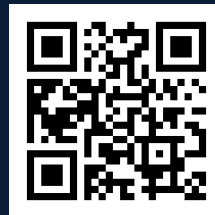


# Things to do in Espoo

Information provided by the city of Espoo.

For further information visit:

<https://www.visitespoo.fi/en/>





©NaturaViva

### [Nuuksio National Park](#)

Nuuskio, located in Vihti, Espoo and Kirkkonummi, is one of Finland's most popular National Parks. It covers an area of 53 square kilometers and is a year-round destination with its rich nature featuring lovely lakes and ponds, green forests, swamps, and rugged crags. The unique national park can be explored both independently and by taking part in [guided tours and excursions](#) and is suitable for all ages. The easiest way to get to know Nuuskio National Park, is by hiking on marked trails. There are multiple nature trails, for both beginners and experienced hikers, with lengths from 1.5 to tens of kilometers. It is also possible to enjoy the national park by bike as there are 30 kilometers of cycling routes. Bikes and other equipment such as kayaks can be rented for example from [Natura Viva](#). Nuuskio has fireplaces and [cooking shelters](#), which are perfect places for a break, whether it is time for picnicking or a good barbecue. There are also many amazing accommodation options for overnight stayers, and it is possible to choose from [hotel, cottages, wilderness cabins, igluhuts, nights in the tree tent](#).



©Mika Huisman

### [Haltia - The Finnish Nature Centre](#)

The Finnish Nature Centre Haltia highlights the best of Finland's natural treasures from across the country. It is situated in Espoo's Nuuskio National Park. The [exhibitions](#) at Haltia showcase Finnish nature and strengthen the visitors' relationship with nature. The Centre also offers additional facilities such as hiking equipment rental and a gift shop. The restaurant Haltia, where you can enjoy lovely meals, and excellent meeting and sauna facilities, further offer visitors an opportunity to connect with the nature. On its opening day, Haltia was the first public building in Finland built entirely of wood; it is a combination of stunning architectural design and ultramodern ecological solutions. The building's heating and cooling systems are powered sustainably by solar panels and geothermal pumps.

**How to get there:** You can reach the Finnish Nature Centre Haltia, and many other nearby attractions in the Nuuskio National Park, either by car or with bus 245 from Espoo railway station.



©Haltia Lake Lodge

### [Haltia Lake Lodge](#)

At the heart of the Nuuksio National Park, hotel Haltia Lake Lodge is the place to nest up in a nature lodge and enjoy the good life, right next to the Finnish Nature Center Haltia. Take a step back from your busy everyday life and reconnect with nature by the enchanting fjord-like Pitkäjärvi lake. In addition to accommodation, the lodge provides the perfect outdoor experiences to make your stay both inspiring and invigorating. Everything is built on nature conservation, sustainable development, and local sourcing. In February 2022, Haltia Lake Lodge became the first hotel in the Nordic countries to join the Hotels for Trees program. Guests now have the opportunity to offset some of their CO2 emissions through the program by planting trees!



©Haltia Lake Lodge

### Glamping

Glamping is an abbreviation for glamorous camping and means camping with amenities. The Haltia Lake Lodge glamping tents are designed and manufactured in Finland for year-round use. The design has been based on the values of sustainable development, and aesthetics and ecology go hand in hand. The Lodge Glamping is like an elegant hotel room surrounded by the sounds and atmosphere of the forest. The tent cover material brings the sounds of nature inside but keeps rain and cold outside. The tent is warm, comfortable and full of natural light. It is decorated with high-quality furniture and textiles carefully selected by the interior designer. The electrified Lodge Glamping tents are equipped with heating and air conditioning, lighting, a kitchenette with fridges, high-quality beds and a waterless toilet.



©Nuuksio Reindeer Park

### [Nuuksio Reindeer Park and White Reindeer Teepee Restaurant](#)

Experience a touch of northern magic in Nuuksio Reindeer Park, which is the southern-most place in Finland where you can see and feed reindeer. Spend a memorable moment with the reindeers and enjoy lunch or a three-course dinner by the campfire at the teepee restaurant 'White Reindeer'.



