

SCANDINAVIA & ST PETERSBURG



operatunity

Travel

Opera, Ballet, Concerts,
Scandinavian Capitals,
Norwegian Fjords, St Petersburg

02 - 27 JUNE 2019

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We invite you to experience this amazing part of the world: wandering the cobblestone lanes of Copenhagen, watching *Swan Lake* in the theatre of the Tsars, marvelling at a Norwegian glacier, or experiencing a concert in Greig's house, the very place where he composed the famous *Peer Gynt Suite*.

Experience the Exceptional...

- Musical events include operas in Stockholm, Copenhagen and Oslo, *Swan Lake* in St Petersburg, a Russian folklore concert, a Greig recital in his house in Bergen, opera tour and performance at Swedish Royal Opera and a private recital in the original Hamlet castle.
- Experience Operatunity's unique blend of stress-free travel delivered with care and love by Sue and John with a healthy dose of fun as we introduce you to one of the most diverse, picturesque, musically and historically rich regions of Europe.
- Wonder at some of the greatest castles of Europe including Frederiksborg, Kronburg and Peterhof. Learn about the history of the Tsars and the Vikings.
- So many cultural highlights include the State Hermitage Museum, Munch Museum, ABBA Museum, Vasa Museum, the famous Vigeland Sculpture Park and Sibelius House.



PLACES WE STAY

Copenhagen Admiral Hotel is located by the harbour, close to Nyhavn, next to the Amalienborg Palace, and facing the Opera House (harbour view rooms).

Scandic Victoria Hotel, Oslo is a centrally located hotel by parliament and within walking distance of Akershus Fortress.

The Kviknes Hotel, Balestrand lies on the shore of the Sognefjord and overlooks the fjord and the mountains.

Clarion Hotel Admiral, Bergen is a vibrant hotel in the heart of Bergen with a beautiful view over Bryggen and Mount Floyen.

Hotel Kung Carl BW Premiere Collection, Stockholm is Stockholm's oldest family run hotel in a central location close to designer shops, restaurants and many tourist attractions.

Hotel Haven, Helsinki is Finland's first member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World, set in the second oldest stone building in Helsinki.

Grand Hotel Europe, St Petersburg, considered one of the most luxurious hotels in the world. Situated in the heart of St Petersburg, it is within walking distance of the Winter Palace Square and the State Hermitage Museum.



Copenhagen Admiral Hotel



Hotel Haven, Helsinki



Kviknes Hotel, Balestrand



Grand Hotel Europe, St Petersburg



DUBAI (1 night plus early check in)
- Sheraton Dubai Mall of the Emirates

- Stopover in Dubai to rest with welcome dinner before beginning our wonderful trip, then a direct flight to Copenhagen.

COPENHAGEN (2 nights)
- Copenhagen Admiral Hotel

From the winding streets of the beautiful old town and grand royal palaces to the city's cutting-edge buildings and attractions, Copenhagen is the perfect blend of old world and new. Founded as a fishing village in the tenth century, Copenhagen has been the capital since the 15th century.

Highlights include:

- Special welcome dinner at Restaurant Zeleste.
- 5 hour guided tour of the city which includes the Amalienborg Palace, Christiansborg Palace, Hans Christian Andersen's statue, Gefion Fountain, the old harbour of Nyhavn and the famous Little Mermaid statue.

- The Tivoli Gardens and dinner at Paafuglen Restaurant in the Tivoli Gardens opened in 1843, the second oldest amusement park in the world.
- Copenhagen Opera performance (subject to availability).
- Full day tour to the castles of North Zealand which includes: beautiful countryside, Frederiksborg Castle, the Museum of National History, the collection of priceless paintings, silver and porcelain items, furniture and tapestries and the imposing Kronborg Castle, which was the setting of 'Hamlet', including a private Hamlet recitation.

COPENHAGEN - OSLO FERRY (1 night)

- Outside cabins with private facilities included plus dinner.



