



SEA FORTRESS

# SUOMENLINNA



MAP  
INCLUDED

## SIGHTS

### 8 SUOMENLINNA CHURCH



Suomenlinna Church was built as a Russian Orthodox garrison church in 1854. In the 1920s, during the early days of Finnish independence, the church was converted into an Evangelical-Lutheran church. A lighthouse for air and sea traffic still operates in the steeple.

### 29 COURTYARD



The Courtyard, designed by the founder of the fortress Augustin Ehrensvärd, has served as the main square of the fortress since the 1760s. It was badly damaged in bombardments during the Crimean War in 1855. The tomb of Augustin Ehrensvärd is located in the courtyard.

### 24 DRY DOCK



Suomenlinna Dock is one of the world's oldest dry docks still in use. The ships of the Swedish Coastal Fleet were built there in the 1760s under the supervision of the naval architect F. H. af Chapman. Nowadays the dock is used to restore old wooden ships.

### 42 KUSTANMIEKKA



Kustaanmiekka offers a view of the original bastion fortress and the coastal defence line with its earthworks and guns constructed by the Russians at the end of the 19th century.

### 44 KING'S GATE



The monumental King's Gate is the emblem of Suomenlinna. It was built in 1753–54 as the ceremonial gateway to the fortress. The gate was built on the site where the ship carrying the founder of the fortress, King Adolf Frederick of Sweden, was anchored while the king inspected the construction work in 1752.

# MAP

- Open all year
- Open only in summer

SÄRKKÄ



## TRANSPORT

- 1 Ferry (HSL)
- 20 Water bus, Suomenlinna Centre quay
- 43 Water bus, King's Gate quay

## MUSEUMS

- 16 Toy Museum
- 17 Military Museum's Manege
- 19 Suomenlinna Museum
- 28 Customs Museum
- 30 Ehrensvärd Museum
- 37 Vesikko Submarine

## RESTAURANTS AND CAFÉS

- 2 Suomenlinna Brewery Restaurant
- 6 Restaurant Klubi 20
- 7 Café Vanille
- 15 Café Icecellar
- 16 Toy Museum Café Samovarbar
- 19 Suomenlinna Centre Café
- 21 Café Bar Valimo
- 27 Restaurant Café Chapman
- 38 Café Piper
- 45 Walhalla Restaurant (Walhalla Gourmet, Pizzeria Nikolai, Sun View Terrace & Bar)

## SHOPPING

- 4 Grocery shop
- 15 Icecellar Art Shop
- 16 Toy Museum shop
- 19 Suomenlinna Centre shop
- 26 Artillery Bay kiosk
- 32 Museum shop
- 32 Viapori Arts & Crafts Shop B34

## ART

- 2 Jetty Barracks Gallery
- 33 Gallery Augusta
- 34 Pot Viapori Ceramic Studio
- 35 Hytti Glass Studio
- 35 Tokuyūan Japanese Tea Room

## OTHER SERVICES

- 2 Visitor Centre
- 5 Hostel Suomenlinna
- 12 Suomenlinna library
- 18 Kuntomaneesi Gym
- 19 Suomenlinna Centre
- 21 Marina
- 36 Summer Theatre
- 40 Beach
- 41 Picnic shelter

## ATTRACTIONS

- 3 1918 Prison Camp memorial
- 8 Suomenlinna Church
- 24 Dry Dock observation deck
- 29 The Courtyard, tomb of Augustin Ehrensvärd
- 42 The earthworks and guns of Kustaanmiekka
- 44 The King's Gate

