

MUSEUM  
TRAVEL  
ALLIANCE



# Treasures of Northern Europe, Medieval to Modern

England to Denmark Aboard *Ocean Albatros*

April 27 – May 7, 2024

## CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

**SAIL** from England to Scandinavia aboard the brand-new *Ocean Albatros*, which has more than a 50% lower carbon footprint than traditional expedition vessels

**STEP** ashore in northern Europe's most enchanting cities—including Bruges, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Berlin, and Copenhagen, as well as the sparkling, lesser-known Hanseatic cities of Groningen in Holland and Lübeck in Germany

**EXPERIENCE** Holland's tulip season at the magnificent Keukenhof Gardens and tour museums exclusively opened for us, such as Amsterdam's Van Gogh Museum or The Hague's Mauritshuis, home to masterpieces by Vermeer, Rembrandt, and others

**DELIGHT** in a private rooftop lunch and attend a performance (*pending confirmation*) at Hamburg's glittering Elbphilharmonie concert hall

**TRANSIT** the 61-mile Kiel Canal, which connects the North Sea to the Baltic, during daylight hours and learn about the engineering involved to build the world's busiest artificial waterway

**EXPLORE** Berlin featuring an inside look at Museum Island's ancient treasures and lunch atop the Reichstag, or join an exclusive tour of majestic, medieval island castle in little-known Schwerin, Germany

**DISCOVER** why UNESCO has named Copenhagen its World Capital of Architecture, going behind the scenes at its extravagant, modern Opera House and the 17th-century Rosenborg Castle, which features 400 years of Denmark's royal treasures

**ATTEND** an onboard chamber music concert by one of Europe's renowned quartets while in Belgium



Dear Travelers and Friends,

In April 2024, sail with the Museum Travel Alliance to the magnificent treasures of northern Europe. Cruise from the south of England to Denmark, as you're the first to sail aboard the technologically innovative new ship *Ocean Albatros*. Step ashore to marvel at the medieval cathedrals of French Normandy, the charming canals of Bruges and Amsterdam, Hamburg's UNESCO-listed warehouses, Berlin's Museum Island, Copenhagen's 17th-century castle, and so much more.

As you cruise, experience the lavish legacy of the medieval Hanseatic League, an alliance of merchant guilds and seaside towns who amassed extraordinary wealth in the 12th through 15th centuries, paving the way for the Renaissance. Follow Hanseatic trade routes along the cliff-lined English Channel, the North Sea, and the Baltic. Go behind the scenes in picturesque coastal towns, opulent private houses, and splendid museums, accompanied by expert guides.

First, immerse yourself in the vast history of France's Normandy region, from the 11th-century Bayeux Cathedral and its legendary *Bayeux Tapestry* to a museum honoring World War II's D-Day heroes. In Belgium, stop in splendid Bruges and behold the Van Eyck brothers' *Adoration of the Mystic Lamb* in Ghent.

Experience Holland's colorful tulip season and go behind the scenes of museums such as Amsterdam's Van Gogh Museum. In Germany, join scholars to discover the sparkling Hanseatic cities of Hamburg and Lübeck. Then navigate the world's busiest artificial waterway, the scenic, 61-mile-long Kiel Canal connecting the North Sea to the Baltic. Step ashore for an expert-led inside look at Berlin's incredible Museum Island or visit romantic, little-known Schwerin, Germany, for a private tour of a medieval island castle. Conclude with a day in Copenhagen, UNESCO's current World Capital of Architecture. Revel in an inside look at the 17th-century Rosenborg Castle, home to four centuries of Denmark's royal treasures.

Space is limited on this special cruise, which is co-sponsored by The National Trust for Historic Preservation, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the alumni associations of Dartmouth, Duke, Harvard, Johns Hopkins, Tufts, the University of Chicago, the University of Mary Washington, and Vanderbilt. We hope you join us for this unforgettable journey exploring the artistic and cultural heritage of northern Europe.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jim".

