

Helsinki

QUINTESSENTIALLY

Helsinki, Finland

Are you looking for a relaxing sea cruise, Finnish design products and high-end brand shopping, top concerts, interesting sightseeing tours or an enjoyable gourmet experience?

Helsinki has plenty to offer throughout the year.

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Emergency

112 (for police, fire or ambulance)

Exchange Rate

1 EUR = 0.74 GBP
1 GBP = 1.33 EUR

Official Language

Finnish & Swedish

Currency

Euro

Time

UTC +2

Electricity

The standard electrical voltage in Finland is 230v.
The majority of electrical outlets in Finland use a two-rounded plug.

Survival Skills

Helsinki has to be one of the safest cities in the world – you should be fine wherever you go. The only problem you might encounter is the occasional pickpocket targeting busy tourist areas, so keep your bag close and keep an eye on your belongings when in crowds. Even at night, the city is, for the most part, very safe.



Accomodation

Best places to stay in Helsinki

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Hotel Kämp

Pohjoisesplanadi 29, 00100 Helsinki

Experience the luxury of timeless elegance and European glamour at Hotel Kämp. Over the years, Hotel Kämp has accommodated royals and heads of state, as well as world-class international artists.

Hotel Haven

Unioninkatu 17, 00130 Helsinki

Hotel Haven was the first member of the Small Luxury Hotels of the World chain in Finland and is designed to provide homely warmth, exclusive comfort and high-quality services for the discerning guest.

Lilla Roberts

Pieni Roobertinkatu 1, 00130 Helsinki

Sometimes in life we come across delightful little surprises tucked away in unexpected corners. Imagine a cozy yet elegant hotel that seamlessly combines the most modern amenities and a trendy lifestyle approach with a quirky 1930s Art Deco interior and other throwbacks to the past. Located amid the ultra-cool design district in the Kaartinkaupunki sector, Hotel Lilla Roberts is just a heartbeat away from the bustling center of Helsinki.

Hotel St. George

Yrjönkatu 13 C, 00120 Helsinki

Housed in a meticulously restored landmark structure directly across from beautiful Old Church Park in the very heart of Helsinki, Hotel St. George not only offers guests a stunningly contemporary property set within an historically rich stage, but a total revamp on the concept of what a hotel should be. The hotel has an acclaimed fine-dining restaurant, a chic cafe/bar and an atrium lounge. Other amenities include a tranquil spa, an indoor pool and a gym. Public areas feature works by renowned contemporary artists.

Clarion Hotel Helsinki

Tyynenmerenkatu 2, 00220 Helsinki

The Clarion Hotel Helsinki stands out from the crowd. The two window-clad towers are linked by a transparent glass footbridge and elevators offering spectacular views. On top of the building you'll find a sky bar and the heated rooftop swimming pool with views over Helsinki.

Klaus K

Bulevardi 2-4, 00120 Helsinki

Located in the late 19th-century Rake building, the hotel Klaus K is inspired by Finland's national epic, the Kalevala, with each of the 171 playful guestrooms boasting a theme that illustrates the Kalevala's primary emotional elements: desire, passion, mysticism, and envy.

Clarion Hotel Helsinki Airport

Karhumäentie 5, 01530 Vantaa

Clarion Hotel close to Helsinki Airport, It takes just 2 minutes by train to get to and from the airport – ideal for meetings, conferences, events and experiences. The eight-storey Clarion Hotel Helsinki Airport features 258 rooms, 12 conference rooms, a Kitchen & Table restaurant, a bar, and a relaxation area with a gym and sauna.

Hilton Helsinki Airport

Lentäjänkuja 1, 01530 Vantaa

Located just a few minutes' walk from the terminals via a covered walkway, Hilton is the perfect retreat after a long journey. Relax in our cozy guest rooms or unwind with a delicious meal at Restaurant & Bar Gui, with Nordic inspired cuisine. Meeting and working spaces.



