

Landscapes of Finland

9 days – 8 days

Helsinki, Tammisaari, Pernio, Turku, Rauma, Huittinen, Tampere, Mantta, Jyväskylä, Kuopio, Mikkeli, Puumala, Lappeenranta, Kouvola, Kotka, Porvoo
Nature, Discovery, Culture, History

**This program may be operated for individual or for groups
This is a suggested itinerary – Please call us to customize**

Follow part of the southern Finnish coast by taking the Kings Route, through the lakes' region, a bluish labyrinth interspersed with the green of forests stretching for hundreds of miles over superb landscapes, discover the shores of chalets and houses bordered by fields ...

Day 1: Helsinki

After your arrival at Helsinki airport you'll be met by our representative and transferred to your chosen hotel. Rest of the day at leisure. Dinner at the hotel. [D]

Day 2: Helsinki

Your private walking tour will set off into the heart of historical Helsinki, where you stop by important landmarks such as the Uspenski Russian Cathedral, the Kiasma Modern Art Museum, the Kamppi Center, the Chapel of Silence, Helsinki Cathedral and Senate Square among others. Learn about Finnish history and what life is like in modern Helsinki through your guide's informative commentary. Make a stop at the Kauppahalli Market Hall where we stop to taste traditional Finnish dishes before walking to the Hongiston leipämyymälä store, one of the oldest institutions in the market, which has been offering a variety of cakes pies and rolls since 1903 that you can taste to accompany you coffee. After lunch, take a very short ferry crossing Suomenlinna to visit the fortress, one of the largest sea fortresses around the world that dates back to the mid 18th century and has renovated often ever since. This sea fortress is blessed with many faces the and stands out as a home to around 800 locals and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Take the ferry back to Helsinki to regain your hotel for dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]

Day 3: Helsinki, Tammisaari, Pernio, Turku

Take the scenic drive to Turku, along the coast passing through Karjaa, Tammisaari, Pernio to arrive in the former capital surrounded by an archipelago of over twenty thousand islands. Lunch in the city before discovering the Turku castle, a medieval building dating from the 14th century and almost as old as the city itself, the Lutheran and Evangelical Cathedral that has a sumptuous interior and the Luostarinmäki Handicraft Museum. Dinner and overnight in the Turku region. [B/L/D]

Day 4: Turku, Rauma, Huittinen, Nokia, Tampere

Departure to the old town of Rauma, the largest town built entirely of wood in the countries of northern Europe, and also a UNESCO World Heritage Site. About 600 people live in the old quarter, which covers 75 acres and counts 600 houses in all. Walking around the historic Rauma is like immersing yourself in a fairy tale: its colorful wooden houses, decorated palisades, streets paved with large pebbles and very pretty public buildings will quickly transport you to a distant past. Lunch and continuation to Huittinen, Nokia and Tampere. Dinner and overnight in the Tampere area. [B/L/D]

Day 5: Tampere, Mantta, Jyväskylä

First stop in Mänttä to visit the Serlachius Museum Gösta, established in the paper mill owner's former manor home, a modern wood-constructed pavilion built by its side enabling shows of contemporary art and interesting thematic exhibitions. It shows the masterpieces of artists from the Golden Age of Finnish art. Lunch en route to the next stop in Petäjävesi to visit the old wooden church, built of logs between 1763 and 1765. This Lutheran country church is a typical example of an architectural tradition that is unique to eastern Scandinavia. It combines the Renaissance conception of a centrally planned

church with older forms deriving from Gothic groin vaults. A short drive to Jyväskylä for a tour of the Savutuvan Apaja Open-Air Museum. Continue to Jyväskylä for dinner and overnight. [B/L/D]

Day 6: Jyväskylä, Kuopio

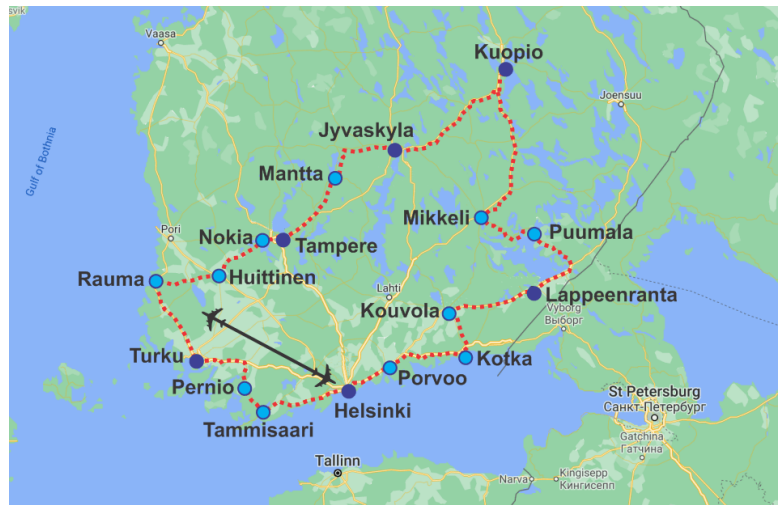
Departure for Kuopio through the magnificent lakes' region. In Kuopio, see the hill, the Puijo Tower, then walk along the shores of Lake Kallavesi before lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, visit the largest kantele factory, located in a beautiful location on the banks of the Leppvirta River. The kantele is the quintessential symbol of music in Finland. A plucked string instrument, made of horsehair, is placed on the knees or on a table and its strings are played with fingers or small objects, such as a match. Some metal groups have incorporated this instrument into their compositions. Rest of day free. Dinner and overnight in the Kuopio region. [B/L/D]

