**A Spectacular Cruise in the Baltic Sea, on the luxury ship “Regal Princess”**

Including a Kashrut Supervisor during the cruise

Sailing in a beautiful, unique area, combining recreation and fun along with fascinating tours in the Baltic countries including Copenhagen, Stockholm, Helsinki, St. Petersburg, Tallinn, Berlin, Oslo

PBAL 14 Days

Have you ever heard of the youngest sea in the world? A beloved sea born just recently? Well, more precisely, in ... the last ice age, something like 10,000 years back ... young? "Relatively young," the experts tell us, adding that thanks to this creation, another fascinating area has been created on our planet.

The Baltic Sea, this youngster, covers an area of 420,000 square meters and is dotted with no less than 100,000 islands (!). Nine countries surround it, and we will visit them and the main cities of seven of the nine: Sweden, Finland, Russia, Estonia, Norway and Denmark, while sailing in the Baltic Sea. The super cruise that we at Shai Bar-Ilan have planned for you, begins in Copenhagen and gives us an exciting entrance to the Baltic Sea, where we will discover the magnificent landscapes of northern Europe. This is a beautiful initial meeting with Northern Europe, which is possible only by cruise ship.

In order to maximize all these delights, we chose to reach the Baltic Sea in the middle of the summer, when the long days enable us to enjoy more, not only by observing the scenery that embellishes our journey, but also by touring the amazing cities in which we'll drop anchor, and by walking through their charming cities.

Sailing on the Baltic Sea is not a normal cruise. This cruise provides us with a wealth of cultural sites, historical cities and enjoyment in European countries that are not usually on the routine tours. On our tours, we will learn of interesting geography, and the uniqueness of each of the cities, as well as about significant and fascinating historical periods. All on our 5-star cruise on the luxury Regal Princess.
Day 1: Monday July 15, 2019: Copenhagen – Embarkation on the luxury cruise liner REGAL PRINCESS
Arrival to Copenhagen, capital of Denmark. We will meet the tour guide at the port at 2:00PM, to board our luxury liner, which will serve as our luxurious floating hotel, an opulent and friendly home with multiple luxurious features as well as shows, lectures, recreation and entertainment. We set sail at 6:00PM.

FEATURES OF THE NORWEGIAN BREAKAWAY

The luxury ship REGAL PRINCESS was launched in 2014, weighing in at 141,000 tons with a capacity for 3600 guests.

- 19 Floors
- Restaurants and lounges with panoramic windows
- An elegant boutique
- Pampering LOTYUS Spa
- Theater
- Bar complex
- Beautifully designed and upgraded performance gallery
- Spacious, elegant staterooms including refrigerator, television, bathroom with shower

Day 2: Tuesday July 16, 2019: At Sea – Cruising, Lectures, Pampering
An opportunity to truly enjoy ALL the ship has to offer as we sail along the Baltic Sea. Today we’ll be able to enjoy lectures, movies, shows and entertainment in the ships numerous theaters and entertainment centers.

Day 3: Wednesday July 17, 2019: Stockholm, Sweden
Today, the ship will dock in the port of Stockholm, capital of Sweden. Built on a chain of 14 islands connected by spectacular bridges, the city has a population of 1 million with a further 2 million in its metropolitan surroundings. Founded in the 13th century, Stockholm has always been an important trading station thanks to its direct access to the Baltic Sea. Already in the 17th century it became the capital of Sweden and despite the battles and the change of power over hundreds of years, it developed into a center of Euro-economic power. Stockholm has a huge number of museums, galleries, theaters and concert halls. The city also houses institutions of a global cultural nature, such as UNESCO (the United Nations Heritage Site) or the famous city hall where Nobel Prizes are awarded each year - which we will visit. The ancient part of Stockholm is characterized by rows of beautifully preserved houses. We will visit the Gamla Stan area that was built in the Middle Ages. We will walk among the ancient buildings; the picturesque stone-paved alleys and enjoy the charming and special atmosphere. We will see the royal palace, which is also used as a museum and where national ceremonies are also held. We will continue to visit the island of Jorgarden, which was the hunting ground of the royal family and today is green and pastoral and pleasant. We will visit the Skansen Museum on the island - the most popular museum in the city. This is the first open
Day 4: Thursday July 18, 2019: Helsinki, Finland

