

Scandinavia

Sweden and Finland

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Scandinavia

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Sweden

Across southern Sweden to Stockholm



Sweden

Across southern Sweden



Sweden

Across southern Sweden



Sweden

Across southern Sweden



Sweden

Across southern Sweden



Stockholm

Stockholm is Sweden's capital and largest city, with 2 million in the metro area.



Stockholm

The central city consists of 14 islands.



**Stockholm
Canal Tour**

A two-hour canal tour passes under
35 bridges and through two locks.



**Stockholm
Canal Tour**

Stockholm promotes itself
as “Venice of the North”.



**Stockholm
Canal Tour**

Between 1611 and 1721 Sweden was the
dominant power in northern Europe.



**Stockholm
Canal Tour**

The Lightship Finngrundet served
in the Baltic from 1903 until 1969.



**Stockholm
Canal Tour**

Gröna Lund, opened in 1883, is
Sweden's oldest amusement park.





**Stockholm
Canal Tour**

**No need for a summer cottage when
there's a dock at your apartment.**



**Stockholm
Canal Tour**

**If you can't afford a boat you
can just walk to the beach.**



**Stockholm
Canal Tour**

The Katarina Lift provides good
views over the Old Town.



**Central
Stockholm**

During the 20th century Stockholm grew from 250,000 to more than 1.6 million.



**Central
Stockholm**

Stockholm's core features upscale department stores, malls, boutiques and nightspots.



**Central
Stockholm**

**Sergels Torg (Square) is the new commercial
and cultural hub of the city.**



**Central
Stockholm**

Stockholm has an extensive
modern subway system ...



**Central
Stockholm**

... with some very interesting
underground stations.



Gamla Stan

Gamla Stan, the historical Old Town island, is the seat of government and a magnet for tourists.



Gamla Stan

The Parliament Buildings are
to the north of Gamla Stan.



Gamla Stan

The Parliament Buildings are now
in two parts, this older one ...



Gamla Stan

... and this newer part.



Gamla Stan

Riddarhuset (The House of Nobility), a meeting hall, is considered one of Stockholm's most beautiful buildings.



Gamla Stan

The 1778 Stock Exchange building is now the home of the Nobel Museum.



Gamla Stan

The tower of Storkyrkan,
Stockholm's 700-year-old cathedral



Gamla Stan

Storkyrkan Cathedral is used
for royal ceremonies.



Gamla Stan

The Royal Palace, rebuilt after a fire in 1697, has 608 richly decorated rooms.



Gamla Stan

The Palace is no longer the royal residence, but it remains a popular tourist attraction.



Gamla Stan

Gamla Stan's old streets are narrow.



Gamla Stan

Stockholm's narrowest street is
90 cm / 35 inches wide here.



Gamla Stan

Västerlånggatan was one of Stockholm's major streets for many centuries.



Gamla Stan

Västerlånggatan street is
now a tourist magnet.



**Drottningholm
Palace**

Time for a quiet trip out of town. One of these lake steamers will take us 10 km / 6 miles west on Lake Mälaren to Drottningholm.



**Drottningholm
Palace**

Drottningholm was begun in 1662 and is now the home of the Swedish royal family.



**Drottningholm
Palace**

Drottningholm Palace gardens



**Drottningholm
Palace**

Drottningholm Palace gardens



**Drottningholm
Palace**

The Guards' Tent is actually permanent guard quarters in the style of a Turkish army tent.



**Drottningholm
Palace**

The Chinese Pavilion was built by King Adolf Fredrik as a surprise gift for his wife's birthday in 1753.



**Stockholm
City Hall**

In Stockholm as in Oslo the City Hall is one of the city's architectural features.



**Stockholm
City Hall**

The City Hall was completed in 1923 and has become a symbol of Stockholm.



**Stockholm
City Hall**

The main hall hosts the banquet following the presentation of the Nobel Prizes.



**Stockholm
City Hall**

Stockholm and Oslo share the Nobel festivities.
Oslo presents the Peace Prize, Stockholm the others.



**Stockholm
City Hall**

City Council meets twice a month
in the majestic Council Chamber.



**Stockholm
City Hall**

The ceiling of the Council Chamber is Viking-influenced.
Some say it's a longhouse, others an inverted longboat.



**Stockholm
City Hall**

The Golden Room features Byzantine-inspired wall mosaics with 19 million fragments of gold leaf.



**Stockholm
City Hall**

Apart from the showcase rooms, City Hall contains 250 offices for staff.



Skansen

Djurgården island (left) hosts the Skansen historical village and Stockholm's maritime museums.



