

ASCOBANS MOP8 MEETING 2016

WELCOME TO *HELSINKI,*
FINLAND
30.8 -1.9.2016



Practical Information for Participants

Meeting premises

Ministry of the Environment Finland
Aleksanterinkatu 7 A
00250 Helsinki

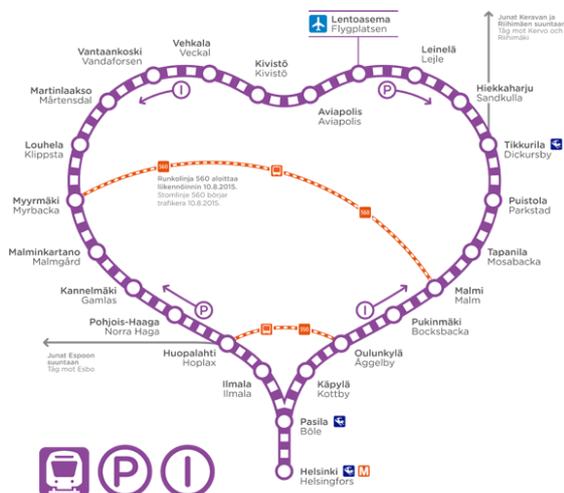


Instructions on how to reach Helsinki centre

Airport: There are usually **taxi** waiting at the airport. Tel. (+358) 0100 0700 or (+358) [0100 7777](tel:01007777)
Price 40-50 €, depending on the time of day, duration about 25-30 min

Bus and tram: Take either the [Finnair City](#) bus (6,30 € - 30 min) or regional bus number 615/617 (5,50 € - 40 min) from the airport to the city centre ([timetable](#)). There are stops at both terminals. The same bus ticket is valid as on the regional bus, or tram ticket ca 2 €.

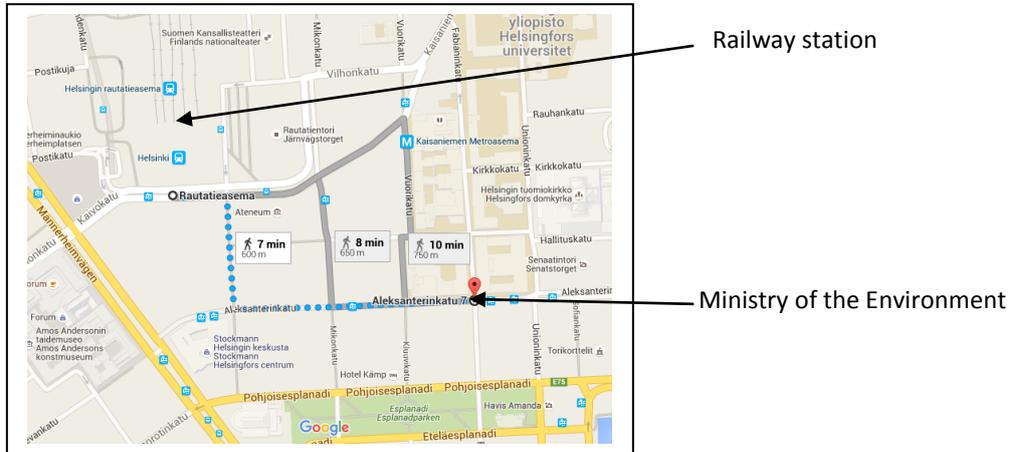
Train: A [rail link](#) between Helsinki-Vantaa Airport and Helsinki city center.



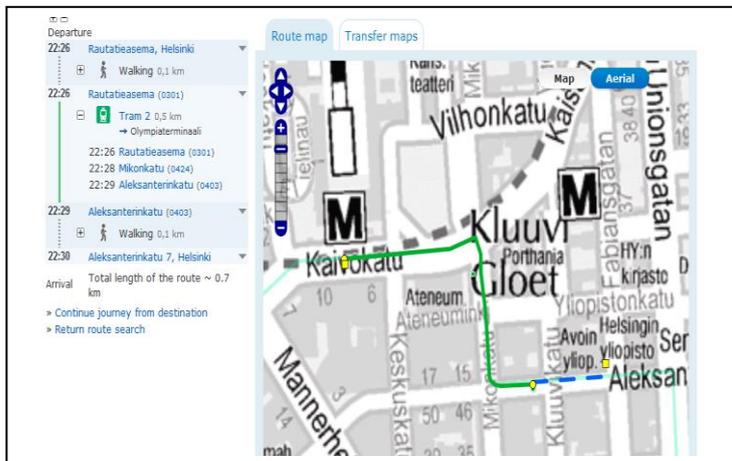
Useful link: [Public transport Journey Planner](#)

From city center to Ministry of the Environment

- From the city centre of Helsinki it takes about 10 minutes to **walk** to the Ministry of the Environment



- The **taxi** ride from the railway station takes approximately 5 minutes
- **Tram** no. 2 with direction “Olympiaterminaali” (see the green line on the map indicating the route, destination stop at Aleksanterinkatu). By tram it takes approximately 5 minutes to reach the Ministry.



