



*Experience the brilliance of Rauma*

# RAUMA



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## A city full of life and events.

Rauma is a lively city of culture that is known for its many festivals and events.



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4 The **summer season in Rauma** offers experiences to visitors of all ages. Interested travellers visit the city from all corners of the world.



The **Rauma archipelago** consists of some 300 islands known for their natural beauty. You can explore the archipelago by taking a waterbus trip, for example.



“ Lights, colours and white snow, with flakes of lace fluttering in the sky.”



6 **Old Rauma** is the largest architecturally homogeneous wooden town in the Nordic region to have been preserved until the present day.

20 As a **Christmas city**, Rauma is second to none. Visit Old Rauma to experience the Christmas ambience of the City of Lace.



Founded in 1442, Rauma is the third-oldest city in Finland. With two UNESCO World Heritage Sites, the city has maintained its uniqueness over the years. The vibrant

# RAUMA

*The sea is the heart and soul of Rauma*

seaside city is known for lace, seafaring, its distinctive dialect and strong local identity, among other things. Come and experience the unique city of Rauma.



Rauma is located on Finland's west coast. It is an important port on the Baltic Sea.

## SUMMER IN RAUMA

As a summer city, Rauma's hallmarks are the sea and the beautiful archipelago, pleasant cafés and restaurants, and popular cultural events. Read more about what Rauma has to offer in the summer.

# SUMMERTIME RAUMA *awaits you*



**Unforgettable adventures on land and at sea.** That is what summers in Rauma are made of, attracting visitors from all corners of Finland and the world.

Two of Finland's seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites are located in Rauma. The beautifully preserved historical wooden town of Old Rauma enchants visitors with its colourful houses, narrow streets and small boutiques where you can find many fascinating treasures and handicrafts.

The other World Heritage Site in Rauma is Samsal-  
lahdenmäki, which combines the beauty of nature with prehistoric remains of significant historical value.

### **Beautiful archipelago and adventures**

The best way to enjoy the maritime aspects of Rauma is to explore the islands around the city. The archipelago is easy to visit even if you don't have a boat of your own. The lighthouse island of Kylmäpihlaja and the Kuuskajaskari fortress and vacation island have daily waterbus services during the summer season.

Visit the museums of Rauma to enjoy art and handicrafts and learn more about the history of seafaring, for example. More information on the city's museums is available on **pages 18–19**.



Organised since 1999, the RMJ festival is one of the summer season's major events in Rauma.



[visitrauma.fi/en/](https://visitrauma.fi/en/)



”

Welcome to this unique summer city to enjoy events and tourist attractions!”

Photo: Niki Soukkio

### A summer full of events

Midsummer is the most important holiday of the summer season in Finland, and Rauma is a popular place to celebrate the occasion. The RMJ festival held by the sea in Otanlahti is a true summer classic.

Summer in Rauma builds up to Lace Week, when the city's streets are filled with vibrant markets and a carnival atmosphere. The events during Lace Week represent a unique combination of traditions, local culture and modern festival attractions. Most of the events are free of charge and have no age limits.

**Check out Rauma's summer events on page 13!**

OLD RAUMA

*The enchanting blocks of wooden houses of*

# OLD RAUMA

Picturesque wooden houses, idyllic streetscapes, and boutiques and cafés rich in atmosphere. Old Rauma is a unique historical wooden town with many fun activities and interesting sights.



[visitrauma.fi/en/](http://visitrauma.fi/en/)



**Old Rauma is the largest architecturally homogeneous wooden town in the Nordic region to have been preserved until the present day.**

Its narrow streets maintain the medieval lines and are bordered by historical buildings, the oldest of which date back to the 18th century.

Constructed over the centuries, the building stock makes up fascinating and rich historical layers. In recognition of its significance and value, Old Rauma was awarded UNESCO World Heritage Site status in 1991.



## THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

Located in Old Rauma, the Church of the Holy Cross is Rauma's main church and one of the city's most important landmarks. The church was originally built for the Franciscan monastery in the early 16th century.

The Church of the Holy Cross is Finland's only remaining church built by the Franciscans and the only building in Rauma to remain from the medieval times.

“ Old Rauma is full of fascinating shops and services with plenty of character.”



