

SCANDINAVIA & RUSSIA TOUR



MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

www.mytravelxp.com

hello@mytravelxp.com

1300 168 910



18 Days Scandinavia & Russia Coach Tour

Duration: 18 days

Departs: 2022 select dates

Stay: 17 nights hotels, typically 3-star

Travel style: Escorted coach tour

Booking code: SCRUS18M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

18 Days Scandinavia & Russia Escorted Tour

About the holiday

Get ready to see the highlights of Scandinavia, central, eastern and northern Europe on this sensational coach tour!

Experience 10 incredible countries from Amsterdam to Russia and back again on this remarkable trip. Explore Helsinki and Copenhagen; two of the world's happiest cities that are full of colour and charm. Visit St Petersburg and Stockholm before discovering the unique beauty of the Baltic states. Stroll through Warsaw and Tallinn with local guides and sip 500-year-old beer in Berlin.

This comprehensive coach tour delivers history, scenery, fun and much, much more.

Why you'll love this trip...

Visit Scandinavia, Russia and the Baltic states in one fantastic tour!

Introductions to Hamburg, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Helsinki, Berlin, Riga & Vilnius

Local-guided tours of Tallinn & Warsaw

Driving & walking tour of St. Petersburg followed by two free days to explore

Take an optional day-trip to Moscow

Travel dates in 2022

8 April; 02, 23 May; 13 June; 4, 25 July; 29 August; 19 September

Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price may vary depending on your travel date.

Want to stay longer & see more? Maybe add flights?

See www.mytravelxp.com for more information or call 1300 168 910



Escorted tour includes:

Accommodation

- 16 nights accommodation in twin rooms with private en-suite facilities
- 1 night in twin share cabin with private en-suite facilities
- *Single travellers have the option to pay a single supplement to ensure a private room*

Meals

- 17 breakfast daily, 7 dinners on days 1, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13 & 15
Vegetarian options available for all meals on request

Transport

- Modern air-conditioned coach with reclining seats and toilet on board
- Overnight ferry from Stockholm to Helsinki
- Any public transport used as part of the tour (excludes free days)

Escorted tour

- Services of your English-speaking tour leader, who will be on hand with advice and tips to ensure you get the most from your trip
- All taxes and fees included

Package excludes:

International flights - please request airfare quotes

Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary

Optional tours & activities

Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry etc.

Gratuities for guides & drivers

Travel insurance is essential

Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

***Subject to confirmation by hotels, tour company & local operators.
Cancellation fees & booking conditions apply.***



Flexible Tour Bookings!

Pay 21 Days Before Departure

To offer more flexibility and greater peace of mind, the due date for the final balance of payment is now reduced to 21 days prior to the departure date. This reduces risk and means you won't lose your money by locking in a great deal early.

Pay Less Up Front

Pay only \$210 per person deposit to lock in a great deal for the tour of your dreams.

No Change Fees

There will be no penalties or fees to alter your tour booking up to 21 days prior to your departure date. This includes changes to: the tour, departure date, destination and/or passenger name.

If you need to change your tour booking:

- Notify us in writing at least 21 days before your departure if you are unsure about travelling and you will be given the option to keep any monies paid toward the original booking as Future Travel Credit, usable on a tour departing until 31 December 2022.
- If you change to a trip or departure that is more expensive than your original booking, you will need to cover the difference in price. If the trip or departure is less expensive than the original, a Future Travel Credit will be issued for the difference.
- If you wish to make a change with less than 21 days to your departure date, standard Terms & Conditions apply.

Call our office on 1300 168 910 for more info - we're here to help!

