

# LAKELAND TOUR IN FINLAND

6 days Self Drive



## Day 1, ARRIVAL HELSINKI - PORVOO (70 km)

Arrival to the Helsinki-Vantaa airport and pick-up your rental car. If time allows, possibility to drive to Helsinki and get to know the city. We recommend a visit to the Suomenlinna Sea Fortress, included in Unesco's World Heritage List. The fortress was established in 1748, and is just 15 minutes by ferry from Helsinki's Market Square. Drive to Porvoo, the second oldest town of Finland. The driving route follows The King's Road, which is one of the most significant travel routes in the Nordic countries, and follows an old postal route. The road has been used by kings and their couriers, bishops and townsmen, artists and armies ever since the 1300s. Mansions, farms, taverns, alehouses and inns that housed and accommodated travellers arose all along the King's Road. Today the King's Road is a network of fascinating travel services but some stretches of the original road are still in use. The total length of the road is 253 km. On the way to Porvoo, it is possible to visit Haikko Manor, the home of the famous painter Albert Edelfelt and the old church of Sipoo, built in the 15th century. Arrive at Porvoo and explore the Old Town by foot. Take a walk around the well-preserved wooden houses, visit the medieval church, and the Town Hall Square. Stay the night at a small, elegant boutique hotel in the heart of the picturesque Old Town of Porvoo.

**Accommodation at Pariisin Ville Hotel or similar**

## Day 2, PORVOO – SAVONLINNNA (334 km)

Breakfast at the hotel. Continue towards the Finnish Lakeland. Pass Kouvola and Lappeenranta, and arrive to Punkaharju. Drive the panoramic road along the Punkaharju Ridge. Possibility to visit the Retretti Art Centre, one of the most important art centres of Finland. In the Punkaharju area



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you will find important nature reserves, holiday resorts, and one of the most interesting museums of Finland: the Lusto Forest Museum which we strongly recommend. Continue your tour with a short drive to Savonlinna, a dynamic little town famous for an annual Opera Festival. We recommend a visit to the Olavinlinna Castle.

**Accommodation at 3 star+ class hotel in Savonlinna, centrally located**

#### **Day 3, SAVONLINNA - NURMES (267 km)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Leave Savonlinna and drive via Heinävesi to the New Valamo Monastery, located in calm, beautiful environments. Continue to Joensuu, the capital of the North Karelia region. Continue for a tour around Lake Pielinen, one of the biggest lakes of Finland, before continuing to the Koli National Park. Time for a panoramic walking tour in the park. We recommend a visit to Ukko Nature Center as well as the 'Pirun Kirkko' ('the Devil's Church'), a 34 metres' long cave within a short hike along a marked trail. Drive to Nurmes, a small town on the Northern shore of Lake Pielinen. Optional activities possible at Nurmes, such as lake fishing.

**Accommodation at 3 star+ class hotel in Nurmes, centrally located**

#### **Day 4, NURMES - KUOPIO (129 km)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Continue to Lieksa. We recommend a visit to the open-air museum in Lieksa called Pielisen Museo and to drive from Lieksa to Ruunaa Nature Reserve to enjoy the lake view with rapids (also a good location for fishing). Continue to Vuonismaa, offering the possibility to visit to the atelier of famous Finnish sculptor Eva Ryynänen, and the church carved of wood. Drive to Kuopio, the capital of the Savo region. We recommend a visit to the Puijo Tower for a panoramic view. Another possibility is to reserve a lake cruise on Lake Kallavesi.

**Accommodation at 3 star+ class hotel in Kuopio centrally located**

#### **Day 5, NURMES - KUOPIO (129 km)**

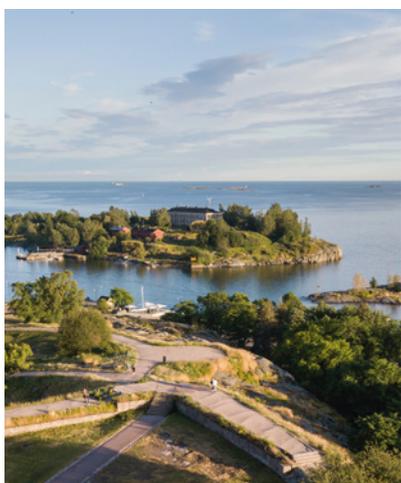
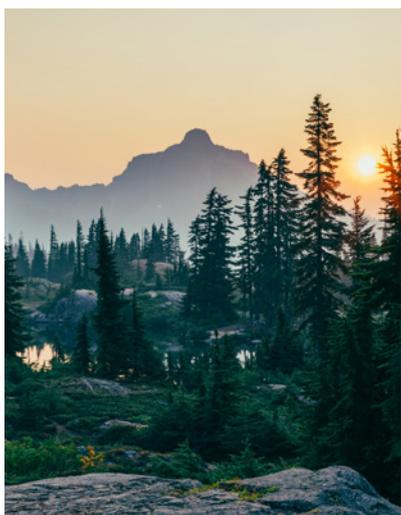
Breakfast at the hotel. Continue through the central Finland towards Tampere. On the route it is possible to stop at Jyväskylä, a town famous for its architecture by Alvar Aalto. Continue towards Tampere and arrive at the hotel.

**Accommodation at 3 star+ class hotel in Tampere, centrally located**

#### **Day 5, TAMPERE – HELSINKI / VANTAA AIRPORT, DEPARTURE (171 KM)**

Breakfast at the hotel. We recommend to spend the morning in Tampere, and enjoy this lively summer town. Possibility to visit the Näsinneula Tower for a panoramic view or visit one of the most popular amusement parks of Finland, Särkänniemi. For art lovers, a must-see is the Sara Hildén Art Museum. Continue to Hämeenlinna for the possibility to visit the Hämeenlinna Castle or the birth place of the most famous composer of Finland, Jean Sibelius. In the late afternoon drive to Tuusula which is located at a convenient distance to the Helsinki-Vantaa.

**END OF SERVICES**



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#### Tour includes:

- 5 nights' accommodation including breakfast in 3\*/4\* hotels  
Car rental, 6 days (144 hours) airport/airport Helsinki  
Please choose between the following categories of transmission
  - Cat C, type VW Golf or similar, with manual transmission
  - Cat I, type Skoda Scala or similar, with automatic transmission

\*\* The minimum age to rent a vehicle is 25 years and drivers must have held a driving licence for at least 12 months prior to hiring the car. The price includes unlimited mileage, Collision Damage Waiver, Theft protection and tax. Petrol, GPS and other surcharges are not included. Payment by voucher, but the client must guarantee with own credit card when picking up car. NB! There will be a fee for pick up the car at the airport and drop off at the city centre, or v.v.

Please note that Creact Event & Travel will not accept charges due to clients' violation of local traffic regulations during the rental period (i.e. parking or speeding tickets). All charges of this kind, incl. possible charges received within 180 days after the conclusion of the rental period and solving of final invoice, will be forwarded to the booking agent.