



## TURKU CRUISE PORT, FINLAND

- Cruise season 2007
  - Turku has eight calls confirmed for 2007: Hanseatic, Columbus, Silver Shadow, Black Watch, Astor, Michaela Rose (calling twice) and The World. The vessels receive a warm welcome with music and flags. A free shuttle bus operates between the port and the city centre throughout the calls, the distance being only 3 km. A market with stalls selling traditional Finnish handicrafts and souvenirs is set up at Turku castle inner courtyard just next to the port area on cruise call days - especially for cruise guests. For 2008 we have five confirmed calls. As a five star cruise port with ample space we look forward to welcoming more cruise vessels to Turku
  - Turku – a city where the most luxurious cruise vessels are built
    - Aker Yards has long traditions in building luxurious cruise vessels. In April the world's largest cruise vessel Liberty of the Seas was handed over in Turku to Royal Caribbean Cruises. The last vessel of the Freedom series Independence of the Seas will be ready in 2008. The megaship Genesis is already under construction at Aker Yards in Turku. The construction boom has attracted a lot of interest among Turku citizens to visit the yard. To meet the great demand Aker Yards together with Turku Tourist Organization and Forum Marinum maritime museum have created a special excursion for tourists. The three-hour-excursion starts from the museum exhibiting the yard industry's history followed by a coach trip to Aker Yards premises and back. In summer it is possible to take the same excursion by boat. The excursions have been a best-seller.
- Cruise passenger satisfaction survey
  - Turku carried out a customer satisfaction survey in summer 2006. The cruise passengers, mainly British and German, regarded Turku as a beautiful, clean and safe destination with good service and friendly inhabitants. The rich history, architecture, the archipelago and a variety of sights were also listed as assets. The Medieval Market was considered a special treat. It is held every summer end of June. In 2007 the event took place 28 June - 1 July. More details on [www.keskiaikaisetmarkkinat.fi](http://www.keskiaikaisetmarkkinat.fi)
- Tall Ships' Races in Turku 2009
  - Turku will host for the third time the Tall Ships' Races on 23 – 26 July 2009. The event was a great success previously in 1996 and 2003. The special atmosphere in Turku is created by the fact that the event takes place in the very heart of the city near all services and main sights. More details at [www.tallshipsrace.fi](http://www.tallshipsrace.fi).