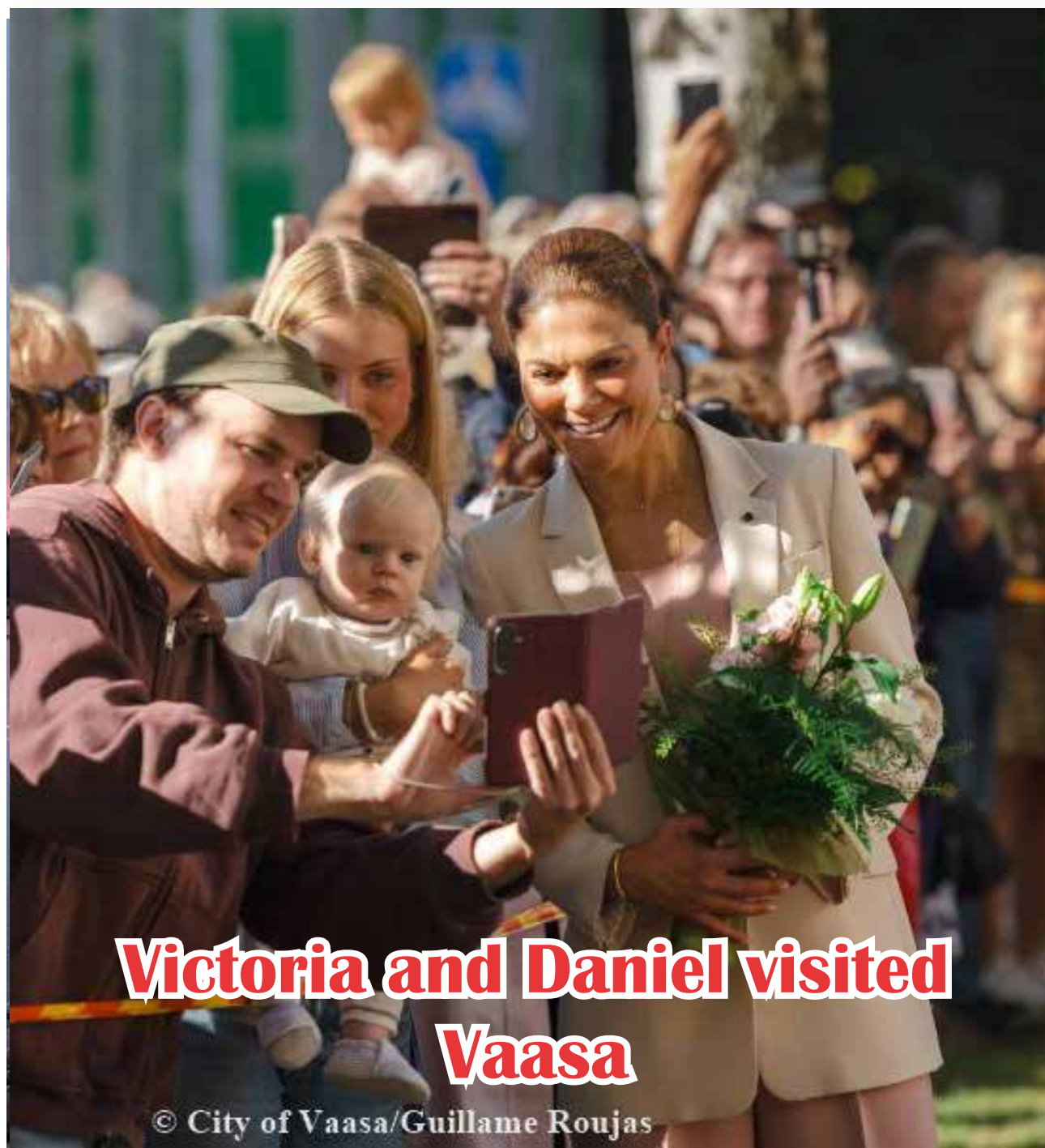


WASA DAILY



Victoria and Daniel visited Vaasa

© City of Vaasa/Guillame Roujas

LOCAL NEWS

VAASA

Vaasa is looking for winter agents – residents can help improve winter maintenance



How easy is it really to walk or cycle in Vaasa when snow and ice arrive? The city is now recruiting enthusiastic residents to become “winter agents”, helping assess the quality and accessibility of winter maintenance on the main walking and cycling routes.

Winter agents observe the condition of the routes and report their findings. Their feedback will be used to improve winter maintenance and make everyday travel safer and more accessible. No special trips are required: ordinary journeys to work, shopping, leisure activities, walks and cycling trips are enough.

This winter, Vaasa particularly wants to broaden the range of experiences represented in the project. In addition to pedestrians and cyclists, the city is looking for people who use walkers or wheelchairs and people travelling with prams. Their experiences can reveal accessibility problems that might otherwise go unnoticed.

The winter-agent project is already well established. Agents have assessed winter maintenance in Vaasa for two seasons, and during the 2025–2026 season, 180 pedestrians and cyclists took part.

Participants will receive training explaining which routes they should assess and the criteria they should use. Reporting is designed to be quick and straightforward.

The initiative is part of Vaasa’s Cycling Alliance. GRK is responsible for the contract for enhanced winter maintenance, while Sitowise measures customer satisfaction using feedback from the winter agents. Vaasa City organises the training sessions and possible meetings.

Applications must be submitted by 20 September 2026. Active winter agents will also have a chance to win gift cards in monthly draws.

Reference: Vaasa City

THE DOCTOR ANSWERS



Measles
Page 12



Elga Sesemann in Ateneum
Page 7

TODAY

EDITORIAL

Herd immunity is our common protection

When measles now appears in Sweden and the case has already reached Finland, we are reminded of a simple truth: viruses are not interested in borders. What protects us is not just individual vaccination – but herd immunity.

Herd immunity means that such a large proportion of the population is immune that the disease cannot spread. In highly contagious measles, at least 95 per cent must be protected. Then the infection stops. Virus particles simply find too few susceptible people to jump on.

That is why almost everyone has to take the vaccine. Not because the person who takes the vaccine is necessarily the most vulnerable, but because I want to protect those who can't. Babies under one year of age, pregnant women, weakened immune systems, and a few who cannot tolerate

the vaccine for medical reasons. They will only live safely as long as the rest of us do our part.

When vaccination coverage decreases – as in many areas of Finland – the gaps will open. Then it is enough for a festival, ferry or school to get the disease to spread again. History shows that it is not a theory. Measles can cause pneumonia, encephalitis and, in rare cases, death. Even in previously healthy people.

Taking the vaccine is therefore not just a private health matter. It is a social contract. In practice, a vaccinated person does not spread the disease further. Those who refuse the vaccine are not just taking the risk for themselves – they are taking protection from the most vulnerable.

In a country with good health care and a high level of knowledge, this should be self-evident. Herd immunity is an invisible web under all of us. It only lasts as long as we work together to make sure it's strong enough.

Photo Supplement



WÄRTSILÄ

Finnish powerhouse Wärtsilä – Europe's only star in the world's battery elite!



A major Finnish win: Finnish technology group Wärtsilä has secured a place among the global top 10 battery energy storage system (BESS) integrators – and is the only company headquartered in Europe on the list.

In Wood Mackenzie's first-ever Global BESS Integrator Comprehensive Ranking, Wärtsilä is recognised for proven project delivery, advanced software and full lifecycle support. The ranking assesses technology maturity, safety, supply-chain resilience, ESG performance and financial strength, among other criteria.

"As energy storage becomes critical infrastructure, customers focus more on execution and long-term performance," says Tamara De Gruyter, President of Wärtsilä Energy Storage.

With more than a decade of experience and its GEMS Digital Energy Platform, Wärtsilä helps customers maximise revenues and reliability. The ranking underlines that European expertise can compete with the world's strongest players as the energy transition accelerates.

Source: Wärtsilä press release 12 August 2026 / Wood Mackenzie

CITY THEATRE

Become a test audience at Vaasa City Theatre – a unique opportunity!



Do you want to sit in the auditorium while the actors rehearse for the premiere? Vaasa City Theatre is now looking for a test audience for the 2026–2027 season. You get to follow the preparatory exercises completely free of charge and give feedback on your experiences in return.

Registration is voluntary and does not bind you to anything. The theatre will contact you if necessary, even at short notice, and try to distribute the seats fairly. Register through the form vaasa.fi – it only takes a few minutes. The deadline for registration is September 7, 2026.

The perfect opportunity for theatre lovers to get closer to the creative work that takes place behind the scenes.

Source: vaasa.fi

JOBSEEKER PROFILE

New requirement from 1 September: Jobseekers must publish a profile

From 1 September 2026, it will be mandatory for most jobseekers to create and publish a job search profile on the Job Market Centre. It must contain education, experience, skills and goals – and is anonymously visible to employers for up to six months.

New jobseekers normally have 15 working days after they register. If the profile is not published on time, the authority will fill in the minimum information for you. You can always supplement it yourself. Exceptions can be made if it is not deemed necessary.

The profile helps employers find you – even for hidden jobs. Expert support is available from employment services.

Source: vaasa.fi

CITY ORCHESTRA

The Philharmonic Orchestra's String Quartet plays for free by the sea



On Tuesday 25 August, the Vaasa Philharmonic Orchestra's String Quartet will offer two atmospheric free concerts at the Vaasa Maritime Museum. The program mixes Finnish favorites such as Stormskärs-Maja and tango Satumaa with classics by Grieg, Brahms and Schumann – as well as the Argentinian Por una cabeza.

The concerts start at 4 and 5 p.m. Address: Sundsgatan 27, Vaasa. Musicians: Maano Männi and Denice Djerassi (violin), Nana Raitaluoto (viola) and Vladimir Reshetko (cello).

Come and enjoy classical music with a sea view – free admission!

Source: vaasa.fi

TRAFFIC IN VAASA

Workshop: Influencing how we move sustainably in Vaasa

Do you want more pedestrian and bicycle paths, better public transport or more electricity alternatives? The City of Vaasa will organise a workshop on Wednesday 2 September at 16.30–19.00 in the banquet hall of the Alma Adult Education Centre, Raastuvankatu 31.

The ideas will be used when updating the Sustainable Transport Programme. The goal is, among other things, climate neutrality by 2030. Presentations in Finnish, material in Swedish – you can speak both languages. Something to eat and drink is included. Advance registration is required no later than August 24 via the link on vaasa.fi. The number of places is limited.

Source: vaasa.fi

WELLBEING AREAS

STUDENTS HEALTH

“Major Overhaul Ahead: Finland to Reform Health Checks for Upper Secondary Students in 2026”

Finland is preparing a significant reform of health examinations for upper secondary students, set to roll out in autumn 2026. According to a recent bulletin from the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), the aim is to reduce regional inequality and strengthen student wellbeing.

Currently, the quality and frequency of health checks vary widely across the country. The new model introduces a personal health assessment for every student, along with more structured support for mental health, lifestyle habits and study capacity.

THL highlights that students in vocational education often face more health challenges than those in general upper secondary schools. The reform seeks to close this gap by ensuring faster follow-up for students with greater needs and closer cooperation with student welfare services.

The nationwide implementation is planned for the 2026–2027 academic year.
Reference: THL

OSTROBOTHNIA

VICTORY! Dental Care Nightmare Ends in Ostrobothnia – Massive €800k Fines Narrowly Avoided

It was a crisis marked by chaos and agonizing waiting lists. This spring, alarm bells rang: dental care in Vaasa, Korsholm, Laihia, and Malax had severe shortcomings. The supervisory authority threatened a fine of €800,000. But now, the nightmare has flipped into a stunning success story for Ostrobothnia!

