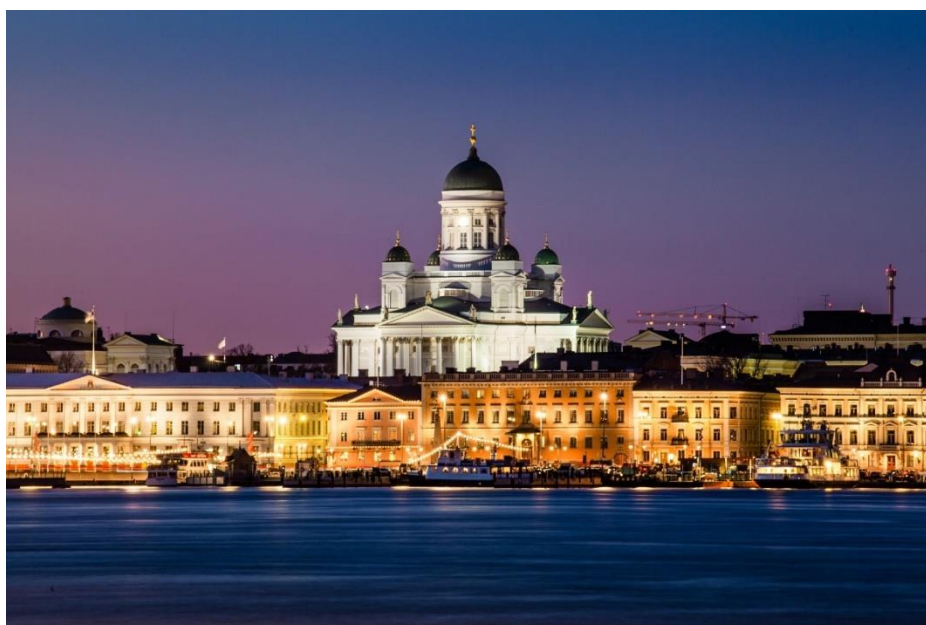


# United Nations/Finland Workshop on the Applications of Global Navigation Satellite Systems

23 – 26 October 2023  
Helsinki, Finland



Jointly organized by  
The United Nations Office of Outer Space Affairs and  
The National Land Survey of Finland (NLS)

Co-organized and co-sponsored by  
The International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems,  
The Finnish Meteorological Institute,  
The University of Vaasa and  
The Nordic Institute of Navigation

Hosted by  
The Finnish Geospatial Research Institute of the National Land Survey of Finland, FGI-NLS

## USEFUL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

## 1. Venue of the Workshop



The workshop will take place at the:

### **Scandic Park Helsinki**

Address: Mannerheimintie 46, Helsinki

Webpage: <https://www.scandichotels.com/hotels/finland/helsinki/scandic-park-helsinki>

## 2. Local Organizer in Helsinki, Finland

The local organizer of the workshop is the Finnish Geospatial Research Institute of the National Land Survey of Finland (FGI-NLS).

### Contact information:

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## 3. Accommodation

In order to ensure optimal logistical coverage and support, arrangements have been made for participants at the **Scandic Park Hotel**

- Single room: 100 EUR per night, including breakfast
- Website: <https://www.scandichotels.com/hotels/finland/helsinki/scandic-park-helsinki>
- Distance to the venue: at the venue
- Distance from the city center: ca. 1,5 km

#### 4. Arrival/Departure to/from Helsinki

[Helsinki-Vantaa airport](#) (IATA: HEL, ICAO: EFHK) located about 18 km to the north from downtown Helsinki is the main international airport of the city of Helsinki.

**All workshop participants will be met at the airport by a representative of the local organizer and accompanied to their hotel.**



Participants are requested to inform the local organizer of their Estimated Time of Arrival and Departure (ETA/ETD) so that arrangements can be made accordingly.

#### 5. Passport/Visa Requirements

Travel documents for **citizens of Nordic countries**: no mandatory travel documents, however, you need to be able to prove your identity by other means.

Travel documents for **citizens of the EU and Schengen countries**: valid passport or ID card.

Travel documents for **citizens of other countries**: valid passport if you are from visa-free country. In other cases, you need a visa or residence permit as well as a valid passport.

Find out if you need a visa to visit Finland as well as other useful information on travel documents accepted by Finland from the [Finnish Foreign Ministry](#)'s webpage. Please note that your passport should be valid for at least 3 months after the date of departure from Finland or the Schengen area. Moreover, your passport must have been issued within the last ten years.

