

DAILY PROGRAM

Dagelyks Nieuws

Saturday, July 8, 2000
ms Maasdam

Gems of the Baltic Sea
Visby, Gotland, Sweden

Sunrise: 3:50 am
Sunset: 9:49 pm



TIME CHANGE

During the evening of Friday/Saturday, all ship's clocks will be set **BACK** one hour. Please adjust your clocks and watches accordingly before retiring.

DRESS FOR THIS EVENING CASUAL

No shorts or Tank Tops. Please observe the dress code for the entire evening.

WHERE'S THE FLEET?

N. Amsterdam Glacier Bay, AK
Noordam Mykonos, Greece
Rotterdam St. Petersburg, Russia
Ryndam Inside Passage, B.C.
Statendam Valdez, AK
Veendam Skagway, AK
Volendam Ketchikan, AK
Westerdam Vancouver, B.C.
Zaandam Ft. Lauderdale, FL
Amsterdam Sailing Sept. 30, 2000
Wind Star Monte Carlo, Monaco
Wind Spirit Piraeus, Greece
Wind Song Istanbul, Turkey
Wind Surf Venice, Italy

FROM THE NAVIGATOR

Around noon, we will anchor at the roads of Visby, where the Maasdam tenders will then provide a continuous service ashore. Visby is situated on the northwestern side of Gotland. At 6:00 pm, we will heave up our anchor and set sail for Stockholm.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

4:45 pm Protestant Vespers Wajang Theater
5:15 pm Catholic Vigil Mass . Wajang Theater

WELCOME TO VISBY, GOTLAND, SWEDEN

Visby is located on the island of Gotland in the middle of the Baltic Sea. Gotland is approximately 75 miles (121 km) long and 35 miles (56 km) wide. While the Swedes go to Gotland for sunny holidays by the Sea, most North Americans are more interested in the old walled city of Visby.

Visby is a town meant for walkers. At the end of the 12th and during the 13th century, the walled city of Visby rose to the highest point of power as the seat of the Hanseatic merchants and as the trade center of Northern Europe. Seventeen churches sprouted up during its heyday. Step-gabled houses were built of stone, and the townspeople lived in splendor. It was soon ransacked by Danes, however, and the city subsequently declined. It has only recently become a tourist center, after it was recognized as a treasure house of medieval art, becoming the number one spot in all of Scandinavia for those seeking the charm of the Middle Ages.

GOING ASHORE TODAY?

The Maasdam is expected to anchor off Visby, Gotland at approximately 12:00 noon. Once the ship has been positioned and cleared by the officials, we will begin tender operations. When you are absolutely ready to go ashore, collect a tender ticket from the Cruise Staff in the **Wajang Theater, Deck 7**. Please remain comfortable anywhere on board where you can hear the public address system, or in your cabin (listening to channel 4 on your cabin radio) until your tender ticket number is called. Access to the tenders will not be permitted unless you have the proper tender ticket. If you are on a tour which meets in the **Rembrandt Lounge, Deck 7, DO NOT** collect a tender ticket. Please go directly to the tour meeting location. Please remember to carry your Guest Identification Card to swipe through the security system upon departure and return.

DISEMBARKATION TALK

Join Cruise Director Chris Jurasas at 10:30 am in the Rembrandt Lounge this morning as he provides information on baggage, immigration and customs regulations, and other tips for a trouble-free landing in Stockholm, Sweden. We strongly urge at least one member of each family to attend. **Mr. and Ms. Maasdam will be introduced as well as a special farewell from the crew of the ms Maasdam.**

WIN A CRUISE FOR TWO!!

That's right! Today for either a \$10.00 or a \$20.00 investment you can win a Holland America 7-day Caribbean cruise for two. Join Teresa this morning in the Rembrandt Lounge at 10:00 am. A "Cruise for Two" is the prize for this special ONE GAME SESSION. (Only one cruise will be given away). In case of multiple winners, a tie-breaker will be played to determine who wins the cruise.

