THE ROYAL OAK FOUNDATION

Americans in Alliance with the National Trust of England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Sailing Ancient Trade Routes

Helsinki to Copenhagen Aboard *Sea Cloud II*

June 27–July 9, 2020

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Dear Royal Oak Members and Friends,

Next summer, enjoy a Baltic adventure aboard the luxury barque *Sea Cloud II* during the region's loveliest season, when the northern sunlight shines on stunning medieval cities and shimmers on the sea well into the night. On this cruise, retrace the trade routes of the Hanseatic League, an alliance of northern European merchant towns that dominated Baltic commerce from the 13th through the 15th centuries. Admire the richly ornamented houses, lavish churches, and exquisite relics that proliferated during this era of prosperity, which contributed to Europe's Renaissance.

Explore vibrant Helsinki before setting sail for Turku, the former Finnish capital founded in the 13th century, to discover its ancient castle and cathedral. Experience the rare delight of sailing into the Stockholm archipelago in the morning, wending through hundreds of small islands dotted with 19th-century homes and stately villas. Navigate narrow straits and gaze upon pine forests, imposing cliffs, and shores where grey seals and moose roam. In Stockholm, gain exclusive access to the city's finest museums.

Drift over to Visby, Sweden, one of Scandinavia's best-preserved medieval cities, and call at historic Gdańsk, a Polish seaport with iconic rows of tall, multicolored Gothic façades. In Germany, wander Hamburg and whimsical Lübeck, known as the "Queen City" of the Hanseatic League, which still houses the gabled mansions of the wealthy merchant class.

You will share this exciting voyage with other sophisticated travelers from the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the World Affairs Council of Philadelphia, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Harvard and Johns Hopkins Alumni Associations. An optional prelude in St. Petersburg is also available.

I hope you will join the Royal Oak Foundation to discover the gems of the Baltic.

Sincerely,

Ian Murray
Executive Director
Royal Oak Foundation

HIGHLIGHTS

ENJOY a private reception at Stockholm's Vasa Museum, housing the only preserved 17th-century ship in the world, and marvel at the unspoiled detail of the vessel's wood carvings and ornaments

DELIGHT in a private after-hours visit to Millesgården, a sculpture garden and museum built atop an island cliff by renowned Swedish artists Carl and Olga Milles

EXPLORE the Viking Age city of Visby, Sweden, with its iconic Visborg castle, medieval churches, and the best-preserved fortifications in all of northern Europe

ROAM the UNESCO-listed Hanseatic League city of Lübeck, Germany, whose structures include its imposing Gothic city gate and the soaring green spires of its 13th-century St. Mary's Church

JOURNEY to Gdańsk's gorgeous Mariacka Street to admire precious nuggets of amber, also known as "Baltic Gold," locally mined in this region for 6,000 years

VENTURE back 800 years in Turku, Finland, the nation's oldest city and former capital, with its stately medieval castle and cathedral

RELAX on a scenic sail for 40 miles through the vast archipelago leading into Stockholm's beautiful harbor

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An optional prelude in St. Petersburg, Russia is offered from June 23 to 28, 2020.

SATURDAY, JUNE 27 DEPARTURE
Depart for Helsinki on an overnight flight.

SUNDAY, JUNE 28: HELSINKI, FINLAND
Arrive in Finland's capital and transfer to the hotel before gathering for a welcome reception and dinner. R,D

MONDAY, JUNE 29: HELSINKI / EMBARK *SEA CLOUD II*
Following breakfast, explore the bustling market, Eliel Saarinen's striking train station, the unique Rock Church, and the great cathedral on Senate Square. See Finland's finest collection of national and foreign art during a tour of the Ateneum. In the afternoon, enjoy lunch and time at leisure before embarking the ship. Set sail for Turku in the early evening. B,L,D

