



# HISTORIC HOMELANDS: SCOTLAND, GERMANY, BELGIUM & FRANCE

***Your 13-night journey includes: 8-night small ship cruise to Aberdeen, Emden, Amsterdam, Ostend, Dieppe, Cherbourg, Saint-Malo & Portsmouth; 2 nights at a Deluxe hotel in Edinburgh; 2 nights at a Deluxe hotel in London***

Set sail aboard a luxurious small ship cruise as you make your way from charming Edinburgh to exciting London, exploring several lovely seaports along the way.

Beginning in Edinburgh, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, you'll make your way to Germany and the quaint seaside village of Emden, which dates back to the 8th century, before heading to Amsterdam and Ostend. Explore the picturesque Normandy region of France in Dieppe and Cherbourg, before visiting the UNESCO-listed Benedictine Abbey of Mont-Saint-Michel. Round out your European discoveries in London, where a guided sightseeing tour will give you the opportunity to visit Windsor Castle, the oldest continuously occupied castle in the United Kingdom. In all, 9 included features ensure you'll enjoy a well-rounded itinerary full of fascinating discoveries, plus free time to explore on your own. Extended stays in Edinburgh and London bookend this incredible journey.

All throughout your small ship cruise, you'll enjoy the personalized service and world-class amenities found aboard a Vantage Deluxe World Travel voyage. Treat yourself to a pampering massage at the onboard spa, visit the onboard gym for a heart-pumping workout, and savor delicious gourmet dining at several shipboard restaurants. Best of all, with just 77 spacious cabins — including a landmark 15 solo cabins — you'll enjoy a truly intimate cruising experience and more meaningful interactions, both on board and ashore.

Reserve Today! Call Toll-Free **1 800 322 6677** - [WWW.VANTAGETRAVEL.COM/OPA25](http://WWW.VANTAGETRAVEL.COM/OPA25)

# JOURNEY HIGHLIGHTS

## OCEAN ODYSSEY



Sail aboard the *Ocean Odyssey*, an agile and state-of-the-art expedition vessel that can navigate to places larger ships can't

## EDINBURGH



Explore Edinburgh's UNESCO-listed Old and New Towns on a guided tour

## SAINT-MALO & MONT SAINT-MICHEL



Visit this historic French port and the Benedictine abbey Mont-Saint-Michel

## LONDON



View London's most notable landmarks, including Buckingham Palace and Big Ben, on a guided sightseeing tour

## AMSTERDAM



Discover the city's WWII history on a walking tour of the Jewish Quarter

## EMDEN



Get to know this tiny 8th-century seaport located in Germany's East Frisian region

# YOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- **Purchase your airfare from Vantage** and your airport transfers, fuel surcharges, and government taxes and fees are included
- **Accommodations:** 2 nights at the *InterContinental Edinburgh The George* (or similar) in Edinburgh, 8 nights aboard the 5-star *Ocean Odyssey*, and 2 nights at the *Kimpton Fitzroy London* (or similar) in London
- **28 meals:** 12 breakfasts, 7 lunches, and 9 dinners, with complimentary wine, beer, and soft drinks during dinner on board
- **9 included features**
- **2 UNESCO World Heritage Sites and experiences:** Amsterdam's 17th-century canal ring; Mont-Saint-Michel and its Bay
- **The services of a Vantage Cruise Director and Program Manager**, plus shipboard commentary, regional experts, and private motorcoach for excursions
- **Complimentary Destination Manager services on board** ship to assist with all your personal requests such as spa reservations, hotel reservations, and other special requests in port
- **Complimentary Vantage Deluxe Concierge Service** prior to your journey, to plan celebrations, activities, or provide regional expertise. Log into My Portfolio and submit a request, or send an email any time up to two weeks prior to your departure at [Concierge@vantagetravel.com](mailto:Concierge@vantagetravel.com)
- **Complimentary unlimited Wi-Fi**
- **Gratuities for local guides and drivers**
- **All transfers and baggage handling overseas**
- **Vantage 5% Travel Reward**, received upon your return, to use toward your next Vantage journey

# SPECIAL INTEREST



**SMALL SHIP CRUISING HIGHLIGHTS** Our 5-star fleet offers an authentic sailing experience to make your journey unforgettable. While onboard, indulge in a relaxing massage at the spa, or try hot-rock cooking at the onboard restaurant. Then, disembark for an eye-opening visit to a local winery or a walking tour of some of the world's most iconic cities and undiscovered gems. All the while, enjoy these world-class ship amenities:

