

SUMMER IN THE  
ISLANDS AND CITIES OF THE  
**BALTIC**

A VOYAGE FROM COPENHAGEN TO STOCKHOLM  
ABOARD THE MS SERENISSIMA  
18<sup>TH</sup> TO 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019



NOBLE CALEDONIA



Join us on a voyage of discovery as we explore the eight nations of the Baltic. Nations who speak different languages, have a diverse culture and cuisine, worship in different churches, yet are united by a single sea. The cities of the Baltic offer a cornucopia of delights: whether it be the grandeur of St Petersburg and its surrounding country estates, the newly independent Baltic states and their capitals with marvellously untouched Medieval quarters, or the sheer delight of Scandinavian ports with their colourful architecture and a freshness that is unique to the area.

Having operated voyages in the Baltic for over twenty five years, we believe this in-depth journey offers the perfect balance of time to explore cities, towns and islands during the included excursions combined with some time to relax or explore at leisure. A highlight for many will be the fact that we have included three days in the magnificent city of St Petersburg, enough time to explore the city's many wonders. We also visit some smaller ports which the big cruise vessels are unable to access such as the islands of Christianso and Bornholm in Denmark and the Estonian Island of Saaremaa, a gem with its Medieval Episcopal castle and timeless countryside.

Whether your interest lies in the region's Viking and Medieval history or the more recent events of the breakaway Baltic States, it is an endlessly fascinating region and our expert local guides and guest speaker will add much to your knowledge and understanding of this intriguing region.



## The Itinerary

**Day 1 London to Copenhagen, Denmark.** Fly by scheduled flight to Copenhagen and on arrival transfer to the MS Serenissima. Enjoy drinks and dinner as we sail this evening.

**Day 2 Christianso & Bornholm Island.** Over breakfast we arrive at the tiny island of Christianso, the easternmost part of Denmark. Using Zodiacs to land we will see the old fortress of King Christian V and learn about the island's past including its history as an island prison. Today, it is a very special and peaceful place and on the bird sanctuary of Grasholmen, thousands of herring gulls, razorbill and guillemot breed. Over lunch we sail to neighbouring Bornholm. Peaceful and scenic, Bornholm Island is a mixture of wheat fields, forests and an attractive coast dotted with fishing villages. On an island drive we will see the famous 12th century Osterlars

Round Church and visit the town of Gudjem where we can sample the smoked herring. Also see Hammerhaus Castle offering fantastic views of the island's rugged coastline. Alternatively you may wish to hire a bicycle and explore at your own pace. Please note that we will be at anchor at Christianso and Bornholm and, weather permitting, will use Zodiacs to go ashore.

**Day 3 Gdansk, Poland.** We have a full day in this charming city. This old Hanseatic port's 1000 years of history have left a collection of buildings and monuments designed in Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque styles. On a morning tour we will walk along the cobbled streets of the Royal Way in the old quarter and view the elaborate architecture before ending at the 15th century merchant's palace of Artus Court. Also see the pride

of Gdansk, Gothic St. Mary's, which is the world's largest brick church, accommodating some 25,000 worshippers. This afternoon is free for further independent exploration. Alternatively join a full day tour starting with a drive to Malbork Castle, passing through the colourful countryside and small traditional villages that have remained unchanged for many years. Malbork Castle is a large Medieval castle and one of the oldest castles in Poland dating from 1274, when the Teutonic Knights created an impressive stone fortress which included a labyrinth of chambers, dungeons and towers. We will explore the castle complex and its exhibition halls displaying an array of armoury, ceramics and sculptures. After lunch we return to Gdansk for a walking tour in the old town before returning to the ship for dinner and sailing this evening.

**Day 4 Klaipeda, Lithuania.** Founded in 1252 by the Teutonic Knights of East Prussia, Klaipeda was annexed by Hitler in 1939 and almost destroyed towards the end of World War II. Today we have a choice of touring options. You may wish to head into the countryside where we will experience village life hearing about the times of collective farming during the Soviet era and the changes that have taken place since independence. Also visit the Memorial Museum dedicated to Lithuanians sent to Siberia or who fought against the Soviets during the Cold War years. Alternatively we will drive to the amber centre of Palanga. A stroll through the Botanical Park with its 500 varieties of trees and bushes takes you to the Amber Museum, housed in a 19th century neo-Renaissance-style mansion. Return to the Old Town for a walking tour. From beautiful Theatre Square,



explore the narrow streets that meander between the charming half-timbered houses and shops.

