

# WHV – Volunteer for World Heritage in the Fortress of Suomenlinna

## Fortress of Suomenlinna, Finland

## PROJECT DATES

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage List (1991)

05 August - 18 August 2023

**THE SITE** - Suomenlinna (Sveaborg) is a sea fortress, which was built gradually from 1748 onwards on a group of islands belonging to the district of Helsinki. The work was supervised by the Swedish Admiral Augustin Eherensvärd (1710-1772), who adapted Vauban's theories to the very special geographical features of the region. The landscape and the architecture of the fortress have been shaped by several historic events. It has served to defend three different sovereign states over the years: the Kingdom of Sweden, the Russian Empire and most recently the Republic of Finland. In the history of military architecture, the Fortress of Suomenlinna is an outstanding example of general fortification principles of the 17th and 18th centuries, notably the bastion system, and also showcases individual characteristics.

**OBJECTIVES** - The project intends to raise awareness among volunteers of the need to protect and promote World Heritage. It intends to enhance volunteers' knowledge and skills in heritage landscaping technics through trainings and hands-on work on the site. The participants learn the implementation of sustainable development, understand the importance of dialogue with visitors and the significance of organising events at a World Heritage site.

**ACTIVITIES** - The main task for the volunteers will be to participate in landscaping work, under the guidance of the site management and specialists. The volunteers will also collect visitor data through surveys, and will have an important role in the pre-production of the Classic Boat Race event. Participants will have the chance to join orientation and discussion sessions on World Heritage, authenticity, preservation, values, social sustainability, and ecological sustainability issues. There will also be a Camp Day as an open invitation to engage the locals in volunteering landscape work at the site.

**PARTNERS** - Governing Body of Suomenlinna, Allianssi Youth Exchanges, hostel Suomenlinna, Ehrensvärd-Society, Suomenlinna Yacht Club (SuPS), local entrepreneurs of Suomenlinna and Voluntary Park Pals of Helsinki.

**The Governing Body of Suomenlinna**

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