

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION CRUISING THE BALTIC SEA: COPENHAGEN TO ST. PETERSBURG

PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for at least six (6) months after your journey and should have a minimum of four (4) blank visa pages for entry and exit stamps.

Holders of U.S. and Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into Denmark, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Sweden, Estonia or Finland for stays of up to 90 days. These countries are all part of the Schengen Zone and non-EU citizens will usually receive a passport stamp at the first and last port of entry in the Schengen area as the ship receives clearance into each port.

A tourist visa is required for U.S. and Canadian passport holders for entry into Russia. A visa can be obtained either by applying directly to a Russian consulate or through a visa processing service. We strongly advise processing your Russian visa through VisaCentral as we have made arrangements with our visa service provider to obtain the Russia Tourist Visa Support Letter necessary to process your visa. Please ensure that you allow enough time for visa processing and submit your visa application by April 8, 2022 to ensure you receive your passport and visa in time for your journey.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at visacentral.com/abercrombiekent or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

HEALTH & VACCINATIONS

Health and safety screening and protocols will be required prior to and during your cruise. Details will be provided as appropriate prior to departure to ensure they reflect the latest regulations and standards.

There are no vaccinations required for this journey.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR EXPEDITION CRUISES

Please ensure that we are aware of any physical, medical or other condition that might affect your ability to participate on this journey. You may be required to produce a doctor's certificate prior to travel. Due to ship restrictions, women who will be six (6) months or more pregnant at any time during the cruise are not permitted to travel on Expedition Cruises. The ship owner's medical staff and Captain reserve the right to refuse passage to anyone who is deemed unfit for travel either before or during the journey.

CASH & CREDIT CARDS

In most of the countries visited on this cruise, major credit cards are widely accepted. Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) are very common and many U.S. issued bankcards are compatible with them.

Carry American banknotes in good condition and in smaller denominations. Banks and currency exchanges (particularly in the Baltics and Russia) may refuse U.S. currency that is crumpled, torn or defaced (even small pen strokes are considered defacing) or may charge an additional processing fee if accepted for exchange.

Larger shops in Moscow and St. Petersburg generally accept major credit cards. Visa and MasterCard are the preferred brands; American Express is not as widely accepted. Travellers should note that for no apparent reason Russian credit card readers sometimes decline a valid credit card. For this reason, travellers intending to pay for goods and services by credit card should carry a back-up credit card(s) in case their card is not accepted. While it is illegal to use foreign currency to pay for everyday transactions such as small souvenir purchases, taxi fares, etc., in practice foreign currency is routinely used (and gratefully accepted) for such exchanges. It is suggested that you use U.S. dollars in excellent condition and small denominations (\$20 or less) to pay for your purchases in Russia. Old, worn, torn bills are likely to be rejected. ATMs are plentiful in Moscow and to a lesser extent in other large cities. Travellers should use only machines that are physically attached to an established banking institution and avoid “stand-alone” machines found on street corners and in metro stations.

'Le Champlain' uses the euro as its official currency. Guests can pay for incidentals with U.S. dollars as well and exchange rates will be provided by the Purser when making payment. For purchases on board, guests should present their Boarding Swipe card to the cashier, who in turn will swipe the card and process a charge docket for signature. The charges will automatically be transferred to your onboard account. Any personal expenses incurred on board (including Champagnes and non-house wines, boutique, laundry, communications charges, medical services and medications) will be charged to your shipboard account and presented for payment at the end of each expedition.

Cash, travellers' checks (in euros) and credit cards are accepted as payment of onboard accounts. Visa and Mastercard are the recommended brands, although American Express is accepted as well. Personal checks cannot be cashed on board and funds for cashing travellers' checks are limited.

All onboard transactions made by bank or credit card are processed via the ship owner's home office in Marseille, France, and charges from your onboard account may not be processed for one month after your cruise. Call your bank or credit card company to let them know about your travel plans and advise that onboard charges are processed through France to avoid having your overseas purchases viewed as suspicious. When reviewing your credit card statement, please note credit card charges from the vessel will show on your statements as charged to "Le Champlain."

There is no currency exchange facility on board.

OF SPECIAL NOTE: RUSSIA

Russia has grown in popularity in recent years and you may notice large crowds queuing to enter the various sights. A&K will enable you to enter through fast track or early opening arrangements depending on availability at the different sights, thus avoiding you having to queue wherever possible. However, please be aware that you may find large numbers of visitors outside these buildings or indeed in the entrance halls – please follow and trust your guides who are experienced in these procedures and know the best route to take you.

