

Grand Baltic Sea Voyage

May 15 - 28, 2025

Traveling to seven countries

Denmark: *Copenhagen, Bornholm* | **Poland:** *Gdansk* | **Lithuania:** *Klaipeda*
| **Sweden:** *Visby, Stockholm* | **Latvia:** *Riga* | **Estonia:** *Tallinn* | **Finland:** *Helsinki*

Travel Preview

Monday, February 12, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

Location: Curtiss Hall, C-100

OLLI members & friends are invited to learn about this trip during presentation with our travel provider - Grand Circle Travel. Call the OLLI office to register for this preview (989) 964-4475 or register online.

Travel Registration

Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

Location: Curtiss Hall Seminar Rooms D-F

**Registration for this trip (along with other 2025 trips) will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Curtiss Hall Seminar Rooms on a first come first served basis. Please note registrations can be taken over the phone after onsite registration is finished.*

Travel with OLLI—a lifetime of learning and exploring!



SVSU - Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Grand Baltic Sea Voyage:

Includes Seven Countries - Denmark, Poland, Lithuania, Sweden, Latvia, Estonia & Finland



Join OLLI Friends . . .

Set out across the Baltic Sea and discover enchanting castles, whimsical villages, and medieval squares on a Baltic and Scandinavian voyage. Discover seven countries and immerse yourself in the distinct and unique cultures of each region as you explore on this small ship adventure. On this tour you'll have people-to-people experiences that will offer you insights into customs and culinary traditions of the region.



General Information:

Travel Providers

This educational travel experience is offered by the SVSU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in conjunction with Grand Circle Travel, our travel partner we traveled with to Holland & Belgium, England, Scotland, Australia, New Zealand, Paris, and the Nordic Coastal Journey.

Registrations:

Please fill out the registration form and bring it on the day of registration. Trip reservations are on first come, first served basis. A passport is required at time of registration and must be valid through six months following the end date of the tour. (November 28, 2025)

Tour Activity Level:

This tour requires more than average physical activity. You should be in good health, able to climb stairs and walk reasonable distances, 2 hours of physical activity per day, 1-3 continuous miles unassisted within 1-2 hours, possibly over stairs and cobblestones, getting in/out of small canal boats.

There is a chance for rough seas during the trip that require good agility, balance, and strength. Adding optional excursions may increase the amount of walking on your tour. You should feel comfortable managing your own baggage at all times. If you have any mobility or physical restrictions, please contact our OLLI office for additional information. This trip is not accessible for travelers using wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, or crutches.

About Our Lodging

We will be staying on the M/V Clio with 2 overnight hotel stays.

Travel Protection:*

Travel protection will be included in the price of this trip and must be paid at the time of deposit upon registration and will be provided by Allianz. Details about the travel protection package terms & conditions may be found at: <https://www.gct.com/ways-to-save/travel-protection-plan/benefits-and-coverage>. Please note insurance fees are not refundable. It is the traveler's responsibility to review insurance coverage to make sure it meets your needs prior to purchase. *If you choose not to take travel protection for your trip - your registration/situation will be reviewed.

Air Details:

Our package includes round-trip air from Detroit airport, air taxes & fees/surcharges. Specific flight information will be provided at a later date. If our flight is scheduled early, we may stay the night prior to departure. If this is the case, there will be an added cost per person and these details will be forwarded to you closer to departure.

Roommates Needed:

If you are looking for a roommate please contact our office and we can share names of others looking for roommate. Our office will also maintain a wait-list if this trip fills to capacity of approx. 50 travelers.

Included in Your 14-Days:

- 12 nights accommodations, including 10 nights aboard our privately owned, 89-passenger M/V Clio
- 34 Meals: 12 breakfasts, 10 lunches, & 12 dinners (including 1 Home-Hosted Dinner)
- Grand Circle Professional Program Director
- 14 guided tours and cultural experiences
- Visits to 9 different cities: Copenhagen, Bornholm, Gdansk, Klaipeda, Visby, Stockholm, Riga, Tallinn, Helsinki and more.
- Complimentary choice of house beer, house wine & soft drinks included at all times while on board ship.
- Gratuities on your main trip for local guides and motorcoach drivers
- Baggage handling for 1 piece of luggage per person
- Round-trip international air transportation, group ground transportation to/from SVSU to airport.
- Private motorcoach land travel
- 5% Frequent Traveler credit with GCT
- Pre-trip dinner & Post-trip reunion at SVSU

Travel Requirements:

There are currently no travel requirements related to COVID-19. This is subject to change and may vary by country and travel provider. We will provide any known updates closer to departure dates.

