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MAY 20 - 30, 2024

Exploring the Arts & Literature of Denmark & Sweden

with CraftLit® podcast host, Heather Ordover





We really enjoy traveling with you guys, especially outside of the United States. First class in every way. My wife is a huge fan of Monet and our trip to Paris was special for her when we visited his home and gardens. The museums there, no words can do them justice.

– Chuck Z.



2. Copenhagen

WHERE WILL YOUR NEXT
ADVENTURE BE?

Explore Scandinavia

Thank you for your interest in our 11-day fully-guided Exploring the Arts & Literature of Denmark & Sweden vacation.

Join us to discover the fascinating Nordic culture of Denmark and Sweden, countries that have inspired world-famous authors, textile designers, and other creatives for centuries. Every step of the way, you'll be accompanied by expert local guides and motorcoach drivers who provide safe, unrivaled experiences to get the most out of your trip.

Witness Denmark's remarkable architecture with varying styles depicting the many eras throughout the country's history. Admire the Baroque castles and Renaissance palaces still standing today, including the glorious Kronborg Castle which inspired Shakespeare's world-renowned drama. From high-end clothing that has graced the runway to vintage stores, there's no shortage of places to shop for fashion enthusiasts. Step back in time to uncover the vast Danish literary traditions that have influenced English works, like *Beowulf*, and philosophical movements, such as Romanticism and Humanism. Continue experiencing rich heritage in the largest Nordic country, Sweden, known for its laid-back lifestyle and Viking roots. Take in the unique blend of historic and modern buildings as it's home to one of the largest and best-preserved medieval centers in Europe, Gamla Stan, as well as IKEA's contemporary designs. Be sure to try the world-famous Swedish cinnamon rolls and incredible regional dishes, such as Swedish meatballs with mashed potatoes and lingonberries. Both countries are notoriously happy and peaceful destinations, plus English is widely spoken! If you're hoping to soak up iconic art, lively music, famous literature, fashion attractions, and stunning landscapes, this is sure to be the trip of a lifetime.

We anticipate selling out quickly, so sign up soon! A fully-refundable deposit of \$200 reserves your space and prices are guaranteed upon receipt. Our friendly and knowledgeable Tour Sales Consultants are available to take your reservation and share useful information about what to expect on our guided tour vacations. **Call us today at 888-554-5208.**

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Holiday takes care of everything. We can sit back and enjoy the trip. They always seem to have a “surprise” on every trip. Holiday is so easy to deal with from beginning until end.

We recommend them to people all the time.

– Betty D.



Exploring the Arts & Literature of Denmark & Sweden

11 DAYS | 16 MEALS | INCLUDING AIRFARE

Fly into Denmark, to see Copenhagen’s best attractions and the childhood home of Hans Christian Andersen in Odense. Stroll Kronborg Castle and the Karen Blixen Museum before a scenic ferry ride to Sweden to visit Askhult Village, Bohuslans Museum, and Vaxjo Cathedral. Travel into the Kingdom of Crystals, discover where Astrid Lindgren wrote her novels, and wander through the Linkoping Open-Air Museum. Our journey concludes with three spectacular days in Stockholm.

ATTRACTIONS & HIGHLIGHTS

- » Danish paper-cutting workshop
- » Hans Christian Andersen’s House
- » Odense, Copenhagen & Stockholm guided city tour
- » Karen Blixen Museum
- » Kronborg Castle tour
- » Scenic ferry ride to Helsingborg
- » Askhult Village
- » Bohuslans Museum
- » Boras Textilmuseet
- » Vaxjo Cathedral tour
- » Kosta Art Gallery feat. glassblowing demonstration
- » Astrid Lindgren’s Childhood Home
- » Gamla Linkoping Open-Air Museum
- » K.A. Almgren Sidenvaveri & Museum
- » Stockholm Archipelago Cruise with lunch
- » Vasa Museum
- » Leisure day in Stockholm



4 Egeskov Castle

Day 1: Overnight Flight to Copenhagen ✈️

Day 2: Copenhagen ✈️

We arrive in Copenhagen today, known for its impressive art scene, beautiful canals, mouthwatering cuisine, and Danish fashion. We check in to our hotel and spend the rest of the day exploring independently. Our Tour Director is available to provide excellent suggestions on must-see attractions. Tonight, we get to know fellow travelers over a delicious Welcome Dinner. MEAL D

