

# THE TRAVEL CLUB

## Highlights of Northern Europe: Amsterdam to Stockholm

**With Optional 3-Night Norwegian Fjords post-tour extension**

**11 DAYS: Saturday, August 15-Tuesday, August 25, 2020**

**Per person double occupancy \$4,309 Single reservations \$4,909**

**Includes round-trip airfare, fuel surcharge and all air taxes and fees. Fuel surcharge, air taxes and fees subject to change. Passport required. Per person deposit is \$450.**

Journey north to uncover a new side of Europe. The past is palpable on this one-of-a-kind tour, which brings you to cities that were once important centers of trade and emigration. After discovering Amsterdam's place in history as you explore its crisscrossing waterways, continue on to the port of Hamburg. Then, cross the Baltic Sea and get to know a pair of fascinating Scandinavian capitals: Copenhagen and Stockholm.

### Your tour package includes

- 9 nights in handpicked hotels, 9 breakfasts, 4 dinners with beer or wine, 5 guided sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides, Private deluxe motor coach, 1 ferry transfer, 1 on-tour flight

### Included highlights

- Dam Square, Van Gogh Museum, Bremen, Rosenborg Castle, Vasa Museum, Stockholm's Old Town



### Overnight Flight 1 night

#### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Amsterdam today.

## **Amsterdam 3 nights**

### **Day 2: Arrival in Amsterdam**

**Included meal: Welcome dinner**

Welcome to the Netherlands! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

### **Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Amsterdam**

**Included meal: Breakfast**

Today's panoramic sightseeing tour introduces you to Amsterdam's iconic canals and unique character.

- Stroll by the canals and bridges, taking in the houseboats that dot the banks
- View Dam Square, home of many landmarks including the neoclassical Royal Palace, the 15th-century New Church, and the National Monument
- Pass the Anne Frank House, where the young diarist and her family hid during World War II
- Enter the Van Gogh Museum to admire the largest collection of Vincent Van Gogh's masterpieces, including the famous *Sunflowers*

Spend a free evening in Amsterdam or add an excursion.

### **Canal Cruise & Dinner**

**Optional Excursion at additional cost**

Cruise along the canals of Amsterdam on a houseboat, enjoying the view of row houses lit up for the night. Your cruise will take you through the center of the city as you enjoy dinner by lantern light.

### **Day 4: Free day in Amsterdam**

**Included meal: Breakfast**

Enjoy a full free day in Amsterdam or add an excursion.

### **A Day in Charming Delft**

**Optional Excursion at additional cost**

Pay a visit to the world-famous flower market at Aalsmeer for a close-up look at one of Holland's best-known national exports: its brilliantly hued tulips. Continue to Delft, a charming town of canals, cobbled alleyways and medieval architecture. Visit the Old and New Churches on a guided tour, and then enjoy free time to grab lunch and explore the town, perhaps visiting the former home of the famous painter, Vermeer. Please note: A visit to the Hague will replace the flower market on days when the market is closed.

## **Hamburg 2 nights**

### **Day 5: Hamburg via Bremen**

**Included meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

Journey from the Netherlands to Hamburg, Germany today. Stop en route in the Hanseatic city of Bremen for free time.

In Hamburg, sit down to an included dinner with your group.

### **Day 6: Sightseeing tour of Hamburg**

**Included meal: Breakfast**

Join a local expert on a guided tour of Hamburg, Germany's second largest city.

- Pass by the neo-Renaissance Rathaus, the city hall
- Admire St. Michaelis Church, the largest Baroque church in northern Germany, and stroll the historic warehouse district

Enjoy a free evening in Hamburg or add an excursion.

## **Hanseatic Lübeck**

### **Optional Excursion at additional cost**

Discover soaring spires and deep-rooted history as you explore UNESCO-listed Lübeck on a guided tour. This Baltic port served as the capital of the Hanseatic League from the 13th to the 16th century, and remnants from its powerful merchant past still abound throughout the medieval Old Town. Pass through the 15th-century Holstentor gate into the heart of the city where you'll see the Rathaus, or city hall, and explore the Gothic-style St. Mary's Church, one of the largest churches in Germany. Enter a local confectioner's shop to enjoy a tasting of marzipan, a local specialty invented in Lübeck. Then, enjoy free time to explore—and perhaps try some famous German beer.