SERVICE HOURS

INFORMATION Dial 90
EMERGENCY Dial 911
SHORE EXCURSION OFFICE (Prom Deck)
9:00 am - 10:30 am. Final
opportunity for account inquiries.
CASINO (Upper Promenade Deck 8)
Casino: 9:00 am - arrival
Full Casino: 6:30 pm - wee hours
OCEAN BOUTIQUES (Up. Pr. 8)
9:00 am - arrival
6:00 pm - 11:00 pm
PHOTO GALLERY (Prom. Deck 7)
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
5:00 pm - 10:15 pm
MASSAGE & BEAUTY SALON
(Lido Deck 11)
8:00 am - 8:00 pm
SAUNA & OCEAN SPA (Lido Deck 11)
7:00 am - 9:00 pm
POOLS & JACUZZIS
Lido Deck: 7:00 am - 10:00 pm
Nav. Deck: 7:00 am - 7:00 pm
INFIRMARY - Dial 99 (A Deck 4)
Nurse on duty: 8:00 am - 12:00 nn
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
PHYSICIAN'S CONSULTING HOURS
10:00 am - 11:00 am
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
GUEST RELATIONS MGR. (Prom. 7)
9:00 am - 11:00 am
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
CURRENCY EXCHANGE (Prom. 7)
8:00 am - 12:00 nn &
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
PORT LECTURER (Deck 8)
9:00 am - 10:30 am at his desk.
12:00 nn - 1:30 pm on the pier.
SPANISH DESK (Deck 8)
9:30 am - 11:30 am
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
JAVA CAFE (Promenade Deck 7)
9:00 am - 6:00 pm

DINING HOURS

BREAKFAST
Lido Restaurant
Continental Breakfast 6:30 am - 10:30 am
Breakfast 7:00 am - 10:00 am
Rotterdam Dining Room
Breakfast 8:00 am - 9:30 am
Express Breakfast 8:00 am - 9:30 am
INDONESIAN LUNCH
Lido Restaurant 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Pastry Carousel 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Poolside Lido Deck
Hamburgers/Hot Dogs 11:00 am - 5:00 pm
Taco Bar 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Sandwich Bar 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Salmon BBQ 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Seafood Buffet 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Pizza Parlor 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Dining Room 11:30 am - 12:30 pm
SCANDINAVIAN DINNER
Rotterdam Dining Room
First Seating Guests 6:00 pm
Second Seating Guests 8:15 pm
ORIENTAL LATE NITE SNACK
Lido Restaurant 11:00 pm - 12:00 mn
ICE CREAM PARLOR
Lido Restaurant 11:00 am - 2:30 pm
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
11:00 pm - 12:00 mn
Coffee and tea are available 24 hours
in the Lido Restaurant.

VISBY, GOTLAND, SWEDEN TRAVEL TIPS

Official Language: Swedish; English widely spoken.
Currency: Swedish Kroner (Skk). \$1.00 US = approximately 8.2 Skk.
US Dollars are rarely accepted. Some shops and restaurants accept major credit cards.
Water: Best to drink bottled water; available for purchase on board.
Ship's Agent: Aktiebolaget Carl E Ekman
Hamngatan 3-Visby
Visby, S-621 57
Telephone: 24-90-00

DUTCH CHEESE FONDUE DEMONSTRATION

Join our Asst. Maitre d' Hotel and our lovely Hostess Tonya as they present the art of making cheese fondue. It is a speciality of one or more cheeses melted expertly with a dry white wine or beer. You'll have the opportunity to spear, dip, and taste two fondue recipe variations while they're piping hot at 11:00 am in the Ocean Bar.

A MORNING WITH FRANK BERRY

If you enjoyed Frank Berry's hilarious show this cruise, then be sure not to miss this special opportunity to meet him and hear all the stories he has to tell of a career that has taken him around the world eight times. Don't miss all the tales and laughs in the Rembrandt Lounge at 11:00 am.

LIBRARY BOOKS

Finish your book? Too much to pack? If you would like to share your hard cover or paperback books with future guests, we happily accept donations for the library.

FINE ART SALES, INC. ART AUCTION GRAND FINALE

Come see what you missed at the previous auctions along with many pieces never seen before. This is your last chance to save up to 80% off land gallery prices. Everything from animation to masters, come early for the best selection. Worldwide shipping.