Jim Friedlander  
President, The Museum Travel Alliance



# Treasures of Northern Europe, Medieval to Modern

## England to Denmark Aboard *Ocean Albatros*

April 27 – May 7, 2024



Bayeux Cathedral, France

### MONDAY, APRIL 29: OUISTREHAM, FRANCE / CAEN

From the port of Ouistreham, visit historic Caen, whose Norman treasures have survived the centuries. Continue to Bayeux and visit the town's 11th-century cathedral, where you will find the remarkable *Bayeux Tapestry*, one of the most renowned surviving works of medieval art. Stop at the Memorial Museum of the Battle of Normandy. As an alternative, you may visit Mont-Saint-Michel, a UNESCO-listed tidal island topped with a medieval monastery. As *Ocean Albatros* sails to Belgium, behold the chalky cliffs and the extraordinary rock formations of Les Falaises d'Étretat and the Manneporte, which Claude Monet captured in numerous paintings. Attend the captain's welcome reception and dinner this evening.

B,L,R,D

### SATURDAY, APRIL 27: DEPARTURE

Depart for London on an overnight flight.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 28: LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM / PORTSMOUTH / EMBARK OCEAN ALBATROS

Arrive this morning at Heathrow Airport and transfer to *Ocean Albatros* docked in Portsmouth. Enjoy lunch on board, followed by an afternoon at leisure to explore this new ship or learn about the Royal Navy's history on a visit to the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard. Savor dinner on board as you sail across the English Channel to Normandy in France.

L,D

### TUESDAY, APRIL 30: OSTEND, BELGIUM / BRUGES / GHENT

After docking in Ostend, transfer to the perfectly preserved medieval city of Bruges for a walking tour. See some of Belgium's best art collections, including the Groeninge Museum, the Hans Memling collection at St. John's Hospital, and a sculpture by Michelangelo displayed in the Church of Our Lady. Continue to Ghent for an expert-led viewing of the Van Eycks' restored 15th-century masterpiece *The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb* in St. Bavo's Cathedral. Aboard *Ocean Albatros*, enjoy chamber music performed by one of Europe's renowned quartets.

B,L,D



Bruges, Belgium



Ghent, Belgium



Mauritshuis, The Hague, Holland, photo by Ronald Tilleman

### **WEDNESDAY, MAY 1: SCHEVENINGEN, HOLLAND / AMSTERDAM OR KEUKENHOF & THE HAGUE**

Dock in the seaside resort of Scheveningen near The Hague, and choose between two excursions. You may explore Amsterdam's canals and the famed Rijksmuseum, with its unrivaled collection of works by Dutch masters. Savor lunch aboard a private canal cruise, followed by a special opening of the Van Gogh Museum (*pending confirmation*).

Alternatively, see a million flowering bulbs at the Keukenhof Gardens during tulip season. After lunch, visit The Hague and its Mauritshuis museum, home to Vermeer's *Girl with a Pearl Earring*. Then see the Peace Palace, home to the International Court of Justice. All guests will meet in The Hague and visit Panorama Mesdag, a museum housing Hendrik Mesdag's vast 1881 panoramic canvas of Scheveningen. B,L,D

### **THURSDAY, MAY 2: DELFZIJL / GRONINGEN**

Step ashore in Delfzijl, Holland, and transfer to Groningen, a virtual open-air museum. Discover the gems of its Grote Markt (Great Market Square), including the Gothic Martinikerk, a 13th-century church with beautiful frescoes and a baroque organ. As a contemporary contrast, tour the Groninger Museum, a futuristic structure showcasing modern and contemporary art. After lunch, learn about traditional printmaking at the GRID Grafisch Museum Groningen, where you will attend a specially arranged graphics art workshop. Garden lovers may choose to visit Hortus Haren, one of Holland's oldest botanical gardens, and the Museum De Buitenplaats, a botanical complex with flowery garden roofs. B,L,D

### **FRIDAY, MAY 3: HAMBURG, GERMANY OR LÜBECK**

Hamburg's famous port was a vital link during the Hanseatic League. Experience the city's UNESCO-listed Speicherstadt, the world's largest warehouse district, an ensemble of 19th- to early 20th-century brick and timber buildings on oak log foundations along the canals. Then have lunch on the rooftop of Hamburg's magical Elbphilharmonie concert hall. After free time, attend a performance at the Elbphilharmonie (*pending schedules*).

