

PRESS RELEASE
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Cruise ferry Galaxy starts on Stockholm-Turku route on 23rd of July

Tallink's cruise ferry M/S Galaxy, starts on the Stockholm –Turku route under the Silja brand from 23rd of July. Previously the vessel was operating on the Tallinn-Helsinki route.

According to AS Tallink Grupp's sales and marketing director Mr. Peter Roose, the launching of Galaxy on the Stockholm-Turku route is a very important milestone for passenger shipping between Sweden and Finland as there have been no new ships introduced in the past ten years. „We believe that this outstanding cruise ferry will win the hearts and minds of our passengers in Turku and Stockholm as she did on the previous Helsinki-Tallinn route. I have no doubt Galaxy will bring new energy to the market and increase the number of passengers“, said Roose.

Galaxy will take over the time schedule of M/S Silja Festival. Galaxy will depart from Stockholm every evening at 19.15 and from Turku every morning at 8.00.

Galaxy`s Estonian crew is now working on Tallink`s newest cruise ferry M/S Baltic Princess. The new crew of Galaxy consists of the Swedish staff of Silja Festival and additional new employees. Galaxy will start operating under the Swedish flag.

M/S Silja Festival will start operating on the Stockholm-Riga route where she will take over the route from Tallink`s oldest passenger vessel M/S Vana Tallinn.

M/S Galaxy built in 2006, is one of the biggest cruise ferries in the Baltic Sea having capacity for 2,800 passengers. The guiding principle in designing the vessel was to pay attention to maximizing passenger comfort and service while maintaining the strictest standards of safety and security.

927 cabins, several restaurants and places to entertain of various styles and class as well as a remarkable conference centre with over 450 seats make the new ship a multi functional sea-based hotel with an excellent ambience.

MS Galaxy is designed to carry passengers, private cars and freight units, and has 1,130 lane meters, i.e. over a kilometer of vehicle deck space. The vessel has a length of 212 meters, a beam of 29 meters and a gross tonnage of 48,300. Propulsion by four diesel engines totaling 26,240 kW will provide a service speed of 22 knots. Classification of the vessel is to the highest ice-class – 1 A Super. The catalytic reduction units to be installed for better control of exhaust emissions will make the vessel especially friendly to the environment.

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