Explorers Lounge
10:30 pm Art Preview
11:00 pm Art Auction

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

Holland America Line ships follow strict garbage handling requirements. During the cruise we collect, separate, process, and store all waste. Four persons are dedicated to this task and upon arrival in select ports, waste and recyclables are collected by a professional waste management company.

WE HOPE YOU HAD AN EXCELLENT TIME!

Today you will receive a questionnaire in your stateroom concerning your enjoyment of the cruise. Knowledge of your opinion is the best way for us to maintain the high standards our valued guests have come to expect. Please let us know those aspects which you have enjoyed so we can continue to do things right. Simply drop off the questionnaire at your convenience in the box provided by the Front Office. **NINE** lucky cards will be drawn from the completed surveys at 9:00 pm Saturday evening and the winners will receive the very special prize of a Holland America Travel Bag.

TAKE HOME A MEMORY

Available at all bars!

A SET OF WATERFORD MILLENNIUM CRYSTAL CHAMPAGNE GLASSES

For this cruise only,
take home a set of these
beautiful glasses for only
\$99.00

Entertainment Tonight in the Rembrandt Lounge
6:45 pm for Second Seating Guests & 8:30 pm for First Seating Guests

Please note adjusted showtimes!

ALL STAR NIGHT OF ENTERTAINMENT WITH
THE COMEDY AND VARIETY OF
THE FLING KINGS & MIRTH GIVER
FRANK BERRY

Reserving of seats, audio/video recording and flash photography are not permitted.

TODAY'S TV LISTINGS

- Channel 1 or 4 News Channel**
Reception permitting
- Channel 3 or 17 Movie Ch. 1**
8:00 am Girl, Interrupted
10:02 am Mickey Blue Eyes
11:45 am Girl, Interrupted
1:47 pm Mickey Blue Eyes*
3:30 pm Girl, Interrupted*
(*Repeated throughout the night)
- Channel 4 or 19 Movie Ch. 2**
8:00 am Arlington Road
9:38 am Mystery Alaska
11:38 am Arlington Road
1:16 pm Mystery Alaska*
3:16 pm Arlington Road*
(*Repeated throughout the night)
- Channel 5 or 21 Cruise Channel**
10:30 am Disembarkation Talk
(repeated)
Nautical Information
HAL Product Video
- Channel 6 or 8 Port Channel**
Voyages Through Time:
Part I
Cruise Memories Video
- Casino Bar Sports Channel**
(pending reception)

ABOUT TONIGHT'S SHOW

Join us tonight for our All Star Night of Entertainment! The ms Maasdam proudly presents more juggling antics by the fabulous Fling Kings and a walk on the lighter side of life with "mirth giver" Frank Berry. Returning by popular demand, these entertainers have an entirely different performance lined up just for you. Don't miss this very exciting showcase of talent!

We respectfully remind all guests: reserving of seats, audio or video recording or flash photography during the shows in the Rembrandt Lounge is not permitted. Please note adjusted showtime for second seating (6:45 pm).

TODAY'S MOVIES

Wajang Theater, Promenade Deck 7

THE INSIDER

2:00 pm

STARRING: Al Pacino, Russell Crowe
Drama - 2 hours 35 minutes - Rated R

MUSIC OF THE HEART

6:00 pm, 8:15 pm and 10:30 pm

STARRING: Meryl Streep, Aiden Quinn & Gloria Estefan
Drama - 2 hours 6 minutes - Rated PG

Popcorn is served & soft drinks are available for purchase
15 minutes prior to each feature presentation.

BARS & LOUNGES

OCEAN BAR

Upper Promenade Deck 8
10:00 am - 12:30 am

The Starfire Trio

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
7:15 pm - 8:15 pm
9:15 pm - 12:00 mn

The Starfire Trio
invites you to enjoy easy
listening and dance music.

PIANO BAR

Upper Promenade Deck 8
9:00 pm - wee hours

Perry Grant

9:15 pm - wee hours
Perry plays your
favorites and keeps
you entertained all
night long!