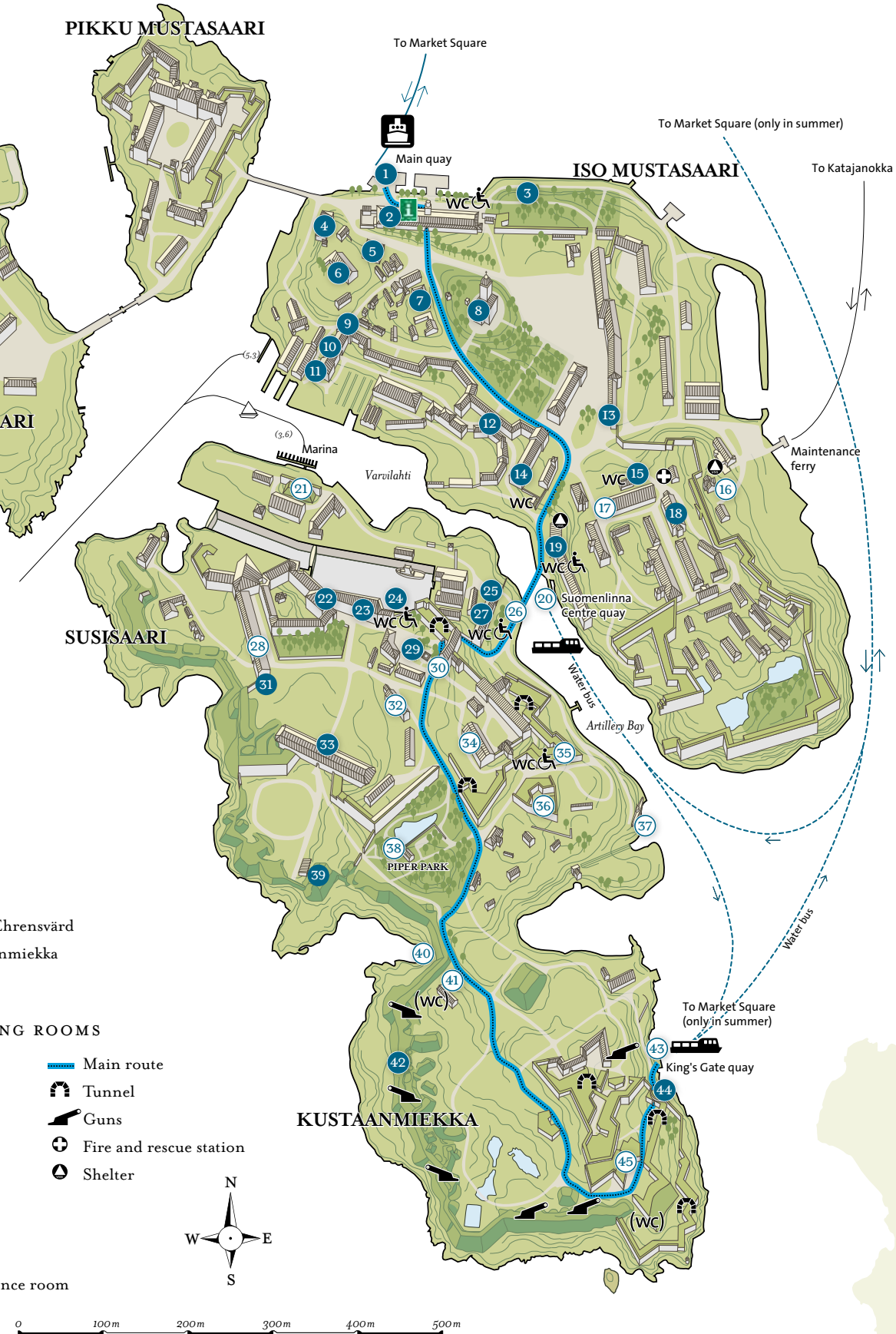
## CONFERENCE AND BANQUETING ROOMS

- 9 Pirunkirkko banquet hall
- 10 Pajasali conference room
- 11 Tynnyrintekijä conference room
- 13 Upseerikerho banquet hall
- 14 Paarlasi conference room
- 22 Tenalji von Fersen banquet hall
- 23 Myllysali banquet hall
- 25 Piirtämö conference room
- 31 Kurtiini Hamilton-Polhem conference room
- 39 Ruutikellari banquet hall

## PIKKU MUSTASAARI

## SUSISAARI

## KUSTAANMIEKKA



0 100m 200m 300m 400m 500m



## WELCOME TO SUOMENLINNA

Founded on islands off the coast of Helsinki in 1748, the Suomenlinna sea fortress is a cultural treasure. Its construction began in the 1700s when Finland was part of the Kingdom of Sweden. The guns that still face west on the ramparts at Kustaanmiekka are a reminder of the period of Russian rule in the 19th century.



