

Koncept Stockholm to design the interiors of Viking Line's new vessel

Viking Line has ordered a new passenger vessel with delivery expected in 2020. It has now been disclosed that the new vessel, which will sail from Turku (Finland) via Åland to Stockholm, will have interiors designed by the Swedish architecture firm Koncept Stockholm. Koncept Stockholm previously did the interiors for the Stockholm hotel Haymarket by Scandic.

Viking Line is pioneering environmental advances in the Baltic Sea. In 2013, the world's first large passenger vessel powered by liquefied natural gas (LNG) made its debut, in the form of Viking Grace. Since then, the Company has been planning for the next vessel powered by natural gas, the objective being to further reduce its environmental impact on this sensitive body of water. Viking Line's new vessel will be delivered in 2020, and the task of designing the interiors has been awarded to the Swedish architecture firm Koncept Stockholm.

"The choice was between a number of highly respected architecture firms, and Koncept Stockholm stood out with its attractive combination of Scandinavian simplicity and playfulness. It is also important to Viking Line that the architects contribute to an appealing travel experience that works for cruise passengers, families with children, conference guests and the substantial cargo traffic between the two countries. This is a challenge that we foresee Koncept Stockholm handling with a sense of flair and great skill. We have also taken into consideration our international guests, who perhaps have never before experienced archipelago scenery like ours, by taking a further step in prioritising views of the sea and archipelagos," says Jan Hanses, president and chief executive officer of Viking Line.

The architecture firm Koncept Stockholm has a group of ten people already working full-speed to create the cruise experience of the future. This work is being led by Niclas Makowsky and Ann Marie Ekroth, who previously headed other interior design projects such as Haymarket and Grand Central by Scandic as well as Copperhill Mountain Lodge in the Swedish resort of Åre.

"We are very proud to be chosen as architects and are now taking all our experience from exciting, successful projects for hotels, bars, spas and shops across the Nordic countries with us on board this passenger vessel. We want to enhance the experience of travelling through some of the world's most beautiful archipelagos by offering a range of rich and varied experiences on board the vessel inspired by marine life and the Nordic world," says Niclas Makowsky, from Koncept Stockholm.



Viking Line's new vessel will be 218 metres in length with a gross registered tonnage of 63,000 tonnes and capacity for 2,800 passengers. The length of its cargo lanes will be 1,500 metres. The vessel is being built by Xiamen Shipbuilding Industry Co., Ltd in China and is a collaborative project in which the plan is to engage a number of Finnish and other European contractors.

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Viking Line is a public limited company and a market-leading brand in passenger traffic on the northern Baltic Sea. It offers passenger services, recreation and cargo carrier services on the vessels Gabriella, Mariella, Amorella, Rosella, Viking Cinderella, Viking XPRS and on the flagship Viking Grace.