

Viking Homelands

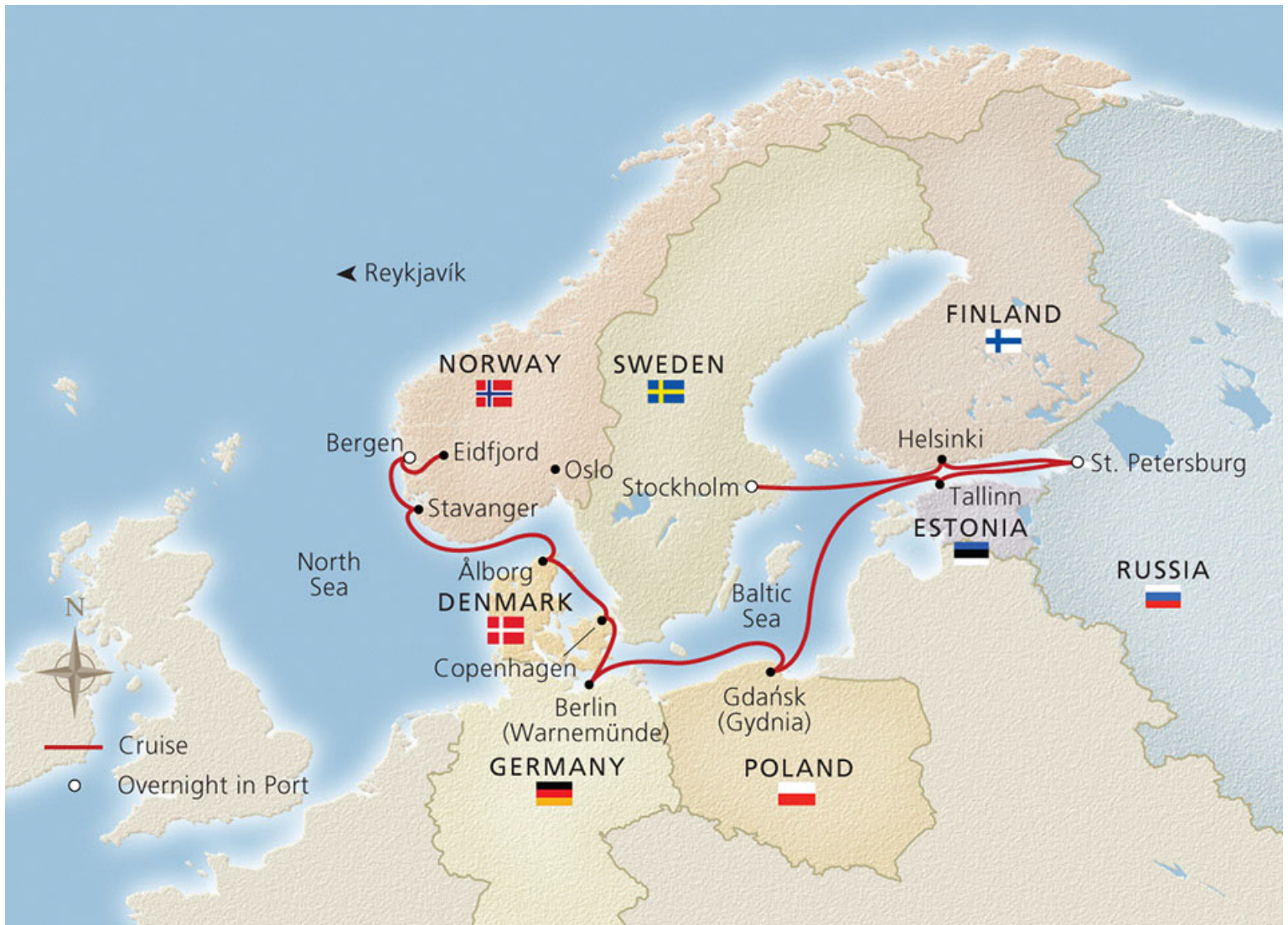
Sailing on the Viking Jupiter



Tour Scenic Fjords, Towns & Cities
July 1-16, 2023

15 Days | 8 Countries | 11 Guided Tours

Viking Homelands Cruise Itinerary



Sail the clear waters of Scandinavia and the Baltic on this 15-day cruise. Enjoy overnights in cosmopolitan Stockholm, majestic St. Petersburg and scenic Bergen, and explore charming historic city centers in Tallinn and Gdańsk. Visit Helsinki, Berlin and Copenhagen and witness breathtaking scenery from your ship as she glides through



