This past week was Ski Break for the Helsinki Public School System, so the kids have been home. For me it was literally a SKI break, with several days off and a whole slew of kilometers and hours spent at the local tracks. Interestingly, Alex insisted on being taken cross country skiing this week, which would never have happened back home. Here, cross country skiing is pretty close to a national sport – just about everyone does it – and so there’s motivation for the kids to give it a try. In fact, Ellie has already had a number of lessons through her school.

Mostly, we spent the week close to home, with one longer excursion to Serena Water Park on the outskirts of Helsinki. It was pretty typical water park fun, though Jen had the observation that people were actually smiling and being loud, which is unusual at this time of the year here in Finland.
The River Ride: a world-wide water park favorite.

Serena Water Park.