- 77 cabins, including a landmark 15 solo cabins, most of which have full walk-out balconies, for the most flexible style of travel

— plus, suites designed for comfortable triple-occupancy as well as adjoining room options

- A culinary program offering gourmet dining incorporating regional fare, with wine and beer included at dinner
- Spa, massage, and hair services available at the onboard spa
- Sauna
- Two hot tubs
- Fitness center
- Curated lectures, programs, musical performances, and cultural events
- Low passenger-to-crew ratio, plus onboard Destination Manager
- Knowledgeable staff by region
- Onboard medical doctor (travelers are responsible for medical fees associated with doctor visit and medications)
- Gift Shop
- Library with over 200 titles
- Separate, intimate dining space for groups or special events (available upon request)
- Complimentary unlimited WiFi (WiFi on certain segments of trips may not be available)
- Entertainment programming with 100 movie titles
- Environmentally friendly standards with reduced emissions into air and sea and lower energy consumption
- Dynamic positioning technology
- State-of-the-art safety technology, Polar Code 6 compliant, and fully compliant with the latest SOLAS requirements in expedition cruising
- Rolls-Royce stabilizer system; "Safe Return to Port" technology



## UNESCO & HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore London's notable sites, including Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, and Buckingham Palace
- Visit Windsor Castle, the oldest occupied castle in the United Kingdom, and home to the British royal family
- Visit the Benedictine abbey of Mont-Saint-Michel, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- View Amsterdam's Portuguese Synagogue and UNESCO-listed 17th century canal ring



**PHOTOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS** You'll enjoy a spectrum of picturesque sights on this journey. Here are a few tips to help you photograph them along the way:

- Change your perspective. Try shooting from a different angle, for example. Climb a stairwell and shoot a landscape from up high or, alternately, get low and shoot a scene from the ground. Wherever you are, embrace this artistic challenge by getting out of your comfort zone!
  - Take a selfie! You'll be glad to have a few portraits of yourself at the distinctive landmarks you'll find on this journey
- Look beyond the landmarks — sometimes everyday scenes are just as inspiring, and provide a lesson in embracing the unexpected and seizing the moment in front of you



a gym

**SOLO TRAVEL HIGHLIGHTS** On this small ship ocean cruise, independent travelers will enjoy solo-friendly features, such as:

- Onboard Destination Manager to personalize your expedition
- Water-sport opportunities, depending on the location
- A lively social media night and musical performances most nights
- Solo-friendly social activities, including a Solo Connection mixer
- Onboard entertainment, lectures, and cooking demonstrations
- Health and wellness options, including onboard spa, jacuzzis, and



## CONCIERGE SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

Prior to your cruise, our complimentary Concierge service will be available to help you customize your journey. Here are just a few services your Concierge can provide::

- Do you have a special birthday, anniversary, family reunion or other important event you want to celebrate on board? Let your Concierge know and he or she can make all the special arrangements, whether it's a private reception in your suite, a

gathering in the lounge, and more

- Restaurant reservations. Just notify your Concierge of your interests, and he or she will be happy to make recommendations, and will call ahead to reserve your table
- Special excursions. Would you like a limo to take you for a special night in the city? Perhaps you'd like to look up long-lost relatives. Your Concierge is here to help!
- Extend your stay! Your Concierge can help modify your hotel reservations and flights if you decide to stay on
- Tickets to local concerts, exhibits, theater, sporting events, and more

Take advantage of this free, start-to-finish service by making your requests prior to your journey. Call 1-888-982-6824 or email [Concierge@vantagetravel.com](mailto:Concierge@vantagetravel.com) to speak to a Concierge today, or simply log into My Portfolio up to two weeks prior to departure. During your journey, your onboard Destination Manager can assist with any special requests such as spa reservations, hotel reservations, and more.

# EDINBURGH-TO-LONDON

DAY 1:	Fly to Edinburgh, Scotland
DAY 2:	Arrive in Edinburgh <i>InterContinental Edinburgh The George or similar</i>
DAY 3:	Discover Edinburgh and come aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia <i>InterContinental Edinburgh The George or similar</i>
DAY 4:	Transfer to Aberdeen and embark the Ocean Odyssey <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>
DAY 5:	Delight in your ship's amenities during a day at sea <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>
DAY 6:	Explore Emden, Germany, today <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>
DAY 7:	Discover Amsterdam's Jewish cultural history <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>
DAY 8:	Uncover Belgian history in Ostend <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>
DAY 9:	Get to know delightful Dieppe <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>
DAY 10:	Explore the historical maritime port of Cherbourg <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>
DAY 11:	Visit Saint-Malo and Mont-Saint-Michel <i>Ocean Odyssey &gt;</i>
DAY 12:	Disembark the Ocean Odyssey and make your way to London <i>Kimpton Fitzroy London or similar</i>
DAY 13:	London's landmarks and UNESCO Sites <i>Kimpton Fitzroy London or similar</i>
DAY 14:	Return home today



### DAY 1: Fly to Edinburgh, Scotland

Today you'll board an overnight flight to Edinburgh, Scotland. Or, depart earlier for your optional pre-trip extension.

