



SEPTEMBER 11 TO SEPTEMBER 25, 2027

Aboard Sky Princess

Departing Round Trip from Southampton (for London)

PORTS OF CALL

Southampton And London – Pre or Post Cruise

Ship departs Saturday, September 11, 2027 at 4:00 pm



The south of England boasts a dramatic coastline that encloses some of the most beautiful countryside in Britain. The landscape of hills and heaths, downs and forests, valleys and dales, is without rival. Southampton serves as your gateway to the countryside - and to a wide variety of historic sites, national landmarks and charming.

The United Kingdom's premier passenger ship port, Southampton was home for many years to the great transatlantic liners of yesteryear.

It is 65 miles from Southampton Cruise Port to Heathrow.

It is about 80 miles from Southampton Cruise Port to London City Center.

London Heathrow Airport (LHR) is approximately 18 miles to London City Center. Depending on traffic it is about a 45 minute drive and would cost around £60-70 by Taxi or Uber.

London Gatwick Airport (LGW) is approximately 80 miles to Southampton. It is 27 miles to London City Center.

- Points of Interest
- Buckingham Palace
- Westminster Abbey
- Big Ben/Parliament Buildings
- London Eye
- Thames River Cruise
- Stonehenge
- Windsor/Windsor Castle
- Salisbury

More about Points of Interest

Buckingham Palace - The Queen's official London residence, Buckingham Palace, found at the end of the tree-lined Mall, is protected by imposing iron gates, through which you can glimpse the red-jacketed Royal Guards.

Westminster Abbey - This stunning Gothic building has been the setting for Royal weddings and coronations since 1066. It is home to the 'Tomb of the Unknown Warrior', representing the thousands killed in World War I.

Big Ben/Parliament Buildings - The Houses of Parliament, both the House of Commons and House of Lords, is the home of British politics. An elaborate Gothic building, it is also the site of London's much-loved time-piece, Big Ben.

London Eye - A giant 21st-century Ferris wheel, visitors walk directly into the specially designed glass capsules located on the wheel's exterior, for a breath-taking ride that lifts you high above the city.

Thames River Cruise - Cruise along the River Thames on a vessel that features a glass observation deck, as well as an open-air promenade, soaking up the spectacular views including Tower Bridge, and the London Eye.

Stonehenge - A true archeological mystery, this mythical monument is thought to be over 5,000 years old, and holds spiritual meaning for many. Visitors can walk around the giant stones, some over 24 feet tall.

Windsor/Windsor Castle - Medieval Windsor Castle is a favorite residence of Queen Elizabeth II, and was built after the Norman Invasion by William the Conqueror. The nearby town boasts quaint Georgian shops, houses and inns.

Salisbury - Home to a 13th-century Gothic-style cathedral, which boasts a 400-foot spire and a copy of the Magna Carta, the town itself features black-and-white, half-timbered houses and quaint, narrow streets.

Local Currency

Pounds and Pence

One British pound is made up of 100 pence. There are coins with 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, and 50 pence denominations as well as 1 pound and 2 pound coins. Notes are available in 5, 10, 20, and 50 pound denominations, and each one has its own distinct color. All British currency features an image of the Queen's head on one side. The other side typically shows a notable historic figure, landmark, or national symbol. British slang has many different names for various elements of the currency. You will almost always hear pence referred to as "pee", while 5 and 10 pound notes are often called fivers and tenners. In many areas of the UK, a 1-pound coin is called a "quid." It's thought that this term originally stemmed from the Latin phrase "quid pro quo," used to refer to the exchange of one thing for another. Many stores and restaurants also accept major credit cards, which usually offer you a good exchange rate.

Weather

Average Weather: High 68 / Low 54

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Viator has many excursions for London and surrounding areas. You can enter the date and number of adults, and also search by types of tours, duration of tours and price.

Southampton:

<https://www.viator.com/Southampton/d22563-ttd?pid=P00079639&uid=U00246069&mcid=58086¤cy=USD>

London:

<https://www.viator.com/Southampton/d22563-ttd?pid=P00079639&uid=U00246069&mcid=58086¤cy=USD>

Skagen, Denmark

Monday, September 13, 2027

Docked from 9:00 am – 6:00 pm



On Denmark's northern tip, where the Baltic meets the North Sea, lies Skagen (pronounced "Skain"). Skagen is a fishing town with a maritime history that reaches back to the early Middle Ages. Boasting white-sand beaches, crystal-clear waters and stunning natural landscapes, the area has lured artists since the mid-19th century, drawn to the radiant light's interplay on the rugged landscapes, seascapes and cityscapes. The town has been featured in world-famous paintings by artists such as Michael and Anna Ancher and P.S. Krøyer, and the area has long enjoyed a rich artistic heritage. Guided bicycle excursions give a unique, up-close perspective on this pretty town, with its picturesque white-picket fenced neighborhoods featuring brightly painted yellow houses crowned by red-tiled roofs. Stroll through one of the many art galleries and museums, such as Skagen Art Museum and the Skagen Odde Nature Center. When it's time to taste the delicacies of the region, head to Pakhuset for a chance to discover one of Skagen's most iconic foods-marinated herring accompanied by Aquavit, a traditional spirit of Scandinavia infused with spices and herbs. A visit to Grenen, where the North and Baltic Seas converge, is a must for all voyagers-you can even straddle the waters with a foot in each mighty sea.

THINGS TO DO:

Skagen offers extensive beaches, dunes, and nature reserves. Visitors can enjoy cycling, hiking, birdwatching, and water sports. The unique light and coastal scenery make it ideal for photography and painting.

- **Skagen Art Museum -**

Exhibiting works by members of Denmark's thriving 19th and early 20th century artistic colony of Skagen painters, the museum houses more than 1,800 works of art, drawings, and handicrafts, and the gardens are adorned with sculptures.

- **Grenen -**

At this long, narrow sandbar and the northernmost land mass in Denmark, the North and Baltic Seas converge, and it is possible to place one foot in each sea for a comical photo opportunity.

- **The Grey Lighthouse -**

Climb the 210 steps to the very top of the 46-meter-tall lighthouse and enjoy the spectacular view of the top of Denmark. Inside the lighthouse building discover a virtual tour into the world of migratory birds. Skagen is a hotspot for migratory birds, and Grenen is one of Europe's best bird migration spots. Watch the Birders when they ring mark the birds and do some bird spotting on your own.

- **Pakhuset -**

At this charming fish restaurant and harborside café set within a fisherman's cottage dating to 1913, guests dine on a tasting menu that features five different types of herring accompanied by Aquavit-a traditional spirit of Scandinavia.

- **Skagen Odde Nature Center -**

A unique museum dedicated to the artistic effects of water, wind, sand and light on the environment. Designed by Danish architect Jørn Utzon, this modern structure, surrounded by the landscapes of Denmark's northernmost region, exhibits Danish contemporary art.

- **Bangsbo Fort -**

Located 45 minutes south of Skagen lies Bangsbo Fort, a series of defenses established by the Germans during World War II have been converted into a fascinating interactive museum, detailing the conditions under which the German soldiers stationed in the bunker lived.

