

# Welcome to the Port of Opportunities



## PORT OF HAMINAKOTKA

port area in numbers:

- 1,200 ha of land areas
- 1,600 ha of sea areas
- 9 km of quays
- 70 berths
- 90 km of railways

Port of HaminaKotka is responsible for the marketing, customers, product development and co-ordination of the cruise business in the Kotka-Hamina region.



Finland

Kotka

Helsinki

Hamina

Stockholm

Tallinn

Copenhagen

Kiel

Warnemünde



# HAMINA & KOTKA IN A NUTSHELL

As the biggest universal port in Finland and the easternmost western cruise port, HaminaKotka offers cruise ships excellent frames for visiting the Kotka-Hamina region. The excellent location of the cities Kotka and Hamina, nearby Helsinki and Tallinn, gives the opportunity for the cruise guests to explore the culture and history of our country more comprehensively.

The circular town Hamina with its historical venues, Kotka the island with its lushing parks, and the entire Kotka-Hamina region provide cruise guests a unique, authentic experience. Become enchanted with the old wooden houses full of atmosphere, get to know the churches representing different styles, learn about the maritime history in the Finnish Maritime Centre, venture on white-water rafting on the River Kymijoki, take a tour in the inner archipelago or hike in the natural environ-

ment. The Kotka-Hamina region provides all this and many more new things to experience. You will spend your day in an international, however, authentic mini-Finland and meet joyful locals who are happy to welcome cruise guests.

Any ship size, from the smallest to the largest ones are welcome visiting Port of HaminaKotka.

Port of HaminaKotka can also offer turnarounds. The airports in Helsinki and Lappeenranta offer a workable logistic connection together with the excellent motorway E18.

Together with an excellent network of local partners, Port of HaminaKotka is sure to provide a memorable experience for every visiting cruise ship, crew members, and guests.



# Some slices of the most tasty SHORE-EX



Photo: Cursor Oy/Julia Kivelä

## KOTKA BY LAND AND SEA

Your day will consist of three different parts – a tour around Kotka, originally built as a fortress to protect St. Petersburg, a bus trip filled with history, a bit of culture, as well as a boat trip around Kotkansaari Island. The tour starts with a trip that will take you around the main island of Kotka, where the city centre is located. You will experience the internationally awarded parks from park to park of the town, known as the green living rooms, the sculpture promenade – the outdoor gallery in the heart of Kotka. Then continue to the Isopuisto Park including the Church of St. Nicholas and hear about the development of Kotka from the Viking Age to the days of today. The tour will continue to the Sapokka Marina from where you will be taken on a boat tour around the Kotkansaari island through one of the most interesting historical sceneries in Finland.

## KOTKA AND THE IMPERIAL FISHING LODGE AT KYMIJOKI RIVER LANGINKOSKI

You start with a short walk to a motorboat, which takes you on a trip to discover the fascinating history of Finland: it was once part of Sweden, and later became the Grand Duchy of Russia, an autonomous state within the Russian Empire. On board, enjoy the searide as your guide tells you about the era of the Vikings and Hanseatic times, and of the strong links that exist between Finland and both Russia and Western Europe. Heading upstream on the Kymijoki River, you reach the Langinkoski Imperial Fishing Lodge, originally the summer home of Tsar Alexander III, where you disembark and meet the daily life of the family that escaped the hectic life in St. Petersburg for the peace and quiet of the Kymijoki River.



Photo: Cursor Oy/Viktoria Shishkova



Photo: Cursor Oy

Photo: Cursor Oy/Julia Kivelä



## KOTKA MARITIME CENTRE VELLAMO, SAPOKKA GARDENS AND LANGINKOSKI

An excursion dedicated entirely to the city of Kotka to discover its history, main monuments and ancient traditions connected to maritime culture and navigation in often prohibitive conditions. You will see the Sapokka Gardens, the Finnish Maritime Museum Vellamo and Museum of Kymenlaakso and the Imperial Fishing Lodge Langinkoski.

When leaving the port behind you, you will go on a sightseeing tour of Kotka, a picturesque city with a long-standing maritime tradition. The first stop is a true temple of modern architecture - the Vellamo Maritime Centre, a multifunctional centre along the old quay. On the quay you can also visit two floating museums the Icebreaker Tarmo and the Lightship Kemi. The next stop will be the Sapokka gardens. Apart from a small-boat harbour, Sapokka is also an old sea bay refurbished into a charming park area. The dominant element of the park is water: there is the sea of course, but water also flows in small brooks and ponds and in a waterfall on the south bank of the park. Then you will drive through the Kotka island and have a panoramic view of the many internationally awarded and diversified parks in the city centre. When driving to the Imperial Fishing Lodge with its nature resort in Langinkoski by the Kymijoki River, you will arrive at the lodge a cottage built for Tsar Alexander III from Russia.