**Day 5 Riga, Latvia.** This morning we will explore Latvia's capital by foot. Founded in the 13th century it became one of the most successful trading cities of the Baltic. Discover the Old Town with its Medieval streets lined with Hanseatic warehouses and punctuated with Gothic and Baroque churches including St Peter Cathedral, the largest Medieval church in the Baltic. Spend an afternoon exploring independently before enjoying a special private classical concert at the stunning 16th century Rundale Palace, one of the most outstanding monuments of Baroque and Rococo art in Northern Europe.

**Day 6 Parnu, Estonia.** Established in 1265, the Hanseatic town of New Parnu has been a market town, a fortress, a university town, an industrial and administrative centre as well as a resort town. A morning walk through the town will include the 14th century Red Tower and Mary-Magdalena Guild before we head into the Estonian countryside. We will stop at the Kurgja Farm museum and take a lunch of locally grown produce before continuing to Viljandi, one of the oldest towns in Estonia, situated on the shores of a beautiful lake which was historically one of the key strongholds in Livonia. We will see the 13th century castle that overlooks the town before exploring the ancient cobbled streets where we find museums and galleries. Return to the ship via

the picturesque landscape of the Soomaa National Park. Alternatively spend time at the Tamme Farm where we visit the herb garden and hear about the alternative growing methods used here before trying some of the locally grown herbal teas, jams and vegetables.

**Day 7 Saaremaa Island.** After a relaxing morning at sea we arrive at Estonia's largest island which offers a glimpse of a bygone age. Untouched by industry it is a green and very pleasant land dotted with attractive villages in a rolling forested landscape. During an afternoon drive we will visit the lovely capital Kuressaare with its magnificent Medieval castle and stroll through the streets of the enchanting old town. Continue inland on a journey that will take you back in time through a countryside of stone walls, thatched roofs, traditional villages and windmills.

**Day 8 Tallinn.** Arrive this morning in the historic maritime city of Tallinn with its awe-inspiring city walls and fortifications, narrow Medieval streets and the gateways which remain remarkably well preserved. In the Upper Town we will enjoy the views from Dome Hill with the extraordinary vista of domes, spires and gables and see Toompea Castle, once a fortress, and now the seat of the Estonian Parliament. Walking to the Lower Old Town we will visit the main square where we will find the oldest pharmacy in Europe, the Gothic Cathedral and the 15th century Town Hall. Either return to the ship for lunch or remain in the city for some leisure

time before we sail in the late afternoon.

**Day 9 to 11 St Petersburg, Russia.** We have the luxury of three days to explore this most endlessly captivating of Russian cities. Founded in 1703 by Peter the Great, St Petersburg is a fascinating mix of classic and Baroque architecture on a network of canals. We will be offering a number of tours during our time here including visits to the Peter and Paul Fortress, the wonderful Peterhof Palace and Gardens, the fascinating Hermitage Museum, Catherine Palace at Pushkin and a canal cruise through the city. In your free time you may wish to join the optional excursion to Yusupov Palace, the famed scene of Rasputin's murder, or attend a folklore show. For anyone wishing to visit the ballet one evening we will be able to assist with bookings

once the schedules for the theatres are released and we hope to send details prior to departure.

**Day 12 Helsinki, Finland.** This morning a guided city tour will take us to the colourful Market Square, the President's Palace and the impressive architecture of Senate Square including the Lutheran Cathedral of Finland and Uspenski Cathedral. We continue to the Sibelius Monument before returning to the MS Serenissima for lunch. Maybe join a lecture or find a spot on deck to relax as we spend the afternoon at sea.

**Day 13 Stockholm, Sweden to London.** At first light we will be sailing through the many islands of the Swedish archipelago into Stockholm. Disembark after breakfast and transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

## PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Cat	Cabin Description	Brochure Price
2	Standard Stateroom	£4995
3	Classic Stateroom	£5195
4	Superior Stateroom	£5695
5	Deluxe Stateroom	£6295
6	Junior Suite	£6795
7	Owner's Suite	£7195
8	Serenissima Suite	£8195
10	Standard Single	£6495

**PRICE INCLUDES:** Economy class scheduled air travel • 12 nights aboard the MS Serenissima on a full board basis, house wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner on board • Noble Caledonia onboard team including Guest Speaker • Shore excursions • Gratuities • Transfers • Port taxes • Group Russian visa.

