
Travel Guide Helsinki

Design, foodie delights and green areas galore

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Quick view

Helsinki: Design, foodie delights and green areas galore

Tucked away at the end of the Gulf of Finland, Helsinki is a seaside city with a long history and an even longer list of things to do. Like Copenhagen and Stockholm, art and architecture feature heavily, as does design, while its foodie scene – long regarded as a Baltic version of British cuisine – is improving rapidly.

Freezing in winter and balmy in summer, Helsinki's many museums make it a year-round destination, although if you want to take advantage of its many alfresco beauties, June and July are best.



Finland

General knowledge

Country overview

Finland is the big surprise of the Nordic countries, a natural wonderland with more trees than people and more islands than any other nation in the world. With endless miles of wilderness and 188,000 lakes on their doorstep, the Finns are uniquely in tune with their surroundings.

Even committed urbanites retreat to wooden cottages in the country during the brief warm summers to swim and fish in the lakes and gather wild berries and mushrooms in the woods, before unwinding with a sauna and a glass of *kosku* (Finnish vodka).

Geography

The history and politics of Finland has been shaped by its location, wedged between Sweden to the west, Norway to the north and Russia to the east. The national character of the Finns has been further coloured by the water-logged landscape - the country is hemmed in by the Gulf of Bothnia and the Gulf of Finland and 10% of its landmass lies underwater. Finland has more islands than any other country on earth - 30,000 off the Finnish coast and a further 98,000 islands in its 188,000 inland lakes - and the Saimaa Lake system in the southeast of the country is the largest inland water system in Europe.

By European standards, Finland is very sparsely populated.

Around 69% of the country is covered by the pine forests that define the northern coniferous zone. In the south and southwest, the forest is mainly pine, fir and birch; in Lapland, in the far north, scattered dwarf birch forests give way to Arctic tundra. Most of the national forests are managed for timber, which is used for the manufacture of furniture, paper and fibreboards and for domestic heating and warming Finland's 1.6 million saunas. Finland's forests are said to be the most sustainably managed in Europe. Only 8% of the land is used for agriculture - more than 50% of Finns work in manufacturing or the service sector.

General knowledge

Facts

Population: 5266114

Population Density (per sq km): 16

Capital: Helsinki.

Language

There are two official languages: Finnish, mother tongue for 91.6% of the population, and Swedish, first language of 5.5% of the population. Swedish Finns have a distinct cultural identity and often speak English more fluently than they speak Finnish. The Finnish language is related to only Estonian and Hungarian. Around 2,000 people in Lapland speak one of the dialects of the Sámi language, while Karelian dialects still survive amongst older people in the east of the country. English is taught as the first foreign language.

Currency

Euro (EUR; symbol €) = 100 cents. Notes are in denominations of €500, 200, 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5. Coins are in denominations of €2 and 1, and 50, 20, 10 and 5 cents. Note that 1 and 2 cent coins, while valid in other eurozone countries, are not used in Finland.

Electricity

230 volts AC, 50Hz. European two-pin plugs are standard.

General business opening hours

Mon-Fri 0800-1615, though some places stay open till 1700.

Public Holidays

Listed below are the public holidays for the period January 2020 to December 2021.

2020

Uudenvuodenpäivä (New Year's Day): 1 January 2020
Loppiainen (Epiphany): 6 January 2020
Pitkäperjantai (Good Friday): 10 April 2020
Pääsiäispäivä (Easter Sunday): 12 April 2020
2. Pääsiäispäivä (Easter Monday): 13 April 2020
Vappu (May Day): 1 May 2020
Helatorstai (Ascension Day): 21 May 2020
Helluntai (Whitsunday): 31 May 2020
Juhannuspäivä (Midsummer): 20 June 2020
Pyhäinpäivä (All Saints' Day): 31 October 2020
Itsenäisyyspäivä (National Day, Independence Day): 6 December 2020
Joulupäivä (Christmas): 25 December 2020
Tapaninpäivä (St. Stephen's Day): 26 December 2020

2021

Uudenvuodenpäivä (New Year's Day): 1 January 2021
Loppiainen (Epiphany): 6 January 2021
Pitkäperjantai (Good Friday): 2 April 2021
Pääsiäispäivä (Easter Sunday): 4 April 2021
2. Pääsiäispäivä (Easter Monday): 5 April 2021
Vappu (May Day): 1 May 2021
Helatorstai (Ascension Day): 13 May 2021
Helluntai (Whitsunday): 23 May 2021
Juhannuspäivä (Midsummer): 26 June 2021
Pyhäinpäivä (All Saints' Day): 6 November 2021
Itsenäisyyspäivä (National Day, Independence Day): 6 December 2021
Joulupäivä (Christmas): 25 December 2021
Tapaninpäivä (St. Stephen's Day): 26 December 2021

All information subject to change.



