



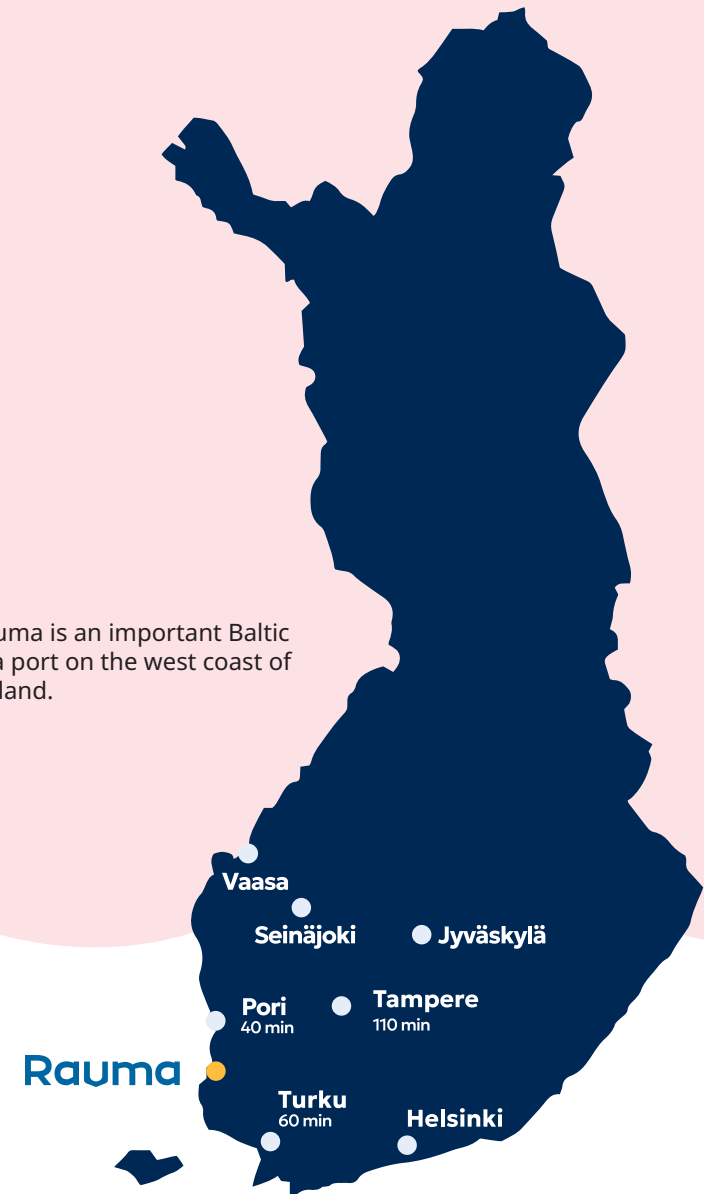
Experience the brilliance of  
**Rauma**






# Rauma

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Rauma is an important Baltic Sea port on the west coast of Finland.



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# Summertime fun awaits you in Rauma

As a summer city, Rauma's hallmarks are the sea and the beautiful archipelago, cosy cafés and restaurants, and popular cultural events. Read more about what Rauma has to offer in the summer.

Unforgettable adventures on land and at sea. That is what summers in Rauma are made of, attracting visitors from all corners of Finland and the world.

Two of Finland's seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites are located in Rauma. The beautifully preserved historic wooden town of Old Rauma delights visitors with its colourful buildings, narrow streets and small boutiques where you can find many fascinating treasures and handicrafts.

The other World Heritage Site in Rauma is Sammallahdenmäki, which combines the beauty of nature with prehistoric remains of significant historical value.

## Explore the beautiful archipelago

The best way to enjoy the maritime aspects of Rauma is to explore the islands around the city. The archipelago is easy to visit even if you don't have a boat of your own. During the summer, a daily scheduled boat service takes you to Kuuskajaskari and Kylmäpihlaja islands.