Overseas Taxes & Fees:

This tour may have taxes and fees that cannot be included in your airline ticket price because you are required to pay them in person onsite. All taxes are subject to change without notice and must be paid in cash. *If applicable, you will receive a list of these fees with required currency along with your final documents.*

Cancellations:

All cancellations must be in writing to the OLLI office and are subject to a cancellation fee of \$50. Grand Circle Travel's cancellation policies will prevail.

**** All information included in this brochure is deemed reliable at time of print. All trip updates and announcements will take precedence over information included in brochure.****



Day 1: Thursday, May 15 (SVSU → Copenhagen)

Depart SVSU via motorcoach and travel from SVSU to Copenhagen, Denmark.

Day 2: Friday, May 16 (Copenhagen, Denmark)

Arrive in Copenhagen (D)

Upon arrival in Denmark, we will transfer to a hotel for one night. Based upon our arrival time, we'll have the opportunity for an orientation walk to get see some of Copenhagen. Stroll by Amalienborg Palace, where the Danish royal family resides, or head the glistening waterfront for a view of Maersk Opera House. Tonight's dinner will be at the hotel and then the evening is free for you and your choosing.

Day 3: Saturday, May 17 (Copenhagen, Denmark)

Explore Copenhagen • Embark Ship (B/D)

Following breakfast at the hotel, we will set out on a city tour with a local guide, learning about Copenhagen's history and taking in its iconic landmarks. Highlights of our tour include the Gefion Fountain, a massive fountain on the harbor that depicts the legendary Norse goddess Gefion; and Rosenborg Castle, which chronicles over four centuries of Danish royal history. We'll also learn about the city's signature attraction - the Little Mermaid monument which came to the town in 1913, designed from bronze and granite by Edvard Eriksen and given as a gift to the city from Danish brewer Carl Jacobsen of Carlsberg Breweries. The tour will end in bustling Stroget, one of Europe's longest pedestrian shopping streets. For lunch today, there are many restaurants and cafés you may try on your own. This afternoon, we will make our way to embark on our small ship. We will go through some safety briefing with the Captain and crew before having an opportunity to relax and get acquainted with all features on the ship. Prior to dinner, you'll meet with your Trip Experience Leader onboard for a Port Talk on Bornholm—your next destination. Tonight's dinner will be onboard the ship, and following dinner, you may spend the evening as you please as the ship sets sail for Bornholm.

Day 4: Sunday, May 18 (Bornholm, Denmark)

A Day in the Life of the Danish island of Bornholm • Captain's Welcome Dinner (B/L/D)

Breakfast will be onboard the ship. We will dock in Ronne this morning, a port town on Denmark's island of Bornholm. Today's experience will be *A Day in the Life* experience. *Note: Depending on the availability and departure, we may experience one of several different experiences.* Lunch will take place at a local farmhouse, featuring farm-fresh, seasonal fare. On our way back to the ship we'll have time to stroll through the streets of Bornholm also known as the "sunshine island" by the locals because it gets more sun than anywhere else in the region. During this time, you'll get the chance to chat with locals and learn about their businesses, or walk through the old market square. Prior to dinner, you'll gather for a Captain's Welcome Cocktail before a Port Talk on Gdansk—your next destination. After the Port Talk, join the group tonight for the Captain's Welcome Dinner, in the ship's dining room.