Alternatively, explore Lübeck, the "Queen of the Hanseatic League." Visit the European Hansemuseum and stroll around Lübeck's beautiful Old Town, stopping to see the Holstentor, the 15th-century Brick Gothic city gate. B,L,D

### **SATURDAY, MAY 4: BRUNSBÜTTEL / KIEL CANAL TRANSIT**

Spend the day navigating the Kiel Canal, which cuts across the Jutland Peninsula and connects the North Sea to the Baltic. While sailing, attend lectures and learn about the canal's engineering. B,L,D

### **SUNDAY, MAY 5: TRAVEMÜNDE / BERLIN OR SCHWERIN / WARNEMÜNDE**

Transfer from Travemünde, Germany, to Berlin for an expert-led look at notable landmarks and lunch atop the Reichstag. Discover Egyptian and Greek treasures in the restored Neues Museum, including the famous bust of Nefertiti. Then take an inside look at the Humboldt Forum, a museum inside the reconstructed 15th-century Berlin Palace.

Alternatively, visit the romantic town of Schwerin. On an island in shimmering Lake Schwerin, join an expert guide amid lush gardens at the medieval Schwerin Castle. In its museum, discover medieval art, 17th-century Dutch and Flemish paintings, and a large collection of works by Marcel Duchamp. Then marvel at the towering Gothic cathedral in Schwerin's charming Old Town. Rejoin *Ocean Albatros* in Warnemünde and sail to Copenhagen. B,L,D

### **MONDAY, MAY 6: COPENHAGEN, DENMARK**

Discover why UNESCO named the Danish capital its World Capital of Architecture. Shop along the Strøget, one of the world's longest pedestrian streets. Walk in the footsteps of Hans Christian Andersen along the waterfront Nyhavn district, with its rainbow of famous centuries-old townhouses. After lunch, enjoy an inside look at the Copenhagen Opera House, one of the world's most expensive and modern concert halls, with its auditorium adorned with 105,000 sheets of 24-carat gold leaf. Then go behind the scenes at the 17th-century Rosenborg Castle, originally Christian IV's summer residence, featuring 400 years of gardens and royal treasures, including Denmark's Crown Jewels. Gather on board for the captain's farewell reception and dinner this evening. B,L,R,D

