

MULTILINGUAL ESCORTED TOURS XIV

DAY 1 (THURSDAY): ARRIVAL COPENHAGEN

Arrival in Copenhagen, optional transfer to Hotel First Vesterbro**** or similar, check-in, welcome meeting.

DAY 2 (FRIDAY): COPENHAGEN-OSLO

Copenhagen is Scandinavia's largest and most lively city and one of Europe's most romantic capitals with its old castles and churches and charming squares and harbours. The morning sightseeing tour will acquaint us with all the city's treasures: the Little Mermaid guarding the port, the Royal Castle, Nyhavn with its restaurants and small boats and the City Hall Square. In the afternoon we embark on the DFDS Seaways overnight ferry bound for Oslo. The ferry offers a wide choice of restaurants, bars, shops and much more.

DAY 3 (SATURDAY): OSLO-GEILO

Founded in 1048 Oslo is Scandinavia's oldest capital and today it is a very pleasant and casual city with an interesting jumble of historical and modern architecture. Upon arrival in Oslo we start the morning sightseeing tour. We enjoy a walk around the Frogner Park decorated with the unique sculptures of Gustaf Vigeland. We pass by the City Hall and the main street, Karl Johan, leading to the Royal Palace. In the early afternoon we continue our journey to the beautiful Hallingdal Valley, we visit Gol and arrive in Geilo, a small town surrounded by mountains. Check-in at Bardola Højfjellshotel**** or similar. Dinner at hotel.

DAY 4 (SUNDAY): GEILO-BERGEN

Today we enter the breathtaking Norwegian nature. We continue through the Hallingdal Valley, known for its folkloric traditions, we cross the Hardanger mountain plateau and on the descent towards the fjord we pass the famous Vøringsfossen Waterfall. We cross the Hardanger Fjord by ferry and continue along its shores to Bergen. Situated on a peninsula surrounded by 7 mountains the history of Bergen is closely connected with the sea and this is very noticeable in the city, especially at the city's picturesque waterfront. The afternoon sightseeing tour introduces us to this remarkable Hanseatic city with the Bryggen area of old wooden houses, the traditional Fish Market and the city centre with the Maria Church and Hakon's Hall. We check-in at Hotel Clarion Admiral**** or similar.

DAY 5 (MONDAY): GEILO-STALHEIM

The morning is at leisure to explore more of the stunning Norwegian fjord capital. In the early afternoon we travel to the historical town of Voss, which has a scenic background of snow clad mountains. After a break here we continue towards the Naroy Valley and Stalheim, offering a stunning view down the Stalheim Gorge, Check-in at Hotel Stalheim**** or similar. Dinner at hotel.

DAY 6 (TUESDAY): STALHEIM-FLAM-FAGENES

Today we continue through the fjord region with its formidable water-drowned glacial valleys, flanked by impossible rugged terrain to Gudvangen where we cross the Naroyfjord and reach the village of Flam. In the afternoon the journey continues along the Aurlandfjord. We do a photo stop at the famous Borgund Stave Church before we continue to Fagenes. Check-in at Hotel Quality Fagenes**** or similar. Dinner at hotel.

DAY 7 (WEDNESDAY): FAGENES-OSLO

After breakfast we leave the majestic Norwegian fjords behind us and travel back towards Oslo, which we reach early in the afternoon. The balance of the day is spent for exploring more of Oslo.

DAY 8 (THURSDAY): OSLO-STOCKHOLM

Today we head for Stockholm, passing through Norwegian forests we cross the border and enter the county of Varmland in Sweden. Throughout the balance of the day we drive through typical Swedish landscapes with fertile farmland, blue lakes and thick forests, which evoke an atmosphere of intriguing fairytales. In the afternoon we arrive at Stockholm and we check-in at Hotel First Amaranten**** or similar.

SCANDINAVIAN AND RUSSIAN TREASURES June-September 2011, 19 days/18 nights



DATES:

MSR04: 09.06-27.06.11

MSR06: 23.06-11.07.11

MSR08: 07.07-25.07.11

MSR10: 21.07-08.08.11

MSR12: 04.08-22.08.11

MSR14: 18.08-05.09.11

MSR16: 01.09-19.09.11

Package prices pr person:

EUR 2695.00 (double occupancy)

EUR 1195.00 (single supplement)

Including:

- 16 overnights at centrally located 4-5 star hotels
- Overnight ferry Copenhagen-Oslo OW, inside-cabins
- Overnight ferry Stockholm-Helsinki OW, promenade cabins
- 18 x buffet breakfast
- 4 x dinner (3x 3-course hotel dinner and 1 x buffet dinner with wines)
- Welcome meeting
- Welcome package
- Entrances to Church-in-the-Rock, Vyborg Castle, Peter and Paul Fortress and Moscow Metro
- Service of English speaking tour escorts on all tours
- Service of Spanish speaking tour escorts on all tours
- Service of 1st class motor coaches and 1st class minivans throughout the itinerary
- Sapsan high-speed train St. Petersburg-Moscow OW (2nd class)
- Portage at hotels, ferry terminals and railway stations
- Service and VAT

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DAY 9 (FRIDAY): STOCKHOLM

Stockholm – the beauty on the water – is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful capitals in the world, built on 14 islands and protected from the sea by Skargarden, the Stockholm archipelago. The morning sightseeing tour takes us to the Old Town with the Royal Palace, Stockholm Cathedral and the city centre with its famous City Hall. The afternoon is free for individual visits.