Day 5: Monday, May 19 (Gdansk, Poland)

Explore Gdansk (B/L/D)

After breakfast we will visit, the heart of Gdansk, Poland—across from the very spot where World War II began. Our discoveries begin on a walking tour with a local expert in the Stare Miasto (Old Town), who will explain what went into the reconstruction of the town following World War II and how it recovered to become what it is today. We will go past Neptune Fountain, which is rumored to once dispense Goldwasser liqueur; wander past the city's many "gates" and visit the Monument of the Fallen Shipyard Workers. The tour will end at the Archaeological Museum, which much of it was destroyed during World War II and then later restored. Once our tour concludes, we'll have some time to explore on our own and meet for lunch at a local restaurant. Following lunch, we'll drive to the Solidarity Center, an institution that serves as a museum and library documenting the history of Poland where we will meet a local guide that will help explain how Poland transformed into a democratic nation. After our visit concludes, we'll return to the ship, which sails for Klaipeda, Lithuania, overnight. After some free time to relax onboard, you'll rejoin your fellow travelers and Trip Experience Leader for a Port Talk on Klaipeda. Dinner will be onboard the ship.

Day 6: Tuesday, May 20 (Klaipeda, Lithuania)

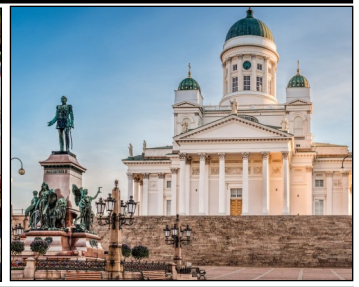
Klaipeda, Lithuania • Explore the Curonian Spit (B/L/D)

Following breakfast, we'll drive to Klaipeda's ferry terminal, where we'll catch a ferry headed to the Curonian Peninsula. Klaipeda is the gateway to a coastal stretch known as the Curonian Spit, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This scenic area is separated by a protected lagoon on one side and exposed to the harsh Baltic Sea on the other. Today, thanks to a reforestation project aimed at stabilizing the dunes, the Curonian Spit has made a remarkable comeback, making it a prime location for outdoor activities such as bird watching. After disembarking the ferry, we'll drive to the village of Juodkrante, and see how the locals live by searching in the water for their daily meals. We'll then continue driving along the spit, taking in the scenic dunes that typify the local landscape as we make our way to the town of Nida, where we'll have some free time to rest and stretch our legs. Lunch will be at a local restaurant and this afternoon we will head back to the ship to begin our journey to Visby and we will have a port talk. Dinner will be onboard the ship and the evening is yours to do as you please.

Day 7: Wednesday, May 21 (Visby, Sweden)

Explore Visby (B/L/D)

This morning we'll dock in Visby in a small port that larger ships are not able to access. We will begin our walking tour with a local expert at the Gotland Museum. We'll delve into the rich history of the region as we view displays of pre-Viking picture stones, medieval wooden sculptures, and the world's largest collection of preserved silver treasure. Then, we'll continue with our local guide on a walking tour of the historic town of Gotland. First, you'll take a stroll through the colorful botanical garden, followed by a walk through the narrow streets of the old town to enjoy towering medieval architecture. After our tour, you will have some free time to explore the town on your own. Lunch will be onboard the ship and we will set sail towards our next town. We will have another Port Talk to learn about Riga's past and present. Dinner will be onboard the ship and the evening is yours to spend as you wish.



Day 8: Thursday, May 22 (Riga, Latvia)

Explore Riga, Latvia • Home-Hosted Dinner (B/L/D)

After a leisurely breakfast, we'll drive to the Art Nouveau district of Riga. Situated near the mouth of the Daugava River, which travels from the Baltic Sea into Russia, Riga served as an important trade port for centuries. Upon our arrival, we'll set off on a walking tour of the Art Nouveau district. Accompanied by a local guide, we'll explore facades from the early 20th-century period and learn about the different styles nestled within the Art Nouveau trend and how each is represented throughout the district. We'll continue our discoveries with a drive to the Old Town, passing through the city center, where we will go on a walking tour. We will view the Soviet architecture, a former Jewish ghetto, ruins of the former city wall, and the area's Byzantine-style Orthodox cathedral. The remainder of the afternoon is free for your explorations or travel back and relax onboard. This evening we will head to the home of a local family in Riga, we'll discuss what everyday life is like and gain a unique understanding of the city's culture over a traditional meal together made with local organic produce. We'll bid our hosts farewell and return to the ship, where you'll have the remainder of the evening to do as you please.