### THE SEA FORTRESS REMAINS VIBRANT

Suomenlinna is not only one of the foremost attractions in Finland, but also a vibrant home to 800 residents. The Governing Body of Suomenlinna under the Ministry of Education and Culture is responsible for the restoration, maintenance and development of the sea fortress, as well as for the coordination of tourism and visitor services. The fortifications and garrison buildings have been restored to create homes, workspaces, meeting and banqueting rooms, restaurants and museums.

Many European cultural trends have arrived in Finland via the fortress. Today, several high-quality cultural events are organised in Suomenlinna each year. The tradition of arts and crafts is upheld by several artisans and the restoration and refitting of traditional sailing ships.



In 1991, Suomenlinna was listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, to be preserved for future generations as an example of the European military architecture of its time. Suomenlinna is a bastion fortress of irregular shape that is built on uneven terrain and on separate islands. Its significance in the subsequent defence of three distinct states – Sweden, Russia and Finland – gives the fortress its own special importance.

# HISTORY



- 1748** Finland is part of the Kingdom of Sweden. Construction of the sea fortress begins under Augustin Ehrensward.
- 1750** King Frederick I of Sweden names the fortress Sveaborg.
- 1788** The fortress serves as a naval base in the Russo-Swedish War.
- 1808** The Finnish War. The fortress surrenders to the Russian army and becomes a Russian naval base for the next 110 years.
- 1809** Finland is incorporated as an autonomous part of the Russian Empire.
- 1855** The Crimean war. The Anglo-French fleet bombards the fortress and damages it badly.
- 1918** Finnish Civil War. A prison camp is established within the fortress. The fortress is annexed by Finland and named Suomenlinna.
- 1939** Start of the Second World War. The fortress serves as a coastal artillery, anti-aircraft artillery and submarine base.
- 1973** The Finnish garrison moves off the island. Suomenlinna is transferred to the administration of the Ministry of Education and Culture.
- 1991** The fortress is added to UNESCO's list of World Heritage Sites as a unique monument to military architecture.

# VISITOR CENTRE



**2** Open daily 10 a.m.–6 p.m. between 2 May and 30 September, and daily 10 a.m.–4 p.m. between 1 October and 30 April.  
☎ +358 29 533 8410  
[www.suomenlinna.fi](http://www.suomenlinna.fi)

The Visitor Centre by the ferry quay is open to visitors all year. The staff at the Visitor Centre are happy to inform visitors of services and events in Suomenlinna, and the introductory exhibition will give you some useful background information for your visit to the fortress.

## GETTING AROUND SUOMENLINNA



**The blue route** Visitors explore the fortress on foot. The main route runs across Suomenlinna from north to south. All of the main sights are situated along this route, which is marked with blue signs and indicated on the maps with a blue line. A slightly more accessible route, recommended for visitors with impaired mobility and those with wheelchairs or pushchairs, runs roughly parallel to the main route. This route is not completely free of obstacles, but it avoids some of the steeper hills and more uneven surfaces on the blue route. Maps of wheelchair-accessible routes are available from the Visitor Centre and at [www.suomenlinna.fi](http://www.suomenlinna.fi).



**Take care** The fortifications, walls and earthworks are unfenced and continue for many kilometres. Visitors move about in the fortress at their own risk, and should do so with caution. Children should not be allowed to walk around unsupervised or to climb the walls. Many locations that seem safe can hide a risk of falling. Vegetation in the summer and snow in the winter can conceal the edges of precipices. Please observe sea traffic when walking on the shores, as passing vessels may cause dangerous currents. The terrain is slippery in winter.

