

Self-guided tours (with luggage transport)



# Great Archipelago Cycling Tour

Archipelago Sea all the way to Åland

- Breathe in the fresh sea air and savour all the delicious local specialities
- Marienhamn town and museum ship Pommern
- Rugged island of Kökar and its wildlife
- Lively atmosphere in Nauvo marina
- Captivating history of Seili Island
- Kastelholm medieval castle
- Variety of outer archipelago islands, birdlife, seals and the famous red roads
- Return to city with style while you relax on a cruise ferry back to the mainland



Embark on an adventurous cycling journey that begins in Turku, Finland's oldest city and former capital. As you pedal deeper into the outer archipelago, you'll encounter mesmerizing landscape of islands. From lush and green to rugged and rocky, each island boasts its own unique charm, stories and natural beauty. Ferry trips, ranging from small cable ferries to a larger cruise boat, allow you to explore this captivating region. Immerse yourself in the untouched Finnish island nature, bask in the enchanting light of the long Nordic summer nights, and savour delicious local specialties like fish and the products of small breweries. Cycling the winding red roads and numerous ferries creates an exciting loop tour that seamlessly blends city life, medieval castles, and maritime adventures.

## Itinerary (6 days cycling)

### Day 1: Individual arrival to Turku

Arrival to Turku, overnight in city centre.

### Day 2: Turku-Naantali (45km)

Say goodbye to Turku after visiting the Turku Castle in the morning (optional). Start the cycling tour by riding through beautiful Turku riverside and onwards to the lush nature of Ruissalo island before heading to Naantali with its' wooden houses and a marina. Explore the Old Town and enjoy a drink by the sea. A night in Spa hotel!

### Day 3: Naantali-Nauvo

(35km + with a possibility to stop at Seili island and cycle 4 km on Seili)

Continue your journey towards the archipelago through the countryside and small villages. Embark on your first cable ferry and feel the sea breeze on your way. Take a ferry to historically interesting island of Seili and / or continue your way to Nauvo and its lively marina with the same boat. Spend a night in a cosy archipelago hotel located right next to small boutiques, restaurants and a sandy beach.

### Day 4: Nauvo-Kökar island

(26 km + possibility to do an extra loop of up to 26 km in Kökar)

Experience beautiful sea views today while we start the true island hopping: two ferry rides and bridges in the morning take you from an island to another. After a relaxing 2,5-hour ferry ride, you end up in the outskirts of the archipelago, next to the open sea on a small island called Kökar, that is known from seals and the ruins of a Franciscan monastery. You can spend the afternoon relaxing or by taking an extra

26 km cycling tour on the island, that feels like a miniature island state. The summertime daylight is practically endless so no need to hurry.

### Day 5: Kökar-Långnäs-Marienhamn (30 km)

After a breakfast there's a ferry to Långnäs, located on the main island of Åland. Here you cycle on the distinguished red roads towards the only town in Åland: Marienhamn. This lively seaside town has plenty of restaurants, cafes, and sightseeing from museums like the Pommern ship to beautiful villas and boutiques with local products.

### Day 6: Day in Åland (52 km + possibility to continue extra 20 km)

Explore the unique Åland island all day! Head to (north)west to visit the medieval Kastelholm Castle, the Jan Karlsgården open-air museum and Vita Björn Prison Museum. Enjoy a lunch in restaurant Smakbyn and do a taster in Åland Distillery. Cycling past potato chip factory might also deserve a stop! You can also continue the road towards Bomarsund fortress ruins (+ 10 km one way). Enjoy historical sites along with apple gardens while you cycle through the beautiful countryside.

### Day 7: Marienhamn-Turku (3 km + possibility to cycle 20 km in the morning)

Enjoy your breakfast, leave your luggage to the hotel and enjoy the morning in Marienhamn. You have time to cycle along narrow ridges with sea on your both sides. towards south (10 one way) before embarking a cruise ship Viking Grace in the afternoon from the Marienhamn marina in front of the hotel. This floating entertainment centre allows you to see the archipelago from high above while enjoying a meal

in many of the cruise boat's restaurants or a drink on the sun deck. Remember to do some souvenir shopping too! Arrive to Turku in the evening and enjoy a sleep in your arrival hotel.

### Day 8:

Individual departure or extra nights in Turku

## Great Archipelago Cycling Tour:

### Total distance:

190 km (with a possibility to do longer day tours)

**Level:** Easy to intermediate



**Including:** Guided Tour Info meeting (in English) in the beginning of the tour (on 1st cycling day), written tour description and GPX files for navigation in English, daily luggage transfers along the route

(1 bag per guest), emergency contacts during the tour, ferry tickets\*, accommodation, breakfast

**Rental bikes:** Touring or eBike

**Roads:** Most of the tour runs on tarmac, some short parts are on gravel.

**Terrain:** Mostly quite flat. The ferry crossing areas are usually lower on coastline, so there are some steeper downhill and uphill close to these areas.

## Accommodations (7 nights)

**Turku** (2) the first and 7th night

**Naantali** (1) the 2nd night

**Nauvo Island** (1) the 3rd night,

**Kökar Island** (1) the 4th night,

**Marienhamn** (2) the 5th and 6th night