DAY 10 (SATURDAY): STOCKHOLM-HELSINKI

The morning is free to explore more of Stockholm individually. Mid-afternoon we leave for the pier to embark on the Tallink Silja Line overnight ferry bound for Helsinki. While we travel slowly down the archipelago past numerous islands and islets we enjoy a sumptuous dinner on board the ship. And afterwards there is a wide choice of entertainment with bars, shops, casino and much more.

DAY 11 (SUNDAY): HELSINKI

Helsinki is truly located at the crossroads of Western and Eastern culture and this is reflected everywhere in the green and lively Finnish capital. Directly after disembarkation we start a sightseeing tour, which takes us around the harbours, up central Mannerheim Street and by the Parliament Building, the Finlandia Hall, and the Sibelius Monument and the famous Church-in-the-Rock. At the end of the tour we check-in at Hotel Radisson Blu Plaza***** or similar.

DAY 12 (MONDAY): HELSINKI

The morning is reserved for exploring more of the Finish capital individually. The afternoon offers an optional excursion to Seurasaari Open-Air Museum, an oasis in the midst of the city with cottages, farmsteads and manors from all around Finland.

DAY 13 (TUESDAY): HELSINKI-ST. PETERSBURG

Today we continue eastbound to St. Petersburg. Shortly after crossing the border into Russia we arrive in Vyborg, where we take time for a short sightseeing tour and a visit to Vyborg Castle. In the late afternoon we arrive in St. Petersburg and check-in at Hotel Radisson Sonya***** or similar.

DAY 14 (WEDNESDAY): ST. PETERSBURG

St. Petersburg is an amazing city. Its imperial palaces and museums enjoy worldwide fame, while the Neva River and the many canals have deservedly given the city the title “The Venice of the North”. During the morning sightseeing tour we get acquainted with all the splendours of the city: the Peter-Paul Fortress, the Winter Palace, St. Isaac’s Cathedral, the Church of the Bleeding Savior, the Nevsky Convent and much more. The afternoon offers an optional visit to Peterhof, an uncontested masterpiece of the time of Peter the Great, with the impressive Grand Palace, Grand Cascade and Water Avenue and its wonderful parks. In the evening enjoy an optional visit to the Nikolaevsky Palace with an exciting Russian folklore show and Russian “Champagne” and snacks.

DAY 15 (THURSDAY): ST. PETERSBURG

The morning is reserved for an optional excursion to Zarskoye Selo with the impressive Catherine’s Palace and the Amber Room, which vanished during World War II and was restored for St. Petersburg’s tri-centennial celebrations. In the afternoon, an optional visit to the world-famous Hermitage Art Museum is offered. In the evening enjoy an optional Russian dinner at Restaurant Na Zdoroviye.

DAY 16 (FRIDAY): ST. PETERSBURG-MOSCOW

The early morning is reserved for an optional guided shopping tour to fashion and souvenir boutiques on the Nevsky Prospect. Around noon we go to the Moscow Railway Station and board the Sapsan high-speed train bound for Moscow. The train ride takes us through endless Russian landscapes along the River Volga. In the late afternoon we arrive to Moscow and check in at Hotel Holiday Inn Lesnaya**** or similar.

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Optional:

- Transfer airport to Hotel First Vesterbro: EUR 105.00 for private car (1-3 persons), EUR 120.00 for private car/minivan (4-7 persons)
- Guests will receive details from tour escort about optional tours in Scandinavia
- Transfer Hotel Holiday Inn Lesnaya to airport: EUR 80.00 for private car (1-3 persons), EUR 100.00 for private minivan (4-7 persons)

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DAY 17 (SATURDAY): MOSCOW

Moscow, The Mother of Russia, is a genuine Russian city with the Kremlin and its onion domed cathedrals. The dramatic changes over the last decade have made the city to one of the most dynamic metropolises in the world. The morning sightseeing tour includes all the highlights of the vast city: the Red Square with Kremlin, the Theatre Square with Bolshoi Theatre, Sparrow Hills with Moscow University and a visit to the famous Moscow Metro. In the afternoon is offered an optional excursion to the Kremlin grounds with a visit to the cathedrals. The evening offers an optional excursion with a cruise on the Moscow River.

DAY 18 (SUNDAY): MOSCOW

The day offers an optional excursion to Novodevichy Convent, a 16th century cluster of sparkling domes, one of the city's most beautiful groups of buildings and full of history and treasures. The adjacent Novodevichy Cemetery is Moscow's most prestigious resting place after the Kremlin. The balance of the day is reserved for exploring more of Moscow individually. The evening offers an optional visit to the Old Russian Circus.

DAY 19 (MONDAY): MOSCOW DEPARTURE

Optional transfer to the airport.

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[QUIETVOX audio communication system in use throughout the Finnish and Russian parts of the tour](#)