### DAY 2: Arrive in Edinburgh

Welcome to Scotland! If you purchased your airfare from Vantage, a Vantage representative will meet you at the airport to assist with transfers to your centrally located hotel. You'll have time to settle in before joining your fellow travelers for a Welcome Briefing, followed by dinner and a traditional bagpipe performance.

Included meals: Dinner

*InterContinental Edinburgh The George or similar*

**DAY 3:** Discover Edinburgh and come aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia

The unforgettable city of Edinburgh unfolds before you as we set out on a guided panoramic tour. Highlights of the Old Town include Edinburgh Castle, set high above the city on Castle Rock, and St. Margaret's Chapel. Built around AD 1130, it is the oldest surviving building in town. Fast-forward to the 18th-century as you explore the New Town, with its elegant neoclassical and Georgian architecture. Both districts are jointly listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. When Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip set sail to visit their far-flung dominion, they did so aboard the Royal Yacht Britannia. You'll come aboard to inspect this elegant vessel, which still features the furnishings and décor favored by the Queen when the ship was launched in 1953.

### Included Feature:

- Guided panoramic tour of Edinburgh
- Destination Enhancement: Customize your



journey when you add an optional excursion. Head out on a full-day excursion to St. Andrews, the home of golfing. Learn more  
Included meals: Breakfast  
*InterContinental Edinburgh The George or similar*

**DAY 4:** Transfer to Aberdeen and embark the Ocean Odyssey

Welcome to the United Kingdom! Upon arrival at the airport, you will be met by a Vantage representative who will assist you with transfers to the pier. There, you will board the Ocean Odyssey to begin your small ship cruise.

Included meals: Breakfast & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey >*

**DAY 5:** Delight in your ship's amenities during a day at sea

One of the true pleasures of a luxurious, small ship cruise is the onboard experience as you sail from one incredible destination to another. You'll find everything you need to feel relaxed, pampered, and entertained today.

Onboard Enhancement: Customize your journey when you add an optional onboard experience.

Enhance your time on board with one of our Vantage-exclusive activities, including wine and whiskey tastings, a multicourse Chef's Table Dinner, or an exclusive wine-pairing dinner.

Learn more  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey >*

**DAY 6:** Explore Emden, Germany, today

Today you'll get to know the tiny seaport of Emden, one of Germany's lesser-known gems. Dating back to approximately the 8th century, this East Frisian destination is home to an important harbor and a large Volkswagen factory. Emden, along with Geneva and Wittenberg, was

also an important site during Germany's 16th-century Reformation, a religious reform movement that swept through Europe in the 1500s, resulting in the creation of Protestant Christianity. Today the city boasts many unique cultural attractions, such as the Kunsthalle Emden, a modern art museum displaying over 1,500 works, including a collection of German Expressionist pieces by Nolde, Macke, and Kokoschka.

**Included Feature:**

- Emden highlights tour  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey >*

**DAY 7:** Discover Amsterdam's Jewish cultural history

Today we wake up in Amsterdam to discover the city's WWII history on a walking tour of the Jewish Quarter. See the Hollandsche Schouwburg National Holocaust Memorial, which was used by the German occupying forces as a collection center for Jews. From here, tens of thousands of women and men were deported to concentration and extermination camps. It is now a place of commemoration. We'll also view the Portuguese Synagogue and Amsterdam's UNESCO-listed 17th century canal ring. You'll return to the ship for lunch, and have the remainder of the day at leisure to spend as you wish.

**Included Feature:**

- Jewish cultural tour of Amsterdam  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey >*

**DAY 8:** Uncover Belgian history in Ostend

Located in the Belgian province of West

Flanders, you'll find the coastal village of Ostend. Built in the early Middle Ages, Ostend is located on east coast of what was once known as Testerep Island. In the 13th century, the village became well-known for its market hall. During World War I, Ostend fell under German occupation due to its seaside setting, which served as an access point for submarines and other naval forces. Later, during World War II, Nazi forces constructed the Atlantic Wall, an extensive defense system along coastal Europe, which included Ostend. Today, the Atlantic Wall serves as an open-air military museum, featuring some of the most well-preserved sections of Europe's defensive line, including bunkers, gun emplacements, trenches, and more.

