
NORTHERN EUROPEAN CRUISE PORT CHEAT SHEET

This roundup explains how to get into town from each major Northern European port. While cruise-line excursions are available, virtually all ports are easily doable on your own. For detailed instructions and self-guided tours in each port, see the *Rick Steves' Northern European Cruise Ports* guidebook.

Destination (Port)	Public Transit Option
Copenhagen	Bus #26 conveniently connects both ports to downtown. You can also train, taxi, or walk. From Langelinie Pier: It's an easy 10-minute walk to see the Little Mermaid; from there, you can stroll the rest of the way into town. For a faster trip, catch bus #26 from right in front of the ship; or walk 15 minutes to Østerport train station. From Frihavnen: Ride bus #26, or walk 15 minutes to the Nordhavn station to ride the train into town.
Stockholm	From Stadsgården: From some berths, you can walk to the Old Town in about 20 minutes; from others, it's easier to catch the hop-on, hop-off boat to points around town. From Frihamnen: Walk 5-10 minutes to the bus stop, and ride the public bus into town.
Helsinki	From West Harbor: Ride public transportation downtown (bus #14 from Hernesaari terminal, tram #9 from West/Länsi terminal). From South Harbor: You can walk into town from the Katajanokan and Olympia terminals in about 15 minutes (or hop on a tram).
Tallinn	It's an easy 15-minute walk from the cruise port into town.
St. Petersburg	Important: If you don't want to get a visa (expensive, must be arranged in advance), you'll only be allowed off the ship if you pay your cruise line for an excursion. From the Marine Facade: Ride a public bus-plus-metro connection downtown. From Lieutenant Schmidt Embankment or English Embankment: Walk or catch a public bus or tram into downtown.
Berlin (Warnemünde)	Warnemünde's train station, a 5- to 10-minute walk from the cruise terminals, has frequent connections to nearby Rostock (22 minutes) and sparse connections to Berlin (3 hours, often with change in Rostock). If the Berlin train schedule doesn't work well with your cruise schedule—and maybe even if it does—a transportation-only "On Your Own" excursion from your cruise line can be the best way to get maximum time in Berlin.
Oslo	From Akershus or Revierkai: It's an easy walk downtown. From Filipstad or Søreng: These are farther out and still walkable, but are more convenient by cruise-line shuttle bus (worth paying for). Avoid expensive taxis.
Bergen	From Skolten: You can walk into town from the port in about 10 minutes. From Jekteviken/Dokken: Ride the free shuttle bus into downtown.
Norwegian Fjords (Flåm)	It's possible to do the best part of the "Norway in a Nutshell" loop trip on your own (boat ride, twisty mountain bus, train ride, and another train steeply back down into the fjord). But this requires being organized, double-checking schedules, and getting off the ship quickly.
Rīga	It's an easy 15-minute walk from the cruise port into town.
Gdańsk (Port of Gdynia)	From the port at Gdynia, make your way downtown to ride the train for 35 minutes to Gdańsk; once at Gdańsk's train station, it's a 15-minute walk to the scenic heart of town.
London (Southampton or Dover)	From Southampton: From the Ocean or City Cruise Terminals, you can walk into town and/or hop a free bus to the train station; from the QEII or Mayflower Cruise Terminals, spring for a taxi. From Southampton's station, trains go to London (1.25 hours, 2/hour) and Portsmouth (50 minutes, hourly). From Dover: Ride a shuttle bus or taxi to the train station, where trains depart for London (1.25 hours, hourly) or Canterbury (20-30 minutes, 2/hour).
Paris and Normandy (Le Havre)	Ride a cruise-line shuttle bus or walk about 35 minutes from the port to the train/bus station; from there, connect to Paris (2.25-hour train), Rouen (1-hour train), or Honfleur (30-minute bus). To see the D-Day beaches (about an hour's drive west), an excursion works best.
Amsterdam	The cruise terminal is a 3-minute tram ride or 15-minute walk from the central train station, with connections to anywhere in the city.
Bruges & Brussels (Zeebrugge)	Ride a shuttle bus to the port gate, then walk (10 minutes or less) to a tram stop. Ride the tram 10-15 minutes to the Blankenberge train station, where hourly trains zip to Bruges (15 minutes), Ghent (50 minutes), and Brussels (1.5 hours).