

***Viking Empire***  
**At-A-Glance**  
**2015 departures**



This is a combination cruise combining *Mediterranean Odyssey*, *Empires of the Mediterranean*, *Passage through Western Europe* and *Viking Homelands*. It is a comprehensive tour of the Mediterranean and Iberian regions. The overnights at the start and end mean that guests can spend extra time in these ports, not just the ports of call along the way. There are sailing days during the cruise which ensure relaxed enjoyment of the ship's features and activities. We even cruise past an active volcano and through the Straits of Gibraltar.

*50 days from Istanbul to Stockholm (and reverse)*

## *Viking Empire* At-A-Glance

### Key Features

- 33 different cities
- 20 countries
- Scenic cruising past Stromboli volcano and transiting the Straits of Gibraltar, Messina and the Dardenelles.
- 10 overnights
- 14 late stays (in addition to the 10 overnights)
- On average, over 12¾ hours spent each day in port
- 24 included excursions
- Free beer, wine and soft drinks with lunch and dinner

### Average Monthly Temperature (avg high / avg low), °F

City	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Athens	50 (55/45)	50 (55/45)	54 (61/46)	59 (66/52)	67 (75/59)	75 (82/68)	81 (90/72)	80 (88/72)	74 (82/66)	66 (73/59)	59 (64/54)	53 (57/48)
Barcelona	49 (57/41)	49 (57/41)	53 (61/45)	55 (63/46)	60 (68/52)	67 (75/59)	73 (81/64)	74 (82/66)	71 (79/63)	64 (72/55)	55 (63/46)	51 (59/43)
Bergen	35 (37/32)	36 (39/32)	38 (43/34)	43 (48/37)	51 (57/45)	56 (63/50)	59 (64/54)	58 (63/54)	53 (57/48)	48 (52/45)	41 (45/37)	37 (39/34)
Dubrovnik	38 (44/32)	41 (47/34)	46 (54/38)	53 (61/44)	61 (70/51)	67 (76/57)	72 (82/62)	72 (82/61)	66 (75/56)	57 (65/49)	48 (55/41)	41 (47/34)
Istanbul	43 (46/39)	42 (46/37)	46 (52/41)	54 (61/46)	61 (68/54)	71 (79/63)	74 (82/66)	74 (82/66)	69 (77/61)	60 (66/54)	53 (57/48)	46 (50/43)
London	40 (45/36)	40 (45/36)	46 (52/39)	48 (55/41)	55 (64/46)	60 (68/52)	64 (73/55)	64 (73/55)	60 (68/52)	54 (59/48)	46 (52/41)	43 (46/39)
Rome	46 (54/37)	48 (55/39)	50 (59/41)	55 (64/46)	63 (73/52)	70 (81/59)	75 (86/63)	75 (86/64)	70 (81/59)	63 (72/52)	54 (61/45)	48 (55/39)
Venice	37 (43/32)	40 (46/34)	46 (54/39)	54 (61/46)	62 (70/54)	68 (75/61)	73 (82/64)	73 (81/64)	67 (75/59)	57 (64/59)	46 (52/39)	39 (45/34)

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Information subject to change; most recent update September 30, 2014

## ***Viking Empire*** Ports of Call

### **Aalborg**

- An off-the-beaten-path port only accessible to smaller ships.
- Great scenic cruising, 12 miles up the Limfjord.
- Central berth, just 50 yards from the town.
- Great Viking history and a prolific producer of Aquavit.

### **Barcelona**

- An easily accessible departure port with great air availability from the USA.
- An easy, hassle-free and short transfer from the airport.
- Rich with Catalan culture and home to the famous artist Antoni Gaudí.
- Central berth, just 300 yards from the city.

### **Bergen**

- Truly the ‘gateway to the fjords.’
- A UNESCO-listed area right next to our central berth.
- Great scenic cruising for the last 2 hours approaching the port through narrow channels between the islands.
- Central berth, just 5 minutes’ stroll from the city center.
- Norway’s second city has a fascinating Viking history.