OSLO (2 nights) **- Scandic Victoria Hotel**

Oslo, the capital of Norway, sits on the country's southern coast at the head of the Oslofjord, and is known for its citywide green spaces and museums.

Highlights include:

- 7 hour sightseeing tour of Oslo including visits to the famous Vigeland Sculpture Park, Royal Castle, the Parliament building and Norsk Folkemuseum.
- A full day museum tour of Oslo including: guided tour of the Opera House, a visit to the Munch Museum featuring a large collection of paintings of the famous Norwegian painter and also the Nobel Peace Centre.

OSLO - MYRDAL - FLAM - BALESTRAND **Train and Ferry Journey**

Today we depart by train for our journey to the Norwegian Fjords. This journey is considered one of the best in the world and it links with the amazing Flåm Railway. The descent from Myrdal to Flåm offers opportunities for photo shots of exciting waterfalls and mountain scenery, then we take the ferry across the Sognefjord from Flåm to Balestrand.



BALESTRAND (2 nights) **- Kviknes Hotel**

Balestrand is a lush and beautiful village situated in the world's most beautiful adventureland. From here, three branches of the fjord stretch inland between fjord and mountain.

Highlights include:

- Lake view rooms at the beautiful Kviknes Hotel.
- Full day in the fjords including cruise along the fjord to Fjærland for a visit to the Norwegian Glacier Museum, Boya and Supphelle Glacier plus drive along the Sognefjord.

BERGEN (2 nights) **- Clarion Hotel Admiral**

Bergen is the second largest city in Norway and is the most popular gateway to the fjords of West Norway and is renowned for its beautiful scenery.

Highlights include:

- Troidhaugen, the home of the great composer Edvard Grieg, with concert in Grieg's house plus entrance to the exhibition and a guided tour through Edvard Grieg's villa.
- Ferry to Vangsnes and drive across the Vika Mountains via Voss to the magnificent Hardangerfjord.
- The mighty Vøringsfossen Waterfall with a vertical drop of 180m, the highest in Norway.
- Scenic tour alongside the beautiful Hardangerfjord, famous for its many fruit orchards.
- Tour of Bergen including the famous Fish and Flower Market, the old Bryggen Harbour, the popular Hanseatic Quarter and the ancient Maria Church, the funicular to Mount Fløyen with views of Bergen.



Parliament Buildings, Oslo

STOCKHOLM (4 nights) - Hotel Kung Carl BW Premiere Collection

This morning we fly to Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, which encompasses 14 islands of the vast Stockholm archipelago on the Baltic Sea. The cobblestone streets and ochre-coloured buildings of medieval Gamla Stan (the Old Town) are home to a 13th-century cathedral, the Royal Palace of Kungliga Slottet and its underground armory, cafes and restaurants.

Highlights include:

- An introductory city sightseeing tour of Stockholm with local guide including the Blue Hall where the Nobel Prize Banquet takes place, the Royal Palace, the Parliament buildings, the island of Djurgården and the Old Town.
- A 6 hour tour to Drottningholm Castle - a World Heritage Site, by cruise.
- Opera performance at the opera house (subject to availability).
- Day in the country and tours of Sigtuna, the oldest town in Stockholm and Uppsala Cathedral and historic centre.
- Visit to Vasa museum -the impressive warship Vasa sank on her maiden voyage in 1628 but was salvaged 333 years later in 1961. She has since been restored and can now be seen with her complete rigging at the Vasa Museum.
- Under the Bridges of Stockholm' canal tour.
- Visit to ABBA Museum which includes memorabilia and costumes worn by the group.



FERRY TO HELSINKI (1 night)

- Outside cabins with private facilities included plus dinner.

HELSINKI (2 nights)

- Hotel Haven

Helsinki, the capital of Finland, is a vibrant seaside city of beautiful islands and great green parks. The city's rhythm is laid back yet at the same time refreshingly active in terms of both the number and quality of restaurants and arts events.