Day 9: Friday, May 23 (Riga, Latvia)

The Removal of Soviet-Era Monuments • Optional Rundāle Palace tour (B/L/D)

Today we will begin with a conversation with a local on the Controversial Topic of Soviet monuments in Latvia, and why there is a big push from the public today to dismantle and remove these relics of a past era. Recently with Russia's invasion of Ukraine, tensions have flared, pushing Latvia to remove them. The rest of your day is free to explore Riga at your own pace. You may choose to go for a walk through the city, or delve into the region's history as you explore sites like St. Peter's Cathedral. Or, join us for our optional half-day excursion to Rundāle Palace, one of only two baroque palaces in Latvia. After our conversation about Soviet monuments concludes, we'll drive to the palace for a tour of its elegant exterior and opulent rooms. Lunch is included in this optional. If you remain in Riga, then you may have lunch onboard the ship or grab lunch on your own while you continue exploring. This evening we will have a Port Talk on Tallinn, dinner onboard the ship, and the evening is yours to continue exploring or relaxing. *If you choose to do the optional you will register for this excursion on site during the trip.*

Day 10: Saturday, May 24 (Tallinn, Estonia)

Explore Tallinn (B/L/D)

Following breakfast, we'll view a documentary onboard about the Baltic Singing Revolution that occurred from 1987-1991. The country declared independence on August 22, 1991. Then, we'll board our private bus for a panoramic tour of Tallinn. On our way, we'll catch a glimpse of sites like the Rotterman Quarter, the campus of Tallinn University, and the district of Viru. Once we arrive in Old Town, we'll set off on a walking tour in the historic city center, divided into the Lower Town and the Upper Town. You may choose to return to the ship for an included lunch onboard, or you can stay in town and have lunch on your own. This afternoon is free for your own adventure. Return to the bus at your leisure for another port talk and dinner this evening as the ship sets sail for the next stop.

Day 11: Sunday, May 25 (Tallinn, Estonia)

Discover Tallinn's Song Festival Grounds (B/L/D)

To begin our day, we will start with an onboard discussion led by a local expert about Estonia's turbulent history. We will head to the Song Festival Grounds and meet with a local guide to discuss the details of the revolution and the choral traditions of Estonia. Then the remainder of the day is up to you. You may return to the ship for lunch or you may choose to remain in downtown Tallinn to continue your explorations. This afternoon you have the option to join your GCT Leader for an elective walk to the city's upper town, where we'll get panoramic views of our new surroundings from a viewing platform. A shuttle bus will be available to return us back to the ship later this afternoon before it begins its short journey to Helsinki, Finland. Prior to arrival, join everyone for a Port Talk about this Finnish capital. Dinner will be onboard the ship and end your night by relaxing or joining your GCT Leader for a short walk in Helsinki.

Day 12: Monday, May 26 (Helsinki, Finland)

Explore Helsinki • Captain's Farewell Dinner (B/L/D)

Today we will begin with a tour of the city. First, we'll stop at the Sibelius Monument, a statue made of hundreds of metal pipes that commemorates the renowned composer Jean Sibelius, for a photo opportunity. Next, we'll drive to the new Oodi public library, which also serves as a meeting place for Helsinki's residents, earning it the nickname "the living room of the city." From there, we'll drive to Senate Square, where we'll make a brief stop to admire many ornate Empire Neo-classical buildings, including the 19th-century Lutheran Cathedral, whose central tower dominates the city. We'll wrap up our tour with a walk through Helsinki's Market Square in the city center, which is perhaps the best way to immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of the city. Lunch and the afternoon are yours to decide—either head back to the ship for lunch and relax onboard or try the local favorites, like salmon soup with rye bread, and continue exploring. Late this afternoon we will set sail to Stockholm. We will toast to our trip during the Captain's Farewell Drink followed by the Captain's Farewell Dinner. The evening is free for you to choose.

