

Cruise through the Saimaa Canal, the route of Czars in the days of the 'Imperial Duchy of Finland' where the last, Alexander III, spent his summers. Visit the Imperial Fishing Lodge, Ovanlinna Castle and sail across the Ice Age sculpted Lake Saimaa, whilst enjoying the convivial intimacy of the MS Kristina Brahe, a meticulously maintained traditional steamer.

DAY 1 UK - HELSINKI Scheduled Finnair flight from Heathrow to Helsinki, self transfer to and overnight at Hotel Marski.

DAY 2 HELSINKI - LAPPEENRANTA

Breakfast, self transfer to and embarkation on MS Kristina Brahe. Sail out and along the coastal archipelago past Porvoo to Kotka (SHORE EXCURSION) where the ship docks for four hours before leaving to navigate the Saimaa Canal.

DAY 3 LAPPEENRANTA - SAVONLINNA

Dock at Lappeenranta (SHORE EXCURSION) lying alongside for three hours. Noon departure across Lake Saimaa to Savonlinna where the ship arrives early evening.

DAY 4 SAVONLINNA - LAPPEENRANTA

Breakfast. (SHORE EXCURSION). Late morning departure for Lappeenranta stopping briefly at the exquisitely beautiful little town of Puumala.

DAY 5 KOTKA - HELSINKI Sail along Finland's southern coast from Kotka to Helsinki, self transfer and overnight at Hotel Marski.

DAY 6 HELSINKI - UK Day at leisure before self transfer to the airport and return flight to UK.



Cruising in the Wake of the Czars



SHORE EXCURSIONS

KOTKA Set where the Kymi River spreads its five tributaries into the Gulf of Finland, Kotka is an architectural essay in Finnish history with Swedish fortifications, Russian Orthodox and Finnish Lutheran churches. The high spot of your stop here is unquestionably Czar Alexander III's Imperial Fishing Lodge.

LAPPEENRANTA First fortified by the Swedes, Lappeenranta is a unique inland port made so by the 150 year old, 26 mile Saimaa Canal linking Lakes Saimaa's southern end to the sea. Beneath its modern cloak you find a collision of cultures: Swedish, Karelian and Russian.

SAVONLINNA Linnankatu, the town's oldest street runs down to Olavinlinna Castle which dominates the town and is probably the best preserved medieval one in the Nordic countries. Savonlinna in summer is a bustle of traditional Lakeland Steamer traffic, everyday life and opera goers.



MS KRISTINA BRAHE

Refurbished in 2001 the twin funnelled Kristina Brahe is a traditional expedition style steamer faithfully maintained over the years by her Finnish owners and ideal in size for cruising the Saimaa Canal and Finnish lakes. The 57 cabins allow a maximum of 137 passengers which along with the intimacy of the ship and the genuinely friendly Finnish crew make cruising on the Kristina Brahe a truly Finnish experience.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Czar Alexander's Imperial Fishing Lodge • Ovanlinna Castle • Lake Saimaa

Prices are in £ per person

CABIN GRADES

KC class	Double bed with WC/shower	Deck 4
A class	2/4 berths with WC/shower	Decks 2,3 & 4
B class	2/3 berths with WC shower	Deck 2

DEPARTURES

Tuesdays 3 June - 19 August

AIRPORT DEPARTURE SUPPLEMENTS

Manchester £50
Stanstead On Request

CRUISING IN THE WAKE OF THE CZARS

SA9501

CABIN	B	B	A	A	KC
DEPARTURES	TWIN	SINGLE	TWIN	SINGLE	TWIN
June 3, 10, 17 June 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22	865	1020	965	1105	1050
July 29, August 5, 12, 19	835	990	940	1080	1025

Extra nights in Helsinki; June 3-17; Twin £55, Single £80, June 18- August 31; Twin £40, Single £68

Prices include scheduled return Finnair flights from Heathrow to Helsinki • Passenger service charges and airport departure taxes • IN FLIGHT CABIN SERVICE • 2 nights in twin room(s) with private WC/shower and breakfast in Helsinki • 4 days (3 nights) on board MS Kristina Brahe in chosen cabin category • Breakfasts throughout, 4 lunches and 3 dinners • 3 shore excursions according to itinerary.

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