CROW'S NEST

Sports Deck 12
4:30 pm - wee hours

Our Pianist plays

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm
The Bahamas Quartet
7:15 pm - 8:15 pm
9:15 pm - 11:15 pm

70's Disco Night
with our DJ at 11:15 pm.

EXPLORERS LOUNGE

Upper Promenade Deck 8
7:30 pm - 12:00 mn

Champagne Strings

9:30 pm - 12:00 mn
Enjoy espresso, coffee
specials or hand-dipped
chocolates
and classical music.

DAY AT A GLANCE!

7:00 am - 7:00 pm	♥ Gym Workout (max. 2 stamps) <i>Ocean Spa, Lido Deck 11</i>
7:30 am	♥ Walk-A-Mile meet at lifeboat #8 <i>Lower Promenade, Deck 6</i>
8:00 am	♥ Body Blitz <i>Ocean Spa, Lido Deck 11</i>
9:00 am - 3:00 pm	The Daily Quiz is available <i>Reading Room, Deck 8</i>
9:00 am - 5:00 pm	The Library is open <i>Reading Room, Deck 8</i>
9:00 am - 9:00 pm	Sports Equipment is available <i>Outside Decks 6, 10 & 12</i>
9:30 am	♥ Men's Shuffleboard Tourney <i>Sports Deck, 12</i>
9:30 am	♥ Ladies Ping Pong Tourney <i>Navigation Deck aft, 10</i>
10:00 am	WIN A CRUISE FOR TWO AT BINGO !! <i>Rembrandt Lounge, Decks 7,8</i>
10:00 am - 11:45 am	Beauty & Fitness Deck Sale <i>Lido Poolside, Deck 11</i>
10:30 am	DISEMBARKATION TALK <i>Rembrandt Lounge, Decks 7,8</i>
10:30 am - 11:00 am	Lemonade is served <i>Outside Decks</i>
10:30 am	ART PREVIEW <i>Explorers Lounge, Deck 8</i>
11:00 am	A Morning with Frank Berry <i>Rembrandt Lounge, Decks 7, 8</i>
11:00 am	Dutch Cheese Fondue Demo <i>Ocean Bar, Deck 8</i>
11:00 am	ART AUCTION <i>Explorers Lounge, Deck 8</i>
11:00 am - 2:00 pm	The Wine Desk is open <i>Lido Poolside, Deck 11</i>
11:15 am	Service Club Meeting Come see the Cruise Staff to receive your make-up card! <i>Hudson Room, Deck 7</i>
11:30 am	♥ Mixed Ring Toss Game <i>Sports Deck, 12</i>
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	Live Music with Lunch <i>Lido Poolside, Deck 11</i>
12:00 nn	The ms Maasdam is expected to anchor off Visby, Gotland, Sweden.
12:00 nn - 1:30 pm	Port Lecturer Joe is available. <i>On the pier.</i>
12:00 nn	Make-Up Clinic <i>Ocean Spa, Deck 11</i>
2:15 pm	Bridge Play (non-hosted) <i>Card Room, Deck 8</i>
3:00 pm	Trivia Quiz <i>Piano Bar, Deck 8</i>
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Basketball is available <i>Sports Deck, 12</i>

3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Afternoon Tea is served <i>Rotterdam Dining Room, 8</i>
3:30 pm - 4:00 pm	Enjoy some Iced Tea <i>Outside Decks</i>
3:45 pm	♥ Stretch and Relax Class <i>Ocean Spa, Lido Deck 11</i>
4:30 pm	♥ Mixed Volleyball Game <i>Sports Deck, 12</i>
4:30 pm	♥ Walk-A-Mile meet at lifeboat #8 <i>Lower Promenade, Deck 6</i>
5:00 pm	♥ Stretch and Relax Class <i>Ocean Spa, Lido Deck 11</i>
5:00 pm	Friends of "Bill W." Meeting <i>Hudson Room, Deck 7</i>
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Cocktail Time <i>Ocean Bar, Crow's Nest</i>
5:30 pm	THE LAST TENDER DEPARTS FROM SHORE.
6:00 pm	The ms Maasdam sails for Stockholm, Sweden.
6:30 pm - close	The Casino is open <i>Casino, Deck 8</i>
6:45 pm	SHOWTIME for Second Sitting <i>Rembrandt Lounge, Decks 7,8</i>
7:15 pm - 8:15 pm	Cocktail Time <i>Ocean Bar, Crow's Nest</i>
8:30 pm	SHOWTIME for First Sitting <i>Rembrandt Lounge, Decks 7,8</i>
9:30 pm - 12:00 mn	Cigars Under the Stars <i>Dolphin Bar, Deck 11</i>
10:15 pm	FINAL JACKPOT BINGO The Snowball MUST GO!!!! <i>Rembrandt Lounge, Decks 7,8</i>
11:15 pm	70's Disco Night <i>Crow's Nest, Deck 12</i>