Day 13: Tuesday, May 27 (Stockholm, Sweden)

Disembark Ship • Explore Stockholm (B/L/D)

This morning we will pack up our belongings prior to a quick Port Talk on Stockholm. Once we arrive, we will disembark the ship and set off on a city tour of Sweden's capital city. Our tour begins at Stadshuset, built in 1923 the romantic City Hall building famous for hosting the annual Nobel Prize banquet. The Stadshuset is not just the city's seat of government, but is also a national symbol, as the building's 300-foot tower, topped with three golden crowns that represent Sweden's coat of arms, will attest. We will have lunch at a local restaurant. After lunch, we resume our tour and continue to Gamla Stan, Stockholm's Old Town nestled at the heart of this great city. The picturesque isle is a labyrinth of narrow alleyways and staircases, home to antique shops, museums, statues, and churches. Next we will visit the Stortorget (the "Big Square"), is the city's oldest square and site of the infamous Stockholm Bloodbath. After our tour concludes, you'll have free time to explore the ancient city on your own. Tonight we will celebrate the trip with another Farewell Dinner with your travel companions. Then you have the freedom to spend the rest of your evening as you wish.

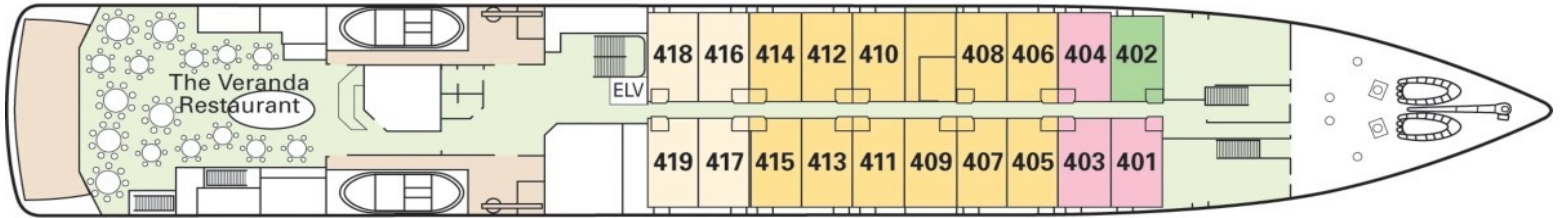
Day 14: Wednesday, May 28 (Stockholm → SVSU)

Depart for SVSU, this morning we will have breakfast at the hotel before transferring to the airport to begin our journey back to SVSU.

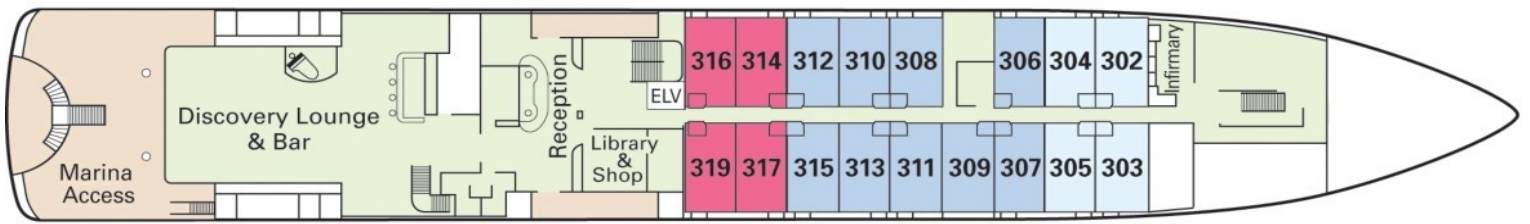
Grand Baltic Sea Voyage Cabin Preference & Cost



Sun Deck



Veranda Deck



Main Deck

Our Ship: M/V Clio -

The ocean-cruising M/V Clio is 328 ft. long and carries 89 passengers in 45 outside-facing cabins. Common areas include outdoor seating areas, a bar & lounge, two dining rooms, and whirl-pool. Complimentary wifi is available in all cabins and common areas.



