

# Iconic Capitals & Towns of the Baltic

From **17/06/2022**  
to **28/06/2022**

Ship: **LE CHAMPLAIN**

From **Saint Petersburg**  
to **Copenhagen**



At the heart of the **Baltic Sea**, discover the **emblematic towns and capitals** of the region, a blend of **History** and **sumptuous landscapes**. During this brand-new 12-day cruise aboard *Le Champlain*, fall under the spell of the majestic panoramas of northern Europe.

Your journey will start in the former capital of the tsars, Saint Petersburg. Architectural gems in the Baroque style, churches with domes so elaborate they seem otherworldly, palaces, gardens, canals, and the famous « perspectives » that criss-cross the city : at each street corner of **St Petersburg**, a new theatrical decor is revealed.

You will visit **Tallinn**, emblematic citie of the Hanseatic League, the large trading network that dominated the Baltic Sea for several centuries. Listed as UNESCO Heritage Site, this once opulent city still have remarkably well-preserved public buildings, merchant houses and warehouses.

Your ship will also call at **Helsinki**. Located on a peninsula surrounded by almost 300 islands, the verdant capital of Finland will charm you with its Art Nouveau architecture.

*Le Champlain* will then chart a course for **Stockholm**. Built on water, the Swedish capital embraces nature, which is omnipresent there. Its blend of medieval architecture, colourful houses and trendy neighbourhoods makes it a particularly enjoyable city to visit.

You will also discover **Riga**, capital of Latvia. A unique blend of different architectural styles, the old town will open itself up to you like the pages of a history book.

Further south, **Klaipeda**, formerly known as Memel, the main port town in Lithuania, is separated only by a narrow channel from the Curonian Spit, a UNESCO Heritage.

Your ship will call at **Gdansk**, famous for its amber stone and its shipyards, before reaching the seaside town of **Warnemünde**, renowned for its kilometres of beaches and its charming fishing port.

Your journey will conclude in the Danish capital, **Copenhagen**.



The information in this document is valid as of 27/01/2022

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## YOUR STOPOVERS :

### SAINT PETERSBURG

Embarkation 17/06/2022 from 16:00 to 17:00

Departure 18/06/2022 at 23:59

Founded in 1703 by Tzar Peter the Great, **Saint Petersburg** has kept its original aura and is still one of the world's most beautiful cities. It is listed as a UNESCO world heritage site. Bathed by the waters of the Neva, the "**Venice of the North**" boasts an impressive wealth of historic and artistic features. From the emblematic **Nevsky Prospect**, the city's main thoroughfare, exploring the city by foot is a pleasure. With its baroque cathedrals, imperial palaces, suspended bridges, theatres and museums, Saint Petersburg is a jewel of a city.

### TALLINN

Arrival 19/06/2022 midday

Departure 19/06/2022 early evening

Opening onto the Baltic sea, to the far north of Estonia, the town of **Tallin** will win you over with the picturesque charm of its architecture. You can meander through its little streets in the heart of the medieval centre where its gothic **town hall** has been standing since 1404. The **Kiek in de Kōk tower**, the **Orthodox Alexander Nevski cathedral**, or **Toompea castle** give visitors a taste of this town's rich past. The city was particularly active during the medieval period, as is demonstrated by the very beautiful monuments from this period that are still visible. Don't hesitate to lose yourself in the heart of Tallinn, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

### HELSINKI

Arrival 20/06/2022 early morning

Departure 20/06/2022 midday

Seated in the southern peninsula of Finland, **Helsinki** offers the buzz of a cosmopolitan city that has opted for both elegance and beauty. Explore its historical centre where the soft hues of neoclassical buildings are juxtaposed with spectacular modern constructions. The bustling **Kallio** district is teeming with boutiques and restaurants where you can taste some local specialities like graavilohi - a sweet, marinated, aromatic salmon dish. **Keskuspuisto** park, a stone's throw from the centre, is a good place to sit and unwind.

