

The Seniors newspaper and Travelrite International  
invite you to join us aboard **MS Rotterdam** for the

# GREENLAND & ICELAND

## *Explorer Cruise*

FULLY ESCORTED

15 August - 8 September 2019

Amsterdam, The Netherlands;  
Torshavn, Faroe Islands; Eskifjordur, Akureyri,  
Isafjordur Iceland; Prince Christian Sound, Nanortalik,  
Paamiut, Qaqortoq, Greenland; Reykjavik, Iceland;  
Lerwick, Shetland Islands, United Kingdom;  
Inverness and Edinburgh, Scotland

Includes  
over **\$2000**  
per person value  
in sightseeing tours,  
entrances, transfers  
and taxes



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### Itinerary

**Day 1** Thursday 15 August, 2019

**Depart Australia**

Today we board our overnight flight to Amsterdam.

**Day 2** Friday 16 August, 2019

**Amsterdam, The Netherlands**

This morning we arrive at Amsterdam airport. After clearing Customs, we will be met by our private coach and transferred to Amsterdam for our sightseeing tour where we will enjoy a city canal cruise with fantastic views of the 17th-century buildings lining the canals. We will then transfer to our hotel. This evening enjoy an included welcome dinner.

**Day 3** Saturday 17 August, 2019

**Amsterdam**

A free day in Amsterdam. You may want to visit the wonderful Van Gogh museum or the famous Rijksmuseum.

**Day 4** Sunday 18 August, 2019

**Embarkation**

We will have free time this morning for last minute sightseeing and shopping. Early afternoon we transfer to the port to board MS Rotterdam for our voyage to Iceland, Greenland, the Faroe and Shetland Islands and Scotland.

**Day 5** Monday 19 August, 2019

**At sea**

The morning will be free to explore the wonderful facilities of the ship. This afternoon join us for a fun group game of bingo, with prizes for the winners.

**Day 6** Tuesday 20 August, 2019

**Torshavn, Faroe Islands**

The Faroe Islands lay north-west of Scotland midway between Iceland and Norway. They constitute a self-governing island territory of Denmark with a language and culture of their own. With their volcanic origin, the 18 islands are rugged and rocky. The islands are renowned for their incredible natural scenery, and their bountiful bird life. The Faroe Islands turn extraordinarily green during the summertime. We will have a boat cruise exploration of the extraordinary Vestermanna cliffs. We will see these dramatic formations and the puffin birds that the inhabitants used to climb the cliffs to capture eggs. One of the highlights of the tour! We then have some time in the capital city Torshavn.

**Day 7** Wednesday 21 August, 2019

**Eskifjordur, Iceland**

This friendly, prospering little town is stretched out along the main fjord of Reyðarfjörður. Its setting is magnificent: it looks directly onto the mighty mountain Hólmaticindur (985m), rising sheer from the shining blue water. A visit here provides a fascinating look at how life has been lived on the Icelandic coast for centuries. As was true in the 1700s, when Eskifjörður's economy was driven by the local herring catch, fishing remains central to this day even while the town has become increasingly known as a port of call for cruise ships.

**Day 8** Thursday 22 August, 2019

**Akureyri, Iceland**

This morning we arrive in Akureyri, the unofficial capital of northern Iceland. We travel through the stunning northern Icelandic scenery to the town of Húsavík. Nestled on the edge of Shaky Bay (Skjálfandi Flói), Húsavík is globally recognised as one of the best locations in the world from which to watch whales. In fact, there is a higher chance of seeing whales in Húsavík than from any other place in Iceland. In one of the



highlights of the tour we take a whale watching boat trip and, hopefully, will get up close to the whales. We then drive through dramatic Icelandic landscapes before returning to the ship.

**Day 9** Friday 23 August, 2019

**Isafjordur, Iceland**

After arriving in Isafjordur, our tour heads through the centre of town with a stop at the Ósvör 19th-century fisherman's hut, restored in 1988. We drive through Bolungarvík village and back to Isafjörður with views of the magnificent mountains and Westfjörð – a beautiful but sometimes harsh landscape. We will also see Buná Tunguá River and the waterfall in Tunguskogur, and sip fresh mountain water that flows down the stream. We will also experience the awesome beauty of the fjords on the north western coast of Iceland. Mountains rising from the sea with breath-taking scenery make this a memorable day. Make sure you have your camera ready!



**Day 10** Saturday 24 August, 2019

**At sea**

Today we will continue to enjoy the facilities and activities available on the ship. This afternoon join us for a fun group game of bingo, with prizes for the winners.