Viking Homelands Cruise Itinerary

Day 1: July 1, 2023- Depart Bloomington, Illinois, USA
Overnight flight to Stockholm, Sweden

Day 2: July 2, 2023- Stockholm, Sweden

Begin your cruise in Stockholm's stunning archipelago, nestled where Lake Mälaren meets the Baltic. Take in this amazing city spread over 14 islands and its 13th-century Old Town, or Gamla Stan, with German-influenced architecture. Consider a trip to the Vasa Museum to see an amazingly preserved 17th-century ship, or indulge in a smörgåsbord complete with traditional smoked salmon. Or opt to visit Skokloster Castle in the Swedish countryside. (D)

Day 3: July 3 2023- Stockholm, Sweden

Spend the morning exploring Stockholm's architectural and natural wonders. Perhaps you will embark on an intimate boat tour and take in the breathtaking cityscape from the waters. Attend a private performance at the famed opera house. Or head on your own to the heart of the city to stroll the inviting footpaths of Djurgården Island, once a royal game park and today a picturesque recreational area blanketed in green. We depart in the early afternoon for a scenic cruise through the Stockholm archipelago. (B, L, D)

Day 4: July 4, 2023- Helsinki, Finland

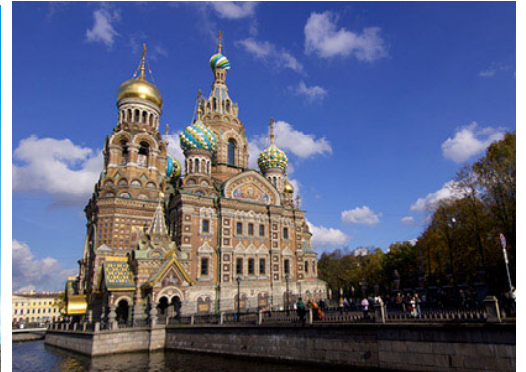
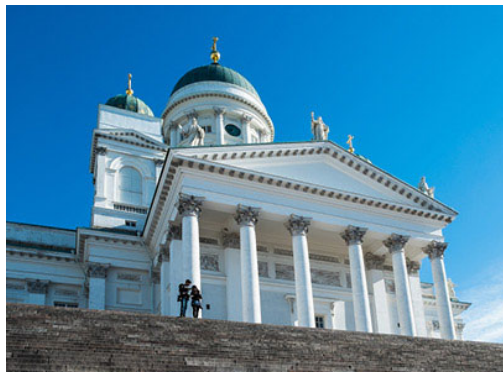
Spend the day in Helsinki, known as the "White City of the North." Take an included city tour and view the Uspenski Cathedral; its 13 magnificent green and gold domes represent Christ and the apostles. Nearby is Porvoo, a charming medieval town with cobblestone streets that weave between historic wooden buildings. Or travel to the home of composer Jean Sibelius at Ainola and take in a concert at the summer school. Alternatively, visit the 18th-century Suomenlinna Fortress, one of the world's largest historic maritime fortresses. Another highlight is the spectacular Temppeliaukio Church, also known as the "Rock Church"—a subterranean sanctuary with rough-hewn walls of granite. (B, L, D)

Day 5: July 5, 2023- - St. Petersburg, Russia

From morning through the next day, explore majestic St. Petersburg. Enjoy an included tour that shows you St. Isaac's Cathedral, the Peter and Paul Fortress, Nevsky Prospekt and more. Our overnight stay allows time to choose an optional tour of the Hermitage Museum, an evening at a private concert and more, as we will be spending the night in port. (B, L, D)

