

# Press release

Press release, June 12, 2014

## **Viking Line expands Tallinn service from June 12 to August 31, 2014 due to greater demand**

**Viking Line is adding extra sailings on its popular Helsinki (Finland) – Tallinn (Estonia) route during the summer of 2014. The travel alternatives will be more diverse when the M/S Gabriella and the M/S Mariella, which provide service on the route between Helsinki and Stockholm (Sweden), can also offer daytime sailings from Helsinki to Tallinn from June 12 to August 31, 2014. Estonia is steadily growing in popularity among travellers, and this summer Viking Line is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary on the Tallinn route.**

The M/S Gabriella and the M/S Mariella will also continue to serve the Helsinki–Stockholm route, but when the respective vessels are in Helsinki they will also pay a daytime visit to Tallinn. Viking Line can thus offer three daily return trips to Tallinn this summer instead of two. This is a way of boosting the number of much-appreciated car spaces on the Helsinki–Tallinn route. Viking Line is also pleased about having an opportunity to offer more alternatives for Finnish travellers to Tallinn:

“Estonia is increasingly popular, especially among Finnish tourists, which is very understandable. Tallinn also has more to offer than its traditional favourites, the Old Town and shopping. The city has a rich cultural life, fine restaurants, sights that are highly suitable for families with children and much more, not to mention other attractive summer destinations in Estonia,” observes Christa Grönlund, Viking Line’s Communications Manager for Finland.

“Many travellers with cars also head east from Tallinn, for example to Rakvere or even further, all the way to the beautiful beach destination of Narva-Jõesuu. For those who stay in the vicinity of Tallinn, attractions include the new Energy Discovery Centre – which is similar to Heureka, the Finnish Science Centre near Helsinki – or the Vembu-Tembumaa amusement park south of Tallinn,” Product Manager Jaakko Ahti continues.

### **Two decades of sailings to Estonia**

Viking Line’s ferries have already served the popular Helsinki–Tallinn route for 20 years. Over the years, the Company’s scheduled sailings have become familiar to many travellers to Estonia, thanks to the Viking Express catamarans, the M/S Cinderella’s 20-hour cruises and the M/S Rosella. Today the fast, reliable Viking XPRS, which was developed to match customer needs, is the flagship of Viking Line on the route to Estonia.

“Viking Line has a long history of scheduled maritime services to Estonia, starting in the early 1990s. These years include many fine memories from the sea voyages, different kinds of customers and our magnificent employees,” recalls Jan Hanses, President and CEO of Viking Line. “The rising number of passengers between Helsinki and Tallinn provides a good picture of the steadily growing tourism and increased collaboration between Finland and Estonia.”

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**Timetable, June 12–August 31, 2014:**

M/S Mariella (MA), M/S Gabriella (GA), M/S Viking XPRS (VX)

Stockholm–Mariehamn (Åland Islands, Finland)–Helsinki–Tallinn–Helsinki–Mariehamn–Stockholm

Stockholm		Mariehamn		Helsinki		Helsinki		Tallinn	Vessel
						09:15	←	07:00	VX
						10:00	→	12:25	VX
16:30	→	23:45	→	09:50		11:00	→	13:40	MA/GA
10:00	←	04:25	←	18:15		17:05	←	14:25	MA/GA
						20:30	←	18:00	VX
						21:30	→	00:00	VX

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