National Trust *for* Historic Preservation
National Trust Tours

Treasures of Northern Europe

Portsmouth to Copenhagen Aboard *Heritage Discoverer*

May 6 - 16, 2028



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Setting the stage for Europe's Renaissance, the Hanseatic League was a thriving medieval network of ports, guilds, warehouses, legal privileges, and shipping routes that made cities such as **Hamburg**, **Lübeck**, **Rostock**, and **Groningen** powerful. Sail the old trading waters of northern Europe aboard the newly refurbished, 70-cabin ***Heritage Discoverer***, traveling by small ship from Portsmouth, England, to historic port cities in **Normandy**, **Belgium**, **Holland**, **Germany**, and **Denmark**, concluding in **Copenhagen**.

This route follows the English Channel, North Sea, Kiel Canal, and the Baltic Sea, waters once crossed by merchants, shipbuilders, soldiers, artists, and royal envoys. Along the way, visit Gothic cathedrals, Dutch museum cities, maritime collections, royal castles, working waterways, and coastal capitals whose wealth came by sea.

Trip *Highlights*

Sail aboard ***Heritage Discoverer*** from **Portsmouth** to **Copenhagen**, following the English Channel, North Sea, Kiel Canal, and Baltic to ports built by naval power, trade, and maritime wealth.

Choose among three **Normandy** excursions: **Mont-Saint-Michel** and its medieval island abbey, Bayeux and the **Normandy American Cemetery**, or **Honfleur** and **Le Havre**'s Impressionist collections.

Visit **Bruges** or **Ghent**, with options including Bruges's Brick Gothic streets, a **private** beer and chocolate tasting, or viewing *The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb* at Ghent's **St. Bavo's Cathedral**.

See Dutch art and craft through curator-led visits to the **Mauritshuis** and **Royal Delft Museum**

Spend time in **Hamburg**, with tours including the **Elbphilharmonie** concert hall, UNESCO-listed **Speicherstadt** warehouse district, or the excellent **Hamburger Kunsthalle** museum.

Conclude in **Copenhagen**, featuring visits to **Rosenborg Castle**, **Kødbyen**'s galleries, or a curator-led tour to the **Louisiana Museum of Modern Art**.



Map of the region

Activity Level: Intermediate

Pace Level: Moderato

Visit Arrangements Abroad's website for more information about Activity and Pace Levels at www.arrangementsabroad.com/faqs.

Saturday, May 6:
Departure

Depart on an overnight flight for London.

Sunday, May 7:
London, United Kingdom / Portsmouth / Embark Heritage Discoverer **(L,D)**

Arrive in **London** this morning and transfer with the group to **Portsmouth**, one of Britain's great naval ports, where ***Heritage Discoverer*** is docked. After lunch on board, settle into your cabin and take time to enjoy the ship's lounges, open decks, and ocean views.

Alternatively, visit the **Portsmouth Historic Dockyard**, home to ships and collections tied to the Royal Navy's long command of Atlantic and Channel routes. Return to the ship for dinner on board as *Heritage Discoverer* sails across the English Channel toward Normandy.

Monday, May 8:
Ouistreham, France / Caen / Mont-Saint-Michel or Bayeux & Colleville-sur-Mer or Honfleur & Le Havre **(B,L,R,D)**

Arrive in **Ouistreham**, the Norman port at the mouth of the Caen Canal. Today, choose among three full-day excursions through Normandy:



Bayeux Cathedral, France



Musée d'art moderne André Malraux, Le Havre, France

Option 1: Mont-Saint-Michel. In the English Channel off the French coast, travel with an expert guide to this tidal island crowned by a medieval abbey built between the eighth and sixteenth centuries. Walk through the village lanes and ascend to the abbey complex.

Option 2: Bayeux & Colleville-sur-Mer. Visit **Bayeux Cathedral**, consecrated in 1077 in the presence of William the Conqueror, then continue through Normandy's coastal landscape to **Colleville-sur-Mer**. At the **Normandy American Cemetery**, overlooking Omaha Beach, honor the U.S. soldiers who died during the 1944 Allied landings and the campaign that followed.

Option 3: Honfleur & Le Havre. Begin at Honfleur's **Vieux Bassin**, the harbor where Eugène Boudin and other painters worked outdoors along the Seine estuary. Visit the **Musée Eugène Boudin** with a curator, then continue to Le Havre for a guided visit to the **Musée d'art moderne André Malraux**, known as MuMa, home to one of France's leading Impressionist collections outside Paris.