Day 6: July 6, 2023- - St. Petersburg, Russia

Awake in St. Petersburg for a second day of exploration. Today you can choose to return to the city for a more detailed look at the wonders on display or journey into the countryside to visit the magnificent summer palaces of the tsars of Russia. If you didn't take yesterday's included guided tour, you can do so today. Or opt for one of the many optional tours. (B, L, D)



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Day 7: July 7, 2023- - Tallinn, Estonia

As you take a stroll through the meticulously restored medieval streets of old town Tallinn, you will feel the aura of the 14th and 15th centuries of the Estonian capital. Essential is a visit to the colossal Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, built in the Russian Orthodox style. Explore the sumptuously Baroque Kadriorg Palace, intended as a summer residence for Catherine the First of Russia, now the home of the foreign art collection of the Art Museum of Estonia. Last but not least, feast on marzipan, for this is the honey and almond confection's birthplace. Intricate edible creations can be found throughout the city, and should be sampled as often as possible. (B, L, D)

Day 8: July 8, 2023- - Cruise the Baltic Sea

Relax today aboard your ship. Learn more about your upcoming destinations during an intriguing port talk, and explore your ship, perhaps unwinding in The Spa, where you can enjoy the Snow Grotto and Sauna, or by taking a dip in the Infinity Pool. Tonight, try a regional specialty in The Restaurant, or take in a recent movie in one of our three theaters—two indoor and one under the stars at the Main Pool. (B, L, D)

Day 9: July 9, 2023- - Gdańsk, Poland

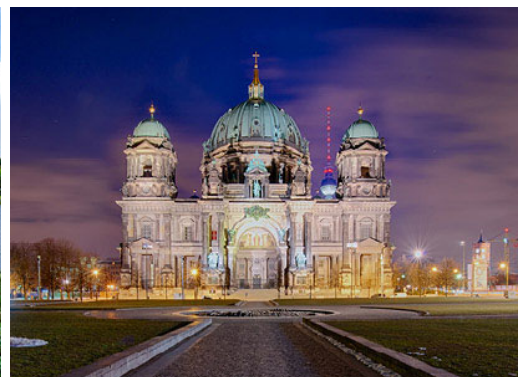
Gilded Goldwasser. Glowing amber. Gothic cathedrals. Your stop in Gdańsk is a visit to one of the richest cities in the Hanseatic League of old. Spend the morning strolling the remarkably restored Old Town with its mix of Gothic, Renaissance and baroque styles. Perhaps you'll indulge in the traditional pierogi dumplings, or a glass of gold-flecked Goldwasser—a liqueur created here in the 16th century. Or, opt to explore the medieval Teutonic stronghold of Malbork Castle, the world's largest brick castle and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. (B, L, D)

Day 10: July 10, 2023- - Berlin (Warnemünde), Germany

From port, take the included transfer through the scenic countryside of the Mecklenburg region to Germany's historic capital, Berlin—just a few hours away—where you will have the day to explore. Here you can discover at your own pace the major sights of the Berlin Wall, Alexanderplatz square and Checkpoint Charlie. Alternatively, on an optional tour take lunch in the Käfer restaurant, which perches atop the magnificent Reichstag. (B, L, D)

Day 11: July 11, 2023- - Copenhagen, Denmark

Originally a Viking fishing village founded in the 10th century, the Danish capital boasts over 850 years of history. With an entire day to explore, pass the brightly colored houses of Nyhavn, or New Harbor, once the home of Hans Christian Andersen. Discover the sumptuously rococo interiors of Amalienborg Palace, the winter residence of the Danish royal family. You may also want to consider a trip to the ornate Kronborg Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the inspirational setting of Shakespeare's Hamlet. This fairy-tale city provides plenty to explore, including delights for your palate at one of the many Michelin-starred restaurants, where you can indulge in a decadent lunch or an early dinner. (B, L, D)



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Day 12: July 12, 2023- - Ålborg, Denmark

