

Things to do in Helsinki

Enjoy the Sauna culture and a swim

- Allas Sea Pool right by Kauppatori
- Löyly
- Hermanni

Enjoy the Arts

- Visit the Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art
- Visit Ateneum
- Visit the National Museum of Finland
- Visit the Central Library Oodi
- Temppeliaukio Church

Stroll around

Helsinki is famous for its architecture and there are many impressive buildings with interesting histories. Start by the Helsinki Railway Station and Walk along Mannerheiminkatu to Aleksanderin katu and be sure to see the Helsinki Cathedral at the Senate Square, the Uspenski Cathedral, and the Central Market? (Kauppatori) and have a coffee and a "lihis" (meat pie) at the Old Market Hall (Kauppahalli/Saluhallen).

Take a ferry trip

Take the ferry from the Central market (kauppatori) to the historical sight and old fortress on the island with the same name: Suomenlinna (Sveaborg). It was first constructed by the Swedes in 1748 as a defense against the Russians (it was originally called "Sveaborg" which means "Castle of the Swedes"). When the Russians took over Helsinki in 1808, they used it as a garrison. It was eventually taken over by Finland in 1918 and renamed Suomenlinna" (Castle of Finland). It's now a park and functioning residential area. It's also a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Go island hopping

Hang out in one of the many parks

- Sinerbrychoff Park
- Kaivopuisto (huge park)
- The Esplanadi/Esplanaden park

Other interesting places, galleries and exhibitions

- [Academic Bookstore \(Akateeminen Kirjakauppa\)](#)
- [Sibelius monument](#)
- [Exhibition Albert Edelfelt https://ateneum.fi/en/exhibitions/albert-edelfelt/](https://ateneum.fi/en/exhibitions/albert-edelfelt/)
- [Design museum https://www.designmuseum.fi/en/](https://www.designmuseum.fi/en/)

Moomins & Tove Jansson: [Discover Tove Jansson's life and art through this map of Helsinki](#)

- <https://www.hamhelsinki.fi/en/exhibition/tove-jansson/>

For longer stays

- Take the boat called J.L. Runeberg for a two-hour return ride through the archipelago and visit the Old Town of Porvoo for lunch and a walk. Porvoo is the second oldest city in Finland and highly recommended for a day tour!