

Finland Line



The Nicholas Church.

HOW TO SEE HELSINGFORS - IN - 2 DAYS

*Published by the Finland Steamship Co. Ltd.
in connection with Tour No. 1.*

KIRJASTO

HOW TO SEE HELSINGFORS IN TWO DAYS.

Suggested Programme for Tour No. 1.

Note. Numbers in brackets after names of buildings etc., refer to the numbers on the map.

1st Day.

Arrive Helsingfors about 9 a. m. Examination of luggage by the Customs. As Finland is a strict prohibition country, no wines or spirits of any kind are allowed.

Drive to Hotel. Societetshuset (16), Kämp (20), Fennia (27).

Suggested Route of Walk, starting from Järnvägstorget (24. The Station Square) about 10.30 a. m.

(Visitors staying at Hotel Kämp can proceed to Järnvägstorget via N. Esplanadgatan — Östra Henriksgatan — Brunngatan — Järnvägstorget.)

From Hotels Societetshuset or Fennia proceed along the respective sides of Järnvägstorget to the corner of Mikaelsgatan and Brunngatan. Notice the curious design of the station buildings, which were built by the Finnish architect Eliel Saarinen. Go along Mikaelsgatan and take the second turning on the left down Alexandersgatan, one of the principal shopping streets. Continuing along Alexandersgatan, Senatstorget (the Senate Square) is reached. In the centre is a statue of the Russian Emperor Alexander II (33), who was Grand-Duke of Finland. On the North side of the square is the great Lutheran Nicholas Church (32), built in the shape of a Greek cross and standing on the top of a huge mound of granite. It is interesting to note that the cross surmounting the



View from Observatory Hill.

central dome is 233 ft. above sea level. To the left is the University (31) and to the right the Government House (34). Go up the left hand side of the square past the University and along Unionsgatan. Then take the second turning to the right down Fredsgatan, and the first turning to the right down Nikolaigatan. This street contains a number of magnificent buildings. Directly on the right is the Bank of Finland (38). In front of it stands a statue of Snellman, a great Finnish patriot, to whom the origination of the Finnish currency was due. Opposite the Bank is Ständerhuset (39), the House of the Diet or „Landdag”. Of the Four Estates, the Clergy, the Burgesses and the Peasants used to meet here, whilst the Nobility met in the House of Nobility (41), Alexandersgatan, but these distinctions have now been abolished. The meeting place of the Diet has now been removed to temporary quarters, owing to lack of space in the Ständerhuset.

Continuing along Nikolaigatan, the General Post Office (37) is passed and Senatstorget is once again reached. Go past the Senate House and down Katingatan, which leads into Salutorget (the Market Place). Here between 7 and 12 every morning is gathered together a fascinating collection of fat old

fisherwives and country folk, all typical examples of the Finnish peasant. To a Britisher the scene is both original and charming.

From Salutorget walk by the harbour side along Västra Kajen. After about seven minutes a small path will be seen on the right. Go up this path on to the top of Observatory Hill (6). On the summit, close to the Observatory (7), is a magnificent group called „The Shipwrecked”, by the Finnish sculptor Rob. Stigell, which is thought to represent Finland during the time of the Russian oppression, looking to the countries of the West for help. From the same place a beautiful view is obtained of the town and harbour, looking over the yacht club and restaurant „Klippan” (46), right out to the archipelago and Gulf of Finland.

From Observatory Hill proceed along Unionsgatan. A little way on the left is the Finland Steamship Co's office (3), where a visit is advisable if any additional information is required. (English spoken). Continuing along Unionsgatan, Salutorget (the Market Place) is once more reached. The beautiful fountain on the right is by the Finnish sculptor V. Vallgren. To the left is the open-air Café and Restaurant „Kapellet” (19), where, if desired the walk may be broken for lunch. Otherwise lunch may be obtained later at Hotels Societetshuset (16), Kämp (20) or Fennia (27), any of the restaurants accepting the Finland Line's coupons. A military band plays every afternoon and evening in the bandstand opposite the „Kapellet”.

From „Kapellet” turn left down Esplanadgatan. This is the main street and contains most of the principal shops. It is in three portions: in the middle is a pleasant park, with flower-beds and a statue of the poet Runeberg, and to either side are Norra (North) and Södra (South) Esplanadgatan respectively. Walk down Norra Esplanadgatan passing Hotel Kämp (20), the Opera Café and Swedish Theatre (23), and turn to the right along Östra Henriksgatan. At the far corner of Alexandersgatan and Östra Henriksgatan a building will be noticed which bears the words „Spei Suae Patria Dedit” (Given by the Fatherland to its



Open-Air Museum, Fölisö.

