



Old Rauma

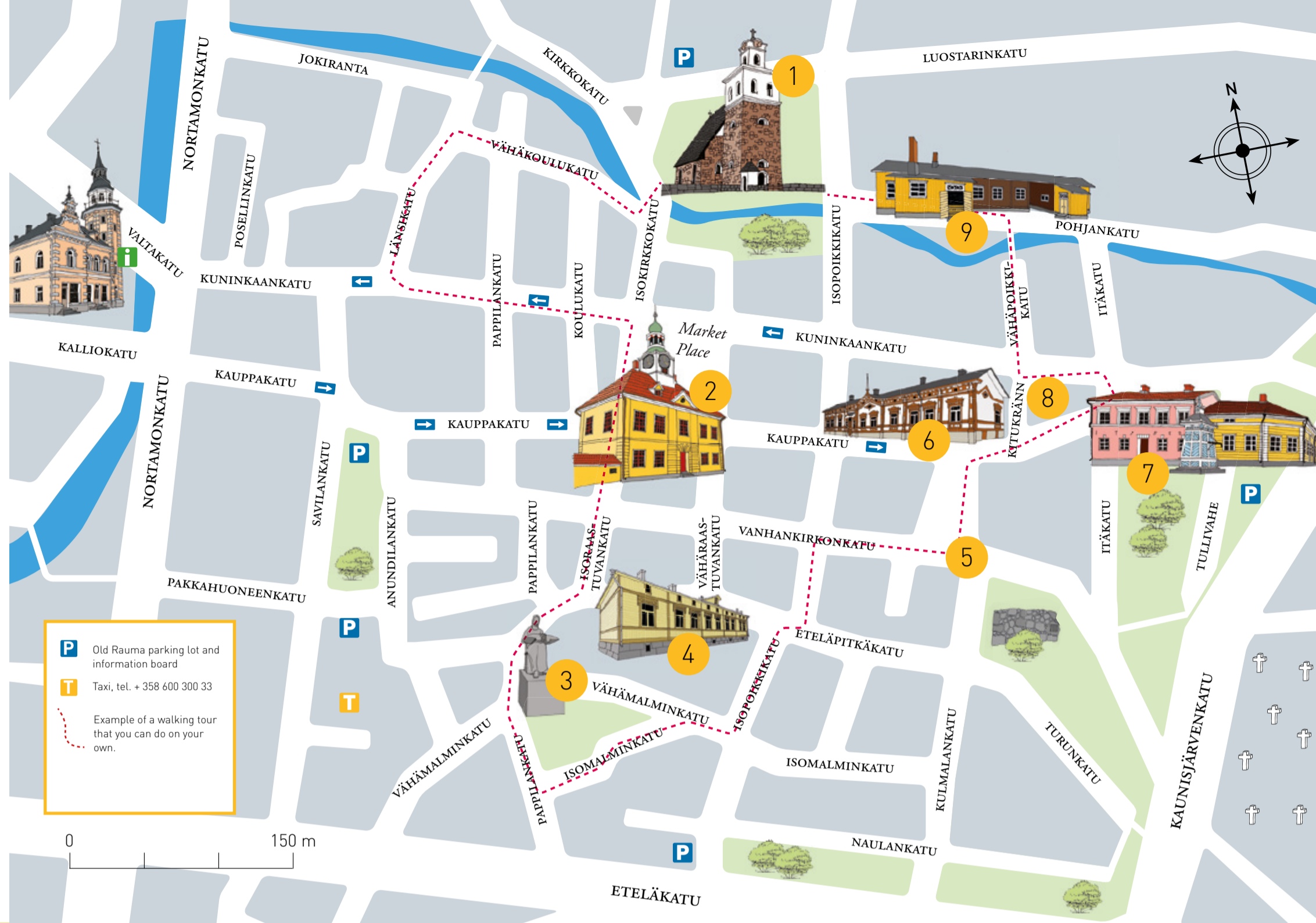


Old Rauma was granted the status of a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1991. It is the largest and the most consistent wooden city area dating from the Middle Ages in the Nordic countries. Old

Rauma provides a unique environment for living, working and leisure activities.

If you enjoy shopping, head toward Market Place, Kuninkaankatu and Kauppakatu streets. There are over 100 businesses in Old Rauma! Take a peek into the other parts of this 29 hectare area and become fascinated by the atmosphere that takes you back in time. Distances are short in Old Rauma – the shops and sights are within a walking distance of each other.

Please consider local residents and respect their privacy by staying on the streets and not entering their yards – unless invited.