### STOCKHOLM

Arrival 21/06/2022 early morning

Departure 21/06/2022 late evening

The capital of Sweden occupies an archipelago in the east of the country at the junction of Mälär Lake and the Baltic sea. In **Gamla stan**, meaning "old town" in Swedish, you can stroll at your leisure in picturesque medieval streets until

you reach the majestic Royal Palace. On the green island of **Djurgården**, you can visit several very different kinds of cultural centres: the Vasa museum is dedicated to a 17th century three-mast, the ecomuseum of Skansen presents traditional customs, and the ABBA museum is dedicated to the legendary pop group. For a fantastic, all-encompassing view of Stockholm, you can take a ride in **SkyView**, a glass-encased sphere gondola that takes you to the top of the world's largest building, the Ericsson Globe, a Stockholm landmark.

## AT SEA

Arrival 22/06/2022

Departure 22/06/2022

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

## RIGA

Arrival 23/06/2022 early morning

Departure 23/06/2022 midday

At the place where East meets West on the edge of the Baltic Sea, **Riga**, the capital of Latvia, will charm you with its contrasts. Although it is one of the oldest cities in the **Baltic states**, with a unique atmosphere that is imbued with the memory of its medieval past, Riga is also tangibly dynamic and modern. As you stroll through its **old town**, you will enjoy its exceptional architecture, its cathedrals, the remains of old walls and the typical narrow streets. Nicknamed "the Paris of the North" in the 1930s, this cosmopolitan city boasts a rich heritage.

## KLAIPEDA

Arrival 24/06/2022 midday

Departure 24/06/2022 early evening

Klaipeda was founded in the 13th century by Christian crusaders from the German Order of Teutonic Knights. Its strategic location on the edge of the Baltic Sea has made it a source of conflict between Germans, Poles, Lithuanians and even the French since its creation. Today, the legacy of Klaipeda's rich history is a great multiculturalism. This is the main port of Lithuania and the country's third largest city. The beautiful landscapes of the surrounding Baltic coast make it a popular tourist destination. The city centre is very pleasant to visit due to its architecture blending German and Scandinavian influences.

## GDANSK

Arrival 25/06/2022 early morning

Departure 25/06/2022 midday

This ravishing city on the Baltic sea is nicknamed “the golden door of Poland”, and you’ll understand why when you see its beautiful Hanseatic architecture. You’ll be charmed by the mouldings and gables that enhance the colourful façades of the houses. Along the **Vistula Quays**, you can take a pleasant stroll among the crafts shops. In elegant Mariacka street, the **amber jewellers** will most certainly tempt you into their boutiques. You can visit the church of Saint-Mary and its astronomic clock. Not far, the majestic Long Market square offers the famous Artus Court and the rich Gdansk History Museum.

## WARNEMÜNDE (ROSTOCK)

Arrival 26/06/2022 midday

Departure 26/06/2022 evening

Located at the estuary of the Warnow river, **Warnemunde** is a highly popular German seaside resort on the Baltic Sea. This 12th-century fishing village became a port of crucial importance to the economy of the **Hanseatic City of Rostock** in the 14th century. Today, the old fishermen’s houses have become shops and cafés, and beautiful mansions line the promenade. You will also be able to discover Rostock, where the city-centre architecture and the ramparts, built of bricks from Brandenburg, are a reminder of the city’s position in the Hanseatic League. Succumb to the charms of the merchant houses around New Market Square or of Saint Mary’s Church and its astronomical clock.

## COPENHAGEN

Arrival 27/06/2022 early morning

Disembarkation 28/06/2022 at 07:00

Connected to the far eastern side of Sealand island, a few kilometres away from the Swedish coasts, **Copenhagen** offers you the high colour of Scandinavian capitals. You can discover the city’s riches that weaves through the canal networks through the historical districts of **Christiansborg** and **Nyhavn**. Many palaces provide an apercu of Danish history. For eating, you can try out the smorrebrod, traditional danish sandwiches made with ham, cheese or smoked fish.