

## 8. Travel and Transport

Both Åbo and Vasa are fairly small cities and distances rarely get too long. You can often get around on foot or by bike. Note, however, that you should not walk in the marked bicyclist's lane, but in the lane marked for pedestrians. For your own safety, cross the street only when the light is green and definitely wear a reflector tag when it is dark. For longer distances the public transport systems are at your service.

### 8.1 Biking

By bike you can go almost anywhere in Åbo/Vasa, and often much faster than by car. Remember to install a light on your bike and use it when it's dark, and also make sure your bike has reflectors. Both are regulated by law and you can get fined if you ignore these regulations. We also recommend you wear a helmet and always lock your bike to prevent it from being stolen. Note that bikers are only allowed to bike on the sidewalk when it is specifically marked that bikers are allowed (bike lane or combined bike/pedestrian lane). At other times bikers must keep to the road and follow regular traffic rules. At the tourist information offices you can ask for a map of the biking lanes in the city:

#### *Turku Touring*

Auragatan 4  
20100 Åbo  
Phone: +358 (0)2 262 7444  
<http://opaskartta.turku.fi/> (Åbo)

#### *Vasa Tourist Information/Vaasan Seudun Matkailu*

Rådhusgatan 30  
65100 Vasa  
Phone: +358 (0)6 325 1145  
<http://kartta.vaasa.fi/IMS/>

Most of the bicycle shops sell second hand bikes as well as new ones. You can also find used bikes at recycling centres. At least in Åbo, the police also keeps an action in the autumn where

they sell unclaimed found/stolen bikes. If you only wish to rent a bike for the day, contact the tourist information.

### 8.2 Buses, Taxi, Car Rental and Trains

#### City buses

Bus stops are marked by yellow/black or blue/white signs. The yellow ones indicate bus stops for the Åbo/Vasa City Transport Service and the blue ones for long distance buses. The numbers given at the bus stops with a yellow sign indicate which buses stop there.

To get on a bus, wait at the right bus stop and be prepared to signal, by waving your hand, to the driver that you want to get on the bus. You must always get on the bus through the doors closest to the front.

To get off the bus, press the 'stop' button at a reasonable distance beforehand to indicate to the driver that you wish to get off. You should always get off through the doors in the middle or back of the bus.

Bus timetables are found online, in printed form at the local transport service office, and sometimes at the bus stops. The city of Åbo also offers an online trip planner service: Brahe Trip Planner <http://reittiopas.turku.fi/en/>. For more information about costs, timetables, routes etc., please visit the local transport service office or their websites:

#### *Åbo*

Åbo Lokaltrafik  
Auragatan 5  
20100 Åbo  
Open: Mon-Fri 8.00-18.00, Sat 9.00-14.00  
[www.foli.fi/en](http://www.foli.fi/en)

#### *Vasa*

Vasa Lokaltrafik  
Hovrättsplanaden 11  
65100 Vasa  
Open: Mon-Fri 11.00-16.30  
[www.vaasanpaikallisliikenne.fi](http://www.vaasanpaikallisliikenne.fi)