Travel etiquette

How to fit in

Social Conventions

Shaking hands is customary as a greeting and guests are expected to refrain from drinking until the host or hostess toasts their health with *kippis* or *skol* (cheers). Most Finns prefer practical, casual clothing, except for special occasions. Many younger Finns rebel against this social norm through body piercing, dressing in 'Gothic' clothes and listening to heavy rock bands such as Lordi.

Although renowned for their liberal attitudes, Finns can appear to be rather reserved with strangers, so do not be alarmed if conversations start slowly. Shoes should be removed when entering someone's home.



Health

Health

Main emergency number: 112

Campers and trekkers should take precautions against tick bites and consider immunisation against tick-borne encephalitis if visiting the Åland Islands. Mosquitoes are a pest during the damp summers, particularly in the north - bring mosquito repellent and topical cream to stop bites becoming infected.

Contractual physician of Lufthansa

Dr. Lindberg, Otto
EIRA HOSPITAL
Laivurinkatu 29
0150 Helsinki
Finland
Tel. +35-80-16201

Please note that Lufthansa accepts no responsibility for the treatment nor will it bear the cost of any treatment.



Phone calls & Internet

Phone calls & Internet

Telephone

Country code: +358

Mobile telephony and Internet

Since June 2017, EU citizens traveling within the EU, and also in Iceland, Norway and Liechtenstein have been able to use their cell phones and surf the Net without incurring any extra charges: In other words, customers pay the same price for phone calls, text messages and data volume as they do at home. Restrictions do apply to the constant use of SIM cards abroad, however, and caps may be set on data packages. For full details, contact your mobile telephony provider in your country. Travelers using a SIM card from a non-EU state do not benefit from the new arrangement.

Free Internet access via Wi-Fi is possible in many busy tourist spots. When using public Wi-Fi networks, it is a wise precaution to ensure encryption of all

passwords, credit card details and banking TANs entered. Use of a VPN app or security software to check the safety of a hotspot is recommended.



Getting around Helsinki

Getting around

Public Transport:

Helsinki has a comprehensive integrated transport system, with trams, buses and metro all included on the same ticket, although it is possible to buy tram-only tickets if you prefer. All tickets have to be bought from ticket machines – while you can pick up tickets on some forms of transport, tram drivers will not sell you anything. Choose from single, which for €2.50 will give you unlimited travel within Helsinki for an hour, regional which includes Espoo, Vantaa and Kauniainen, and day. Alternatively, there's the Travel Card, a reloadable smart card that lets you pay on a pay-as-you-go basis and is available from all the main stations.

Taxis:

Cabs are easy to pick up and fares are regulated by the government, so are never uncomfortably high. Hailing a cab will cost you €5 (€9 after 9pm) and the meter ticks over at €1.52 per kilometre.



Top 10 sights

Top 10 sights in Helsinki

Suomenlinna

Once the greatest sea fortress on the Baltic, Suomenlinna occupies an entire island and was built by the Swedes in the mid-1700s and, along with the historic castle, now houses theatres, bars and restaurants.

Suomenlinna C 74 www.suomenlinna.fi
00190 Helsinki
Finland
Tel: (029) 533 8410

Helsinki Cathedral

Designed by Carl Ludwig Engel, the magnificent 19th-century Helsinki Cathedral looks more like a Greek temple than a church but is utterly spectacular from the inside.

Unioninkatu 29 Opening times:
00170 Helsinki Daily 0900-0000 (Jun-Aug)
Finland 0900-1800 (Sep-May)
Tel: (09) 2340 6120 www.helsinginkirkot.fi/en/churches/cathedral

Linnanmäki Amusement Park

More than half a century old, the Linnanmäki Amusement Park is a charming old funfair complete with traditional rides and a wooden roller coaster that's as old as the park.

Tivolikuja 1
00510 Helsinki
Finland
Tel: (010) 572 2200

Opening times:
Late April to late October (times vary;
check website for details)

www.linnanmaki.fi

National Museum of Finland

More than 170 years old, the National Museum of Finland charts Finnish history from prehistory to present day via a series of often eye-opening exhibits.

