



Information sheet about Helsinki

for EFPTA Conference participants, 18-21 April 2024

This is an info sheet about the conference venue location, Helsinki hotel suggestions and transport links from the airport.

The currency of Finland is the euro. Almost everybody speaks excellent English in Helsinki.

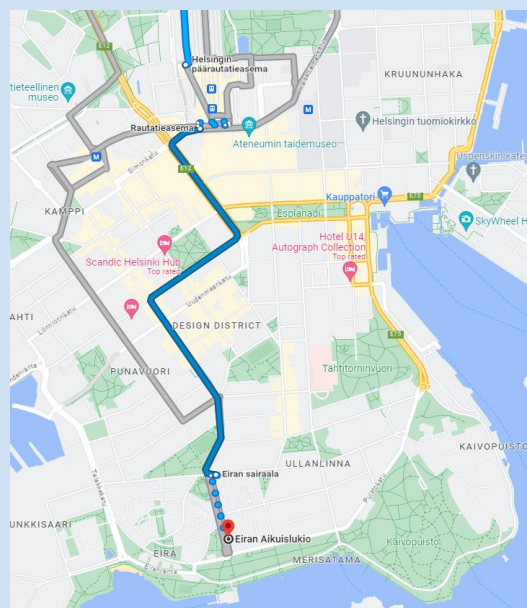
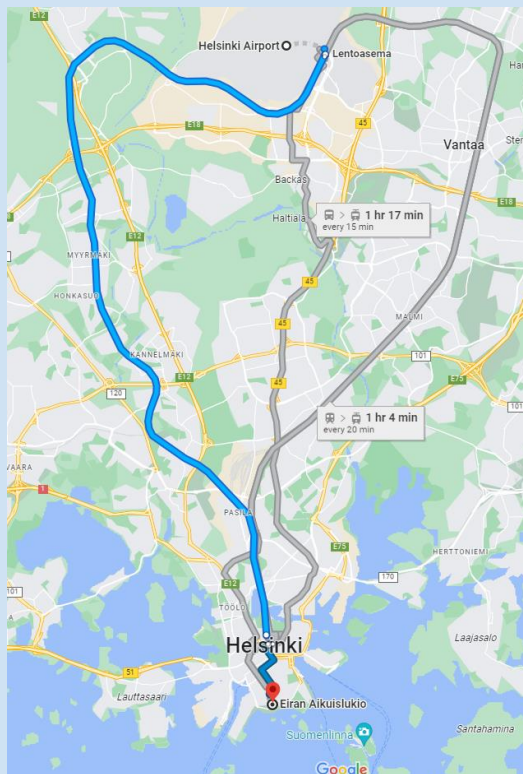
From Helsinki-Vantaa airport to Eira High School / Eiran aikuislukio

There are multiple options to get from the airport to the conference venue - Eira High School for Adults (<https://www.eira.fi/>, Eiran aikuislukio, Laivurinkatu 3, 00150 Helsinki). All options go through the city centre where you have to change (eg train / bus / tram).

Our suggestion is to take the train I or P to the city centre main railway station (Helsingin päärautatieasema) and then, to get to the conference venue, take the tram 3. Or, to get to your hotel, if you have booked at one of the hotels suggested below, it is not far to walk from the station (or a short taxi ride).

We highly recommend you to use the HSL App for routes and to buy the transport tickets: <https://www.hsl.fi/en/tickets-and-fares/hsl-app> . Another useful app /website is <https://welcome.hel.fi/getting-around-helsinki/public-transport-in-helsinki-using-buses-trains-trams-and-the-metro-in-helsinki/#hsl-app>


Plus: scroll down to page 3 for more detailed info on using public transport around the city.



Hotel suggestions

There are hundreds of hotels, hostels and Airbnb options in Helsinki. At the city centre the accommodation price range is 100-200 € per night. You may wish to book accommodation that is conveniently located close to the conference venue, so we have arranged a discount price for these options below, for 18-21 April. Most are 10-15 minutes' walk from the conference venue, and 15-20 minutes' walk from the station:

- Sokos Hotel Albert (<https://www.sokoshotels.fi/en/helsinki/sokos-hotel-albert>, Albertinkatu 30 00120, Helsinki), discount code BEFPTA24
- Hotel Anna (<https://www.hotelanna.fi/?lang=en>, Annankatu 1 00120 Helsinki), discount code "Annankatu1"
- Scandic hotels: Scandic Grand Central Helsinki, Vilhonkatu 13; Scandic Helsinki Hub, Annankatu 18; Scandic Kaisaniemi, Kaisaniemenkatu 7. Book at <https://www.scandichotels.com/> . Discount available with code FIARB.

<p>Station to venue route and hotels</p>	<p>Station to Hotel Albert walking route</p>	<p>Station to Hotel Anna walking route</p>
<p>Scandic hotels – discount available at: Scandic Grand Central Helsinki; Scandic Helsinki Hub; Scandic Kaisaniemi.</p> 		

More details on public transport

Purchasing a single train ticket **from the airport to Helsinki centre** is very easy even without the HSL app: there are ticket machines (card only and also in English) on the platform.

Trains are every 10 to 15 or 30 minutes depending on the time of day. The type of ticket needed from the airport to Helsinki is **Zone ABC**. The ticket is 'active' straight away. Single tickets are valid for 80 minutes.

For getting around the city by bus/tram/metro, the HSL app is great, but if people have difficulty (eg adding their phone number/bank details), look for the shops called **R-Kioski** where you can purchase a **single or day ticket** (the latter is only better value for money if doing 3 or more single trips in 24 hours). There is an **R-Kioski** at the train station. (www.r-kioski.fi). These tickets are activated when you first use them on the train/bus/tram/metro.

Not all bus stops or tram stations have ticket machines nearby so it is wise to be prepared, using either the HSL app or a ticket from an R-kioski. You cannot buy a ticket from the bus driver or on the train/tram/metro.

City Bikes

The City Bike scheme in Helsinki is open from 1st April. But, in April, temperatures could still be low and there is likely to be ice on the ground so it may not be the safest option.

See <https://www.hsl.fi/kaupunkipyorat> . Registration is via the HSL app or Whim app - <https://whimapp.com/helsinki/en/> which can also be used for bus, tram, train and metro travel in Helsinki too.