Come and explore the exciting events and attractions of **this unique summer city!**





# Old Rauma's enchanting wooden buildings

Picturesque wooden buildings, idyllic streetscapes, and charming boutiques and cafés. Old Rauma is a unique and historic wooden town with many fun activities and interesting sights.

## Charming boutiques and cafés

Old Rauma is the lively centre of the city and a source of pride for the locals – and for good reason. Centrally located between the church and the Old Town Hall, the Market Square is the beating heart of the city. At the Market Square, you can enjoy a delightful cup of coffee the way the locals do – standing by a coffee stall in the early hours of the morning.

Old Rauma is the largest architecturally homogeneous wooden town in the Nordic region to be preserved until the present day. Its narrow streets follow medieval routes and are bordered by historic buildings, the oldest of which date back to the 18th century.

Old Rauma is full of enticing shops and services with plenty of character. Small specialty shops – including clothing shops, gift shops and many interior design shops – invite you to explore their diverse range of products. There are many charming boutiques in the area.

Constructed over the centuries, the building stock makes up layers of rich and fascinating history. In recognition of Old Rauma's significance and value, the town was awarded UNESCO World Heritage Site status in 1991.

The best way to explore Old Rauma is on foot, taking your time to discover the secrets hidden away in this idyllic wooden town.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Old Rauma is home to a small street with a big reputation. Kitukränn is often cited as the narrowest street in Finland. It has earned this informal title by being only about 263cm wide, depending on how it is measured.

## THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

Located in Old Rauma, the Church of the Holy Cross is Rauma's main church and one of the city's most important landmarks. The church was originally built for the Franciscan monastery in the early 16th century.

The Church of the Holy Cross is Finland's only remaining church built by the Franciscans and the only building in Rauma to remain from the Middle Ages.





Kamiljamunkkeja

**Old Rauma**  
is full of enticing  
shops and services  
with plenty of  
character.



# The presence of the sea and the Sammallahdenmäki World Heritage Site

Rauma's coastal location means you can really sense the charming atmosphere of a seaside port city. The UNESCO World Heritage Site of Sammallahdenmäki, in turn, combines nature and history.

The sea and the beautiful archipelago are always close by in Rauma. The rocky shores and historic island sites in the outer archipelago in the Bothnian Sea are just a short journey by sea from the mainland. You can easily access the tourist islands by ferry, and waterbuses will take you to your desired destinations throughout the archipelago.

The islands offer several hiking trails and unique marine nature experiences. On the Kylmäpihlaja island, you can experience a night in the lighthouse tower on the shore of the open sea and admire the magnificent surrounding maritime scenery. On the island of Kuuskajaskari, you can explore an old defence fortress that merges with the forested landscape of the island. The nature trails of Reksaari and Nurmes also invite you to relax and enjoy the beautiful archipelago nature.



More than  
30 kilometres of  
hiking trails and the  
magnificent nature of  
the National Park.





## **SAMMALLAHDENMÄKI IS A GREAT DESTINATION FOR A DAY TRIP**

Exploring the historical landscapes of Sammallahdenmäki, Rauma's other UNESCO World Heritage Site, is a memorable experience.

The Bronze Age burial cairns located just 20 kilometres from the city centre in Kivikylä, Lappi, are steeped in myths, which makes them an excellent destination for a day trip.

Sammallahdenmäki provides visitors with insight into the Scandinavian Bronze Age and Early Iron Age (1500–500 BCE) traditions, religion, and burial rituals of Western Finland. The area has a total of 36 burial cairns, all varying in size and shape.

The changing seasons make Sammallahdenmäki a perfect destination for nature enthusiasts. In spring, the awakening of nature helps you leave behind the hustle and bustle of everyday life. In autumn, you can feel the nature preparing for winter as the blooming heaths, mosses, and lichens add vibrant colour to the landscape.







# Lace Week in July is the highlight of the summer in Rauma

Lace Week is a city festival that delivers a unique combination of traditional local culture and modern festival attractions.



Lace Town, Lace Week, Lace Tournament... Lace is a prominent element of local culture and events in Rauma. Lace-making is an old tradition in Rauma, and more lace has been made in Rauma than anywhere else in Finland.