Mannerheimintie 34
00100 Helsinki
Finland
Tel: (040) 128 6469

Opening times:
Tue-Sun 1100-1800

www.nba.fi/en/nationalmuseum

Tempeliaukio

Hewn out of solid bedrock, the Tempeliaukio (rock church) opened in 1969 and has been wowing tourists and locals alike ever since. Designed by architects Timo and Tuomo Suomalainen, it doubles as a concert venue.

Lutherinkatu 3
00100 Helsinki
Finland
Tel: (09) 2340 6320

Opening times:
Mon-Sat 1000-1745
Sun 1145-1745 (Jun-Aug)
Mon-Sat 1000-1700
Sun 1145-1700 (Sep-May)

www.helsinginkirkot.fi/en/churches/rock-church...

Sibelius Monument

Unveiled in 1967, the vast Sibelius Monument commemorates composer Jean Sibelius and was designed to resemble a set of organ pipes by architect Eila Hiltunen.

Sibeliuksen puisto
00250 Helsinki
Finland

Helsinki Zoo

One of the oldest zoos on the planet, Helsinki Zoo opened in 1889 and is home to more than 1,000 different species of plant and 200 different types of animal.

Mustikkamaanpolku 12
00570 Helsinki
Finland
Tel: (09) 3103 7901

Opening times:
Daily 1000-1600 (Oct-Mar)
1000-1800 (Apr and Sep)
1000-2000 (May-Aug)

www.korkeasaari.fi

Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art

With a focus on art created from the mid-1960s onwards, the Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art has pieces by all the modern masters as well as an on-site theatre specialising in experimental dance.

Mannerheiminaukio 2	Opening times:
00100 Helsinki	Tue and Sun 1000-1700
Finland	Wed-Fri 1000-2030
Tel: (0294) 500 501	Sat 1000-1800

www.kiasma.fi

Olympic Stadium

Completed in 1938 and used as the centrepiece for the 1952 Olympic Games, Helsinki's Olympic Stadium remains one of the Finnish capital's main sport and music venues. It also boasts a museum and a 72m (236ft) tower, complete with a viewing platform at the top.

Paavo Nurmen tie 1	Opening times:
00250 Helsinki	Mon-Fri 0800-2000
Finland	Sat-Sun 0900-1800
Tel: (09) 436 6010	

www.stadion.fi

Eduskunta

Helsinki's Parliament building might not be the prettiest but it is impressively large and contains a number of interesting exhibits as well as its very own café.

Mannerheimintie 30	Opening times:
00102 Helsinki	Mon-Fri 0900-1615 (guided tours)
Finland	
Tel: (09) 432 2027	www.eduskunta.fi



Shopping in Helsinki

Key Areas

Most of the shopping action in Helsinki happens in and around Aleksanterinkatu (fondly known as Alexi to the locals), which is where you'll find most of the international names as well as Finnish favourites such as Marimekko and Stockmann – the largest department store in Scandinavia. Elsewhere, the Kampii area is where most of the malls are to be found, while Uudenmaankatu is the hub for homeware design.

Markets

Most of Helsinki's markets open only in summer but when they do, there's plenty of choice. Top pick is the Hakaniemi Market Hall and open-air market which sells local food and handicrafts.

Shopping Centres

With 240 shops, Itäkeskus is the largest mall in Scandinavia, while the nearby Kämp Galleria is the place to go for upmarket local design.



Restaurants

Restaurants in Helsinki

Finland isn't known for its food although, as in the UK, that is starting to change. As befits a sea port, Helsinki's restaurants are excellent for seafood as well as local delicacies such as cold smoked herring and delicate semi salty Åland Islands lamb.

A21 Dining

Dishes are themed by the part of Finland they come from and everything is fresh and organic.

Kalevankatu 17
00100 Helsinki
Finland

Price: Expensive

Restaurant Nokka

Voted Helsinki's best restaurant four years in a row, Nokka is the place for gourmet Finnish fare.

Kanavaranta 7F
00160 Helsinki
Finland

Price: Expensive

G.W. Sundmans

The grand dame of Helsinki restaurants, G.W Sundmans serves Finnish classics with a twist.

Eteläranta 16
00130 Helsinki
Finland

Price: Moderate

Bryggeri Helsinki

Good beer and new Nordic food of the sort more often found in Copenhagen.

Sofiankatu 2
00170 Helsinki
Finland

Price: Moderate

Sea Horse

A taste of Finnish home cooking for those on a budget.

