

# NORTHERN EXPLORER CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

## Tour Overview

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|  <b>Start Point</b><br>Amsterdam |  <b>End Point</b><br>Amsterdam |  <b>Meals</b><br>17 Breakfasts<br>7 Dinners |  <b>Transport</b><br>Air-conditioned coach |  <b>Tour Type</b><br>Fully-guided tour |
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## Itinerary

### Day 1: Start of tour in Amsterdam

 Dinner  Holiday Inn Express Amsterdam Schiphol (or similar)

Arrive in Amsterdam and meet up with the tour leader at the hotel this morning. Begin with a trip to a local farm and learn how Dutch cheese and clogs are crafted. Then, join the optional trip to two charming Dutch towns or enjoy free time. Afterwards, set out on a canal cruise before enjoying a welcome dinner in Amsterdam!

#### Included:

- Visit a local Dutch cheese farm and clog factory
- Cruise along the Amsterdam canals
- Enjoy a welcome dinner in Amsterdam

#### Optionals:

- Dutch Countryside in Winter

### Day 2: Amsterdam - Hamburg - Northern Germany

 Breakfast  IntercityHotel Kiel (or similar)

Wave Amsterdam farewell and embark on a scenic countryside drive to Hamburg, Germany. At this time of year, Hamburg is filled with glorious Christmas markets. Explore the inviting stalls along the Town Hall Square. Grab a mug of glühwein, spiced hot wine, to warm your heart and body as you explore all the sights. After, head north to tonight's hotel.

#### Included:

- Visit a Christmas Market in Hamburg

### Day 3: Northern Germany - Copenhagen

 Breakfast  Four Points Flex by Sheraton Copenhagen Arena (or similar)

Cross the border into Scandinavia and travel towards Copenhagen, crossing over Øresund Bridge - Europe's longest bridge! Arrive in Denmark's capital and embark on an orientation tour to see highlights like the Little Mermaid statue and Rosenborg Castle and discover what makes Copenhagen one of the world's most liveable cities! Afterwards, enjoy free time to wander around Copenhagen's beautiful Christmas market.

#### Included:

- Discover Copenhagen, capital of Denmark

Day 4: **Copenhagen - Helsingør - Gothenburg - Oslo**

 Breakfast, Dinner  X Hotel Oslo (or similar)

Set off at dawn towards the port of Helsingør. Enjoy views of Kronborg Castle, the setting of Shakespeare's Hamlet, aboard a ferry to Sweden. Then, travel through rural Swedish scenery filled with lakes and forests towards Gothenburg, Sweden's second city, for an orientation tour. Then, cross the border into Norway, arriving in Oslo, and enjoy an included dinner tonight.

**Included:**

- Cruise from Helsingør to Helsingborg by ferry
- Enjoy a scenic drive through the Swedish countryside
- Visit Gothenburg

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Day 5: **Oslo: Free Day**

 Breakfast  X Hotel Oslo (or similar)

Grab breakfast before joining a locally-guided tour of Oslo! See some of Oslo's top attractions such as Akershus Castle, the Royal Palace and the Oslo Opera House. The rest of the day is free. Get to know more about this captivating Scandinavian city on the Oslo+ optional excursion. Explore the Vigeland Sculpture Park, the Fram Museum and more!

**Included:**

- See the highlights of Oslo with a local guide

**Optionals:**

- Oslo+

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Day 6: **Oslo - Örebro - Stockholm**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Môtel L (or similar)

Return to Sweden today. Leaving Norway behind, travel through diverse landscapes towards Örebro. Wander through its historic and lively centre, admire its stunning castle and enjoy free time to grab lunch. Finally, continue to Stockholm, the capital! After checking into the hotel, enjoy a delicious group dinner and soak up the city's festive atmosphere.

**Included:**

- Visit Örebro in the heart of Sweden
- Enjoy dinner in Stockholm

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Day 7: **Stockholm: Free Day**

 Breakfast  Môtel L (or similar)

Embark on a guided tour this morning and discover the Royal Palace, the AF Chapman ship and the historic Gamla Stan. Afterwards, the day is free to spend as you wish! History lovers won't want to miss the optional Stockholm Heritage & Vasa Discovery excursion. Uncover Viking treasures, a legendary gold room and a 17th-century warship that sank on its maiden voyage.

**Included:**

- Explore Stockholm with a local guide

**Optionals:**

- Stockholm Heritage & Vasa Discovery
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Day 8: **Stockholm - Sigtuna - Overnight Ferry to Helsinki (Christmas Eve)**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Tallink (or similar)

This morning, visit Sigtuna, Sweden's oldest town, for an orientation tour. See highlights including Stora Gatan, Sigtuna's main street. In the evening, begin the journey towards Finland! Take an overnight ferry, enjoy a buffet dinner on board and spend Christmas Eve admiring the views from the water. Wake up in Helsinki, Finland's capital, tomorrow, on Christmas morning!

**Included:**

- Catch an overnight ferry to Finland
- Visit Sigtuna; Sweden's oldest town

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Day 9: **Helsinki (Christmas Day)**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Radisson Blu Seaside Hotel (or similar)

Merry Christmas or hyvää joulua! Arrive in Helsinki and set off on a city tour with a local guide. Discover the many architectural and design delights of Helsinki and see top attractions such as the Helsinki Cathedral and Senate Square before coming together for an early festive dinner. The rest of the evening is free to experience the Finnish Christmas spirit first-hand!