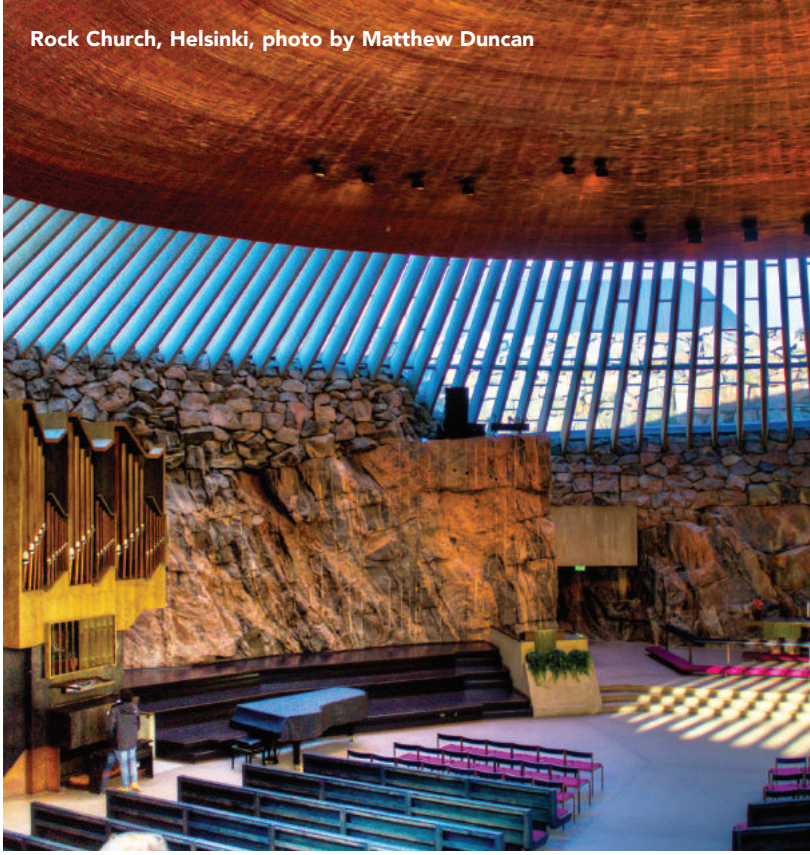
TUESDAY, JUNE 30: TURKU, FINLAND
This afternoon, arrive in Turku, Finland's former capital and oldest city, dating back over 800 years. Visit the medieval castle and the cathedral, which is almost as old as the city. Stop at the Aboa Vetus and Ars Art Museum before setting sail for Stockholm. Join the captain this evening for a festive welcome reception and dinner. B,L,R,D

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1: STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN
After a morning lecture, gather on deck and revel in the natural beauty of the calm Baltic waters as *Sea Cloud II* navigates a vast archipelago on its approach to Stockholm. Disembark in Stockholm this afternoon and enjoy a private reception at the Vasa Museum to admire the magnificent 17th-century warship that was recovered from the bottom of Stockholm's harbor. Later, you may wish to dine ashore as *Sea Cloud II* remains docked in Stockholm overnight. B,L,D

THURSDAY, JULY 2: STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN
Join a morning walking tour through *Gamla Stan*, Stockholm's charming Old Town, followed by a special tour of the recently renovated Royal Armory, the oldest museum in Sweden, which contains artifacts of Swedish military and political history. Then visit City Hall, home to the annual Nobel Prize banquet, and discover its lofty square tower bearing the golden Three Crowns, the symbol of Sweden. This afternoon, tour the sculpture garden at Millesgården. In the evening *Sea Cloud II* sets sail, cruising past colorful summer homes and watercraft. B,L,D

Helsinki Cathedral

Millesgården sculpture garden, photo by Ayax Amce


Rock Church, Helsinki, photo by Matthew Duncan

FRIDAY, JULY 3: VISBY, SWEDEN
This afternoon, arrive in Visby, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Towers, gabled mansions, the Visborg Castle, and ruins of medieval churches recall this walled town's fascinating Hanseatic history. See the 800-year-old cathedral, walk in the botanical garden, and visit the Gotlands Museum before setting sail in the evening. B,L,D

SATURDAY, JULY 4: DAY AT SEA
Today, sail aboard the magnificent *Sea Cloud II* while she crosses the Baltic Sea to Poland. Observe the ship's crew as they practice the ancient art of trimming the sails by hand. Gather in the lounge for a lively discussion from our traveling experts. Attend an Independence Day barbecue on deck this evening. B,L,D

SUNDAY, JULY 5: GDAŃSK, POLAND
Call in Gdańsk, one of Poland's oldest cities. Pass through the Highland Gate, the official start of the "Royal Route." With a curator, visit the National Museum, whose collection includes *The Last Judgment* by Hans Memling. Explore enchanting St. Mary's Street, which leads from St. Mary's Church to the Long Embankment, to discover richly ornamented houses once owned by prosperous merchants. B,L,D

MONDAY, JULY 6: DAY AT SEA
Enjoy the rare privilege of being under sail aboard *Sea Cloud II* as we cruise toward the German coast. You may wish to spend this day at sea attending lectures, walking the deck, or reading a good book in the bright light of the Baltic summer. B,L,D

TUESDAY, JULY 7: LÜBECK / HAMBURG, GERMANY
Today we will have a full-day excursion to Hamburg. You will have the opportunity to see the architecturally striking, glass-enclosed Elbphilharmonie, one of the largest and most technologically advanced music halls in the world. Other highlights will include a walking tour of the UNESCO-designated Speicherstadt, a historic assortment of ornately designed brick structures built in the late 19th century and the world's largest integrated complex of warehouses. Return to *Sea Cloud II* and remain in Lübeck for the night. B,L,D