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Schneider who renewed their wedding vows on board. Also congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. David Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. William Lasher and Mr. Wayne Burrus and Ms. Leila Clark on their special celebration.

FINAL BINGO

The jackpot must go tonight! Cards go on sale at 10:00 pm. You may charge bingo cards to your shipboard account; simply bring your Guest Identification Card as you purchase your cards. Good luck!

BAGGAGE NOTICE

Guests are kindly requested to have their baggage packed and placed in the passageway outside their cabin, with the exception of an overnight bag, upon retiring this evening or by 2:00 am. Please be sure your luggage is properly tagged with the colored tags that will be delivered to your cabin. Please do not place open shopping bags outside your cabin. It is best to carry these off the ship yourself. Shoreside Union regulations do not allow the ship's personnel to carry any baggage off the ship.



HOLLAND AMERICA LINE

calls at VISBY, GOTLAND, SWEDEN

Gutenses signo xpistus signatur in agno.

("I am the sign of the Gotlanders, but with the lamb one symbolizes Christ.")

– Text on Gotland's flag. "T" refers to the ram, symbol of the island since the 13th century..

Fortunately for Holland America Line's passengers, it is best to arrive in Visby by sea. As the ship nears land, the city's solid medieval turrets and old walls come slowly into view, and Gotland's magic is at its most powerful. The largest island in the Baltic, it is one of Sweden's most interesting historical places.

Archaeological evidence of a settlement at Visby dates back to the 9th century, the beginning of the Viking era. The Swedish mainland is only about 60 miles to the west, but Visby, on the northwest coast, receives favorable currents and its port is generally open in winter. An excellent example of a fortified medieval commercial city, it retains many historic buildings, and because of their age and architecture, the city has been named a *UNESCO World Heritage* site. Many valuable archaeological relics have been unearthed across the countryside as well as in Visby itself, and many more were never buried in the first place. More than 90 island churches have been in continuous use since the Middle Ages.

Modern Visby is the administrative center of the Swedish County of Gotland. In summer, restaurants and bars are busy serving vacationers and residents alike. Many people take daytrips from the mainland aboard one of several ferries that serve Gotland.

Between the 9th and 11th centuries, Gotland was one of several major starting points for the many Viking expeditions that were dispatched in search of new lands. Most headed along the eastern route to *Gårdaríke*, the Viking name for Eastern Europe and Russia. Gotlanders were known for their skill as pilots, and they knew the best ship-hauling sites on the route. They were also known for the strong beer they carried on their voyages. The drink seemed to make rowing easier and more efficient, and it gave Gotland's ships extra speed and maneuverability.

The name *Viking* first appeared in foreign writings in the 11th century. The word probably came from the Swedish word *vik* (inlet), and illustrates the close relationship between Vikings and the sea. They had their own Gods, and were feared throughout Europe. Though they were known as wild, drunken, merciless robbers, only a small number of them probably were truly so wild. The Vikings were mainly concerned with farming and commerce, but their missions sometimes decayed into piracy. In fairness, it must also be said that some journeys were launched for the sole purpose of raiding wealthy ports.

Swedish Vikings were a distinct breed from the Danish and Norwegian variety. While the Danes and Norsemen ventured westward, the Swedes looked to their eastern neighbors, venturing first to Russia and then even as far as Asia Minor. Archaeological evidence suggests that there was much trade between Gotland

and the Near East. The Swedish Vikings contributed to the bloodlines of the Russian people, and it has been suggested that even the name of the vast country is taken from *Rus*, one of the names applied to the Viking explorers.