Today we will anchor in the port of Helsinki, the capital of Finland, which sits on the edge of the Finnish Gulf, an extension of the Baltic Sea. Helsinki is today a metropolis located on a number of peninsulas - 650,000 inhabitants in Helsinki itself and about 1.2 million residents in a metropolitan area that includes three other cities. Helsinki offers tourists a concentrated dose of beauty, nature, architecture, good food and vibrant nightlife. From a city that suffered from a closed, cold Soviet-like atmosphere (Finland declared its independence in 1917), it became one of the main and bustling cities in the European tourist scene, with designer boulevards, boutiques, bustling entertainment areas and a highly developed café culture. All of these, of course, reflect the development of Finland, which became an economically and culturally significant city in Europe. Helsinki is a city where many events take place in the fields of art, culture, culinary, sports and more. Among other things, the city hosted the Olympic Games in 1952, the Eurovision Song Contest and more. Incidentally, the largest bookstore in Scandinavia is also in Helsinki. The city won the title of "World Design Capital" in 2012 and is ranked as the 7th "Greenest City" in Europe. Finnish design, which is essentially also its worldview – is minimalist, simple and natural. Indeed, this is a city with historic and new buildings, ancient churches and green parks, lakes, beaches, squares and wide avenues perfectly integrated. We will walk to the Senate Square in the heart of the city. Here the buildings tell the history of Helsinki and the Finnish nation. In 1809, Helsinki moved from the Swedish royal family to the Russians, which made it the new capital of Finland. Tsar Alexander I invited the Prussian architect Karl Ludwig Engel to plan the city centre, according to the Russian model of St. Petersburg. In the centre of the square there’s a magnificent statue of Tsar Alexander II and above it stands the great Lutheran cathedral of Helsinki. The buildings surrounding the square provide a sense of being in Helsinki - but feeling like you’re in St. Petersburg. It is no wonder that many of the films that took place in Russia were shot in Helsinki, among them Reds (1981) and White Nights (1985). The Church of the Rock "Templuicio", to which we will arrive later, beautifully combines the principles of Finnish architecture with music. This church was an ingenious idea of two brothers, Timo and Tuomo Suomalainen. It was built in the 1960s with granite rocks, and the space was covered by a glass dome decorated with a winding and endless copper coil. Thus, the designers created a space with perfect acoustics. This is one of the most prominent examples of modern architecture in Finland.

Day 5: Friday July 19, 2019: St. Petersburg, Russia

Today we will anchor in St. Petersburg, the second largest city in Russia. The city was built in 1703 by Peter the Great and is spread over 42 islands in the delta of the Neva River. St. Petersburg served for 200 years as the capital of Russia in the Tsarist period. The name of the city changed several times - following the revolution of October 1905 it became Petrograd, during the communist regime was called Leningrad and in 1991 it was restored its original name. Today St. Petersburg is the second largest city (5 million inhabitants) and its importance in Russia, has a central status as a port city and open to trade with Europe. It is one of the most beautiful cities in the world, known as the "Venice of the North" and, accordingly, it is also a wonderfully romantic city, with magnificent palaces surrounded by magnificent gardens and charming canals. It is also known as an international cultural center. We will tour the many charming squares with their statues and monumental architecture and visit the largest museum in the world - the Hermitage, formerly the Russian Tsar's Winter Palace and today one of the largest and most important museums in the world; along with the Louvre in Paris and the Metropolitan in New York. The Hermitage has more than 3 million works of art, including masterpieces by artists like Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, Michelangelo, Rembrandt, Rubens, El Greco, Picasso, Matisse, Van Gogh, Gauguin, Cezanne and more. We will continue to visit the Aurora Destroyer Museum, one of the great treasures of the Navy and the Russian army during the first half of the 20th century. The ship was built in St. Petersburg in 1900, and several years later it had already participated in the Russo-Japanese War. However, the destroyer earned its heroic reputation when, on October 25, 1917, its crew fired an empty shell from the bow gun, which gave the signal for the start of the "October Revolution" - the attack on the Winter Palace, the seat of the provisional government, and the seizure of power in
Russia by the Bolsheviks. After World War II, a project was undertaken to restore and preserve the ship, and later it became a museum and a learning and training facility for the nearby maritime school. At the end of the tour we will return to the ship and get organized for Shabbat. Tonight, our ship remains anchored in the city.

Day 6: Shabbat July 20, 2019: St. Petersburg, Russia
Today the ship will remain dockside in St. Petersburg, known as the "Venice of the North". After Shabbat services and Shabbat meals, we'll enjoy lectures and shiurim, and be able to enjoy the ship's wonderful, pampering facilities.

Day 7: Sunday July 21, 2019: Tallinn, Estonia
This morning we will anchor in Tallinn, capital of Estonia, the main port city of the country and the oldest capital in northern Europe. Tallinn is a city that's very busy with its development. It attracts tourists because of its beauty and is often called the "New Prague". During its history, Tallinn was conquered by the Danes, the Swedes and the Russians, with the latter dominating it from World War II to 1991, when Estonia's parliament declared its independence. After disembarking, we will tour the city. We will see the two parts of the beautiful, modern Tallinn, still bearing the signs of Communism, and the old city - with its ancient wall lined with towers and spiers, small old houses with red roofs, streets and alleys dotted with cafes and boutique shops and wide squares. All these were the reason for UNESCO to declare it in 1997 as a "World Heritage Site".

Day 8: Monday July 22, 2019: At Sea
An opportunity to truly enjoy ALL the ship has to offer as we sail along the Baltic Sea. Today we'll be able to enjoy lectures, movies, shows and entertainment in the ships numerous theaters and entertainment centers.

