

HELSINKI GUIDE

Hotel Radisson Blu Espoo, where you are staying, is located close to Aalto University campus, in the Otaniemi area of Espoo city within the Helsinki Metropolitan Area.

The address is Otaranta 2, 02150 Espoo

• Radisson Blu Hotel, Espoo

1. How to reach Radisson Blu Hotel using public transport

Getting from the airport to the Radisson Blu is easy, it takes about an hour by public transport with one connection.

From the airport, take the train to Helsinki. The airport train station is located right under the terminal, and you'll see signs navigating you there. You can take whichever train leaves sooner and it will take you to the city center in about 30 minutes.

You can buy a ticket at the station using a ticket machine, through the HSL mobile app, or with contactless payment inside the train. You can find several ticket machines at the station. And here are the links if you prefer the app: <u>AppStore</u> / <u>GooglePlay</u>.

From the airport you will need to select an ABC-zone ticket. A single ticket for zones ABC costs 4,40 € and is valid for 90 minutes. You can transfer between different types of public transport (train, metro, bus etc.) using the same ticket while it's valid.

Get off at the last station Helsinki, it is the Central railway station (Rautatientori in Finnish).

Once there, follow the "M" signs towards the metro station. The same ticket is still valid for the metro.

Take the metro going in the direction Tapiola / Kivenlahti and get off at the Aalto Yliopisto/Aalto University stop. Once there, exit through exit A.

From there, it's a nice 10-15 min walk to the Radisson Blu, which is next to the shore.

If you want to go out around campus or Helsinki, you will need an AB zone ticket. If you're going to move a lot there's an option to buy an HSL day ticket with unlimited travel which costs €10 for 24h.

2. Things to do close to Aalto

a. EMMA (Espoo Modern Art Museum in Wee Gee building)

You can take a bus or metro to Tapiola and then walk a couple minutes.

- ♥ EMMA Espoo Museum of Modern Art
 - b. Ainoa / Tapiola mall.

Take the metro for a one stop or bus. Shops and several restaurants.

- ◆ Shopping Center AINOA
 - c. Espoo archipelago boat

Nice boat ride around the islands. More information

3. Top 5 places to visit in Helsinki

From Aalto University metro station you can reach Helsinki city center in 15 min.

a. Oodi Library

Central public library. It was opened to celebrate Finland's 100th year anniversary.

- ♥ Helsinki Central Library Oodi
- ->Take the metro to Central Railway Station (Rautatientori)
 - b. Amos Rex

Art museum in the city center. Interesting building. Here is the link to current exhibitions.

◆ Amos Rex

- -> Take the metro to Central Railway Station (Rautatientori) or Kamppi
 - c. Senate Square and Helsinki Cathedral, Market hall and Esplanadi.

Traditional sightseeing in Helsinki's city center. Nice to walk around on a sunny day!

- ->Take the metro to Helsinki University (Helsingin Yliopisto) or Central Railway Station (Rautatientori)
- ♥ Senaatintori

d. Suomenlinna

An island just off the coast. It used to be a military fortress. These days it is a picturesque area with beautiful nature, architecture, and an old fortress. There are some residential buildings, schools, art studios, cafes, and museums. You can take the ferry with a regular HSL ticket for the AB zone. The island might be windy and is best enjoyed in sunny weather.

- ->Take the metro to Helsinki University (Helsingin Yliopisto) or Central Railway Station (Rautatientori)
- ♥ Suomenlinna
 - e. Rock church

Lutheran Church from 1969 carved into the rocks. Nice area to walk around and enjoy some of Finland's Art Nouveau architecture.

- -> Take the metro to Kamppi
- ▼ Temppeliaukion Church

4. Some recommendations to eat

a. Fat Lizard

Restaurant and a craft beer brewery located right next to Aalto University. Has a summer terrace, good selection of pizzas and draft beers.

• Restaurant Fat Lizard Otaniemi

b. Harju 8 or Tenho

Cool places in the hip Kallio area. Live music on Sundays. Both have vegan and vegetarian options. Harju 8 uses local ingredients. Tenho has nice pizzas.

- ♥ Harju 8
- ▼ Tenho Restobar
 - c. Cafe Regatta

Traditional cafe next to the waterfront. You can get some Finnish pastries or grab a sausage to grill at the fireplace at the cafe's terrace.

- Cafe Regatta
 - d. Hietalahden kauppahalli

Market Hall with several food options at the end of a nice street.

- Hietalahden kauppahalli
 - e. Cafe Engel

An old cafe at Senate square. A place good for coffee and deserts, but also to try traditional Finnish food, like salmon soup.

♥ Café Engel

5. Cafes

a. Sävy

Nice cafe in Kallio area. Afterwards, you can easily walk to Puu-Vallila to check out old wooden houses.

Great pastries, and a good breakfast deal!

- ♥ Sävy
- Puu-Vallila wooden house district
 - b. Andante

Specialty coffee cafe in downtown with seasonal pastries.

- Andante Coffee
 - c. Rams Roasters

Cafe in old Punavuori area. Korvapuusti (cinnamon buns) are amazing.

♥ Rams Roasters

d. Way Bakery

Trendy cafe in Karhupuisto (Bear park) in Kallio. It is a bakery by day, but has a wine&dine atmosphere in the evenings. Small but delicious portions.

♥ Way Bakery

e. Cafetino

Greek cafe, managed by the owner. Welcoming and relaxed environment.

♥ Cafetino

6. Sauna!

Sauna is the most typical Finnish experience. Even best if you can jump into the sea to cool down! Normally in mixed saunas, people wear swimsuits, but have in mind nudity is a thing.

More on sauna etiquette

a. Sompasauna

Open air & free-of-charge public sauna run by volunteers. Open 24/7. Very lively in summer. Visitors change and store their things outside as there are no changing rooms/ lockers. Swimsuit is optional. This is an authentic and unfiltered experience for the brave:)

♥ Sompasauna

b. Lonna

Beautiful sauna on a small island. Need to take the boat from the main market square. Book in advance. <u>Information and booking link.</u>

♥ Lonna Sauna

c. Kulttuurisauna

Known as the intellectual and quiet sauna. For the first time it is recommended to attend alone. Has a mix between Finnish and Japanese vibes. However, these days there is a lot of construction work around it, as a new bridge and tram line are coming to that area by next spring. <u>Booking link.</u>

♥ Kulttuurisauna Public Sauna

d. Allas

Big sauna in the central market square. Open air pool, also separate pool with sea water. <u>Link.</u>

Allas Pool

e. Löyly

Fancy sauna in Southern Helsinki with unique contemporary wooden architecture. Has a restaurant and a bar. <u>Link.</u>

♥ Löyly Helsinki

7. Contact phones Rupesh / Diana

Here are our numbers, you can call us or reach us through WhatsApp or Telegram:

Rupesh: +358 50 598 8032

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