Founded by the Vikings in the late 900s, this historic city straddles both sides of the Limfjord Sound. Spend the morning strolling along to Nytorv (New Square) to see the Renaissance-style Jens Bang's House, the baroque-style Town Hall, and the charming 14th-century Budolfi Church. Take in the lively Jomfru Ane Gade, a street lined with trendy cafés and restaurants. Or, opt for a tour led by a local chef to taste traditional aquavit, an herb-infused spirit distilled here since the 15th century. (B, L, D)

Day 13: July 13, 2023- - Stavanger, Norway

From the heart of the Old Town, where your ship berths, you will have the morning and early afternoon to explore. Start here in the old quarter, Gamle Stavanger, which has Europe's highest concentration of wooden buildings from the 17th and 18th centuries. Or consider a cruise along the Lysefjord to see the famous Preikestolen, or Pulpit Rock, jutting out nearly 2,000 feet above—it is one of Norway's most famous natural attractions. Offshore oil drilling is an important industry for the local economy, and the award-winning Norwegian Petroleum Museum tells the story of the dangers faced in extracting this precious fuel. While ashore, don't forget to indulge in waffles with cream and sweet jams with a steaming cup of hot tea. (B, L, D)

Day 14: July 14, 2023- - Eidfjord, Norway

Cruise through breathtaking fjords into the village of Eidfjord, nestled in the heart of one of Norway's most scenic regions. Ascend Europe's largest mountain plateau, Hardangervidda, for sweeping views of epic Nordic landscapes. Here, in Norway's largest national park, visit the informative Nature Center and perhaps view the Hardangerjøkulen glacier in the distance. You can also marvel at the stupendous 550-foot drop of the Vøringsfossen waterfall into the cavernous Måbødalen canyon. Alternately, you can opt to visit the expansive fruit orchards of Lofthus or tour Europe's largest hydroelectric power plant at Simadal. (B, L, D)

Day 15: July 15, 2023- - Bergen, Norway

When you arrive in Bergen, encircled by majestic mountains, fjords and glaciers, you will quickly understand how its setting inspired the Viking sagas. With your ship berthed next to Bryggen wharf, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, you can easily stroll along its waterfront. This evening mingle with the locals and dine ashore, as we will be spending the night in port. (B, L, D)

Day 16: July 16, 2023- - Bergen, Norway

Awake in Bergen, where you will departing your ship and make your return voyage home. If you wish, you may explore with Viking by extending your stay in Scandinavia. (B)



Extend Your Cruise

Pre & Post Cruise Extensions

More days means more to discover, with extension packages you can add before or after your Viking cruise or cruisetour. Maximize the value of your overseas flight and enjoy additional days to explore your embarkation or disembarkation city, or see a new destination altogether with a choice of exciting cities. There are many options to choose from on both pre and post. We are recommending the two night pre-cruise extension in Stockholm.

STOCKHOLM EXTENSION

Explore this elegant city of historic buildings and cultural gems. Stroll through the Gamla Stan (Old Town), sample fare in the food halls and cafés, and view the 17th-century Vasa ship at its namesake museum.

Day 1 - Stockholm

Arrive in Stockholm and transfer to your hotel. Depending on your arrival time, you may choose to relax or begin exploring the city on your own. Perhaps take a leisurely walk to the Royal Palace and Stockholm Cathedral. A Viking Host is available to help you plan your time in Stockholm so you can make the most of your visit.

Day 2 - Stockholm

Explore Stockholm on your own today. Indulge in a smörgåsbord—once the realm of the noble elite—of maritime delicacies such as cured herring, dill-smoked salmon and chilled Belon oysters. Visit the Vasa Museum, home of the Swedish warship Vasa—the only surviving 17th-century ship in the world. Be sure to stroll the quaint cobblestone streets of the 13th-century Gamla Stan, pausing to admire its German-influenced architecture. (B)

Day 3 - Stockholm

On your final day, you will transfer by motor coach to your ship to begin your cruise. (B)

You will be staying at the Radisson Blu Waterfront Hotel which is located off the shore of Riddarfjärden bay, within walking distance of the city's major historic sites. This inviting hotel has a restaurant offering international cuisine in a relaxed setting, a fitness center, an express laundry service and a business center. Guest rooms provide a hair dryer, coffee/tea maker, a TV and complimentary Wi-Fi.