Lace products are very popular souvenirs – ask for them in the boutiques of Old Rauma. A lace bookmark or a piece of lace jewellery make a great souvenir of your visit to the Lace Town.

## **The Night of Black Lace is known for its carnival atmosphere**


One of the absolute highlights of the summer season in Rauma is Lace Week in late July. It fills the entire city with life. The programme of Lace Week includes dozens of exhibitions, handicraft workshops and displays, and a cheerful market atmosphere. Today, Lace Week is organised sustainably in accordance with the EcoCompass environmental management system.

Check out the Rauma Lace Week programme on [pitsiviikko.fi](https://pitsiviikko.fi).

Lace Week culminates in the Night of Black Lace, when music fills Old Rauma and the shops stay open until late in the evening.







During Lace Week,  
many of the residents  
of Old Rauma  
open their yards to  
the public or hold  
yard sales.



# There is plenty to do in Rauma all year round

Rauma offers a diverse range of events all through the year. Many of the city's festivals have long traditions and they are among the leading events in their respective fields.



## Summer events in Rauma

### RMJ Festival

[rmj.fi](http://rmj.fi)

The legendary RMJ midsummer festival features popular Finnish and international artists.

### Lace Week

[visitrauma.fi/en/see-and-experience/rauma-lace-week/](http://visitrauma.fi/en/see-and-experience/rauma-lace-week/)

The events during Lace Week represent a unique combination of traditions, local culture, and modern festival attractions. The festival, which takes place at the end of July, has been held continuously since 1971.

### Rauma Festivo

[raumafestivo.fi/english/](http://raumafestivo.fi/english/)

Rauma Festivo is an annual chamber music festival that celebrates a different theme every August.

### Rauma Blues

[raumablues.fi/in-english/](http://raumablues.fi/in-english/)

Rauma Blues is an annual music festival that is considered to be one of the leading events in its genre internationally.


### Blue Sea Film Festival

[bluseafilemfestival.net/in-english/](http://bluseafilemfestival.net/in-english/)

The Blue Sea Film Festival has been bringing cinephiles to Rauma every August since 1994. See the event website for schedules and performers!







Rauma is a lively city of culture that is known for its many festivals and events.



#### **MAKIS OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOL**

Makis is an outdoor swimming pool on the shore of Otanlahti bay in Rauma. Reopened in 2020 after renovations, the outdoor swimming facility was designed by architect Ilmari Niemeläinen and originally built in 1955.

Makis is a great place for families to enjoy swimming and minigolf, as well as food and drinks on an outdoor terrace. The charming seaside park next to Makis also offers various services and fun activities.

#### **TRAFFIC PARK AND KIPPARINPUISTO PLAYGROUND**

In the traffic park, children can learn the rules of the road while riding their own bicycles or driving the park's rental pedal cars.

The traffic park is part of the Kipparinpuisto playground at Vähänmaanpuisto 7.

Open all year round, the Kipparinpuisto playground is a great place to play at any time of the day.



### **SPORTS CULTURE IN RAUMA**

The biggest name in sports in Rauma is Rauman Lukko, one of the most traditional ice hockey clubs in Finland. Games between local Satakunta rivals Rauman Lukko and Porin Ässät are known for their unique atmosphere and legendary reputation.

The Rauma Lace Tournament is the traditional opening event of the Finnish ice hockey season and a big attraction for sports fans.

## **Lights and experiences throughout the year**

Rauma offers a range of recreational activities and amenities, such as sports facilities, hiking trails, saunas, and swimming pools, which allow visitors to enjoy a relaxing and refreshing holiday.

In Rauma, lights bring beauty to the winter darkness! After the Christmas lights come down in January, the annual Lumen light-art event will light up, attracting visitors to enjoy works of light art around the city centre.

Winter is a perfect time to visit museums, attend cultural events, and enjoy art. The twisting, cobbled streets of Old Rauma invite you to take a winter walk, go shopping in small boutiques, and relax in a café as day turns to night. Everything is within walking distance, which makes it easy to explore the city and enjoy its many cultural attractions.