Through heroic evening and weekend shifts, executed by dedicated staff and private services, the queue-crushers have delivered. The crisis hit Vaasa hardest, where they were short by ten dentists.

– We are very pleased the queue situation is under control. When a patient calls, they instantly get an appointment, not a waiting list, says a relieved leading dentist **Hanna Kangasmaa**.

Regional Chief Dentist **Petra Kari** confirms that intense recruitment has paid off, bringing professionals to the Vaasa units. Today, staff can breathe freely, and patients are smiling. Under the strict national care guarantee, treatments are now successfully delivered within the mandated six-month window.

The dental care crisis has been a national issue in Finland, fueled by a shortage of trained professionals. Yet, Ostrobothnia has proven that

decisive action and hard work pay off. Patients no longer suffer in uncertainty, and the county keeps its vital tax euros. A genuinely bright piece of news for the evening!
Source: Ostrobothnia Wellbeing Services County

CHICKENPOX VACCINE

Free Chickenpox Vaccine Now Available for More Adults

A major change in Finland's vaccination programme is giving more adults a chance to protect themselves against chickenpox. Since 1 August 2026, the Ostrobothnia Wellbeing Services County has offered free chickenpox vaccinations to adults who have never had the disease or who have not completed the recommended two-dose vaccination series.

Although chickenpox is usually mild in children, it can cause serious complications in adults, including pneumonia, encephalitis and severe skin infections. The vaccine is especially recommended for people planning a pregnancy, healthcare workers, those about to start immunosuppressive treatment and adults born between 2000 and 2005.

Most people over the age of 50 are already naturally immune because they had chickenpox during childhood. The vaccination programme consists of two doses given at least three months apart, with appointments available through local health centres, telephone services and online nursing chat.

Time and place: From 1 August 2026 at health centres across the Ostrobothnia Wellbeing Services County, Finland.

Source: Ostrobothnia Wellbeing Services County and Finland's National Vaccination Programme.

WELLBEING SERVICES COUNTY OF OSTROBOTHNIA

Giving Birth Becomes Free in Vaasa – New Pilot Began on 1 August

Expectant families in Western Finland have received welcome news. From 1 August 2026, Vaasa Central Hospital will offer free maternity care for childbirth, making it one of the first hospitals in Finland to launch such a pilot programme. The trial will continue until the end of 2027.

WASA DAILY
Nearly everything You need
to know on 16 pages
vpress.fi

NEWS

VAASA

New bike service stations – fix your bike on the road



Three new bicycle service stations have been opened in Vaasa. Here you can inflate tires, tighten nuts and make minor adjustments mid-tour. The tools are attached with wires and the areas have camera surveillance.

The stations are located at: • Metvikpuisto (Järvenkatu 11, next to Café Metlahti) • Strampen parking in the Inner Harbour (Rantakatu 7) • Bicycle garage at the Travel Centre (Ratikatu 14)

The bike is hung up in a repair rack for convenient servicing. An investment that responds to residents' wishes and makes cycling even smoother.

Source: vaasa.fi

MALAX and KORSHOLM

Social Wednesday – companies and jobseekers meet



On Wednesday 16 September at 6–8 pm, Social Wednesday – Meet & Connect will be held at the Mustasaari Education Campus in Smedsby. The event is aimed at local companies and jobseekers MALAX and MUSTASAARI

with an international background.

The programme includes words of welcome, inspirational speeches from employers and new Finns, mingling and coffee. The aim is to lower the threshold for working life through face-to-face meetings.

Companies register no later than September 2 via the link on malax.fi. Jobseekers participate by invitation. Places are limited. Contact: Pamela West-Masilwa, 040 655 1864.

Source: malax.fi



VAASA CITY THEATRE

Courage blows up the Vaasa City Theatre – hits like this are in store!



Marco Bjurström and some of the cast of the *Tinakenkäyttö*

Vaasa City Theatre invites the audience to an era of courage. The 2026–2027 season promises stories for the stage that are not afraid to strike directly at the emotions, make the audience laugh furiously and challenge the viewer to think about the future. Theatre director Seppo Välinen sums up the spirit perfectly: „We are living in an era of change. We need brave people, actions and stories.“

Autumn starts with a bomb. On Thursday 13.8.2026, the opening ceremony already gave a taste of what is to come, and on 10.9.2026, the premiere musical *Tinakenkäyttö* (Tin Shoe Girl) will be lit on the Romeo stage. The work, which draws on Kaija Koo's life, combines fact and fiction, growth and survival. **Marco Bjurström's** direction promises familiar hits, strong emotions and spectacular musical brilliance – exactly the kind that will be talked about for a long time.

In October, the laughter is even louder. On 8.10.2026, the same Romeo stage will be filled with the international farce *The Play That Goes Wrong*. Directed by Sari Siikander, this physical comedy guarantees surprising situations and precise timing. If you haven't seen when a theatrical performance goes completely wrong, now is your chance.

Families are offered warmth and Christmas spirit. From 19.11.2026 onwards, the Julia Stage will feature *Viiru and Pesonen's Chris-*

mas. The performance, directed by **Seppo Välinen**, brings the beloved characters into a shared experience for the whole family.

Spring brings an even bigger surprise. On 11.2.2027, a new Finnish premiere of the *Walsandian wax museum* will take place on the Julia stage. The co-production of the Vaasa City Theatre, the Regional Dance Centre of Ostrobothnia and the Vaasa University of Applied Sciences tells how the forgotten smart wax figures in the amusement park come to life. Otto Nyberg's direction is a bold experiment funded by the New Classics Fund and the Niilo Helander Foundation.

For those looking for excitement, there will be a classic: Agatha Christie's *Mousetrap* will take over the Romeo stage from 18.2.2027. Directed by Riku Innamaa, the murder mystery keeps its grip on until the final revelation.

In addition, the season will be spiced up with Halloween Blues on 31.10.2026, ANI's Prodigal Son concert on 6.11.2026 and in January 2027 the *Yhteisin sävelin concerts* (28.–29.1.) together with the Vaasa City Orchestra.

The Season of Courage is open to everyone. Vaasa is not afraid of the new – and it shows. Tickets and more information can be found on the theatre's website. This is a season not to be missed!

Source: Vaasa City Theatre

MALAX

What do you want in the new library? Answer the survey!

Malax is planning to move Yttermalax library to Kommungården. The goal is an open space where libraries, democracy, art and culture meet.

Now the municipality wants to know which functions the residents think are most important. Answer the survey no later than August 30 via the link on malax.fi.

Your opinion affects how the future library is designed – take the opportunity to influence!

Source: malax.fi

MALAX

Cultural meetings start in South Ostrobothnia – first meeting in Malax

Kulturaktörer i Kaskö, Korsnäs, Kristinestad, Malax och Närpes får nu en gemensam mötesplats. Regelbundna träffar ordnas varannan månad i de olika kommunerna.

Premiärträffen hålls måndagen den 7 september klockan 9–11 på Malakta i Malax. På programmet: riksdagsledamot Mikko Ollikainen, presentation av aktuella projekt och gemensam diskussion. Morgonkaffe serveras.

Mer information finns via Facebook-evenemanget. Välkommen att bygga nätverk och samarbeten!

Källa: malax.fi

MALAX

Cultural meetings start in South Ostrobothnia – first meeting in Malax

Cultural operators in Kaskinen, Korsnäs, Kristinestad, Malax and Närpes will now have a common meeting place. Regular meetings are organised every two months in the different municipalities.

The premiere meeting will be held on Monday 7 September at 9–11 am at Malakta in Malax. On the programme: Member of Parliament Mikko Ollikainen, presentation of current projects and joint discussion. Morning coffee is served.

More information can be found via the Facebook event. Welcome to build networks and collaborations!

Source: malax.fi

BERGÖ

Exercise day of dreams at Bergö – try kayaking and more

On Wednesday 26 August at 17.30–19.30 there will be activity at Bergö swimming beach. On the program: kayaking, mini golf, volleyball and movement course.

Kayaking takes place in two guided tours (17.30 and 18.30). Limited number of kayaks, first come, first served. Children under 12 years of age paddle with a parent. All equipment is in place – dress according to the weather and take a change.

The event is free of charge and does not require registration. It is part of the Bergö on the Move project.

Source: malax.fi

KORSHOLM

The mobile library changes timetables – check your stop

ASTRONOMY

THE ASTEROID THAT COMES FRIGHTENINGLY CLOSE – Apophis meets Earth on Friday the 13th!



It sounds like the beginning of a science fiction movie: on Friday, April 13, 2029, a giant asteroid will sweep past Earth at a distance that, in astronomical terms, is astonishingly small.

The asteroid is called 99942 Apophis. It is about 340 meters in diameter, while its oblong shape extends at least 450 meters. This is roughly equivalent to the height of the Eiffel Tower. And it will pass only about 32,000 kilometres above the Earth's surface – closer than the geostationary satellites' orbit of about 36,000 kilometres.

But don't worry: Apophis won't hit Earth. After years of careful radar and telescope observations, NASA is confident that the asteroid poses no collision risk with Earth for at least the next 100 years.

Still, the meeting will be spectacular. Apophis will move so fast across the sky that it can travel a distance equivalent to more than the apparent diameter of the moon in a short time. Under favorable conditions, it will be visible to the naked eye in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Apophis is a so-called Athens asteroid, which means that its orbit around the Sun is shorter than Earth's. It makes a revolution of about 0.9 years and therefore crosses the Earth's orbit. The Earth's gravity will greatly affect the asteroid in 2029. After the passage, its orbit changes slightly: the orbital period is about 1.2 years, and Apophis then passes to the so-called Apollo group.

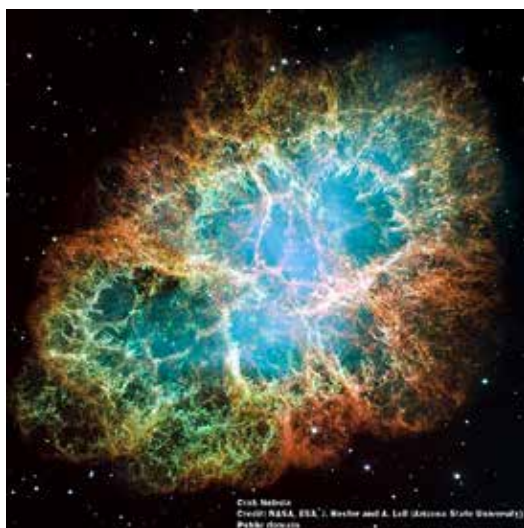
The really fascinating thing is that the earth does not just „pass“ Apophis. Our planet will actually pull, twist and deform the asteroid slightly with its gravity. Researchers therefore hope to have a unique opportunity to study how a large asteroid reacts during such a close encounter.

NASA's OSIRIS-APEX, the former OSIRIS-REx probe that collected samples from Bennu, is also on its way to Apophis and will study the asteroid after the flyby. At the same time, ESA is planning its Ramses mission.

Friday the 13th of 2029 will thus not be a doomsday. But it could be one of the most spectacular astronomical performances of our time.

THE LARGEST KNOWN EXPLOSION IN THE UNIVERSE

Chinese astronomer observes celestial catastrophe on July 10, 1054



THE HEAT IN KAIFENG is a physically heavy one. It presses down. It penetrates the stone of the Imperial Astronomical Bureau. Inside, the chief astronomer and official Shen Kuo controls the water clock. The hour is late. The sky is clear. A good night to observe.

He sweeps across the sky with his aim in polished bronze. The stars are fixed. Constantly. Ordered. Everything in its place. That is the way of Heaven.

Then he sees it. A new guest star. Straight east. In the moon house Tian-guan. He marks the position. It shouldn't be there. It is.

He calls for his younger scribe. The boy's sleepy eyes are widened.

„Make a note of the time. Now,“ Shen's voice is a whiplash. „Position: east of Zeta Tauri. Brilliance: superior to Venus.“

The thing is unnatural light. It casts faint shadows on the farm's stone slabs. It doesn't flicker. It is a hard, cold, penetrating light.

The weeks go by. The star is not leaving. It holds its position. Defiant. It is also visible in daylight. For twenty-three days. A hole punched out in the fabric of heaven.

Whispers the dish. Is it an omen? The emperor is worried. Shen Kuo has no answers. Data only. He tracks it. Night after night. The damn thing is just... there.

Then, after twenty-three days, it disappears from daylight. But at night it is still there. A dazzling, silent sentinel.

Two years later. 1056. It is still visible to the naked eye. A constant, burning question. Shen Kuo's reports are piling up. Diagram. Diagram. He is obsessed. This is a crack in everything he knows. He must understand that.

One night, he sees how things change. Not in position. In nature.

It seems that... scratch up. A faint, silvery mist begins to surround it. Like cosmic breath on a cold night. It's subtle. But his instrument doesn't lie.

He grinds a new lens for his tube. Higher magnification. He

looks again.

The hair on the back of her neck stands up.

It's not a bright spot anymore. It's a messy, chaotic smear. A cloud of shattered light. It is expanding. Slowly. Inevitably.

He understands. This is not a birth. It's a death. A violent, catastrophic end. An explosion on a scale he cannot calculate. He is watching the aftermath of a heavenly murder.

Han spelar in allt. Positionen. Varaktigheten. Den föränderliga naturen hos det dunkla skenet. Han skriver sin slutrapport till kejsaren. „Stjärnan är inte en gäst. Det är ett lik. Himlen själv kan bli sårad. Den kan dö.“ Hovastronomerna arkiverar bort det. En annan anomali. Men för Shen Kuo är det allt.

Han sitter i observatoriet långt efter att hans assistenter har gått. Sikröret är fixerat på det bleknande skenet. Spöket i maskinen. Han tänker på den energi som krävs. Kraften. Den rena, ofattbara kraften.

Han lägger ifrån sig penseln. Hans hand är stadig. Men hans sinne är det inte.

Om en stjärna kan dö så här... Vad mer är möjligt? Vilka andra lagar finns det? Vad mer vet vi inte?

Han tittar åter genom röret. Det svaga, expanderande molnet stirrar tillbaka. Ett tyst, kosmiskt hot.

Och för första gången i sitt ordnade liv känner Shen Kuo en kyla som inte har något att göra med nattluften. Detta förändrar allt. Och det är inte över. Den finns fortfarande där ute. Och den växer!

Krabbnebulosan

Den 10 juli 1054 blev en supernovaexplosion synlig på jordens daghimmel i 23 dagar. Den registrades av kinesiska och andra astronomer som en "gäststjärna". Resten är Krabbnebulosan (M1), som ligger 6 500 ljusår bort i stjärnbilden Oxen. I dess kärna finns Krabbpulsaren, en neutronstjärna som snurrar 30 gånger per sekund och som bildats ur den ursprungliga stjärnans kollapsade kärna. Denna händelse gav modern astronomi ett viktigt riktmärke för att studera supernovor och deras rester. Den är en av de få historiska supernovor som definitivt har identifierats med sin nuvarande rest.

From Monday 24 August 2026, the new timetable for the Mustasaari mobile phone will apply. Changes have been made for Helsingby, Norra Vallgrund, Petsmo and Vassor, among other places.

The updated timetable will be available from next week on the mobile library, the municipal library and at korsholm.fi/valfard/biblioteket/korsholms-bokbuss.

Make sure you don't miss your regular tour – check the new timetable well in advance!

Source: korsholm.fi



MALAX

Malax jubilee blasts off: Kvarken World Heritage turns 20 – Bergö fills with adventure!

This September Malax celebrates the 20th anniversary of the Kvarken Archipelago World Heritage Site with a packed week of events. The unique archipelago, listed by UNESCO since 2006 together with Sweden's High Coast, offers hiking, lectures, a Vi-king ship and escape games.

From 12 to 20 September a quiz trail runs along the 3.5 km southern Bergö hiking route. All ages can take part and win fine prizes.

On Monday 14 September photographer Rasmus Söderholm presents "Culture and Nature – Kvarken 20 Years" at Bergö parish hall. On Wednesday 16 September Per-Erik Berglund talks about fairways, pilot and rescue stations at the same venue. Both events are free and open to all.

On Tuesday 15 September Ann-Sofi Backgren lectures on "The Strong Priest" and on Thursday 17 September Christoffer Björklund shows "Kvarken in Words and Pictures" at Malax municipal hall. Both cost €15 and require registration via Malax-Korsnäs adult education centre.

Friday 18 September brings an activity afternoon at Bredhällan featuring the Viking ship Stormögha, a new pontoon sauna, the escape game "The Eagle has Landed" and mini-golf. Saturday 19 September hosts the Bergö archipelago market and Sunday 20 September a guided walk with nature guide Tuija Warén.

Come celebrate our unique shared heritage!

Source: Malax.fi

See details: <https://www.malax.fi/nyheter/fira-varldsarvsveckan-i-malax-1220-9>

ARTE MARE

Wasa Theatre takes over Arte Mare – the gallery becomes a magical showroom in August



NEWS

MUSEUM DAY

Record number of museums open for Ostrobothnian Museum Day on Aug 23

On Sunday 23 August, Ostrobothnian Museum Day is celebrated for the third time – this year with a record 33 museums taking part across the region. The aim is to show-case the rich variety of Ostrobothnian museums and the voluntary local heritage work that sustains them.

A new participant is the Sausage and Butcher Museum "Toola" in Vähäkyrö. All participating sites offer open doors, with guides present at some locations and additional programme available.

"We want to attract new visitors and keep the threshold as low as possible. Last year's event was a great success with the public," says regional researcher Kaj Höglund of the Vaasa Museums, the regional responsibility museum for Ostrobothnia.

The day forms part of the European Heritage Days, whose 2026 theme is "Worth Pre-serving". Parallel museum days are also held in South Ostrobothnia and Central Ostrobothnia.



Brinkens museum in Malax



The Museum in Kaskinen

These museums are open on Aug 23:

Pörtom hembygdsmuseum, Riksåttan (riksväg 8) 4720, Pörtom, öppet kl. 12–16
Kuddnäs museum, Jakobstadsvägen 22, Nykarleby, öppet kl. 12–17
Kvevlax hembygdsmuseum, Kvevlaxvägen, Korsholm, öppet kl. 11–16
Kaskö hembygdsmuseum, Rådhusgatan 48, Kaskö, öppet kl. 13–15
Kaskö Fiskemuseum, Sjöbobacksgränden, Kaskö, öppet kl. 12–16
Kvarkens båtmuseum, Åminnevägen, Malax, öppet kl. 13–16, fritt inträde och kaffeservering
Brinkens museum, Museivägen 5, Malax, öppet kl. 13–16, fritt inträde, avgiftsfria guidade turer kl. 13.30 och 15

Vasa arbetarmuseum, Frihetsvägen 27, Vasa
Smedsby Hembygdsförening rf, Smedsbyvägen 253, Korsholm, öppet kl. 12–15. På plats finns guider som berättar om verksamheten, fritt inträde.
Laihela hembygdsmuseum och Sparsamhetens museum, Rudontie 234, Laihela, öppet kl. 12–16. Guidningar.
Laihela museum för våra krigs veteraner, Laihelavägen 39, Laihela, öppet kl. 12–18
Lillkyros hembygdsmuseum, Kirkonsilta 6, och skolemuseum, Merikartvägen 5, Lillkyro, öppet kl. 13–16
Korv- och slaktarmuseet "Toola", Merikartvägen 5, Lillkyro, öppet kl. 13–16
Bleckslagarmuseet "Fyrry", Merikartvägen 5, Lillkyro, öppet kl. 13–16
Hyysikkämuseet ("dassmu-

seet"), Merikartvägen 5, Lillkyro, öppet kl. 13–16
Kronoby Hembygdsförening, Tolvångsgården, Backfolkvägen 43, öppet kl. 12–15
Gamla Vasa museum, Köpmansgatan 10, öppet kl. 10–17
Furirbostället, Slagfältsvägen 130, Oravais, öppet kl. 12–18
Jakobstads museum, Malmiska gården, Storgatan 2, Jakobstad, öppet kl. 12–16
Jakobstads museum, utställningshallen Tempus, Jakobstad, öppet kl. 12–16
Vasa sjöfartsmuseum, Brändö sund, Vasa, öppet kl. 12–15
Korsnäs hembygdsmuseum, Kyrkobytvägen 32, Korsnäs, öppet kl. 13–17
Vaasan 4H-yhdistys ry och Alkula gård, Gripstigen 1, Vasa, öppet kl. 13–16
Vasa Krigsveteranmuse-

um, Kyrkoesplanaden 22 A, Vasa, öppet kl. 14–16
Ålidens hembygdgård, Nybrännvägen 760, Purmo
Korsnäs prästgårdsmuseum, Kyrkobytvägen 32, Korsnäs, öppet kl. 12–15
Sundom hembygdsmuseum, Myrgrundsvägen 467, Vasa, öppet kl. 13–17
Mortes gårdsmuseum, Uppbyggdted 71, Björköby, öppet kl. 10–16
Björkö båtmuseum i Svedjehamn, öppet kl. 10–16
Torgare prästgård, Torgarevägen 22, Kronoby, öppet kl. 12–15
Hannas stuga, Gerby-Vesterviks hembygds-museum, Västerviksvägen 288, Vasa, öppet klo 12–17
Virgo arbetarbostadsmuseum, Masugnsvägen 29, Oravais, öppet kl. 13–16
Meteoria Söderfjärden, Marenvägen 294, Vasa,

NEWS

Replot, 4–30 August 2026, 10 am–6 pm. In August, something unusual happens at Replot bridge: Galleri Arte Mare is transformed into a living theatre universe when Wasa Teater moves in and turns the gallery into its own creative showroom. Visitors get to step straight into the scenes of the performing arts – literally.

The exhibition showcases visual elements from the production OAS, and provides a unique chance to see how costumes, set design and storytelling are woven together into magic. It's like getting a sneak peek behind the curtain, but without having to duck props or stressed actors.

In addition, the autumn's repertoire will be presented, so theatre lovers can already start planning their cultural evenings. An unusual and inspiring visit for anyone who wants to see how theatre is created – from idea to finished performance.

Address: World Heritage Gate, Replotvägen 2, Replot

Reference: Mustasaari Municipality

END OF VILLA SEASON PARTY

The last Saturday in August there will be fireworks – but only on certain conditions



The Venetsian weekend is approaching, and fireworks are allowed – but only if you follow the rules. It is a kind of "shoot if you are able to do the right thing" policy that is supposed to keep both the party atmosphere and safety at its peak. In the area of the Ostrobothnia Rescue Department, rockets may be fired without special notification on 29.8.2026 at 18.00 – 24.00, but not in urban areas, residential areas or near buildings. And if the Finnish Meteorological Institute issues a warning for a ground fire, it is a complete stop – then the rockets are allowed to stay in the box. Everyone is also reminded of common sense: don't aim fireworks at your neighbour's barbecue, and make sure you have a bucket of water close at hand. And protect your eyes! After all, the Venetsian night is a celebration of joy, not of the fire brigade or the ophthalmologist

PHOTO CONTEST

Capture the World Heritage Site – win €500!

AI

Which AI systems can be used for free by anyone? And how do they differ from each other?

ChatGPT, Gemini, Claude, Copilot, Grok and DeepSeek. Just a few years ago, advanced artificial intelligence was something that was mainly found in research laboratories and large companies. Today, almost anyone can open a browser, type a question and get help from one of the world's most advanced AI models – without paying a penny.

That doesn't mean it's all free. Most large AI services work with a freemium model: the basic features cost nothing, while the most advanced models, higher usage limits, and some special features require subscriptions.

Here are nine of the most important systems.

1. ChatGPT – the great all-rounder

URL: (<https://chatgpt.com/>)

ChatGPT from OpenAI is still the best-known general-purpose AI system and works like a Swiss Army digital knife. It can write and edit texts, translate, summarize documents, analyze data, program, search the web, and interpret images and other files. The free version also provides access to image creation, voice capabilities, and data analysis, but with separate usage limits.

ChatGPT is also available as an app for iPhone and Android. For those who want to use AI for many different things, this is still one of the most natural places to start.

2. Claude – master of text and analysis

URL: (<https://claude.ai/>)

Claude is developed by American Anthropic and has gained a particularly good reputation for writing, analysis, long documents and program-

ming. Claude can read and interpret images, but there is an important difference here compared to, for example, ChatGPT: Claude is not primarily a system for creating images from text. Anthropic, on the other hand, has developed functions for creating, for example, presentations, documents and visual projects together with Claude.

The free version is fully usable and Claude is available both on the web and as a mobile app. For journalists, writers, researchers and others who work a lot with text, Claude is a system that is really worth trying.

3. Google Gemini – AI with all of Google behind it

URL: (<https://gemini.google.com/>)

Gemini is Google's major investment in generative AI and is closely linked to the company's ecosystem. It can help with writing, planning, ideation, information retrieval, and analysis, and can work with documents, photographs, and other types of materials. Google has also built in advanced features for image creation and image editing.

For those who already use Gmail, Google Calendar, Google Photos, YouTube and other Google services, Gemini is particularly interesting. There is a free version and a mobile app. However, Google regularly changes which models and features are included in the free tier.

4. Microsoft Copilot – AI for the Microsoft world

URL: (<https://copilot.microsoft.com/>)

Microsoft Copilot is the company's general AI assistant and can be used for questions, text production, summaries, information retrieval, and creative work. It's especially interesting for people who already live



in the world of Microsoft with Windows, Edge, and Microsoft 365.

Copilot can also create images from text descriptions and edit images. Microsoft describes image creation as a free feature in Copilot, although usage limits and availability may vary by service and plan.

There are apps for iOS and Android, among others. For the Windows user, Copilot is therefore one of the most easily accessible AI options.

5. Perplexity – when AI should look for the answer

URL: (<https://www.perplexity.ai/>)

Perplexity is a little different. Where ChatGPT and Claude are primarily perceived as conversation partners, Perplexity is more of an AI-driven search engine and research assistant. It searches for information on the web and presents answers along with sources and links.

This makes it particularly useful when you want to check up-to-date data or get a quick over-

view of a topic. Basic search is free, while the more advanced features are behind the paid version. Perplexity now also has image creation, but image generation is a Pro feature, not part of the regular free tier.

Perplexity is available both on the web and as a mobile app. For research, it's one of the most interesting options.

6. Grok – AI that wants to be current

URL: (<https://grok.com/>)

Grok comes from xAI and is closely associated with Elon Musk's X platform, although the service is now available as a standalone AI service. Grok can reason, answer questions, search for current information, analyze images and files, and handle voice. It also has strong creative features.

And yes – Grok can create images. xAI's latest Imagine models can also both generate and edit images and video.

Grok is available on the web and in mobile apps. For those who want to follow current events, the combination of web search and access to information from X is a special feature.

7. DeepSeek – the Chinese challenger

URL: (<https://chatgpt.com/>)



Do you have a mobile full of pictures from the archipelago? Now they can be worth money. The Kvarken World Heritage Site celebrates 20 years with a photo competition where everyone can participate. Take your best shot – whether it's sunset over the archipelago, a seal looking up or just that perfect archipelago atmosphere – and send it in. The winner takes home 500 euros. The exact rules and deadline for submission can be found on the website of the City of Vaasa. But one thing is certain: here you have to recharge – both the camera and the imagination. Send the photos by 31.8.2026. More information here:<https://www.vaasa.fi/sv/se-och-upplev/kvarkens-skargard/kvarken-20/fototavling-20/> And for those who don't win? At least you get an excuse to spend a day out in the World Heritage Site. That's a win too.

Source: City of Vaasa / Kvarken 20, July 2026

AI

AI

EU Unveils New AI Warning Icon – A Digital “Truth Shield” for All Europeans

Basic icon 	When AI was involved in the creation of deep fake content (image, audio, video) or published text or when a custom text label or interactive second layer is implemented	Deep fake video with the text label “voices generated with” followed by the basic icon
Fully AI-Generated 	When the entire deep fake content (image, audio, video) or text is fully generated by AI with no human-created elements or human editorial control (apart from prompting)	Fully AI-generated deep fake videos with politicians or fictional events Fully AI-composed music or art* AI-generated news summaries
Partially AI-Modified 	When pre-existing, human-made content was partially modified with AI turning it into a deep fake or text on matters of public interest	A face in an authentic photograph is swapped with a face of a politician using AI Authentic photographs of an empty apartment is furnished using AI

A brand-new symbol is about to appear across Europe's digital landscape – a small icon with a massive mission: revealing when content has been generated or altered by artificial intelligence. The European Commission has officially released its set of AI-labelling icons, marking a turning point in the fight against deepfakes and online manipulation.

The icons, available in four versions, were refined through extensive user testing. Their purpose is simple but powerful: help every citizen instantly recognise whether a video, image, audio clip or text is human-made or machine-generated. “Transparency is our strongest defence against misinformation,” an EU official said.

The images show examples of how different programs depict Cleopatra.

AI



deepseek.com/)

DeepSeek became one of the big names in AI by showing that highly advanced models don't necessarily have to cost huge sums to develop or use. The system is particularly known for logic, mathematics, programming and advanced reasoning, but can also write texts, read documents and work with large amounts of information. The official service is available both on the web and in app form.

DeepSeek, on the other hand, is not the obvious choice if you want to create images. Its strength still lies primarily in text, analysis, code, and problem-solving.

For those who want to test different ways of using AI, DeepSeek is a very interesting free alternative.

8. Qwen – the great Chinese multi-talent

URL: (<https://qwen.ai/>)

Qwen is being developed by Alibaba and has become a significant competitor in the AI market in a short period of time. Qwen Studio is explicitly open to everyone and free to use. It can handle text, documents, code, images, and video – and also generate and edit images.

It is precisely the breadth that makes the Qwen interesting. It's not just about a chatbot that answers questions, but about a completely multimodal AI system that can work with multiple types of information.

Qwen is perhaps even less well-known among

ordinary European users than ChatGPT and Gemini, but technically it's a system worth keeping an eye on

9. Le Chat – Europe's own AI challenger

URL: (<https://chat.mistral.ai/>)

French Mistral AI has become one of Europe's most important AI players. The company's Le Chat is a general-purpose AI assistant that can write, reason, search for information, analyze documents, and help with programming. The service has also evolved into a more advanced work tool with so-called agents.

Le Chat also has image generation, which makes the system more complete than many of the first European AI assistants. Mistral offers both free use and paid tiers, and the service is available on the web as well as in mobile apps. Mistral also emphasizes the combination of work, search, reasoning and code in its newer generation of services

For European users, Mistral is particularly interesting because the company is French and thus one of the few European players competing at the very highest level of AI.

10. Meta AI – the AI that knows your social world

Meta is pushing its AI assistant toward a much more personal experience. The latest Meta AI is powered by Meta's new Muse Spark model and can answer questions, make plans, se-



arch for information, create images and presentations, and increasingly carry out tasks on behalf of users.

What sets Meta AI apart from ChatGPT, Gemini and Claude is above all its deep connection to Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp and Messenger. Meta AI can use context from Meta's services to provide more personalized answers and can, for example, draw recommendations from posts, Reels and Facebook Marketplace.

But what does "free" actually mean?

Here comes perhaps the most important detail.

When an AI company says that a service is free, it almost never means that you get unlimited access to the company's entire technical arsenal.

Instead, you can usually use a good basic model free of charge – but with limitations on, for example, the number of questions, image creation, file uploads, advanced research or access to the most powerful models.

ChatGPT is a good example. Free users can use text chat without any standard daily payment limit, but image generation, file upload, data analysis, and other advanced features have separate limitations.

It is therefore more accurate to speak of free basic version than of "free AI".

And that's actually quite a fantastic development. An ordinary computer user today can access tools that can write an article, translate it into several languages, analyze a document, create an illustration, summarize a report, write computer programs and search the internet – without paying.

But there's another cost to consider: time, attention, and sometimes personal information. It is wise to read the terms and conditions and think carefully before uploading sensitive documents or personal information.

The AI war has only just begun

Perhaps the most interesting thing is that there is no longer a single AI that is the best at everything. ChatGPT is very broad, Claude is strong at text and analysis, Gemini has Google's ecosystem behind it, Copilot suits the Microsoft user, Perplexity shines in research, DeepSeek is strong at reasoning and code, while Grok and Qwen are investing heavily in multimodal features.

For the average user, it is therefore no longer the question "Which AI should I buy?" but rather:

"Which AI is best suited for the particular task in front of me?"

And the great thing is that you can try several of them before the wallet even needs to be opened.

NEWS

Under the AI Act, any AI-generated or AI-manipulated content that could influence the public must be clearly labelled. Deepfakes – realistic but fabricated videos or photos – are a particular concern, especially during elections and major public events. The icon must be placed directly on the content, remain visible when shared, and be accessible to assistive technologies.

Creative works such as art, satire and fiction receive lighter requirements, but audiences must still be informed when AI has played a role.

This new system is the first unified AI-labelling standard in the world. It may fundamentally reshape how Europeans judge authenticity in the digital age – giving everyone a simple visual cue to separate truth from technological illusion. Source: European Commission

ART

ATENEUM 18.8.2026-8.8.2027

Elga Sesemann gets her moment in the spotlight at the Ateneum

She attracted attention as a young artist, was compared with major names such as Edvard Munch and Helene Schjerfbeck, and yet later slipped into relative obscurity. Now Elga Sesemann is getting a major second look.



Elga Sesemann: *Oma kuva* (1946), Kansallisgallerian kokoelma / Ateneumin taidemuseo
Image: Kansallisgalleria / Yehia Eweis

On Tuesday, the Ateneum Art Museum opens a comprehensive exhibition devoted to Elga Sesemann (1922–2007). It also launches the museum's new Modern Classics exhibition series, focusing on 20th-century artists from the Finnish National Gallery collections.

Sesemann's first solo exhibition in Helsinki took place in 1945, when she was just 23. Critics immediately noticed her distinctive use of colour and highly personal style. During her long career, her expression continued to evolve.

The exhibition presents around 80 works, with approximately 50 on display in the initial presentation. The selection comes from the Finnish National Gallery as well as other museums and private collections.



PÖRTOM

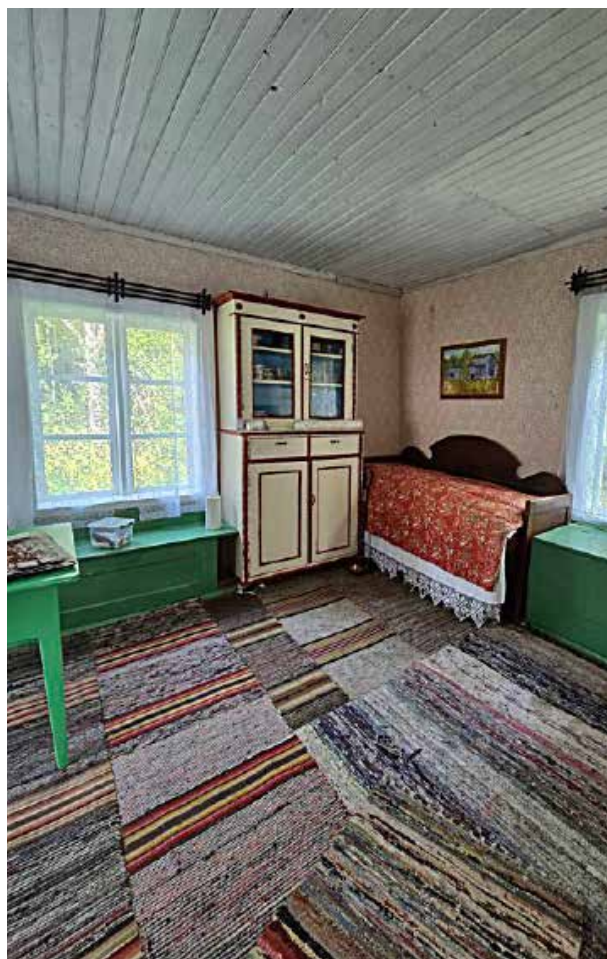
The Church Cottage in Pörtom: A timeless glimpse into Finland's past

Nestled in a quiet forest clearing in Velkmos, about 10 km from Pörtom church village, lies a unique testimony to a bygone era – The Church Cottage in Pörtom.

As one of Finland's three remaining church cottages, this historic site provides a fascinating insight into rural life over a hundred years ago. Kyrkotorp was founded in Finland in the 1700s as a way to provide income for the church. They were usually located in remote areas, where the Church owned large areas of forest. The croft was managed by a tenant family, who were responsible for managing the forest and paying part of the profits to the church. In return, the family was given the right to cultivate the land for their own living.

Pörtom church croft dates back to 1752, when the local congregation was given 100 hectares of forest land. The crofters' lives were challenging, they had to clear land, chop wood and take care of their livestock. Despite the difficulties, they managed to support themselves and start a family with many children. Today, Pörtom church croft remains as a beautifully preserved example of a traditional Finnish farm. The main building, from the early 1900s, has been carefully restored to its original condition. Inside, visitors can explore the authentic furniture and appliances that once belonged to the tenant families.

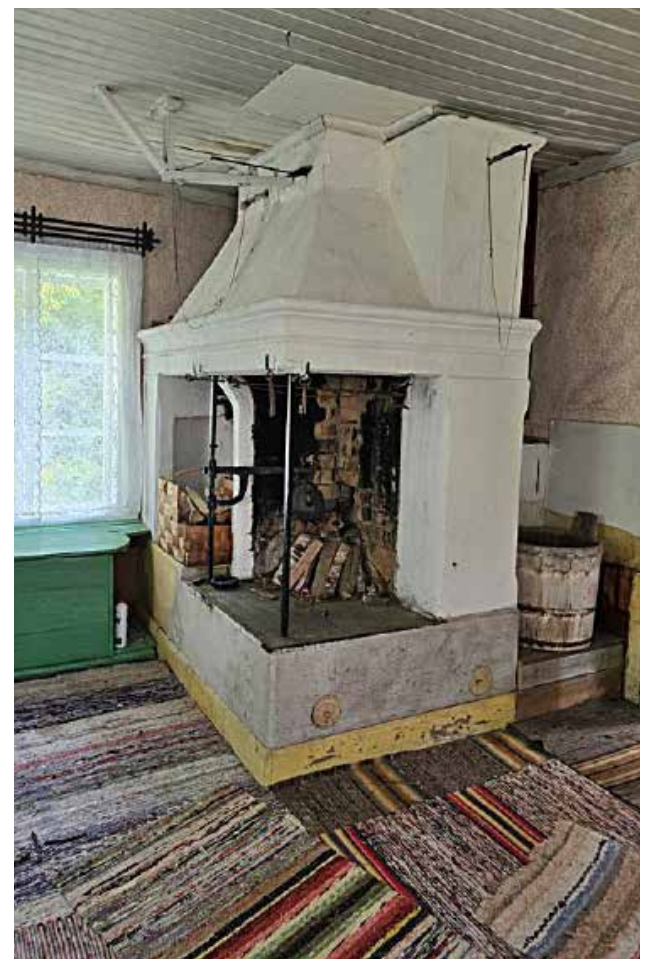
The croft also has a number of farm buildings, including a barn, a stable and a granary. One of the most striking features of Pörtom church croft is its peaceful and idyllic environment. Surrounded by lush forests and tranquil meadows, the place offers a sense of tranquility and escape. Vi-



sitors can enjoy leisurely walks through the forest, explore the historic buildings, and learn about the fascinating history of this unique place.

In recent years, Pörtom church cottage has become a popular destination for visitors from both Finland and abroad.

The place is open to the public throughout the year and there are guided tours. In addition to the historical tours, the croft also hosts several events



every summer. A visit to Pörtom church cottage is a journey back in time to a simpler time. Here, visitors can experience the sights, sounds and smells of rural life in Finland as it once was. It is a place where the past comes alive and where visitors can connect with the rich history and heritage of this beautiful country.

BLOG

Humanity and Energy



In the beginning there was a swamp, a hoe and Jussi, no, long before that, the beginning of humanity was apparently in Africa. Somehow, they managed to invent fire at some point. They had no worries about carbon dioxide or excessive warming.

Apparently, they survived well for a long time without a heating fireplace, at least during the day. If humans evolved in a rainforest area, no additional heat was needed to survive. (I have experience) Elsewhere, on the other hand, it was certainly cold at night. A few bonfires here and there warmed the air and increased carbon dioxide as long as the fire remained. The fires must have been burning around the clock. They didn't think about the laws of physics. Those who enjoy thermal radiation, perhaps the most attentive, noticed that the heat always moves in a colder direction, either radiated or carried away by the wind.

After many stages of development, we got to today, a huge number of people and at least for me an incomprehensibly high consumption of energy. You can find such figures on the internet for global production. I use the kWh unit because it is easier for us to understand.

- Coal 23 million tonnes/day > energy content 575,000,000,000 kWh

- Oil 102 million barrels/day ->energy content

162,180,000,000 kWh

- Natural gas 11.5 billion m3/day ->energy content 115,000,000,000 kWh

These are largely used by burning a total of 852,180,000,000 kWh.

What is this with common sense. Let's take the electric sauna heater familiar to Finns, with a fair power. 6 kW It heats up a fairly large family sauna so hot that only a few people can be there if the heating is not restricted. With that amount of energy, 5,917,916,667 such stoves can be heated at full power around the clock without interruption, year after year. The heater is 47 cm wide. Let's put them side by side. Where does the chain reach? 2.89 times around the Earth at the equator. There is so much heat output that the windows of the sauna do not vaporize, but the moisture remains in the air as fine particles.

In it, the waters of lakes and the Danube evaporate into the air as "steam water". Sometimes there is a situation where the water condenses and comes down as Somero's rain, taking away the roads and gravel and destroying grain. Well, this is just my theory. You don't have to believe everything that is written, but it's good to think for yourself. Just think of it as an experiment! How does it feel? In that calculation, all of them are fossil energy, i.e. they produce carbon dioxide, which is known to prevent the Earth's climate from cooling. Well, it is bound to water, etc., but water does not bind it indefinitely either. And besides, it rose as steam into the air with carbon dioxide.

Now you say that not everything is burned. Well, of course not. Those raw materials are used to make furniture, plastics and fertilizers, even make-up and many other things, but a lot is also burned. Let's add to this the production of electricity. Fortunately, a large part of it is more than fossil fuels. Of course, its fossil part is included on top of each other in the previous figures. At least nuclear power, hydropower, solar and wind power are not included. The production of electrical energy is 30,850 TWh per year, or 84,528,767,123,288 kWh/day. It is also used for heating, if of course we do a lot of other things. There are many kinds of waste in all forms of energy, including heat, but where does it go? Well, of course, in the air, in the water, in the rocks and in space.

These are the thoughts that the rain in Somero evoked. I haven't thought about it before, now I was in a hurry to wake up. Hopefully, all people on Earth will wake up. If only this thinking could get Putin, Trump and other people who cling to secondary issues to wake up and stop fighting as a first aid to the earth's distress. You would think that if you want your name in history, it would be nice to have some history readers left. I don't know if it would work. At least respected and wise people could stop and think about this side of the matter as well.

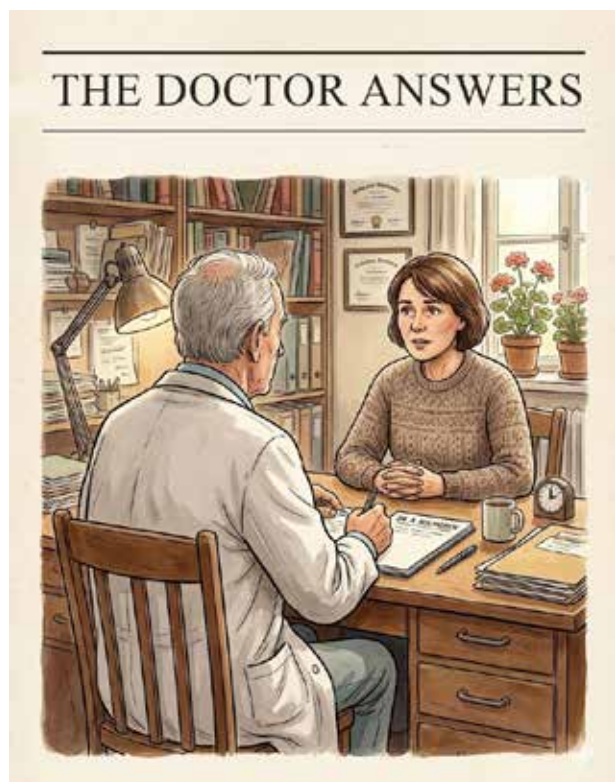
Each of us is warming the climate, that's for sure. Let's minimize it for our part, it's up to each of us.

Kyösti

HEALTH

THE DOCTOR ANSWERS

Measles



Question: *At the moment, there is a measles epidemic in Sweden, which is related to the Ur-kult festival. Several cases have been reported, including in Umeå and Västerbotten. But what is the risk that the disease will reach Vaasa – and how dangerous is it really?*

Answer: Measles is one of the most contagious viruses in the world. It spreads through the air when a sick person coughs, sneezes, or just breathes. The virus can stay in the room for up to two hours after the infected person leaves. An unvaccinated person who is in the same room is very likely to get sick. Contagion begins as early as four days before the appearance of the rash and lasts for four days after that. Symptoms often begin with a high fever, a dry cough, a runny nose and red eyes that are sensitive to light. After a few days, a red rash begins on the face, which spreads throughout the body. Small white spots may appear in the mouth. There is no specific drug that cures measles. Treatment means relieving fever, providing fluids and rest, and treating any complications such as pneumonia or ear in-

fection. In severe cases, hospitalization is required. Measles can be dangerous for both children and adults. Children under the age of five and adults over the age of 20 are at a higher risk of complications such as pneumonia, encephalitis and, in rare cases, death. Adults may have more obvious complications, while babies are particularly susceptible. Vaccination protects very well. Two doses of the MMR vaccine provide about 97 per cent protection. In practice, a vaccinated person almost never gets the disease, and if it does, the course is usually mild and the infection rate is very low or non-existent. Therefore, a vaccinated person usually does not spread measles further. The risk that the epidemic will become widespread in Vaasa is small, thanks to the high vaccination coverage in both Sweden and Finland. But the virus does not respect borders. Therefore, it is important that everyone who can take the vaccine to protect themselves, babies, pregnant women and those with weakened immune systems. Herd immunity requires that at least 95 per cent are protected. When we take the vaccine, we are not only protecting ourselves, but society as a whole.

VACCINATION

Chickenpox gets a new opponent – Finland offers free vaccination to adults

Chickenpox is usually associated with childhood, but catching it as an adult can be a much tougher experience. Finland is now expanding protection. From August 1, 2026, adults without immunity to chickenpox can receive the vaccine free of charge as part of the national vaccination programme.

The offer applies to people born in 2005 or earlier who have neither had chickenpox nor previously been vaccinated against it. Vaccination is voluntary and free. Particular attention is being paid to people about to begin treatments that strongly weaken the immune system, those planning a pregnancy and healthcare professionals.

Chickenpox is caused by the varicella-zoster virus. Most cases are mild, but complications such as pneumonia and encephalitis can occur. Finland's wellbeing services counties are responsible for organising the vaccinations and will provide information about local vaccination arrangements.

Time and place: From August 1, 2026; vaccination locations and arrangements vary by wellbeing services county in Finland.

Reference: Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL).

HEPATITIS C

Finland Closer Than Ever to Defeating Hepatitis C

Finland is making remarkable progress in the fight against hepatitis C, bringing the country closer to eliminating the disease as a major public health threat. According to the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), access to testing and treatment has improved significantly, allowing more people to be diagnosed and cured before serious liver damage develops.

Hepatitis C is a blood-borne viral infection that often causes no symptoms for many years. If left untreated, it can lead to liver cirrhosis, liver failure or liver cancer. Fortunately, modern antiviral medicines can cure more than 95 percent of patients, usually within 8 to 12 weeks.

Finland has committed to the World Health Organization's goal of eliminating hepatitis C by 2030. To achieve this, the government is expanding low-threshold testing services, introducing faster diagnostic methods and simplifying access to treatment, particularly for people at highest risk. More than €13 million has been allocated to the national elimination programme for 2025–2027.

WHO says Europe has already made major progress, but stresses that wider testing and timely treatment remain essential if hepatitis C is to become a disease of the past.

Time and place: THL announcement published in August 2026. The programme covers all of Finland.

Source: Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL), Ministry of Social Affairs and Health, World Health Organization (WHO)

HEALTH

DIGITAL HEALTH CHECK

Digital health check gives Finnish students a smarter route to care

HELSINKI, 12 August 2026. Health care for students in Finland's upper-secondary schools and vocational institutions is getting a digital makeover. From autumn 2026, all new students will complete a digital health questionnaire when they begin their studies.

The aim is to identify support needs earlier and help health professionals provide the right services at the right time. Students of compulsory-school age will still receive a health examination by the year they turn 18. If the questionnaire indicates a need for support, the examination can take place during the first year of study. Adult students have a separate questionnaire, with examinations arranged according to need.

From 2027, another change will reduce bureaucracy. The Finnish Defence Forces' separate pre-prescription health questionnaire will be discontinued, with the relevant health assessment integrated into student health care. Students will therefore provide the necessary information only once instead of repeating the same process.

The digital questionnaire will operate through Omaolo, while key information will be stored in Finland's Kanta health-data services. Nationwide data can also help the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) monitor student wellbeing, identify emerging problems and improve services.

But there is an important safety valve: students can always contact student health care themselves, regardless of what the questionnaire says.

Source: THL, 11 August 2026.

DOGS AND MICROBES

Dogs may change the microbes in our homes – and perhaps help keep babies healthier

A family dog may bring more into a home than companionship, muddy paws and a little extra hair. New Finnish research suggests that dogs can alter the microbial environment indoors in ways that may partly explain why young children exposed to dogs have sometimes been found to experience better health.

Researchers followed 368 Finnish children through their first year of life. Parents recorded episodes of fever, ear infections, antibiotic use and contact with dogs. The researchers also analysed floor dust collected when the children were two months old, looking for bacterial and fungal communities associated with dogs.

The findings are intriguing. Eight dog-associated microbial genera individually explained 10–23% of the protective associations between dog keeping and at least one health outcome. Three bacterial genera together explained about 25% of the association between dog keeping and reduced antibiotic use.

But there is an important caveat: the study does not prove that dogs prevent infections. It demonstrates associations, and other factors may also contribute.

The researchers suggest that dogs may introduce a more diverse mix of microorganisms into the home. Early exposure to a broader microbial environment may influence the developing immune system.

So the family dog may be doing something invisible while it sleeps under the kitchen table – helping to shape the microscopic world around a child.

Source: Mäki JM et al., Pediatric Allergy and Immunology, 2026, DOI 10.1111/pai.70408.

EXHIBITIONS

ATENEUM 18.8.2026- 8.8.2027

Elga Sesemann gets her moment in the spotlight at the Ateneum



Elga Sesemann: Kahvilassa (1945). Kansallisgallerian kokoelma / Ateneumin taidemuseo. Kuva: Kansallisgalleria / Hannu Aaltonen

She attracted attention as a young artist, was compared with major names such as Edvard Munch and Helene Schjerfbeck, and yet later slipped into relative obscurity. Now Elga Sesemann is getting a major second look.

On Tuesday, the Ateneum Art Museum opens a comprehensive exhibition devoted to Elga Sesemann (1922–2007). It also launches the museum's new Modern Classics exhibition series, focusing on 20th-century artists from the Finnish National Gallery collections.

VAASA ART HALL

The Peace Progress 24.7. – 16.8.2026



Can art create peace? An appealing exhibition opens at Vaasa Kunsthalle. Peace, nature and the connection of people come together in the new exhibition The Peace Process, which will be on display at Vaasa Art Hall (Senaatinkatu 1 D) 24.7.–16.8.2026. The exhibition invites visitors to stop and reflect on current themes at a time when the importance of peace seems more important than it has been for a long time. The exhibition is produced by the Flora and Fauna Project, whose contemporary artworks deal with coexistence, dialogue and the importance of the environment, among other things. The works challenge the viewer to think about how art can build understanding and hope. Since 2024, the Art Hall, which is maintained by the Vaasa Artists' Association, has become one of the city's most important contemporary art exhibition spaces. Admission to the exhibition is free. Opening hours: Tue–Fri 11 am–5 pm, Sat–Sun 12:00 pm–4:00 pm. Closed on Mondays. Source: Vaasa Artists' Association.

KORSNÄS

Forget the gallery – Korsnäs turns a nature trail into an art experience

What happens when contemporary art leaves the gallery and moves into the forest? Visitors to the Waterloo nature trail in Korsnäs can find out this summer at “Nature into Geometry”, an outdoor art trail combining nature, abstract

art and unexpected encounters along the path.

The exhibition features paintings and sculptures by artist Bekim Hasaj together with text art by Valentina Gelain. The works are placed along the first section of the trail, with signs offering information about the pieces and their ideas.

The project aims to bring contemporary and public art into rural and natural environments in Ostrobothnia. It is a cultural experience with a refreshing bonus: there is no admission fee.

Time and place: August 10–29, 2026, Waterloo Trail, Strandvägen 3681, Korsnäs, Finland. Free admission.

ÖVERMARK

Echoes in an Abandoned Home: "The Hidden Spots"



In the quiet village of Övermark, art has taken over a century-old, derelict house. The site-specific exhibition, The Hidden Spots, invites visitors to wander through rooms where time seems to have frozen. Created by the artist duo Black Box Genesis, the installation blends soundscapes, poetry, and physical relics to explore memory and transience. As part of a multidisciplinary regional project, this evocative showcase encourages guests to interact directly with the layers of history hidden within the walls of a forgotten home. Regional Art Exhibition 4.7.-2.8.2026. Address: Dermossvägen 20, 64610 Ylimarkku. Opening hours: Wednesday–Thursday 12–17 Friday–Sunday 12–18 Image: Bekim Hasaj and Valentina Gelain

VAASA

Street Art Takes Over: Wasa Graffitilandia

Vaasa's most vibrant summer tradition is back in full force. Wasa Graffitilandia has transformed over 3,000 square meters into a sprawling, colorful maze of street art and urban culture. Now in its sixth year, this summer edition showcases a massive collection of works from local and international artists. The exhibition serves as a dynamic contrast to the region's traditional museum offerings, providing a gritty, energetic space for creative expression that continues to push the boundaries of what is considered "gallery art" in Ostrobothnia.

STUNDARS

Historic Charm: Stundars Open Air Museum



The Stundars Open Air Museum in Mustasaari has launched a pair of compelling exhibitions that dive deep into the region's heritage. With Paint and Bricks explores the traditional decorative painting and fireplace artistry found throughout Ostrobothnia. Running alongside this are curated displays in the historic Hemmer's House and the local Stone Mason's Cottage, offering a glimpse into the craftsmanship that defined the area centuries ago. These exhibitions provide a peaceful, educational retreat for those looking to connect with the authentic roots of the

coastal landscape.

VAASA

400 Years of Vaasa

The Ostrobothnian Museum's permanent exhibition, Vaasa 400 – Tales of a City, offers a captivating journey through the city's four-century history. From its founding in 1606 and 17th-century witch hunts to the devastating fire of 1852 and the rise of shipping and industry, the exhibition weaves together events that shaped society, education, and everyday life. Highlights include Ostrobothnian folk art, painted furniture, and reconstructed interiors of a burgher's home and a factory worker's dwelling. Old publicity films and scale models of the city's changing town plan complete this rich historical tapestry.

Ostrobothnian Museum, Museokatu 3, Vaasa. Open Wed–Sun 10–17. Admission 15/9/0€. – Reference: museot.fi

VAASA

The Scavengers' Garden

Insects and invertebrates take centre stage at the Ostrobothnian Museum this summer. The nabbteeri artists' collective presents The Scavengers' Garden Ostrobothnian Museum, Museokatu 3, Vaasa. Open 9 May – 20 September 2026. Wed–Sun 10–17. – Reference: vaasa.fi

VANHA VAASA

250 Years of Justice



The Old Vaasa Museum marks a significant anniversary with its exhibition on the Vaasa Court of Appeal, established in 1775 by King Gustav III. Running until 29 August, the exhibition sheds light on the court's early years, its activities, and its profound impact on the lives of people across historical Ostrobothnia. Through miniature models, visual material, and stories of officials and their families, visitors gain insight into the ceremonies, power, and everyday life of one of Finland's oldest judicial institutions. History buffs will find this a fascinating journey into the region's legal heritage. Museum of Old Vaasa, Wasastjernan kauppiastalo, Kauppiaankatu 10, Vaasa. Open 1 June – 29 August 2026. Wed–Sat 10–17. Free admission. – Reference: museot.fi

KRISTINESTAD.

The Splendid Villa's Dramatic Fall

Carlsro Museum in Kristinestad presents the gripping tale of Alfred Carlström, once the richest man in Ostrobothnia. The Splendid Villa exhibition recounts the opulent villa era and its dramatic collapse when an embezzler drove the ship-owning family into bankruptcy in 1910. Visitors can glimpse elegant celebrations, peacocks wandering freely, and the idyll that shattered, bringing an entire town to its knees. This summer's exhibition honours the villa's anniversary year and tells the full story of what became of Carlsro and its family. A captivating tale of wealth, betrayal, and ruin. Carlsro, Carlsrovägen 181, 64100 Kristiinankaupunki. Open 1 June – 31 August 2026, daily 11–17. Closed Midsummer 23–25 June. Admission 8/2/0€. – Reference: museot.fi

EVENTS

TODAY

MUSEUM DAY

Record number of museums open for Ostrobothnian Museum Day on Aug 23



Brinkens museum, Malax

On Sunday 23 August, Ostrobothnian Museum Day is celebrated for the third time – this year with a record 33 museums taking part across the region. The aim is to show-case the rich variety of Ostrobothnian museums and the voluntary local heritage work that sustains them.

