

# ANSWERS TO THE EXHIBITION QUESTIONS

## THE FORTRESS OF SUOMENLINNA

- The walls of Suomenlinna can be distinguished from the photographs by their grey colour. In total, there are six kilometres of defensive walls on the island. What's more, the fortress' living quarters, granaries and workshops were also built in the shape of fortifications, so that they too would serve as part of the island's defences. The fortress is called an irregular bastion fortress, as a result of being built on a cluster of rocky islands with highly variable terrain and because the shape of the fortress' parts and battlements varies greatly.

- The defence of Suomenlinna was based particularly on cannons. The fortress' light cannons were intended to repel landings and manage the line of defence inside the fortress, while heavier cannons were used to target enemies further away on the both land and sea fronts.

- The area of Old Rauma houses a number of wooden buildings of varying ages. Some of the structures have persisted since medieval times, including the Church of the Holy Cross and the ruins of the Church of the Holy Trinity. A few of the area's buildings still display vertical plank walls, indicating that they were built in the 18th century, while some also display wide Empire style plank walls from the 1820s and 1830s. The area's buildings were extensively renovated at the end of the 19th century, as a result of which many of them gained decorative exterior panels with Neo-Renaissance details.

- In addition to the walls, the photographs show cannon openings as well as the bastions, meaning the point-shaped cannon stations. In the 19th century, the fortress' defences were bolstered with sandbanks against the increasingly powerful cannons mounted on contemporary warships. In the 18th century, Suomenlinna served as a base for Sweden's archipelago fleet, which explains why the dry dock is the heart of Suomenlinna. The archipelago fleet, designed by the Englishman Fredrik Henrik af Chapman, specialised in navigating in the maze-like and rocky archipelago waters. The fleet's ships had the ability to operate using sails and oars.

## OLD RAUMA

- Apart from a single stone building, all of the area's residential buildings are made of wood. The Town Hall was also constructed in stone.
- The entrances of many of the houses are on the side of the buildings' inner courtyards. The houses are low, and the area has no multistorey buildings. Nowadays the interiors of the residential houses are equipped with all modern conveniences.

## PETÄJÄVESI OLD CHURCH

- Overall, Petäjavesi Old Church is quite modestly decorated, though the interior of the church does feature a variety of wood carvings. The interior vaults of the church are decorated in red ochre, but otherwise the interior surfaces are unpainted. The pulpit is adorned with sculptures of angels and other figures.



PETÄJÄVESI OLD CHURCH

## SAMMALLAHDENMÄKI

- The rock clusters seen in the photographs are burial cairns dating back to the Bronze Age. The oval, rectangular and bank-like clusters are all manmade. Otherwise the landscape has been well-preserved in its natural state. The rocky surroundings and stunted pines remind visitors of the fact that in the Bronze Age the area was right by the seashore.
- No evidence has been found of any settlements related to the Bronze Age burial site near Sammallahtenmäki. We do not know whether the traces of these settlements have been lost over time or if we simply haven't found them yet. We do know, however, that there

were settlements near the burial site during the Iron Age. It is likely that the preceding Bronze Age community also lived somewhere near the burial cairns.

- In the Bronze Age, people picked the locations of their dwellings with care. Sandy hillsides facing south were warm and ideal for building houses supported by poles. The walls of the houses could have been constructed out of peat, though walls woven from sticks and reinforced with clay were also common at the time. In addition to houses, typical dwellings included round-bottomed huts.

## VERLA GROUNDWOOD AND BOARD MILL

- In its heyday, the Verla Groundwood and Board Mill employed 140 people, a large number of whom were women working as machine operators and handlers of finished board sheets. In the 19th century, the mill might have also employed children. Many of the workers also lived at the mill in its modest workers' houses.

- The majority of the work at the mill was done by hand. This was hard labour, and the days were long. Operating the machines wasn't much easier, requiring both strength and precision. Accidents occurred frequently, and occupational safety was largely an unknown concept. Even at the time of the mill's closing in 1964, board was still being manufactured using work methods and machines developed at the beginning of the century.

## KVARKEN ARCHIPELAGO

- The soundscape of the Kvarken Archipelago is characterised by the sounds of the sea. The shallow archipelago provides food and shelter for a wide variety of nesting and migratory birds. The area has always been busy with human activity as well, such as fishing, sealing and seafaring.
- The Baltic Sea has become more eutrophic over time, meaning that the amount of water-based plant life and algae in the water has increased due to emis-

sions. Meanwhile coastal regions and the sea floor are also affected by dredging. Channels, harbours and docks need to be constantly deepened and moved due to post-glacial rebound.

- It is estimated that post-glacial rebound will join Finland and Sweden within the next 2,000 years. However, this development may be slowed down by rising sea levels.



KVARKEN ARCHIPELAGO

## THE STRUVE GEODETIC ARC

- When the Struve Geodetic Arc was surveyed at the beginning of the 19th century, it travelled through two countries: Sweden and Russia. Now the same area spans ten different countries, including Norway, which used to be part of Sweden, as well as Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine, which were all part of the Russian Empire.