Return to *Heritage Discoverer* for an early evening departure toward Belgium. This evening, gather for **the captain's welcome reception and dinner** on board.



Bruges, Belgium

Tuesday, May 9:

Morning at Sea / Ostend, Belgium / Bruges or Ghent
(B,L,D)

Spend the morning at sea, with breakfast and lunch on board before arriving in **Ostend**. This afternoon, choose between two medieval Belgian cities for excursions:

Option 1: Bruges. Travel with a local expert to the medieval **Historic Center of Bruges**, a UNESCO-listed city of brick guild houses, market squares, and canals. View the 381-foot brick spire of **Church of Our Lady**, among the world's tallest brick structures, then continue through the city's Gothic streetscape. Later, sample Belgian beer and chocolates during a private tasting.

Option 2: Ghent. Meet an expert guide in Ghent, once one of medieval Europe's largest trading cities. Visit **St. Bavo's Cathedral**, home to *The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb*, the 12-panel altarpiece completed by Jan and Hubert van Eyck in 1432. Recently restored and now held in a climate-controlled glass enclosure, the painting remains one of the central works of early Netherlandish art.

Return to *Heritage Discoverer* in Ostend for dinner on board. This evening, sail toward the Dutch coast.

Wednesday, May 10:

Scheveningen, Holland / The Hague & Delft or Amsterdam & The Hague **(B,L,D)**

Arrive early in **Scheveningen**, the seaside district of **The Hague**. Choose between these full-day options:

Option 1: The Hague & Delft. In The Hague, begin with a curator-led visit to the **Mauritshuis**, a 17th-century city palace whose collection includes major works by Rembrandt and Vermeer, including Vermeer's *Girl with a Pearl Earring*. Continue to **Panorama Mesdag**, a 46-foot-high, 394-foot-wide cylindrical painting that depicts Scheveningen as it appeared in 1881.

Afterwards, transfer to Delft for a guided visit to a town long associated with pottery, canals, and Vermeer. At the **Royal Delft Museum**, join a curator at the last surviving 17th-century Delftware factory, where artisans still paint Delft Blue by hand.

Full-Day Option: Amsterdam & The Hague. Travel to Amsterdam for a private visit to the **Rijksmuseum**, Holland's national museum. View Rembrandt's *The Night Watch*, Vermeer's *The Milkmaid*, and early works by Van Gogh before time at leisure on Museumplein, home to the **Van Gogh Museum**. Continue to The Hague for a curator-led visit to the Mauritshuis. Reconvene in Scheveningen for an early evening sail and dinner on board *Heritage Discoverer*.



Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, Holland

Thursday, May 11:

Delfzijl / Groningen / Haren **(B,L,D)**

Dock in **Delfzijl** and travel to **Groningen**, a northern Dutch city that grew through regional trade and local university life. A guided walking tour includes the **Martinitoren**, a 318-foot Gothic church tower begun in the 15th century.

Guests may also see Groningen from the water during **a guided canal cruise** through the routes that once carried goods into the city. This afternoon, choose between gardens and art:

Option 1: Hortus Haren Gardens. Join a local expert at **Hortus Haren**, one of the Netherlands' oldest botanical gardens. Founded in 1626 as an herb garden, it now includes plantings from several continents. Its **Hidden Kingdom of Ming** recreates a 14th-century Chinese garden with a teahouse, one of the few such gardens outside China.

Option 2: Groninger Museum. Tour this art space housed in a colorful postmodern building set in a canal. Inside, view collections ranging from Rubens and Rembrandt to Asian porcelain and works by De Ploeg, the Groningen artists' group associated with Dutch Expressionism.

Return to Delfzijl for an early evening departure and dinner on board.



Groninger Museum, Holland



Speicherstadt, Hamburg, Germany

Friday, May 12:

Morning at Sea / Hamburg, Germany or Lübeck **(B,L,D)**

Spend the morning at sea, with breakfast and lunch on board as we cruise toward **Hamburg**. Upon arrival, choose among four afternoon options.

Option 1: Hamburg & the Elbphilharmonie. Join a guided city tour ending at the Elbphilharmonie, the concert hall designed by Herzog & de Meuron above a 1963 brick warehouse. Its glass upper structure rises over the harbor, linking Hamburg's working port history with its current role as a center for music and design.