### **Cadiz**

- An easy jumping-off point to visit nearby Seville.
- A compact and historic town on a human scale that makes exploration on foot very easy.
- Central berth, just 400 feet from the town.
- The oldest continually inhabited city in all of Spain.

### **Cartagena**

- Central berth, right on the main promenade of the town.
- Interesting Roman ruins only recently discovered and remarkably well preserved.
- A thriving wine industry with some very distinctive flavors.
- Near the UNESCO Site at Elche.

### **Civitavecchia (Rome)**

- This is the port of Rome, a city not to be missed on any Western Mediterranean itinerary.
- A wealth of history and culture in the ‘Eternal City’ just 1½ hours’ drive from the port.
- A wide variety of available shore excursions.
- A privileged-access tour of the Vatican Museum.

## ***Viking Empire*** Ports of Call (continued)

### **Copenhagen**

- One of the ‘Marquee’, not to be missed ports of the Baltic.
- Special permission to use a central berth right next to the famous ‘Little Mermaid’.
- Capital of Denmark and full of palaces, state buildings and history.
- Within easy reach of Kronberg Castle & Roskilde Cathedral, both UNESCO sites.

### **Corfu**

- A Greek island rich with history, it was once a Venetian and then a British possession.
- The Old Town is UNESCO-listed.
- Historic monasteries dot the island.
- A swim in the clear warm waters is a treat not to be missed.

### **Dubrovnik**

- The whole city is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Both old and contemporary history to discover.
- Often described as the ‘Pearl of the Adriatic.’

### **Flåm**

- Deep in the heart of Norway’s fjords some 100 miles from the open sea.
- Great scenic cruising for many hours before and after calling here.
- Central berth, just 100 feet from the town (although we can sometimes be at anchor).
- Home to the famous Flåm railway, one of the most spectacular mountain railroads in the world.

### **Gdynia (Gdańsk)**

- A great jumping-off point for the northern part of Poland.
- Close to one of the most impressive UNESCO-listed castles in the world, Malbork.
- See where the end of the Communist period started with the rise of the Solidarity Movement.
- Great medieval history in the nearby town of Gdańsk.

### **Gibraltar**

- A little piece of England in the Mediterranean sun. Red telephone boxes and ‘bobbies on the beat’ can be seen.
- A rich military history dating from 1704 through to WW II—tread where Churchill and Eisenhower walked in the then-secret wartime tunnels.
- Enjoy the views across to Africa from the famous ‘Rock of Gibraltar.’
- A tax-free haven, very popular with shoppers.

## ***Viking Empire*** Ports of Call (continued)

### **Greenwich**

- A spectacular scenic cruise some 60 miles up the river Thames.
- Only small ships can reach this far up the river.
- Central location, right by the Prime Meridian that gives the world its time and just 20 minutes from central London (Buckingham Palace, Houses of Parliament, Tower of London, etc).
- The historic town of Greenwich is UNESCO-listed.

### **Helsinki**

- Capital city of Finland.
- UNESCO-listed Soumenlinna Fortress island in the harbor.
- A city on a human scale, low-density development and easy to explore.
- A wonderful archipelago of islands, the shorelines of which are dotted with the vacation homes of the rich and famous.

### **Istanbul**

- A melting pot of European and Asian culture rich with history and treasures from the Ottoman Empire.
- Great scenic cruising through the Dardanelles, Sea of Marmara and past the Golden Horn.
- Home to the Grand Bazaar, perhaps the world's oldest and most famous market.
- Unusual Viking history (go and see the graffiti left in the Hagia Sophia toward the end of the Viking Age).

### **Kotor**

- An off-the-beaten-path port mostly visited by the mega-rich in their private yachts.
- A simply stunning approach through a narrow channel to a port only accessible to smaller ships.
- Central berth, just 400 feet from the town and surrounded by high mountains.
- Great medieval history and the charm of a small and undiscovered gem.