- **Jutland Resistance Museum -**

45 minutes south of Skagen lies Bangsbo Manor, the barn of a manor home is the setting for the Jutland Resistance Museum, detailing the local Danish Resistance Movement and the lives of the civilian population under occupation during World War II.

- **Voergaard Manor House -**

70 minutes south of Skagen lies one of Denmark's most pristine Renaissance buildings, this grand castle boasts the largest private collection of French artifacts outside of France. Ghost stories and local lore surround its history, making for intriguing guided tours.

LOCAL CUISINE

Skagen is known for its fresh seafood, including the local specialty “Stjernesked,” an open-faced sandwich with fried plaice, shrimp, and caviar. The harbour area features numerous fish shops and restaurants serving daily catches.

National Language Danish

About 86 percent of Denmark’s population speaks English as a second language — generally with a high level of proficiency.

Currency Accepted Danish Krone (DKK)

Credit cards accepted. Most self-serve terminals however require a card with a chip and pin number. Some may charge a 2-4% surcharge on credit cards. A 25% consumer sales tax is applied to purchases which, by law, have to be displayed as part of the selling price. This means you shouldn’t be caught short when you get to the bill, but do expect almost everything to be more expensive than you’d usually pay. Larger towns may accept payment in Euros.

Tipping

Tipping in Denmark isn’t common; however it is practiced for great service.

Restaurants: Service and tax is included in the price, that being said it is normal to round up or tip 5-10% on the bill for very good service.

Bars: Like restaurants a service charge will already be included in the bill. However, if you received good service then you can round up the total.

Taxis: It is not expected, but rounding up the fare is appreciated.

Otherwise, tipping is usually between 5% and 10%

Restrooms

There are many public toilets in the centre, and near the main tourist sites. Also in libraries and major train stations and at the pier. Many of them are free.

Temperatures

Average High 65, low 53

Where You're Docked (Subject to Change)

We will dock in Krydstogtkajen. Small, walkable Danish port at the tip of Jutland; the town, beaches and Grenen are all reachable independently. Most ships berth alongside the cruise pier about 1.6 km from the centre. A welcome pavilion with tourist info, free WiFi, restrooms and a souvenir shop sits by the quay. A free shuttle usually runs on cruise days, but the flat walk takes around 20 minutes. Skagen is tiny and very DIY-friendly — rent a bike at the pier or take the Sandormen tractor-bus to reach the Grenen sandspit.

Copenhagen, Denmark

Tuesday, September 14, 2027

Docked from 7:00 am – 5:00 pm



Copenhagen deserves its accolade as the Venice of the North. Founded on a series of islands and islets, the city today is laced with graceful canals and boasts some of the most delightful architecture in Northern Europe. Copenhagen has come a long way from its early Viking days. Its historic center of Frederiksstad has its share of castles and royal-era palaces— but it's the modern, sleek Scandinavian design and playful, hygge spirit that sets Denmark's capital apart today. Each neighborhood offers its own unique, exciting adventures. Explore the city's seafaring past with a canal cruise under a network of bridges, or take a stroll along Nyhavn's colorful quay. Peek in Kødbyen's trendy art galleries and savor world-renowned Nordic cuisine in Christiania's quirky cafes. Adventure comes in many forms in Copenhagen, from Baltic beaches to famous fairytales.

THINGS TO DO:

Put It In Park: Pump up the adrenaline at Tivoli Gardens, one of the world's oldest amusement parks. Go upside down on the 62 mph Vertigo, or feel the thrill of riding the famous wooden roller coaster that marked its 100th birthday in 2014. Arcade games, pantomime shows and live music only add to the park's appeal.

Website: <https://www.tivoli.dk/>

Plot Twist: Inspired by the famous Hans Christian Andersen fairytale, The Little Mermaid sculpture remains one of the most visited landmarks in all of Copenhagen. Find her sitting on a rock in the harbor, in all her bronze and granite glory, looking forlorn in search of her prince on land.

National Treasures: Housed in the old Prince's Palace, the National Museum's galleries span the Great Hall and former sleeping quarters of Danish royalty. Here you can admire furniture from the early 18th century, as well as impressive collections of classical and eastern antiquities, handicrafts, coins, medals and children's toys.

Shopping: Hit the famous shopping strip of Strøget, one of the longest pedestrian-friendly streets in Europe, for international brands and kitschy collectibles. Copenhagen is perhaps best-known for its Danish-designed glass and ceramic home goods. Many vendors sell secondhand porcelain and silver pieces in street markets, but be prepared to bargain. Most shops open at 10:00 am during the week and noon on Sundays. Most stay open later on Friday and Saturday.

Local Cuisine

The Danish open faced sandwiches, smørrebrød, are perhaps the most famous of the Danish food classics. Smørrebrød is simply a slice of rye bread with various combinations of toppings such as pickled herring, roast beef, and eggs topped with mayo and shrimps. These heaped rye bread treats date back to the 19th century, but the handy lunch item has had a face lift in recent years and is now hipper than ever. A few years ago, Danes voted on their national dish, and the winning dish, a classic pork recipe called 'Stegt flæsk med persillesovs', was no surprise. The crispy pork with parsley sauce and potatoes is a very old dish that has won the hearts, and tummies, of Danes for centuries. You can taste the Danes' national dish in many restaurants around Denmark. It is actually among the cheaper eats and if you become a fan, some restaurants even offer all-you-can-eat pork at affordable prices. You also ought to try Denmark's world-class delicacy: oysters from the Limfjord and the North Sea. Frikadeller (Danish meatballs) are very popular in Denmark, and they are served both for lunch and dinner. Traditionally, the meatballs consist of equal calf and pork, flour, milk, eggs, onions and spices, but today there are countless versions of the Danish classic, which is also a popular smørrebrød-topping. Visit a Danish bakery and try the Cinnamon Snail or Rum Snail pastries when out and about and prepare yourself for sticky fingers! Okay, so technically beer and snaps are not dishes, but they go well together with the other dishes on this list. Many associate Denmark with beer, and it may not be so strange when you consider that no other country in the world produces so much beer in relation to its size and number of inhabitants. In addition to world-renowned Carlsberg, one can taste the locally brewed quality beer at one of the many microbreweries which are scattered all over the country. You should also try to pair your smørrebrød with a shot of snaps which is a traditional Scandinavian spirit. It is a rather strong alcoholic beverage based on aquavit, but it comes in many different flavours. Cheers! - or 'Skål' as we say in Danish.

National Language Danish

Copenhagen is often referred to as the happiest city on Earth, and you'll be happy to know that about 86 percent of Denmark's population speaks English as a second language — generally with a high level of proficiency.

Currency Accepted Danish Krone (DKK)

Credit cards accepted. Most self-serve terminals however require a card with a chip and pin number. Some may charge a 2-4% surcharge on credit cards. A 25% consumer sales tax is applied to purchases which, by law, have to be displayed as part of the selling price. This means you shouldn't be caught short when you get to the bill, but do expect almost everything to be more expensive than you'd usually pay. Larger towns may accept payment in Euros.

