

## Using public transport in Helsinki & nearby

### Introduction

Public transport in the Helsinki metropolitan area is a fast, reliable and safe way of transportation, used by hundreds of thousands of Finns yearly. This document is intended to cover the crucial parts of using the public transport system, and to suggest the most affordable tickets to buy. We hope that this guide encourages you to use our public transport!

### Zones

The tickets operate on a zone basis. The zones surround Helsinki in an onion-style shape. There are four zones, which are:

**Zone A:** Helsinki Centre; most featured museums & galleries lie here, as well as the Porthania building and the National Museum.

**Zone B:** The rest of Helsinki and parts of Espoo & Vantaa lie here. The Aalto University campus is in this zone: so is the Myllypuro art piece. The metro operates only in zones A and B.

**Zone C:** Covers the rest of Espoo and Vantaa. The Helsinki-Vantaa Airport lies in this zone. Also covers the Nuuksio National Park.

**Zone D:** The zone furthest away from Helsinki, covers the nearby towns.

Tickets are bought to cover certain zones, e.g., zones AB, BC or ABC. The ticket must cover both the zone(s) of your starting point as well as your destination: for example, if you leave from your hotel in zone B and your destination is the airport in zone C, you need a BC or ABC ticket to cover your trip. There are no single-zone tickets available, apart from zone D; even if you travel inside, for example, zone A, you'll still need an AB ticket.

The HSL (acronym for the Helsinki Regional Transport) travel planner shows you these zones when you plan your trips. The travel planner can be accessed online at <https://www.hsl.fi/en> or through the mobile app named HSL; both are available in English.

### Tickets

Tickets are sold as both single-trip (80-110 minutes in length) and day-ticket versions. Tickets can be bought using the HSL mobile app or physically from the ticket booths at train & metro stations. Tickets are NOT sold on board of metros or trains; you need a valid ticket before boarding one. Tickets aren't stamped or validated before boarding, except for buses: any ticket you buy is activated at the moment of purchase, unless you've chosen a specific date & time when buying.

Single-trip tickets can be bought from bus drivers when boarding buses.

Not having a valid ticket when boarding or riding a vehicle might cost you 80 € in case of an inspection.

### The most affordable ticket plan

Assuming that you arrive at the airport, you'll probably at least need a single-use ABC ticket in order to get to your hotel. Note that even if your hotel is located in zone B, the trip might pass through zone A: the travel planner shows you which zones your ticket needs to cover. A single-trip ABC ticket costs 4,10 €.

For the rest of the conference week, a 5-day-ticket covering zones AB beginning on Monday morning gives you access to the campus, National Museum and Porthania as well as all optional places to visit in Helsinki (including the ferry to the Suomenlinna fortress). This day ticket costs 24,00 €.

In total, this combination costs you 28,10 €.

### Other ticket plans

Tickets are available through all zones, and day tickets can be bought to last 1-13 days. Planning your trips well beforehand allows you to avoid the relatively expensive single-use tickets. Tickets are also issued by third parties such as GoCity, website: <https://gocity.com/helsinki/en-us> which pair day-tickets up to three days with museum passes, which might be a superior option if you plan to visit museums extensively.



## Arriving to Otaniemi via metro

The Otaniemi metro station has exits on both ends of the platform, so please pay attention that you **leave through exit A** in order to avoid getting lost. If you boarded the metro east of Otaniemi, for example, in Helsinki, **turn left after exiting the metro in Otaniemi**. If you boarded the metro west of Otaniemi, for example, in Tapiola or Matinkylä, **turn right after exiting**.



## Guide to Porthania and the National Museum

### Porthania:

A part of the University of Helsinki campus, this building is mainly used by the Faculty of Law. It is marked on the Helsinki map provided (nr. 24), located at Yliopistonkatu 3. The lecture hall P1 can be found across the main entrance.

### National Museum:

Marked on the Helsinki map as nr. 19, address Mannerheimintie 34. The main entrance is on the first floor, and a wheelchair-accessible entrance on the zero-floor. The auditorium is on the zero-floor, accessible through the stairs across the main entrance.