Awarded Cuisine

Michelin Stars in Helsinki

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Demo *

Uudenmaankatu 9-11, 00120 Helsinki

Atmospheric candlelit restaurant on busy street, with neutral hues and relaxed, shabby-chic style; sit on retro chairs or comfy banquettes. Classical cooking combines French and Finnish influences to produce robust and satisfying dishes.

Olo *

Pohjoisesplanadi 5, 00170 Helsinki

Attractive, comfortable and immaculately kept corner restaurant, with pleasant service from a young, efficient team. Elegant wine cellar and kitchen studio for private dining. Cooking is refined and unfussy, with some modern touches, and prepared with confidence.

Ask *

Vironkatu 8, 00170 Helsinki

It may be hidden away but this welcoming restaurant is well-known. It's a charming place, run by a delightful, experienced couple, who offer modern Nordic cooking crafted almost entirely from organic ingredients. Dishes are light and original, produce is top quality and flavours are clearly defined.

Grön *

Albertinkatu 36, 00180 Helsinki

A warmly run restaurant where the open kitchen is the focal point and the chefs bring the dishes to the table to explain them. Cooking has a satisfying earthiness and clever use is made of both fresh and fermented ingredients, with vegetables given equal billing as meat or fish. Natural wines are well-chosen.

Ora *

Huvilakatu 28, 00150 Helsinki

This small, intimate restaurant is run by chef-owner Sasu Laukkonen. The cooking focuses on local ingredients and uses modern techniques to enhance classic Finnish flavours. Dishes are served and explained by the chefs themselves.

Palace *

Eteläranta 10 (10th floor), 00130 Helsinki

On the 10th floor of a modernist building constructed in 1952 for the Olympic Games, lies this sleek restaurant with harbour views. Sophisticated, well-balanced, beautifully presented dishes come from a highly experienced chef, with luxurious ingredients presented in harmonious combinations of texture and flavour.



Fine Dining

Classic cuisine

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Nokka

Kanavaranta 7 F, 00160 Helsinki

Fine dining restaurant with relaxed atmosphere. High quality ingredients from local suppliers and small farms, from those who have a serious but enthusiastic relationship with food.

Emo

Kluuvikatu 2, 00100 Helsinki

Emo focuses on Finnish and European seasons and flavors. Laid-back restaurant with an adjoining bar and a friendly team. The menu is easy-going too, offering around 10 regularly changing dishes that can be taken either as starters or main courses. Good ingredients feature in unfussy preparations, which are good value and come with a contemporary touch.

Brasserie Kämp

Pohjoisesplanadi 29, street level, 00100 Helsinki

Brasserie Kämp offers a wide range of European food in a brasserie style with some of the most unique cocktails in town made by the friendly Kämp bartenders. Perfect for breakfast, lunch, dinner, afternoon tea or brunch.

Vinkkeli

Pieni Roobertinkatu 8, 00130 Helsinki

Restaurant Vinkkeli is located in the heart of Kaartinkaupunki neighborhood. Vinkkeli can be described as a food and wine restaurant, presenting a friendly, honest, and uncomplicated take on classic cuisine, where the wine and drink selection is given the same devotion as the selection of ingredients in the kitchen.



The Contemporary

Culinary Reinvention

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Baskeri & Basso

Tehtaankatu 27-29 (courtyard), 00150 Helsinki

Baskeri & Basso has found its inspiration in cosy Parisian bistros, casual San Francisco joints and small Italian osterias. Bistros ingredient driven cuisine is daring in its outrageous simplicity. It serves a variety of enjoyable natural wines from elegant and classic to new and experimental.

Farang

Ainonkatu 3, 00100 Helsinki

Farang is a restaurant which serves modern Asian cuisine, located within the premises of the historical Kunsthalle Helsinki. Farang offers unique and fresh flavors from Southeast Asia. Farang's simplified, modern and atmospheric decor combined with the warm service and strong expertise in Asian cuisine creates an excellent setting for a comprehensive dining experience.