### **Kusadasi (Ephesus)**

- The closest port to the magnificent ancient site of Ephesus.
- The region is rich in sites from antiquity.
- Great beaches and clear warm waters to swim in.
- Central berth, just 500 feet from the town.

## ***Viking Empire*** Ports of Call (continued)

### **Lisbon**

- Portugal's capital city with a host of UNESCO Sites and a rich maritime heritage.
- Great food—not to be missed is an egg pastry washed down with the national drink of port wine.
- Close to the pilgrimage site of Fátima.
- The perfect port at which to divide the sea journey between northern and southern Europe.

### **Livorno (Tuscany)**

- The best port from which to explore the glories of Pisa and Florence.
- Great scenery, food and wine of the Tuscan countryside.
- Art lovers will be awed by the sights.

### **Monte Carlo**

- Something of an off-the-beaten-path port.
- Within easy reach of the main attractions across the border in France.
- Central berth, right in the famous harbor of the town (although we may sometimes be at anchor).
- Private visit to the Royal Palace available.

### **Naples**

- A riot of Renaissance and Roman culture. Within easy reach of famous Pompeii.
- Central berth, just 500 yards from the city.
- The historic centre of the city is UNESCO-listed.

### **Piraeus (Athens)**

- No Eastern Mediterranean cruise is complete without this ancient city, whose history spans 3,400 years.
- Some of the world's best Greek and Roman ruins and artifacts throughout the city and surrounding areas.
- Home to the iconic Acropolis upon which sits the mighty Parthenon.

### **Pula**

- An off-the-beaten-path port only accessible to smaller ships at anchor.
- Guests disembark right in the center of town.
- Great Roman history with some very well-preserved buildings on display.

## ***Viking Empire*** Ports of Call (continued)

### **Rouen**

- A beautiful French city with a fascinating past.
- This is where St. Joan of Arc met a grisly end at the hands of the English in 1431.
- Close enough to Paris to enable a full-day exploration.
- Seven hours of scenic cruising up the river Seine. The friendly locals wave to you as you glide by.
- Close to the D-Day beaches and cemeteries.

### **St. Petersburg**

- The ‘crown jewel’ of the Baltic, a must-see destination.
- Amazing museums—to some of which we will have behind-the-scenes access.
- UNESCO Sites too numerous to mention.
- With so much to see, we spend two full days here.

### **Santorini (Thira)**

- A beautiful island which is actually the crater of a massive (and still active) volcano.
- Fantastic views of the towering 1,000-foot-high cliffs as the ship sails in and out of the flooded crater.
- The destruction of island by the eruption is said to be the basis for the legend of Atlantis.

### **Split**

- The entire center of this pretty town is UNESCO-listed.
- Central berth, just 500 yards from the town.
- The town sits in a beautiful coastal bay with fantastic views.
- Small enough to be easily explored on foot.

### **Stavanger**

- A charming coastal port with historic buildings but also a thriving modern gas industry.
- Central berth, just 50 feet from the town’s historic quarter.
- Within easy reach of stunning Lysefjord and the much photographed Pulpit Rock.

### **Tallinn**

- A former Hanseatic League town, the centre of which is UNESCO listed.
- One of the ‘not to be missed’ ports of the Baltic.
- Keep an eye out for Old Thomas, he’s the town’s guardian and has been perched on the Town Hall spire since 1530.

***Viking Empire***  
Ports of Call (continued)

**Toulon**

- Gateway to the Provence region of France.
- Central berth, just 100 feet from the town.
- The dramatic coastline and ‘calanques’ hide secluded beaches and peaceful coves.

**Venice**

- Surely on everyone’s ‘bucket list’ due to the beauty and splendor of this water-bound city.
- Great scenic cruising through the Venetian Lagoon, right past St. Mark’s Square.
- Central berth, just 20 minutes’ walk from the Doges Palace. Only available to small ships.
- Full of art, architecture and history, a perfect start or finish port to a cruise.