Skansen

Skansen is Stockholm's entry in the outdoor museum competition.



Skansen

Old farmsteads and houses have been brought to Skansen from all over Sweden since 1891.



Skansen

Skansen was established to show an increasingly industrialized society how people once lived.



Skansen

The Seglora Church dates from 1730.



Vasa Museum

The Vasa Museum faithfully preserves Sweden's greatest naval failure.



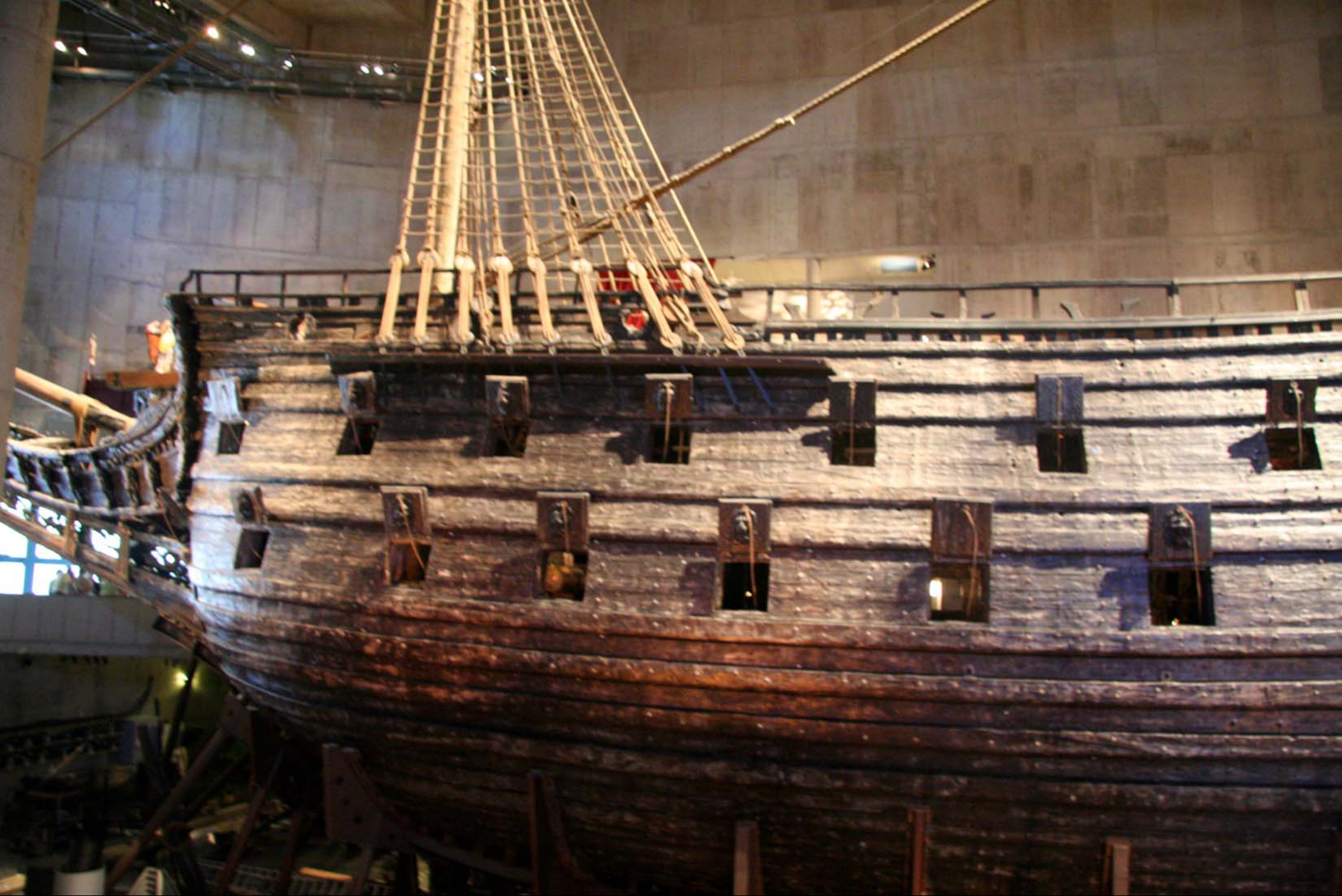
Vasa Museum

The Vasa sank in Stockholm harbour just 1300 metres / 1420 yards into its maiden voyage in 1628.