Hope). This is Studenthuset, the house belonging to the Corporations of Students.

Continue along Östra Henriksgatan and turn to the right down Brunngatan. This street leads back to Järnvägstorget (the Station Square), from where the respective Hotels can be easily reached.

Afternoon Trip to Fölisö.

Fölisö, in the Western archipelago, is one of the most beautiful islands in the neighbourhood of Helsingfors. On account of its natural beauty, which is of a typical Finnish character, it has been acquired by the town as a public park.

Finland's Travel Bureau run charabancs to Fölisö several times daily, from Salutorget (the Market Place) close to the fountain. Full particulars and time-tables can be obtained from Finland's Travel Bureau (19 a). If preferred however, the journey may be made by steamer. The s. s. „Fölisön” leaves Gräsviken harbour for Fölisö at the half-hour, and the trip lasts about fifteen minutes. Just above the landing stage at Fölisö is a good open-air restaurant where refreshments can be obtained.

The Fölisö Open-Air Museum.

(Open during the summer months every day from 11 a. m. to 6 p. m.)

On the Eastern side of the island is an open-air museum, which consists of twenty-five old country buildings dating from the seventeenth century, all witnesses of an interesting primitive civilisation. The largest group of fifteen buildings comprises Niemelä cottage and farm-buildings, an old crofter's dwelling, removed from its original situation in Konginkangas in North Tavastland and re-erected here on Fölisö. All the buildings are furnished with the primitive instruments and devices used by the peasants in former times.

Of special interest is Karuna church removed from the Åbo district. It was built in 1686 and the bell-tower was added in the year 1767.

An interesting descriptive booklet, written in English and explaining the uses of the different buildings and their contents can be obtained for a few marks at the entrance to the museum.

The return journey may be made either by Finland's Travel Bureau's charabanc or by the steamer, leaving Fölisö every half-hour.

Dinner may be obtained at any of the hotels or restaurants accepting the Finland Line's coupons. The usual time for dinner in Finland is between 4 and 6 p. m., but dinner à la carte may be obtained later, if desired.

After dinner the visitor has the following amusements to choose from:—

Evening Amusements in Helsingfors.

Brunnshuset. (10). Summer Restaurant and Theatre.

In Brunnsparken, not far from Brunnshuset, is an open-air theatre, where comic operas and musical comedies are given throughout the summer. In case of bad weather the performances are given indoors.

After the performance, supper may be obtained at Brunnshuset, where there is a good orchestra and dancing.



The National Museum.

Restaurant „Klippan”. (45).

This restaurant is situated on an island in the middle of Södra Hamnen (the South Harbour), and is a favourite resort for supper and dancing. Steamer connections every half-hour from the quay (18) opposite Salutorget (the Market Place).

Brändö Casino.

Situated on an island a few miles outside Helsingfors, is the garden suburb of Brändö. Motor boats leave every hour from Norra Hamnen (the North Harbour. 42) for the Casino, where there is a good restaurant and dancing.

Island Trip round Degerö.

This is a delightful evening trip. The s. s. „Degerö” leaves Norra Hamnen (the North Harbour) every evening at 8 p. m. and makes a round tour of the island of Degerö. The whole way lies among the beautifully wooded islands of the Helsingfors archipelago. (See plan of „Motor Drives and Island Trips”, obtainable gratis from the Finland Steamship Co's office. (3).

2nd Day.*Places of Interest in Helsingfors.*

The second day may be spent in visiting the buildings and places of interest in Helsingfors. Below is given a list of the principal ones, with notes on each, so that the tourist can visit those which most appeal to his own personal taste.

Atheneum. (26) Järnvägstorget (the Station Square).

It is safe to say that no building in Helsingfors can give such a typical representation of Finland and its people, as the Atheneum, and no tourist should fail to visit this building if he would obtain an insight into the Finnish character. The galleries contain a beautiful collection of the works of old and modern Finnish painters and sculptors, and are open every day except Monday, from 11 a. m. to 4 p. m.

The National Museum (47). Tölö, Västra Chaussén.

At the National Museum the whole history of Finland from the Stone Age to the present day is graphically illustrated by means of old implements, national dresses, etc. etc., and the tourist is strongly recommended to pay this building a visit. Of special interest are the Archaeological and the Ethnographical Collections.