Please note that due to the complex opening schedules in Russia it may be necessary to rearrange or substitute the sightseeing program on this itinerary. Scheduled sightseeing may have to be altered to accommodate changes in accessibility of sites. We ask for your patience should such a situation occur.

Churches and museums in Russia may charge a fee (in rubles) for photography or video. Your local guide will advise when a fee is required.

Guests joining the Moscow post-tour extension should note that restrictions on bringing large professional cameras into the Kremlin apply:

- Diameter - no larger than 70 mm (2.75 inches)

- Height - no more than 140 mm (5.51 inches)
- Camera lens - no larger than 250 mm
- Cameras that are larger than these restrictions will not be allowed on the Kremlin grounds. There may be issues elsewhere in Moscow with professional photography equipment, such as tripods and large lens cameras, and Russian authorities may become suspicious of anyone carrying this equipment.

PACKING LIST

CRUISING THE BALTIC SEA: COPENHAGEN TO ST. PETERSBURG

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to find and manage your luggage for you.

PACKING LIST

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather (or level of air-conditioning) requires. Cotton and other light fabrics are comfortable choices for summertime. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Gentlemen may wish to pack a light jacket and ladies, a casual evening ensemble to wear for dinner at better restaurants and for the Captain's Welcome Cocktail Party and the Farewell Party on board 'Le Champlain.' Formal clothing is not necessary.

Cathedrals, churches, and other religious sites require conservative dress. Arms, shoulders should be covered – no shorts. This applies to both men and women. For women, barebacked, low-necked dresses or tops or short skirts, are not considered appropriate attire.

CLOTHING

- Casual slacks
- Walking shorts
- Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses
- Comfortable walking shoes with low or no heels (non-skid); sandals may not be appropriate for some sightseeing activities
- Lightweight raincoat and umbrella
- Sweater or fleece jacket (temperatures can be a couple of degrees cooler at sea)
- Brimmed hat or visor for sun protection
- Sleepwear
- Personal garments
- Socks
- Swimwear/cover-up

Other Recommended Items

- Sunglasses
- Sun block and lip balm
- Simple first-aid kit
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Smartphone
- Charging cables for electronics
- Global travel adapter

Traveller's Valet: A&K's complimentary laundry service for 8 articles of clothing per person will be provided once during your journey on board. Additional laundry can be done for a charge. Dry cleaning is not available.

Laundry service is available at your hotel for a fee. Check costs and return times before using these services.

TIPPING GUIDELINES CRUISING THE BALTIC SEA: COPENHAGEN TO ST. PETERSBURG

Gratuities to Expedition Staff, all shipboard personnel, local guides and drivers on included shore excursions and drivers and wait staff at included meals ashore are included in the cost of the cruise and pre and post-tour extensions.

Gratuities for Tailor Made or Private Arrangements:

Gratuities for private arrangements made in lieu of scheduled group shore excursions during the cruise as well as pre or post-cruise Tailor Made arrangements are not included. The following guidelines are general local standards and are quoted per person, per day. Please present your gratuity in local currency.

	Tailor Made Journeys & Privately-Made Arrangements
Local Guides	\$25 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	\$2 per bag
Housekeepers	\$2 per person, per night
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added

LIFE ON BOARD 'LE CHAMPLAIN'

GENERAL INFORMATION

The mega yacht 'Le Champlain' is 430-feet long and accommodates up to 184 passengers; however, A&K charters limit occupancy to a maximum of 148 guests.

Accommodations are in outside staterooms in eight different categories ranging in size from 248 to 807 square feet (including private balcony). All staterooms and suites have private balconies and a bathroom with shower. (Categories 7 & 8 feature shower and bathtub.) Staterooms feature two twins or one king bed convertible upon request. Certain staterooms on Decks 5 and 6 have a fixed queen-size bed. The ship has two ADA accessible staterooms and three elevators and ramps accessing all passenger decks.

Each stateroom features nightly turn down service, individual climate control, closed circuit flat-screen TV (with movie-on-demand system), Wi-Fi access, wireless Bluetooth® speaker, telephone, coffee and tea making facility, wardrobe, hair dryer, small electronic safe, minibar replenished on request and a vanity with mirror. Bathrobes, slippers and Hermès toiletries are provided in each stateroom.

All suites feature Butler service - an A&K exclusive feature - which includes nightly canapes, personalized welcome, unpacking and packing upon request, room service, shoe polishing, expedited laundry, as well as spa and salon priority booking.

The ship has a full-service reception area, including a 24-hour front desk, as well as an excursions desk and boutique. 'Le Champlain' features a restaurant on Deck 4 which accommodates all passengers in a single seating and an outdoor dining area on Deck 3 with room for 70 guests. In addition to the main lounge bar, there is an outdoor bar and lounge with armchairs and sofas.

