

Survival Kit

Practical tips & advice

Money Exchange

Money can be changed in any bank. It is advisable to change a large amount at a time to reduce service charges. Exchange rates may vary slightly from bank to bank

In Oulu it is also possible to change currency in the Forex Currency Outlet on pedestrian precinct Rotuaari. Forex Oulu is open on weekdays 10–18 and on Saturdays 10–16.

Credit Cards

The most common credit cards are widely accepted in Finland.

Shopping

The business hours of grocery stores and supermarkets are usually from Monday to Friday from 9 am to 21 pm and on Saturdays from 8 am to 18 pm. Kiosks are open until 9 am - 10 pm every day and sell certain basic foodstuffs such as bread, butter, cheese etc. There are also hot snack kiosks and pizzerias, which are open until late at night.

Grocery stores and supermarkets can be open on weekdays from 7 am to 9 pm. On Saturdays they can be open from 7 am to 6 pm. Smaller shops and boutiques are open usually from 10 am to 5 or 6 pm, on Saturdays from 10 am to 2, 3 or 4 pm. Department stores are usually open 9 am – 9 pm on weekdays, 9 am – 6 pm on Saturdays. In May - August all shops can be open on Sundays from 12.00 pm to 9.00 pm. However, the shops in downtown are usually open on Sundays from 12 pm – 6 pm while the supermarkets on the outskirts of the town stay open until 9 pm.

Telephone

Popularity of mobile phones and the high number of mobile phone users in Finland have made public and pay phones almost extinct. Nowadays outdoor pay phones are practically non-existent. The still existing

public phones are usually card phones located e.g. at the airports, railway stations, hospitals and in some R-Kiosks. Phone cards can be purchased nearby the phone (nearest place is usually mentioned on the phone).

General emergency number is **112**.

International calls

Codes can be found on the first pages of the telephone directory.

When calling abroad from Finland, dial:

International access code (e.g. 00, 990, 994 or 999)

Country code

Area code (omit the prefix 0)

Phone number

When calling from abroad to Finland, dial:

International access code (e.g. 00)

358 (country code)

Area code (omit the prefix 0)

Phone number

Please note that American cell phones do not necessarily work in Finland.

Public Transportation

Bus

A local traffic single ticket within the Oulu city area costs 2.80 EUR (double price between 23 – 04).

Single tickets are bought on the bus.

Taxi

To call a taxi in **Oulu** dial:

Landline: **10041** (0,99 €+ local network charge)

Mobile phone: **0600-30081** (0,99 €+ local network charge)

Calling Abroad: **+358 600 30081** (0,99 €+ local network charge)

Hints and tips

- Wave your hand to stop the bus, otherwise it will just drive past you.
- Self service is the word in Finland! Everything works with self service: The gas stations, cafés, fast food places, banks. So prepare to do almost everything yourself.
- We do not give tips. The service is included to the price of the product you are buying.
- Smoking is forbidden in most places.
- Taking taxi is safe in Finland.
- The quality of Finnish tap water is good.

Finnish language survival kit

Phrases

Kyllä	yes
Ei	no
Kiitos	thank you
terve/hei	hello/hi
hyvää huomenta	good morning
hyvää päivää	good afternoon
hyvää iltaa	good evening
hyvää yötä	good night
näkemiin/hei hei	good bye/see you
anteeksi	sorry / excuse me

Shopping

ale (alennusmyynti)	sale
(erikois)tarjous	(special) offer/sale
hinta	price
kuitti	receipt
vaihtorahat	change

pankkikortti	bank card
luottokortti	credit card

Transport

Taksi	taxi
VR = Valtion Rautatiet	Finnish Railways
Rautatieasema	railway station
Juna	train
Vaunu	car, carriage
Raide	track
lipunmyynti/lipputoimisto	ticket office
makuuvaunu	sleeping car
ravintolavaunu	restaurant car
tupakoimaton	non-smoking
tupakoiva	smoking
linja-auto/bussi	bus
linja-autoasema	bus station
lentokenttä	airport
menolippu	one-way ticket
meno-paluulippu	return ticket
matkatavara	luggage, baggage

Signs

Puhelin	telephone
M = miehet	men('s room)
N = naiset	ladies(' room)
Keskusta	centre
Kassa	cashier
Asiakaspalvelu	customer service
avoinna/auki	opening hours/open
suljettu/kiinni	closed
vedä	pull
työnnä	push
ulos(käynti)	exit
sisään(käynti)	entrance
epäkunnossa/rikki	out of order/broken

Viikonpäivät**Weekdays**

Ma (maanantai)	Monday
Ti (tiistai)	Tuesday
Ke (keskiviikko)	Wednesday
To (torstai)	Thursday
Pe (perjantai)	Friday
La (lauantai)	Saturday
Su (sunnuntai)	Sunday

Kuukaudet**Months**

tammikuu	January
helmikuu	February
maaliskuu	March
huhtikuu	April
toukokuu	May
kesäkuu	June
heinäkuu	July
elokuu	August
syyskuu	September
lokakuu	October
marraskuu	November
joulukuu	December

Numerot – Numbers

- 1 – yksi
- 2 – kaksi
- 3 – kolme
- 4 – neljä
- 5 – viisi
- 6 – kuusi
- 7 – seitsemän
- 8 – kahdeksan
- 9 – yhdeksän
- 10 – kymmenen

Source: Oulu University of Applied Science (<http://www.oamk.fi/english/nettutor/>,
http://www.oamk.fi/english/exchange_opportunities/ects/practical_information/daily_life).