## DID YOU KNOW?

Old Rauma is home to a small street with a big reputation. Kitukränn is often cited as the narrowest street in Finland.

It has earned this informal title by being only about 263 cm wide, depending on the measurement method.



## Charming boutiques and cafés

Old Rauma is the lively centre of the city and a point of pride for the locals – and for good reason. Centrally located between the church and the Old Town Hall, the Market Square is the beating heart of the city. At the Market Square, you can enjoy a delightful cup of coffee the way the locals do – standing by a coffee stall in the early hours of the day.

Old Rauma is full of fascinating shops and services with plenty of character. Small specialty shops – including clothing shops, small boutiques selling gifts and many interior design shops – invite you to browse their diverse range of products. There are over 100 charming boutiques in the area.

The best way to explore Old Rauma is to take your time and go around by foot, taking in the secrets of this idyllic milieu of wooden houses.



Rauma's location on the coast means you can sense the charming atmosphere of a seaside port city. The UNESCO World Heritage Site of Sammallahdenmäki, in turn, combines nature and ancient history.



# NATURE IN RAU

*– the presence of the sea and the World Heritage Site of Sammallahdenmäki*



**You could say that the blood running through the veins of Rauma residents is as salty as seawater.**

Rauma is a significant Baltic Sea port, which is why seafaring has always played a large role in the daily life of the local people. Ever since medieval times, the port of Rauma has facilitated the export and import of goods.

Many of the city's residents have earned their living from the sea, either as sailors or from fishing or working at the port.

If you love the sea and nature, you can enjoy salty fresh experiences on waterbus excursions or by taking out a boat of your own. The Rauma archipelago consists of some 300 islands known for their natural beauty, situated just off the coast. The archipelago is an important part of the Bothnian Sea National Park.



# UJMA



## Sammallahdenmäki is a great destination for a day trip

Exploring the historical landscapes of Sammallahdenmäki, Rauma's other UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a memorable experience.

The Bronze Age burial cairns located in Kivikylä, Lappi, just 20 kilometres from the city centre, are a site of mythical stories, which makes it an excellent destination for a day trip.

Sammallahdenmäki provides visitors with insight into the Scandinavian Bronze Age and Early Iron Age (1500–50 BCE) traditions, religion and burial rituals of Western Finland. The area has a total of 36 burial cairns, all varying in size and shape.

The changing seasons make Sammallahdenmäki a perfect destination for nature enthusiasts. In spring, the awakening of nature makes you forget the hustle and bustle of everyday life. In autumn, you can feel the nature preparing for winter as the blooming heaths, mosses and lichens add vibrant colour to the landscape.



## HEAD OUT TO SEA ON A WATERBUS!

Daily waterbus services in the summer season provide locals and visitors the opportunity to experience the sea.

Waterbuses and taxi boats can take you to the Kylmäpihlaja lighthouse island, Kuuskajaskari fortress and vacation island, and Reksaari's attractive nature trails. Kiikartorni in Syväraumanlahti is the best mainland location for enjoying great views of the sea.



”

The Rauma archipelago consists of some 300 islands known for their natural beauty.”

Lace Week is a city festival that delivers a unique combination of traditional local culture and modern festival attractions.

# LACE WEEK

*in July is the highlight of the summer in Rauma*



**City of Lace, Lace Week, Lace Tournament...** Lace is a prominent element of local culture and events in Rauma. Lace-making is an old tradition in Rauma, and more lace has been made in Rauma than anywhere else in Finland.

Lace culture is an example of traditional handicraft culture that is still alive and well today. Lace-making skills are passed on from one generation to the next, and they have also been taught regularly at the Adult Education Centre since the mid-1900s.

Lace products are very popular souvenirs – ask for them in the boutiques of Old Rauma. A lace bookmark or a piece of lace jewellery makes a great souvenir of your visit to the City of Lace.

**Go to the website [pitsiviikko.fi](http://pitsiviikko.fi) for full event details**



## KNIT YOUR OWN LACE-PATTERNED RAUMA SWEATER

Here's your opportunity to knit a sweater inspired by the traditional spirit of Rauma! In 2021, the City of Rauma made the knitting pattern for a lace-themed Rauma sweater freely available to everyone.

