



**Destination Speaker for
Orient Lines / Marco Polo
August 13 – 20, 2006
Stockholm to Copenhagen**

George Jewsbury



Biographical Sketch

Doctor George F. Jewsbury is a specialist in Russian and East European affairs and a Research Associate at the Russian Center of the School for the Advanced Study for the Social Sciences in Paris, France. He is the lead author of the best selling world civilization textbook, *Civilization Past and Present*, has published two monographs, fifteen articles, and given presentations at conferences in the United States and Europe. He has carried out research in Russia (the former Soviet Union) since 1968, Eastern Europe, and throughout Western Europe. He has been a Fulbright Professor in France, a Senior Associate Member at St. Antony's College Oxford, and at the University of Paris, VIII. In addition, Dr. Jewsbury was the Academic Adviser to the European Fulbright Programs at the Department of State and the coordinator for Eastern European Affairs in the President's U.S.-Soviet Exchange Initiative between 1987 and 1991. In that capacity he oversaw the creation of the Hungarian Management Center in Budapest and served as a consultant to many business ventures in the years just before and after the end of the Cold War. He has also published two novels, co-authored with Neal Stephenson, re-released in May 2005. He has been guest lecturer on several cruises on European rivers.

Lecture Topics

1) The Northern Coast of the Baltic: From the Vikings to the Hanseatic League to a Global Technological Center

Spreading from the Baltic region, Vikings went to the far corners of the globe, affecting the development of states ranging from Russia to France to Iceland. In a more peaceful way, the Hanseatic League—a series of merchant cities—went from St. Malo France to St. Petersburg Russia. Until 1500 and the opening of the Atlantic, the merchants of the Hansa were active in all of the cities on our itinerary, and established a common thread for an understanding of the region. Today the Swedes and Finns have constructed systems which are models of economic progress and social protection.

2) Russia and the Baltic: From the Varangians to Peter the Great to Vladimir Putin

Seeking a “window on the west” the Russians fought tenaciously against a wide range of powers, from the Teutonic Knights to the powerful Swedish armies. Finally, the extraordinary Peter the Great reached the Baltic at the city named after him. It served as the capital of Russia until the November Revolution of 1917. Today the city mirrors its complex history in beautiful and brutal ways.

3) The Baltic States and the European Community

A brief consideration of the gallant Estonians, Latvians, and Lithuanians and their difficult path to independence. Caught between the Poles, Germans, Swedes, and Russians, these nations maintained their culture and identity against all odds to become important participants in the European Union a mere fifteen years after they had been liberated from the former USSR.

Additional Topics If Needed

Copenhagen: There's nothing Rotten in Denmark

Shakespeare did not help the image of Denmark, nor did the larger European neighbors who cast covetous eyes on the strategically located nation. Along with its Scandinavian neighbors, the Danes have managed to adapt to a global economy while restraining the economic and social damage of globalization. A look at the Danes' history will help explain why this is so.