Kapteeninkatu 11
00140 Helsinki
Finland

Price: Cheap



Nightlife

Nightlife in Helsinki

Despite their morose reputation, Finns love a party and as a result, Helsinki's bars are packed on weekends and Wednesdays. There's no shortage of choice either, although the death metal and Viking metal bars are probably best avoided.

Ateljee Bar

Incredible views thanks to its location on the 14th floor of the Sokos Hotel.

Yrjönkatu 26
00100 Helsinki
Finland

Café Cavalier

A super-chic gay bar in central Helsinki. Live music and great cocktails.

Malmirinne 2-4
00100 Helsinki
Finland

CUBA!

Caribbean-themed fun and excellent mojitos.

Erottajankatu 4
00120 Helsinki
Finland

Bar Bäckäri

A popular rock 'n' roll themed bar that thankfully eschews death metal.

Pohjoinen Rautatiekatu 21
00100 Helsinki
Finland

Tavastiaklubi

A Helsinki institution, Tavasiaklubi is ridiculously popular with the style set.

Urho Kekkosen katu 4-6
00100 Helsinki
Finland



Calendar of events **Calendar of events**

World Village Festival

Cultures from all over the world meet annually during this Festival in Helsinki. There is a lot happening from music, circus, dance, theatre, art to various fun filled activities. The Festival also offers new perspectives on tolerant multiculturalism and global issues.

May 23 - 24, 2020

Venue: Kaisaniemi Park and Railway Square

Helsinki Festival

The Helsinki Festival is the largest multi-arts festival in Finland, lasting two weeks, and featuring everything from classical music to pop and world music, from theatre to contemporary dance, and from the visual arts to cinema and children's events.

Related events include art-themed urban culture, as well as Night of the Arts.

August 20 - September 6, 2020

Venue: Varous Venues

Helsinki Baltic Herring Fair

Fishermen have been gathering round Helsinki Market Square at the beginning of October to sell their wares ever since the 18th century. The tradition continues to this day when Helsinki hosts the Baltic Herring Fair, one of the city's oldest traditional events. The market is packed with salted, pickled and marinated fish and special events also take place. As well as traditional marinade recipes, there are also exotic options on offer too ranging from lemon and rowanberry to cayenne pepper and garlic. Some stalls also sell items such as socks, hats and jumpers made from the wool of sheep living on the remote islands, as well as loaves of the delicious black bread so popular in the Finnish archipelago. On the Saturday of the Helsinki Baltic Herring Fair, traditional sailing ships race each other just off the Helsinki shore, where crowds gather to watch the spectacle. After the race, the ships dock at Market Square for the sailors to attend the Traditional Sailing Ship Meet on the Sunday. The ships are also open for the public to jump on board and look around.

October 2020

Venue: Helsinki Market Square

St Thomas Christmas Market

Several stalls selling Christmas treats and seasonal crafts line the street of Esplanade Park and Aleksanterinkatu. The Lucia Parade is another seasonal favourite; starting from Senate Square, the parade features elves, horses and historic cars.

December 2020

Venue: Esplanade Park



Hotels Hotels in Helsinki

From simple B&Bs to palatial five-star hotels, there's no shortage of places to stay in Helsinki – whatever your budget. Most are stylish, with quirky Marimekko prints popping up almost everywhere, and in true Finnish style, nearly all have saunas.

Hotel Kämp

A glamorous pile in central Helsinki, Hotel Kämp is well worth the price tag.

Pohjoisesplanadi 29
00100 Helsinki
Finland

Category: Expensive

Klaus K

A seriously stylish boutique hotel conveniently located in central Helsinki.

Bulevardi 2-4
00120 Helsinki
Finland

Category: Moderate

GLO Hotel Kluuvi Helsinki

Chic neutrals and a private entrance to the Kämp Galleria shopping centre make this a good choice for design fans.

Kluuvikatu 4
00100 Helsinki
Finland

Category: Moderate



24 hours in Torkkelinmäki



Prisma/Esa Hiltula

09:00 a.m.: Wake up at the Uman Hotel

Despite the name, this is way more AirBnB than hotel – soft beds, small rooms with an integrated kitchen complete with bread-baking machine. Furnishings and design are of minimalist Scandinavian/purist persuasion, the color scheme muted. If you've ever been to IKEA, you'll soon find your way around. Your balcony or terrace is the best place to enjoy the coffee you made on arrival because from there, you can also see the lay of the land. Everything in this neighborhood is designed for practicality: The buildings and apartments tend to be on the small side and entirely devoid of extravagant flourishes. On the way to breakfast, you pass by examples of typical architecture, such as Kallio Church on a hill two blocks away, which towers above everything else and is therefore visible from the hotel. Built in 1912, it was reputedly designed to emulate Solomon's temple.