Tipping

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Bars: Like restaurants a service charge will already be included in the bill. However, if you received good service then you can round up the total.

Taxis: It is not expected, but rounding up the fare is appreciated.

Otherwise, tipping is usually between 5% and 10%

Restrooms

Many of the cafes and bars at Nyhavn don't have toilets, but luckily there are toilets at the west end of Nyhavn.

Where the water stops, underneath the canal tours ticket office are some of the nicest free toilets in central Copenhagen. Female on the south side, male on the north side.

There are many public toilets in the centre, and near the main tourist sites. Also in department stores, libraries and major train stations. All of these are clean and well-stocked with toilet paper. Many of them are free. Further from the centre is a little less well serviced, and your best bet is often the ever-reliable cafe.

Temperatures

Average High 65, low 53

Location

Airport is about 6 miles from Central Station (heart of the city).
Cruise port is about 5 miles from Central Station

Where You're Docked (Subject to Change)

With it's opening in 2014, Océankaj at Nordhavn (North Port) has become the primary pier for most cruise ships. It's long pier and new terminals are preferred for turnarounds and larger ships. Océankaj is 5 miles/8 km north of the city center. Getting here by public transport is a bit tricky so the easiest way is by taxi. For non-turnaround stops at Océankaj, cruise lines may provide shuttles into the city center dropping off in front of St Peter's Church. A new terminal is under construction directly north of Océankaj with expected completion in 2020.

Website: <https://www.cmport.com/services/cruise-ships-ferries/cruises-copenhagen/>

Map: <http://www.cmport.com/maps/copenhagen>

Berlin (Warnemunde), Germany

Wednesday, September 3, 2027

Docked from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm



Warnemünde is a seaside resort near the harbor entrance to Rostock, one of the city-states that formed the medieval Hanseatic League. Originally a fishing village before it became a spa and resort in the 19th century. Warnemünde is also your gateway to Mecklenburg and the German countryside. Home to some of Germany's best beaches. The fine, sugar-white sand goes on for 15 kilometers along the pristine blue waters of Baltic Sea. Head to popular West Beach and relax in one of the many striped Strandkorben — canopied wicker chairs. Or check out quieter East Beach, lined by high sand dunes.

Cruise to Berlin, Germany to watch the waves crash against 19th-century Warnemunde Lighthouse. Then, make your way to the Alte Strom, where you can stroll along the quaint promenade and buy fresh fish straight off the fishing cutters. Take in the salty air of this sleepy fishing village, and savor the relaxed pace of life. Sample fresh-caught seafood, try a local brew and do some people-watching in one of the outdoor beer gardens.

Berlin is a worthy rival to London or Paris in terms of history, art and culture. The city's highlights include the restored Reichstag Building with its magnificent glass dome, the Brandenburg Gate and the stunning Museum Island. Explore the old Cold War hot spots and view the Brandenburg Gate, restored to its original magnificence. Or, stroll along the Kurfurstendamm and take coffee in a local café.

THINGS TO DO:

Get Sandy: Fancy a dip in the Baltic Sea? Warnemunde is the perfect place to spend an afternoon in the sun. Feel the fine grain of the distinctive white sand, and dip your toes in the cool, northern waters. Or hunker down in one of the many distinctive, canopied wicker chairs and enjoy the view.

Lighthouse Climb: You'll get the best view of the beach and town from the top of the Warnemunde Lighthouse. Climb to the top and pretend you're an explorer surveying the area to spot ships coming into the harbor from the Baltic Sea.

Seaside Stroll: Cruise to Germany and indulge yourself with some deliciously fresh seafood at one of the many restaurants along the Alter Strom. The streets are lined with charming old fishermen's houses. Along the quay, you can even grab a bite at one of the floating snack bars.

Shopping: Head to the old channel for your pick of shops and boutiques. Alter Strom is lined with stores inside of old fisherman houses selling souvenirs, food, clothing and more. Nearby Rostock's Market Square is an easy drive — head there for designer fashions as well as local purveyors of handmade goods.

Local Cuisine

The traditional schnitzel enjoys international fame, beloved by both kids and adults all around the world. It's worth noting that this crunchy breaded fillet—usually of pork, chicken or beef—served with french fries. Currywurst is one of the most popular sausage varieties in Germany, and many locals will recommend that you try it during your stay in Berlin. It is a pork sausage with curry powder and ketchup on top that is usually served sliced and with french fries on the side. Currywurst is really popular and is sold by many street vendors, so you won't have a problem finding one! Made of meatballs (ingredients include minced beef and pork, egg, onion, anchovies, and flour) cooked in broth, this dish is served in a cream sauce made of lemon juice and capers and accompanied by potatoes. This satisfying hearty dish will give you hours' worth of energy to continue explore. Berlin's typical eisbein consists of simmered meat served with sauerkraut, potatoes, and boiled peas. Other parts of Germany have a version of eisbein made with roasted meat. Kartoffelsuppe is atypical potato soup from Berlin is commonly served as a starter, and you're likely to find on the menu at many restaurant menus in the city. The creamy concocgion is made of potatoes, vegetables, and sausage. Kartoffelpuffer is a type of round potato pancake made of sliced potatoes, flour, egg, and onion that has been prepared in a frying pan. It can be served as an appetizer, side dish or snack. In fact, it is sold by street vendors. Another world-famous snack is the pretzel, or brezel in German. You will find this type of knot-shaped bread in bakeries, cafes, and street stands...and in various flavors too: with cheese, seeds, chocolate, etc. Versatile pretzels are the perfect way to quell your appetite on the go when you're between meal. The Berliner Pfannkuche, known here as a Berliner, is the optimal snack for anyone with a sweet tooth. Similar to a filled donut, the pfannkuche has jam on the inside and a sugar glaze on top. These typical pastries can be found in bakeries, supermarkets, and street stands. The German apple dessert, apple strudel, is the perfect finale to any meal as well as the perfect snack to enjoy with your coffee. The enveloping aroma of cinnamon together with the sweetness of the apple is truly comforting. If that's not enough, the dessert is usually served warm and accompanied by vanilla cream. Okay, this isn't food, but beer is such an intrinsic part of Berlin's culture that it deserves to be mentioned. Beer lovers will find a paradise of more than 5,000 different beers in Berlin, so you should include some tastings in your visit.

National Language German

English is widely spoken.

Currency Accepted Euro (EUR)

Most Germans still prefer to pay cash and many shops and cafes do not accept cards, especially in smaller German cities. An estimated 80% of all transactions in Germany are in cash. The importance of cash cannot be overestimated. Before you enter shops or restaurants, check the doors—they often display stickers showing which cards are accepted. Visa and MasterCard are usually accepted in Germany—but not everywhere. (American Express to an even lesser extent.) Most self-serve terminals however require a card with a chip and pin number. Some may charge a 3% surcharge (or higher) on credit cards.

Tipping

Tipping in Germany can be common but you need to know when to tip and where. Simply leaving change at the table for your delicious beer or tasty bratwurst isn't normal.