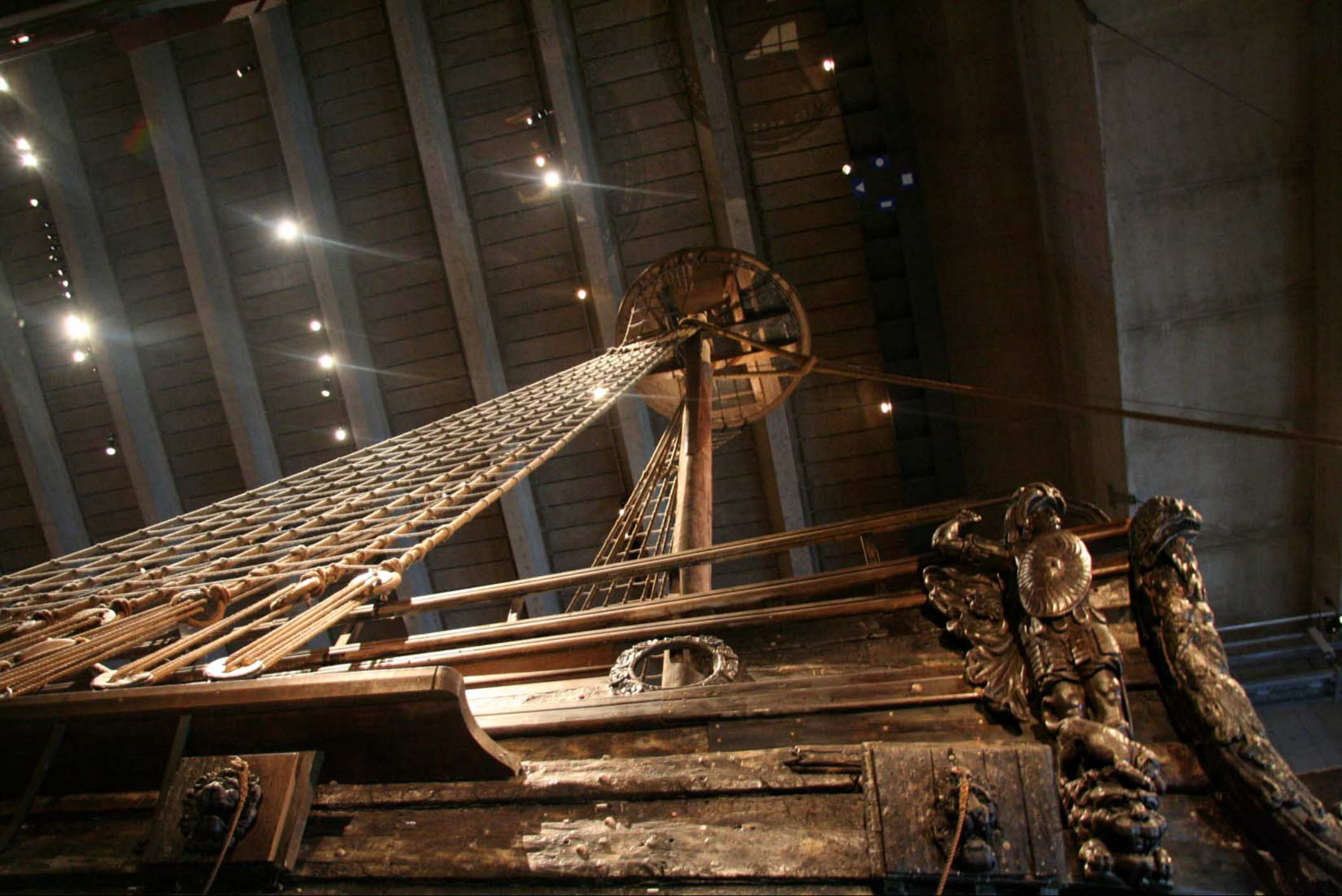
Vasa Museum

Cold water and mud preserved the 64-gun warship.
The Vasa was raised in 1961, after 333 years on the bottom.



Vasa Museum

A second row of heavy cannons had been added on top, making the ship top-heavy and causing it to capsize.