Bronda

Eteläesplanadi 20, 00130 Helsinki

Restaurant Bronda is located in the heart of Helsinki by the Esplanadi park. Bronda brings the vibrancy of a contemporary Mediterranean restaurant to an interesting street level space and creates a new urban spot with a relaxed atmosphere. The restaurant interior has three main spaces: a cocktail bar next to the entrance, a seven-meter-high dining hall and private cabinets in the rear. The cocktail bar is a low intimate space consisting of warm and colourful materials such as brass, wood, marble and leather.

Gaijin

Bulevardi 6, 00120 Helsinki

Restaurant Gaijin is Tomi Björck and Matti Wikberg's second restaurant. Gaijin takes you on a journey to northern Asia. Enjoy unique flavors by combining traditional Japanese and Korean dishes with dishes from northern China in a contemporary way. High quality cocktails.

Pastor

Bulevardi 6, 00120 Helsinki

The overall image of this Japanese/Peruvian restaurant is light and clean with a modern/urban Northern-style. This spacious restaurant is well suited both for easy-going business meetings as well as dates and gatherings with friends. Here you can choose to either order standard á la carte or order set menus consisting of 4, 6 or 10 dishes. Pastor also has a big bar area that attracts business people and locals daily. During weekends they turn on the music in the restaurant to create an lively and social atmosphere.

Boulevard Social

Bulevardi 6, 00120 Helsinki

Owned by the same people as Gaijin, this lively, informal restaurant offers an accessible range of authentic North Africa, Turkish and Eastern Mediterranean dishes.



The Classics

Traditionally local

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Aino

Pohjoisesplanadi 21, 00100 Helsinki

Restaurant Aino is excellently located in the heart of Helsinki by the lovely Esplanade Park. Aino has been a proud advocate for traditional Finnish food. The restaurant is divided into two floors with an atmospheric brick cellar, that also includes small cabinets for private meetings. The street level restaurant area is a little livelier and has a lovely view overlooking the Esplanad park.

Juuri

Korkeavuorenkatu 27, 00130 Helsinki

This hidden gem is located in the Helsinki design district. The culinary focus has been set on both local and Finnish ingredients and prepared with a lot of love and passion. This small and contemporary restaurant is suited for both lunch and dinner. During the weekends they also have specific family-deals that attracts a lot of families especially during lunch hours.

Saslik

Neitsytpolku 12, 00140 Helsinki

Considering the closeness of the Russian border the fact that 70,000 Russians live in Finland is not surprising. With the Russian inhabitants come Russian restaurants, and some of the more popular ones are located in Helsinki. One of them is Saslik, the most legendary restaurant in Finland, which has honorably cherished the food tradition and the atmosphere of the Czarist era since 1972. Over 40 years Saslik has grown from a mere restaurant to a landmark. Among both Finns and foreign guests, the restaurant is one of the best-known restaurants in Finland.

Werner

Bulevardi 12, 00120 Helsinki

An international café with an open kitchen where all of their delicacies are prepared. The separate coffee sales point offers a variety of delicious drinks from espresso and cappuccino to more exotic flavours of coffee and tea. On the second floor is Strindberg à la Carte and Strindberg's Bakficka.

Lappi

Annankatu 22, 00100 Helsinki

The first Lapland style restaurant in the heart of Helsinki. "Kelonkolo" Bar is a quaint bar situated at the front of the restaurant. The menu is available in 11 languages. cocktails inspired by Chinese flavors and mixes them with old school classics and techniques.



“See & Be Seen”

Lounges, bars and speakeasys

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Goldfish

Korkeavuorenkatu 21, 00130 Helsinki

A newcomer on the Helsinki cocktail bar scene. An urban, international cocktail bar that serves hand-crafted new innovations and all-time classics. There is also a wide champagne and wine menu available, as well as bar snacks.