Restaurants: Service and tax is included in the price, that being said it is normal to round up or tip 5-10% on the bill. When a waiter or waitress comes to your table you must tell them how much you wish to pay. So if the bill is 8 Euro you would say 10 Euro if you want to leave a small tip.

Bars: You almost always run a tab in bars so a 10% tip at the end of the bill is considered normal. Like restaurants you shouldn't just leave the tip on the table but let the staff know you are tipping.

Taxis: It is not expected, but rounding up the nearest Euros is appreciated.

Restrooms

You will probably have to pay to use a public toilet in Germany. Even in train stations and department stores there's usually an attendant or a coin-operated turnstile.

Free-standing, 24-hour self-cleaning (rotating toilet seats...watch out for a suddenly revolving toilet seat when you push that particular cleaning button) public toilet pods have become quite commonplace. The cost is €0.50. Toilets in malls, clubs, beer gardens, etc often have an attendant who expects a tip of around €0.50.

Most places the normal rate is 50 euro cents, but some places charge up to a euro.

Temperatures

Average High 67, low 55

Where You're Docked (Subject to Change)

The cruise ships dock in the center of Warnemunde and is only 300 meters from the train station and city center. From there on one can travel to Rostock (20 min) and Berlin (a 2 and a half hour trip). The terminal can accommodate 3 cruise liners at a time. If all occupied, ships dock at the main commercial piers of Rostock at Seehafen on the other side of the river. Berths are prefixed LP for Rostock and P for Warnemunde. If docked at Seehafen, shuttles may be provided. Ferry service to Warnemunde may also be offered.

Tallinn, Estonia

Friday, September 17, 2027

Docked 9:00 am to 10:00 pm



Like Latvia and Lithuania, the Baltic republic of Estonia has survived a turbulent history. The small nation was conquered and ruled by the likes of Teutonic Knights, Polish princes and Russian Tsars. For 51 years, Estonia remained a pawn in the Soviet empire, until the burgeoning freedom movement led to independence for the Baltic Republics in 1991. Like its sister republics, Estonia maintained its ties to the Western tradition, retaining the Latin alphabet and Catholic and Protestant faiths. Once a member of the historic Hanseatic League, Tallinn is the political, commercial and cultural center of Estonia. Tallinn's fairy-tale castles, cobble streets and warm hospitality remain one of Europe's best-kept secrets. Head to the city's Old Town, where you can see medieval Raekoja Plats (Town Hall Square) and wander hidden passageways between 17th- and 18th-century earthwork forts. Tour the ornate Orthodox Cathedral of St. Alexander Nevsky, full of detailed mosaics and traditional icons. Take a foray to the unspoiled Baltic coastline just outside Tallinn — check out popular Pirita or quiet Kakumae. Later, stop into one of Tallinn's iconic cellar restaurants to fuel up on hearty Estonian fare like mulgipuder, a porridge of barley and potatoes flavored with smoky bacon.

THINGS TO DO:

Medieval Roots: From the red-roofed towers of its Town Walls, to the Orthodox Alexander Nevsky Cathedral and the smoky pink Riigikogu parliament house, Tallinn's medieval Old Town looks straight out of a fairy tale. Make sure to stop in central Raejoka Plats, a charming square filled with cafes and restaurants.

Baltic Beaches: Tallinn's beaches are the perfect opportunity to escape the not-so-hectic city center. Pirita Beach in particular is a big draw, with its broad expanse of sand and unique architecture, which dates back to when the USSR hosted the Olympics in 1991.

Shopping: If you want to shop a range of souvenirs, local items and just about anything else you can think of, wander through the outdoor market stalls just outside Viru Gate, in the Old Town. Tallinn's most famous souvenirs include wooden crafts made with Estonian Juniper trees and local chocolates and spirits by brands like Kalev and Vana Tallinn.

Local Cuisine

Dark Rye Bread - Home baked or bought at your favorite bakery, this famous traditional Estonian bread is present on every table, being a quintessential part of the Estonian culinary tradition and great with Estonian cheeses. **Mulgipuder** – Potato and Groats Porridge - This is a 100% Estonian dish. The locals claim this is a classic of Estonian peasant culinary creativity with no foreign influence, and was served as a part of their important holidays menu. **Wild Boar, Elk and Smoked Fish** are also popular, as well as **Barley Sausage**. **Buckwheat** is prepared similar to Risotto. **Pirukad** are Estonian pastries. Imagine empanadas, but made in a Baltic way. You'll see a few variations (small, large, baked or fried), but the most common ones are small, baked and filled with meat (If you're vegetarian, don't worry. We've also seen lots of pirukad without meat, usually filled with mushrooms or sometimes other vegetables. And they even exist with cheese, jam or fruit fillings). You can find them in many bakeries and they're convenient to eat, so they make for a great snack if you get hungry while exploring this beautiful country. Like in many other Eastern European countries, you can also find dumplings in Estonia. **Vastlakukkel** – **Semla** - The Estonian sweet-roll, cut in the middle and filled first with some almond paste and then with plenty of whipped cream, is called "vastlakukkel". **Marzipan** is indeed one of the oldest sweets made in Estonia, and while its sugar contents are definitely high, it is believed to have some healing properties. A sweet made of almonds and powdered sugar, was savored all the way back in medieval Estonia. **Kirju Koer** is a dessert that basically consists of cookies, pieces of marmalade and fruit, butter and chocolate – and it doesn't even go into the oven. Also, although not traditional Estonian food, fried cheese balls are on restaurant menus all over.

In recent years the craft beer scene in Estonia has exploded. Estonian breweries are quickly setting themselves apart on the international stage due to their high-quality products and modern approach to traditional, Estonian flavors. Raise a glass and say **Terviseks** (cheers)!

National Language Estonian

Throughout Estonia, you will find people willing and able to speak with you in a variety of languages. English, Finnish and Russian are the most commonly spoken, but many people also get by in French, German or Swedish.

Currency Accepted Euro (EUR)

Credit and debit cards are widely used in Estonian towns and cities. All the major providers Visa, Mastercard/Maestro/Cirrus, and Amex are commonly accepted in tourist areas, in ATMs, shops and restaurants. Amex is the least widely used provider, so if this is your main card, it's always a good idea to carry an alternative form of payment. In general, it's a good idea to keep a small amount of local cash with you, ATMs are easy to find at the port and throughout the city. for smaller purchases, tipping, and in the event you find yourself somewhere where cards aren't accepted.

Tipping

Tipping is something new to Estonia and started once they received their independence and the locals began to travel more. Even then 10% is the most you should tip while in Estonia.

Restaurants: If you receive table service that it is custom to tip 5-10% of the bill, assuming the service was good. By law service can't be forced onto the bill or you.

Bars: Tipping bar tenders isn't expected, you may see a tip jar on the counter to throw change in though.

Taxis: Tipping a taxi driver isn't common or expected. You can round up to the nearest Euro to make things easier.

