

Scandinavia, Britain & Ireland

Depart Cairns 12 September at 10.45AM arrive Singapore 3.25PM – Silk air

Depart Singapore 12 September at 11.50PM arrive Copenhagen 13 September at 6.25AM – Singapore airlines

Commence the following tour in Copenhagen on the 13 September and ending in Stockholm on the 25 September

Day 1 Arrive In Copenhagen, Denmark

Check into your hotel. The rest of the day is free to explore the Danish capital. Tonight, meet your Tour Director and fellow travellers. (D)

Day 2

Copenhagen

Enjoy a day at leisure in the capital of the oldest kingdom in the world. Besides many interesting landmarks and architectural masterpieces, see some of the more famous sites on your orientation drive, including the legendary Little Mermaid statue. An optional tour of Zealand's castles is also available. (B)

Day 3

Copenhagen - Odense - Frederikshavn

After breakfast, start the journey northwards, enjoying the drive across the GREAT BELT BRIDGE, which will connect you to the fairytale island of Funen. Stop in Odense, Hans Christian Andersen's hometown, and via the Little Belt waterway, head for Frederikshavn on the rural Jutland Peninsula. (B/D)

Day 4

Frederikshavn - Gothenburg, Sweden - Oslo, Norway

Take a pleasant FERRY ride from Frederikshavn across the strategic Kattegat to Gothenburg, Sweden's thriving second-largest city and one of Europe's major seaports. After an orientation drive, follow the inland route and cross into Norway. Evening arrival in Oslo. (B)

Day 5

Oslo - Telemark Area

Gustav Vigeland's sculptures are among the highlights of the included Oslo sightseeing tour; also see the soaring CITY HALL/ National Theatre, Broadcasting House, Parliament, and Akershus Castle. In the afternoon, drive through the Telemark region, where you spend the night. (B/D)

Day 6

Telemark Area - Vemork - Bergen

Take the scenic route for a visit to Vemork, where the heavy water plant was blown up by a commando unit of British and Norwegians known as the Heroes of Telemark. Visit the VEMORK MUSEUM, then proceed through the Telemark region with its lakes, winding valleys, and rugged gorges backed by towering mountains. FERRY across the Hardangerfjord from Utne to Kvanndal. Continue to Bergen, Norway's picture-perfect Hanseatic seaport. En route, a picture stop at Steindalsfossen Waterfall. (B)

Day 7

Bergen

Built on seven hills with the fjords on one side and 304 metre (1,000-foot) Mount Fløyen on the other, Bergen was the home of composer Grieg. Spend the day exploring at leisure, or join the optional sightseeing excursion, which takes in the main sites, and also a panoramic view of the city from one of the surrounding hills. (B)

Day 8

Bergen - Sognefjord Cruise - Fagernes Area

More spectacular scenery as you drive towards the Sognefjord, where you embark for a breathtaking CRUISE on one of Norway's mightiest fjords. On to the Fagernes area. (B/D)

Day 9

Fagernes Area - Lillehammer - Karlstad, Sweden

First to Lillehammer, the mountain resort that hosted the 1994 Winter Olympics, then, a scenic drive along beautiful Lake Mjøsa. Continue towards Sweden through Värmland's unspoiled wilderness of forest and lakes to Karlstad, located by Sweden's largest lake, Lake Vänern. (B)

Day 10

Karlstad - Mariefred - Stockholm

Leave Karlstad and head east towards Stockholm via idyllic Mariefred. Here, view majestic Gripsholm Castle, built in an enchanting rural setting. On to the Swedish capital. Its beauty is due to its unique setting on 14 islands between Lake Mälaren and the Baltic Sea. (B)

Day 11

Stockholm

This is perhaps the most beautiful of the Scandinavian capitals, because the crystalline waters that flow through its intersecting canals give a luminous appearance to palaces, castles, and parks. Your city sightseeing takes in all the highlights including CITY HALL. (B/D)

Day 12

Stockholm

Your holiday ends with breakfast this morning. (B)

Depart Stockholm 25 September at 11.15AM arrive London 12.55PM – Scandinavian airlines

Accommodation: Corus Hotel Hyde Park IN: 25 September OUT: 29 September

Commence the following tour in London on the 29 September and ending in London on the 22 October

Day 1

Arrive In London, England

Check into your hotel. In the afternoon, there's time to rest or to start exploring the lively British capital; uniformed hosts are available to help you OXFORD UNIVERSITY make the most of your stay.