©Heikki Vahtola

### [Laajalahti Nature Reserve](#)

Laajalahti Nature Reserve is one of the best bird wetlands within the Helsinki-Espoo-Vantaa metropolis. The trails and bird watching towers offer the perfect opportunity for a day trip. Visitors can also see Espoo's nature centre at [Villa Elfvik](#) on the north edge of the reserve. For the most part Laajalahti Nature Reserve consists of open water. There are also a broad reedbed and shoreline groves and meadows. It is an important area for the plentiful nesting population in the region and for the thousands of birds which stop there. The aim of the nature reserve is to conserve the shallow sea water bay and its surrounding area. The longest nature trail is 2.9 kilometres long and it runs from Villa Elfvik to the Otaniemi bird-watching tower.



©Exhibition Centre Weegee

### [Exhibition Centre WeeGee](#)

Get excited about culture! The Exhibition Centre WeeGee is a versatile center for museums, exhibitions, and events. The Exhibition Centre WeeGee is located in Tapiola and consists of two museums: EMMA – Espoo Museum of Modern Art and KAMU Espoo City Museum. In addition to exhibitions, the museums offer guided tours, workshops, and various themed events. WeeGee also houses the museum shop and the Cafe Zoceria. The lobby, meeting and restaurant spaces can be rented out for meetings and festive occasions.

[EMMA - Espoo Museum of Modern Art](#) is one of Finland's most significant art museums and the largest by exhibition area with over 5,500m<sup>2</sup>. It presents domestic and international modernism, contemporary art and design and has eight to ten exhibitions a year and a wide and varied range of events.

[KAMU Espoo City Museum](#) displays the history of Espoo from the Stone Age to the present day. The changing exhibitions bring a variety of historical themes under the roof of WeeGee. KAMU also offers workshops, guided tours, lectures and work demonstrations. At KAMU, you can look, touch and try!



©Gallen-Kallela museum

### [Gallen-Kallela museum](#)

The beautiful surroundings and unique architecture of the Gallen-Kallela Museum provide a fine setting for a visit. Designed and built by the artist Akseli Gallen-Kallela (1865 – 1931), the castle-like Tarvaspää studio and residence was opened to the public in 1961 as the Gallen-Kallela Museum. The museum's temporary exhibitions present the art and life of the artist and his contemporaries and present-day works of contemporary art. The museum also provides a wide range of other activities and events.

#### **How to get there:**

Using bus 550 from Aalto university (direction Itäkeskus via Leppävaara) you should take exit Laajalahdenristi and then walk for 1.5km to the address Gallen-Kallelantie 27.



## [Pentala Archipelago Museum](#)

The Pentala Archipelago Museum is a perfect destination for a day trip. Located on the island of Pentala, a visit to the Archipelago Museum is a holistic experience that combines sea voyage, history, cultural landscape, and the unique nature of the island. The Pentala Archipelago Museum is located on an old fisherman's farm in the Gulf of Espoo and made up of fifteen different buildings. The oldest of them, Kalastajatorppa, was built in the early 1790s and was inhabited all year round until 1986. The Archipelago Museum introduces you to many aspects of living and working in the archipelago and the nature trail that leads to Pentalanjärvi, and the natural sandy beach of Diksand, showcase the distinctive nature of Espoo's archipelago.

### **How to get there:**

You can arrive on the island of Pentala with scheduled [archipelago boats](#) from Soukka, Suomenoja, or Suinonsalmi.



©Mika Viitanen

### Cycling on a city bike on the Espoo Waterfront Walkway

The forty-kilometer-long Espoo Waterfront Walkway "Espoon Rantaraitti" invites you to take a ride along hundred different point of interests which vary from historic hotspots to beautiful nature views. In addition to the swimming beaches and boat harbours, there are other interesting places along the path, such as scheduled archipelago boats - for a trip to the islands - and bird-watching towers. During the cycling season, you can use city bikes in Espoo. City bikes are an excellent way to more around in Espoo conveniently. You can find over a hundred [city bike stations](#) in Espoo, with many nearby the Espoo Waterfront Walkway. There are also several charming cafés and restaurants along the seafront, for example [Nokkalan Majakka](#).