The pool deck offers a heated infinity pool with a counter current swimming system and deck chairs.

The ship has a theater-style lecture room for presentations featuring the most up-to-date audio/visual equipment and a LED wall for the projection of high-resolution images and videos. Lectures in the Theater are open to all guests.

The Fitness Center offers guests complimentary use of equipment including stationary bikes, treadmills and other exercise equipment. Due to safety reasons, there are no free weights on board the ship. Sea conditions may affect opening hours the Fitness Center.

'Le Champlain' has a gift shop/boutique (no sundries), as well as a Beauty Center featuring a full-service beauty salon, sauna and massage services. Hairstyling, manicures, pedicures and other services are charged to your shipboard account.

A daily program features the following day's events, excursions, and hours of meal service is delivered to your stateroom each evening.

ELECTRICITY

On board 'Le Champlain' electricity runs 220 volts. All staterooms have a 110/220 volt-shaving socket in the bathroom, to be used for electric razors only. Staterooms have one 110v plug (U.S. three-prong outlet) by the bedroom TV, in addition to the standard 220v outlets (European 2-prong style). A limited number of adaptors are available on board; however, supplies are not guaranteed. We recommend you bring a global travel adapter set with you.

LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATIONS

English is the language used by staff on board A&K charters.

'Le Champlain' is equipped with the INMARSAT system that allows direct communication by telephone and e-mail. Although staterooms feature telephones, transmission may not always be possible in remote areas or during heavy sea conditions. Please note that charges for maritime satellite connections are significantly higher than those for land services. Fees for on-board communication services will be added to guests' shipboard accounts. (Fees are subject to change.)

Although Wi-Fi internet is offered on A&K charters, please be prepared for periods of time during your voyage where Wi-Fi internet access may not be available. Satellite phone reception and transmission as well as the speed and accessibility of wireless internet are affected the ship's location (including your location on the vessel), weather and atmospheric conditions. Internet speed is also affected by the number of users on board relative to the ship's available bandwidth. When internet access is available, guests may access their emails via their personal accounts with their personal device. While the ship's wireless access is suitable for simple e-mail and communication, do not rely on it for heavy duty applications such as social media sites, downloading files or streaming movies. Your patience and understanding are appreciated when this situation occurs.

Access time may be obtained from Reception for onboard usage and you will be issued a username and password. These codes will be unique to you and not stored anywhere in the system, so it is important that you keep a record of this information. This procedure is subject to change.

FOOD AND DRINK

Dining is a special treat on board. International cuisine is available in two different restaurants. The first dining area, located on Deck 3, features outside sitting and serves grilled meats daily, along with a selection of salads and desserts. The main, 850 square foot dining room is located at the rear of Deck 4 and offers panoramic views. This unique dining area, which opens onto the outside, offers a selection of salads, hot meals, cheeses and desserts.

Room service is also available. Early riser coffee and breakfast pastries, afternoon tea and late-night snacks are offered daily. Meals on board are scheduled around the day's sightseeing and shipboard activities. Please consult your daily program for mealtimes and opening hours.

Bottled water, bar drinks (exclusive of premium Champagnes, wines and spirits) soft drinks, and house wines (white and red) and beer during lunch and dinner are included at no extra charge. On board 'Le Champlain' tap water is purified, and bottled water is provided in your stateroom daily.

If you have special dietary requirements (vegetarian or vegan menus, food allergies, etc.) please advise Abercrombie & Kent at least 6 weeks prior to the beginning of your journey. Chefs on board 'Le Champlain' will make every effort to accommodate your needs. If you have food allergies and/or special dietary requirements, in addition to advising A&K prior to departure, please take the opportunity early in the cruise to meet with the Maître D' and Cruise Director to discuss your special requests and inform your server prior to dining. Kosher meals are not available on board.

OF SPECIAL NOTE

Maritime law does not allow guests unrestricted access to the bridge. Dependent on the Captain's discretion there may be scheduled opportunities offered during the cruise when guests may visit the bridge in such a way that the vessel's commitment to these security measures will not be compromised.

Access to outdoor areas may be restricted during inclement weather and ship maneuvers. The day's scheduled sightseeing events and timings on board 'Le Champlain' may be altered and a certain degree of flexibility and spontaneity is required. Additionally, every effort will be made to follow the published itinerary but please note that they are subject to change to conditions and variables which may include but are not limited to weather, sea, and other conditions beyond Abercrombie and Kent's control and are at the discretion of the Captain's command. Port calls are subject to approval by local government officials and can be altered without prior notice.