Day 2

London

What's your pleasure? Today is devoted to exploring on your own or enjoying our exciting program of optional activities. You may choose to join a Local Guide for an optional morning sightseeing tour of the city's famous landmarks: the Houses of Parliament and Big Ben, Westminster Abbey, Whitehall's mounted horseguards and the Prime Minister's Downing Street residence, Piccadilly Circus, and Buckingham Palace. The highlight is a visit to St. Paul's Cathedral, Sir Christopher Wren's masterpiece built between 1675 and 1708. Later, maybe visit Windsor Castle or the Tower of London with its spectacular Crown Jewels. Tonight, dinner followed by a leisurely cruise on the Thames River would be fun! (B)

Day 3

London - Oxford - Stratford-Upon-Avon - Coventry

Meet your Tour Director and travelling companions and depart at 8 am for a memorable day of sightseeing: a photo opportunity at Hampton Court Palace; Runnymede, where King John sealed the Magna Carta; a walking tour in Oxford, one of the country's oldest seats of learning; and skirting the Cotswold Hills to Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon. Take photos of Anne Hathaway's Cottage and explore the town at your own pace. Overnight near [Coventry](#). (B/D)

Day 4

Coventry - York - Newcastle

Leave the Midlands and head north to [York](#), England's most complete medieval city. Stand in awe in front of the great structure of York Minster, then follow your Tour Director through a maze of quaint streets, including the narrow Shambles. Stop for the night in Newcastle, once an important centre for the wool trade and coal mining and now a vibrant, modern city. (B)

Day 5

Newcastle - Berwick - Upon - Tweed - North Berwick, Scotland - Edinburgh

On your way to Scotland, drive along the picturesque coastline to Berwick-upon-Tweed, situated just south of the Scottish border. This peaceful town suffered a turbulent past, and its Elizabethan walls, built to keep invading Scots from entering the town, could tell a colourful tale. Stop for photographs of the Firth of Forth in pretty North Berwick before arriving in [Edinburgh](#). Later, a unique optional experience: board the former Royal Yacht Britannia, which was once the perfect royal residence for glittering state visits and family holidays. Tour five decks and see how the Royal Family and crew of 240 lived and worked on board. Dinner rounds off this optional evening. (B)

Day 6

Edinburgh

A full day to enjoy the Scottish capital. Morning sightseeing with a Local Guide introduces you to the 200-year-old "New Town," home to famous scientists, inventors, and novelists. In the "Old Town," visit EDINBURGH CASTLE to admire Scotland's Crown Jewels. Afternoon at leisure. A suggestion for this evening: a traditional Scottish night out, with Highland dancers, bagpipers, and, of course, the Ceremony of the Haggis. (B)

Day 7

Edinburgh - St. Andrews - Pitlochry - Culloden Moor - Inverness - Strathpeffer

A day of memorable sightseeing. Take the elegant Forth Road Bridge to St. Andrews, whose Royal and Ancient Golf Club has given us the rules of golfing, then cross the Firth of Tay and via Dundee and Perth, head into the Highlands, with a stop in the Victorian mountain resort of Pitlochry. Cross the battlefield of Culloden Moor with its memories of Bonnie Prince Charlie, then via Inverness, head for your Highland destination. (B/D)

Day 8

Strathpeffer. West Coast Excursion

More spectacular Scottish scenery: Dornoch Firth, the Kyle of Sutherland, the Falls of Shin, the Mountains of Assynt, and Knockan Crag. Then, follow Strath Oykel for a visit to Ullapool, a remote fishing harbour on Loch Broom, before returning along Loch Glascarnoch. Our recommendation for this afternoon: join the optional Loch Ness Experience, which includes a cruise on the loch, followed by supper. (B)

Day 9

Strathpeffer - Isle Of Skye - Fort William - Glasgow

More heather-clad moors as you drive through the western Highlands to Lochalsh and the Inner Hebridean Isle of Skye. The route back to the mainland is by FERRY across the Sound of Sleat to Mallaig, then breathtaking scenery all the way to Fort William beneath Ben Nevis. Glen Coe, where the MacDonald Clan was massacred in 1692, and a drive along the "Bonnie Banks" of Loch Lomond are scenic highlights on the way to Glasgow, Scotland's great cultural city. (B/D)

Day 10

Glasgow - Alloway - Belfast, Northern Ireland

On this morning's orientation drive through Scotland's largest city, see the fine 12th-century cathedral, imposing university buildings, and elegant Georgian squares, built by wealthy tobacco barons. Later, stop at Alloway, the birthplace of Robert Burns, before boarding the FERRY for the Irish Sea crossing to Belfast. (B)

Day 11

Belfast - Giant's Causeway - Derry - Belleek - Sligo, Ireland

Take the scenic route along the Antrim Coast to awe-inspiring GIANT'S CAUSEWAY, then let the province's story unfold as you head for the city of Derry. Later, visit BELLEEK POTTERY, renowned for its exquisite creamcoloured Parian china, before arriving in Sligo, tonight's destination. (B/D)

Day 12

Sligo - Galway - Cliffs Of Moher - Ennis

Travel south to Galway, a popular seaside destination and a buzzing cosmopolitan centre with colourful shops and a busy café and bar culture. Then, cross the limestone plateau of The Burren to visit the spectacular 668-foot CLIFFS OF MOHER. Tonight, a chance to attend an optional medieval banquet at a historic castle. (B)

