

HELSINKI

The Finnish capital of Helsinki is a modern city with over half a million residents and is situated on the Baltic Sea. The city is known for its great mixture of neo-classical buildings, orthodox style churches and its chic bar and restaurant scene. The archipelago that surrounds Helsinki with hundreds of tiny islands creates an idyllic environment for cruises.

FROM THE AIRPORT - [more info](#)

Train - Helsinki Airport's train station is located beneath the terminal, accessible via elevator or escalator. Local I and P trains connect the airport to the city centre, with a journey time of about 30 minutes. Tickets can be purchased via the HSL app or at the ticket machine on the platform.

Bus - Bus route 600 runs between Helsinki Airport and the city centre, taking about 40 minutes. Tickets can be bought via the HSL app or at the bus station ticket machine.

Taxi - Taxi from the airport to city takes about 25 minutes and costs around 35-45 euros. Taxi stand at the airport is located just outside the terminal.



Helsinki Cathedral



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CULTURE FASCINATIONS

Helsinki Cathedral - You can't miss this large white church with a green top. This neoclassical style church is a one most known landmark of Helsinki. Located at the [Senaatintori](#).

Oodi - Helsinki Central Library. Oodi is a striking building with its glass and steel structures and wooden facade, its design a combination of traditional and contemporary flavours. The energy-efficient library is an impressive calling card for Finnish architecture.

Address: [Töölönlahdenkatu 4](#)

Kiasma - Museum of Contemporary Art. It's situated close to the main railway station and is easy to get to. Well worth a visit!

Address: [Mannerheiminaukio 2](#)

The Church Inside a Rock - Tempeliaukion kirkko - located at [Lutherinkatu 3](#). A visit to this fascinating church is something you can't miss. It's one of Helsinki's most popular tourist attractions, and while you wander around this church built inside a giant block of natural granite, you'll understand why.



GETTING AROUND

Helsinki city center is relatively small and you can walk to most places in the city. Public transportation network is extensive and includes buses, trams, metro and ferries.

You can also explore the city on a bicycle. Helsinki has city bikes that anyone can hire for daily or weekly use.

CULINARY EXPERIENCES

The foodies love Helsinki's culinary scene. The restaurant offering in the city centre is better than ever before and its diverse. There are great indoor and outdoor markets, local top chefs and events such as Restaurant Day, when locals put up their own restaurants around the city for the day.

Buy fresh berries and Finnish delicacies, like fried vendace and freshly baked cinnamon buns from the Market Square and nearby Market Hall, pack your picnic basket and head to Suomenlinna fortress for a day. Enjoy the fresh breeze from the sea and watch the seagulls jumping on the rocks - but be careful, as the seagulls in Helsinki are known for stealing the food from visitors!



RESTAURANTS

Restaurant Kuu – Finnish Restaurant Kuu (meaning “the Moon”) offers a modern take on Finnish classics and Scandinavian dishes. With a continental bistro vibe, the menu highlights the best local ingredients, including Finnish fish, meat, berries, and seasonal vegetables, all prepared to bring out their natural flavours. Enjoy simple, beautifully balanced dishes in a welcoming atmosphere.

Address: [Töölönkatu 27](https://www.ravintolakuu.fi/en/home/) | Tel: +358 927090973
[ravintolakuu.fi/en/home/](https://www.ravintolakuu.fi/en/home/)

Cafe Engel – This is a perfect place for lunch. Try their delicious salmon soup, it's one of the best ones in town!
Address: [Aleksanterinkatu 26](https://www.cafeengel.fi/) | Tel: +358 9652776
[cafeengel.fi/](https://www.cafeengel.fi/)

Restaurant Nokka - Only a stone's throw from the city and by the sea, the cafe and restaurant will serve only the purest seasonal ingredients, sourced from the forests of Lapland and smallholdings across Finland.
Address: [Kanavaranta 7 F](https://www.nokkahelsinki.fi/) | Tel: +358 961285600
[nokkahelsinki.fi/](https://www.nokkahelsinki.fi/)



Hietalahti Market Hall – The “Hietsu” Market Hall is filled with light, and provides a broad variety of fresh food, seasoned with expert service. Have a quick snack, or enjoy lunch or dinner at the popular restaurants and cafés.