Day 9: Tuesday July 23, 2019: Warnemund, Berlin, Germany
The ship will dock at Warnemund Harbor. We will leave the ship and go to Berlin, where we can see historical sites alongside futuristic buildings. Today's Berlin is a city of skyscrapers, luxurious shopping centers and a vibrant atmosphere of tens of thousands of tourists. We'll see the Brandenburg Gate, the symbol of the city. Next to it is the Reichstag building, the Parliament House of Germany. We will visit the Holocaust Memorial, a large square spread with 2700 concrete blocks of various sizes. We will visit the underground museum displaying the names of the Jews who were murdered during the Holocaust. We will continue to visit the Jewish Museum built in the shape of a broken Star of David. We will also visit the new synagogue, which no longer functions as a synagogue but as a Judaica Center. We will stop at Checkpoint Charlie, the crossing point between East and West which became a symbol of the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union. We will see the innovative high-tech design of Potsdam Square before continuing to the remains of the infamous Berlin Wall, the most visible sign of forced separation and the Cold War between East and West. Today, more than twenty years after the fall of the wall, residents still note the victory of freedom and the unification of Germany's people.

Day 10: Wednesday July 24, 2019: At Sea
An opportunity to truly enjoy ALL the ship has to offer as we sail along the Baltic Sea. Today we'll be able to enjoy lectures, movies, shows and entertainment in the ships numerous theaters and entertainment centers.

Day 11: Thursday July 25, 2019: Oslo, Norway
In the morning we will dock at the port of Oslo, disembark from the ship and tour the capital. We will see Akershus Castle, built in the 14th century as a fortress, designed to protect Oslo from attacks from the sea. We will visit the largest park in Vigeland. The park has 212 bronze and granite sculptures that look like real people and arouse a desire to touch them. At the end of the visit we will return to the ship
Day 12: Friday July 26, 2019: Copenhagen, Denmark
The cruise is over. We will disembark and make our way into the city, the most beautiful and largest city in Denmark and one of the most charming cities in all the Scandinavian countries. Like Stockholm and Helsinki, Copenhagen is also built on several islands. What began here as a small fishing village in the Middle Ages has over the years become a vibrant and prosperous city, with beautiful canals, palaces and fortresses, gardens and towers. Incidentally, the towers that adorn the Copenhagen skyline (and sometimes oddly shaped) are a great example of the building styles of the city’s various periods - Renaissance, Baroque and Rococo. During the tour we will also see the Houses of Parliament, the City Hall, the Stock Exchange and the Stroget, the longest pedestrian street in the world leading from the city center to the port area, where we will also see the famous mermaid statue. We will arrive at the Amalienborg Palace, which serves as the residence of the Queen and her family, where we’ll see the Gefion Fountain – dedicated to the Nordic goddess, the largest monument in Copenhagen. The fountain also serves as a wishing well. At the end of the tour we will transfer to our hotel and prepare for Shabbat.

Day 13: Shabbat July 27, 2019: Copenhagen, Denmark
After Shabbat services, Kiddush and lunch, we’ll take a walking tour of the area near out hotel.

Day 14: Sunday July 28, 2019: Copenhagen – Back Home
Sadly, our tour of the Baltics has come to an end. We load up our memories, pack our cases and make our way to the airport for our flight home.

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Price Includes:
- Air-conditioned tourist coach
- 12-day cruise on the REGAL PRINCESS
- Kosher half-board for all the tour including supplies to make sandwiches for lunch
- Kosher full board during the cruise
- Professional experienced English-speaking guide
- Entrance to all sites mentioned in the itinerary
- Kashrut and Logistics supervisor on the cruise
- Tips for local service providers

Price Excludes
- International flights
- Travel, baggage and health insurance
- Tips for Ship’s staff - $14 per person per day to be paid directly to the ship
- Personal expenses and services
- Shows and evening entertainment not included in the above itinerary
- Tip for guide (Recommended: $5 per person per day)

Important to Know:
- There may be changes to the order of places visited. We will make every effort to visit every place mentioned in the itinerary.
- The tour organizers have no control over airline services such as seating, special meal requests, changes in departure times or delays. These remain the sole responsibility of the airline company.
Kashrut on Cruises
The kosher meals on other cruise lines are provided by each Cruise Lines' kosher meal supplier. All kosher meal suppliers are under recognized rabbinical kashrut supervision.

On board the ship we have our own separated section of the kitchen in which all the kosher meals are prepared. Furthermore, we obtain brand new sets of flatware (meat and milk) for each and every cruise.

Hashgacha aboard ship is performed by our specially trained tour guides, and for large groups, there is a logistics and kashrut supervisor aboard as well.

Deposit, Cancellation Fees & Policy:
A $500 USD Deposit per person must be received at the time of booking in order to confirm your reservation. Payment in full is due 60 days before departure. A minimum number of participants are required to operate tour dates. If a minimum number has not been reached prior to tour departure and the tour is cancelled you will receive a FULL refund.

- 90 days before departure bookings are refundable less a $100 administration fee
- 60-89 days prior to departure: $500 + $100 per passenger
- 30-59 days prior to departure: $1500 + $100 per passenger
- Less than 30 working days prior to departure: 100% of total - no refund

Working days: Monday till Thursday
Non working days: Friday till Sunday, Jewish holidays.

We strongly recommend purchasing Travel Insurance.