#### **Included Feature:**

- Ostend highlights tour  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

#### **DAY 9:** Get to know delightful Dieppe

The fishing village of Dieppe, located on the scenic Alabaster Coast of France's Normandy region, is your destination for today. Dating back to the Viking era, Dieppe has a long and fascinating seafaring history, due to its deep harbor. Beloved by visitors, in the early 19th century Dieppe came to be known as France's first seaside resort, attracting artists and other creatives with its chic Bohemian allure. Today, Dieppe's deep harbor, pebble beach, and historic attractions draw visitors from around the world. Spend time getting to know this charming seaside haven, perhaps stopping to enjoy an authentic seafood dish at one of the many local dining venues.

#### **Included Feature:**

- Dieppe highlights tour  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

#### **DAY 10:** Explore the historical maritime port of Cherbourg

Today you'll explore Cherbourg, one of France's great Channel ports. Located at the top of Normandy's western Cotentin peninsula, Cherbourg's deep natural harbor, backed by steep wooded hillsides, make it one the region's most picturesque historical areas, and is closely linked to French naval history. The town prides itself on its vibrant cultural scene that includes an Italian-style theater, Ravalet Castle, and the Cité de la Mer Maritime Museum, France's largest Art Deco monument and home to over 50 recovered artefacts from the RMS Titanic.

#### **Included Feature:**

- Cherbourg walking tour  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey* >

#### **DAY 11:** Visit Saint-Malo and Mont-Saint-Michel

You'll be transported back to medieval times when you arrive in Saint-Malo, France, today. This walled city has a long seafaring history and is the birthplace of Jacques Cartier, the first European man to discover Canada. Inside its walls, Saint-Malo's streets overflow with cafés and restaurants — the modern mixing with the medieval.

**A full-day tour unveils a true gem of France: Mont-Saint-Michel. Since your ship will berth here, you'll be able to stroll right off the ship to begin your tour. You'll transfer to this Benedictine abbey, which is dramatically situated on a hulking granite island surrounded by granite walls. It is so iconic**

**that UNESCO deemed it a World Heritage Site! On a guided tour, learn about the history of this legendary place while wandering the tangle of lanes within. Afterward, seek out a classic French meal at a nearby brasserie with provided lunch money.**

**Included Features:**

- Full-day guided tour of Mont-Saint-Michel  
Included meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner  
*Ocean Odyssey >*

**DAY 12:** Disembark the Ocean Odyssey and make your way to London

The cruise portion of your itinerary will conclude in Portsmouth today. You'll disembark the Ocean Odyssey and transfer to your hotel in London, enjoying a scenic drive and a visit to Windsor Castle along the way. Built by William the Conqueror in the 11th century, Windsor is the world's oldest continuously occupied castle, serving as a royal residence since then. In fact, the current royal family, the House of Windsor, took their dynastic name from this beloved site. After your tour, you'll proceed to London and check in to your hotel. Enjoy the remainder of the day at your leisure, with lunch and dinner on your own.

**Included Feature:**

- Windsor Castle visit  
Included meals: Breakfast  
*Kimpton Fitzroy London or similar*

**DAY 13:** London's landmarks and UNESCO Sites

Following breakfast at your hotel, you'll set off on a half-day panoramic city tour of several notable London landmarks. Notable sites include Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, and Buckingham Palace. You'll also stop at the British Museum and enjoy an interesting visit there. You'll have

the rest of the afternoon to spend at your leisure with lunch on your own.

**Included Feature:**

- Half-day London city tour  
Included meals: Breakfast  
*Kimpton Fitzroy London or similar*

**DAY 14:** Return home today

Following breakfast at your hotel, you'll transfer to the airport for your return flight home. Or, continue on to Dublin, Ireland, for your post-trip extension.

Included meals: Breakfast

**Please note:** Ocean-cruising is not the same experience as river cruising; as such, you may experience fluctuating tides and weather patterns that may involve some rocking of your vessel. Itineraries will include all activities as planned except in extreme cases that can't be controlled by your shipboard crew. Day-by-day itineraries are preliminary and therefore subject to change. If changes occur while on tour, you will be notified by your Cruise Director or regional expert.