Experiences on tour:

- Cruise along Amsterdam's canals as you enjoy dinner
- Experience a cheese and clog making demonstration
- See the Riekmolen windmill in Amsterdam
- Tour Copenhagen, the capital of Denmark
- Enjoy an orientation tour of Gamla Stan, Stockholm
- Orientation and driving tour of Helsinki
- Driving tour of St Petersburg with local guide
- Walking tour of Tallinn with a local guide
- Stop off at the seaside town of Saulkrasti
- Visit the Latvian War Cemetery
- Orientation tour of Riga
- Visit the Hill of Crosses faith site
- Orientation tour of Vilnius
- Stop at Trakai, Europe's only historic national park
- Local-guided tour of Warsaw
- Stop in Poznan, sample Polish cuisine, explore the Old Market Square
- Head out on an orientation and driving tour of Berlin, the German capital

Itinerary:

Day 1: Arrive in Amsterdam

Welcome to the start of your tour! Your tour leader will be waiting for you at our accommodation during the afternoon. After everyone's checked in, we'll take a canal cruise of the city - one of the best ways to see this amazing city and its sights! We'll also enjoy dinner on-board as the city drifts by. Afterwards, your time is yours to spend as you like. Stroll around the canals (don't forget to keep an eye out for the bicycles!) as you explore this fascinating and picturesque city!

Day 2: Amsterdam - Hamburg - Northern Germany

We depart Amsterdam this morning and make our way to Germany, stopping along the way at a local Dutch farm to see how clogs (traditional Dutch footwear) and local cheeses are produced in the traditional way. After sampling some delicious cheese (this is the perfect place to pick up a souvenir of your time in the Netherlands), we'll

make our way onward to a photo stop at a nearby windmill - a common sight in the Dutch countryside! We then travel through northern Germany, arriving in Hamburg for a quick comfort stop late afternoon. We'll then make our way to our accommodation in the north of Germany.

Day 3: Northern Germany - Copenhagen

This morning after breakfast we'll cross the border and make our way to the Danish capital of Copenhagen. Welcome to Scandinavia! As we cross the border onto Danish soil, the drive towards Copenhagen offers fantastic views, and we will cross Europe's longest bridge. On arrival in the Danish capital, you'll enjoy a tour of the city, where your tour leader will introduce you to highlights of the city, including the parliament house, Tivoli, town hall, Rosenborg, and the little mermaid statue. The city's prosperity and confidence are hard to miss, and it'll soon be evident why this charming city has been voted one of the world's most liveable so many years in a row. It's clean, safe, and very easy to get around - and blessed with cosy cafés and world-famous restaurants!

Day 4: Helsingør - Stockholm

This morning we'll leave Copenhagen and take a short drive north to the port town of Helsingør. This town is home to Kronborg Castle, known to many as 'Elsinore' and the setting for Shakespeare's 'Hamlet'. We'll see the castle from the water as we take a short ferry ride to Sweden. It's then a long drive from the port of Helsingborg through the stunning rural Swedish scenery as we head toward the capital, Stockholm. Look out for lakes, forests and rolling fields as we drive! On arrival in Stockholm, we'll enjoy a stroll through Gamla Stan and see The Royal Palace, Nobel Museum, Riksdagshuset (Parliament) and more. The rest of the evening is yours to enjoy a dinner of your choice.

Day 5: Stockholm free morning - Helsinki (Overnight Ferry)

Spend time this morning exploring the city of Stockholm! Head back to Gamla Stan and revisit your favourite sights from the orientation tour the night before. The numerous islands that make up the town offer fascinating walks, especially through the Djurgården, where you have the option to visit the Vasa Museum. Otherwise, spot beautiful old ships in the harbour and visit some of the many world-class museums and art galleries. See if you can catch the changing of the guards at the Royal Palace! This afternoon we take an overnight ferry to Helsinki in Finland.

Day 6: Helsinki

Arriving in the late morning, you'll have the whole afternoon to explore the Finnish capital at your own pace. An effortlessly cool city, Helsinki prides itself on being slightly off-the-wall, playing with decor and design traditions to humorous effect. Elegant cafés, magnificent museums and impressive Art Nouveau architecture all combine to create a city that is certain to leave an impression!