2 nights at Scandic CPH Strandpark in Copenhagen

Day 3: Odense

This morning we travel to the city of Odense, widely known as the birthplace of Hans Christian Andersen. He became famous by writing world-renowned fairytales, brought to life by his intricate paper cuttings. Our first stop today allows us to explore this fascinating craft during a Danish paper-cutting workshop. Afterwards, we learn more about the Danish author's upbringing at Hans Christian Andersen's House. Following lunch, we're off on a guided city tour including St. Canute's Cathedral and Egeskov Castle. We also visit Funen Village, a historic open-air museum that showcases life in the 18th and 19th centuries. This evening, we return to Copenhagen for an included dinner. MEALS B+L+D

Day 4: Kronborg Castle

We begin our day with a guided city tour of Copenhagen. Soak up literary wonders such as the Black Diamond, part of the Royal Danish Library and where many rare books are housed, including a copy of the Gutenberg Bible. This afternoon, we venture out to the beautiful countryside of Rungsted Kyst and visit the Karen Blixen Museum. Enjoy exploring the family home where this author lived much of her life and wrote her famous novel, *Out of Africa*, inspired by her visit to Kenya. We then continue to Kronborg Castle in Helsingor, a majestic fortress and UNESCO World Heritage Site nestled near the Baltic Sea. Shakespeare fans may recognize it as Elsinore, the castle that brought *Hamlet* to life in the 1600s. Later, we embark on a scenic ferry ride to Helsingborg, Sweden, and check in to our hotel before dinner. MEALS B+D

1 night at Elite Hotel Marina Plaza in Helsingborg

Day 5: Bohuslans Museum

Today we visit the charming village of Askhult in Halland. This area includes four farms from the 1700s and 1800s, and a village square where you can stop at the café for a *fika*, or coffee break. Afterwards, we're off to Bohuslans Museum in the vibrant city of Uddevalla. Grab lunch on your own at the museum's Restaurant Kajkanten before exploring this living cultural center. Browse masterful art exhibition halls and learn about Bohus Stickning, an intricate form of knitting. Tonight, we check in to our accommodations and enjoy an



Travel with host Heather Ordovery, Host of CraftLit® podcast

When home with her small children in 2006, Heather started the podcast *CraftLit®: A Podcast for Busy People Who Love Books*, where she curates the classics, treating history and literature with a light touch and serious enthusiasm.

Heather specializes in media and educational fun, particularly *Audiobooks with Benefits™*. She has dedicated her work-life to finding and sharing wonderful things with her audiences in digital and traditional formats.

Heather invites you to join her on this incredible journey through Denmark and Sweden. Designed with craft enthusiasts, book lovers, and history buffs in mind, this is a fun-filled adventure you don't want to miss!

evening at leisure. MEAL B

1 night at Scandic Europa in Gothenburg

Day 6: Textile Museum & Vaxjo

This morning we travel to Textilmuseet in Borås to gaze upon centuries of textile history. Then, we enjoy a guided tour of Vaxjo Cathedral. Admire the magnificent altarpiece, sculptures, and soaring copper-clad twin spires. The rest of the day is free to spend as we wish. MEAL B

1 night at Scandic Vaxjo

Day 7: Kosta Art Gallery

We journey into the heart of Sweden's crystal and art glass region today, stopping at Kosta Art Gallery. Marvel at the glass mosaic floor, wall murals, and creative artistry before our amazing glassblowing demonstration. This afternoon, we travel to Vimmerby and visit the childhood home of Astrid Lindgren, one of Sweden's most beloved children's authors. Stroll through the quaint red house that served as her inspiration for many famous works, including *Pippi Longstocking* and *Tomten Tales*. MEALS B+D

1 night at Scandic Linkoping City

Day 8: Gamla Linköping Open-Air Museum

This morning we visit the Gamla Linköping Open-Air Museum and explore wooden houses, cobblestone alleys, gardens, and various museums with costumed interpretive guides that bring the past to life. We then depart for the country's capital city, Stockholm. Upon arriving, we stop at K.A. Almgren Sidenvaveri & Museum to see Sweden's only silk-weaving factory still in production today. MEAL B

