Around Funen: Little and Great Belt

# "Welcome to Summer" in the Western Baltic Sea (embarkation and disembarkation in Kiel, Germany)

Fri 14 June 2019 ⇒ Fri 21 June 2019



The great windjammers were once dubbed the 'cathedrals of the seas' when their mountains of canvas appeared on the ocean's horizon. Swap your everyday life for a week on board a traditional tall ship! Our two-mast ship, built in 1911, will take you on a voyage through the South Funen archipelago you will never forget.

All sailing manoeuvres are carried out by hand. After receiving safety instructions and an introduction to sailing by the ship's crew, you can soon join in the sailing yourself – always on a voluntary basis, of course.

#### This is where you will embark: Kiel-Holtenau

Our crew will welcome you on board in Holtenau on the western shore of the Kiel Fjord. Embarkation takes place at 19:00 hours. After a welcome drink and dinner in the deck lounge, you will have the opportunity to observe the lively coming and going at the locks of the Kiel Canal.

From small sports yachts to ocean liners, vessels of all kinds and sizes can be seen passing by around the clock on the world's busiest artificial waterway. Walking to the small Holtenau lighthouse (pictured right), you will get a taste of the nostalgic harbour atmosphere – numerous old cargo ships and schooners are anchored on the quay at dusk.





#### Our sailing waters: Kiel Fjord, Flensburg Fjord and Little Belt

After breakfast, it will be time to "cast off!". Soon afterwards we will reach the open Baltic Sea at the Kiel lighthouse. After a day's sailing, we cross the invisible German-Danish maritime border and find ourselves in the sheltering harbour of Sønderborg, on the island of Als, which will be our mooring for the night. A major attraction is the castle with its park, which is within sight of our mooring spot. A walk along the harbour row with its historical merchant's houses (pictured left) and a stroll through the Old Town with its typical Danish tranquillity should not be missed.

Through the Little Belt, we set sail on a northerly course. The strait between Jutland and the island of Funen is a popular sailing area due to its many sheltered bays and small islands. Our next stay will be in Middelfart, a particularly scenic part of the Belt's northern exit. The port city offers a varied mix of maritime flair, nature, and beach life.

#### Around Funen and through the Great Belt: Middelfart, Aarhus, Ebeltoft, Faaborg

On the northern side of the island of Funen, we pass Bogense beach as well as some small fjords and sounds that interrupt the coastline. The next destination on that day is the university city of Aarhus with its Nordic flair and lively past. The first settlers arrived here in the Viking Age; today, the typical Danish city centre is characterised by well-preserved half-timbered buildings. Make the most of your day on shore by visiting the Vor Frue church, the cathedral, or the open-air museum 'Den Gamle By' – it has an authentic feel of merchant-era medieval Aarhus. Art lovers should not miss a visit to the ARoS Art Museum with its 'Rainbow Panorama' roof structure. The University Park and the park of Marselisborg Castle, located on the outskirts of the city, are popular excursion destinations in the countryside. An evening visit to the river promenade Åboulevard with its typical Danish gastronomy is well worth visiting.

As an alternative to Aarhus, we can set course to the yacht and fishing port of Ebeltoft on the eastern shore of the Kattegat. The historic town centre has remained largely unchanged for centuries. The idyllic flair of the port town (pictured right) is dominated by a Romanesque / early Gothic church, a glass museum, merchant houses, the historic old town, and the smallest town hall in the world – Det Gamle Rådhus – with an old prison cellar.

From here, we take a southern course past the island of Samsø. Surrounded by merchant ships, yachts and fishing vessels, we reach the bridge over the Great Belt. Passing under the majestic Storebæltsbroen – Europe's largest suspension bridge with a length of almost 2700 metres – is a breathtaking moment at any time of the day or night. Sheltered by the island of Langeland, we will look for a cosy mooring spot or sail through the night – another highlight of this journey and a seafaring adventure from times long past! Alternatives for going on shore are the sheltered ports of Nyborg or Svendborg.

In the southern part of the island of Funen, between Langelandbelt and the Great Belt, the water landscape is interrupted by many large and small islands, sandbanks and green forests. The next stop on our journey is the small port town of Faaborg. The historic old town (pictured right, below) is one of the best-preserved in Denmark. Sights worth seeing are the free-standing bell tower of the old town church, the only preserved city gate of Denmark, and the Viking sculpture at the harbour.

#### End of the cruise with a Captain's Dinner

After a circumnavigation of Funen island, we sail back into the waters of the Kiel Fjord area. It is time to operate the rigging once more and watch the sails catching the wind, arching majestically against the blue sky. Before evening sets in, we can go ashore at the fishing village of Maasholm at the Schlei estuary or anchor in the idyllic green Eckernförde Bay for another night. There we can enjoy the evening atmosphere on deck with a glass of wine from the onboard bar.

Once again, you can enjoy the sun, wind and sailing off Schleswig-Holstein's Baltic coast. The highlight of our last day at sea is the traditional Captain's Dinner. At the end of this trip to welcome the summer season, we will fasten the mooring lines in the port of Kiel-Holtenau. Here you will bid farewell to our crew and your fellow sailors, and leave with a sailor's bag full of memories. Relaxing days on the Baltic Sea now lie behind you. The trip will be remembered for the balance between time spent sailing at sea and relaxing excursions on shore.











### Seven good reasons to go

- Balanced ratio between sailing time at sea and shore leave
- Experience the most beautiful harbors around Funen from the water
- Sailing in the area of the South Funen archipelago, with passing under the Great Belt bridge
- Moderate weather conditions in the waters of the Western Baltic to be expected
- Sailing and manoeuvering on a 100-year-old windjammer you may participate actively!
- Excellent onboard cuisine, delicious meals from morning to evening
- Active involvement in the on-board life by our good-humored crew

# Journey time

Friday 14 June 2019 ➡ Friday 21 June 2019

# Services included

- 7 nights' accommodation aboard the Tall Ship Eye of the Wind.
- Accommodation in a comfortable double cabin with hot and cold running water, shower, toilet, and air conditioning (single cabin surcharge).
- Full board (including all meals, soft drinks, coffee & tea).
- Lounge with TV/DVD and extensive on-board library.
- The tour price includes VAT.

# Not included

Arrival and departure, shore excursions and alcoholic beverages.

We gladly assist you in the individual planning of your arrival and departure. Please contact us if necessary in a timely manner.

# Please consider the following notes on the itinerary

The indicated ports are optional. The ship's management reserves the right to change the itinerary at short notice depending on wind and weather conditions.

#### **Photo credits**

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