

International Affairs Unit

OSLO city Group 7th Meeting
Helsinki, Finland

23-26 October 2012

Organisational Arrangements

Meeting venue

Statistics Finland (10th floor)
Visiting address: Työpajankatu 13
00580 Helsinki, Kalasatama
Finland

Tel. +358 9 17341 (switch board)
+358 50 592 5518 (Raija Löfgren)
Fax. + 358 9 1734 2291
Email: international@stat.fi
Web: www.stat.fi

Coffee and lunch

Morning coffee/tea and lunch will be included on each of the days of the meeting.

Social events

Wednesday, 24 October 2012
at 14:00 - 18:00

Mysterious of Nature

Tour to Nuuksio National Park:

<http://www.outdoors.fi/destinations/nationalparks/nuuksio/Pages/Default.aspx>

A guided walking tour to the Nuuksio National Park will be made along footpaths. It will last 1.5 - 2 hours and during the trip a professional guide will tell about the animals, birds and flora of the Nuuksio region. Please bring along good shoes and raincoat for the excursion.

Wednesday, 24 October 2012
at 19:30 - 22:00

Official Dinner provided by Statistics Finland at Sipuli Resturant:

<http://www.ravintolasipuli.fi/en>

Kanavaranta 3, Helsinki

Accommodation

You will find accommodation alternatives on the Helsinki tourist information website:

http://www.visithelsinki.fi/In_English/Visitor.iw3

Here you can find a link for hotel reservation services:

http://www.visithelsinki.fi/In_English/Visitor/Helsinki/Accommodation/Reservation_services.iw3

Visitors of Statistics Finland have stayed overnight for example at the following hotels: Sokos Hotel Vaakuna, Hotel Skandic Simonkenttä, Hotel Helka, Hotel Seurahuone, Hotel Arthur. All located in the city centre and close by a metro station.

Transportation

From Helsinki-Vantaa International airport the city centre

Helsinki-Vantaa International Airport is located some 20 kilometres north of Helsinki. Bus and taxi stands are situated directly outside the Arrivals Hall.

1. By bus

Finnair Citybus, a frequent bus service, operates between the airport and Finnair City Terminal next to the central railway station. The fare (payable to the driver) is 6,20 euros (€); the drive takes approximately 35 minutes (see

http://media.finnair.com/files/pdf/FINNAIR_CITY_BUS_TIMETABLE.pdf)

Major credit cards are accepted.

2. By Taxi

A regular private taxi ride to the city costs 35-45 €. Taxi drivers accept major credit cards and do not expect tips

From the city centre to Statistics Finland

Statistics Finland is situated about 4 kilometres to the north-east from the Central Helsinki railway station.

1. By Metro train

The easiest way to get to Statistics Finland is to take a metro line to “**Vuosaari/Mellunmäki**” (to East) from the metro stations “**Railway Station**”, “**Kaisaniemi**” or “**Kamppi**”, all located in the city centre.

Statistics Finland is situated next door to the station “**Kalasadama - Fiskhamnen**” the first terrestrial metro station. The metro journey takes about 8 minutes from the City Centre to Statistics Finland.

A single ticket costs EURO 2,20 bought from the ticket machines which are available in every metro station next to the escalator down to the platform. If you need to make several journeys during one day or several days, a day ticket is a good choice. You can choose a ticket valid for 1 to 7 days. Please see at

<http://www.hsl.fi/EN/ticketsandfares/ticketsontravelcard/Pages/default.aspx>

2. By Taxi

The cost of a taxi from the city centre to Statistics Finland is 15 - 25 €.

General information about Helsinki and Finland

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For information about Helsinki visit the official tourism website of the city at

http://www.visithelsinki.fi/In_English/Visitor/Helsinki/Welcome_to_Helsinki!.iw3

Passports, visas

Information about passport and visa requirements for entry into Finland can be found at the Website of the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs:

<http://www.formin.fi/public/default.aspx?culture=en-US&contentlan=2>

-> Services -> Foreign nationals arriving in Finland -> Visa requirement in the Schengen area and travel documents accepted by Finland. If an invitation from Statistics Finland to conference is required, please contact by e-mail raija.lofgren@stat.fi

Languages

Official languages in Finland are Finnish and Swedish; however, you may expect that most people (particularly young people) have good knowledge of English. You should have no problems communicating in English.

Currency

The currency in Finland is the euro (€), which is divided into 100 cents. Credit cards are widely accepted in Finland. The usual banking hours are 10.00 - 16.30 from Monday to Friday. There are many cash machines (OTTO in Finnish) where you can withdraw money with your credit card.

Climate

In late October the average temperature in Helsinki ranges 7 - 8°C. We suggest that you bring along some warm clothing and an umbrella or a raincoat. Please see the Finnish Meteorological Institute at <http://www.fmi.fi/en/>.

Electricity

The electrical current in Finland is 220V (50Hz). Plugs and sockets are of the two-pin type commonly used in continental Europe (CEE 7/16). If your equipment requires a different voltage, you will need an electrical adapter.

Water

In Finland tap water is safe to drink.

Tipping

Tipping is not customary in Finland. Service charges are included in prices.

Time

The summer time in Finland is 3 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

Strict smoking policy

Smoking is not allowed indoors in public places, e.g. banks, department stores, public transport, restaurants, etc

*Links***Finland:**

<http://finland.fi/>

<http://www.virtual.finland.fi/>

Helsinki

http://www.visithelsinki.fi/In_English/Visitor.iw3

Weather in Helsinki

<http://www.fmi.fi/weather/local.html?kunta=Helsinki>

<http://www.fmi.fi/en/>

Statistics Finland

www.stat.fi