Option 2: Elbe River Bike Ride. Cycle along the waterway that made Hamburg a trading power. Portions of the river once marked the border between East and West Germany; today, its banks include restored habitats, port infrastructure, and riverside districts.

Option 3: Speicherstadt & International Maritime Museum Hamburg. Visit Hamburg's UNESCO-listed red-brick warehouse district, built in the late 19th century on oak piles. Continue to the museum, housed in the district's oldest warehouse and home to one of the world's largest private collections of maritime objects.



Kiel Canal, Germany

Option 4: Hamburger Kunsthalle. Take a guided tour of one of Germany's leading art museums, whose collection is especially strong in 19th-century German Romanticism, including works by Caspar David Friedrich, and Dutch paintings by artists such as Rembrandt.

Guests may dine independently in Hamburg or return to the ship for dinner on board before the ship's late departure.

Saturday, May 13:

Brunsbüttel / Kiel Canal Transit **(B,L,D)**

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

Sunday, May 14:

Travemünde / Schwerin & Rostock or Lübeck / Travemünde **(B,L,D)**

Arrive in **Travemünde**, Germany's largest ferry port on the Baltic. Today's excursions focus on the Hanseatic League, the medieval network of merchant cities that controlled trade across the North Sea and Baltic through ships, warehouses, guilds, and port law:

Option 1: Schwerin Castle & Rostock. Travel to the castle set on an island in Lake Schwerin and rebuilt in the 19th century as the residence of the dukes of Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

Continue to **Rostock**, a Hanseatic port that became a center of learning after the University of Rostock was founded in 1419. Visit **St. Mary's Church**, whose **Astronomical Clock**, built in 1472, still runs with its original clockwork.

Option 2: Lübeck. Tour UNESCO-listed **Lübeck**, long known as the "Queen of the Hanseatic League." Walk through a city of brick merchant houses, gabled façades, and churches built with the wealth of Baltic trade.

Visit **St. Mary's Church**, known for the world's tallest brick vault, then pass through the **Holstentor**, the 15th-century city gate inscribed with the civic motto "Harmony at home, peace abroad." Lunch features traditional Holstein fare, with veal or pork schnitzel.

Return to *Heritage Discoverer* in Travemünde before dinner on board.



Holstentor gate, Lübeck

Monday, May 15:

Copenhagen, Denmark / Humlebæk **(B,L,D)**

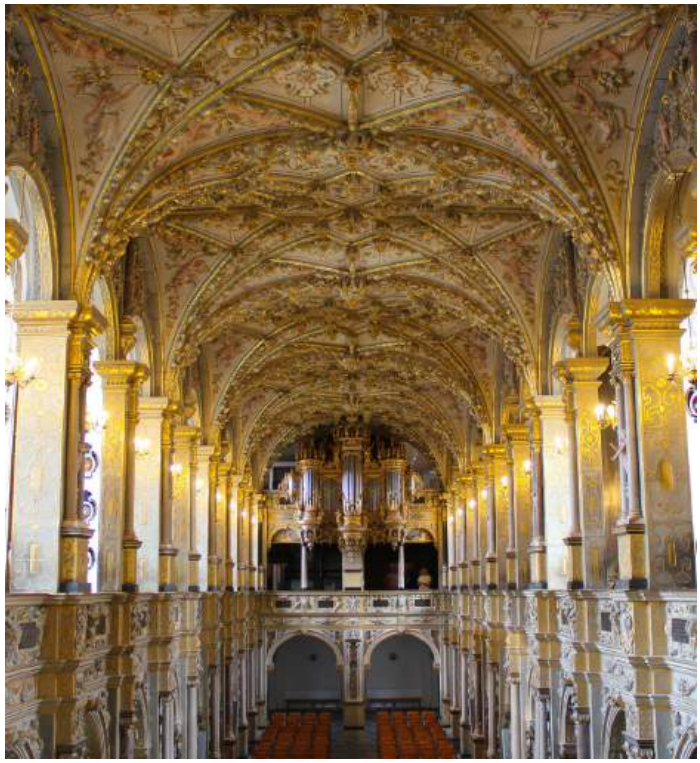
Arrive in **Copenhagen**, a harbor city that King Christian IV expanded in the 17th century into a royal capital of canals, palaces, churches, and trading districts. Choose a full-day excursion to **North Zealand**, or combine one morning and one afternoon option in the city.