Day 7: Helsinki - St Petersburg

This morning, we'll depart Helsinki and make our way to the Russian border; get your passport at the ready for a new stamp that will be a real talking point! We then continue on to the Russian city of St Petersburg! On arrival, we'll enjoy a comprehensive city tour with our local guide, spotting some of the more notable buildings and sights, including views of the iconic Church of the Saviour on Blood. Built by Italian architects and sporting neoclassical and baroque architecture that overlooks its many canals, this city stands in stark contrast to the red brick and onion domes of Moscow.

Day 8: St Petersburg: Free Day

Today is all yours to explore St Petersburg! Why not visit some of the great sights you saw on last night's tour? Alternatively, join our day trip excursion to the Russian capital, Moscow. An expert local guide will take you on a tour of the Kremlin grounds, the orthodox churches of the Tsar, and Moscow city and all its sights. Finish off the day on the high-speed train back to St. Petersburg! This is a full day trip, with approximately 6-7 hours to enjoy Moscow accompanied by an English-speaking guide.

Please note: this excursion must be pre-booked; contact us for more information.

Day 9: St Petersburg: Free Day

Another free day in St Petersburg! Use your time to explore this fascinating city. Perhaps join us on our optional tour of the world-famous Hermitage & Peterhof with a local guide. See the Hermitage Museum, founded by Catherine the Great and now one of the largest and oldest museums in the world, the Winter Palace and enjoy a lunch at a local restaurant! This evening, an optional traditional Russian folk show is not to be missed! Your tour leader will organise everything for you, including vodka and canapés.

Day 10: St Petersburg - Tallinn

We travel once again to the Russian border, and then on to the capital of Estonia. Tallinn is one of Europe's most enchanting cities, with a strong medieval influence contrasting with its more modern buildings. A local guide will take us on a walking tour, as we explore the winding cobbled lanes overlooked by medieval church spires. Listed as one of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites, Tallinn offers intriguing history while also managing to be a shopper's paradise. Ancient practices such as glass-blowing and pottery share attention with Estonia's hippest young fashion designers. After the included dinner this evening, be sure to check out the alternative nightlife that Tallinn has to offer - from medieval taverns to hip bars and clubs.

Day 11: Tallinn - Riga

Leaving Estonia, we enter Latvia and make for Riga, possibly the most vibrant of the Baltic cities and blessed with a culture that you'll find irresistible. In contrast to its smaller neighbours, Riga goes all out with a buzzing atmosphere and impressive Art-Nouveau architecture. On arrival, your tour leader will take you on a walking tour of this impressive city and you can explore some of its famous landmarks and sights, including the famous central markets and many beautiful churches. Don't forget to visit the skyline bar this evening for incredible panoramic views of Riga.

Day 12: Hill of Crosses - Vilnius

Making our way into Lithuania, we stop first at the Hill of Crosses. This pilgrimage site is loaded with around 100,000 crosses. They were first placed here back in 1831 by the relatives of those who fell during the local rebellion. Once we arrive in Vilnius, we enjoy an orientation tour of the city before enjoying some free time. Lithuania's capital exudes Old Town charm - so much so that it's been added to UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites. In contrast to the medieval history, there are also reminders of Vilnius' more recent and darker past, including remnants of the ghettos where the Jewish community lived during Nazi occupation, and the influence of the Soviet Union.

Day 13: Trakai - Warsaw

Our final destination in Lithuania is a comfort stop at Europe's only historic national park, the town of Trakai. The main attraction is undoubtedly a view of the iconic brick-built castle at its centre, which lies on an island surrounded by crystal clear water. Then, we head towards the Polish border. The cultural hub of Poland, Warsaw is a city of energy and action, racing to replace what was lost after being utterly destroyed in World War II. On arrival, a local guide will take you on a city tour, focusing on the faithfully reconstructed Old Town, before going for a traditional Polish dinner.