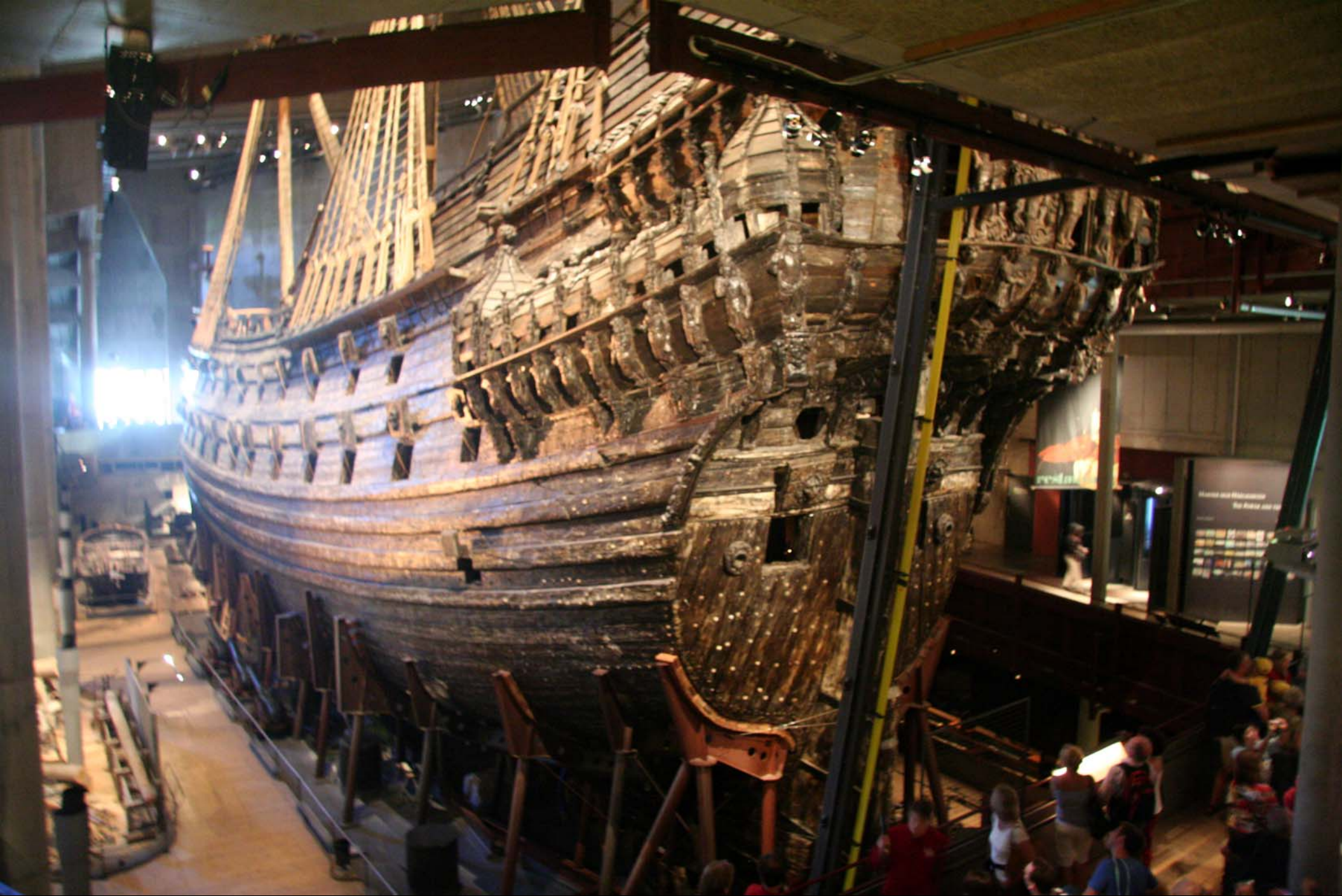
Vasa Museum

The Vasa is still about 90 % original.



Vasa Museum

The Vasa was adorned with more than 200 carved ornaments and 500 sculptured figures.



Vasa Museum

The Vasa Museum was opened in 1990, and welcomes over a million visitors a year.



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

**I'm hoping for better luck on my voyage
across the Baltic from Stockholm to Helsinki.**



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

**The Mariella can carry 2,500 passengers and
430 cars. The overnight trip takes 16 hours.**



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

**The Mariella has decks for
sightseeing and taking pictures ...**



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

... and restaurants, bars, an arcade, a casino, a disco, a beauty shop
and (importantly for Scandinavians) duty-free shopping.



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

**The cost of passage on the ship is
offset by not needing a hotel room ...**



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

... and an outside cabin is
great for sightseeing.



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

**Leaving Stockholm we see Gamla Stan (centre),
the amusement park on Djurgården island (right) ...**



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

**... the Lightship Finngrundet (again), and the TV Tower
where the pictures of the whole city were taken.**



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

**From the observation decks we
look down on sailboats below.**



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

**The Stockholm Archipelago consists of
approximately 24,000 islands and islets.**



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

**We spend a relaxing late afternoon passing through
one of the shipping channels in the archipelago.**



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

Baltic Sea, 10:00 p.m. Swedish time



**Viking Ferry
to Helsinki**

10:23 p.m. Finland tomorrow. Good night.