Full-Day Option: Louisiana Museum of Modern Art & Kronborg Castle. Travel north to a beautiful museum, where glass corridors link pavilions overlooking the Øresund. Join a curator to view works in the Giacometti Gallery and masterpieces such as Yayoi Kusama's *Gleaming Lights of the Souls*. Continue to Helsingør for Kronborg Castle, the Renaissance fortress known to readers of Shakespeare as Elsinore in *Hamlet*.

Morning Option 1: Copenhagen by Canal. See the city from the water, beginning with its origins as a Viking fishing settlement and continuing through canal-lined districts such as Christianshavn, which Christian IV modeled on Amsterdam as part of his plan for a major Baltic capital.



Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, Humlebæk, Denmark



Rosenborg Castle, Copenhagen, Denmark

Morning Option 2: Rosenborg Castle & Christiansborg Palace. Visit Rosenborg Castle, Christian IV's Dutch Renaissance pleasure palace, whose vaults hold the Danish Crown Jewels, still used by the reigning monarch. Continue to Christiansborg Palace, which houses Denmark's Parliament, Prime Minister's Office, and Supreme Court.

Afternoon Option 1: Copenhagen Architecture Tour. Learn about Christian IV's 17th-century building campaign through sites such as the **Børsen**, the former stock exchange built with Dutch and German architectural influences.

Afternoon Option 2: Meatpacking District Contemporary Galleries. Visit **Kødbyen**, Copenhagen's former meatpacking district, known for its 1930s Functionalist buildings and current galleries. The district's former industrial spaces now host artists, collectors, chefs, and designers.

Tuesday, May 16:

Copenhagen / Return **(B)**

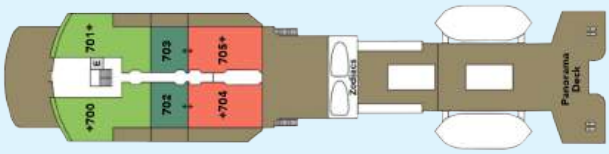
Disembark this morning and transfer to the airport for flights home.

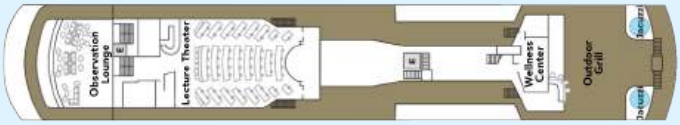
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Front cover: Mont-Saint-Michel, France

Heritage Discoverer

Formerly *Exploris One*, the newly refurbished, rechristened *Heritage Discoverer* is an intimate seven-deck vessel hosting just 130 guests. Each of the 70 cabins offers a stunning ocean view, including 12 expansive suites featuring private balconies. On board, guests will find two restaurants, a bar and lounge, observation lounge, lecture theater, wellness center, gym, sauna, massage room, outdoor grill, two outdoor Jacuzzis, and open decks for viewing coastlines, harbors, and the Kiel Canal. An Open Bridge policy allows visits with the captain and crew when conditions permit, adding a strong maritime dimension to the voyage.







Cruise Rates

Cabins	Decks	Double	Single
302-305	Deck 3	———	$14,999
Single Stateroom, 160 sq, ft.			
306-325	Deck 3	$11,999	$20,999
Superior Stateroom, 192 sq. ft.			
400, 402, 404, 405, 407, 409	Deck 4	———	$19,499
Superior Single Stateroom, 185 sq. ft.			
406, 408, 410-425, 427, 429	Deck 4	$13,999	Inquire
Superior Stateroom, 192 sq. ft.			
500, 501, 506-509, 512, 513	Deck 5	$16,999	Inquire
Superior Balcony Stateroom, 210 sq. ft.			
702 & 703	Deck 7	$21,999	Inquire
Navigator Suite, 400 sq. ft.			
502-505, 510, 511	Deck 5	$22,999	Inquire
Discovery Suite, 422 sq. ft.			
700 & 701	Deck 7	$24,999	Inquire
Worsley Suite, 618 sq. ft.			
704 & 705	Deck 7	$26,999	Inquire
Heritage Suite, 728 sq. ft.			

Rates Include

- Nine nights cabin accommodations aboard *Heritage Discoverer* 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; wine, beer, and cocktails available during bar opening hours, lunch, and dinner service
- Airport/pier/airport transfers for participants on arrival and departure days
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Taxes, service, and porterage 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 those noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for participants on arrival and departure days; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.



Heritage Discoverer

Call 888.484.8785 to Reserve