3 nights at Elite Hotel Adlon in Stockholm

Day 9: Stockholm

Our day begins with a relaxing cruise and knowledgeable guide aboard a vintage ship built in the early 1900s. Learn about the historical and cultural sights while taking in the breathtaking scenery of the Stockholm Archipelago Islands. A delicious lunch is included onboard! Next, we explore the vibrant city of Stockholm with a guided tour. Witness the city's medieval heritage and see the notable buildings of Gamla Stan, such as the Nobel Prize Museum and His Majesty the King's official residence, The Royal Palace. Then, we continue on to the Vasa Museum, located on Stockholm's island of Djurgården. Here, we have the opportunity to marvel at the world's only almost fully intact 17th-century ship that has ever been salvaged, the Vasa. The remainder of the evening is at leisure. MEALS B+L

Day 10: Leisure Day

Take advantage of a full day at leisure to soak up Stockholm's incredible attractions. You may wish to tour

the Royal Palace, visit ABBA The Museum, learn about Swedish culture at the Nordic Museum, or shop for souvenirs. This evening, we gather with fellow travelers at Rydbergs Bar & Matsal for a Farewell Dinner that includes mouthwatering regional cuisine and décor displaying books and photos of Swedish authors. MEAL D

Day 11: Fly Home ✈️

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Gamla Linköping Open-Air Museum

Tales of days gone by reveal themselves to us as we experience what life was like in a small Swedish city over a hundred years ago. Stroll down cobblestone alleys and visit wooden houses, museums, or shops to learn more about the local heritage and traditions that have been passed down since the late 1800s. Venture through the beautiful nature reserve to nearby Valla Farm, which offers a glimpse of country living and a miniature golf course.

Bucket List Experiences



Fika

Partake in a social coffee break, an integral part of Swedish culture. Sip a hot cup of coffee accompanied by a sweet treat, such as a delicious *kanelbulle*, or cinnamon roll.



Astrid Lindgren's Childhood Home

Step into the home that shaped the imagination of one of the most beloved storytellers of all time and learn how it played an integral role in her creative writing.



Glassblowing Demonstration

Go behind the scenes to learn how glassblowers inflate molten glass into a bubble using a blowpipe. Watch as they create intricate and beautiful pieces of art, then try it yourself!



Textilmuseet

Browse diverse exhibitions that showcase fashion, design, and art while detailing the history of innovation, from traditional textiles of the 1600s to new environmentally conscious fibers. Don't forget to pick up a unique souvenir from the expansive gift shop!



Stockholm Archipelago Cruise

Discover the most breathtaking and historic sights found among Sweden's largest archipelago on an afternoon cruise. Our vintage ship has been navigating these waters since the 1900s, which our expert guide will share more about.

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Danish paper-cutting workshop

Danish & Swedish Literature

Dive into the life of your favorite authors and encounter the very places that inspired their world-renowned works. Travel to the birthplace of Hans Christian Andersen, Odense, to learn about the art of paper cutting and how he created swans, windmills, angels, and more to bring his fairytales to life. Visit Hans' half-timbered childhood home, featuring a charming yellow exterior, and hear how he went from being poor to a celebrated writer. At the Karen Blixen Museum, see her old-fashioned typewriter and relax in a small library filled with her books at the family home where she wrote her popular novel, *Out of Africa*. Tour Astrid Lindgren's birthplace and childhood home, which she restored herself in the 1960s. See the tree that inspired Pippi's sugar lemonade tree in Pippi Longstocking and other influences that have been weaved into her novels.



Karen Blixen Museum



Hans Christian Andersen's House





Kronborg Castle

Nestled near the harbor of Oresund, this UNESCO World-Heritage Site is an architectural masterpiece that has been occupied by kings of Denmark and Sweden throughout history. The castle was built in the late 1500s and holds many intriguing stories of parties, dramatic events, trade, war, tragedies, and love. However, it is most famously known as “Hamlet’s Castle” or Elsinore in Shakespeare’s beloved play. Enjoy a tour of one of the most important Renaissance castles in Europe including the royal apartments, ballroom, and chapel. We also see Little Hall, which contains tapestries that portray several Danish kings.