**Included:**

- Discover the highlights of Helsinki with a local guide
- Enjoy a festive Christmas dinner in Helsinki

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Day 10: **Helsinki - Tallinn**

 Breakfast  Metropol Hotel (or similar)

Bid farewell to Finland and head to the Baltic States! Board a ferry and cross the Gulf of Finland to Tallinn, Estonia's magical capital. Explore the city's highlights with a local guide! Tallinn is one of Europe's most enchanting cities, with an exceptionally well-preserved medieval Old Town. Tonight, choose to enjoy a festive meal at a historic restaurant.

**Included:**

- Catch a ferry from Helsinki to Tallinn
- Tour Tallinn with a local guide

**Optionals:**

- A Festive Evening in Tallinn

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Day 11: **Tallinn - Pärnu - Latvian Military Cemetery - Riga**

 Breakfast  Hestia Hotel Jugend (or similar)

Travel towards Riga, Latvia's capital. On the way, stop over in Pärnu in Estonia. Then, learn about Latvian history at the Latvian Military Cemetery, dedicated to the soldiers who fought in WWI. Later, embark on an orientation tour of Riga to seek out the city's exquisite Art Nouveau architecture and impressive landmarks such as its massive central market.

**Included:**

- Sightsee in Pärnu
  - Visit the Latvian Military Cemetery
  - Discover Riga; Latvia's vibrant capital
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Day 12: **Riga - Hill of Crosses - Vilnius**

 Breakfast  Art City Inn Hotel (or similar)

This morning, hit the road to Lithuania. The first stop is the Hill of Crosses. This famous pilgrimage site features 100,000+ crosses, the first of which were placed here in 1831 after a local rebellion. Continue to Vilnius, Lithuania's capital. Arrive and enjoy an orientation tour followed by free time to explore Vilnius's cathedrals, churches, artist republics, and more!

**Included:**

- Visit the Hill of Crosses
- Explore Vilnius; capital of Lithuania

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Day 13: **Vilnius - Trakai - Warsaw**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Radisson Blu Sobieski Hotel (or similar)

Depart Vilnius and travel towards Warsaw, Poland's capital. Along the way, stopover in Trakai. Have your cameras ready to snap unforgettable photos of Trakai Castle, a 14th-century fortress in the middle of Lake Galvė. Back on the coach, look forward to a driving tour en route to Warsaw. Arrive and check into the hotel before enjoying a group dinner.

**Included:**

- Marvel at the scenery in Trakai National Park
- See Warsaw's highlights on a driving tour

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Day 14: **Warsaw: Free Day**

 Breakfast  Radisson Blu Sobieski Hotel (or similar)

Explore Warsaw's charming Old Town this morning with a local guide. See the Old Town square which dates back to the 13th century, admire the Royal Castle, the Presidential Palace and more. Afterwards, make the most of your free day in Warsaw. Join one of the exciting optional excursions on offer to experience Warsaw's royal history, culture and cuisine!

**Included:**

- Discover Warsaw's Old Town with a local guide

**Optionals:**

- Taste of Warsaw: Royal Castle & Pierogi
- Chopin & Polish Flavours Evening

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Day 15: **Warsaw - Poznań - Berlin (New Year's Eve)**

 Breakfast, Dinner  Moxy Berlin Ostbahnhof (or similar)

Head west, stop in Poznań, Poland. Grab lunch in the historic old town. Continue on to Germany and bustling Berlin! Take an insightful driving and walking tour and see famous sights like the Brandenburg Gate and Checkpoint Charlie. Check into the hotel and get ready to ring in the new year with dinner at a Bavarian-style beer hall!

**Included:**

- Explore the Old Market Square in Poznań
  - Discover Berlin on a guided tour
  - Celebrate New Year in Berlin
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Day 16: **Berlin: Free Day**

 Breakfast  **Moxy Berlin Ostbahnhof (or similar)**

Wake up to a brand-new year in the heart of Berlin. Today is yours to explore as you wish. Join the optional Berlin+ tour to journey into the past. Discover the Eastside open-air gallery along the Berlin Wall and visit the exceptional museum in the old Jewish Quarter. This excursion is the best way to explore Berlin!

**Optionals:**

- New Year’s Berlin+

Day 17: **Berlin - Amsterdam**

 Breakfast  **Holiday Inn Express Amsterdam Schiphol (or similar)**

Say Auf Wiedersehen to Berlin as the tour leaves Germany for the Netherlands. Enjoy the scenery as the coach travels through various landscapes. Later, arrive back in Amsterdam. After checking in to the hotel, choose to celebrate the last night of this magical and festive tour with an optional farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

**Optionals:**

- Diversely Dutch Dinner

Day 18: **End of tour in Amsterdam**

 Breakfast

After an incredible 18 festive-filled days, your Northern Explorer Christmas & New Year tour comes to an end after breakfast. Swap contact details with your new tour mates so you can share photos and memories after returning home! We hope to see you again soon.

**Disclaimer:** Itinerary details are correct at time of publication and may be subject to change. This document was generated on 29 September 2026 at 11:34 UTC.