Restrooms

Public toilets are available in Tallinn, and many are clean and well-maintained. You may have to pay a small fee (around €0.30-€0.50) to use them. There are several public toilets around Tallinn, many of them high-tech and self-cleaning (rotating toilet seats). All toilets in Estonia are seated (Western style). On WC doors, a triangle pointing up indicates the women's room (N or naiste), while a triangle pointing down signifies the men's room (M or meeste).

Temperatures Average High 68, low 55

Where You're Docked (Subject to Change)

Tallinn One Cruise Port located near the beautiful Tallinn Old Town. Enjoy shopping local gifts and crafts, ethnic foods, jewelry and general goods next to the ship in port. In addition to the two port shops there is a lovely market place with wide selection of gifts from Estonia. Products straight from the manufacturers with the best prices around town.

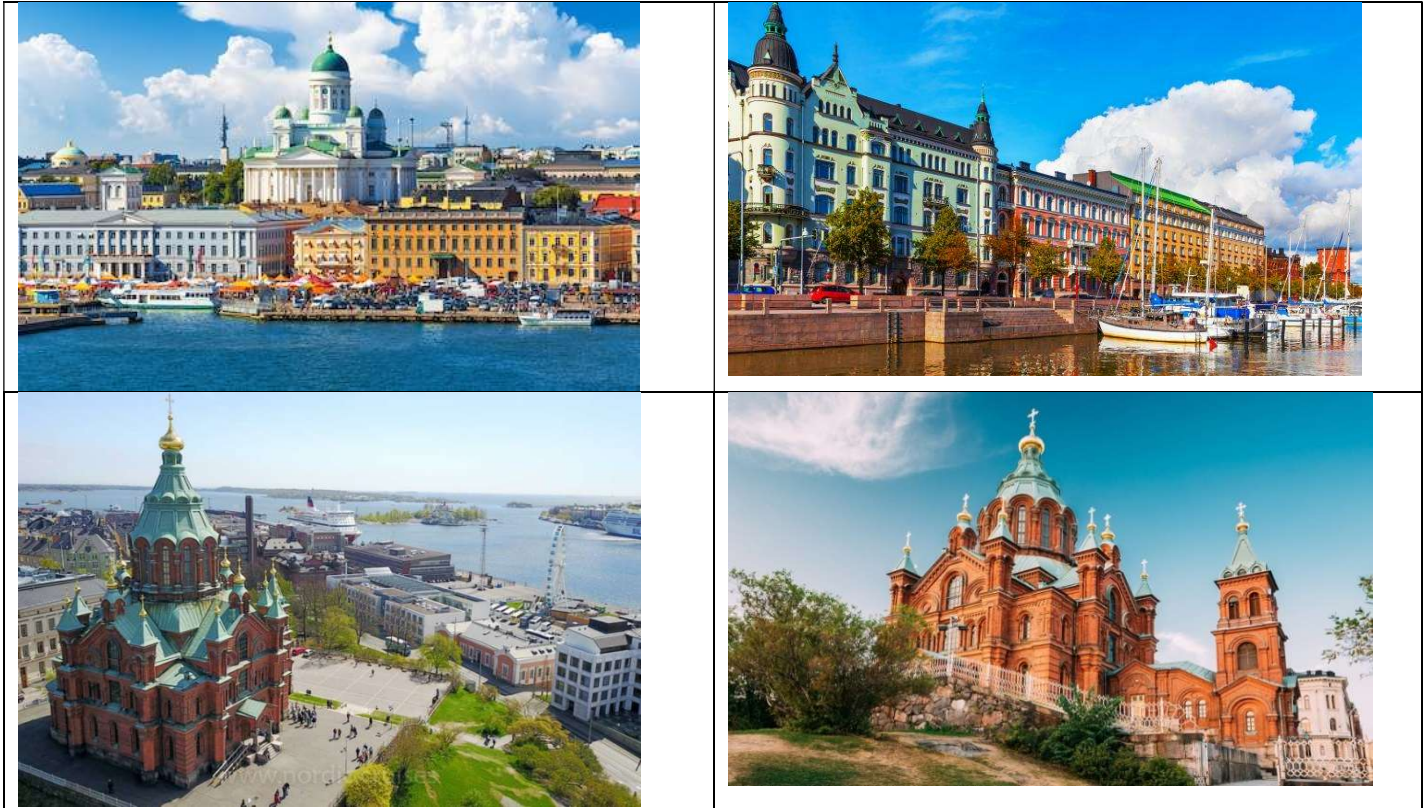
Old City Harbor is only 500 meters from city center and 1 km from the spectacular old town. You can walk up to the top and back down - it is not too far but it is a lot of cobblestones and they wear your feet and legs out. Best view is at the top. Also, there is an excellent brewery you walk by just before climbing to the top! Pick up a free detailed map at info stand at the pier. Plenty of taxis and public transportation near the docks.

The terminals have a variety of amenities for your comfort. You'll find restrooms, a tourist information desk with friendly staff who can provide maps and directions, and a few small shops selling souvenirs and snacks. Free Wi-Fi.

Helsinki, Finland

Saturday, September 18, 2027

Docked from 7:00 am – 5:00 pm



Welcome to Scandinavia's "White City of the North," a city defined by its people and Art Nouveau architecture. Finland's capital is a laid-back but vibrant seaside city, surrounded on three sides by sea and tiny islands. Stroll to the heart of Helsinki to its bustling kauppatori, or market square. Admire the graceful 19th-century buildings and Havis Amanda, the lovely mermaid statue commonly regarded as the symbol of Finland. Continue to Temppeliaukio, an astonishing rock-carved church. Finish the day at a local restaurant with a dish of fresh-caught white fish with new potatoes. Join a Helsinki cruise and head to the hip Kallio neighborhood to explore Helsinki's nightlife — you'll discover a host of spots ranging from cocktail lounges to rock music venues all within walking distance from each other.

Perhaps their country's harsh climate encouraged the Finns' love and respect for design and the arts. Whatever the cause, there's no denying that Helsinki is one of the most vibrant and beautiful cities in Scandinavia. Hailed as the "Daughter of the Baltic," Finland's capital is a city of graceful neoclassical buildings, striking modern architecture and spacious boulevards dotted with squares and parks. In the past century, Finland has nurtured some of the major creative talents of Western culture, from the composer Sibelius to architects Eliel & Eero Saarinen and Alvar Aalto.

The center of Finnish commerce and culture, Helsinki is home to some 616,000 people. Much of the city's neoclassical architecture dates from the period of Tsarist rule, which began in 1809 after political control of Finland passed from Sweden to Russia, Finland gained its independence in 1917.

THINGS TO DO:

Back in Time: Take the ferry 15 minutes to the fortress of Suomenlinna, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of Finland's most popular sights. Visit the museums, bunkers and fortress walls, built by the Swedes in the 18th century. Then, enjoy a picnic and hike along the cluster of car-free islands that are all connected by walking bridges. <https://www.suomenlinna.fi/en/fortress/>

Innovative Designs: The Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art in the city center, with its quirky metallic design by Steven Holl, is a symbol of Helsinki's modernization. Inside is an eclectic collection of Finnish and international contemporary art. There are excellent facilities for kids and a popular glass-sided cafe and terrace. Check out more of Helsinki's aesthetic history at the Finnish Design Museum. <https://kiasma.fi/en/>

Sweat It Out: Saunas are immensely popular in Finland — the nation claims to have about 3.5 million of them. In Helsinki, you can go to Kotiharjun, the city's only original public wood-fired sauna, dating from 1928. Cruise to Finland and try Loyly Sauna, a traditional smoke sauna set in a charming art deco complex.