1 CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

Luostarinkatu 1

The Church of the Holy Cross in Rauma was built as a church for the Franciscan monastery at the end of the 15th century. As a result of the Reformation, the Franciscan friars were banished from Rauma in 1538. After the Church of the Holy Trinity burned down in 1640, the Church of the Holy Cross became the church of the Lutheran parish.

The Middle Ages are still present today in the church's murals and vault paintings as well as in the numerous valuable items. The northern wall portrays Mayor Jussoila's daughter Margareta's votive painting, the oldest of its kind that survives in Finland. The white tower of the church has functioned as a landmark for sailors.

Next to the church, the Raumanjoki River flows toward the sea. Later on, around Nortamonkatu, the river turns into the famous Canal of Rauma.



2 MARKET PLACE AND OLD TOWN HALL MUSEUM

Kauppakatu 13

The heart of the city, the Market Place, is where people shop and have coffee at coffee stands throughout the year. The edge of the square is adorned by the fabulous Old Town Hall, which was completed in 1776. The building mainly represents the Baroque style and its shape was a familiar sight in cities in the Middle Ages. Nowadays the Old Town Hall is a part of the Museum of Rauma, with displays of lace-making items as well as temporary exhibitions.

3 NAULAMÄKI AND HELSINGINTORI

In the old days, Naulamäki served as the residential area for fishermen and artisans. It used to form the southern edge of the town and the city dwellers' fields and meadows began around its edges. The gate jambs of the Naola house are probably the oldest surviving wooden components in the city.

The story tells that Helsingintori Square derives its name from the city's burghers who gathered on this site with the



purpose of moving to Helsinki. King Gustav I founded Helsinki in 1550 as a competitor to Tallinn and dictated that Rauma's burghers should move to inhabit the new city.

Lace-making is an old tradition in Rauma. Lace has been made in the city at least since the middle of the 18th century. The Lace-maker monument, located at the Helsingintori Square, is a tribute to the traditional artisan skill that has survived for centuries.



4 TAMMELA

Eteläpitkätie 17

Renovation centre Tammela is a functional exhibition centre which is open to the public. It showcases the renovation activities in the Old Rauma as well as the World Heritage of UNESCO. Tammela is also home to a spare parts bank of old construction components.

Names of houses in Old Rauma are written in the Fraktur style on oval-shaped metal sheets that are attached to the outer walls of the houses. The oldest names of houses date from the 16th century. The names derive for example from the inhabitants' professions, first or last names, the homesteads of those who moved in from the countryside and the names of islands around Rauma.



5 KALATORI SQUARE

The oldest settlement in the city is presumed to have been located around the Kalatori Square. The waves of the sea still splashed onto these regions in the 14th century but due to land uplift, the sea has made way to settlement that has spread toward the harbour. The ruins of the Church of the Holy Trinity are located on the south-eastern side of the Kalatori Square, in the middle of a small park. The grey-stone church, built as the parish church in the 15th century, was destroyed by a fire in 1640.

6 MARELA MUSEUM

Kauppakatu 24

Along Kauppakatu, you will find Marela, the home of shopkeeper and ship-owner families. The house currently functions as a museum. Most of the buildings date from the Paqvalin family era in the 19th century. The main building was given its current Neo-Renaissance facade at the end of the 19th century when the house belonged to one of the dominant burghers, Gabriel Granlund. At this time, the heyday of sailing vessels brought wealth to the city and buildings were also renovated elsewhere around town to match the new fashion.

7 HAUENGUANO AND RAUMA ART MUSEUM

Kuninkaankatu 37

In Hauenguano, the two main streets of the Old Rauma, Kauppakatu and Kuninkaankatu, are merged. The city was surrounded by a toll fence from the beginning of the 17th century until 1808. During this time, the city was accessible via the customs of Pori, which was located in this spot. The south side of the square is the location of the first private stone building in the city, commissioned by Efraim Broman in 1795. Nowadays this building along with the adjacent Pinnala House, constructed in the beginning of the 19th century, is used by Rauma Art Museum. This part of the city boasts several artisans' workshops and boutiques.



8 KITUKRÄNN

Rauma's most well-known street, Kitukränn, runs between Kuninkaankatu and Kauppakatu. It is said to be the narrowest street in all of Finland.

