Discover the natural and cultural attractions of this amazing archipelago. On peaceful islands with old wooden houses and fine sea views, time stands still, giving you a chance to truly relax.

**Day 1**

**Turku: history and fun — in the gateway to the archipelago**

Down by the River Aura

Turku has many features typical of European towns that became important in the Middle Ages, including a riverfront, a market square, a castle and a cathedral. The River Aura flows through the heart of the modern city, linking the two poles of historic Turku: a formidable castle and a grand old cathedral. Most of the city’s other sights also lie near the river. There’s plenty to do and see around town, as befits a city chosen as the European Capital of Culture for 2011.

**Accommodation:** Hotels, campsites and hostels in Turku area [www.visitturku.fi](http://www.visitturku.fi)

**Activities:** sightseeing, thematic walking routes, rent-a-bike, paddling, SUP board and canoe rental on the River Aura, electric boats

**Tourist information:** [www.visitturku.fi](http://www.visitturku.fi)

**Day 2**

**Out towards the archipelago**

On the way to Nagu it’s well worth stopping for a break or a picnic, by the ruins of Kuusisto Castle. In the Middle Ages this grand and luxuriously furnished castle was home to a bishop and his entourage — meaning that it served as the centre of spiritual life in then Catholic Finland, as well as a political power base. The castle’s fortunes turned in 1527 when King Gustav Vasa of Sweden ordered the bishop’s residence to be demolished after the Reformation. These ruins are all that remains of those former glories.

With more than 10,000 islands and islets spread over an area of 5,500 square kilometres, the beautiful Archipelago Sea is a unique natural treasure, with a fascinating cultural history. Nagu (Nauvo in Finnish), one of its larger islands, still has a thriving community and is also popular with holiday-makers and tourists. To reach Nagu you need to take a short trip on a free car ferry from Pargas. This route forms part of the longer island-hopping Archipelago Trail touring route.
back to turku

within easy reach of the historic town of turku, the forests and marshes of kurjenrahka national park are home to many wild animals and birds, including stately long-legged cranes and curious woodland owls.

day 6

back to turku

accommodation, 6th night: hotels, campsites and hostels in turku area www.visitturku.fi
services: www.nationalparks.fi/kurjenrahkanp
activities: hiking, nature

day 7

short trips in the turku region - kurjenrahka national park

within easy reach of the historic town of turku, the forests and marshes of kurjenrahka national park are home to many wild animals and birds, including stately long-legged cranes and curious woodland owls. the park has several well-marked and interconnecting trails. the most popular circular route is the 6-km savojärven kierros trail, which leads from kurjenpesä nature information hut around lake savojärvi, along duckboards for part of the way.

accommodation, 7th night: hotels, campsites and hostels in turku area www.visitturku.fi
services: www.nationalparks.fi/kurjenrahkanp
activities: hiking, nature

Tourist information: www.visitturku.fi

Day 6

Back to Turku

Accommodation, 6th night: Hotels, campsites and hostels in Turku area www.visitturku.fi
Activities: sightseeing, shopping, well-being
Tourist information: www.visitnaantali.com

Day 7

Short trips in the Turku region - Kurjenrahka National Park

Enjoy a relaxing sauna and tasty local food

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