Trillby & Chadwick

Katariinankatu, 00170 Helsinki

Members only bar with a strict guest list. You might or might not know that between 1919 and 1932 prohibition was in place in Finland which meant that all alcohol had to be imported, sold and consumed in secret. Trillby & Chadwick aims to create an air of secrecy and mystery even though alcohol is no longer illegal. This is done by not revealing the exact address of the place so if you like a bit of detective work, this is the place for you. The drinks at Trillby & Chadwick are of excellent quality and the atmosphere in this speak-easy bar has a close resemblance to a old-fashioned livingroom.

Vin-Vin

Kalevankatu 6, 00101 Helsinki

Vin-Vin is a proper winebar in the heart of Helsinki. The selection consists mainly of organic wines from small producers. The service is professional and personal. The threshold is low and spirits are high.

Wine tastes better in good company so Vin-Vin shares its premises with Noir beauty concept.

BasBas & Staff Wine Bar

Tehtaankatu 27-29 (corner of Telakkaktu), 00150 Helsinki

BasBas & Staff Wine Bar is cosy bar à vin. It serves a variety of enjoyable wines from elegant and classic to new and experimental. Its ingredient-driven cuisine is to not only serve cheese and cold cuts but also delicious small bites to satisfy hungry tummies.



Afterdark

Where to go from dinner

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Liberty or Death (Bar)

Erottajankatu 5, 00130 Helsinki

This joint has a resemblance of a traditional cocktail bar on a backstreet in New York. Do not judge it by its modest facade, inside hides a tiny yet cosy, dim-light bar with some of Finland's best cocktails. The menu changes frequently, but their classics attract locals from all around the country. This is a perfect spot for a couple of drinks before or after dinner.

Storyville (Jazzclub)

Museokatu 8, 00100 Helsinki

Storyville serves musical culture in a relaxed and international atmosphere. At least four times each week both Finnish and international orchestras and artists from different genres take the stage. Storyville has been nominated as one of the best jazzclubs in Europe. The kitchen serves Cajun and Creole style cuisine inside the Music Club and on the terrace during the summer months.

Butchers (Bar/Club)

Uudenmaankatu 16-20, 00120 Helsinki

Inspired by New York's Meatpacking District Butchers reaches out to all of those who have been dreaming of a high-end but down-to-Earth place to party, and to those who love to drink great cocktails in the early hours of the evening.

Skohan (Club)

Keskuskatu 8, 00101 Helsinki

A great location right in the city centre, a designed space, delicious drinks and fantastic beats, what else do you need for a good night out? The club belongs to the Finnish rap artist Cheek, a perfectionist whose high standards have guided the venue since day one. Pro tip: Skohan's large terrace is where you want to be heading during warm summer nights.

Teatteri (Club)

Pohjoisespa 2, 00130 Helsinki

A sprawling dining and entertainment complex, Ravintola Teatteri is effectively six venues in one, boasting a smart casual deli and wine bar, a modern grill restaurant, a terrace lounge, an all-day bar, an after-dark lounge and a late-night club with a modern, masculine edge.

Apollo Live (Club)

Mannerheimintie 16, 00100 Helsinki

Built into an old movie theater Apollo live club is an event restaurant that has been operating inside Forum shopping center since 2007. During weekend nights Apollo live club merges with Forum's inner courtyard creating a large unique venue setting as a nightclub and a live club. With top-of-the-game Scandinavian cover bands Apollo live club's live music playing 'till 03, the nights at Apollo are something nobody forgets.

You can also find karaoke at the basement.

Maxine (Club)

Urho Kekkosen katu 1, (inside Kamppi shopping center) 00100, Helsinki

Maxine is one of the hottest nightclubs in Helsinki with a central location and the best view of the city skyline. Dance the night away on the newly remodeled dance floor or show off your singing skills in the new Happy End karaoke bar. The entrance to Maxine can be found at Narinkkatori.



The sights

What not to miss!