Address: [Lönrotinkatu 34](https://www.hietalahdenkauppahalli.fi/en/)
[hietalahdenkauppahalli.fi/en/](https://www.hietalahdenkauppahalli.fi/en/)

Savoy - Stylish high end restaurant above Helsinki rooftops. Restaurant Savoy offers Finnish cuisine and Finnish deco - the minimal style is the hallmark of master Alvar Aalto and the then newly founded Artek. Great views to Helsinki Cathedral and over Esplanadi parks.

Address: [Eteläesplanadi 14](https://www.savoyhelsinki.fi/en/) | Tel: +358 961285300
[savoyhelsinki.fi/en](https://www.savoyhelsinki.fi/en/)

Restaurant Lappi - Lappi (meaning Lapland) is a must-visit in Helsinki, offering a true taste of Lappish cuisine with fresh, pure Finnish ingredients. Under the expert guidance of Chef Harri Savolainen, the menu combines Finnish, Lappish, and international influences.

Address: [Annankatu 22](https://www.lappires.com/en/) | Tel: +358 405828100
[lappires.com/en/](https://www.lappires.com/en/)

DO IT LIKE A FINN

Kotiharjun Sauna – A great sauna to visit is Kotiharju. This is one of the few wood burning public saunas in Helsinki. There are separate saunas for men and women and there's a good chance you'll find a top level chess match in the dressing room. Don't miss cooling off outside, especially in winter.

Address: [Harjutorinkatu 1](#)

Löyly - The newest addition to Finnish public sauna scene, opened in 2016. This urban oasis is a must experience when visiting Helsinki during summertime. Here you can try three different saunas, take a dip in the ocean and afterwards relax on the terrace with a cooling drink, or enjoy snacks and the atmosphere on the bar tables.

Address: [Hernesaarenranta 4](#)

Phone: +358 961286550

Allas Sea Pool - Unique sea spa located near the city centre. Allas offers public sea pools, saunas, restaurants and cafes for locals and visitors. This is a perfect place for a get-together or for enjoying a sunny day in Helsinki.

Address: [Katajanokanlaituri 2](#)

Read more in our article [Helsinki Highlights: Visit a Local Sauna](#)



Löyly

NATURE AND CULTURE SIGHTS

Vallisaari Island – [Vallisaari](#) and Kuninkaansaari islands are beautiful destinations for outings, just 20 minutes by boat from the Market Square. These islands have a long history and they have served as the place of military service for thousands of soldiers. Nowadays Vallisaari offers a range of services for tourists; water points, dry toilets and during summer season also a cafe and a tour guide service.

Note; stay on the trails as there are lots of precipices in the islands as well as spots that are at risk of collapsing! Wear good hiking boots and clothing, also bring some snacks and water with you.

Suomenlinna fortress - Situated on a group of islands off Helsinki, [Suomenlinna](#) was built during the Swedish era as a maritime fortress and a base for the Archipelago Fleet. Today, the fortress is a UNESCO Heritage site and listed as a unique monument of military architecture. Suomenlinna is a popular place for weddings and other events, and is one of the most visited sights in Finland.

Suomenlinna is only accessible by water and the ferry service operates throughout the year from the Market Square.



LET'S NOT FORGET ABOUT SHOPPING

Finnish design is known for its minimalism, functionality and simple beauty.

Explore the lovely small boutiques, the famous fashion and designer stores in Helsinki city center, within walking distance from the central hotels. You can find several designer stores, including Marimekko and Iittala on the streets by the Esplanade Park. In the high-end Kämp Gallery on the Pohjoisesplanadi shop for Finnish and international high quality fashion brands.

Helsinki Design District – Spend the afternoon strolling the streets in the [Punavuori](#)/Eira area and drop in to some of the many small shops situated here.

Torikorttelit - The area known as [Torikorttelit](#) consists of three oldest blocks in the heart of Helsinki, right by the sea. This neoclassical part of the city has been turned into complex of cafes and small boutique shops. You can also find a cinema, a brewery and a 100-year old hat shop from Torikorttelit!