Day 14: Warsaw: Free Day

Today is yours to spend as you wish! Visit some of the highly regarded museums, such as the Museum of the History of Polish Jews, the Chopin Museum, or the extensive collections of the National Museum. Being Sunday, you can enjoy free entry to the Royal Palace and the occasional free music concert in Łazienki Park. Alternatively, you can further explore the Old Town, or join us on an exhilarating optional Communist tour of Warsaw. You will be driven around in Communist-era Nysa vans, with eccentric drivers and an expert local guide!

Day 15: Poznan - Berlin

Heading west through Poland, today's morning stop is in Poznan, famous for its historic old town and as a coronation city of the early Polish kings. Enjoy your free time to have lunch and admire the colourful buildings and beautiful architecture of the Old Market Square. We then cross into Germany and continue to the city of Berlin! The German capital prospered under the rule of the Nazis leading up to the Second World War, but then endured division during the Cold War, symbolised in the infamous Berlin Wall. Reminders of the past are everywhere, but Berlin has a vibrant culture to enjoy. On arrival, we'll take a driving tour through the city and see some of the city's more famous landmarks, including Brandenburg Gate and Checkpoint Charlie.

Day 16: Berlin: Free Day

Today is a free day in Berlin, so take time to investigate some of the sights you would have seen yesterday on the driving tour, or strike out on your own to discover more of the city for yourself - the choice is yours! For an incredible bird's eye view of the city, head up the Berlin TV tower - located close to Alexanderplatz, it has become an icon of the capital. Fancy some museum action? Then head over to the museum island, a collection of five world-famous museums on an island in the heart of Berlin's city centre. After a day of exploring you may wish to relax or party; Berlin has you covered, with an incredibly vibrant nightlife offering plenty of bars, clubs and shows - from theatre to cabaret.

Day 17: Berlin - Amsterdam

After breakfast, we say goodbye to Berlin as we cross into the Netherlands. Arriving back at our Amsterdam hotel tonight - say farewell to your tour leader, driver and fellow passengers and celebrate your last night on tour together with an optional farewell dinner.

Day 18: Amsterdam

Today, our tour concludes after breakfast. Be sure to share your contact details with your fellow travellers. We hope you've enjoyed your Northern Explorer Tour as much as we have!

Please note: The day by day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

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Affordable Holidays - How do we do it?

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See www.mytravelxp.com for more information or call 1300 168 910



MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE BOOKING CONDITIONS

Please read the following information prior to making your reservation

Our full set of terms and conditions can be [viewed and downloaded on our website](#), or supplied on request from our office. We highly recommend you read My Travel Experience booking conditions prior to making your holiday reservations. This is the contract under which both parties enter, therefore we request that you only make a booking if you agree with these conditions.

This is a summary in brief for our customers:

1. Upon making a reservation with My Travel Experience you will receive a booking form, which needs to be filled out and signed to confirm that you agree to the terms and conditions.
2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.
3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.
4. Between 21-90 days prior to departure you will be asked to make the balance payment for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).
5. 14 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents electronically or via Express post.

My Travel Experience operates a Client Trust bank account. This means that we do not hold your money. We pay the ultimate travel providers (Suppliers) of your travel services the funds for your holiday. The Suppliers include airlines, tour operators, cruise lines, transport companies, hotels etc. We are required to pay the Suppliers deposits and final payments to secure your booking and in some instances these items are non-refundable.

If you wish to cancel you must notify us of your cancellation in writing. We will then write to the Suppliers to cancel your booking and request a refund (if applicable) for any elements of your holiday that are refundable. You will need to make an insurance claim for any travel arrangements that are non-refundable. If you have any issues during the refund or cancellation process, you have 30 days to contact our office in writing to lodge a complaint so an immediate resolution can be found for you.

Phone 1300 168 910 or +61 400 226 454
920 Glenferrie Road, Kew VIC 3101, Australia
Email hello@mytravelxp.com
www.mytravelxp.com