**Day 11** Sunday 25 August, 2019

**Cruising Prince Christian Sound**

Today we will cruise through Prince Christian Sound. It is like a fjord, certainly ice-carved, but rather than going from the ocean to a glacier or land, a Sound is opened to the ocean at both ends, from east Greenland, to west Greenland. It is a shortcut, a secret passage, a magical segue and the Sound is completely protected from wind out of the north by high rugged mountains. High jagged mountains, sheer cliffs, a myriad of waterfalls and glaciers, near and bold, or distant and mysterious wrapped in a diaphanous mist of their own design. As the ship makes its way through Prince Christian Sound, we catch sight of the ice sheet on the northern side of the fjord.

**Day 12** Monday 26 August, 2019

**Nanortalik, Greenland**

Greenland's southernmost town, Nanortalik is surrounded by the steep mountain peaks of Tasermiut Fjord – whose rugged landscape and lush vegetation attracts serious climbers all year long. Inside the fjord are the ruins of an Augustinian monastery and the towering trees of the Qingua Valley. In this region, the northern lights dance across the sky in the evenings and polar bears have been known to drift by on ice floes. Visit the old town around the colonial harbor and the museum which includes exhibits of rare Norse clothing. This harbour is thought to be the last point of departure of the Norse voyagers when they sailed to or from Greenland. The importance of the site is evidenced in the ruins of boathouses.

**Day 13** Tuesday 27 August, 2019 **Paamiut (Frederikshab), Greenland**

This fishing town is situated on a low-lying peninsula backed by towering black volcanic mountains. There are no shore excursions available for Paamiut, and guests will no doubt enjoy walking into the town and visiting the beautiful church, which is reminiscent of the stave churches of Norway and boasts excellent acoustics. The local museum has photos of the whaling history, and examples of local arts and crafts, which are also





offered for sale in the town. The town is the hub of numerous thousand-year old paths leading into the countryside. If the weather is good, guests might wish to take one of these for a while to get the feel of the place. Keep a sharp eye out for whales in the sea, and sea eagles in the sky or on the peaks.

**Day 14** Wednesday 28 August, 2019 **Qaqortoq, Greenland**

Qaqortoq viewed from the sea is a remarkable sight. Colourful houses dot steep hillsides, and the old town square surrounded by buildings from the colonial days creates a delightful historical atmosphere. On our sightseeing tour we will visit the museum and the Great Greenland Tannery before taking a short boat trip to Hvalsey Church. Dating from the period of Viking settlement around the year 1000 this is South Greenland's most famous Viking ruin. Long before Columbus ever had the idea of sailing west to try to find a shorter route to India, the Norse settlers from Scandinavia had established themselves in Greenland. We will learn about the life of Viking farmers and the trade links that the Norse maintained with Europe.

**Day 15** Thursday 29 August, 2019 **Cruising Prince Christian Sound**

The morning will be free to explore the wonderful facilities of the ship. This afternoon join us for a fun group game of Trivia, with prizes for the winners.

**Day 16** Friday 30 August, 2019 **At sea**

A day to enjoy the facilities of the ship.

**Day 17** Saturday 31 August, 2019 **Reykjavik, Iceland**

This morning we arrive at Reykjavik, the capital and largest city of Iceland, and the gateway to Iceland's stunning natural wonders, which range from ice fields to boiling thermal pools. After docking we will board our coach for a tour of the Golden Circle visiting the world-famous high-temperature Geysir geothermal area with spouting springs of various formations. This is where the name Geyser originated. We see the nearby spectacular Gullfoss waterfall (Golden Falls), where you can watch enormous quantities of water tumble violently into a deep, meandering gorge. We also see the site of Iceland's ancient parliament and the place where you can see the American and Eurasian tectonic plates pulling apart at the rate of a few centimetres per year.

**Day 18** Sunday 1 September, 2019 **Reykjavik, Iceland**

We continue our sightseeing tour of Reykjavik with an overview tour of the city including the presidential residence at Bessastaðir, Hofdi House and the Perlan building. We will visit the town of Hafnarfjörður and see Hallgrímskirkja, Reykjavik's iconic cathedral. There will be time for lunch and a stroll through the Old Town, home to the Icelandic parliament and the Town Hall, before sightseeing at the famous blue lagoon.

**Day 19** Monday 2 September, 2019 **At sea**

The morning we will continue to enjoy the facilities and activities available on the ship. This afternoon join us and other group members for a fun game of Scattergories.

## MS Rotterdam

The MS Rotterdam is the standard-bearer for the Holland America fleet of ships. Signature of Excellence upgrades were completed in December 2009 and your on-board experience will be enhanced by spacious public areas. Guests aboard will enjoy elegant dining rooms, a \$2 million art and antique collection, wide teak decks and spacious staterooms – many with private verandahs. The stateroom enhancements include expanded stateroom choices and a complete update to all stateroom furnishings. MS Rotterdam provides the ultimate on-board experience with a graceful combination of classic cruise ship features and state-of-the-art amenities. A voyage on MS Rotterdam is an experience to be savoured and remembered!