The museum is situated about ten minutes' walk from Järnvägstorget (the Station Square), or if desired the Tölö tram (with yellow name-boards and lights) may be taken from the corner of Alexandersgatan and Östra Henriksgatan, or from the Salutorget (the Market Place). In order to avoid confusion it should be noted that the building is more like a church in appearance, than a museum. Open every day except Monday, from 12 to 3 p. m.

Paul and Fanny Sinebrychoff's Art Museum. Boulevardsgatan N:o 40 A.

This museum is situated on the opposite side of the street to the Finnish Opera House (49), but a little



The Railway Station.

nearer Sandvikshammen. The rooms contain a collection of paintings (mostly portraits) by a number of well-known masters, including Rembrandt, Van Dyck, Franz Hals, Rubens, M. C. Watts, etc. There is also a collection of old miniatures, furniture, china, glass, silver and bronzes.

A pair of felt overshoes, obtainable at the door, must be worn in order to preserve the inlaid floors.

The museum is open every day except Mondays, from 12 to 3 p. m.

The Nicholas Church (32). Senatstorget (the Senate Square).

This great Lutheran church, built in the Renaissance style of architecture, is from drawings by Engel, but it underwent so many changes in the course of its construction, that on completion, the architect could hardly recognize the church as his own work.

The statues of the Twelve Apostles round the roof, are copies of the work of the Danish sculptor Thorwaldsen.

Inside is an altar picture of „The Entombment” by the Russian painter Neff, and there are also a number of statues by the sculptor Vallgren and

others. Otherwise the interior is very plain and free from decoration. A beautiful view of Helsingfors and its surroundings may be obtained from the central dome.

When the church is closed, application for admission should be made to the keeper who lives in the West Lodge.

The Russian Church. (43). Skatudden.

The Russian „Church of the Assumption” was built in 1868 by the Russian architect Gornostaff, in the Byzantine style as modified by Russian taste. The interior, in marked contrast to the stern simplicity of the Lutheran Nicholas church, is very decorative. Four great granite pillars, each measuring 6 feet in diameter, support the cupola. The screen or Iconostasis stretches across the church, and behind it is the sanctuary. The screen is covered with icons or sacred pictures and has three doors. The central one is called the Royal Gates, because it is through them that the Monarch (Christ) himself comes in His Gifts at the Communion. To either side are the Deacon’s doors. On the South of the Royal Gates is the icon of the Saviour, on the North that of the Blessed Virgin, and on the Gates themselves, those of the Annunciation and the four Evangelists.

Services are held on Saturdays at 6 p. m. and Sundays at 10 a. m., the unaccompanied singing being very fine. The visitor will notice the absence of seats, sitting being considered irreverent during worship.

When the church is closed, application for admission should be made to the caretaker, who lives in the basement.

The Cemetery. (48). Lappviken. (Lappviken tram with red name-boards and lights.)

Cemeteries are not as a rule considered the show-places of a town, but Helsingfors cemetery is an exception. It is the most beautifully situated in the whole of Northern Europe.

Go in by the entrance opposite the end of Lappviksgatan, and continue till the chapel is reached.

*Borgå.*

Then take a path to the right, which leads on to the terraces, from where a fine view is obtained of the sea and islands. This is the old part of the cemetery and by far the most beautiful. The new part is to the North, while to the South, across the road, lies the Russian cemetery.

H ö g h o l m e n. Park and Zoological Collection.

Högholmen is a pleasant island in Norra Hamnen (the North Harbour), used as a public park and containing a small zoological collection. There is also an open-air restaurant. The s. s. „Högholmen” leaves Norra Hamnen (42) every half-hour for Högholmen,

B r u n n s p a r k e n (9).

A walk through the beautiful Brunnsark can also be recommended.

Lunch may be obtained at any of the Hotels or restaurants accepting the Finland Line's coupons.

The following Finnish handicraft shops can be recommended for buying souvenirs of the visit: —

P i r t t i. Mikaelsgatan 5.

Hemflit. Unionsgatan 30. (2nd floor.)

Hemslöjd i Finland. Fabiansgatan 8.

Depart Helsingfors 7 p. m. Dinner is served on board shortly after departure.

The following Hotels accept the Finland Line's Coupons:

Hotel Societetshuset. (16).

Hotel Kämp. (20).

Grand Hotel Fennia. (27).

The following Restaurants and Cafés accept the Finland Line's Coupons:

The Restaurants attached to the above Hotels.

„Kapellet”. (19).

„Klippan”. (46).

Brunnshuset. (10).

Opera Café. (23).

Alphyddan. (Djurgården).

