



**THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES
OF FINLAND**



Practical Information: DLM Forum Members' Meeting

14th – 15th November 2019, Helsinki Finland

Welcome to Helsinki

The National Archives of Finland is pleased to invite the members of the DLM Forum to their Members' meeting in Helsinki on 14th – 15th November 2019.

The capital of Finland is a compact city easily explored on foot. Design, architecture, culture and shopping are all great exploration angles and large park areas, forests, lakes, and the coastline with numerous islands. Helsinki has taken first place in the European Commission's new European Capital of Smart Tourism 2019 competition. Accessibility, sustainability, digitalisation, cultural heritage and creativity were leading themes in Helsinki. Finland is already one of the leading countries in the world in public digital services. Finnish society is currently undergoing a transition that includes big structural reforms. It challenges us to question the existing methods and practices and to make them more effective and flexible. DLM forum offers us great opportunity for co-operation and development of digital cultural heritage services.

Venue

The meeting takes place at the National Archives main building in the monumental city center of Helsinki. The National Archives of Finland's main building was designed by Gustaf Nyström and completed in 1890 in the Neo-Renaissance style. The main building of the National archives was the first building designed specifically for archival purposes in the Nordic countries and in the entire Russian Empire.



Free Wi-Fi is available on site. The facilities are accessible to persons with restricted mobility and assistance will be provided if needed.

Address: Rauhankatu 17



How to get to Helsinki city centre from Airport

By train: Local trains I and P operate between Helsinki Airport and the city centre on the Ring Rail Line. The journey time between the airport and the city centre (Central Railway Station) is approximately half an hour. Ticket (ABC-zone) costs 4,6€ when purchased from Helsinki Region Transport (HSL) ticket machines or via HSL Mobile ticket app. It is not possible to buy tickets on the train.

By bus: The Finnair City Bus operates between the airport and city centre (Elielinaukio) every 20 minutes and takes around 30 minutes. A single ticket costs 6.60€ when purchased online in advance or 6.80€ from the driver.

By taxi: You can also travel conveniently between the airport and the city centre by taxi, which will cost around 45€.

Climate and weather

Helsinki's climate combines characteristics of both a maritime and a continental climate. The proximity of the Arctic Ocean and the North Atlantic creates cold weather, while the Gulf Stream brings in warmer air.

Golden autumn is coming to Finland in September-October – nature is filled with bright colors, and ripe berries and mushrooms appear in the forests. This is an extremely popular time for tours to Finland. Pleasant, moderately warm weather persists in the South of the country until the middle of September, and then it starts to get colder. In the North, the first snow begins to fall in the first month of autumn, and in the rest of Finland (except the coast) in October. Before you see permanent snow cover, serious snow is still possible. In autumn, air temperature drops to +5 degrees in the southern regions and to 0 degrees in the North.



Squally winds and blizzards are typical in November, turning into heavy rains as they move towards the capital. In October-December, the weather in Finland begins to deteriorate rapidly – there are frequent rains accompanied by cold winds, and sunny days are waning. This period is unfortunately considered the worst time to visit Finland.

Language

Finland has two official languages, Finnish and Swedish. Street signs in Helsinki are in both languages. English is widely spoken and most Finns also master one or two other foreign languages.

Wifi

You can connect your laptop or mobile phone to a wireless network in many places throughout the city centre e.g. in several cafes, restaurants and libraries.

National Archives has free Wifi available.

For free WiFi, connect to “Helsinki City Open Wlan”. There are plenty of hotspots available in the city centre and at harbours. Also most hotels offer their guests a free internet connection. For the international research and education community, it is also possible to use Eduroam service while in Helsinki.

Tipping

Tipping is not expected in Finland and a service charge is added in hotels and restaurants. Finnish people do tip (max 10%) only if they wish to appreciate good service or delicious food. It is not obligatory to give a tip to the taxi drivers.

Small practical things

Tap water is good for drinking. Electric voltage: 220–240 Volts. Electrical sockets (outlets) in Finland are one of the two European standard electrical socket types: “Type C” Europlug and “Type E/F” Schuko. The time zone in Helsinki is Eastern European Time (EET), 2 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT+2).

Emergency number and pharmacies

General Emergency number for police, ambulance and fire department is 112.

There are a number of pharmacies around the city. Look for the sign “Apteekki”, which means pharmacy in Finnish. Yliopiston Apteekki at Mannerheimintie 96 is open 24/7.



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Tourist information

Helsinki Tourist Information provides free information about the city, main attractions, events and services. The Tourist Information provides tips and advice for making the most of your holiday. At the same time you can pick up brochures and maps.

The main Tourist Information Center in Helsinki is situated in the VR Ticket Sale Hall at the Central Railway Station on Kaivokatu 1. The staff is available during the summer season Mon-Fri 9-19 and Sat-Sun 10-17, and on winter season starting from October Mon-Fri 9.30-17.30 and on weekends and public holidays 10-16. The internet points and brochures are available according to the opening hours of the Ticket Sale Hall.

The digital Myhelsinki service point in Stockmann Department Store gives the customers access to internet and brochures, which are available during the opening hours of the department store. Moreover, until the end of August the tourist information staff is available at Myhelsinki service point daily from 12-16.

The Tourist Information Center at the Helsinki-Vantaa Airport serves especially foreign visitors and transit passengers. The Tourist Information Center is open 1.10.-30.4. Mon-Sat 10-18 and Sun 12-18, 1.5.-30.9. Mon-Sun 10-20. The internet point and brochures are accessible throughout the day.