The Middle Ages were probably the island's most important period. Visby had become an important trading city, having overshadowed all other ports along the Swedish coast. At the time, traveling merchants customarily gathered in guilds and formed small cartels. Traveling associations of Germanic merchants were known as *hansas*, (communities). Drawn by lucrative trading opportunities, foreign merchants began to settle on Gotland, and by the end of the 13th century, Visby was a thriving Hansa. Trade with the Hanseatic League in the following century increased its fortunes dramatically.

As gatekeepers to valuable Nordic commerce, Visby businessmen amassed vast collective fortunes. The community was the only one on the island that was permitted to trade with the Germans under the rules of the league, but Germans were not the only foreigners that found their way to Gotland. Russians and Danes also immigrated and established communities of their own. Unfortunately, it was not long before pirates noticed the riches, and the island suffered several major raids. Perhaps piracy begins at home – local leaders were often corrupt, and imposed massive taxes upon the citizens. Many people went bankrupt after paying exorbitant levies.

Gotland's bounty ended abruptly in the 16th century for several reasons. First, the nation of Sweden was born when Gustaf Eriksson-Wasa, an aristocrat, was elected King Gustav I Wasa. In a deal stuck with the Hanseatic League, Gustav was assisted to the throne in return for offering exclusive rights to Swedish commerce. Soon after assuming control, Gustav realized that the Swedish market was a great treasure, so he barred the Hanseatic traders. This turned out to be a grave error. The Swedish economy soon fell apart without support of the powerful Hanseatic League.

Gotland's troubles had begun much earlier however. In 1350, plague visited the island after it had already ravaged most of Europe. The weak and shattered community was an easy target. Danes invaded in 1361, followed by pirates and a contingent of Teutonic Knights. Lübeck also launched an attack in 1525, and Visby declined soon afterward. The island deteriorated for some years, but a new wave of prosperity saw a renaissance in the 18th century.

Much remains from the so-called "glory years." Among the most popular places, Medieval Visby is the main attraction, but Stora Karlsö, Storsudret, Östergarnslandet, Fårö,

Lummelundagrottorna, and *Kneippbyn och Tofta* just south of Visby are also interesting. There are museums in Visby, Krysmyntgården (just north of Visby), Bungmuseet and Bläse Kalkbruksmuseum.

Gotland's attractions are not only historical – the island also has excellent beaches and resorts. The island enjoys many hours of summer sun, and autumn weather is generally still favorable. Gotland's beaches are also popular for swimmers, and its natural beauty is unsurpassed. Look for unique rock formations known as *rauks*. Summer is the most active season, when many festivals and organized events occur. The Shakespeare theatre at the ruined monastery in Roma, Chamber Music Week and Medieval Week at the beginning of August are probably the best known.

POINTS OF INTEREST

In each port of call, there are many interesting sights. While we try to include the main points, our listing is by no means exhaustive.

OLD VISBY

Visby's city wall is one of northern Europe's oldest. Its 40 towers are intact and have helped earn the city a place on the list of UNESCO's *World Heritage Sites*. The two-mile wall encircles the city, and is the longest of its kind. The original was erected in the 13th century, but it has been re-built many times throughout its long history. Efforts to preserve it are ongoing.

Inside the fortifications, the street plan dates back to the 13th century, and was modeled on the layout of the original Viking settlement. Main streets lead from the gates to the port in true medieval fashion – none follow straight lines. The twisting pattern was designed to thwart would-be attackers – citizens knew the layout of their city, but invaders would soon get lost in the labyrinth. The streets, of varying widths, are paved with limestone, stones and granite.

The city's enormous cathedral dominates the eastern side. There are a number of old homes in the district as well as some fine old limestone warehouses that were restored in the 18th century. The remains of more than a dozen smaller churches can also be found in the area.

FORSAL MUSEUM

The ancient relics at the Fornsal Museum are unique, and include Runic (picture) stones and a fine Viking silver collection. There are art, natural history, and ecology departments. An ongoing education program, and the Fenomenalen technology exhibition for children and young

people round out the foundation's program. The oldest artifacts in the museum are more than 8,000 years old. The collection opens daily from 11am to 6pm.