The sweater became a hit on social media. You can find the knitting pattern on the City of Rauma website. The pattern was designed by lace artist Tarmo Thorström and Katrina Salo. The inspiration for the design came from the Uus kultseppä and Mandeljepyri lace styles.

You can find the pattern here!



## OPEN YARDS AND YARD SALES IN OLD RAUMA

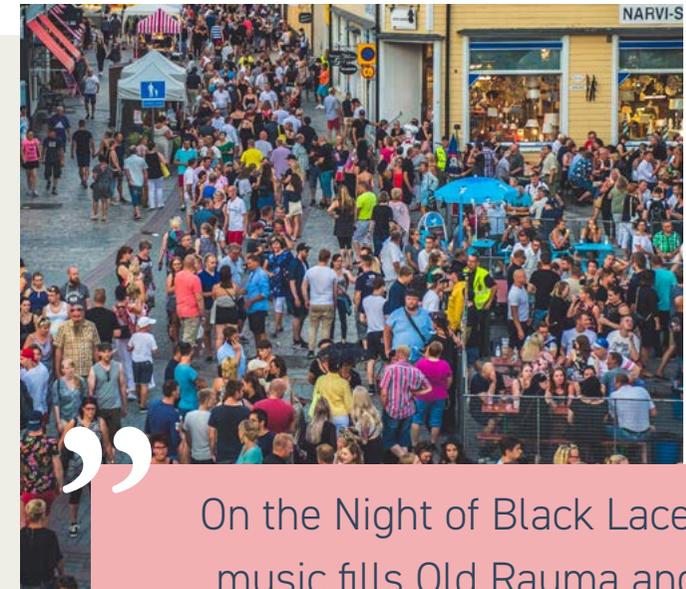
During Lace Week, many of the residents of Old Rauma open their yards to the public or hold yard sales.

### The Night of Black Lace is known for its carnival atmosphere

One of the absolute highlights of the summer season in Rauma is Lace Week in late July. It fills the entire city with life. The programme of Lace Week includes dozens of exhibitions, handicraft workshops and presentations, and a cheerful market atmosphere.

Over a hundred events are organised during the week. Lace Week culminates in the Night of Black Lace, when music fills Old Rauma and the shops stay open until the early hours of the morning.

Organised annually since 1971, Lace Week brings tens of thousands of visitors to Rauma each year.



“On the Night of Black Lace, music fills Old Rauma and the shops stay open until the early hours of the morning.”

# THERE IS PLENTY TO DO

*in Rauma during the summer*

Rauma is a lively city of culture that is known for its many festivals and events. Find out more about summertime events and activities in Rauma.

Rauma offers a diverse range of events all through the year. Many of the city's festivals have long traditions and they are among the leading events in their respective fields.

At Midsummer, the RMJ festival in Otanlahti attracts revellers from near and far to celebrate the biggest holiday of the summer season.

In August, Rauma Festivo and Rauma Blues bring people to the city centre to attend performances by leading artists. The Blue Sea Film Festival features many of the stars of Finnish cinema.



”

The summer of festivals features a diverse range of music and films.”



## MAKIS OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOL

Makis is an outdoor swimming pool on the shore of Otanlahti bay in Rauma. Reopened in 2020 after renovations, the outdoor swimming facility was designed by architect Ilmari Niemeläinen and originally built in 1955.

Makis is a great place for families to enjoy swimming and minigolf as well as food and drinks on an outdoor terrace. The charming seaside park next to Makis also offers various services and fun activities.

## TRAFFIC PARK AND KIPPARINPUISTO PLAYGROUND

In the traffic park, children can learn the rules of the road while riding bicycles or driving pedal cars.

The park is part of the Kipparinpuisto playground at Vähänmaanpuisto 7. Open all year round, Kipparinpuisto playground is a great place to play at any time of the day.



## SUMMER EVENTS IN RAUMA

### RMJ FESTIVAL

[rmj.fi](http://rmj.fi)

The legendary RMJ midsummer festival features popular Finnish and international artists.

### LACE WEEK

[pitsiviikko.fi](http://pitsiviikko.fi)

The events during Lace Week represent a unique combination of traditions, local culture and modern festival attractions. The festival, which takes place at the end of July, has been held continuously since 1971. Today, Lace Week is organised sustainably in compliance with the Eco-Compass eco-certification.