Shopping: helsinki is a design mecca. Head to the Stockmann department store in the art nouveau building at Esplanade Park, and stop by Finnish designers like Markimekko, Iittala and Artek. Head to the Helsinki Design District or Toriquarters for unique pieces of clothing, design objects, art, antiques, books and homeware.

Local Cuisine

Popular are Baltic Herring, Crayfish Grilled Sausages (Grillimakkara), and Cabbage Rolls. Pea soup, often with a side of rye bread, which is tasty when dipped into the soup - The Finnish equivalent of this recipe includes pork and mustard with Finnish pancakes for desert. Blini - These pancakes actually come from Finland's eastern neighbor, Russia, but Finns have put their own spin on the recipe by offering savory fillings in addition to sweet. They have added toppings including sour cream, onion, pickles, mayonnaise, or shrimp in order to make them main meals as well as afternoon snacks. Pulla - Finland's take on cinnamon buns are common throughout the country; plenty of bakeries and cafes in Helsinki serve them. These cakes are shaped more like bread rolls and topped with icing sugar and walnuts and are usually served with afternoon tea. Lingonberry Pie - Berries are popular desserts in Finland and berry picking is a fun summer activity. Pies and cakes made with lingonberries are a local favorite that shouldn't be missed. Most cafés and bakeries will sell some variety during the summer season.

National Language Finnish, Swedish

The local languages are Finnish and Swedish, but English is widely spoken and understood, especially in the main tourist areas. You will have no problem navigating, communicating, or exploring the city.

Currency Accepted Euro (EUR)

Visa, Mastercard, American Express and Diner's Club Cards are all widely accepted in Finland. Using credit and debit cards is the most popular way of paying for goods and services in the country, so it's a good alternative to cash or cheque. Also, be prepared to show a photo ID when purchasing goods by card - this is a very common practice all across the country.

Tipping

Tipping in Finland isn't common though it is a nice gesture and people are starting to tip a bit more. Usually a service charge will be included on your bills, however if you really enjoyed your experience then a few extra euros will go a long way.

Restaurants: Service will be included on the bill. If you did receive exceptional service then feel free to round up the bill a few euros.

Bars: Not required, but rounding up or leaving the change is appreciated.

Taxis: Not required but rounding up the fare makes things easier for everyone.

Restrooms

In the parks and on the streets of Helsinki you find City toilets. Also in the street Sofiankatu toward the market; lobby of the train station; malls and large department stores, libraries, cafes and restaurants and City Hall.

The cleanest toilets are usually the ones in department stores and shopping centers. Finland's capital Helsinki offers a few public restroom facilities in the city center. Some public toilets in Finland are self-cleaning (rotating toilet seats) and you might see a button on the wall indicating a self-cleaning feature.

In Finnish cities, public toilets often cost something (usually around 50 cents). Carry some coins with you at all times to be able to go when you need to.

Most toilets in Finland show symbols for ladies/gents restrooms so they're easy to identify. If you don't see toilet symbols, the letters "WC" will also lead you to the restroom and can imply that the toilet is not gender-specific, especially when there is only one.

Temperatures

Average High 65, low 60

Where You're Docked (Subject to Change)

Cruise ships make a scenic approach through Helsinki's island archipelago so have your cameras ready. International cruise ships dock in South Harbour or West Harbour. South Harbour, with four quays, is within easy walking distance of the Market Square in the center of town. West Terminal consists of two quays which are not within easy reach of each other and of the town (3km). You'll find a tourist information desk, restrooms, a small cafe, and a few shops selling souvenirs and snacks. Tour pickups and a taxi stand are located just outside the terminal. You will also find a tourist information center with free Wi-Fi.

The Tourist office also provides shuttles for a small cost that operates all day.

Stockholm (Nynashamn), Sweden

Sunday, September 19, 2027 and Monday, September 20, 2027

Docked from 10:00 am Sunday to 2:00 pm Monday



Note: Your ship will anchor in Nynashamn and use launches to transport all passengers ashore.

As you explore Stockholm — the stylish Swedish capital, built across 14 islands connected by 57 bridges — you'll notice water and green space are never far away. Stroll through Gamla Stan, the colorful medieval Old Town, with its imposing royal palace and looming cathedrals. Browse the little shops and art galleries that line the narrow streets, or take a break in one of the many trendy cafes. Visit the large City Hall, the site of the Nobel Prize banquet, with its austere brick exterior accented by playful Venetian turrets and decorated balconies. Don't miss the grand Vasa Ship Museum — you'll see an almost-intact 17th-century warship — and Skansen, the world's first open-air museum, both located on the island of Djurgården.

The small rocky harbor of Nynashamn is your gateway port to Stockholm, the "Capital of Scandinavia." The city began life over seven centuries ago as a Viking stronghold built on the island of Gamla Stan. Today, Stockholm covers 14 separate islands and is interwoven with bays, channels and inlets. The city skyline is a sea of copper roofs grown green with patina, towers, spires and graceful cupolas stand sentinel over the historic Old Town (Gamla Stan). A city of nearly a million people, Stockholm is one of the world's most beautiful, clean, and orderly metropolises.

With a history stretching over seven centuries, Stockholm is not just a beautiful city but also Sweden's center of art and culture.

THINGS TO DO:

living Museum: Stroll around Gamla Stan and the adjacent island of Riddarholmen. The Old Town of Stockholm is one of the largest and best-preserved medieval city centers in Europe. Admire the colorful buildings in the narrow, winding cobblestone streets, or visit some of the old churches and museums. And don't miss the baroque Royal Palace.

Sweden in Miniature: Visit Skansen, the world's first open-air museum, founded in 1891. The around 150 traditional houses provide a glimpse of how Swedes once lived. Highlights include the glass-blowers' cottage and the Nordic Zoo. Staff in costume create handicrafts or play music. Enjoy lunch or a coffee in the bakery.

Stylish Stockholm: Head to Moderna Museet, the city's modern-art museum. Highlights include works by Pablo Picasso, Andy Warhol and Damien Hirst, plus several key figures from the Scandinavian and Russian art worlds. The museum also stages well-conceived temporary exhibits. There's a very popular restaurant with a great view over the water too.