**Warnemunde**

- Gateway to Berlin, Germany’s capital, just 3 hours away.
- Only a short distance from Rostock, once a thriving town in the Hanseatic League.
- Central berth, just 5 minutes’ walk from the town.
- For those who don’t want a long journey to Berlin, there are miles of sandy beaches to relax on.



## *Viking Empire*

### Istanbul, Turkey to Stockholm, Sweden Itinerary

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Day 1 Istanbul (Constantinople), Turkey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Embark ship</li> <li>▪ Overnight</li> <li>▪ Ship prepared for next guests</li> </ul> | <p><i>10 hours</i></p>   |
| <p><b>Day 2 Istanbul (Constantinople), Turkey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Panoramic Istanbul</li> </ul> <p><i>5 hours</i></p>                                  | <p><b>Day 18 Livorno (Florence/Pisa), Italy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pisa</li> </ul> <p><i>4 hours</i></p>   |
| <p><b>Day 3 Kusadasi (Ephesus), Turkey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ephesus</li> </ul> <p><i>3½ hours</i></p>   | <p><b>Day 19 Monte Carlo, Monaco</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Monaco Walking Tour</li> </ul> <p><i>2 ½ hours</i></p>                                       |
| <p><b>Day 4 Piraeus (Athens), Greece</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Panoramic Athens</li> </ul> <p><i>2½ hours</i></p>  | <p><b>Day 20 Toulon, France</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Toulon Walking Tour</li> </ul> <p><i>2 hours</i></p>  |
| <p><b>Day 5 Thíra, (Santorini), Greece</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Santorini Crater Walk &amp; Swim</li> </ul> <p><i>3¼ hours</i></p>                          | <p><b>Day 21 Barcelona, Spain</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Panoramic Barcelona</li> </ul> <p><i>3 hours</i></p>  |
| <p><b>Day 6 At Sea</b></p>  | <p><b>Day 22 Barcelona, Spain</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2<sup>nd</sup> day in Barcelona</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Day 7 Kotor, Montenegro</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Walking Tour of Kotor</li> </ul> <p><i>2 hours</i></p>   | <p><b>Day 23 Barcelona, Spain</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 3<sup>rd</sup> day in Barcelona</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Day 8 Dubrovnik, Croatia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Panoramic Dubrovnik</li> </ul> <p><i>4 hours</i></p>  | <p><b>Day 24 Cartagena (Murcia), Spain</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mar Menor &amp; Wine Tour</li> </ul> <p><i>4 hours</i></p>                             |
| <p><b>Day 9 Pula, Croatia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Walking Tour of Pula</li> </ul> <p><i>2 hours</i></p>  | <p><b>Day 25 Gibraltar, Gibraltar</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Panoramic Tour of Gibraltar</li> </ul> <p><i>2 hours</i></p>                                |
| <p><b>Day 10 Venice, Italy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Historic Venice</li> </ul> <p><i>4 hours</i></p>  | <p><b>Day 26 Cádiz (Seville), Spain</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Cádiz Walking Tour</li> </ul> <p><i>3 hours</i></p>                                       |
| <p><b>Day 11 Venice, Italy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2<sup>nd</sup> day in Venice</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Day 27 Lisbon, Portugal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ City Walk &amp; Funicular</li> </ul> <p><i>4½ hours</i></p>                                     |
| <p><b>Day 12 Split, Croatia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Split Walking Tour</li> </ul> <p><i>2 hours</i></p>  | <p><b>Day 28 At Sea</b></p>  |
| <p><b>Day 13 Dubrovnik, Croatia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Panoramic Dubrovnik</li> </ul> <p><i>4 hours</i></p>   | <p><b>Day 29 At Sea</b></p>  |
| <p><b>Day 14 Kérkira (Corfu), Greece</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Panoramic Corfu</li> </ul> <p><i>3 hours</i></p>  | <p><b>Day 30 Rouen (Paris), France</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Overnight</li> <li>▪ Rouen Walking Tour</li> </ul> <p><i>2½ hours</i></p>                  |
| <p><b>Day 15 At Sea</b></p>   | <p><b>Day 31 Rouen (Paris), France</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Day 16 Naples (Pompeii), Italy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Naples City Tour</li> </ul> <p><i>3 hours</i></p>   | <p><b>Day 32 Greenwich (London), UK</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Overnight</li> <li>▪ London &amp; St. Paul's Cathedral</li> </ul> <p><i>4 ¾ hours</i></p> |
| <p><b>Day 17 Civitavecchia (Rome), Italy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Highlights of Rome</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Day 33 Greenwich (London), UK</b></p>  |
|   | <p><b>Day 34 At Sea</b></p>  |
|   | <p><b>Day 35 Bergen, Norway</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Overnight</li> <li>▪ Bergen Walking Tour</li> </ul> <p><i>2 ½ hours</i></p>                       |
|   | <p><b>Day 36 Bergen, Norway</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Walking Tour</li> </ul>   |