### RAUMA FESTIVO

[raumafestivo.fi](http://raumafestivo.fi)

Rauma Festivo is an annual chamber music festival that celebrates a different theme every August.

### RAUMA BLUES

[raumablues.fi](http://raumablues.fi)

Rauma Blues is an annual music festival that is considered to be one of the leading events in its genre internationally.

### BLUE SEA FILM FESTIVAL

[bluseaiafilmfestival.net](http://bluseaiafilmfestival.net)

The Blue Sea Film Festival has been bringing cinephiles to Rauma every August since 1994.

See the event website for schedules and performers!

See more events:



# LIGHTS AND EXPERIENCES

*in Rauma*

Rauma has plenty to offer to tourists all year round. In winter and spring, you can take in the city's cultural attractions and nature sites. If your timing is right, you may even witness one of the fiercest local rivalries in Finnish ice hockey.



## The charming atmosphere of Christmas in Rauma

Christmas is a time of warmth and peace during the long Finnish winter. Rauma is a unique Christmas city that combines the rich atmosphere of Old Rauma, the strong traditions of a city of handicrafts, and various Christmas events.

The darkest time of the year is illuminated by the charming Christmas lights of Old Rauma and the New Year lights that bring beautiful colour to the city.



# EXPERIENCES

## SPORTS CULTURE IN RAUMA

The biggest name in sports in Rauma is Rauman Lukko, one of the most traditional ice hockey clubs in Finland. Games between local Satakunta rivals Rauman Lukko and Porin Ässät are known for their unique atmosphere and legendary reputation.

The Rauma Lace Tournament is the traditional opening event of the Finnish ice hockey season and a big attraction for sports fans.



**Winter is a perfect time** to visit museums, attend cultural events and experience art.

The twisty cobbled streets of Old Rauma invite you to take a winter walk, go shopping in small boutiques and relax in a café as day turns to night. Everything is within walking distance, which makes it easy to explore the city and enjoy its many cultural attractions.

In addition to world-class fine arts, Rauma museums also invite you to discover local history and Rauma Theatre to enjoy the vibrant Rauma theatre culture.

### See the signs of spring!

The UNESCO World Heritage Site of Sammallahdenmäki is also a great destination for nature enthusiasts to experience the four seasons.

In autumn, you can feel nature preparing for winter. In spring, the awakening of nature enchants you and makes you forget the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

”

Kipparinpuisto is open for play all year round.”



*Rauma is a city of*

# HISTORICAL

*and international roots*



The distinctive culture and dialect of Rauma have been influenced by seafarers and ports from around the world.

As a port city, Rauma has always been exceptionally exposed to international influences from other parts of Europe.

The streets of Old Rauma are still busy with visitors from various corners of the world. The layout of Old Rauma retains many of the characteristics of a medieval European town, such as narrow twisty streets and plots of irregular size and shape.



## RAUMA'S LOCAL DIALECT - "RAUMAN GIÄL"

The famous local dialect of Rauma can be seen and heard around the city. It is featured on signs around the city as well as Rauma's well-known slogan which translates to "Make yourself at home".





## LAPSKOUSSI IS A TRADITIONAL DELICACY IN RAUMA

Lapskoussi (lobscouse casserole) is a traditional food in Rauma, brought to the city by seafarers. The dish is also known in many other European port cities. It is known as Labskaus in Germany and lapskojs in Sweden.

The secret of Lapskoussi lies in slowly cooked tender meat, root vegetables and seasoning.

## The foreign influences on Rauma's local dialect

The history of Rauma's distinctive dialect is not fully known, but it uses many words from other languages due to the influence of seafarers who visited various ports around the world.

If you take a look at the windows of houses in Old Rauma, you might notice angled mirrors that provide a view of the street outside, or porcelain dog figurines. In seamen's homes, the dog figurines were placed facing inwards when the man of the house was at home. When the seaman packed his bags and went to sea, the figurines were turned to face the street.

“The streets of Old Rauma are busy with visitors from various corners of the world.”

*Fascinating  
museums  
and local*

# CULTURE

Rauma is a great destination for people interested in museums, art and maritime cultural history.

Learn more about the city's cultural attractions and check out our picks!

