streets, fall under the spell of the colourful half-timbered houses and discover Denmark’s oldest theatre. The museum located in a former market hall retraces the traditional life of the island and its history. In the midst of landscapes alternating rocky coastlines and fine sandy beaches, maybe you will come across the medieval fortress of **Hammerhus**, or one of the remarkable **round churches** scattered over the island.

COPENHAGEN

Arrival 11/5/2022 early morning

Disembarkation 11/5/2022 at 7:30 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.