Local Cuisine

Swedes have traditionally been very open to foreign influences, ranging from French cuisine during the 17th and 18th centuries, to the sushi and caffè latte of today. Swedish cuisine is geared towards sustainability and high-quality local produce. Swedish cuisine could be described as centered around cultured dairy products, crisp and soft (often sugared) breads, berries and stone fruits, beef, chicken, lamb, pork, eggs, and seafood. Potatoes are often served as a side dish, often boiled. Swedish cuisine has a huge variety of breads of different shapes and sizes, made of rye, wheat, oat, white, dark, sourdough, and whole grain, and including flatbreads and crispbreads. There are many sweetened bread types and some use spices. Many meat dishes, especially meatballs, are served with lingonberry jam. Fruit soups with high viscosity, like rose hip soup and blueberry soup (blåbärssoppa) served hot or cold, are typical of Swedish cuisine. Butter and margarine are the primary fat sources, although olive oil is becoming more popular. Sweden's pastry tradition features a variety of yeast buns, cookies, biscuits and cakes; many of them are in a very sugary style and often eaten with coffee.

Shopping

Stockholm is a shopper's paradise. For big-name Swedish and international retail outlets, hit the Biblioteksgatan from Ostermalm to Norrmalmstorg. For artier stores and galleries, head to Södermalm. For souvenirs browse the narrow streets of Gamla Stan, as well as a great collection of design objects arranged chronologically and by theme, head to Nordiska Museet.

National Language Swedish

The local language is Swedish, but English is widely spoken and understood, especially in the main tourist areas. You will have no problem navigating, communicating, or exploring the city.

Currency Accepted Swedish Krona (SEK)

The currency is the Swedish Krona. However, Sweden is a largely cashless society, and many shops and businesses do not accept cash. Credit cards are widely accepted everywhere, even for a small purchase like a coffee. It is not necessary to have cash on hand. ATMs are available throughout the city, but you should check with your bank to see if they charge a fee for international withdrawals.

Tipping

Tipping isn't expected in Sweden, but more often than not people will round up the bill or leave the change if they had a good experience!

Restaurants: Almost always a service charge is included in the bill. However, many will round up the bill or leave the small change.

Bars: Like restaurants, tipping a bar tender isn't expected. You could round up and leave the small change.

Taxis: You can round up the fare and leave the change as a tip if you enjoyed the ride, but it's not expected!

Restrooms

Public toilets are generally available and clean in Stockholm, especially at major tourist attractions, train stations, and shopping centers. You may have to pay a small fee to use them.

The toilets in Sweden are modern and sometimes have fun Scandinavian designs to keep you entertained. There are many public restrooms close to popular sights, which are easily accessible for tourists to find. (This is especially the case in the capital city of Stockholm.) Public toilets in Sweden are self-cleaning (rotating toilet seats) or cleaned manually on a regular basis, especially toilets in malls and sit-down restaurants.

When you enter, you may be required to pay two to five Krona (about 25 to 50 cents in USD)—and it has to be in exact change. Fast-food restaurants tend to charge a small fee as well, and some have locks to keep out people who aren't guests. If you are dining at the restaurant, just ask your waiter for the bathroom lock code. Either way, it's common courtesy to pay for something—whether it's a small item or drink—before you ask to use the bathroom. Avoid the train station.

All toilets in Scandinavia show the symbol for ladies and gents restrooms, so they're easy to identify

Temperatures

Average High 65, low 50

Where You're Docked (Subject to Change)

There are two major cruise terminals in Stockholm: Stadsgården and Frihamnen. Some ships may anchor at Nynashamn. Smaller may ships may dock right at old town at Skeppsbron.

Stadsgården is the most convenient for larger ships and you'll be able to see the old town from your ship. The distance to old town is 1.6 miles (30 min walk, follow the blue line out of the port area) but it is very convenient to take the hop-on, hop-off boats or ferries that have a stop at the end of the pier. At times ships anchor here and use tenders.

Frihamnen:

Approximately half of the cruise liners visiting Stockholm each year call at Frihamnen. There is a large, modern cruise passenger terminal at the port which enables Stockholm to accommodate several so called turnarounds.

It's too far to walk to the Old Town. At the new terminal you can buy your bus tickets or the Stockholm Pass.

Shuttles are often provided at a cost. They will drop you off at the Opera House, right across the Royal Palace.

Note: The shuttles can get very busy on their return and waiting lines may form.

Visby, Sweden

Tuesday, September 21, 2027

Docked 8:00 am – 5:00 pm



Whether you're looking for history, nature, culture, good food or just want to relax on the beach, the town of Visby, on the island of Gotland, has it all. Located in the Baltic Sea, this fairy-tale town is a national treasure. I

Visby is a Hanseatic city and an UNESCO site (ranked Scandinavia's best-preserved medieval city). Among its major historical remains are the 2 mile long town wall (encircling the town's center) and a number of church ruins and narrow cobbled streets reside behind the 13th-century city wall.

The town is very walkable. Be aware that it is somewhat hilly and might be difficult for people with a handicap. As streets (alleys) are very narrow an organized tour is not recommended, as most will not be able to hear the guide.

THINGS TO DO:

The first thing that catches the eye when arriving at Port of Visby, is the impressive cathedral and all the rooftops of the stone buildings in the town, surrounded by the mighty medieval town wall with its towers.

Centrally placed, Visby was for a long time the natural meeting point for sailors and merchants from all over the Baltic region. Still today, you can enjoy the majestic merchants houses from 17th and 18th century along with almost 200 stone buildings – some of them dating back from the 12th century. Still, the town is not a museum. More than 2,000 people inhabit the old town that offers a great variety of shops, cafés and restaurants. Here you can enjoy a promenade among picturesque ruins and charming rose gardens in some of the most idyllic streets imaginable. The town has been on UNESCO's World Heritage List since 1995.

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/731/>

Botanical Gardens

The famous Botanical Gardens of Visby, dating from 1855, are just a 5 minutes walk from the Pier area.

Gotlands Fornsal Museum = https://www-gotlandsmuseum-se.translate.google/?_x_tr_sl=sv&_x_tr_tl=en&_x_tr_hl=en&_x_tr_pto=sc

Gives you an overview of Gotland's 8,000-year history.

The Sancta Maria Cathedral

Dominating the townscape since the late 12th century, the only surviving church from that time inside the town wall. All the others are ruins, some of them housing concerts or exhibitions in the summer in an exciting surrounding

Shopping:

Most shops, at least downtown, are open all week, even on Sundays.

Local Cuisine:

Sweden is a large country with varied geography and climate, which has given rise to a wonderfully diverse food culture. Swedish cuisine is geared towards sustainability and high-quality local produce. Swedish cuisine could be described as centered around cultured dairy products, crisp and soft (often sugared) breads, berries and stone fruits, beef, chicken, lamb, pork, eggs, and seafood. Potatoes are often served as a side dish, often boiled. Swedish cuisine has a huge variety of breads of different shapes and sizes, made of rye, wheat, oat, white, dark, sourdough, and whole grain, and including flatbreads and crispbreads. There are many sweetened bread types and some use spices. Many meat dishes, especially meatballs, are served with lingonberry jam. Fruit soups with high viscosity, like rose hip soup and blueberry soup (blåbärssoppa) served hot or cold, are typical of Swedish cuisine. You might want to wash the food down with beers like Wisby Pils and Sleepy Bulldog from the local Visby brewery. Butter and margarine are the primary fat sources, although olive oil is becoming more popular. Sweden's pastry tradition features a variety of yeast buns, cookies, biscuits and cakes; many of them are in a very sugary style and often eaten with coffee.