Day 13

Ennis - Dingle Peninsula - Killarney

Via Clonderlaw Bay to Killimer for the FERRY across the Shannon estuary. Breathtaking scenery this afternoon on the Dingle Peninsula, where the 51-kilometre (32-mile) Sleat Head drive affords magnificent vistas of the Atlantic Ocean. Afternoon arrival in Killarney, your destination for the next two nights. (B/D)

Day 14

Killarney. Ring Of Kerry Excursion

At Killorglin, join the road known as the [RING OF KERRY](#) for a 160-kilometre (100-mile) coastal panoramic drive featuring sparkling seascapes, mountains dotted with brightly coloured farmhouses, winding lanes bordered with subtropical vegetation, and spectacular views of the Lakes of Killarney. Then, a special optional adventure: take a horse-drawn jaunting car along the national park

lakeshore for pictures of Ross Castle. Later, enjoy the optional outing to Tralee for dinner and a performance at Siamsa Tire, Ireland's National Folk Theatre. (B)

Day 15

Killarney - Blarney - Dungarvan - Tramore

More scenic splendour as you head into County Cork. Stop in [Blarney](#), famous for its Stone of Eloquence, with time at your leisure to see the castle, and shop for Irish crafts and handmade crystal. After lunch, drive past Cork, the country's second-largest city. Finally, pass Dungarvan and travel along the Copper Coast to the seaside resort of Tramore. Tonight, maybe join an optional pub tour before dinner at your hotel. (B/D)

Day 16

Tramore - Waterford - Kilkenny - Dublin

On your northbound journey pause in Waterford, famous for its exquisite crystal, and visit Kilkenny, one of Ireland's prettiest towns with medieval cobblestone streets and Old-World charm. Afternoon arrival in Dublin-top off the day with an optional Irish cabaret evening including dinner, dance, song, and laughter. (B)

Day 17

Dublin

A day in the "Fair City" starts off with an orientation drive through Ireland's capital and includes statue-lined O'Connell Street, elegant Georgian squares, and St. Patrick's Cathedral. The rest of the day is free to enjoy Dublin at leisure. This evening's optional dinner excursion is to the famous Guinness Storehouse. (B)

Day 18

Dublin - Llangollen, Wales - Wrexham

Take the FERRY across the Irish Sea to Holyhead on the Welsh Isle of Anglesey with its tongue-twisting names. Enjoy the best of North Wales on a scenic drive through Snowdonia National Park, including spectacular Llanberis Pass. Then, on to Llangollen, home of an annual national competition for poets and musicians, before arriving in Wrexham. Later, why not join an optional excursion by barge along the Llangollen Canal? (B/D)

Day 19

Wrexham - Builth Wells - Brecon - Cardiff

A day dedicated to Wales as you head south through the ancient market town of Builth Wells and Brecon Beacons National Park, land of salmon rivers and the Welsh mountain pony. In Cardiff, an orientation drive takes in Cathays Park with its splendid civic buildings and Cardiff Castle. Tonight's optional excursion is an evening of Welsh entertainment and dinner. (B)

Day 20

Cardiff - Bath, England - Glastonbury - Widecombe - Plymouth

Across the Severn Bridge to the elegant Georgian city of [Bath](#), famed for its Roman relics. Into the West Country via Glastonbury and its associations with King Arthur, and wild and romantic Dartmoor with a visit to the picture-book village of Widecombe-in-the-Moor. Upon arrival in Plymouth, hear about Sir Francis Drake and see the Mayflower Steps, where the Pilgrim Fathers embarked in 1620. (B/D)

Day 21

Plymouth. Looe Excursion

Today's excursion takes you to the pretty fishing village and former smuggler's port of Looe. Then, follow in the footsteps of Drake, Raleigh, and the Pilgrim Fathers on an optional cruise on Plymouth Sound, one of the world's greatest natural harbours. (B)

Day 22

Plymouth - Stonehenge - Brighton

An interesting day heading into Thomas Hardy's Wessex and a visit to intriguing, prehistoric **STONEHENGE**. Explore the visitor centre with its imaginative exhibitions, then admire the magnificence of the monument up close. Via Arundel, dominated by the Duke of Norfolk's huge castle, continue on to the seaside resort of Brighton for an overnight stay. (B/D)

Day 23

Brighton - London

A leisurely last day with time this morning for a seafront promenade stroll and out onto the famous Brighton Pier; a walk along The Lanes, a quaint area of narrow streets renowned for its antique shops; or even a flight on the i360, the world's tallest moving observation tower, to enjoy spectacular views over the beautiful South Coast. Return to London in the early afternoon. How about celebrating the success of your tour with a night out on the town? (B)

Day 24

London

Your holiday ends with breakfast this morning. (B)

Depart London 22 October at 11.25AM arrive Singapore 23 October at 7.30AM – Singapore airlines
Depart Singapore 23 October at 8.45AM arrive Cairns 5.15PM – Silk air

Cost per person \$10,150*pp and includes the following:

Airfares

Airport taxes

12-day tour of Scandinavia including breakfast and 5 dinners

24-day tour of Britain and Ireland including breakfast and 9 dinners,

Sightseeing as per itineraries

4 nights accommodation in London