RAUKARNA

Scattered around the island are the eerie limestone formations known as *raukarna*. The craggy pillars once lined the coast. The largest remaining concentration of them can be found on the eastern side. Fanciful forms have been assigned to the unusual shapes, which are thought to have formed eons ago when much of the island was submerged. One of the most famous is *Hoburgsgubben* (Old Man of Hoburg), one of the stone trolls about which there are many tales. Also on the East Coast, most of Gotland's best beaches are found. *Holland America Line does not endorse swimming or marine sporting activities. The sea is unpredictable and characteristically strong currents flow past certain parts of the island. Never swim alone.*

ANCIENT AND HISTORIC SITES

There are more than 1,000 recognized historical sites and monuments on Gotland. Most are marked, and with few exceptions, they are always open at no charge.

Botulf Katlund built Katlund's farm in the Middle Ages. The perfectly preserved property is his legacy and offers visitors a glimpse at period lifestyles. How could society have possibly survived without telephones or computers?

STORA KARLSÖ

Stora Karlsö, a small but very special island, is located just off Gotland's west coast. The boat from Klintehamn takes 40 minutes in one direction. One of the island's main attractions is its lighthouse, which offers a splendid view of the coast-

GUTASAGEN

No discussion of Gotland would be complete without mention of the *Gutasagen* (Gotland's *saga*). According to the legend, the enchanted island rose from the sea each evening at twilight and sank beneath the waves again at dawn. A man named Tjelvar broke the spell when he brought fire to the island. Though some people believe in the letter of the tale, most agree that it is a myth. Scientists have shown, however, that Gotland did indeed sink beneath the sea several times during its history due to changing sea levels. Prior to the 13th century, the epic was an oral tradition, but it later appeared in written form. While it may be only legend, Gotland is unquestionably historically rich, and a certain air of mystery prevails.

line. There are also some caves in which Stone Age relics were discovered. Bird fanciers can find a large colony of nesting seabirds, especially during breeding season.

Visitors can enjoy lunch or dinner at the island's only restaurant. There is also a small inn for overnight visitors. *Due to time considerations, Holland America Line recommends that guests planning to visit the island independently allow plenty of time for return in order to be back aboard ship in time for sailing.*

BUNGE OPEN-AIR MUSEUM

Bunge open-air museum is one of the most interesting sites on the island. Just west of Fårösund at the military zone, the complex is one of Sweden's largest outdoor museums. More than 50 buildings have been preserved and transported to the site from other parts of Gotland. Several fine pre-Viking era *rune* stones are displayed. The site opens daily between June and August. Bunge is also home to an excellent 14th-century fortress church.

FÄRÖ

Fårösund, on the northern tip of Gotland, is the center of a restricted military zone, but it is still accessible via the main road if governmental permission is obtained prior to arrival. Just across a narrow channel, the separate island of Fårö is a place seemingly forgotten by time. The landscape is dotted with 17th-century farms and life continues in an undisturbed leisurely pace in sharp contrast to the relative bustle of Visby. The island is a rural and charming place. Most of the visitors are Swedes who go there for the small island's pretty beaches and dramatic rocky coast.

SHOPPING TIPS

The unit of currency in Sweden is the *krona* (crown). One krona is divided into 100 *öre*. The krona is a stable currency, and Sweden is a member of the European Economic Community.

In addition to the other wonderful Swedish products that are available, such as clothing and shoes, crystal and glass lovers will have a delightful time shopping in Visby. Several famous glass and crystal works are available, including *Kosta Boda*, where interesting and often whimsical designs are created and *Orrefors*, designer of elegant crystal objects. Also look for traditional carved wooden Dalahäst horses from the Dalarna province, or wool clothing items. You may also see amber in town. The precious fossil is often found along the shores of the Baltic. Swedish goldsmiths produce excellent work. Look for the stamp showing three crowns, indicating minimum content of 18 carats.

