

Pressrelease

PRESS RELEASE

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M/S Viking Grace helps steer Viking Line to a record-breaking summer

Viking Line once again set new records in summer-season passenger totals. M/S Viking Grace helped steer an impressive rise to the top on the Turku–Stockholm route: from June through August, the total number of passengers grew on the route concerned by 19.4 per cent compared to the corresponding period the previous year. Summer was quite successful in general for Viking Line, and the final passenger totals on all routes rose 3.7 per cent. Over 2,147,000 passengers boarded Viking’s bright red ships this year during the June–August period. The docking of M/S Gabriella which happened to occur at the outset of June had its own impact on the overall summer figures.

During the summer, M/S Viking Grace and M/S Amorella hosted over 690,000 passengers

The passenger totals for the Turku–Åland–Stockholm route increased on Viking Line during the June–August period by 19.4 per cent by comparison to last summer, which means 110,000 more passengers than last year during the same time.

“We’re very satisfied indeed with Viking Grace’s splendid first summer. Our passengers have clearly discovered this pearl of the Turku–Stockholm route and have embraced it,” Mikael Backman, CEO for Viking Line, declares happily.

The great popularity of M/S Viking Grace had virtually no impact on the Helsinki–Stockholm route: rather, the route succeeded in the manner of previous years. Over 327,000 passengers travelled on M/S Mariella and M/S Gabriella from June through August. The slight decline in the total number of passengers along the route of 0.5 per cent means approximately 1,700 fewer passengers between Helsinki and Stockholm compared to the same period last year.

The popularity of the Helsinki–Tallinn route also grew

Another passenger record was achieved for Viking Line on the Helsinki–Tallinn route. Passengers totalled almost 599,000 during the June–August period this year, which means a growth of about 0.5 per cent in passenger numbers by reference to the same time last year.

Where longer cruises from Helsinki and Turku to Stockholm attracted passengers well, the routes between Sweden and Mariehamn were a little quieter than in previous summers. Passenger quantities on the Stockholm–Mariehamn route declined 8.7 per cent to 243,120 passengers, owing partly to the transfer of M/S Cinderella to the Turku route at the outset of June. Approximately 287,900 passengers travelled on the route Kapellskär - Mariehamn, showing a decrease of 4.7 per cent due to the decrease in departures.

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In addition to passenger totals, freight volumes grew by comparison to the previous summer. The overall volume increased 6.9 per cent as calculated for all routes.

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