## **Copenhagen 2 nights**

### **Day 7: Travel to Copenhagen**

**Included meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

Board a ferry to cross the Fehmarn Belt and arrive in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Later, sit down to an included dinner with your group.

### **Day 8: Sightseeing tour of Copenhagen**

**Included meal: Breakfast**

Take a guided tour of the bustling maritime city with a local guide.

- Step inside the 16th-century Rosenborg Castle, a royal residence built in the Dutch Renaissance style
- View the iconic Little Mermaid statue and marvel at the wharfside homes and stores in the beautifully preserved Nyhavn district
- Pass by the Amalienborg Palace and Christiansborg Palace, seat of the Danish Parliament

## **Stockholm 2 nights**

### **Day 9: Flight to Stockholm**

**Included meal: Breakfast**

After a short flight, arrive in Sweden's vibrant capital city. Later, enjoy free time in the city or add an excursion.

### **Day 10: Sightseeing tour of Stockholm**

**Included meals: Breakfast, Farewell dinner**

Explore Sweden's sophisticated capital on a guided tour led by a local expert.

- Enter the architecturally unique Stockholm City Hall, site of the annual Nobel Prize banquet
- Step inside the Vasa Museum to see a 1628 warship that once sat at the bottom of Stockholm harbor
- Stroll through the medieval Old Town and view the Baroque Royal Palace

Enjoy a free afternoon in Stockholm or add an excursion.

Celebrate your trip with your fellow travelers at a farewell dinner this evening.

## **Drottningholm**

### **Optional Excursion at additional cost**

Take a tranquil ferry ride across Lake Mälaren, and arrive at Lovön Island, where you'll explore the 16th-century Drottningholm Palace. The magnificence of this royal residence, still the permanent residence of Swedish royalty, rivals that of Versailles. Join a local guide for a tour of the UNESCO-listed palace to learn about its storied history and see the decadent rococo interiors. Please note: The ferry to Lovön Island runs from mid-April through mid-October. If you're traveling from late-October through early-April, you'll travel to the island by bus.

Flight Home

**Day 11: Departure****Included meal: Breakfast (excluding early morning departures)**

Transfer to the airport for your flight home or extend your stay to visit Norway.

**Extension to Norwegian Fjords \$999 pp/do**

If breathtaking Scandinavian landscapes are what you seek, Bergen is the place to visit. Often referred to as "the gateway to the fjords," this picturesque Norwegian city boasts an ideal waterfront location and a UNESCO-listed wharf, which serve as reminders of its extensive history as a major trading port. Visit to experience the midnight sun during long summer days, stroll past colorful homes, admire stunning mountain views, and get an up-close look at Norway's world-renowned fjords.

**Bergen 3 nights****Day 11: Flight to Bergen****Included meal: Breakfast**

Fly from Stockholm to Bergen, Norway, called "the gateway to the fjords."

**Day 12: Sightseeing tour of Bergen****Included meal: Breakfast**

Get to know Bergen with a local guide, uncovering the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Bryggen harbor district and city center.

- Pass by the Bergenhus Fortress and stroll through the bustling fish and flower market
- Head to the Custom House pier to view the city center and harbor
- Drive to the medieval-style Fantoft Stave Church in Fana
- Explore the Edvard Grieg Museum to learn about the famed composer

**Day 13: The Norwegian Fjords****Included meal: Breakfast**

Spend the day journeying through Norway's fjord country, a region of otherworldly natural beauty.

- Take a scenic train ride from Bergen to Voss, where you'll continue on to the village of Gudvangen
- Embark on a cruise through the country's steep cliffs and narrow waterways
- Disembark in the village of Flåm, overlooking Aurlandsfjord

This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

Flight Home

**Day 14: Departure****Included meal: Breakfast (excluding early morning departures)**

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.