In addition to world-class fine arts, Rauma's museums also showcase local history, while Rauma Theatre welcomes you to enjoy the vibrant Rauma theatre culture.

### **Relax in a sauna**

Rauma has several sauna facilities where you can enjoy relaxing heat and a refreshing swim in the sea at any time of the year. A unique experience is offered by the sauna raft, whose large panoramic windows provide a stunning view of the sea. From the sauna, you can admire the changing seascape with the seasons. In the idyllic village of Lappi, you can experience the atmosphere of an authentic lakeside sauna and admire the traditional landscape on the shore of Lake Narvijärvi.

The sauna facilities are open almost daily throughout the year, providing a tranquil retreat where you can escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life and enjoy the peace of nature.





The annual Lumen light-art event attracts visitors to enjoy works of light art around the city centre.



# Rauma is a city with historical and international roots

Visitors from all over the world fill the streets of Old Rauma. The layout of Old Rauma retains many of the characteristics of a medieval European town, such as narrow, twisting streets, and plots of irregular sizes and shapes.

The distinctive culture and dialect of Rauma have been influenced by seafarers and ports from around the world.

As a port city, Rauma has always been exceptionally exposed to international influences from other parts of Europe.

You could say that the blood running through the veins of Rauma residents is as salty as seawater. Rauma is a significant Baltic Sea port, which is why seafaring has always played a large role in the daily life of the local people. Ever since medieval times, the port of Rauma has facilitated the export and import of goods.

Over the years, many of the city's residents have earned a livelihood from the sea, either as sailors, or from fishing or working at the port.

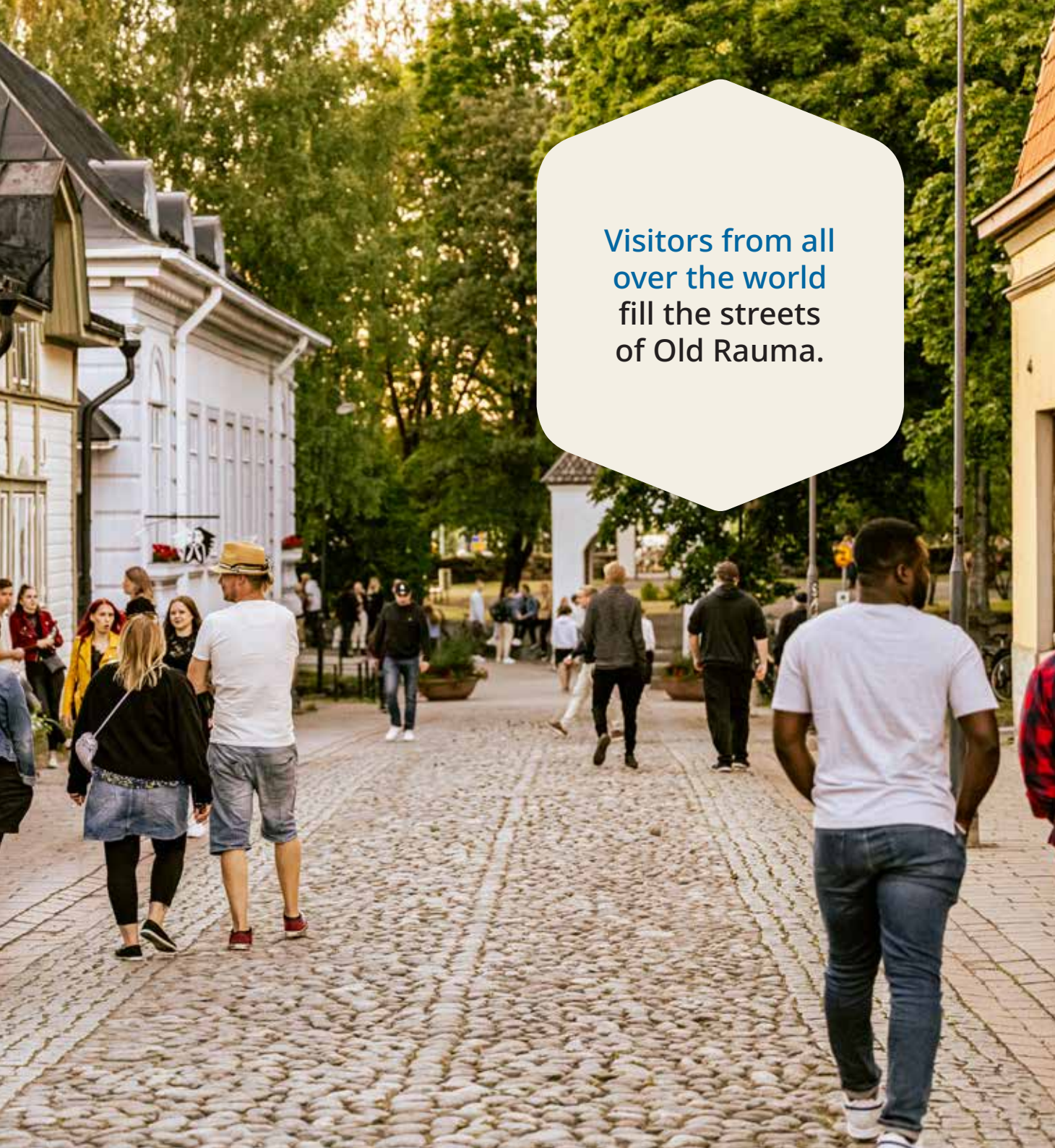
## **The foreign influences on Rauma's local dialect**

