



## TURKU CRUISE PORT, FINLAND

### Turku – a Christmas City and a Christmas cruise city

Turku is the official Christmas City of Finland. The declaration of Christmas Peace has been read out in Turku since the Middle Ages. The opening of Christmas takes place in the Cathedral square, where thousands of people will watch the lighting of candles on Finland's no. 1 Christmas tree. All Christmas events can be found at [www.christmascity.com](http://www.christmascity.com). Turku has two Christmas cruises this year: Silja Europa will depart for Riga on 24.12 and Gabriella will call Turku on 25.12.

### Genesis – keel laying on 11 December

- The keel laying of the first of the two huge luxury cruise vessels of the Genesis class will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> December at Aker Yards Turku. The ceremony will be attended by Royal Caribbean Cruises' representatives. The Genesis project is a big challenge for Aker Yards. The vessels will be 47 m wide and 360 m long – 40 m longer than the height of the Eiffel tower! The first vessel will be completed in autumn 2009, the second in 2010. More details on [www.akeryards.com](http://www.akeryards.com).

### Turku – European Capital of Culture 2011

- On 16 November 2007 the EU Council of Ministers officially nominated Turku as the European Capital of Culture 2011 together with Tallinn. Turku 2011 is more than merely one year. It is a process which will turn the Turku of 2016 into a pioneer, the creative centre of Baltic cooperation and generator of art and science. The Capital of Culture slogan is "Turku on fire". Turku has been on fire dozens of times over centuries, but this time of excitement and desire to make an unforgettable experience for everyone. More on [www.turku2011.fi/public/?lang=en](http://www.turku2011.fi/public/?lang=en)

### Turku Cruise Port – new website

- Take a quick trip to Turku by trying out our new website on [www.port.turku.fi/portal/tcp/english](http://www.port.turku.fi/portal/tcp/english) You'll find details about the port, the city, sights, excursions, a photo gallery etc.

**Welcome to Turku!**