## Old Town Hall

Kauppakatu 13, Rauma

There are only two 18th century town halls in Finland that still retain their original appearance. One is in Porvoo and the other is in Rauma. An iconic landmark by the Market Square, the Old Town Hall dates back to 1776 and is now a museum. **It will reopen after restoration in 2026.**

## Marela

Kauppakatu 24, Rauma

Fall in love with the glamorous home of a wealthy shipowning family from the early 1900s.

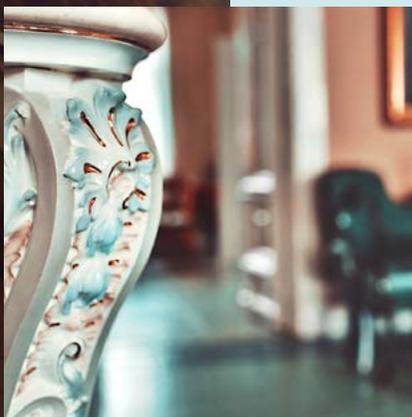
Marela's changing exhibitions tell the story of Rauma's history and local traditions. Children can take part in the photo scavenger hunt and many other activities throughout the year. Marela also has a museum shop specialising in local handicrafts.

## Kirsti - a sailor's home

Pohjankatu 3, Rauma

Kirsti, the home museum of sailors and craftsmen, tells the story of a typical house in Old Rauma from the late 19th century to the 1970s.

Spend a tranquil moment in Kirsti's courtyard idyl and feel the traces of authentic living in one of Rauma's oldest wooden buildings. The museum is open during the summer.





## THEATRE IN RAUMA

Alfredinkatu 2, Rauma

Great theatre and entertainment all year round. Rauma Theatre, a professional theatre that has operated since 1940, and visiting theatre companies offer experiences for new and old theatre lovers alike.

In addition to its own repertory, Rauma Theatre's varied programme includes interesting guest performances. In addition, Rauma Theatre also produces the Rauma Summer Theatre programme.



### Rauma Maritime Museum

Kalliokatu 34, Rauma

Set in the building of an old Nautical College, the Maritime Museum is a popular destination for both children and adults. Visit the Maritime Museum to learn more about the rich and exciting history of seafaring in Rauma.

One of the museum's special attractions is a navigation simulator that gives you the opportunity to sail on the world's seas! The map shows where the ship is located and what is along the route.

The Maritime Museum offers plenty to do and see for visitors of all ages. Say hello to a museum diver and try out his diving boots!

### Rauma Art Museum

Kuninkaankatu 37, Rauma

The Rauma Art Museum's buildings and attractive courtyard constitute one of the best-preserved blocks in Old Rauma.

They create a prestigious setting for exhibiting fascinating art phenomena ranging from international contemporary art to the history of local art. The museum features changing exhibitions, events and workshops all year round.

### Teresia and Rafael Lönnström home museum

Syväraumankatu 41, Rauma

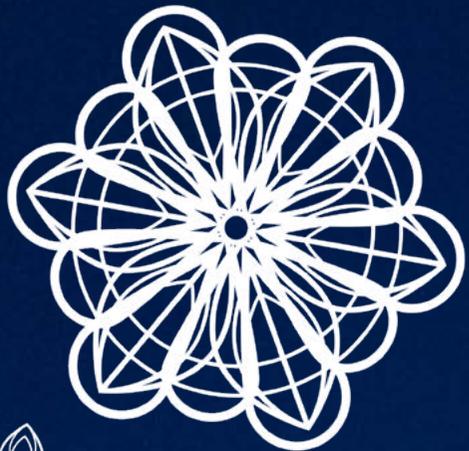
**Teresia and Rafael Lönnström's** home museum presents an industrialist couple's stately home and a private art collection.