Highlights include:

- 3 hour sightseeing tour of Helsinki - The Senate Square, Uspenski Cathedral, Parliament House, Finlandia Hall, University of Helsinki, New Opera House, Sibelius Park & Monument, Underground Temple.
- A full day tour out of Helsinki - the old wooden town of Porvoo, the second oldest town in Finland and Järvenpää where the composer Jean Sibelius composed five of his seven symphonies.



ST PETERSBURG (3 nights)

- Grand Hotel Europe

Saint Petersburg, Russia's cultural capital, was founded by Tsar Peter the Great in 1703. Much of the world's greatest literature, music & art have been inspired by the lavish architecture and extraordinary history and rich cultural traditions of this beautiful city.

Highlights include:

- The famous Allegro Train from Helsinki to St Petersburg.
- All major attractions in St Petersburg - The Russian Museum, the Cathedral of our Saviour on Spilt Blood, the Palace Square, the Winter Palace, the Menshikov Palace, the Bronze Horseman, St Isaac's Cathedral and Square, Peter and Paul Fortress, resting place of the Czars.
- Russian Folklore show at Nikolaevsky Palace.
- Visit and guided tour to the Hermitage Museum.
- *Swan Lake* at Catherine the Great's Private Theatre in the Hermitage (dependent on availability).
- Peterhof Palace including the lower parks with fountains.
- Farewell dinner with live music at the Grand Hotel Europe.
- A tour of the famous waterways of St Petersburg on a Neva Channel Cruise tour and visit Yusupov Palace, where Rasputin was famously murdered.

DUBAI (2 nights)

- Sheraton Mall of the Emirates Hotel

We have a direct flight from St Petersburg to Dubai and we will stopover here on the way home.





\$18,935 *per person
twin share*

Single Room supplement add \$5,280

Initial Deposit on booking **\$2,000**

Second Deposit due 13 December 2018 **\$3,000**

Final Balance due 11 February 2019

THIS TRIP INCLUDES:

- 24 day tour to Scandinavia and St Petersburg, including all accommodation in character filled hotels: 3 nights Dubai plus early check in, 2 nights Copenhagen, 2 nights Oslo, 2 nights Balestrand, 2 nights Bergen, 4 nights Stockholm, 2 nights Helsinki, 3 nights St Petersburg, 2 nights overnight ferries.
- 6 music concerts including Greig's house, Bergen, *Swan Lake*, St Petersburg, operas in Copenhagen, Stockholm and Oslo and Russian folklore (all subject to availability).
- City tours with local guides and all famous sights included in Copenhagen, Oslo, Bergen, Stockholm, Helsinki and St Petersburg.
- Numerous tours with special points of interest and flavour including entrances to Frederiksborg Castle, Hermitage Museum, Vasa Museum, ABBA Museum, Norsk Folkemuseum, Norwegian Glacier Museum and Drottningholm Castle.
- Out of city excursions including Sigtuna, Porvoo, Balestrand and Järvenpää.
- All transport including return international airfares (Emirates), regional airfares, all trains, ferries as stated in itinerary.
- Meals: all breakfasts, 10 lunches and 12 dinners, many with music and local flavour.
- Escorted by Sue and John Cameron. Limited to 30 travellers.

EXPLORING TOUR

This is still a moderately paced tour, but you will be required to walk longer distances, walk on cobblestones and stand in museums. To really get the best out of this tour you need to be able to stand or walk for a couple of hours comfortably, be it at a leisurely pace.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- All trips are subject to change but any changes will be of equal or greater value.
- Deposits refundable until final payment date minus any costs incurred, or an administration fee of up to \$150.
- Travellers need to be independently mobile and fit to travel.
- Travellers are required to obtain comprehensive travel insurance for all international trips.
- Please refer to terms & conditions on our booking form.



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