Vasa Museum

Explore maritime history dating back to the 1600s and revel in the unique opportunity to see one of the best-preserved 17th-century ships in the world, the Vasa. This warship sank during its maiden voyage in 1628 and remained underwater for over 300 years before being brought to the surface and preserved. Admire the hundreds of beautiful wood sculptures, watch a film to learn the Vasa’s full story, browse other artifacts, and visit the museum shop, which offers one-of-a-kind products that are replicas of objects found onboard.



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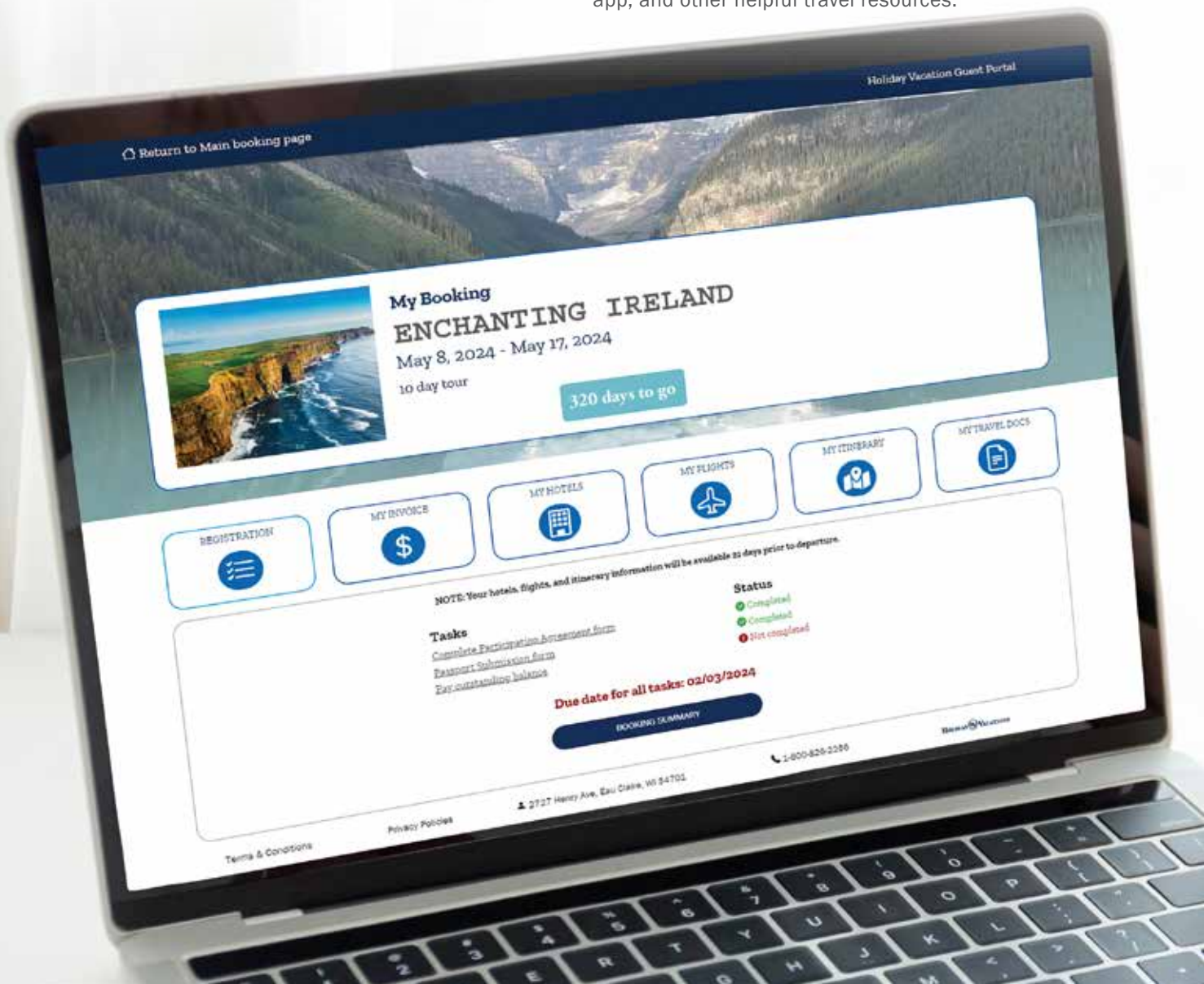
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Exploring the Arts & Literature of Denmark & Sweden