**It will reopen after renovation in 2025.**

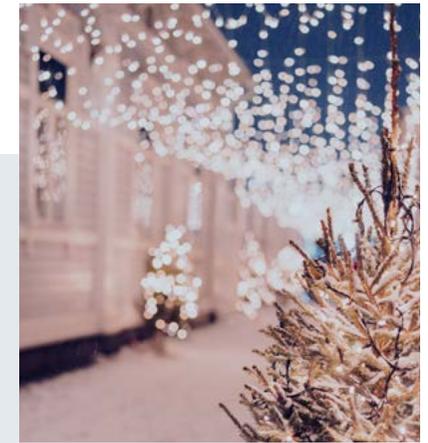
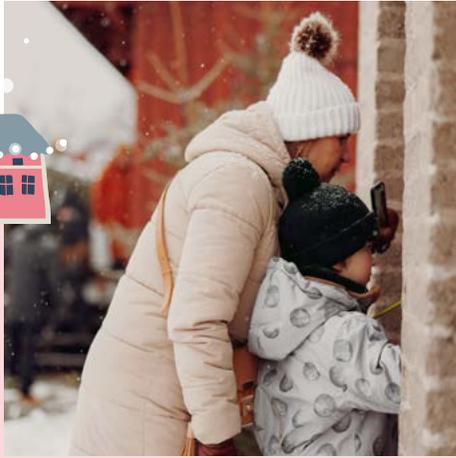
” Are you a theatre fan, history buff, architecture enthusiast or art lover? Rauma always has something just for you.

*December in the City of Lace is full of the authentic spirit of*

# CHRISTMAS



“ Lights, colours and white snow, with flakes of lace fluttering in the sky.”



**Experience the unique Christmas ambience of the World Heritage Site of Old Rauma, enjoy the unhurried atmosphere and participate in warm-hearted events.**

**Old wooden houses, yards adorned with lights, rooftops and streets white with snow under a starlit sky.** At Christmastime, Old Rauma slows down and invites visitors to enjoy the spirit of the holidays.

December weekends in Rauma are a time of concerts, rummage sales and other events. Rich in atmosphere, the city's markets feature local flavours, aromas and traditions in the form of handicrafts, delicacies and other products.

There are many fun activities for people to enjoy together. You can feel the magic of the Christmas season. Give yourself and your family a Christmas to remember: experience the magical, authentic Rauma Christmas.

### **The Christmas Story of the City of Lace**

**A long time ago**, some exceptionally brilliant and skilled Christmas elves came to Rauma from faraway seas.

They travelled to the city as stowaways on sailing ships. They were members of a famous family of lacemakers. In normal daily life and on special holidays, nothing was more important to them than adorning themselves and decorating their environment. The elves loved things that were pretty and delicious and that created a pleasant ambience. Beauty comes from skills and details, they liked to say.

That is why they were drawn to Rauma. The hearts of these elves with a penchant for beautiful things melted when they found this city on Finland's western coast. The city was so refreshing after a long journey that they immediately understood why it was called Rauma, which translates to "unfrozen stream".

And so the elves decided to stay.

**Want to read more about the Christmas elves of the City of Lace?** Check out the full Christmas story or listen to it in the Rauma dialect at [pitsikaupunginjoulu.fi](https://pitsikaupunginjoulu.fi)



*Get into the*

# SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Come spend a lovely Christmas season in Rauma!

Check out our picks for the holiday season.

## Buy gifts and souvenirs you can't find anywhere else

Are you looking for a memorable gift or perhaps something unique for yourself? In the small boutiques and specialty shops of Old Rauma, you'll find high-quality products, personal service and collections of items you won't see anywhere else.



## Rauma Christmas Market

Most of the Christmas events in Rauma revolve around the old town. Rauma Christmas Market features local businesses and performers at the Market Square in the heart of Old Rauma.

Come take a look at local handicrafts, find great gift ideas or simply enjoy the unique spirit of the season.

## Artists' studios and ateliers

Explore the narrow streets and courtyards of Old Rauma to find fascinating ateliers and exhibition spaces. Many artists work in the area all year round, welcoming visitors to their studios. You can visit them to take a break from Christmas shopping or find unique presents for your loved ones.





**Christmas lights create a refined ambience**

Christmas lights in Old Rauma are traditionally lit at the time of Rauma's traditional Christmas opening event, and they continue to provide a warm ambience in Old Rauma even after the turn of the year.

” The warmth of Christmas is not hiding under a winter hat, in a coat pocket or by a roaring fire – it is deep within the heart of the City of Lace.”

Christmas in Rauma



**SEE THE FULL LIST OF CHRISTMAS EVENTS**

Markets, light art and busy Christmas elves. Christmas in Rauma is full of fun events and experiences for people of all ages.

Scan the QR code to see the full list of events.





 **Rauma**

**Rauma Tourist Information**

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