Day 7: Kuopio, Mikkeli, Puumala, Lappeenranta

Departure to Mikkeli where we stop to taste local specialties and learn about the crafts of Kenkävero. After lunch, continuation to Lappeenranta, passing through Puumala and Imatra located in the most spectacular landscapes of lakes. In Lappeenranta, visit the fortress, built in the 18th century, overlooking the city and Lake Saimaa. In the complex is one of the two Orthodox churches in Finland. Dinner and overnight in the Lappeenranta region. [B/L/D]

Day 8: Lappeenranta, Kouvola, Kotka, Porvoo, Helsinki

On the way to Porvoo, pass through Kouvola and discover the museum and the mill village of Verla. Then, head to Kotka and visit the pavilion-turned-museum, on the banks of the Langinkoski rapids. or head to Porvoo where we stop for lunch. In the afternoon, stroll through the port and the alleys with red wooden houses. We continue to Helsinki with some free time. This evening your guide will take you to a typical Finnish restaurant for a farewell dinner. Return to the hotel for overnight. [B/L/D]



Day 9: Helsinki, USA

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. At the appointed time you be met and transferred to the airport to board your flight back home. [B]

[B] = Breakfast | [D] = Dinner | [B/L/D] = Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Your Tour includes:

- Round-trip airfare USA-Helsinki
- Arrival and departure transfers
- 8 nights' accommodation:
 - Helsinki 3 nights
 - Turku 1 night
 - Tampere 1 night
 - Jyväskylä 1 night
 - Kuopio 1 night
 - Lappeenranta 1 night
- Meals:
 - Breakfast daily
 - 7 lunches
 - 7 dinners and 1 farewell dinner
- Tour of Helsinki
- Excursion to Suomenlinna Island
- Turku Castle
- Rauma World Heritage Site
- Serlachius Museum Gösta in Mantta
- Petäjävesi old wooden church
- Lake Kallavesi
- Kantele factory
- Puumala and Imatra lakes
- Private transportation for transfers & tours
- English speaking guide
- All local taxes

Tour does not Include:

- Taxes and surcharges relating to airfares
- Travel insurance
- Wi-Fi at hotels
- All alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks
- Other meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Extras and gratuities
- Early check-in, late check-out (Most hotels begin check-in around 2:00pm).
- Expenses of personal nature
- Porterage at airport and hotels
- Optional tours and activities
- Any service not specifically listed under "included"

Recommended hotels for your Tour:

City	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
First Class		
Helsinki	Hotel Katajanokka	4.5
Turku	Radisson Blu Marina Palace Hotel	4
Tampere	Scandic Tampere Station	4.5
Jyväskylä	Hotel Yopuu	5
Kuopio	Scandic Kuopio*	4

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking - * Best in town

Tour Prices:

- Airfare
We also be glad to add the necessary airfare from your gateway so you take advantage of our special discounted leisure fares
- Program
You may add or remove;
 - Trip days
 - Cities and sites
 - Meals
- Other options
 - The program was designed with private services, however, we may substitute shared sightseeing where available
 - If you prefer deluxe services we may operate this program including private driver, private guide and concierge service.
- Quotation
Once we have designed the program the way you want we'll give you a quote within 2 business days.

Tour Code: FI0IHEL2IVT

Options:

- Lunches and dinners can be arranged for individuals, families and groups at top restaurants or any restaurant requested by you.
- We can revise the itinerary to spend more time and provide more depth in those areas that you are interested on.
- Any other changes to the itinerary will be accommodated depending on the facilities available in the area.

Group Quotations

- If you wish to use these programs for your group or as the basis for a customized journey please either call us (1-855-55-TOURS or use the web Group Quote Request.
- In either case our specialists will work with to refine all the details and they will get you a quote

with 2 business days. Quotes may be obtained for the air and land portions of just for the land journey.

- Booking both air and land with us will represent savings for you because of our buying power and longtime relationship with the airlines.
- We will also may have the choice between regular fares and special leisure fares not available to the public.