Another useful webpage for travelers to Finland: [Finnish Border Authority](#)

In case a support letter is required for the visa application, please contact the project coordinator Leena Sukselainen at the Finnish Geospatial Research Institute ([leena.sukselainen@nls.fi](mailto:leena.sukselainen@nls.fi)).

#### 6. Currency

The currency used in Finland is the Euro (€)

1 USD = 0,90 € (as of 4 May 2023)

Major credit cards (American Express, Diner's Club, Eurocard, Access, Master Card, and Visa) are accepted in hotels, restaurants, larger shops, and department stores.

Visa Electron is also accepted in many shops and department stores.

Please note that some stores and restaurants (usually smaller ones) do necessarily accept cash.

## 7. Power supply

The standard voltage is 230V and the frequency is 50Hz.  
The power plug sockets are type F. This socket also works with plug type C.

On the right, a type F socket, also known as “Schuko”



## 8. Time, Weather and Health Care

The time zone in Helsinki is Eastern European Time (EET) / UTC+02:00

The workshop will be held in late October when temperatures in the Helsinki metropolitan area are ranging typically between +6 and +8°C on average. Rains are also to be expected. However, there may be even colder temperatures and warm clothing is highly recommended. Local weather can be checked from the [Finnish Meteorological Institutes webpages](#).

Finland does not recommend any specific vaccinations for travelers.

## 9. Communication

The international dialing code to Finland is: +358

Local service providers operate on the GSM standard. 3G, 4G, and 5G networks are available via roaming.

Free Wi-Fi is available in most hotels (Scandic Park included). The city of Helsinki offers free Wi-Fi around the city, you may look for the [hotspots on the map here](#)

## 10. Safety and Security

As of May 2023, the current threat level in Helsinki is assessed at minimal.

Helsinki is quite safe for tourists and has been ranked the world's second safest city. But just as any other larger city, Helsinki also has some pickpockets and petty thieves, especially during the summer season, but as a whole Finland is very safe country.

The general emergency number for the **police, ambulance and fire department is 112**.

Pharmacies are located around the city and can easily be identified by the sign 'Apteekki' (Finnish for Pharmacy).



In Helsinki, the emergency duty hospital is:  
**Haartman Hospital** (open 24/7)  
Haartmaninkatu 4  
+358 (0)9 3106 3231

## 11. About Helsinki

Helsinki, the capital and largest city of Finland, the happiest country in the world, is located in southern Finland, by the Baltic Sea. The city has about 660,000 inhabitants and the metropolitan Helsinki area (including the neighboring cities of Espoo, Kauniainen, and Vantaa) counts a bit over 1,5 million residents.

### Sightseeing

Helsinki is a quite compact city with lots to offer to visitors whether it is culture, shopping, or outdoor activities you crave for. Some top tourist attractions include:

Senate Square, one of the most popular touristic sights in Helsinki, is located ca. 2km from the conference venue and is surrounded by unique Neoclassical architecture dominated by four buildings by architect Carl Ludvig Engel. These buildings are: the Helsinki Cathedral, the Government Palace, the main building of the University of Helsinki and the National Library of Finland. In the middle of the square, you will find the statue of Tsar Alexander II.

Helsinki's Central Library Oodi: venue for diverse urban experience is located 1km from the conference venue

More info about Helsinki and a very nice collection of places to visit, dine or shop: <https://www.myhelsinki.fi/>



### Getting around

Being a quite concise city, Helsinki is easily explored on foot. However, public transportation is exceptionally good with frequently running buses, trams, metro, and local trains. With one ticket, you can switch from one means of transportation to another, as long as your ticket is valid (depending on the type of ticket, it may be valid from one hour up to 24hrs). More info on public transportation and routes is available on the [HSL web pages](#)



### Drinking water

You will see that bottled mineral water is available in shops and restaurants, but Finnish tap water is of the highest quality and can be consumed freely throughout the country.

### Tipping

Tipping culture is almost non-existent in Finland, although it has become more common recently. Service charges are included in hotel room rates, restaurant, and taxi prices, so tips are not expected, but can be given if you think the service has been especially good.

Possible cloakroom fee of a couple of euros for restaurant doormen should be clearly indicated in the cloakroom area.

### Language

Finland has two official languages: Finnish and Swedish. In addition, Sami language is spoken in Lapland.

The Finns are in general very educated people and speak English at a good level. Getting around in Finland shouldn't be a problem regarding languages. The Finns are happy and helpful people.

# Welcome to Helsinki, Finland