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Tempeliaukio Church

Quarried out of the natural bedrock, Tempeliaukio Church is one of Helsinki's most popular tourist attractions. The interior walls are created naturally by the rock. Due to its excellent acoustics the church is a popular venue for concerts.

Helsinki Cathedral

The Cathedral rising on the northern side of the Senate Square is the stage of national and academic festive services and one of the most popular tourist sights. Earlier called St. Nicholas Church and Great Cathedral, the current main church of the Helsinki.

The Old Market Hall

The Old Market Hall in Helsinki has served its customers since 1889. Merchants sell everything from cheese, fish, shellfish, vegetable, fruit and cakes to spices, coffee and tea.

Market Square

The Market Square is Helsinki's most international and famous market. The booths here sell traditional market foods and treats, as well as handicrafts and souvenirs. There is also a heated café tent where you can comfortably sip steaming hot coffee even on the coldest days in winter.

Tori Quarters

Visit Tori Quarters in the historical center of Helsinki to discover the heart of the old town meeting the new buzz of the city. In the area you find a growing number of cafés, restaurants, design boutiques, craft shops, creative sector companies and renewed public space.

Sibelius Park

In the Sibelius park is the world famous composer Jean Sibelius' (1865-1957) monument by Eila Hiltunen. The Sibelius Monument, resembling organ pipes, is made of welded steel with the bust of the composer on one side. The monument is one of Helsinki's most popular statues and one of the most well known tourist attractions.

Kamppi Chapel of Silence

Kamppi Chapel of Silence is located in a corner of the Narinkkatori square in Helsinki, at the entrance of the Kamppi shopping center. The Chapel is intended to be a place where people can have a moment of silence and meet each other. It offers an opportunity to calm down in the middle of perhaps the busiest area in Finland.

Ateneum Art Museum

Ateneum Art Museum houses the largest collections of art in Finland with more than 20,000 works of art from the 1750s to the 1950s. The changing exhibitions are on display on the ground floor and in the exhibition halls on the second floor. Ateneum also organizes various workshops, guided tours and other programs.

The National Museum of Finland

National Museum illustrates Finnish history from prehistoric times to the present. Major archaeological finds. Temporary exhibitions. Embark a time-trip through the history of Finland. The museum's unique exhibits tells of the life from a period of over 10,000 years.

Kiasma

Kiasma is a museum of contemporary art under the umbrella of the Finnish National Gallery. Its primary role is to educate the public on contemporary art and to strengthen the status of art in Finland in general. The basic functions of the museum are organizing changing exhibitions and augmenting its collection, along with research and presentation of the works.

Linnanmäki

Linnanmäki is Finland's oldest and most popular amusement park, located in the Alppila quarter of Helsinki. Linnanmäki has over 40 rides, many different games, as well as restaurants and cafés. The most popular ride in the amusement park is the wooden rollercoaster, which has been delighting visitors since 1951.

Suomenlinna

Suomenlinna is one of the most popular sights in Finland with around 900,000 visitors yearly. 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. Work on the fortress began in 1748. At the tourist information point you can pick up the free Suomenlinna brochure available in nine languages (Finnish, Swedish, English, Russian, German, French, Spanish, Japanese and Chinese).

Korkeasaari – Helsinki Zoo

Helsinki Zoo is home to 150 animal species and almost 1000 plant species that show the diversity of nature. Helsinki Zoo is one of the few zoos located on an island. It is the perfect place to visit due to its natural environment, animals and history. The zoo was established already in 1889 and this makes it one of the oldest zoos in the world. Helsinki Zoo also participates in the work to protect the habitats in the original homes of the various species.

Löyly

Sauna bathing is an essential part of Finnish culture and national identity. There are only 5,4 million Finns but 3,3 million saunas. With Löyly (meaning the steam that comes when you throw water on hot stones in a sauna) Helsinki will offer foreign visitors a public sauna experience all year round – a must when visiting Finland.