National Language Swedish

Swedish is the national language of Sweden, but an estimated 89% of Swedes can speak English.

Currency Accepted Swedish Krona (SEK)

Sweden is widely regarded as the most cashless society on the planet. Most of the country's bank branches have stopped handling cash; many shops, museums and restaurants now only accept plastic or mobile payments. Most terminals in stores are supporting the use of paying with contactless cards. But no need to worry. Major credit cards (some restriction may apply to American Express) are widely accepted throughout Sweden at banks, hotels, stores, restaurants, and taxis.

Tipping

Tipping isn't expected in Sweden, but more often than not people will round up the bill or leave the change if they had a good experience!

Restaurants: Almost always a service charge is included in the bill. However, many will round up the bill or leave the small change.

Bars: Like restaurants, tipping a bar tender isn't expected. You could round up and leave the small change.

Taxis: You can round up the fare and leave the change as a tip if you enjoyed the ride, but it's not expected!

Swedes have traditionally been very open to foreign influences, ranging from French cuisine during the 17th and 18th centuries, to the sushi and caffè latte of today. Saffron pancakes are a local speciality. Truffles grow on the island.

Taxis: You can round up the fare and leave the change as a tip if you enjoyed the ride, but it's not expected!

Restrooms

The toilets in Sweden are modern and sometimes have fun Scandinavian designs to keep you entertained. There are many public restrooms close to popular sights, which are easily accessible for tourists to find. (This is especially the case in the capital city of Stockholm.) Public toilets in Sweden are self-cleaning (rotating toilet seats) or cleaned manually on a regular basis, especially toilets in malls and sit-down restaurants.

When you enter, you may be required to pay two to five Krona (about 25 to 50 cents in USD)—and it has to be in exact change. Fast-food restaurants tend to charge a small fee as well, and some have locks to keep out people who aren't guests. If you are dining at the restaurant, just ask your waiter for the bathroom lock code. Either way, it's common courtesy to pay for something—whether it's a small item or drink—before you ask to use the bathroom. Avoid the train station.

All toilets in Scandinavia show the symbol for ladies and gents restrooms, so they're easy to identify

Temperatures

Average High 66, low 56

Where You're Docked (Subject to Change)

This used to be a tender port. From 2018 you will be berthing at a brand new cruise pier, which has been developed to handle the biggest vessels and can host two mega ships at once. Port Visby is accessible 24 hours.

Kristiansand, Norway

Thursday, September 23, 2027

Docked 8:00 am – 6:00 pm



Norway's fifth largest city was founded by Christian IV in the year 1641 as a market town and administrative center on Norway's then-strategic southern coast. The city is separated from Denmark by the Skagerrak, the long strait that connects the Baltic and North Seas. Today the capital of the Aust-Agder region is one of Norway's most popular vacation destinations: the city and the surrounding countryside boast the sunniest summer weather in Norway.

THINGS TO DO

- **Cannon Museum -**

Cannon Museum is an historical defense museum with the world's largest land-based cannon.

- **Oddernes Church -**

Built between 1100 and 1150, Oddernes Church is the oldest Romanesque-style church in Norway. It contains a Baroque altarpiece and pulpit from 1704 as well as a Runic stone in the porch.

- **Grovane & Vintage Railway -**

The Setesdal Vintage Railway, a narrow gauge railroad built in 1896 and powered by original steam engines offers views of the stunning countryside traveling to or from the Grovane train depot.

- **Lillesand -**

Known for charming architecture, Lillesand also boasts a stunning offshore archipelago, the bustling Blindleia Passage, the historic Saltholmen Lighthouse, and a dazzling display of summer flowers.

- **Agder Nature Museum & Botanical Garden -**

Founded in 1828, this is one of the oldest natural history museums in Norway. It features a wide array of exhibits and a diverse array of botanical species including a large collection of cacti.

- **Setesdal Mineral Park -**

Setesdal Mineral Park exhibits one of Norway's finest collections of minerals and crystals, preserving the history of a mining region rich in resources as well as tradition.

- **Høllen Village -**

Explore the traditional "Fishermen's Street" on a guided walk past colorful wooden houses and the small harbor. Enjoy free time for independent sightseeing and shopping for traditional Norwegian arts and crafts.

- **Setesdal Valley -**

Setesdal is the name of the valley that cuts through the county of Aust-Agder where river Otra runs through it. The bedrock in Southern Norway consists of gneiss and hard granite. The area in question has more than 100 different minerals, which is unique in Europe, i.e. the biggest nickel-mine in Europe was situated here right up to 1946, when it was closed down.

Local Cuisine:

Kristiansand is known for its fresh seafood, traditional Norwegian open-faced sandwiches, brown cheese, waffles, and locally sourced seasonal dishes. Being a coastal city, Kristiansand offers an abundance of fresh seafood, including prawns, cod, and other cold-water fish. A popular local dish is the rekesmørbrød, an open-faced shrimp sandwich served on buttered bread with mayonnaise, cucumber, dill, and lemon, often enjoyed at harborside cafés or the fish market at Fiskebrygga. Seafood platters and fish soups are also common in local restaurants like Sjøhuset and Rett i Garne.

National Language Norwegian

The local language is Norwegian, but given the high volume of tourism, you will find that English is widely spoken and understood, especially in the main tourist areas. You will have no problem at all navigating, communicating, or exploring.

Currency Accepted Norwegian Krone (NOK)

The official currency is the Norwegian Krone. Credit cards are widely accepted everywhere, even for very small purchases. In fact, many places in Norway are now cashless. It's a good idea to have some cash on hand for small purchases, but it is not necessary. ATMs are easy to find throughout the city.

Tipping

In Norway, tipping is not expected but welcomed. At restaurants the norm is around 0–10 % of the bill; for taxis 0 %, and for guides 0–5 %. Check your bill for an existing service charge — if included, you can give nothing extra or just a small amount.

Restrooms

Many public toilets in Norway are free, particularly in restaurants, cafes, and shopping malls, parks, transit stations, and government buildings. Some facilities in tourist areas or city centres may charge a small fee. Toiletries marks every listing with a "FREE" badge when no charge applies, so you always know before you go. Public toilets are available in Kristiansand and are generally clean and free to use.

Temperatures

Average High 66, low 56

Where You're Docked (Subject to Change)

Kristiansand has one main cruise port, which is conveniently located less than a mile from the city center. Your ship will dock directly at the pier, so you won't need to take a tender. The walk from the ship to the city center is about 15 minutes, on a flat surface. You'll pass by the stunning Kilden Performing Arts Centre and the aromatic fish market on your way. The Kristiansand Cruise Port is a simple and efficient setup, located on an industrial part of the harbor. You will disembark directly onto a small, open-air pier. There is a small visitors' center on the dock with maps and brochures. There are also public restrooms available. Tour pickups, including a hop-on-hop-off bus and a tourist trolley train, are located just outside the pier.