

## TIPS - how to travel to Finland?

From Europe, probably the best way is to drive through Sweden. It is possible to take a ferry straight from Germany to Finland, which might also save some time, but it can be more expensive than driving via Sweden. It is also possible to drive through the Baltic countries (Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia) using so called "Via Baltica", but it takes a couple of days longer and having your vehicle on board might cause difficulties on the border-controls; but If you have a few days extra and an adventurous spirit, "Via Baltica" surely is an interesting option.

You should check the following routes and ferries/companies:

### Germany - Denmark - Sweden - Finland

Drive to northern Germany to Puttgarden, approximately 55 km north of Lübeck, 105 km north-east from Hamburg. Then take the ferry to Rødby in Denmark (~1 hour voyage), drive pass København to Helsingør (~45 km north of København), where you take a short ferry (~15 minutes) to Helsingborg in Sweden. Driving from Rødby to Helsingør takes about 3 hours.

Puttgarden (D) - Rødby (DK)	Scandlines
Helsingør (DK) - Helsingborg (S)	Scandlines

Timetables, prices and reservation:

<http://www.english.scandlines.se/>

- Both these ferries travel very often (1-4 departures/hour), so it's no use to book any particular departure, but it is a good idea to buy the tickets beforehand as an open voucher, which is valid for 30 days.

It is also possible to use bridges in the route of Germany - Denmark - Sweden. Then the route is as follows: Drive to Kolding in the continent of Denmark, from there drive via Odense to Nyborg on the shore of Fyn-island. From there goes a bridge to Korsør on Sjælland-island. Drive to København. From there goes a new bridge to Malmö in Sweden. This is longer drive than using the ferries; the bridge-tolls are also quite expensive, so it costs approximately the same as to use the Scandlines-ferries.

Nyborg - Korsør bridge in Denmark (over the Storebælt sound):

<http://www.storebaelt.dk/>

København (DK) - Malmö (S) bridge (over the Öresund sound):

<http://osb.oeresundsbron.dk/>

From Helsingborg or Malmö you should drive to Stockholm. Driving from Helsingborg to Stockholm is about 600 km and takes about 7-8 hours, if everything goes well. It is a good idea to reserve a couple of hours extra time just in case. From Stockholm to Finland there are two routes and three companies.

Stockholm (S) - Turku (FIN)	Viking Line, Seawind, Tallink Silja
Stockholm (S) - Helsinki (FIN)	Viking Line, Tallink Silja

The preferable route is to go to Turku in Finland. There are three companies, Seawind is cheapest, but the ferry (only one ferry and one departure/day) is small and without any luxuries, modest cabins, only basic restaurant, no night club etc. Viking Line has good ferries and restaurants, there are 2 departures/day, one in the morning, one in the evening and the prices are fairly cheap. Tallink Silja has also 2 departures/day, but is more expensive than Viking line, although a bit more luxurious.

Viking Line: <http://www.vikingline.fi/>

Seawind: <http://www.tallinksilja.com/>

Tallink Silja: <http://www.tallinksilja.com/>

**Notice!** Viking Line has the harbour in the centrum of Stockholm, Tallink Silja and Seawind use a different harbour on the northern Stockholm. From the web-pages you can find the maps of the harbours!

As mentioned before, Viking and Tallink Silja also travel to Helsinki, but that is a much longer and more expensive route. Both companies also have only one departure each day on that route. See links above. In Helsinki Viking and Tallink Silja also use a different harbour!

**Notice!** Because there are so few departures between Sweden and Finland, the tickets should be reserved in a good time, for the summer season many months in advance! It is a good idea to make your reservations already on April - May! On these routes you should book your voyage on an exact departure (date and time)! On the web-pages there is also contact information for the booking offices in Central-Europe (Viking and Tallink Silja)

## **Germany - Finland**

From Finland to Germany there are two companies. Finnlines (several ferries) from Travemünde to Helsinki and Tallink Silja from Rostock to Helsinki. Tallink Silja (Tallink superfast) travels very fast (only 26 hours from Germany to Finland), Finnlines takes 28-36 hours depending on the ferry. Both companies have good ferries on these routes.

Finnlines: <http://www.ferrycenter.fi/finnlines/en/index.shtml>  
Tallink Silja: <http://www.tallinksilja.com/>

## **Accommodation near Nokia**

### **WWW-site: Supertravelnet**

[http://www.supertravelnet.com/maps/index.php?country=158\\_8019\\_6](http://www.supertravelnet.com/maps/index.php?country=158_8019_6)

**Hotel: Spa Hotel Rantasipi Eden** <http://www.rantasipi.fi/>  
Address: Paratiisikatu 2, 37120 NOKIA Email: [eden.rantasipi@restel.fi](mailto:eden.rantasipi@restel.fi)  
Tel: +358 3 280 1111 Fax: +358 3 342 1800

**Hotel: Hotel-Restaurant Iisoppi** <http://www.iisoppi.net/>  
Address: Välikatu 20, 37100 NOKIA  
Tel: +358 3 3123 1400 Fax: +358 3 3123 1450

**Camping: Nokia Viinikanniemi Camping** <http://www.viinikanniemi.com/>  
Address: Viinikanniemenkatu, 37120 NOKIA Email: [info@viinikanniemi.com](mailto:info@viinikanniemi.com)  
Tel: +358 3 341 3384 Fax: +358 3 342 2385

We hope this was useful information for you and will help you in making your trip.

On behalf of FMMC,  
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