Estimated Trip Cost:

Cabin Categories	Base w/Air	Single Supplement	Travel Protection	Total Cost
A - Cabin (4 Available)	\$ 9,295		\$ 1,049	\$ 10,344
B - Cabin (9 Available)	\$ 8,895		\$ 999	\$ 9,894
B - Cabin (1 Available)	\$ 8,895	\$1,395	\$ 1,199	\$ 11,489
C - Cabin (2 Available)	\$ 8,595		\$ 999	\$ 9,594
D - Cabin (1 Available) Single	\$ 8,295	\$1,395	\$ 1,099	\$ 10,789
E - Cabin (1 Available) Single	\$ 7,895	\$1,395	\$ 1,049	\$ 10,339
VS - (6 Available) Cabin with Balcony	\$10,195		\$ 1,199	\$ 11,394

***Non-Members will pay additional \$60 to SVSU-OLLI for Membership good through 8/31/2024**

Cabin Preference:

Please list your top three cabin choices below. All cabins are outside facing with a window.
Double Cabins - 194 sq. ft.,
Single Cabins - 161 sq. ft and
VS Cabin - 205 sq. ft.

1st:

2nd:

3rd:

Single Room - Limited (\$1,395)
 * Please note that the single supplements request may increase your travel protection cost.

Traveler 1

Please ensure that your information matches what appears on your passport:

Title: Mr./Ms./Mrs. _____ Gender: Male Female

First: _____ Middle: _____

Last Name: _____

Nickname (optional for name badge): _____ No Nickname

Passport Number: _____

Passport Country of Issue _____

Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / ___ (MM / DD / Year)

Passport Issue Date: ___ / ___ / ___ (MM / DD / Year)

Passport Expiration Date: ___ / ___ / ___ (MM / DD / Year)

Place of Birth: ___ (state) _____ (country)

Nationality: _____

Occupation: _____

Please note: if you are retired please state retired and from what

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Cell Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Email address: _____

Are you requesting a seat upgrade/preference? If yes, what is your budget? No Yes _____ Preference: _____

Emergency Contact Information:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ - _____ - _____

Email: _____

Traveler 2 (only if at same address)

Please ensure that your information matches what appears on your passport:

Title: Mr./Ms./Mrs. _____ Gender: Male Female

First: _____ Middle: _____

Last Name: _____

Nickname (optional for name badge): _____ No Nickname

Passport Number: _____

Passport Country of Issue _____

Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / ___ (MM / DD / Year)

Passport Issue Date: ___ / ___ / ___ (DD / Month / Year)

Passport Expiration Date: ___ / ___ / ___ (MM / DD / Year)

Place of Birth: ___ (state) _____ (country)

Nationality: _____

Occupation: _____

Please note: if you are retired please state retired and from what

Address same as Traveler 1

Home Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Cell Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Email address: _____

Are you requesting a seat upgrade/preference? If yes, what is your budget? No Yes _____ Preference: _____

Emergency Contact Information:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ - _____ - _____

Email: _____

Past Grand Circle Traveler: Y__ N__ If yes, full name (on account): _____

Travel Protection:

Yes, I understand trip protection is included in my trip cost No, I decline the trip protection offered for this trip

Signature: _____

Payment Information: Please note that non-members will pay an additional \$60 (payable to SVSU) and will receive an OLLI membership through 8/31/24.

I authorize payment to Grand Circle Travel:

Full payment (including travel protection)

Total: _____

Double: Deposit of \$500 and Travel Protection payment (see pricing table)

Total: _____

Single: Deposit of \$500, Single Supplement \$1,395 and Travel Protection

Total: _____

OLLI Membership \$60 (payable to SVSU-OLLI)

Total: _____

The final balance is due by December 2, 2024

Payment Method

Electronic Transfer (automatic payment): Name on Checking Account: _____

Routing Number _____

Account Number: _____

Credit Card: Master Card Visa Discover Cardholder Name: _____

Cardholder Number: _____ Exp. Date: ___ / ___ CVV Code: _____

Signature: _____ Printed: _____ Date: ___ / ___ / _____

By signing above I have read and understand all the terms and conditions and accept them on behalf of myself and my party. (MM / DD / YEAR)

In Office Checklist: Registration Date _____ Initials _____

Checklist:

Passport Copy — Good Through November 28, 2025

Emergency Form

Travel Protection

Copy of Registration Form Returned to Traveler

Other: _____

Roommate Information (if not at the same address):

Name: _____

Roommate Phone Number: _____

Notes: