

Cruise company St. Peter Line treats its wastewater responsibly

The cruise ships of St. Peter Line leave all their wastewater at treatment plants at ports. All passenger ferries operating in Finland are committed to using the wastewater treatment services provided by ports.

St. Peter Line's ship M/S Princess Maria operates on the Baltic Sea, between Helsinki and St. Petersburg, while M/S Princess Anastasia operates between the ports of Helsinki, St. Petersburg, Stockholm and Tallinn. At all ports, the ships make use of the provided wastewater treatment plants. Under no circumstances is wastewater discharged into the sea.

'Our ships leave all their wastewater at ports. This can be confirmed by the ports we visit in Helsinki, Stockholm, Tallinn and St. Petersburg', says St. Peter Line's managing director **Roland Forssell**.

Two types of wastewater are generated on cruise ships: greywater and blackwater. Greywater is the water generated during washing, cooking, etc., while blackwater comes from toilets. At port, the wastewater is pumped directly from the ship's closed wastewater system to the treatment plants.

The treatment of wastewater at ports does not incur extra expenses to cruise lines, and most companies use the services offered at ports without exception. In the Port of Helsinki, for example, each berth is equipped with a wastewater system, whose use is part of the routine. In its press release from 14 August 2015, the Port of Helsinki estimated that only insignificant amounts of wastewater are pumped into the Baltic Sea.

Passenger ferry companies committed to protecting the Baltic Sea

In 2007, all passenger ferry companies operating in Finland pledged themselves to leave their wastewater at appropriate treatment plants at the ports their ships visit. St. Peter Line began operations in 2010, and it has been following the same policies from the very beginning.

'The welfare of the Baltic Sea is a prerequisite for the continuation of cruise line operations. We are continuously looking for ways to lessen our impact on the environment. As such, a sea voyage is environmentally the least burdening alternative when travelling to nearby destinations. Our ships are repaired annually to ensure a long service life and excellent operating condition, from the point of view of both passengers and the environment', Forssell says.

St. Peter Line is committed to continuing its work for the Baltic Sea and to taking responsibility for its welfare in the company's business operations.

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St. Peter Line Limited is a St. Petersburg based cruise line specialising in cruises on the Baltic Sea. In Finland, St. Peter Line is known particularly for its visa-free cruises to St. Petersburg. M/S Princess Maria operates between Helsinki and St. Petersburg, while M/S Princess Anastasia provides services between Helsinki, Stockholm, Tallinn and St. Petersburg. St. Peter Line began operations in 2010, and to date it has carried over 2.5 million passengers from over 100 countries. www.stpeterline.fi | www.stpeterline.com