The history of Rauma's distinctive dialect is not fully known, but it has borrowed many words from other languages due to the influence of seafarers who visited various ports around the world.

If you take a look at the windows of houses in Old Rauma, you might notice angled mirrors that provide a view of the street outside, or porcelain dog figurines. In seamen's homes, the dog figurines were placed on the windowsill facing inwards whenever the man of the house was at home. When the seaman packed his bags and went to sea, the figurines were turned to face the street.







Visitors from all over the world fill the streets of Old Rauma.

### LAPSKOUSSI AND OTHER TRADITIONAL DELICACIES

Lapskoussi (lobscouse stew) is a traditional food in Rauma, brought to the city by seafarers. The dish is also known in many other European port cities. It is known as Labskaus in Germany and lapskojs in Sweden. The secret of Lapskoussi lies in slowly cooked tender meat, root vegetables and seasoning.

When visiting Rauma, you should also try the local gingerbread biscuits and mouth-watering doughnuts, which can be found in several cafés in Old Rauma.



#### DID YOU KNOW?

The famous local dialect of Rauma can be seen and heard around the city. It is featured on signs as well as in Rauma's well-known slogan, "ol niingon kotonas", which translates to "make yourself at home".



# Fascinating museums and local culture

Rauma is a great destination for people interested in museums, art, and maritime cultural history. Learn more about the city's cultural attractions and check out our top picks!

## 1 **Kirsti – a sailor's home**, Pohjankatu 3

Kirsti is a home museum depicting typical daily life for sailors and craftsmen in Old Rauma from the 19th century to the 1970s.

Spend a tranquil moment in Kirsti's courtyard idyl and feel the traces of authentic living in one of Rauma's oldest wooden buildings. The museum is open during the summer.

## 2 **Old Town Hall**, Kauppakatu 13

There are only two 18th century town halls in Finland that still retain their original appearance. One is in Porvoo and the other is in Rauma. An iconic landmark by the Market Square, the Old Town Hall dates back to 1776 and is now a museum. It will reopen after restoration in 2026.

## 3 **Marela**, Kauppakatu 24

Admire the luxurious home of a wealthy ship-owning family from the early 20th century. Marela's changing exhibitions tell the story of Rauma's history and local traditions. Children can take part in a photo scavenger hunt and many other activities throughout the year. Marela also has a museum shop specialising in local handicrafts.

## 4 **Rauma Art Museum**, Kuninkaankatu 37

The Rauma Art Museum's buildings and attractive courtyard constitute one of the best-preserved blocks in Old Rauma.