©Laguuni

### [Laguuni](#)

The Watersport center Laguuni is a floating oasis for various watersports located in Keilaniemi. It offers top-notch conditions for stand-up paddling, SUP polo, wakeboarding, canoeing and flyboarding. The sports can be combined in various ways also for all kinds of groups and levels. Laguuni's restaurant Blägä offers fantastic burgers, fresh salads, and tasty drinks. Courses provide expert guidance for all levels, making learning fast and fun, and equipment can be rented on-site.

#### How to get there:

You can use the city bike and cycle alongside the Espoo Waterfront Walkway directly to the Water sport center or take the metro to Keilaniemi metro station and you will be only a short walk away.



## Hanaholmen

Hanaholmen offers visitors top modern hotel rooms and conference facilities with the beautiful Finnish archipelago just outside the window. Spacious rooms of Hanaholmen are decorated in Nordic style and are filled with natural light. Each room offers a view of unique maritime nature. Tasty breakfast and a morning sauna and swim are included for all guests. You can take advantage of the unique location on Hanasaari island and start exploring the coastline and Espoo's Waterfront Walkway directly from the hotel's premises.





©Fat Lizard

### Fat Lizard

The Fat Lizard Restaurant in Espoo has visually stunning, handmade, and abundant food. To top that they have a large and almost daily changing selection of Fat Lizard and other local craft breweries' beers. Restaurant Fat Lizard is situated very close to the Aalto University metro station. In the restaurant they grill, smoke, fry and constantly bake new ideas while their genuine Italian wood-oven bears hands-down the best pizzas in all of Espoo. Seasons and tastes from all around the world are present on the menu.



©Lucy in the sky

### Lucy in the sky

Lucy in the sky is a rooftop restaurant and bar. Lucy serves contemporary bistro food along with a unique view on top of the Accountor Tower, the historical landmark building towering over the area of Keilaniemi in Espoo. Lucy's glass walls provide great views to all directions from diverse urban landscapes to natural parks. The airy space can be rented out for private functions and provides several cabinets and spaces that can be booked for bigger groups as well. All visitors are welcome to pop by for a drink (or five) at the bar or on one of the terraces spreading out on both sides of the building and you won't find a single bad seat in the house.



©Restaurant PLATS

### Restaurant PLATS

PLATS is a restaurant where you can enjoy delicious Nordic cuisine while adoring the coastal archipelago. It is also a place where Nordic art and design meet world-class gastronomy. They offer holistic experiences that consist of quality, creativity, and innovation. You can enjoy the creations of high-quality kitchen while mesmerized by unique art and a classically beautiful interior. In the restaurant PLATS you will enjoy your stay on the spacious and sunny summer terrace or inside the large atmospheric hall illuminated by windows.



©Citycon

## Shopping Malls in Espoo

There are great shopping opportunities in Espoo that are easy to reach by public transport. Shopping malls also have own parking facilities in case you arrive with by car. There are plenty of places to buy Finnish designer goods from brands such as Artek, Arabia, Iittala, Marimekko and Pentik.

**Sello** Located in Leppävaara, there are over 170 shops and services as well as the municipal services offered by the city of Espoo (such as the library). The shopping center is located right next to Leppävaara train station and bus terminal can be easily reached by car.

**Iso Omena** is a family-friendly shopping centre in Matinkylä. There are more than 200 stores specializing in fashion, home décor, leisure and wellbeing but also full-service supermarkets that contain all the necessary daily goods and groceries. After a day of shopping, it's nice to relax in one of Iso Omena's many bars and restaurants, at the cinema or working out at the gym. Shopping centre has excellent public transport connections and direct access to the Länsiväylä and Ring II motorways.

**AINOA** shopping center is located in Tapiola, Espoo. The mall has about 100 stores, of which more than 30 are restaurants or cafes. It's easy to visit AINOA by metro. You can take any metro train, as all trains stop at Tapiola.