

HELSINKI, FINLAND

The capital of Finland presents a vibrant blend of urban culture and coastal nature, with a unique glimpse into Nordic lifestyle. Rated the second-safest city on Earth, Helsinki is easy to navigate using public transport and its blend of architectural styles makes it a photographer's favourite.

KEY INFO

Currency: Euro (1 USD = 0.92 EUR)

Population: 650,000 (5.5 million Finland)

Emergency #: 112

Drinking water: Tap water is drinkable

Time Zone: GMT+2 (Winter), GMT+3 (Summer)

ID Requirements: Photo ID/Passport (non-EU)

Languages: Finnish, Swedish (70% can speak English)

Drive on the: Right

Pharmacy: Apteekki Citycenter, Market Square 


Protection: Standard health precautions

Wi-Fi: Port, Central Library, Cultural Centres, Cafés

Post Office: Posti Noutopiste, Erottajankatu 7 

PORT LOCATION

The Port of Helsinki has three areas for cruise ships to dock. LHB, LHC, LHD are at **Hernesaari Quays**, ERA, EKL are at **Kataianokka Quays**, and EPL, EMA are at **South Harbour Quays**. [Find your berth here](#).

Getting Around: From the cruise terminal, public transport, taxis, or a (typically chargeable) cruise shuttle takes you into the city centre (drop off: near Market Sq, 4km from port). To walk from the port to city centre takes about 40-minutes. Once in town, walking around is enjoyable. The public transport system is efficient, and tickets can be purchased via the HSL smartphone app ([Apple](#) | [Android](#)). Tickets are cheaper before you board.  [For public transport maps click here](#)

Taxis: Taxis are available and can be hailed on the street. Base rate €5.50. Most take cash and card payment.



Tourist Bus: There is a [Hop-On-Hop-Off Sightseeing Bus](#) (19 stops | €34 | Stop 7: cruise port | [map](#))



Tourist Information: In Terminal ([click here for a tourist map of Tallinn](#))

Port Facilities: Tourist Information, Toilets, Shops, Taxis, Café, WiFi, HOHO Bus



Port Address: Hernesaari Quays  | Katajanokka Quays  | South Harbour Quays 

HELSINKI CITY HIGHLIGHTS

Tuomiokirkko (Helsinki Cathedral): Green-domed, neoclassical cathedral dominates the city skyline. 9a-11:45a, 12:30p-6p (Mon-Fri), 1p-6p (Sat), 11:30a-6p (Sun) | €5 | 4km from port (17-min drive) |  | 

Tempeliaukio Church: Lutheran church, carved directly into solid rock. Architectural marvel and popular as a concert venue too. Open daily (hours vary) | €8 | 4km from port (14-min drive) |  | 


Uspenski Cathedral: The focal point of the Finnish Orthodox faith, ornate exterior and lavish interior. 9:30a-4p (Tue-Fri), 10a-3p (Sat), 12p-3p (Sun) | Free | 4.6km from port (15-min drive) |  | 



Design Museum: Striking red-brick architecture, with a fantastic collection of modern art. 11a-6p (Tue-Sun), 11a-8p (Tue) | €20 | 2.6km from port (9-min drive) |  | 



For more: <https://www.myhelsinki.fi>



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 link to map

Ateneumin Taidemuseo: The main art museum, with the largest collection of classical art in the country. 10a-8p (Tue-Fri), 10a-5p (Sat, Sun) | €22 | 4km from port (14-min drive) |  | 

Hotel & Restaurant Museum: A museum of food and drink culture, at the Cable Factory cultural centre. 11a-6p (Tue-Sun), 11a-8p (Wed) | €16 | 4.5km from port (13-min drive) |  | 



Seurasaari Open-Air Museum: Seasonal museum spread over an entire island, with traditional Finnish houses, farmsteads and manors from different regions. 9a-3p (Mon-Fri), 11a-5p (Sat, Sun) | €12 | 8km from port (20-min drive) |  | 

Tähtitorninvuori: Elegant urban park, laid out in 1868, with astronomy-themed displays in the former observatory. 24 Hours | Free | 2.8km from port (10-min drive) |  | 

Market Square: A bustling area by the harbour with fresh Finnish produce, souvenirs, and crafts. 8a-6p (Mon-Sat) | Free | 4km from port (11-min drive) |  | 

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Suomenlinna: Inhabited 18th Century sea fortress. UNESCO World Heritage Site. 4km from port (15-min ferry from Market Sq) |  | 

Lohja: Known for its apple orchards, beautiful scenery and the Tytyri Mine Museum . 60km from port (1-hour drive) | 

SOMETHING TO EAT OR DRINK

Karjalanpiirakka (Karelian Pasty): A traditional pasty made with thin rye pastry and filled with rice. Popular since the 1900s. [Read more](#)

Runeberg-Törtchen: Torte flavoured with almonds and arrack or rum. Usually finished with raspberry jam and a ring of icing on the top. Originally from Porvoo, Finland. [Read more](#)

Salmiakki Koskenkorva: Pre-mixed liqueur, made with Koskenkorva Viina vodka with salmiakki extract dissolved into it for a salty liquorice flavour.

LOCAL SOUVENIRS

The Finnish love their saunas, so items including **towels, oils and other sauna-related gifts** are popular. Also keep your eyes peeled for a **Kuksa** – traditional Sami drinking cup made from birch burl, or a **Puukko** – a traditional Finnish belt knife. Berries are popular and grow well here – particularly **cloudberry and buckthorn** – which are often used in jams, syrups and skincare products.


LOCAL LINGO

Hello	Hei	Please	Ole hyvä
Goodbye	Näkemiin	Thank you	Kiitos
Toilet/Restroom	Kylpyhuone	Cruise Ship Port	Risteilyalusten satama

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