They create a prestigious setting for exhibiting fascinating artworks ranging from international contemporary art to the history of local art. The museum features changing exhibitions, events and workshops all year round.

## 5 **Rauma Maritime Museum**, Kalliokatu 34

Set in the building of an old nautical college, the Maritime Museum is a popular destination for both children and adults. Visit the Maritime Museum to learn more about the rich and exciting history of seafaring in Rauma.

One of the museum's special attractions is a navigation simulator that lets you try your hand at sailing the seven seas! The map shows your ship's location and what is along the route.

The Maritime Museum offers plenty to do and see for visitors of all ages. Say hello to a museum diver and try out his diving boots!

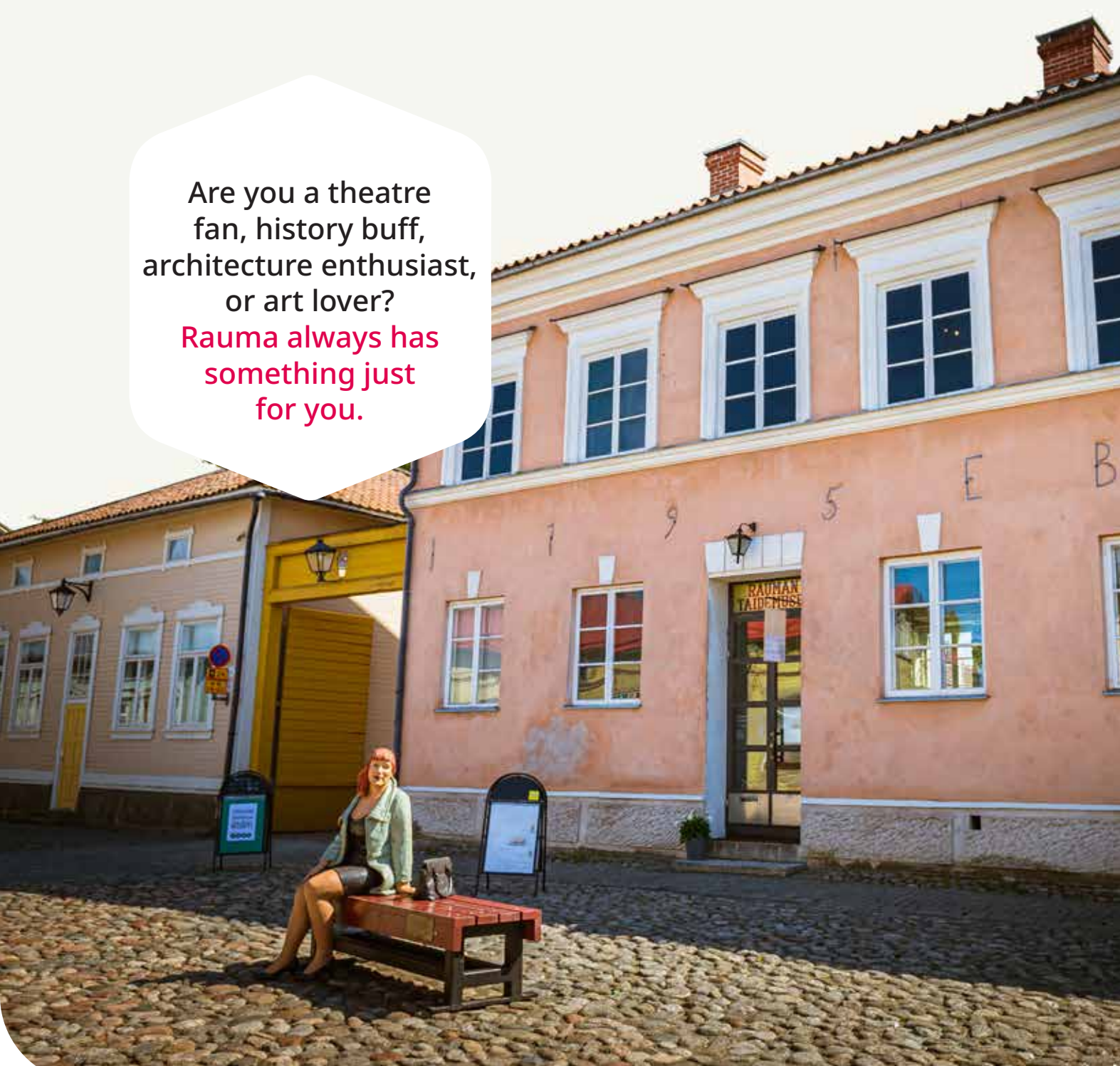
## 6 **Teresia and Rafael Lönnström's home museum**, Syväraumankatu 41