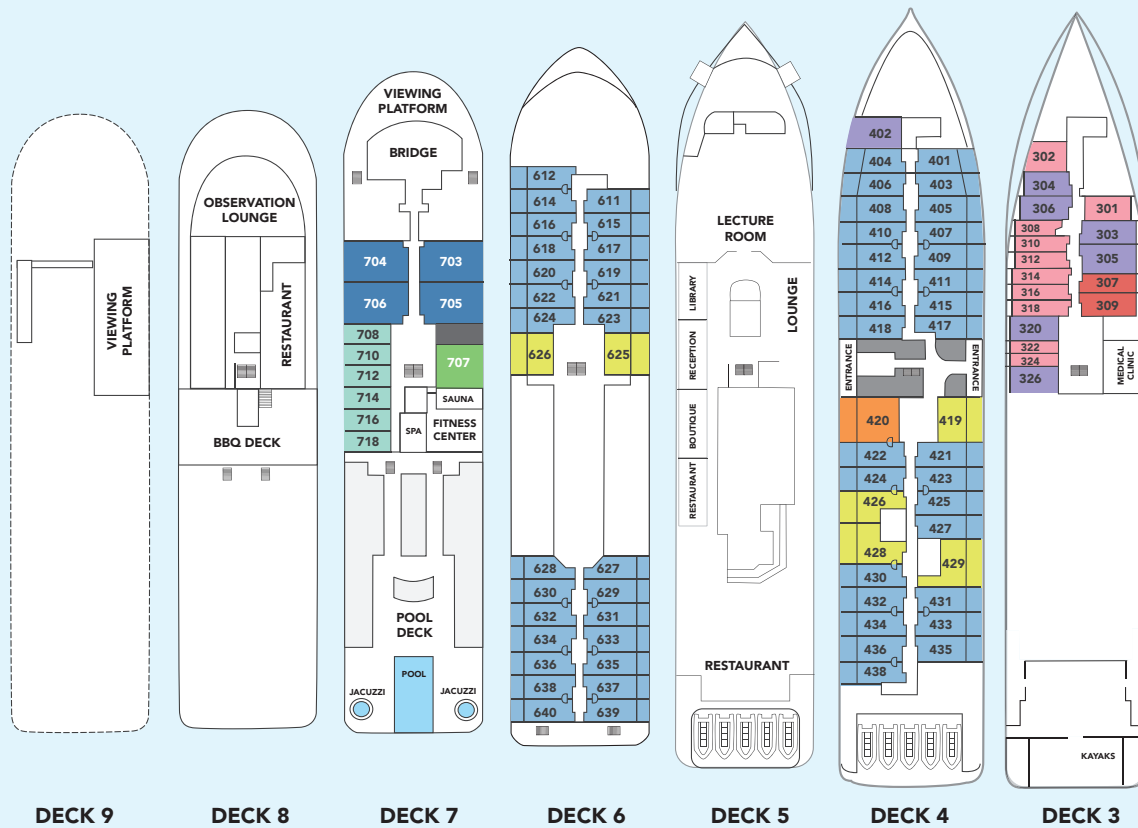
### **TUESDAY, MAY 7: COPENHAGEN / DISEMBARK / RETURN**

Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for flights home. B

*This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Museum Travel Alliance. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at <https://museumtravelalliance.com/faq.php>.*

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# OCEAN ALBATROS



DECK 9

DECK 8

DECK 7

DECK 6

DECK 5

DECK 4

DECK 3

The four-star, expedition-style *Ocean Albatros* has a casual, comfortable ambiance and holds 95 staterooms and suites, all with unobstructed sea views and most with their own balconies. *Ocean Albatros* offers two restaurants, a wellness area, a unique panorama sauna, an Albatros Nordic Bar, an open-deck dining facility, a modern lecture lounge, and other state-of-the-art amenities. The environmentally friendly vessel emphasizes sustainability and will have more than a 50% lower carbon footprint than traditional expedition vessels.

## CRUISE RATES

(Per Person)

### Cabins

Cabins	Decks	Double Rates	Single Rates
301, 302, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 322, 324 Single Stateroom with porthole, 140 sq. ft.	3	————	\$9,999
303, 304, 305, 306, 320, 326, 402 Stateroom with porthole, 172 sq. ft.	3 & 4	\$6,999	\$10,999
307, 309 Stateroom with porthole, 215 sq. ft.	3	\$7,999	\$11,999
708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718 Stateroom with French balcony, 172 sq. ft.	7	\$8,999	\$13,499
401, 403–412, 414–418, 421–425, 427, 430–436, 438, 611, 612, 614–624, 627–640 Stateroom with balcony, 237 sq. ft.	4 & 6	\$10,999	\$16,499
419, 426, 428, 429, 625, 626 Stateroom with balcony, 344 sq. ft.	4 & 6	\$12,999	Inquire
707 Junior Suite with French balcony, 388 sq. ft.	7	\$16,999	Inquire
703–706 Premium Junior Suite with balcony, 431 sq. ft.	7	\$17,999	Inquire
420 Suite with balcony, 463 sq. ft.	4	\$19,999	Inquire

## RATES INCLUDE

- Nine nights cabin accommodations aboard *Ocean Albatros* as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine during lunches and dinners
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Taxes, service, and portorage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities

**NOT INCLUDED IN RATES** International airfare; passport/visa fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than what is noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Lübeck, Germany



Ocean Albatros

**MUSEUM TRAVEL ALLIANCE  
TREASURES OF NORTHERN EUROPE  
APRIL 27 – MAY 7, 2024  
RESERVATION FORM**

Copenhagen, Denmark



To reserve a place, please call Museum Travel Alliance at 212-324-1893 or 855-533-0033, fax: 212-344-7493; email: [trips@museumtravelalliance.com](mailto:trips@museumtravelalliance.com); or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) to *Museum Travel Alliance*. Mail to: Museum Travel Alliance, 260 West 39th Street, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018-4424.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (home)

(business)

Fax

E-mail

Elbphilharmonie, Hamburg, Germany



**ACCOMMODATIONS**

Ocean Albatros cabin preference (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to share a room/cabin with

**FORM OF PAYMENT**

Check (payable to *Museum Travel Alliance*)  Debit card  Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the *Terms & Conditions* of this Program (see <https://museumtravelalliance.com/faq.php> to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment by check, wire transfer, or credit card 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date