Hotel Societetshuset's Grill Room. (Östra Henriksgatan).

British Consulate. Richardsgatan 4.

British Legation. Norra Kajen 4.

The following programme for a trip to Borgå is added for the benefit of tourists making a longer stay in Helsingfors than is included in Tour No. 1.

Trip to Borgå.

The beauty of Finland lies not so much in her towns and buildings, as in her country scenes, her lakes and her archipelago, and it would be missing part of her unique charm not to see something of the

latter. A most beautiful trip through the archipelago may be combined with a visit to Borgå, one of the most picturesque towns in Finland. At the same time Borgå possesses considerable literary and historical interest.

The s. s. „Borgå” leaves the quay opposite Salutorget (the Market Place) at 9.45 a. m. (Verify this at the Hotel.), and arrives at Borgå about 1.15 a. m. Lunch may be obtained on board. The whole way lies through a network of small islands, with occasional glimpses of the open sea beyond. Borgå itself stands on a small creek or inlet, the approach of which is particularly charming.

On arrival at Borgå, walk through the quaint old streets and visit the buildings and places of interest. Below is given a list of the principal ones, with notes on each.

Places of Interest in Borgå.

Runeberg's Home. Alexandersgatan.

Johan Ludvig Runeberg was a great patriotic and national poet and composed the words of the Finnish National Anthem. He lived at Borgå from 1837 to 1867, and it was here that he wrote the majority of his works. His house is open to visitors and contains many interesting souvenirs of the poet. Open weekdays 11 a. m. to 4 p. m., Sundays 11 a. m. to 6 p. m., at other times by application to the housekeeper.

Runeberg's Statue.

Walking from the steamer along the riverside towards the town, one comes to a small but pretty square containing a statue of Runeberg, a smaller copy of the statue in Helsingfors.

Borgå Town Hall and Historical Museum. Å-gatan.

Follow the road by the river as far as it goes. Then turn to the right and take the first turning to the left into Å-gatan. Here is the old Rådhuset (Town Hall), built in 1768. Inside is the Borgå Historical Museum,

open Sundays 1 to 2.30 p. m., Wednesday and Saturdays 11 a. m. to 1 p. m. At other times by application to the caretaker.

V. Vallgren's Museum. Rådhusstorg (Town Hall Square).

Opposite the Town Hall is a museum containing a number of the works of Ville Vallgren. This sculptor occupies much the same position in his branch as Edelfelt does in painting, and his work appeals to all tastes on account of its great variety. It comprises religious, historical, mythical and monumental works, large and small groups, reliefs and portraits. The Museum is open every day from 12 to 3 p. m. At other times by application to the caretaker.

Borgå Cathedral.

This is the building with the peculiar roof, standing on top of a hill and visible from most quarters of the town. It was built in Gothic style about the year 1414. Over the altar is a copy of Leonardo da Vinci's „Holy Communion” by Deserneau, painted in the year 1846. There is also a very valuable Communion cup dating from the thirteenth century.

It was in this building that the Finnish Diet took the oath of fealty to Alexander I in 1807, after the conquest of Finland, and consummated the Act of Union with Russia. At the same time Alexander ratified and confirmed „the religion, fundamental laws and privileges of the country”. The monument to Alexander I was erected in 1909 to commemorate the centenary of this event.

Borgbacken (The Castle Hill).

Borgbacken is all that remains of mediaeval fortifications to the North-West of the town. It now forms a pleasant promenade from where a good view is obtained of the town and surroundings.

Cemetery.

The picturesque cemetery is on the opposite side of the river to the town, at the summit of a high

sandy ridge. Here Runeberg and also the Finnish patriot Eugen Schauman are buried.

N ä s e S t e n .

Not far from the cemetery lies Näse Sten, a high wooded cliff facing the town, on the right hand side of the river. Here there is a small restaurant called „Turiststugan” („The Tourist Cottage”), where refreshments can be obtained.

The steamer back to Helsingfors leaves Borgå at 4.30 p. m., arriving at Helsingfors 8 p. m., but if preferred the return journey may be made by train, leaving Borgå station 7.10 p. m. and arriving Helsingfors 9.36 p. m. (Verify these times at Hotel before leaving Helsingfors, or on board steamer). The train journey is not so interesting as the steamer journey, but it gives the traveller more time in Borgå, and also a chance of seeing something of the inland country.

N o t e . All times of departure or arrival of steamers and trains, opening and closing hours of museums etc., are liable to alteration and should therefore be verified before leaving the Hotel.

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