A new participant is the Sausage and Butcher Museum “Toola” in Vähäkyrö. All participating sites offer open doors, with guides present at some locations and additional programme available.

“We want to attract new visitors and keep the threshold as low as possible. Last year’s event was a great success with the public,” says regional researcher Kaj Höglund of the Vaasa Museums, the regional responsibility museum for Ostrobothnia.

The day forms part of the European Heritage Days, whose 2026 theme is “Worth Pre-serving”. Parallel museum days are also held in South Ostrobothnia and Central Ostrobothnia.

KORSHOLM CHURCH

Flute, viola and harp – an unexpected trio takes over the church 23.8



Three instruments with three different personalities meet when Augustitoner continues in Mustasaari Church. On Sunday 23 August, flute, viola and harp will take centre stage. The music is provided by Stella Michael, flute, Anthony Hall, viola, and Maaria Pulakka, harp. The program is called Fracta manu and promises a different and atmospheric music experience. The combination of the soft harp, the warm sound of the viola and the lighter tones of the flute are well suited for a late summer evening in the church’s special acoustics.

And this time, too, admission is free – a

pretty good way to end August’s musical Sundays.
Time and place: Sunday 23 August 2026 at 19.00, Korsholm Church Free admission.
Reference: Korsholm’s Swedish parish.

AUGUST

ARTE MARE

Wasa Theatre takes over Arte Mare – the gallery becomes a magical showroom in August



Replot, 4–30 August 2026, 10 am–6 pm.
In August, something unusual happens at Replot bridge: Galleri Arte Mare is transformed into a living theatre universe when Wasa Teater moves in and turns the gallery into its own creative showroom. Visitors get to step straight into the scenes of the performing arts – literally.

CITY ORCHESTRA

The Philharmonic Orchestra’s String Quartet plays for free by the sea on Aug 25



On Tuesday 25 August, the Vaasa Philharmonic Orchestra’s String Quartet will offer two atmospheric free concerts at the Vaasa Maritime Museum. The program mixes Finnish favorites such as Stormskärs-Maja and tango Satumaa with classics by Grieg, Brahms and Schumann – as well as the Argentinian Por una cabeza.

The concerts start at 4 and 5 p.m. Address: Sundsgatan 27, Vaasa. Musicians: Maano Männi and Denice Djerassi (violin), Nana Raitaluoto (viola) and Vladimir Reshetko (cello).

Come and enjoy classical music with a sea view – free admission!

Source: vaasa.fi

JORMA PANULA

CONDUCTOR STARS OF TOMORROW TAKE THE STAGE IN VAASA ON AUG 28



The baton takes centre stage as internationally renowned Finnish conductor and teacher Jorma Panula’s conducting course reaches its grand finale in Vaasa. Young conductors from around the world will lead the Vaasa City Orchestra in a programme featuring masterpieces by Mozart, Haydn, Rossini and Beethoven. Panula’s teaching emphasises a thorough understanding of the music and an effective, expressive conducting technique. The concert takes place at Vaasa City Hall on Friday, August 28, at 6 p.m. Tickets cost €10, while students and children can attend for just €2.
Source: Ostrobothnia Events Calendar / Vaasa City Orchestra

SEPTEMBER

SUNDOM

Sundom turns into a treasure hunter’s paradise 5.9



Forget the shopping mall – on September 5, the best bargains may be waiting in ordinary neighbourhood yards. Sundom’s popular Loppisrace turns the village into a giant open-air flea market, with sellers setting up their own stalls around the area. An interactive map helps visitors track down everything from vintage treasures to children’s clothes and furniture. A special car-boot sale will also be held at the youth centre, where visitors can enjoy coffee, waffles and grilled sausages while hunting for bargains.

Time and place: Saturday, September 5, 2026, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., Sundom, Vaasa.
Source: Sundom Loppisrace.

LAPUA

Lapua Kansainvälinen Urkufestivaali: Suomen suurimmat urut saavat maailmantähtiä

LAPPO, 14. syyskuuta 2025
Noin joka toinen vuosi. Lappon tuomiokirkossa. Suomen suurimman kirkkourkun kanssa. Sitten se tapahtuu: Lappo Kansainvälinen Urkufestivaali. Esiintyvät urkutaiteilijat ovat maailman eliittiä. Järjestäjänä toimii Lappo Urkufestivaaliyhdistys, joka ei varsinaisesti keräskä sillä – mutta ne, jotka tietävät, tietävät. – Urut jylisevät ja kuiskaavat. Se on elämys, joka kestää aikojaan. Tarkista liput yhdistyksen verkkosivuilta. Ja ole nopea – paikkoja on rajoitetusti, äänimaailmaa on loputtomasti.

Lähde: Bothnia Classic

NOVEMBER

LITTFEST

VAASA LITERATURE FESTIVAL LITTFEST 12-14.11.2026

The literature festival that will be held in November, 12–14.11.2026, will once again bring together well-known writers in Vaasa. LittFest will be attended by Monika Fagerholm, Kjell Westö, Kirsti Manninen (Enni Mustonen), Axel Åhman, Emmi Itäranta, Jessikka Aro and Tuomas Enbuske. In the autumn, book circles are also promised before the festival.

RUSK

Rusk Pietarsaassa: Kamarimusiikkia keskellä pimeintä marraskuuta – ”luovuuden sulatusuuni”

17.–21. marraskuuta 2026
Kun sakka, sade ja pilkkopimeä ovat pahimmillaan, RUSK-festivaali sytyttää kynttilänsä. Klarinetisti Christoffer Sundqvist ja säveltäjä Sebastian Fagerlund perustivat festivaalin vuonna 2013. Vuodesta 2020 lähtien sitä on johtanut kapellimestari Anna-Maria Helsing.
- Sulatusuuni, jossa luovuus virtaa vapaasti, he kuvailevat itseään.

Korkeatasoinen kamarimusiikki kohtaa muita taidegenrejä. Eksoottisia yhteyksiä? Kyllä kiitos. Vuoden pimein aika muuttuu yhtäkkiä unohtumattoman viihtyisäksi.

Jätä sadetakki kotiin. Tuo mukanas avoin mieli – ja ehkä termospullo glögiä.

Viite: Bothnia Classic

JANUARY

KAUSTBY

Kaustbyn kamarimusiikkiviikko: Barokista saunaviuluun – ja 70 ensiesitystä

KAUSTBY 23.–31. tammikuuta 2026
Kun pimeys ja kylmyys ovat pahimmillaan, Kaustby sytyttää musiikillisen valon. Vuodesta 1979 lähtien kamarimusiikkiviikko on tarjonnut kaikkea varhaisbarokista upouusiin teoksiin – kokonaiset 70 ensiesitystä vuosien varrella.

Vuodesta 2023 lähtien uusi taiteellinen johtaja, alttoviulisti Tiila Kangas, panostaa voimakkaasti viikon perustajaan Pehr Henrik Nordgreniin (1944–2008). Hänen koko jousikvartettotuotantonsa on suurennuslasin alla.

– Ja sitten sekoitamme mukaan alueen viulistiperinteen. Se on kansanfestivaali, mutta mukava sellainen. Älkää unohtako lämpimiä sukkia. Musiikki lämmittää paremmin.

Viite: Bothnia Classic.

UKRAINE PRESIDENT

There Must Be an End to This Russian War – And We Need the World to Help Us Make That Happen – Address by the President



21 August 2026

Dear Ukrainians!

A rescue operation is currently underway in Kryvyi Rih following a strike on a shopping mall. All the necessary services have been deployed. Unfortunately, there are many casualties. It was an attack by several Russian drones – deliberate, despic-

able, one after another. As of now, 14 people have been reported killed. My condolences to their families and loved ones. More than 100 people have been injured – we know that among them are 11 children. Information is being gathered about everyone who may have been at this shopping mall. An absolute Russian atrocity. They're

just monsters. We will definitely respond. It is important that we have everything to protect life. It is important that the world does not remain silent about all this. There must be an end to this Russian war – and we need the world to help us make that happen. I thank everyone who stands with Ukraine. We thank

everyone who is helping people right now – there in Kryvyi Rih, on the ground, and in our other cities and communities. Eternal memory to all those killed by Russian terror.

Ukraine Needs a Fresh Perspective and Genuine, Effective Systematization of Veteran Policy – President at International Veterans Forum

Changes to the legislation are needed to make it modern and focused exclusively on veterans

and their families. President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy said this during his address to participants of the IX International Veterans Forum.

German Federal Foreign Minister Johann Wadephul and General Keith Kellogg also attended the forum.

The Head of State noted that holding the event traditionally on the eve of Ukraine's Independence Day is symbolic and sends a clear message about whom we owe the opportunity to

celebrate this holiday to – Ukrainian warriors.

“We must honor not only that day, August 24, 1991, but every day, every act, every battle that has protected Ukraine from Russia – both since 2022 and since 2014 – and that are manifested here and now in each of you: in our warriors, our veterans, and the loved ones of our defenders,” the President said.

Read more:
<https://www.president.gov.ua/en>

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ART EXPERIENCE OF THE WEEK



Fanny Churberg
12.12.1845, Vaasa
10.5.1892, Helsinki
Kesän vehreyttä, 1870 - 1880
Finnish National Gallery Collection / Ateneum Art Museum, Suomen Säästöpankki Oy Fine Arts Collection Photo: Finnish National Gallery / Hannu Aaltonen

George Orwell

1984

Part 41

Chapter 3

‘We can come here once again,’ said Julia. ‘It’s generally safe to use any hide-out twice. But not for another month or two, of course.’

As soon as she woke up her demeanour had changed. She became alert and business-like, put her clothes on, knotted the scarlet sash about her waist, and began arranging the details of the journey home. It seemed natural to leave this to her. She obviously had a practical cunning which Winston lacked, and she seemed also to have an exhaustive knowledge of the countryside round London, stored away from innumerable community hikes. The route she gave him was quite different from the one by which he had come, and brought him out at a different railway station. ‘Never go home the same way as you went out,’ she said, as though enunciating an important general principle. She would leave first, and Winston was to wait half an hour before following her.

She had named a place where they could meet after work, four evenings hence. It was a street in one of the poorer quarters, where there was an open market which was generally crowded and noisy. She would be hanging about among the stalls, pretending to be in search of shoelaces or

sewing-thread. If she judged that the coast was clear she would blow her nose when he approached; otherwise he was to walk past her without recognition. But with luck, in the middle of the crowd, it would be safe to talk for a quarter of an hour and arrange another meeting.

‘And now I must go,’ she said as soon as he had mastered his instructions.

‘I’m due back at nineteen-thirty. I’ve got to put in two hours for the Junior Anti-Sex League, handing out leaflets, or something. Isn’t it bloody? Give me a brush-down, would you? Have I got any twigs in my hair?’

Are you sure? Then good-bye, my love, good-bye!’

She flung herself into his arms, kissed him almost violently, and a moment later pushed her way through the saplings and disappeared into the wood with very little noise. Even now he had not found out her surname or her address. However, it made no difference, for it was inconceivable that they could ever meet indoors or exchange any kind of written communication.