## Clothing on board

You will need the following types of clothing on board: casual shipboard attire or day wear, and evening wear. Casual nights on board may be sports shirt and slacks and equivalent for ladies. During the evening on formal nights a dinner suit or dark suit for gentlemen and eveningwear for ladies is recommended. There is usually two formal nights on the cruise. The self-service restaurants are casual.

**Day 20** Tuesday 3 September, 2019 **Lerwick, Shetland Islands UK**

This morning we arrive in Lerwick, the only town in Shetland and we begin our tour with a brief panoramic orientation drive of this tiny capital dating from the 1600s. From there, we'll head to the Central and West Mainland visiting Scalloway, the former Shetland capital. Here we will visit Scalloway Castle built in 1600 by the tyrant Earl Patrick Stewart, using forced labour. We will also visit the Scalloway Museum, which houses a special Shetland Bus exhibit, depicting the village's unique role in World War II when German occupation of Norway resulted in a stream of refugees heading to Shetland. We continue through the Tingwall Valley with its Norse heritage and we will stop and see the famous Shetland ponies.

**Day 21** Wednesday 4 September, 2019 **Inverness, Scotland**

Today we arrive at Inverness, near the famous Loch Ness. It is the largest Scottish loch by volume, indeed experts say that it contains more freshwater than all the lakes of England and Wales combined! On our tour today, we first visit the Loch Ness Exhibition Centre in the pleasant village of Drumnadrochit. Next, we make the short journey into Bonnie Glen Urquhart, famous for its native woodlands and wide variety of wildlife that they support. Urquhart Castle is a magnificent castle that dates from the 14th century and was one of a chain of garrisons that controlled the Great Glen. Nowadays it's a popular place with "Nessie" spotters who scan the waters of the loch that are deeper here than the North Sea!



**Day 22** Thursday 5 September, 2019 **Edinburgh, Scotland**

Today we visit Edinburgh, the royal and ancient capital of Scotland and one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. On our sightseeing tour we see the ancient Royal Mile with its cobbled streets forms the backbone of the medieval Old Town which leads from the Palace of Holyroodhouse (HM The Queen's official residence in Scotland) all the way to Edinburgh Castle. We will enjoy a guided tour of the castle, home to the Scottish Crown Jewels and the historic Stone of Destiny. Enjoy the view from the castle which is simply stunning. We also visit the park's highest point, Arthur's Seat, an ancient volcano, that sits 251m above sea level giving an excellent view of the city; it is also the site of a large and well preserved fort.

**Day 23** Friday 6 September, 2019 **At sea**

Today we will continue to enjoy the facilities and activities available on the ship.

**Day 24** Saturday 7 September, 2019 **Disembarkation Amsterdam, The Netherlands**

This morning we arrive back in Amsterdam. After disembarking we are transferred to the airport for our flight back to Australia.

**Day 25** Sunday 8 September, 2019 **Arrive Australia**

We arrive back in Australia today and the tour ends.



## Don't worry about coming alone

We will match people in twin-share cabins when available, saving you the single supplement. You won't be left alone; the Travelite tour manager will be looking after you. There will be group activities almost every day.

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### Included in the Greenland & Iceland Explorer Cruise:

- Economy-class return air travel from Melbourne/Sydney/Brisbane/Perth to Amsterdam
- 21 days/20 nights on the luxurious MS Rotterdam in the selected cabin category
- All meals, entertainment and service charges on MS Rotterdam
- 2 nights\* in 4-star, centrally located accommodation in Amsterdam including breakfast
- Sightseeing tours in Amsterdam, The Netherlands; Torshavn, Faroe Islands; Nanortalik, Qaqortoq, Greenland; Akureyri, Isafjordur, Reykjavik, Iceland; Lerwick, Shetland Islands, Inverness, Scotland, UK
- Escorted by a professional Travelrite International tour manager
- Port and handling charges and cruise taxes
- Air taxes as of 20/8/18
- Onboard gratuities

### Not included in the cruise price:

- Travel insurance
- Additional travel arrangements not detailed in the itinerary. These will be quoted for separately
- Passport and visa fees
- Drinks on board
- Lunches when not on the ship

### Price per person in Australian Dollars

Cabin	Description	Deck	Twin-share Fare PP	Single Fare
L	Interior Stateroom	2, 3	\$ 10715	\$ 15965
I	Interior Stateroom	3, 6	\$ 10795	\$ 16100
FF	Ocean View Stateroom	1	\$ 11546	\$ 17085
C	Ocean View Stateroom	2	\$ 11850	\$ 17615
B	Verandah Suite	6, 7	\$ 14630	\$ 24595
AA	Verandah Suite	6, 7	\$ 14999	\$ 25330
A	Verandah Suite	6	\$ 15185	\$ 25690
Included port and handling charges and cruise taxes			\$ 768	\$ 1113
Included air taxes as at 20/8/2018			\$ 225	\$ 225
Included onboard gratuities			\$ 340	\$ 340

**Availability:** All cabins are subject to availability.  
Please call for fares and information on other cabin categories.