**Not Included:** Travel insurance, optional excursions in St Petersburg.



Bornholm Island



Klaipeda



Windmills of Saaremaa Island

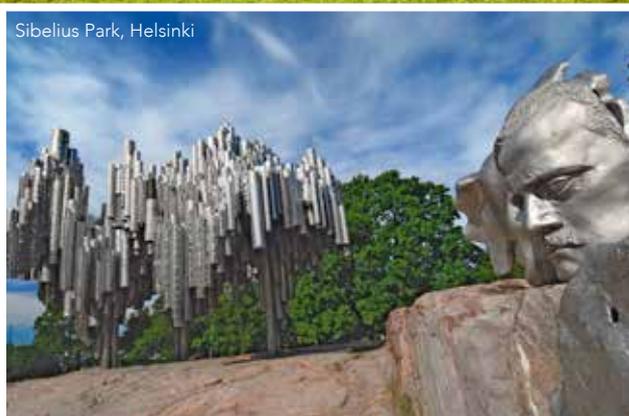
## Post-Cruise Extension



Stockholm old town



Royal Palace



Sibelius Park, Helsinki

## Post-Cruise Stockholm Extension

30<sup>th</sup> July to 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019

If you wish to explore Stockholm in more depth after disembarking the MS Serenissima, we are offering a two night extension which includes an orientation tour as well as time at leisure to explore this fascinating city.

### The Itinerary

**Day 1 Stockholm.** Disembark this morning and enjoy a tour of this handsome city, known as the 'city on the water'. See the Vasa Museum built around the 17th century warship which sank in Stockholm's inner harbour on her maiden voyage in 1628; its discovery in 1956 and subsequent salvage in 1961 is one of the most important events in marine archaeology. In addition to the well-preserved, elaborately decorated hull, thousands of items from the ship, including hundreds of sculptures, have been recovered. We will drive through old Stockholm and past the Parliament Building and Royal Palace which overlooks the inner harbour before arriving at our hotel for our two night stay. The remainder of the afternoon and evening are free for independent exploration.

**Day 2 Stockholm.** Enjoy a full day to explore Stockholm at your own pace.

**Day 3 Stockholm to London.** After breakfast in the hotel we will transfer to the airport for our scheduled flight to London.

### PRICES PER PERSON

Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£595** Single: **£895**

**Price Includes:** Two nights accommodation in Stockholm in a central four-star hotel on a bed and breakfast basis, half day city tour, gratuities, Tour Manager, transfers from the vessel to hotel and hotel to airport.

**Not included:** Travel insurance.



Tallinn

# MS SERENISSIMA



Harald Lounge



On Deck



The Restaurant

The charming MS Serenissima began her career as the Harald Jarl, cruising the Norwegian coastline and fjords. Since 2003, when she was extensively renovated, she has been operating as a classic cruise ship. Previously known as the MS Andrea, she was upgraded again in 2013 and started her new life as the MS Serenissima. With her small size she can navigate into small, remote ports inaccessible to the big cruise ships and appears an impressive sight when moored. With her fleet of Zodiacs, she is capable of both destination and expedition cruising. In December 2018, the vessel will once again undergo a significant refurbishment and, after a re-configuration of the deck plan will accommodate a maximum of just 95 guests.

## Your Cabin/Suite

Accommodating no more than 95 passengers, the cabins are attractively designed for comfort and convenience. All cabins are fully air conditioned with an en-suite bathroom with shower and a selection of toiletries in addition to a hairdryer, robes and slippers. All cabins come equipped with telephone, flat screen television, safety deposit box and other thoughtful appointments. Bottles of still and sparkling water are provided and replenished daily. From January 2019, there will be eight different grades of cabin arranged over five decks, and all feature either windows or portholes. Because of the very nature of the ship, the cabins do vary in shape and size, adding to the vessel's overall charm.