## KOTKA/HAMINA AND THEIR ARCHIPELAGO BY SAILING SHIP

Kotka and Hamina are undeniably maritime cities with a wide maritime history and culture. On this tour you can go back in time to the great days of sail. You will be taken to the sailing ship, where you step on board a century-old cargo vessel that used to sail around the Baltics bringing goods and merchandise to Finland. Today this ship has been beautifully restored and converted to carry passengers during the summer months. Once on board, you can assist the crew with the sails, or simply enjoy the views of the beautiful archipelago outside Kotka/Hamina.



Photo: Pekka Vainio

## ARCHIPELAGO ADVENTURE

A short transfer takes you from your ship to the small boat harbour where your skipper is already waiting for you. Step on board your speed boat and enjoy a fast ride out to sea. Your adventure begins with a mini-cruise through the beautiful Finnish archipelago, during which you can also view Kotka/Hamina from a new perspective. Your boat takes you up close to the Russian Border, to view the island of Gogland belonging to Russia, where your skipper will arrange a photo-stop. Afterwards you continue to the Kaunissaari island, a small fishing village, where you can explore the network of public footpaths, view the local inhabitants' summer cottages and enjoy the sparkling atmosphere of the island's summer restaurant. Your return journey to Kotka will hug the coast, where you can see numerous private houses in addition to public open spaces.



Photo: Cursor Oy/Julia Klvela



Photo: Cursor Oy/Harri Tarvainen

## DELICIOUS ISLAND TREAT

Imagine experiencing the extraordinary diversity and beauty of Finnish nature and learn how to prepare a delicious Finnish archipelago dinner – all on an island. Your tour will start with a short ride from the port to the small boat harbour from where you will be taken on a boat trip to the island. The island is located by the Eastern Gulf of Finland National Park. The boat trip will take about 30 minutes and you will be entertained by the beautiful inner archipelago scenery and the stories related to the history of the region. The cooking class is conducted by top chefs who are specialized in making regional dishes of local organic products.





## EXPERIENCE THE FORTRESS TOWN HAMINA

The strategic location has always played an important role for the history of Hamina. Vehkalahti county, of which Hamina was a part of, was first mentioned in documents in 1336. The main sights of the town are, amongst others, the Hamina Town Hall, the Hamina Town Museum, the Reserve Officer School, and remains of the Hamina Fortress. Behind the gates of the old wooden city houses, you are going to get to dive into the fascinating past of the fortress town Hamina with all its historically fascinating characters. The owners of the houses and gardens welcome you in their gardens. Experience the old-world city-life and take a short walk around to get to know the unique circular town and its famous star-shaped town-plan.



## FINNISH MARSHLAND EXPERIENCE

Experience Finnish marshland nature and explore the Valkmusa National Park. The one hour walking tour, offers you a mind healing moment in the authentic nature with its wellbeing items. Versatile nature in the marshlands of the park takes you to the silence, peace and freshness of nature, relaxation and maybe even tastes of Finnish healthy berries.

Valkmusa's extensive natural open bogs give visitors a chance to wind down and see, hear and smell, and even taste nature all around. You can look out for wetland birds and fluttering marshland butterflies, especially in spring and summer. Maybe also find some berries growing around the moss to eat, depending on your time of visit. The nature around you hugs you independent of the season.



Photo: Cursor Oy / Krista Ylinen







Photo: Cursor Oy / Krista Ylinen

## PARK CAPITAL BIKE RIDE OR WALK ABOUT

Join the route of 5 km on and around the Kotka island and experience the lushness of the National Urban Park necklace. Dive into the beautiful, rich and abundant flower gardens, historical and cultural atmosphere from park to park. You can pop into the parks you like, or travel the entire route on foot or by bike. The tour includes Sapokka Water Garden, Katariina Seaside Park, Sculpture Promenade, Haukkavuori Lookout Tower, Palotorninvuori Park, Mansikkalahti, Sibelius Park, and Redutti-Kotka herb garden. All the parks have an own significant authenticity and history.

Photo: Cursor Oy/Hari Tarvainen



Photo: Studiokuva Jarno Koivula



## RIVER EXPERIENCE

Experience the silence and the power of the fast-flowing and unspoilt Kymijoki River. As you travel down the river, you will experience at close hand some of the miracles that the wild Kymijoki River has to offer. The free-flowing stream, peaceful inlets, trees hanging over the river, fishermen waiting for their catches, idyllic fields and the vibrant sounds of nature: all of these will remain on your mind for a long time. This is a 'back to nature' experience that you absolutely have to try.



# Exiting EXTRAS

## CATCH OF THE DAY

Experience fishing at the rapids of Siikakoski. The Kymijoki River is famous for being the best salmon river in Southern Finland. Or go out on the Finnish Gulf and experience the excitement out in the archipelago.