Teresia and Rafael Lönnström's home museum presents an industrialist couple's stately home and a private art collection. The museum will reopen after renovation in 2025.





Are you a theatre fan, history buff, architecture enthusiast, or art lover?  
Rauma always has something just for you.



**RAUMAN TEATTERI**

#### **THEATRE IN RAUMA**

Rauma boasts great theatre and entertainment all year round. Rauma Theatre, a professional theatre that has operated since 1940, and visiting theatre companies offer experiences for new and veteran theatre lovers alike.

In addition to its own repertoire, Rauma Theatre's varied programme includes interesting guest performances. Rauma Theatre also produces the Rauma Summer Theatre programme.





*Pitsikaupungin*

JOULU

## *Christmas Story of the Lace Town*

*A long time ago, a group of particularly charismatic and skillful Christmas elves arrived in the port of Rauma after sailing the seas as stowaways.*

*These elves came from a family known for their lace making skills. They will always seize the opportunity to decorate and dress up, both in everyday life and for festivities. The elves love everything that is beautiful, atmospheric and delicious. Beauty is in the details and in the craft itself, they say. That's why they came to Rauma.*

*These soft-hearted elves were won over as soon as they set eyes on the town. They understood immediately why Rauma was named after a melting winter stream, so refreshing was their experience after a long voyage at sea.*

*And so, the elves decided to stay.*

Want to read more about the Lace Town's Christmas elves? Check out the full Christmas story or listen to it in the Rauma dialect at [pitsikaupunginjoulu.fi](http://pitsikaupunginjoulu.fi).







## **Christmas in the Lace Town is full of the authentic spirit of Christmas and luminous experiences**

Experience the unique Christmas ambience of the World Heritage Site of Old Rauma, enjoy the peaceful atmosphere, and participate in warm-hearted events.

The Christmas lights of Old Rauma are traditionally lit during Rauma's Christmas opening event, and bring a warm atmosphere to Old Rauma even after the turn of the year.





# Get into the spirit of Christmas

Come and spend a lovely festive season in Rauma! Check out our top picks for the holiday season.

## **Shop for gifts and souvenirs you won't find anywhere else**

Are you looking for a memorable gift, or perhaps something unique for yourself? In the small boutiques and specialty shops of Old Rauma, you'll find high-quality products, personal service, and dozens of things you won't see anywhere else.

## **Rauma Christmas Market**

Most of the Christmas events in Rauma revolve around the old town. Rauma Christmas Market features local businesses and performers at the Market Square in the heart of Old Rauma.

Come and take a look at local handicrafts, find great gift ideas, or simply enjoy the unique spirit of the season.

## **Artists' studios and ateliers**

Explore the narrow streets and courtyards of Old Rauma to find fascinating ateliers and exhibition spaces. Many artists work in the area all year round, welcoming visitors to their studios. You can visit them to take a break from Christmas shopping or find unique presents for your loved ones.

## **Stay a little longer and make the most of your visit!**

At Christmas, there is plenty to see for several days. Unique hotels and accommodation invite visitors to enjoy a long Christmas weekend in the Lace Town!





Markets, light art and busy Christmas elves. Christmas in Rauma is full of fun events and experiences for people of all ages.

Information about Rauma's Christmas events will be updated on our website in autumn 2025: [visitrauma.fi](https://www.visitrauma.fi)







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