## GUIDED WALKING TOURS



A tour of the fortress will shed light on the colourful past of Suomenlinna, taking you around historical sites on the islands of Susisaari and Kustaanmiekka. The guided tours are arranged by the Ehrensvärd Society and start at the Suomenlinna Centre. Your voyage to the past will take approximately one hour. To find out when the tours start, please ask the staff at the Visitor Centre or visit [www.suomenlinna.fi](http://www.suomenlinna.fi).

Tours of Suomenlinna may only be arranged by authorised guides of the Ehrensvärd Society ([www.suomenlinnatours.com](http://www.suomenlinnatours.com)).

**In summer** From June to August, guided walking tours are provided every day in Finnish, Swedish, English and Russian.

**In other seasons** From September to May, guided walking tours in English and Russian are held on weekends.

**Book a tour** Throughout the year, guided tours may be booked in advance in several languages.

## SUOMENLINNA CENTRE

**19** Open daily 10 a.m.–6 p.m. between 2 May and 30 September, and daily 10.30 a.m.–4.30 p.m. between 1 October and 30 April.

Guided walking tours start at the Suomenlinna Centre. The building also houses the Suomenlinna Museum, a museum shop and a café.

## MOBILE ROUTES

Even if you are unable to join a guided walking tour, you can get to know Suomenlinna through free mobile routes.

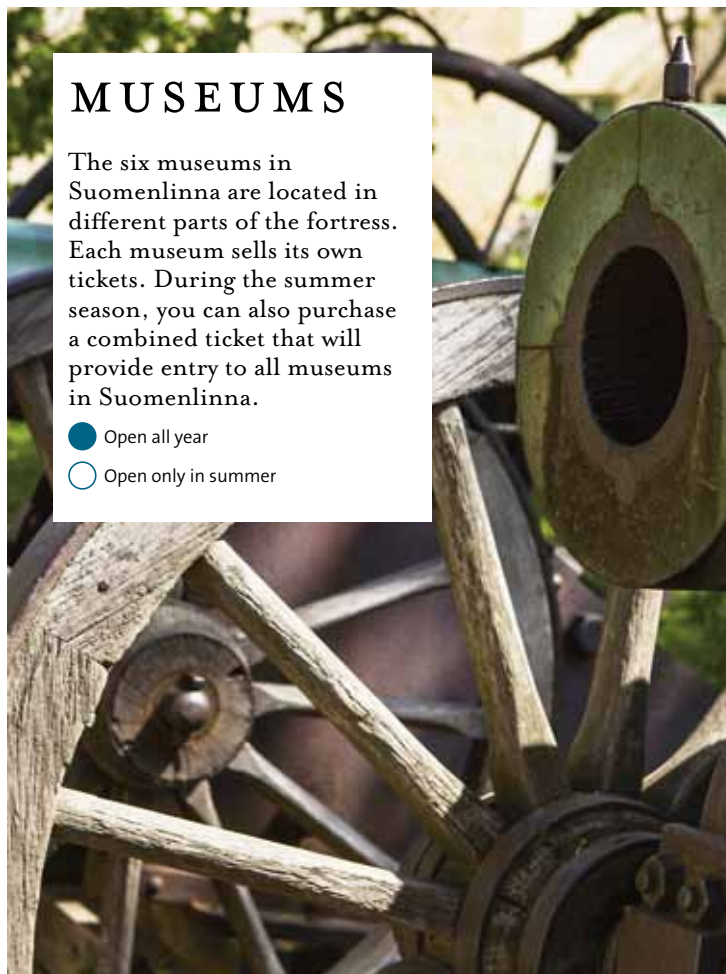
You can find instructions on how to download the various routes at [www.suomenlinna.fi](http://www.suomenlinna.fi) and on the service provider's website, [www.citynomadi.com](http://www.citynomadi.com). By using an application on your smartphone, you can download the routes and maps in advance. The Visitor Centre can provide additional information on these routes, and wireless Internet access is available at the Centre.