## Your Dining

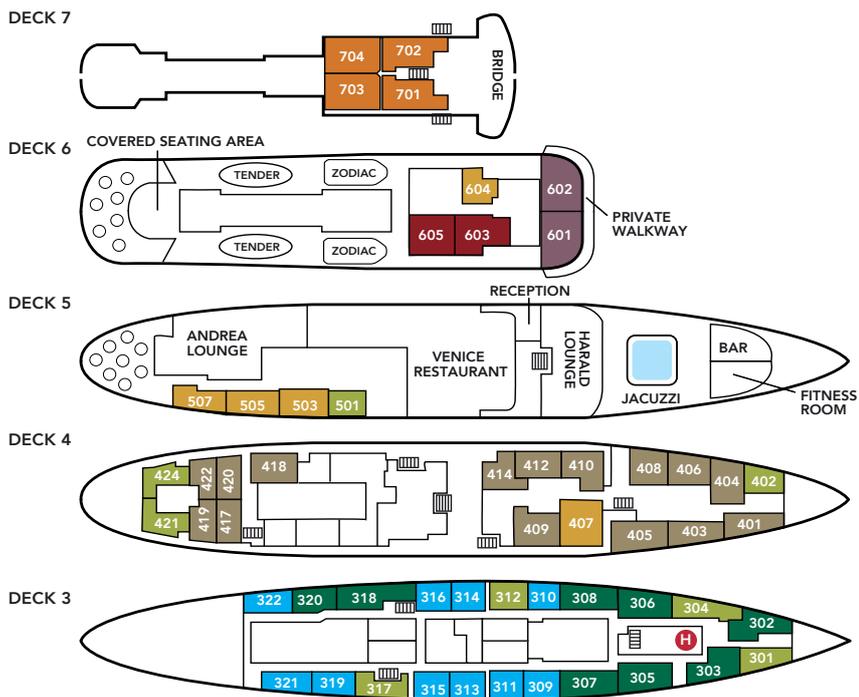
The free seating Venice Restaurant accommodates all guests in one sitting and, with its Deck 5 location, all of the tables benefit from great views. The picture windows also make the restaurant wonderfully light and airy. Breakfast is served buffet-style with cooked dishes available and eggs to order by the ship's accomplished chef. Lunch is also served buffet-style with hot and cold dishes available. Dinner is

served a la carte and is four courses, except at the Captain's Dinner, which is a six course affair. Where possible, local produce is sourced for an authentic dining experience. A choice of red or white wine, beer, soft drinks, and water is included at lunch and dinner. In good weather there are al fresco dining facilities available and tea and coffee are available around the clock in the Andrea Lounge.

## Your Space

The facilities on board include two lounges – the larger Andrea Lounge is comfortable and spacious and the smaller Harald Lounge is more intimate. There is also a small library and Wi-Fi is available at an extra cost throughout the vessel. The outside areas really are something special. A spacious observation deck allows 360 degree views of the passing scenery. From here, step down to the lido area with Jacuzzi and outside bar. The covered seating area at the back of Deck 6 is ideal for relaxing with a drink in hand. Perhaps, one of the best known and loved features of this vessel is its unique style. During the major refit in Sweden the then owners commissioned Swedish interior designers to create a Gustavian style interior. This bright Swedish 18th century influenced, country house style works particularly well on a vessel of this vintage, providing intimacy and a classic nautical sensibility often lacking in larger vessels.

MS SERENISSIMA DECK PLAN & CABINS



- STANDARD STATEROOM
- CLASSIC STATEROOM
- SUPERIOR STATEROOM
- DELUXE STATEROOM
- JUNIOR SUITE
- OWNER'S SUITE
- SERENISSIMA SUITE
- STANDARD SINGLE

NB. Please note cabin sizes vary in each category and measurements shown are approximate.



**SERENISSIMA SUITE**  
(25 square metres)



**OWNER'S SUITE**  
(22 square metres)



**JUNIOR SUITE**  
(21 square metres)



**DELUXE STATEROOM**  
(15 to 25 square metres)



**SUPERIOR STATEROOM**  
(11.5 to 18 square metres)



**CLASSIC STATEROOM**  
(14 to 19 square metres)



**STANDARD STATEROOM**  
(10 to 11.5 square metres)



**STANDARD SINGLE**  
(7 to 12.5 square metres)



**NOBLE CALEDONIA**

2 Chester Close, Belgravia, London, SW1X 7BE  
 +44 (0)20 7752 0000 | info@noble-caledonia.co.uk | www.noble-caledonia.co.uk