Fleminginkatu 8 C 70
00530 Helsinki
Finland
Tel. +358-44/987 93 20

www.umanhotel.fi

10:00 a.m.: Breakfast at the Rupla

Feel free to dawdle or your walk to breakfast won't last very long: It's just 230

meters from the hotel to the Rupla. Yellowing sign on the doorstep, worn front door, and old wooden tables – all is exactly as it should be, since this place combines art with food. It serves up changing exhibitions along with sandwiches and good coffee. Lunch comes at a very reasonable price, tastes goods and is made from ingredients that would otherwise be thrown away. Single-speed bicycles are parked outside the door, while inside, the café is filled with bearded men and women who work as models: The Rupla is supposedly the hippest place in all of Helsinki. Second-hand clothes (mainly from the 1970s) are sold in back, and if you take a particular fancy to your chair while munching on carrot cake, you are welcome to take it with you because all of the furniture is also for sale. Hence the Rupla's regularly changing decor.

Helsinginkatu 16	Opening times:
00500 Helsinki	Mon-Fri 0800-1800
Finland	Sat-Sun 1100-1700
Tel. +358-50/468 43 34	
	rupla.fi

12:00 a.m.: Buy a gift at Wanha Kaarle

Only a few hundred meters further off, but this time in the other direction: It's time to spare a thought for loved ones at home and buy them a gift. How about some impaled butterflies under glass from a Finnish industrialist's collection? If so, then Wanha Kaarle is the place to head for. It is crammed with all manner of stuff: pots and pans, lamps, china ducks and plastic fruit, newspaper stands and tea cups, wooden train sets and dolls. This shop is so small that it even uses the street as a storeroom in good weather. Much of what is sold here is impractical, but few articles are truly ugly. In fact, the same premise can be applied here: Scandinavians and design simply go well together. And anyone needing a dress to match their newly acquired plastic dog can take a quick look next door, where Frida Marina stocks every possible style of clothing from the 1950s to the 1980s, most articles are very well preserved and many of them of Finnish design. Coffee is also served here – organic, naturally.

Kaarlenukatu 12 B	Opening times:
00530 Helsinki	Mon-Sat 1200-1800
Finland	Sun closed
Tel. +358-50/598 10 84	
	www.wanhakaarle.fi

12:30 p.m.: Grab a shave at The Barber Shop

We exit Torckelinmäki briefly in the interests of looking good for our evenings' activities and in search of The Barber Shop. It is also located in a hipster area, Punavuori, the coolest place in town before Torckelinmäki became the coolest place. This doesn't worry owner Rody Maher, a Brit, who's been in business here for the past 25 years. He trims beards by appointment and old English custom, which more or less means that everything here is rather conservative and/or has a very Victorian feel to it.

Fredrikinkatu 19	Opening times:
00120 Helsinki	Mon-Fri 0930-1930
Finland	Sat and Sun closed
Tel. +358-40/159 11 97	
	thebarbershop.fi

02:00 p.m.: Enjoy the sun in Karhupuisto Park

Back to Torkkelinmäki. See and be seen. This park with a bear monument at its center is a popular meeting place for young and old alike, especially in the summer. Because more and more LGBT events are being held here, it has also been the focal point of gay life in the Finnish capital for years. There are plenty of bars and restaurants close by, but the simply named Bear Park Café is the most popular. The flowers in the middle of the park were planted in the late 1990s with the idea of driving the drunks away with the beauty of the plants and the bustle of the volunteer gardeners, who today number more than 100 today. The plan was not entirely successful, and a lot of drinking still goes on here on weekends. Style-conscious visitors always bring an intellectual magazine along to the park.

Fleminginkatu
00530 Helsinki
Finland

03:00 p.m.: Sweet treats at Cafe Cardemumma

Been a while since your last cup of coffee? Quick, head to the Cardemumma. The wait staff may blow hot and cold like the wind on the Baltic, but the cinnamon buns here are the best in town. They are gigantic, served warm and by Finnish standards almost given away. And there's no need for the more health-conscious to steer clear of the place, either, because the menu also includes salad and changing daily specials. These are not the main focus, however, which is on sweet treats: In addition to the cinnamon buns, there's a vast array of cakes, biscuits and various sweet rolls. You'll likely find yourself spotting your first familiar faces again here because Rupa and Wahne Kaarle are not far off. In the summer, this really small café simply spills out onto the street. You'll see hipsters sitting alongside people who have been living in the neighborhood for decades here.