## MUSEUMS

The six museums in Suomenlinna are located in different parts of the fortress. Each museum sells its own tickets. During the summer season, you can also purchase a combined ticket that will provide entry to all museums in Suomenlinna.

Open all year

Open only in summer



## SUOMENLINNA MUSEUM

**19** The permanent exhibition of the island's main museum presents the construction and history of the fortress and describes life in Suomenlinna. A short film on the history of the fortress is shown every half hour in the museum. The film is available in eight languages: Finnish, Swedish, English, German, French, Russian, Japanese and Spanish. The film's duration is 25 minutes.



#### VESIKKO SUBMARINE

- ③7 Vesikko is a Finnish submarine, built in the 1930s, that saw action in the Second World War. Inside the restored Vesikko, you can experience the cramped working conditions of submarine crew and explore the submarine technology of the era.



#### MILITARY MUSEUM'S MANEGE

- ①7 The exhibition in the Manege presents the history of the Finnish army and its soldiers in times of peace and war.



#### SUOMENLINNA TOY MUSEUM

- ①6 The Toy Museum exhibits thousands of old toys dating from the beginning of the 19th century all the way to the 1960s. After your tour, why not sample some of the treats served in the museum café?



#### EHRENSVÄRD MUSEUM

- ③0 The museum, located in what used to be the official residence of the fortress commandant, showcases the Swedish period of the fortress. The first master of the house was the builder of the fortress, Augustin Ehrensward.



#### CUSTOMS MUSEUM

- ②8 This museum, housed in a building that served as a prison during the Swedish and Russian periods, showcases the history of customs clearance and smuggling in Finland.

# RESTAURANTS & CAFÉS

In the summer, Suomenlinna's cafés and restaurants invite you to take a break on their terraces. Some are also open in winter, when visitors can warm up with a hot drink or enjoy a cold beer from Suomenlinna's own brewery.

● Open all year

○ Open only in summer



Café Piper



Café Vanille

## SUOMENLINNA BREWERY RESTAURANT

- 2 This high-standard restaurant and brewery is housed within the vaults of the Jetty Barracks dating from the Russian era. A comfortable summer terrace also serves customers by the ferry quay. The brewery's high-quality beers are well worth sampling.

## RESTAURANT KLUBI 20

- 6 This restaurant has operated in the same building since 1926 and has all the ambience of an old military club. This traditional restaurant is a popular gathering place for the residents of Suomenlinna.

## RESTAURANT CAFÉ CHAPMAN

- 27 Centrally located on Artillery Bay, Café Chapman serves lunch all year and à la carte evening meals in summer.

## CAFÉ VANILLE

- 7 This idyllic café is located along the main route, in a wooden house in the Russian merchants' quarter. The café serves pastries, soups, speciality coffees and refreshments. Open daily in summer and at weekends in winter.

## CAFÉ ICECELLAR

- 15 This building was constructed in 1898 to serve as a larder for the officers' families. In addition to tasty pastries and coffees, the café offers art and cultural experiences from Suomenlinna.

## SUOMENLINNA CENTRE CAFÉ

- 19 The Suomenlinna Centre Café serves customers all year round while the Centre is open.

## WALHALLA RESTAURANT

- 45 Located at the southern tip of Suomenlinna, the Walhalla Restaurant was opened in 1952 to entertain guests attending the Helsinki Olympics. The Walhalla includes three restaurants:
  - \* *Walhalla Gourmet* An evening restaurant known for its gourmet dinners and excellent wine cellar.
  - \* *Pizzeria Nikolai* Here you can dine on the sunny summer terrace or inside the labyrinthine walls of the fortress.
  - \* *Sun View Terrace & Bar* A fantastic view of the sea opens up from this terrace.