Finland

To Helsinki, Finland, the last Nordic capital on this trip,
with a side trip to “The Old Wooden Town of Porvoo”



Helsinki

**The overnight voyage on the Mariella
delivers us to Helsinki at about 10 a.m.**



Helsinki

Helsinki is every bit as much a port as Oslo and Stockholm.



Helsinki

The languages are different, but the patterns are similar.
Metro population here is about 1.3 million.



Helsinki

**Helsinki too is built on
a cluster of islands ...**



Helsinki

**... and the sea plays a major role in
both commerce and recreation.**



Helsinki
Mini-cruise

A mini-cruise seems like a novel way
to begin sightseeing in a new city.



Helsinki
Mini-cruise

**Some large cruise ships
are in the harbour ...**



Helsinki
Mini-cruise

... and our Mariella is still here.



Helsinki
Mini-cruise

Its combination of passenger, auto, entertainment and shopping facilities is tailored to its route.



Helsinki
Mini-cruise

**One of the islands of the Suomenlinna sea
fortress, built to guard Helsinki harbour.**



Helsinki
Mini-cruise

**The Laajasalo cluster of islands are
a pleasant residential area ...**



Helsinki
Mini-cruise

... but most of the island
residences are upscale.



Helsinki
Mini-cruise

**Higher density housing with shared
beach facilities is closer to the city.**



Helsinki
Mini-cruise

**The mini-cruise passes Finland's
fleet of icebreakers.**





Helsinki
Mini-cruise

... we see the open air market,
with the Cathedral towering above.



Helsinki

The Neoclassical style Cathedral, the most imposing building on Senate Square, was completed in 1852.



Helsinki

Uspenski Cathedral, built in the 1860s, is the biggest Orthodox church in western Europe.



Helsinki

The Central Railway Station, completed in 1914, is considered one of the finest examples of Finish Art Nouveau architecture.



Helsinki

Esplanade Park runs from the waterfront to the city centre, with gardens, outdoor cafés, and free entertainment.



Helsinki

The open air market
by the harbour.



Helsinki

We're off in a boat again ...



Suomenlinna
Fortress

... this time to Suomenlinna, a sea fortress
built on a group of six islands off Helsinki.



**Suomenlinna
Fortress**

Sweden started building the fortress in 1748 as a protection against Russian expansionism.



**Suomenlinna
Fortress**

The fortress contains several kilometres of fortifications, barracks, an officers' club, a dry dock, and a church.



Suomenlinna
Fortress

The fortress now houses several museums
and a number of artists' studios.



**Suomenlinna
Fortress**

**There are now about 900 permanent
inhabitants on the islands.**



**Suomenlinna
Fortress**

Suomenlinna is now one of the most popular tourist attractions in Helsinki.



**Suomenlinna
Fortress**

**The King's Gate was set in the walls where
King Frederik landed on a visit in 1752.**



**Suomenlinna
Fortress**

Helsinki and mainland Finland fell to the Russians in 1908, leaving Suomenlinna isolated and indefensible.



**Suomenlinna
Fortress**

**The King's Gate area and the southern island
are popular with locals and photographers.**



Suomenlinna
Fortress

**This is a pleasant place to spend
a sunny summer afternoon ...**



**Suomenlinna
Fortress**

**... and it presents irresistible
opportunities for photographers.**



Suomenlinna
Fortress



Suomenlinna
Fortress



Porvoo

My final day in Finland is an excursion to “The Old Wooden Town of Porvoo” on the coast, 50 km / 30 miles east of Helsinki.



Porvoo

Porvoo has small houses, narrow streets,
and a unique wooden town milieu.



Porvoo

The red warehouses on the riverbanks reflect the town's history of seafaring and trading.



Porvoo

The old warehouses are
now unique residences ...



Porvoo

... that maintain a quiet,
small town lifestyle.



Porvoo

The town has been careful to preserve
the distinctiveness of its red buildings ...



Porvoo

... and to capitalize on the tourism opportunities they present.



Porvoo

This design tradition has been
carried across the river ...



Porvoo

... as the basis for a modern
housing development.



Porvoo

**Contemporary, but with a
strong salute to the past.**



Porvoo

**My visit to Finland and its neighbours ends in this beautiful, peaceful town.
Tomorrow I head home, with wonderful memories.**



SWEDEN

FINLAND

NORWAY

HELSINKI

STOCKHOLM

ESTONIA

LATVIA

LITHUANIA

DENMARK

COPENHAGEN

Århus

Helsingør

Göteborg

Frederikshavn

Bergen

OSLO

Air

Rail

Boat

Bus

② Nights

< End >

Scandinavia

Sweden and Finland