## COUNTRY EXPERIENCE ON HORSEBACK

Enjoy the Finnish nature upon a relaxing horsebackride.

## HIKING ON THE THE SUOMEN SALPA DEFENSE LINE

The Salpa Trail offers an excellent natural setting for outdoor exercise and refreshment. Suomen Salpa is a bunker line on the eastern border of Finland. It was built during the Interim Peace between the Winter War and the Continuation War to defend Finland as a 1200 km bar against a possible Soviet invasion.

## SWIMMING IN WHITE WATER RAPIDS

A unique experience to try is swimming in white water rapids. A memorable experience in the Kymijoki River in a beautiful landscape.



Photo: Cursor Oy/Harri Tarvainen



Photo: Cursor Oy/Joona Linkola

## Entertainment

Kotka Maritime Festival every year and Hamina International Military Music Festival every second year attracting together over 300 000 visitors. In addition, concerts, fairs and markets among other over 100 interesting events through the season.

There is more on the menu, please contact [cruise@haminakotka.fi](mailto:cruise@haminakotka.fi) for additional information!

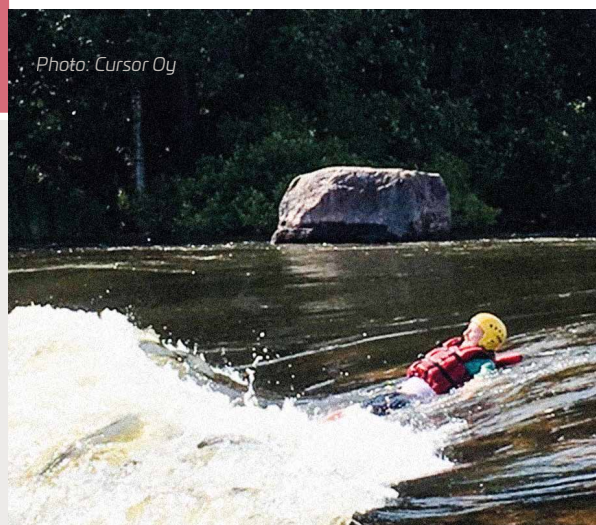


Photo: Cursor Oy

# Most interesting treats in **HAMINA**

- The Town Hall
- Circular old town centre and fortress
- Hamina Bastion
- The Monumental Flag
- The Path of the Finnish Flag
- Flag Tower
- Reserve Officer School
- Churches
- Tervasaari
- Beach Pitkäthiekat
- Archipelago



Museo



- The Kotkansaari Park Trail
- The Maritime Museum of Finland Vellamo and the Kymenlaakso Museum
- Museums Icebreaker Tarmo and Lightship Kemi
- The Finnish Wooden Boat Centre
- Maretarium – Fantastic Aquarium House for Finnish Sealife
- Langinkoski Imperial Fishing Lodge
- Haukkavuori Sightseeing Tower
- Island of Fort Elisabeth
- Churches
- Beaches Santalahti and Mansikkalahti
- Archipelago

...and in **KOTKA**

# TASTY HAMINA & KOTKA

Meat, fish, root vegetables, greens and even coffee are sourced from local producers, when possible. Organic ingredients are preferred and waste is strived to be kept to a minimum.

The local city centre cafés and restaurants offer a local eat & refresh experience with special culinary experiences.

*Photos: Cursor Oy/Krista Ylinen*









## FACTFILE KOTKA-HAMINA REGION

**Population:** Appr. 70 000

**Language:** Finnish

**Currency:** Euro

**Climate:** During summer temperate or warm

**Ship berths at:** Kantasatama, Hamina and Mussalo berthing areas

**Distance from Kotka city centre:**  
700 m (Kantasatama),  
8 km (Mussalo)

**Distance from Hamina city centre:**  
5 km (Hamina)

**Distance between Hamina-Kotka**  
27 km/30 minutes

## USEFUL INFORMATION

**Shopping:** The Pasaati Shopping Centre <https://pasaati.fi/> is located on Keskuskatu 10, Kotka.

**Jumalniemi Shopping**  
(Jumalniemen Kauppakeskus) located on Jumalniementie 7, Kotka.

**Shop opening hours:** Most shops are open Monday to Sunday from 1000-2000.

**Post office:**  
**Kotka:** Located at Keskuskatu 11.  
Open 0700-2100 on weekdays,  
0800-1900 on Saturdays and  
1000-1800 on Sundays.

**Hamina:** Located at Pikkuympyräkatu 14.  
Open 0700-2000 on weekdays and  
Saturdays. 0800-2000 on Sundays.

**Banks:** 24 hour ATM machines available in the city centres.

**Tourist office:** Located at the pier/city centres.

**Emergency services:** Dial 112

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