As it happened, they never went back to the clearing in the wood. During the month of May there was only one further occasion on which they actually succeeded in making love. That was in another hiding-place known to Julia, the belfry of a ruinous church in an almost-deserted stretch of country where an atomic bomb had fallen thirty years earlier. It was a good hiding-place when once you got there, but the getting there was very dangerous. For the rest they could meet only in the streets, in a different place every evening and never for more than half an hour at a time. In the street it was usually possible to talk, after a fashion. As they drifted down the crowded pavements, not quite abreast and never looking at one another, they carried on a curious, intermittent conversation which flicked on and off like the beams of a lighthouse, suddenly nipped into silence by the approach of a Party uniform or the proximity of a telescreen, then taken up again minutes later in the middle of a sentence, then abruptly



cut short as they parted at the agreed spot, then continued almost without introduction on the following day. Julia appeared to be quite used to this kind of conversation, which she called ‘talking by instalments’. She was also surprisingly adept at speaking without moving her lips. Just once in almost a month of nightly meetings they managed to exchange a kiss. They were passing in silence down a side-street (Julia would never speak when they were away from the main streets) when there was a deafening roar, the earth heaved, and the air darkened, and Winston found himself lying on his side, bruised and terrified. A rocket bomb must have dropped quite near at hand. Suddenly he became aware of Julia’s face a few centimetres from his own, deathly white, as white as chalk. Even her lips were white. She was dead! He clasped her against him and found that he was kissing a live warm face. But there was some powdery stuff that got in the way of his lips. Both of their faces were thickly coated with plaster.

There were evenings when they reached their rendezvous and then had to walk past one another without a sign, because a patrol had just come round the corner or a helicopter was hovering overhead. Even if it had been less dangerous, it would still have been difficult to find time to meet. Winston’s working week was sixty hours, Julia’s was even longer, and their free days varied according to the pressure of work and did not often coincide. Julia, in any case, seldom had an evening completely free. She spent an astonishing amount of time in attending lectures and demonstrations, distributing literature for the junior Anti-Sex League, preparing banners for Hate Week, making collections for the savings campaign, and such-like activities. It paid, she said, it was camouflage. If you kept the small rules, you could break the big ones. She even induced Winston to mortgage yet another of his evenings by enrolling himself for the part-time munition work which was done voluntarily by zealous Party members. So, one evening every week, Winston spent four hours of paralysing boredom, screwing together small bits of metal which were probably parts of bomb fuses, in a draughty, ill-lit workshop where the knocking of hammers mingled drearily with the music of the telescreens.

When they met in the church tower the gaps in their fragmentary conversation were filled up. It was a blazing afternoon. The air in the little square chamber above the bells was hot and stagnant, and smelt overpoweringly of pigeon dung. They sat talking for hours on the dusty, twig-littered floor, one or other of them getting up from time to time to cast a glance through the arrowslits and make sure that no one was coming.

HUMOUR ONE HUND- RED YEARS AGO

Mrs. BROWN

The pastor's wife is visiting Mrs. Brown and tells, among other things:

- I just received a letter that my son received a scholarship.
- I am really very happy. I understand your feelings so well. I used to feel exactly the same way, when our pig won first prize at the farm meeting.

IN SCHOOL

- Was it you, Hans, who wrote on the board: "The teacher is a donkey".
- Yes it was.
- Well, it pleases me in any case that you stick to the truth.

TWO ANECDOTES ABOUT KANT

Two anecdotes about Kant, which prove his great presence of mind, are reported by Otto Schöndörffer in the "Philosophischer Almanach" dedicated to Kant's memory. Kant once followed his habit of equanimity and strolled on the so-called Philosopherdamm near Pregel, lost in deep thought. Then suddenly a man rushed up to him with a large butcher's knife in his hand and shouted: I must butcher you!

Kant saw at once that he was dealing with an insane butcher's flock. He therefore calmly and firmly said to him: "You are mistaken, dear friend!" Today is not slaughter day. It's Wednesday, because slaughter day is on Friday. Namely, there were specific days of the week established for butchers to slaughter on. The madman started and laughed confusedly; You're right. He let the already menacingly raised arm drop and slowly withdrew.

Another time the philosopher was walking through a narrow and crooked street in the old Königsberg, when suddenly two galloping horses rushed towards him. Kant did not have time to turn away, which was otherwise impossible on the narrow street. Now he had once read that horses never touched people who were lying on the ground, but that even during the fastest race they did not touch them. He therefore threw himself hastily down on the ground, and indeed the two horses dashed away over him without injuring him in the least.

THE WEATHER GAME.

The Sensitive Lady:
— I always feel it when it rains, in my legs and back.

The sensitive gentleman:
— I also feel all the changes in the weather. The other night I woke up to the barometer falling'

— They're not possible!

IN TEN YEARS

Affectionate husband (sitting on bench, counting): My lady weighs 80 kilos; every summer She travels to MariEHAMN to bathe and loses 8 kilos; in ten years I will be free of HER!

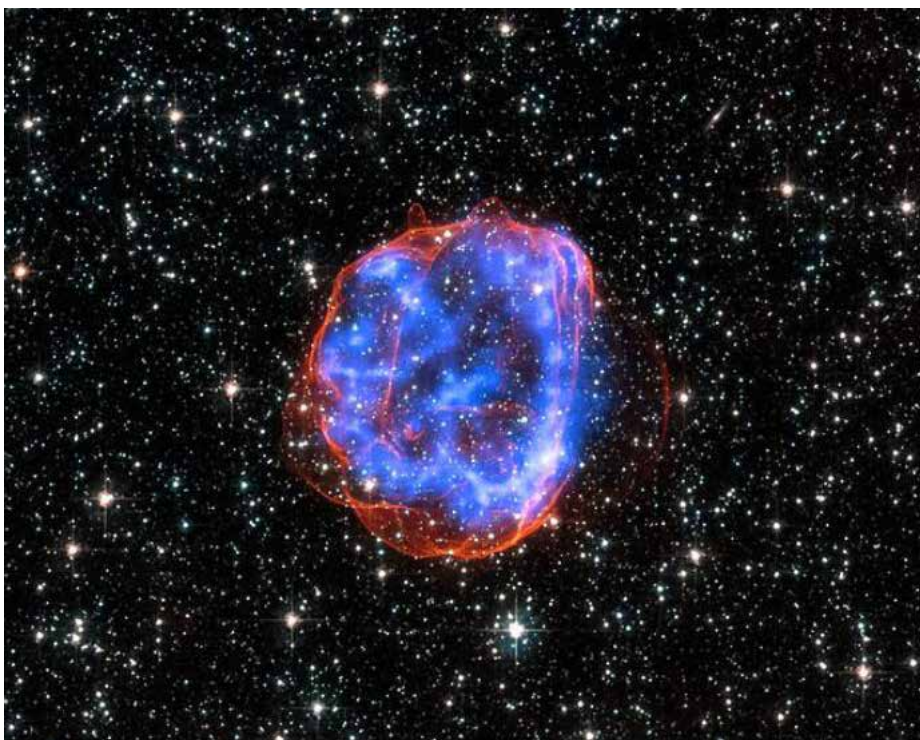
TELEPHONE

"Operator, I've been cut off!"
"Sir, please hold the line while I reconnect you."
"Hold the line? Madam, I can't even find the line!"

I AM A DOG

Patient: "Doctor, you must help me! I think I'm a dog."
Doctor: "How long have you felt this way?"
Patient: "Ever since I was a puppy."

Astronomic picture of the week:



NASA-SNR0519690-ChandraXRyObservatory-20150122.jpg

X-ray & Optical Images of SNR E0519-69.0 - When a massive star exploded in the Large Magellanic Cloud, a satellite galaxy to the Milky Way, it left behind an expanding shell of debris called SNR 0519-69.0. Here, multimillion degree gas is seen in X-rays from Chandra (blue). The outer edge of the explosion (red) and stars in the field of view are seen in visible light from Hubble.
X-ray: NASA/CXC/Rutgers/J.Hughes; Optical: NASA/STScI
Public domain

BLOG WRITERS

Join Wasa Daily as a Blog Writer!
Are you passionate about sharing your thoughts, stories, or expertise with the community? Wasa Daily is looking for enthusiastic blog writers to contribute engaging content for our readers.

Whether you love writing about local events, culture, lifestyle, business, or personal experiences, we welcome your voice!

Writing for Wasa Daily is a great opportunity to reach a wider audience, connect with fellow locals, and showcase your creativity. No prior experience is needed—just bring your ideas and enthusiasm! We value diverse perspectives and fresh voices that reflect the vibrant spirit of our community.

Interested? Send us your blog pitch or a short sample, and let's get your words published! Join us in making Wasa Daily a platform for meaningful conversations and inspiring stories.

Contact us at wasadagblad@gmail.com for more details. We can't wait to hear from you!

WASA DAILY

A modern newspaper with a layout with features of the press of the 1870s. Back then, newspapers had only 4-8 pages. Lots of text, but no images at all, so there's a lot to read on a few pages. Our paper is one of the very few newspapers in English serving English-speaking inhabitants in the Osthrobotnia region

The magazine contains quotations from old daily newspapers taken from the National Archives (digi.kansalliskirjasto.fi). GPT3, Gemini, Aria and Monica do some of the routine editing work, such as translation, corrector reading, and short notice writing. All texts have been checked by journalists and the editorial staff is responsible for all the content of the texts.

Wasa Daily is a daily newspaper type publication, so far it is published on Sunday mornings. But our goal is for it to come out every morning in the future. The magazine is available online for free.

Editor-in-chief Hans Björknäs. Readers' writings are welcome! The magazine is locally owned and will remain so. For ever!

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Email: wasadagblad@gmail.com

FROM OUR READERS

We very much welcome submissions from our readers. Comments, stories, memories, debate, news from home. Probably this will be the most important part of this spring paper. But space is limited, so please write as short as possible! So please send posts to: wasadagblad@gmail.com

ADVERTISE

Being among the first to advertise in this historic and hyper-modern daily may have some PR value. Send ads to wasadagblad@gmail.com

WASA DAILY

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HOROSCOPE FOR AUGUST 2026

August Horoscope – The Stars Are Mumbling (And Maybe Making Some Sense)

Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)
You'll have a brilliant idea this August! Unfortunately, someone already had it in 2003. Console yourself with ice cream. And more ice cream. With sprinkles – obviously.

Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)
Money is coming your way! Well, a discount coupon at best. Love may blossom – but only if you remember to water it. (Yes, this includes your plants.)

Gemini (May 21 – Jun 20)
You're everywhere and nowhere – just like your vacation plans. Try deep breathing. It won't help, but at least you'll look peaceful while searching for your keys.

Cancer (Jun 21 – Jul 22)
You're feeling emotional. That's okay. Everyone cries over overcooked pasta now and then. A surprise awaits at the end of the month – possibly pizza.

Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 22)
It's YOUR month! The world revolves around you – just the way you like it. Enjoy the spotlight, but remember: other people exist too. Sadly.

Virgo (Aug 23 – Sep 22)
You try to control everything. August has other plans. Let go – at least of your color-coded to-do list. But keep the Excel sheet. We're not crazy.

Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)
You can't decide: sunhat or raincoat? Take both. August weather can't decide either. Love? Yes. Confusion? Also yes.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)
Mysteries attract you this month: "Who took my charger?" "Why aren't they texting back?" Keep your cool – and your sting sharp, just in case.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)
Adventure calls! Unfortunately, only to the corner store. Still, every baguette run is a journey. Remember: all epic tales start small – often with snacks.

Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)
You're trying to be responsible – but August wants you to chill. Ditch the blazer, wear flip-flops. The world will survive without your spreadsheets for two days. Maybe.

Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 18)
Your head is full of wild ideas. Some are even good! Don't start a podcast. Or do – but only if it's about guinea pigs and existential dread. That could work.

Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20)
You're daydreaming more than doing. And that's fine. August feels like a watercolor painting – beautiful but slightly soggy. Write your thoughts down. They may become a book. Or a very weird shopping list.