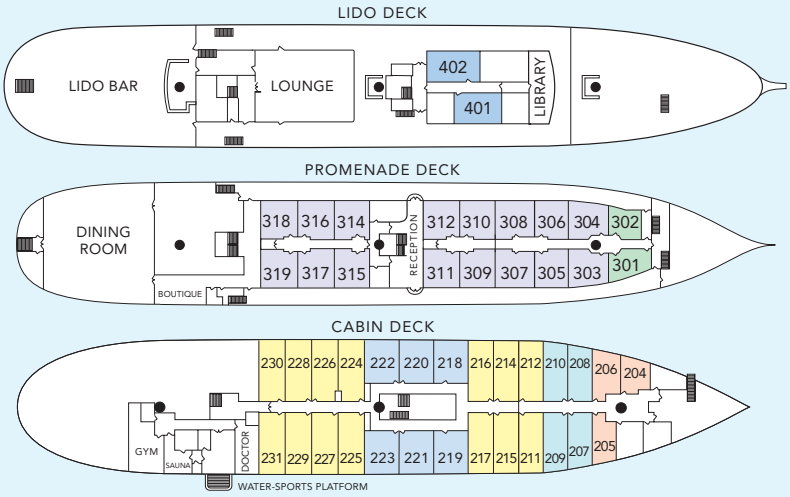
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8: LÜBECK
Explore the medieval city of Lübeck, once the "Queen City" of the Hanseatic League and now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit the gabled houses of the rich merchant class and a marzipan shop. Explore the center of the medieval town at St. Mary's Church and the Market Square, where signs of heavy bombing during World War II can still be seen. Rejoin the ship in Lübeck and sail for Denmark. This evening the captain hosts a farewell dinner. B,L,D

THURSDAY, JULY 9: COPENHAGEN, DENMARK / DISEMBARK
Disembark *Sea Cloud II* this morning in Copenhagen and transfer to the airport for flights home. B

DISCLAIMER: *This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the Royal Oak Foundation and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.*

Lübeck

SEA CLOUD II



Sea Cloud II is a three-masted sailing yacht steeped in the elegance of yesteryear and complemented with the most modern amenities. Sister ship of the legendary *Sea Cloud*, *Sea Cloud II* has 47 outside cabins and travels under 23 billowing sails trimmed by hand. From the mahogany-paneled library and gracious lounge to the fitness area and watersports platform, no detail has been overlooked. Praised by the world's most discerning travelers, *Sea Cloud II* receives consistent high rankings from *Condé Nast Traveler*. Passengers enjoy open seating at all meals and complimentary use of all water sports equipment. A doctor is on call 24 hours a day. Please note: there is no elevator on *Sea Cloud II*.

CRUISE RATES

Cabin	Decks	Double Rate	Single Rate
Cabins 204 to 206	Cabin	$9,999	$11,999
State Rooms. Upper/lower twin berths, shower.			
Cabins 207 to 210	Cabin	$11,999	$17,999
Superior Cabins. Twin beds, shower.			
Cabins 211 to 217 & 224 to 231	Cabin	$14,999	$22,499
Deluxe Cabins. Twin beds, shower.			
Cabins 218 to 223	Cabin	$16,999	Inquire
Deluxe Cabins. Twin beds, shower.			
Cabins 301 & 302	Promenade	$18,999	Inquire
Deluxe Cabins. Twin beds, shower.			
Cabins 303 to 319	Promenade	$20,999	Inquire
Junior Suites. Twin beds, bathtub with shower.			
Cabins 401 & 402	Lido	$22,999	Inquire
Owner's Suites. Queen-size bed, bathtub, and separate shower.			

RATES INCLUDE

- One night hotel accommodations in Helsinki
- Ten nights cabin accommodations aboard *Sea Cloud II*
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner); bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals; thoughtfully selected wines and beer with onboard lunches and dinners; complimentary open bar during the cruise
- Airport/hotel/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Enrichment program of lectures and special events
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities
- Taxes, service, and porterage charges

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

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Reservation Form

To reserve a place, please call Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; or complete and return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person (of which $500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Names in full as on passports. Please print.

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (home) (business)

Fax Email

ACCOMMODATIONS

Sea Cloud II cabin preference (1) _____ (2) _____

I wish to share a room with _____

FORM OF PAYMENT

❒ Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*) ❒ Debit card ❒ Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code Expiration date

OPTIONAL PRELUDE

❒ I/We wish to join the optional prelude in St. Petersburg

Hotel Room Preference ❒ One bed ❒ Two beds ❒ Single

Each participant must sign below. I/We have read, understand and agree to the Terms & Conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms and detailed in program documents. I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure.

Signature (required) Date

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Front cover: TBA. Below: Stockholm archipelago

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