**Extending:** You can stay longer in Europe for minimal extra cost. Please contact 1800 630 343 for more information.

## General information and booking conditions

International touring can involve a considerable amount of walking and stair climbing in the places visited and it is important that all tour participants have a level of physical fitness that allows them to take part in this activity without the need of assistance from others.

**TOUR OPERATOR:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ABN 64 005 817 078) is the tour organiser. MS Rotterdam is operated by Holland America Line Cruises and the MS Rotterdam fly/cruise arrangements are subject to the terms and conditions and general information detailed in the Holland America Line 2019 brochure. All passengers must complete the Holland America Line on line check in and complete a Travelrite International booking form.

**DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT:** A deposit of \$900 per passenger should be sent with a completed Travelrite International booking form that lists your requested cabin category. As soon as the booking is confirmed, (usually within 24 hours), a cruise confirmation advice will be posted to the client. The confirmation advice will contain all details. The passenger must also complete the Holland America Line on line check in. Final payments are due to be paid to Travelrite International 90 days prior to the commencement of the MS Rotterdam fly/cruise. A 1.5% administration fee will be added to payments by Visa, MasterCard and AMEX cards.

**CANCELLATION CHARGES:** Number of days before sailing.

Days prior to Departure	Cancellation Fee
Over 90 days	loss of deposit
61 - 90 days	50% of full fare
60 days or less	100% of full fare
Non appearance/no written notice:	100% of full fare

**REFUNDS:** The cruise is based on arrangements which do not allow for any refunds in respect to sightseeing, accommodation, meals or other services not utilised after the tour has commenced.

**TRAVEL DOCUMENTS:** All passengers will require a valid passport. If not an Australian passport holder check with Travelrite International for visa requirements.

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** Adequate travel insurance is highly recommended to cover cruise members for the consequences of unforeseen events during the cruise and for cancellation fees which could result from events such as illness, accident, death etc.

**BAGGAGE:** Passengers qualify for a 30kg free baggage allowance on flights to join or return from the cruise.

**MINIMUM TOUR NUMBERS:** The fly/cruise arrangements have been made on the basis of a minimum number of passengers travelling. In the event that less than the required number of passengers have confirmed their booking 90 days from the date of departure, Travelrite International reserves the right to cancel the tour, giving a full refund of monies paid, or offer arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified fare.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd (ATAS No A1038) is the tour organiser. Travelrite International Pty Ltd, its agents, officers, affiliates, and/or suppliers of services pursuant to, or in connection with these fly/cruises, shall act only as agents in making arrangements for hotels, transportation, including transportation by ship, restaurants, or any other service and do not assume any liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay to person or property due to an act of negligence or a default of any hotel, carrier restaurant company or person rendering any services included in fly/cruises, or by act of God. Further, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labour disputes, machinery break-down, quarantine, government restraints, weather, terrorism or other causes beyond their control. No responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omission, delays, re-routing or acts of any government authority. Baggage is at owners' risk throughout the fly/cruise. The passage contract between the carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the carriers and the purchasers of this fly/cruise and/or the passengers. The right is reserved to withdraw any fly/cruise and/or make such changes in the fly/cruises as may be found desirable or necessary for the convenience of the parties and the proper carrying out of the fly/cruise. This contract shall be construed in accordance of the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia and any legal action must be undertaken in the state of Victoria. Attention is also directed to the terms and conditions of Holland

America Line detailed on their website. If you do not have these details please contact Travelrite International and we will send them to you.

**HOW TO BOOK:** Bookings can be made by completing a booking form and sending it with a deposit of \$900 per person to:

**Travelrite International Pty Ltd**  
423 Whitehorse Road  
Balwyn, Victoria 3103

Further information can be obtained by telephoning

**Toll free: 1800 630 343**

**Phone: (03) 8803 6868**

**Fax: (03) 9836 8068**

**Email: balwyn@travelrite.com.au**

**www.travelrite.com.au**



**ABOUT TRAVELRITE INTERNATIONAL:** Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a well-established travel company which has been marketing throughout Australia for over 32 years. It has two fully licensed (ATAS No A10538) offices at Balwyn and Heathmont which are also accredited with IATA. As such they directly represent the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international hotel, tour and transport operators. Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a full member of the Australian Federation of Travel Agents – AFTA.