ALL THIS IS INCLUDED:

- 2 hotel nights in Stockholm (as shown or similar)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts (B)
- Services of a Viking Host
- All transfers



Viking Homeland Cruise Rate

- Veranda Category V2 : \$8,499.00 (Deck 3)
- Deluxe Veranda Category DV6: \$8,699.00 (Deck 3)
- Deluxe Veranda Category DV2: \$9,299.00 (Deck 5 or 6)

Rates are per person, based on double occupancy and do not include shipboard gratuities, guide gratuities, trip cancellation insurance or items of a personal nature. Cabins are 270 square feet. The price reflects the deck and cabin location on the ship. Higher decks are more expensive.

Included in your 15 Day Cruise Package:

- Round-trip transportation from Bloomington, IL to O'Hare
- Round-trip airfare from Chicago O'Hare
- All transfers on arrival and departure days
- 15-day cruise in a ocean view stateroom on the beautiful ***Viking Jupiter***
- All meals onboard the vessel
- Complimentary house wine, beer, coffee, tea or soft drinks with every dinner
- Complimentary coffee and tea available throughout the day
- 11 Guided sightseeing tours, fully hosted by English-speaking guides
- An experienced Cruise Manager and attentive, all English-speaking staff
- All taxes on included features

Booking Information

A deposit of \$500 per person is due on reservation and if you wish to purchase cancel for any reason insurance it is required at time of deposit.

Protecting your travel investment, your belongings and most importantly you for those unforeseen circumstances that may arise before or during your trip is very important.

Direct Travel highly recommends travel insurance which provides reimbursement coverage for trip cancellation/interruption, and other benefits including Trip Delay, Missed Cruise Departure, Accident Medical Expense, Sickness Medical Expense, Baggage & Personal Effects, Baggage Delay, Medical Evacuation, and emergency, toll-free travel assistance. If the insurance is purchased at time of making your reservation, you may cancel your trip for any reason up to 24 hours (or prior business day, whichever is farther out) prior to your tour departure.

Cancel For Any Reason Protection is approximately 10% of the cruise cost. Policies are typically non-refundable. It is strongly recommended that you book early as participation is limited. Please note: In the event of a trip cancellation the cost of the Travel Protection Plan is not usually a refundable expense.





Viking Homelands Cruise deposit of \$500.00 per person is required.

**All monies that are paid are non-refundable thus
Direct Travel recommends trip cancellation insurance .**

Mail form to Direct Travel 2412 East Washington Street, Suite 4A | Bloomington, IL 61704

Please print names *exactly* as they appear on your passport.

PASSENGER 1: _____

Passport #: _____ Passport Expiration: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Known Traveler # if Applicable: _____

PASSENGER 2: _____

Passport #: _____ Passport Expiration: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Known Traveler # if Applicable: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Credit Card #: _____ ☐ VI ☐ MC ☐ AX ☐ DS

Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Please select your cabin category.

- ☐ Category V2 Veranda Stateroom - \$8,499.00 per person based on double occupancy.
- ☐ Category DV6 Veranda Stateroom - \$8,699.00 per person based on double occupancy.
- ☐ Category DV2 Veranda Stateroom - \$9,299.00 per person based on double occupancy.
- ☐ Interested in more information on the 2 night Pre Cruise Extension in Stockholm

Travel Insurance: We highly recommend travel insurance. (All insurance prices are per person .)

☐ Group Travel Protection Cancel For Any Reason is about 10% the cost of the trip.

☐ **No, I do not want Travel Protection.** Direct Travel has recommended that I purchase travel protection insurance. I have been made aware of the cancellation fees associated with my trip, and I understand that if any unforeseen circumstance (including medical emergencies) should occur and I do not have insurance, I would not be covered.