# ACCOMMODATIONS



## Ocean Odyssey

The intimate *Ocean Explorer* and *Ocean Odyssey* are the cruise industry's newest and most premier small ships built for global expedition travel, and ready to go to some of the world's most far-reaching destinations. Accommodating just 134 guests, the ship is outfitted with the latest satellite, sustainability, and navigation capabilities, including SOLAS "Safe Return to Port" requirements and ULSTEIN X-BOW® technology, a significant enhancement for smooth sailing in polar seas. On all Vantage expedition cruises, education is an essential component of the journey. Enjoy talks from notable scholars, onboard historians who travel alongside you, and handpicked regional experts. On polar expeditions with Vantage, you'll attend lectures, lessons, and activities offered by a 17-member Expedition Team of experts in fields ranging from biology to oceanography.

In your downtime, you'll find relaxation and luxury aboard the *Ocean Explorer* and *Ocean Odyssey*. Visit the gym or onboard spa for a facial, massage, even a haircut. Soak in the hot tub after a rewarding day of sightseeing. Enjoy gourmet fare for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, plus outstanding culinary experiences built into your journey. And because there's no more than 134 fellow travelers on expedition cruises, you'll enjoy small group outings by day and share meals, stories, and fun with new friends by night. These fabulous expedition vessels offer:

- 77 cabins, including a landmark 15 solo cabins
- 30 triple-ready cabins available
- Vantage offers FREE roommate-matching services if you'd like to be paired while you travel
- Spacious, all outside-facing cabins
- 134-guest capacity
- Zodiac trips to get as close as possible to nature
- The latest satellite and navigation capabilities, including ULSTEIN X-BOW® technology
- Intimate crew-to-passenger ration, plus onboard Destination Manager

- Environmentally friendly standards with reduced emissions into air and sea and lower energy consumption

### **Amenities:**

- A culinary program offering gourmet dining and regional fare, with wine and beer included at dinner
- Hot-rock cooking restaurant
- Multistory lounge and lobby
- Three bars and various lounges
- Top deck observation deck for gatherings, lectures, performances, and more
- Spa, massage, and hair services available at the onboard spa
- Sauna
- Two hot tubs
- Fitness center
- Curated lectures, programs, musical performances, and cultural events
- Low passenger-to-crew ratio, plus onboard Destination Manager (not available on expeditions)
- Onboard medical doctor (travelers are responsible for medical fees associated with doctor visit and medications)
- Gift Shop
- Library with over 200 titles
- Separate, intimate dining space for groups or special events (available upon request)
- Complimentary unlimited WiFi (WiFi on certain segments of trips may not be available)
- 20+ live TV channels featuring popular U.S. news channels, the Food Network, the Travel Channel, and National Geographic
- Entertainment and video on demand for 250 classic movies



### InterContinental Edinburgh The George ★★★★★

From the moment the kilted doorman welcomes you, you'll feel right at home staying at this winner of the 2017 Scottish Hotel of the Year award. Located in the heart of Edinburgh's UNESCO-listed New Town, the Moderate Deluxe InterContinental Edinburgh The George was created from five 1775 Georgian-era townhomes restored and refurbished in luxurious natural materials using a palette of colors inspired by the great 19th-century Scottish landscape painters. On-site dining includes the Printing Press Bar & Kitchen and Burr & Co coffee shop. You'll be able to stroll right out the door for the many...



## Kimpton Fitzroy London ★★★★★

The Deluxe Kimpton Fitzroy London puts you right in the heart of central London, just minutes away from Bloomsbury's museums, Covent Garden's trendsetting boutiques and bars, and all of London's iconic landmarks. Then again, you might just choose to stay in and explore the interior of this 19th-century grand dame, get workout in the gymnasium, and then ensconce yourself in the comforts of your stylish room. Each guestroom features flat-screen smart TVs, Nespresso coffee machines, and complimentary Wi-Fi.



## Hyatt Centric The Liberties Dublin ★★★★★

The Hyatt Centric The Liberties Dublin is conveniently located in the heart in The Liberties, located near the Christ Church Cathedral, with its medieval crypt, as well as Dublin Castle and the Guinness Storehouse, among others. Rooms are modern with a Signature Hyatt Grand Bed, hi-tech amenities, complimentary Wi-Fi, and of course bath toiletries. While here, make use of the private landscaped garden, relaxing reading lounge, 24-hour access to a state-of-the-art fitness center, on-site restaurant — and even bottle your own personalized whiskey at the hotel!