

A TALE OF FOUR CITIES

ITINERARY

DAY

1

DAY 1: WELCOME TO THE CAPITAL OF FINLAND

On arrival at Helsinki airport, you will be met and transferred to your comfortable hotel in the heart of the city. If you arrive early, we recommend getting the Helsinki Card, which gives you access to all main sights, museums and public transportation.

Spend the night in Helsinki.

HIGHLIGHTS: Helsinki

DAY

2

DAY 2: FROM CITY TO SEA MAGIC

Your morning begins with a tasty buffet breakfast, followed by a day to explore the Finnish capital. Sights of interest are, amongst others, the Senate Square, Uspenski Cathedral, Parliament House, Finlandia Hall, New Opera House, Sibelius Park and Monument and Underground Temple. In the late afternoon, you will board an overnight cruise ship heading off for Stockholm. Explore the various facilities available on board - cafes, restaurant and shops.

Spend overnight in the comfort of your cabin on board the ship.

HIGHLIGHTS: Finlandia Hall - Finnish Parliament Building - Helsinki Opera House - Senate Square - Sillegården - Uspenski Cathedral

DAY

3

DAY 3: A TASTE OF HISTORIC STOCKHOLM

Enjoy breakfast on board as your ship sails through the Archipelago of over 24,000 islands and islets and arrives into Stockholm, the city of senses and the capital of Sweden. Built on 14 islands, you are never far from the water in Stockholm. After checking in at your centrally located hotel, you will have the rest of the day to check out all of what Stockholm has to offer. We recommend getting My Stockholm Pass, which gives you free admission to a total of 75 experiences, free sightseeing tours, discounts to a number of restaurants, shops and much more. A visit to the Vasa Ship Museum and the City Hall, with its famous Blue Hall, where the Nobel Prize banquet is held each year, is highly recommended.

Spend the night in Stockholm.

HIGHLIGHTS: Stockholm - Stockholm Archipelago - Stockholm City Hall - Vasa Museum

DAY

4

DAY 4: A SLICE OF SWEDISH COUNTRYSIDE

Following a traditional Scandinavian buffet breakfast, you will pick up your rental car and start your drive south. Drive through the pleasant countryside of Southern Sweden to the city of Kalmar, beautifully situated by the Baltic Sea. Visit the Kalmar Castle, strategically important to Swedish defence in the past.

Spend the night in Kalmar.

Driving distance approx. 410 km.

If your car rental pick up is on a Sunday or public holiday, please note that the car rental agency doesn't open their office until 15:00 in the afternoon. We might be able to arrange pickups outside these hours against an extra fee or assist you in rearranging your tour to make it fit. Please contact us for details.

HIGHLIGHTS: Kalmar - Kalmar Castle

DAY

5

DAY 5: KINGDOM OF CRYSTAL (GLASRIKET)

Drive around the 'Kingdom of Crystal' (Glasriket) and visit some of its most famous glassworks. There are more than 50 glassworks in this area, and many of them are open to visitors. You can find special gifts and souvenirs in many of the glasswork stores, which offer good prices.

Spend the night in Ystad, with its many small, half-timbered houses.

Driving distance approx. 270 km.

HIGHLIGHTS: Kingdom of Crystal - Ystad

DAY

6

DAY 6: WONDERFUL, WONDERFUL COPENHAGEN!

Continue west. The drive takes us through the province of Skåne to the city of Malmö. Cross over the new Öresund Bridge and arrive in Denmark and the Royal capital, Copenhagen. Copenhagen hosts many sights, including the Amalienborg Palace, Christiansborg Palace (seat of the Danish Parliament), Hans Christian Andersen's statue, Gefion Fountain, the old harbour of Nyhavn, the famous Little Mermaid and many other popular sights. In the afternoon, we recommend a wander down the popular pedestrian shopping street, Strøget, or maybe a canal tour or visit to the famous Tivoli Garden.

Driving distance approx. 120 km.

HIGHLIGHTS: Amalienborg Palace - Christiansborg Palace - Copenhagen - Little Mermaid - Nyhavn - Tivoli Gardens - Øresund Bridge

DAY

7

DAY 7: SHOPPING AND SUNSETS EN ROUTE TO OSLO

After a tasty Danish buffet breakfast, you can take your pick of Copenhagen's many shopping and sightseeing opportunities. In the late afternoon, you will board an overnight cruise to Oslo. The ship cruises gently up the Kattegat Sund on its way to Oslo. There's both dancing and entertainment available and also a great opportunity to just relax and watch the sunset out on deck.

HIGHLIGHTS: Kattegat Sund - Strøget shopping street

DAY

8

DAY 8: MEET THE VIKINGS

Sailing up the scenic Oslo Fjord, you will reach the Norwegian capital early in the morning, ready for a day of leisure. While in Oslo, we recommend you see the world-famous Viking Ships, the Polar Exploration ship Fram, the amazing Vigeland Sculpture Park and other famous sights.

Spend overnight in Oslo.

HIGHLIGHTS: Fram Museum - Oslo - Oslo Fjord

DAY

9

DAY 9: SOUVENIRS FIT FOR THE ROYALTY

On your drive east from Oslo, make a stop at the Klässbols Linen Mill, which is open to visitors; here you'll find quality linen goods for sale. Products from Klässbols are used by the Swedish Royal family, by Swedish embassies around the world, and by the hotels that accommodate the Nobel ceremony visitors. You will then pass the city of Karlstad, known as the city of sunshine, which lies on the river delta where two of Sweden's great natural waterways meet; the 500 km long Klara River and the mighty Lake Vänern, with its archipelago of 22,000 islands. Where river meets lake, you can enjoy this unique delta environment on its hiking trails or on a boat trip. Karlstad is also home to Värmland's Museum, containing the world's premier exhibition of the Värmland artists, as well as international artists and a fascinating multimedia presentation of the province Värmland's history. Continue east towards Örebro and don't miss the 15 meters high Picasso sculpture in Kristinehamn, donated to the city by the artist in 1964.

Continue to Örebro and stay the night.

Driving distance approx. 330 km.

HIGHLIGHTS: Grythyttan Inn - Klässbols Linen Mill - Örebro

DAY

10

DAY 10: CASTLE AND OPEN AIR MUSEUM

After breakfast, explore this little city and visit the 14th century Örebro Castle and walk through the Wadköping area. Wadköping area is an open air museum, with buildings and houses from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. The houses and buildings were moved here to make room for new houses in the city.

When ready, continue east back to Stockholm, where you will drop off your rental car and spend the night.

Driving distance approx. 200 km.

HIGHLIGHTS: Wadköping Museum Village - Örebro Castle

DAY

11

DAY 11: EXPLORE THE DELIGHTS OF STOCKHOLM'S OLD TOWN

Today you will have time off to explore the city's amazing Old Town, with its narrow alleys and beautiful medieval houses.

In late afternoon, you will take an overnight cruise back to Helsinki.

HIGHLIGHTS: Gamla Stan (Old town of Stockholm) - Stockholm

DAY

12

DAY 12: HELSINKI AND DEPARTURE DAY

Enjoy a nice breakfast onboard as you sail towards Finland. Arrive at Helsinki harbour around 10:30. Passengers departing with an afternoon flight will have time for some last-minute shopping - a perfect way to end your holiday. To get from the airport we recommend taking the airport bus from Helsinki Central Station.

Whatever your needs, we are here to help. If you have any questions about our packages or services, please do not hesitate to contact us.