

## Itinerary

**Day 1:** Southampton, UK - 4:30 PM

**Day 2:** At Sea - -

**Day 3:** Kiel Canal Transit - -

**Day 4:** At Sea - -

**Day 5:** Saaremaa Isl. Estonia 7:30 AM 4:00 PM

Located in the centre of the Baltic Sea, Estonia's largest island revels in its isolation. The territory has been inhabited for over 8,000 years, but stone-walled house with their thatched roofs give this island a unique character. Amongst the numerous sights are Angla Windmill Hill; Mustjala cliff; the 17th century Bell Tower at Kihelkonna; the manor house at Loona; the ruins of Maasi Castle; and the Mihkli Fram Museum at Viki.

**Day 6:** Tallinn, Estonia 8:00 AM 11:30 PM

Tallinn is unquestionably one of Europe's most magical capitals, competing even with Prague in the richness of its architectural heritage. Estonia's post-independence renaissance has given exuberant new life to this medieval Hanseatic city, whose Old Town - gloriously contrived and almost theatrical tableau of gabled roofs, fairy-tale turrets and soaring spires - dazzles the eye and imagination alike.

**Day 7:** Helsinki, Finland 5:30 AM 4:00 PM

Finland's capital since 1812, built on a peninsula amid a cluster of islands, stately Helsinki is 'the Daughter of the Baltic'. Still preserving something of the mood of a 19th century seaport, it's a city of intriguing contrasts; from handsome and imposing neo-classical buildings and many museums to lively shopping esplanades and the colourful Kauppatori produce and craft market.

**Day 8:** St Petersburg, Russia 7:30 AM -

The jewel in the Baltic crown and Russia's most European city, elegant St Petersburg was Tsar Peter the Great's 'Window on the West', the grandeur of whose Italian and French designed Baroque and neo-classical buildings, many reflected in the city's network of waterways, is rivalled only by the riches of its priceless art treasures – nearly three million of them in the fabled Hermitage Museum alone! Join our tour which starts with a 19-mile coastal drive beside the Gulf of Finland to arrive at Petrodvorets and the palace founded by Peter the Great. Known as the most brilliant of the Tsars' summer residences it was his wish to have a palace and gardens to better Versailles.

**Day 9:** St Petersburg, Russia - -

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**Day 10:** St Petersburg, Russia - 6:00 PM

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**Day 11:** At Sea - -

**Day 12:** Copenhagen, Denmark 1:30 PM 10:00 PM

There's an irresistible charm to the welcome of Denmark's cosmopolitan capital. Explore the beautiful settings of historic Christianborg and Amalienborg Palaces, the colourful pavement cafes and pedestrian streets of Stroget, old Nyhavn harbour's quayside restaurants and bars, the fun-filled Tivoli Gardens - and, of course, look out for the Little Mermaid celebrating the tales of Hans Christian Andersen.

**Day 13:** Alborg, Denmark 7:30 AM 1:00 PM

**Day 14:** At Sea - -

**Day 15:** Southampton, UK 7:30 AM

## **Ship**

Although larger than their existing ships, Balmoral is still compact enough to offer that intimate, homely atmosphere which is so much their trademark. The combination of Balmoral's elegant comfortable cabins, world class cuisine and diverse on board activities has been designed to appeal particularly to the rapidly expanding British cruise market.