Suomenlinna
—— great adventures at the sea fortress

Suomenlinna represents our shared universal heritage

World Heritage Sites are treasures of the Earth — places so amazing that people have decided together to conserve them for future generations. There are more than a thousand World Heritage Sites around the world, and Suomenlinna is one of them.

The World Heritage sites are selected by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization UNESCO. The sites may have been built by man or shaped by nature, but they have one thing in common: they are so unique that everyone should join in their protection.

Suomenlinna is owned by the state of Finland. The old fortress needs constant repairs and maintenance. These are the tasks of the Governing Body of Suomenlinna, where gardeners, architects, carpenters, plumbers, among many others, take care of the fortress.

Do you want to help us protect Suomenlinna? It’s easy: make sure to put your trash in a bin, stay on the marked paths, and respect the buildings, plants, and animals of the fortress. Thank you!

The history of three countries
In 1745, when Finland was still a part of Sweden, Augustin Ehrensvärd began the construction work on the sea fortress. The fortress was needed to protect Sweden against Russia. Back then, Suomenlinna was known as Viapori. In 1808, Viapori surrendered to the Russian forces, and the next year, the entire country of Finland became a part of Russia, which it would stay for more than one hundred years. The fortress became the property of independent Finland in 1918, and its name was changed to Suomenlinna, which means “the castle of Finland”.

Today, Suomenlinna is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Finland and attracts visitors from around the world. Suomenlinna is also a district of Helsinki, with 800 residents living there year-round. The fortress is like a small village with a kindergarten, school, grocery shop, and library.

CROSSWORD

A vehicle that can bring you to Suomenlinna round the year

A weapon you can see on the ramparts of Kustaanmiekka

The person buried on the Great Courtyard

The southernmost island of Suomenlinna

A dark place where you need a flashlight

The submarine you can visit on Suomenlinna

A weapon you can see on the ramparts of Kustaanmiekka

The other job of the Suomenlinna church

SOLUTION:

Suomenlinna

Vesikko is a Finnish submarine, built in the 1930s, that served in the Second World War. Today, Vesikko is a museum open to the public in the summer. Inside the submarine, you can see the cramped conditions in which the crew used to work. Colour in Vesikko!

SUOMENLINNA

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ADVENTURES CAN MAKE YOU HUNGRY! LUCKILY, SUOMENLINNA HOSTS MANY CAFÉS AND RESTAURANTS:

RESTAURANT SUOMENLINNA BREWERY
Delicious food near the ferry pier. Special children's menu; some of the dishes can be halved. Open all year.

VIAPORIN DELI & CAFÉ
Lunches, salads, sandwiches and pastries; children's lunches half-price. Open all year.

BASTION BISTRO
Cosy and welcoming café offers soup lunch and other homemade treats. Open all year.

CAFÉ SILO
Cozy and welcoming café offers soup lunch and other homemade treats. Open all year.

CAFÉ BAR VALIMO
Restaurant close to the main quay serves straightforward bistro food. Open all year.

CAFEVANILLA
The feeling of an old-time grandmother's home and freshly baked delicacies. Spot the teddy bears from the Toy Museum or the house cat.

SUOMENLINNA CENTRI CAFÉ
Savoury and sweet snacks. Also remember to visit the Suomenlinna Museum and get to know the story of the fortress. Open all year.

RESTAURANT SUSISAARI
Artillery Bay's restaurant offers lovely Finnish lunch and à la carte cuisine. Open all year.

CAFE BAR VALIMO
Have some pasta or salmon soup while admiring the boats in the guest marina. Children's sizes available for all dishes.

CAFÉ VANE
Savoury and sweet snacks in a charming caffè building. The terrace has a splendid view of the sea.

PIZZERIA NIKOLAI
Enjoy a pizza with a crisp crust inside the fortress walls or on the sunny terrace at the tip of Kustaanmiekka.

RESTAURANT WALHALLA
An optimal place for fine dining. New children's menu every day. We recommend reserving a table in advance.

LONNA RESTAURANT AND CAFÉ
Tasty organic and local food. Satisfy your sweet tooth at the cafés waffle bar.

Did you know you can visit Suomenlinna year-round? The sea voyage is particularly exciting during the winter. Travel to the block of ice against the sides of the ferry. From the beginning of December until Epiphany, you can search for the gnomes of Suomenlinna on the Fortress Gnome’s Trail, which will take you on an exciting expedition around the sea fortress.