9 KIRSTI MUSEUM

Pohjankatu 3

Kirsti's yard with its buildings sheds light on the construction methods used in the city in the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th century. The set of buildings includes a residential building along the street as well as the stable, granary, cowshed and storage buildings that circle the plot. The people who had the houses built were sea captains but the owners have included sailors, workers and artisans. Additionally, lodgers used to inhabit the house. Kirsti was owned by the same family for 200 years before it fell under the ownership of the museum in the 1970s. Kirsti is open during the summer and it portrays the living conditions of the owner and lodger families from the end of the 19th century until the middle of the 20th century.



Sammallahdenmäki

The burial site of Sammallahdenmäki provides an insight into the religious and burial customs of a community in the Scandinavian Bronze Age and the early Iron Age (1500–500 BCE). The burial site located in the rugged, rocky landscape of Lappi, Rauma, represents the monumental architecture of the Bronze Age at its best. The area, which spans approximately one kilometre, features 36 burial cairns of different shapes and sizes along a terrain of rocky ridges and heath land. Sammallahdenmäki was inscribed to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1999.

During the Bronze Age, a significant change took place in the burial customs, when Scandinavian influences led them to adopt a new way of burying the cremated remains of the deceased in stone cairns in high places.



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

Bronze Age Burial Site of Sammallahdenmäki inscribed on the World Heritage List in 1999



Follow the marked trails and signposts when you walk in the area. The natural environment in the rock area is vulnerable to damage. In rainy weather, the rocks and especially the tree roots are slippery. Smoking and open fires are prohibited. Sammallahdenmäki is a protected ancient relic safeguarded by the Antiquities Act, and damaging the site is prohibited by law.



Rauma

Old Rauma Sammallahdenmäki



1 THE OLDEST CAIRNS AND KIRKONLAATTIA
The small cairn at the highest point of the area (43 metres above sea level) dates back to 1300 BCE.

The largest and most famous ancient cairn in Sammallahdenmäki, Kirkonlaattia ("Church Floor"), takes its name from an old folk tale. The relic is a quadrangular stone structure. The walls are almost 20 metres long, but the height of the ruin is only about half a metre. Kirkonlaattia is thought to be a tomb, although it is not shaped like a typical Bronze Age burial cairn.

According to the legend associated with Kirkonlaattia, Christians and Giants were competing as to who would be the fastest to build a church. It was agreed that the first



ones to finish would ring the church bell. The Christians raised two poles, placed a bell between the poles and rang the bell. When the Giants heard the bell, they left their work unfinished, and all that remained was a church floor.

2 CAIRNS ON THE EDGE OF THE ROCKY SLOPE
The view from the cairns is a landscape of open fields where the sea was located during the Bronze Age. As a result of post-glacial land uplift, the distance to the seashore is currently about 20 kilometres. Proximity to the sea was an essential consideration when the site for the burial cairns was first chosen. The ruins could be seen from afar and they also acted as landmarks for navigators.

3 BARROWS
Sammallahdenmäki features several different types of cairns: small, low oval cairns, large barrows and ring cairns, and low, earth-filled cairns dating back to the early Iron Age. The large cairns in the middle of the area are shaped like traditional barrows. Although moss and lichen now partially cover the rocks, one cairn clearly stands out due to the exceptional amount of reddish sandstone.

4 SPIRAL CAIRN
The stone circles inside the burial cairn form a spiral pattern that may have symbolised the sun. Burial of the dead by cremation may have been associated with sun worship.

Cremated bones have been found in the spiral cairn, most of which were identified as human bones. Based on the bone fragments, the deceased had been over 20 years old. Based on radiocarbon dating, the burial dates back to 1320–1000 BCE.

5 THE LONG RUIN OF HUILU
One of the most special cairns in the area is the long ruin of Huilu ("Flute"), which takes its name from its shape. The cairn is over 20 metres long and about a metre high. Research on the ruin began more than 100 years ago. The ruin features three distinct burials: one tomb made by erected stones and two ring cairns.



The person buried in the more complex and somewhat larger burial cairn may have been a person of high standing. Burials in the same cairn may also have been performed in several different stages, as has been done in the long ruin of Huilu, for example.

6 BOULDER CAIRN
This cairn differs in its location and nature from the other cairns found at the site. The cairn, which contained two separate stone cist, is located at the bottom of the slope. It is different from the cairns located on the higher rock ridge, which are mostly constructed of stone. This stone structure is low and has been constructed of stone and earth fill.

The only object in the area has been found from this grave. A small fragment of a bronze bracelet probably dating back to the years between 0–200 was found among the cremated bone fragments.

Objects are rarely found in Bronze Age burial cairns. It is possible that it was not customary to include objects in the graves or that they have not been preserved. Perhaps in the Bronze Age it was also believed that the deceased would not need worldly objects in the afterlife.



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