## CAFÉ BAR VALIMO

- 21 This café operates in the dock area and serves soups, pasta and salads. The sunny terrace affords a great view of life in the Marina.

## CAFÉ PIPER

- 38 This café, located inside a historical park, serves soups, pastries and refreshments. The rocky terrace of the summer café offers a grand view out to sea.

## TOY MUSEUM CAFÉ SAMOVARBAR

- 16 This atmospheric café and terrace is famous for the delicious pastries baked in its kitchen. You can enjoy the café's extensive selection of teas and speciality coffees on the charming garden terrace.



## SHOPPING

### SUOMENLINNA CENTRE SHOP

- 19 The Suomenlinna Centre shop sells souvenirs, post cards, books and gifts.

### ICECELLAR ART SHOP

- 15 The art shop sells local arts and crafts, art prints and books and hosts rotating exhibitions.

### VIAPORI ARTS & CRAFTS SHOP B34

- 32 Sells high-quality arts and crafts created on the island.

### MUSEUM SHOP

- 32 Offers a wide range of Suomenlinna-themed books, postcards, posters, clothes and souvenirs.

### TOY MUSEUM SHOP

- 16 This museum shop sells genuine Steiff and Hermann teddies, Käthe Kruse dolls and other gift items.

## ART

### JETTY BARRACKS GALLERY

- 2 This Gallery of the Helsinki Artists' Association hosts rotating exhibitions of contemporary art.

### GALLERY AUGUSTA

- 33 A space maintained by the Helsinki Artists-in-Residence Programme HIAIP for hosting art exhibitions and cultural events.

### POT VIAPORI CERAMIC STUDIO

- 34 Sells products crafted by ceramists from Suomenlinna.

### HYTTI GLASS STUDIO

- 35 An atelier for glass artists based in Suomenlinna.

### TOKUYÛAN JAPANESE TEA ROOM

- 35 The Bastion Virtue houses the Tokuyûan Japanese Tea Room, where the art of the tea ceremony is practised and Japanese tea ceremonies can be booked in advance.

## OTHER SERVICES

### GROCERY SHOP

- 4 The grocery shop in Suomenlinna is open every day of the year.

### HOSTEL SUOMENLINNA

- 5 Hostel Suomenlinna operates in an old school building and is open all year. The hostel has 40 beds in rooms for 2–3 or 6–10 persons.

### SUOMENLINNA CHURCH

- 8 Many events and concerts are organised in this popular wedding church each year.

### SUOMENLINNA LIBRARY

- 12 In addition to providing library services, the Suomenlinna library hosts exhibitions and organises events.

### KUNTOMANEESI GYM

- 18 This versatile gym and sauna is a great choice for hosting recreation for employees, active themed events and courses.

### MARINA

- 21 The Marina next to Café Bar Valimo serves visitors arriving on their own boats with 40 berths, a sauna and washing facilities.

### PICNIC SHELTER

- 41 The picnic shelter in Kustaanmiekkä seats 60 and is open to everyone in the summer.

- Open all year
- Open only in summer

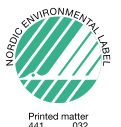
Further details on services and opening hours are available at: [www.suomenlinna.fi](http://www.suomenlinna.fi)

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# TRANSPORT

Suomenlinna is only accessible by water. The crossing takes approximately 15–20 minutes. The ferry operates all year, whereas the water bus only runs from May to September.



## 1 FERRY



Ferries depart from opposite the Presidential Palace at the eastern end of Market Square. The return ferry departs from the main quay on Iso Mustasaari. The ferry is part of the Helsinki city transport system, and all HSL tickets are valid. Ferry tickets should be bought in advance from the vending machine at the departure quay. In summer, a sales kiosk on Market Square also sells tickets.

## 20 43 JT-LINE WATER BUS



Water buses operate from the cruise quay at Market Square. The return water bus departs from the Suomenlinna Centre quay and also stops at King's Gate. Tickets may be purchased on board or from the kiosk on Market Square. HSL tickets are not valid for the water bus.