For a more detailed city map, please, visit the homepage of the City of Helsinki:
<http://www.hel.fi/hki/Helsinki/en/Services/Transport+and+maps>

Sokos Hotels in the centre of Helsinki,

Booking: Sokos Hotels Sales Service Centre

Tel. +358 20 1234 600

e-mail: sokos.hotels@sok.fi

Solo Sokos hotels Tornii

30 rooms total; single room 141 €/double 156 €/suite 254 €/night, block reservation expires 16th August at 20.00 (Finnish time)

Address: Yrjönkatu 26, 00100 Helsinki

Origina Sokos hotel Vaakuna

30 rooms total: single room 135 €/double room 150 € /night, block reservation expires 16th August at 20.00 (Finnish time)

Address: Asema-aukio 2, 00100 Helsinki

Hotel Arthur

30 rooms total, single room 105 €/night, block reservation expires 29th July

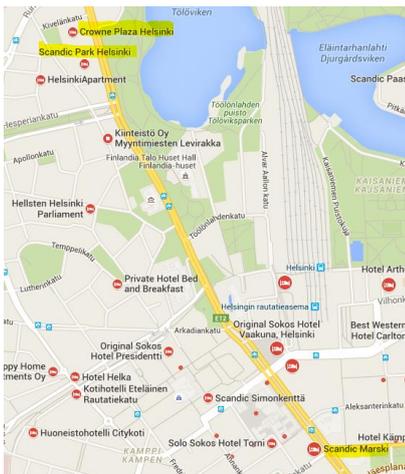
Address: Vuorikatu 19, 00100 Helsinki

Tel. +358 9 173 441

Fax +358 9 626 880

e-mail: reception@hotelarthur.fi

Some recommended hotels near or in the center of Helsinki:



Crowne Plaza Helsinki

Mannerheimintie 50, 00260 Helsinki

Tel. +358 (0)9 2521 0000

Fax. +358 (0)9 2521 3999

e-mai: helsinki.cph@restel.fi

Scandic Park Helsinki

Mannerheimintie 46, 00260 Helsinki

Tel. +358 9 4737 1

Fax: +358 9 4737 2211

e-mail: parkhelsinki@scandichotels.com

Scandic Hotel Marski

Mannerheimintie 10, 00100 Helsinki

Tel. + 358 9 680 61

Fax + 358 9 6806 2111

e-mail: marski@scandichotels.com

For booking other hotels in Helsinki, please check the availability of rooms at:
<http://www.visithelsinki.fi/en/professional/convention-bureau/accommodation>

Helsinki Info

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[Walking in Helsinki](#)

[Strömma Finland](#)

History of Helsinki in a nutshell



Sweden's King Gustavus Vasa founded Helsinki on the mouth of Vantaanjoki River in 1550 to compete with Tallinn for Baltic Sea trade. The town grew slowly however, and the centre of Helsinki was moved to its current location in the 1600s.

In 1748 Sweden began construction of the Suomenlinna Maritime Fortress off the coast of Helsinki to counter the growing threat from Russia. The massive project brought additional wealth, inhabitants and merchants to the town.

Russia conquered Finland in 1809. The status of Helsinki was raised to capital of the autonomous Grand Duchy of Finland three years later. A monumental Empire-style city plan was drawn up to reflect the power of Russia and the Tsar.

Finland became independent in 1917, and Helsinki assumed the demanding new role of capital of the young republic. City planning was characterised by Classicism and Functionalism.

Recovering from the hardships of war, Helsinki hosted the Summer Olympics in 1952. The games created an international reputation for Helsinki as an efficient and friendly host city.

Helsinki is recognised as a city in which many differing views can interact in a constructive atmosphere. The Finlandia Hall has hosted many international summit meetings, including the Conference for Security and Co-operation in Europe in 1975. Finland became an EU Member State in 1995. Finland has held the EU Presidency in 1999 and 2006. Also in 2006 Helsinki hosted the ASEM6 Summit, the largest meeting held in Finland to date.

Helsinki was one of nine European Cities of Culture in 2000. Helsinki received additional international cultural visibility when it successfully hosted the Eurovision Song Contest in 2007. Couple of years later Helsinki was chosen as World Design Capital for the year 2012. In 2014 Helsinki was awarded City of Design status as part of the Creative Cities Network established by UNESCO.

For any additional information, please contact:

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