LANGUAGE

Public signs and business signs are in Swedish, but most people also understand English and German.

good-bye = <i>hej då</i>	where is ...? = <i>var kan jag finna...?</i>	passenger ship = <i>skeppet</i>
hello = <i>hej</i>	hello or goodbye (informal) = <i>hej</i>	please = <i>var snäll</i>
beautiful = <i>vacker</i>	how much? = <i>vad kostar det?</i>	too much = <i>det är för dyrt</i>
yes/no = <i>ja/nej</i>	you're welcome = <i>var så god</i>	thank you = <i>tack</i>
do you speak English? = <i>talat ni engelska?</i>	what's the time? = <i>hur mycket är klockan?</i>	

Visby is one of the safest places in Europe. Nevertheless, it tends to attract a lot of tourists, and can become crowded. Watch your step! Terrain tends to be uneven and strewn with rocks. The historic sites characteristically feature broken or loose pavement.

ARRIVAL INFORMATION

The ship anchors off Visby. Continuous tender service operates between the ship and shore. Taxis are available near the tender landing, but they tend to be pricey. Most drivers accept major credit cards.

Gotlands Turistservice, the official visitor information office at Donnersplats in Visby opens daily until 7:00pm during the height of summer. Otherwise, it is open weekdays until 5:00pm and weekends until 4:00pm.

HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

Try some fresh salmon or other fresh fish. The Swedish smörgåsbord is usually a good value and offers an opportunity to sample various local dishes. Prices have dropped in recent years in Sweden although alcoholic beverages are still taxed at a very high rate. *Private cars and drivers may be available. Inquire 48 hours prior to arrival. Private arrangements are subject to cancellation and communication fees.*

Historic Footprints...

13000BC	Nomadic peoples reach Sweden.
6000	First permanent settlements.
c100AD	Swear people have established a powerful community on Lake Mälaren.
800	Swedish Vikings, known as the <i>Rus</i> , gain control of large parts of Russia.
c1008	King Olof Skötkonung is baptized. Christianity is Sweden's official religion.
1157	King Eric leads a Crusade to the east. Killed in battle three years later, he is beatified as Sweden's patron saint.
1250	Stockholm, established by Birger Jarl, Earl of Sweden, is the Swedish capital.
1306	Duke Valdemar and Duke Erik arrest their brother, King Birger.
1317	King Birger allows his brothers to starve.
1319	Swedish union with Norway.
1335	Slavery is abolished.
1350	Black Death strikes Europe.
1388	<i>Kalmar Union</i> . Scandinavia is united under Eric of Pomerania, but Danish Queen Margareth has true control.
1434	Engelbrecht Rebellion.
1477	Uppsala university is established.
1520	Stockholm blood bath. Danish King Christian II executes those opposed to the Kalmar Union. Vasa rebellion erupts.
1523	King Gustav Ericsson is first Vasa King.
1527	Book publishing is made a royal privilege as religious struggles intensify.
1593	Lutheranism is confirmed in Uppsala.
1611	Sweden enters the 30 Years' War.
1660	Sweden wins large land tracts.
1700	The Great Northern War erupts. Sweden emerges as ruler of the Baltic.
1778	Freedom of religion for aliens allows for immigration of Jewish refugees.
1792	Gustav III assassinated at a masquerade.
1814	Treaty of Kiel. Norway and Sweden join.
1818	Karl XIV Johann is the first of the French Bernadotte kings in Sweden.
1873	Scandinavian currency and postal union are established. It will last to WWI.
1878	Metric system is introduced.
1901	First Nobel Prize award.
1905	Norway declares independence.
1912	Olympic Games in Stockholm.
1961	UN secretary general Dag Hammarskjöld's plane is shot down.
1979	Referendum curtails nuclear power use.
1986	Prime minister Olof Palme is assassinated February 28. In April, radiation is discovered outside the nuclear plant <i>Forsmark</i> (north of Stockholm), but is later discovered to have originated at Chernobyl, Ukraine.
1994	The ferry Estonia sinks in Åland's sea. 900 people drown.
1995	Sweden becomes a full member of the European Union.

Complimentary port information is as accurate as possible at the time of writing. Since many elements are subject to change without notice, neither Holland America Line nor its agents can guarantee absolute accuracy.

This information should therefore be used as a guideline only.