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| <p><b>Day 37 Bergen, Norway</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Evening departure</li> </ul> <p><b>Day 38 Flåm, Norway</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Panoramic Flåm and Mountain Lodge<br/><i>3 hours</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Day 39 Stavanger, Norway</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gamla Stavanger Walking Tour<br/><i>1½ hours</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Day 40 Aalborg, Denmark</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Aalborg Walking Tour<br/><i>3 hours</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Day 41 Copenhagen, Denmark</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Copenhagen City Tour<br/><i>3 hours</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Day 42 Warnemünde (Berlin), Germany</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Berlin Panoramic &amp; free time<br/><i>12 hours</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Day 43 Gdynia (Gdańsk), Poland</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gdańsk City Tour<br/><i>4½ hours</i></li> </ul> | <p><b>Day 44 At Sea</b></p> <p><b>Day 45 Tallinn, Estonia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Old Town Walking Tour<br/><i>4 hours</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Day 46 St. Petersburg, Russian Federation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Overnight</li> <li>▪ St. Petersburg Panoramic</li> <li>▪ <i>3½ hours</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Day 47 St. Petersburg, Russian Federation</b></p> <p><b>Day 48 Helsinki, Finland</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Helsinki City Tour<br/><i>3 hours</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Day 49 Stockholm, Sweden</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Overnight</li> <li>▪ Stockholm City Tour<br/><i>2 hours</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Day 50 Stockholm, Sweden</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Disembark ship</li> <li>▪ Ship prepared for next guests</li> </ul> |
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### ***Extend Your Journey Before or After Your Cruise***

Make the very most of your time away from home by extending your vacation experience with one of our city stays or tours. Spend a little more time in these great destinations. Our expert local guides and hosts will help you get the very best from your stay.

#### Stockholm

##### **2-night City Stay**

Explore this easy-to-walk city with a visit to the Baroque Royal Palace and a stroll along the waterfront. Wander around old town, sample fare in the food halls and cafés, and inspect the 16th-century shipwreck at the Vasa Museum. Enjoy two nights including breakfast at the Radisson Blu Royal Viking Hotel or similar. Transfers included.

#### Istanbul

##### **2-night City Stay**

Discover Istanbul at your own pace. Experience fabulous shopping in the world's largest covered market, the Grand Bazaar, and visit iconic palaces and mosques. Enjoy two nights, including breakfasts, at a modern hotel in the Taksim Square district, boasting an on-site hamam. Breakfast and transfers included.

##### **2 or 3-night Istanbul, Gallipoli & Troy Tour**

Explore the World War I battleground of Gallipoli—with an expert guided tour—during 2015, the year of the Gallipoli Campaigns' 100th anniversary. Visit Troy to see the city walls that were besieged in the Trojan War. Return to Istanbul for a panoramic tour of its major monuments. Includes up to three hotel nights, plus all meals and transfers.

\*Enjoy two nights as a pre-cruise tour or three nights as a post-cruise tour.

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