Kaarenkatu 15
00510 Helsinki
Finland
Tel. +358-45/355 81 50

Opening times:
Mon-Fri 0730-1700
Sat 1000-1500
Sun closed

cafecardemumma.fi

04:30 p.m.: Sweat at Kotiharjun Sauna Oy

If you want to see nice, friendly Finns getting into a heated debate, just tell them it was the Russians who invented the sauna. Suddenly, the people all around you will become extremely communicative. Part of the evidence they cite to prove that the Finns can outdo their eastern neighbors where the sauna is concerned is the year, 1929, in which this particular sauna was built and opened. Not only is it the oldest in the city, but it is entirely in concrete, too, so the stone on which you sit is really hot. Towels are nevertheless frowned upon and even the small wooden seat planks are used only by crybabies. The only wood in the hot room is birch, which is burned to heat the place up to 100 degrees Celsius. Infusions here are also more on the rustic side – if you want to heat things up a little, you just pour water onto the embers around the stove (and then quickly turn away to avoid the rising ash). To cool off, you step outside the door onto the street – just two meters away from passersby lugging shopping bags or taking their dogs for a walk or their kids to the bus. Obligatory: a beer at the end of each session in the hot room. Gin and vodka mixers are also available here, but they count as non-alcoholic.

Harjutorinkatu 1
00500 Helsinki
Finland
Tel. +358-9/753 15 35

Opening times:
Tue-Sun 1400-2000
Mon closed

Admission 13 Euros

kotiharjunsuuna.fi/

08:00 p.m.: Line your stomach at the Naughty Burger

We make another quick detour to hipster neighborhood Punavuori. That's easy because in Helsinki (almost) everywhere is within walking distance. And the good reason to go there now is the Naughty Burger, which supposedly serves the best burgers in Helsinki. Evil tongues might say that's hardly a feat; Helsinki is, after all, the capital of fast food chain Hesburger, which certainly doesn't employ such magnificently tattooed wait staff. And where else can you listen to heavy metal from Biohazard or Anthrax while you wait for your fries? Still, you will see plenty of young moms with small children here. Please note: on sundays, the Naughty Burger closes at 7 p. m.

Lönnrotinkatu 13
00120 Helsinki
Finland
Tel. +358-40/516 40 40

Opening times:
Tue-Sat 1100-2200
Sun 1200-1900
Mon closed

naughtybrgr.com

09:00 p.m.: Enjoy a drink at the Pulmu

Everyone can be a DJ here and include their own songs on the playlist, but the music still isn't terrible, which speaks for the guests. The Pulmu is also proud of a long drink that was created especially for the 1952 Olympic Games in Helsinki and which it serves in practical, large tumblers. The interior decor is reminiscent of a travel agency of the legendary American airline Pan Am in the 1950s: everything here is generally reminiscent of aviation and specifically of the legendary US airline. As the Pulmu is small, the atmosphere is quite intimate, making it another place to discover how very communicative the Finns are. Any claims to the contrary are plain wrong!

Fleminginkatu 13
00500 Helsinki
Finland
Tel. +358-40/559 36 17

Opening times:
Daily 1800-0200

11:00 p.m.: Dance at the Kaiku

According to the *Guardian*, the Kaiku is one of Europe's top nightclubs. In Helsinki, it's described as "Berlin-style." Be that as it may, it is certainly one of the few clubs in town to have bouncers on the door. It occupies a former industrial building that housed a match factory that also produced metal clips for spring mattresses, as well as an industrial bakery. The operators of the Kaiku took the old division of space as the basis for their concept for a club with different floors. Electro is the dominant music genre here, but the intensity varies. International and Finnish DJs alternate, the sound booming from the speakers is superb, and when exhaustion sets in, dancers can step out onto the balcony or terrace for a breath of fresh air. It's

the perfect place to spot trendsetting Finns in golden jackets and swim caps. Worth remembering: On weekends, there's a very long line outside the door.

Kaikukatu 4
00530 Helsinki
Finland
Tel. +358-45/111 14 66

Opening times:
Wed-Sun 2200-0400
clubkaiku.fi