

Scenic drives and **must-see spots in Finland**



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Tripadvisor

Julia

@Julia_Kivela

Join me, @Julia_Kivela, for a road trip through Finland's top driveable spots with Tripadvisor and Enterprise! We'll check out beautiful places like Varlaxudden, the cosy Gumbostrand Konst & Form, and the historic St. Peter's Church. We'll also explore nature at Nuuksio National Park and finish up at the Fagervik Museum. Ready to see Finland from the road? We're off!



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Stop 1 **Varlaxudden**

Varlaxudden is the perfect destination for enjoying nature, photography, and bird watching. It offers an easy 350-meter route with shelters and even a fireplace, making it accessible and enjoyable for hikers of all levels.



Stop 2 **Gumbostrand Konst & Form**

The gallery's coastal charm matches perfectly with its art pieces. I enjoyed a lovely coffee break in their cosy café while admiring the contemporary artwork. It was a lovely stop to refresh during my road trip.



Stop 3 **Strömfors Iron Works**

The charming Iron Works offers a cultural experience with two museums, restaurants, art exhibitions, and boutiques featuring handmade products. You can even go kayaking on the Kymijoki River or take a blacksmithing workshop.

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Stop 4 **St. Peter's Church**

The medieval stone church was a serene surprise—its beautiful frescoes were impressive. I enjoyed a moment of quiet reflection in the peaceful churchyard, appreciating its rich history and tranquil atmosphere.



Stop 5 **Porkkalanniemi**

It's easy to see why Porkkalanniemi is popular with photographers—the numerous scenic trails offer incredible views of the high rocky shores and sea. You might even be lucky enough to spot deer or moose!



Stop 6 **Hvitträsk**

Hvitträsk was simply enchanting. The architecture and scenic grounds were a feast for the eyes. Wandering through the beautifully restored mansion and its gardens was a highlight—it's a perfect blend of history and nature.

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Stop 7

Nuoksio National Park

The national park is expansive, with numerous trails, campsites, cabins, parking areas, and stunning views of lakes and forests. The park is home to the fascinating Finnish Nature Centre. You can even rent a sauna!



Stop 8

Fagervik Museum

Fagervik Museum was a charming finale to the trip. The well-preserved ironworks and manor house provided a glimpse into Finland's industrial history. It was a tranquil and informative end to my road trip, enhancing my experience with its historical allure.



Stop 9

Mustio Manor - Mustio Linna - Svartå Slott

Surrounded by romantic gardens and tranquil ponds, the large, impressively preserved 18th century estate feels like you've taken a step back in time. After exploring the beautiful rooms of the wooden manor house, I enjoyed a meal at the estate's restaurant. Delicious food in a beautiful setting—the perfect blend of history, nature, and fine dining.



What to know before you go to **Finland**

What to Expect

Finland is known for its design, technology, and a deep connection with nature. The country is also famous for its sauna culture, which is a must-try experience. Finnish cuisine is based on fresh, local ingredients. Popular dishes include rye bread, salmon, reindeer meat, and Karelian pies (Karjalanpiirakka). Don't miss trying the traditional Finnish coffee and cinnamon rolls (korvapuusti).

Language

Finnish and Swedish are the two official languages of Finland. Finnish is the most widely spoken, while Swedish is spoken mainly along the southwestern coast and the Åland Islands. English is widely spoken, particularly in urban areas and among younger people, making it easy for travelers to communicate.

Currency

The official currency of Finland is the Euro (€). Credit and debit cards are widely accepted throughout the country, including in most rural areas. ATMs are also readily available, but it's advisable to carry some cash, especially in remote locations or for small purchases.

Time Zone

Finland operates on Eastern European Time (EET), which is UTC+2. During Daylight Saving Time, from the last Sunday in March to the last Sunday in October, the clocks move forward one hour to Eastern European Summer Time (EEST), or UTC+3.



Plug Adaptor

Finland uses Type C and F electrical outlets, with a standard voltage of 230V and a frequency of 50Hz. If your devices use a different plug type, you will need a plug adaptor.

Airport Locations

Helsinki Vantaa International Airport (HEL):

The main international airport, located about 17 km north of Helsinki, serving as a hub for flights throughout Finland and Europe.

Rovaniemi International Airport (RVN):

Located near the Arctic Circle, serving as a gateway to Lapland, particularly popular in winter for those visiting Santa Claus Village.

Tampere-Pirkkala Airport (TMP):

Located 17 km southwest of Tampere, offering both domestic and international flights.

Turku Airport (TKU):

Situated 8 km north of Turku, providing flights to various European destinations.

Oulu Airport (OUL):

Finland's second-busiest airport, located 15 km south of Oulu, serving northern Finland.



Knowing the driving rules in **Finland**

Finland's roads are well-kept, maintained, and clearly signposted, so driving in Finland is relatively straightforward. Keeping daytime running lights on at all (also in the Summer) is mandatory, so before you set off you should check whether the car has them automatically on or if they need to be switched on manually before driving. If you're travelling in winter, you should pay extra attention as icy conditions can make the road more dangerous. Seatbelts are mandatory for all passengers and using your mobile phone when driving is prohibited. Like many of their European neighbours, Finns drive on the right-hand side of the road.

Here's our top tips for driving in Finland in winter:

- Check the weather forecast and warnings before driving.
- Winter tyres are mandatory in Finland during winter.
- Keep a snow brush and ice scraper in your car and keep your car hood, roof, lights, and windows snow-free. Failing to do so will incur in a fine.
- During winter, it's essential to pack warm clothes in the car, as the weather can be extremely cold.
- Stay on main roads to avoid unsalted or unploughed road conditions.
- Animal crossings are frequent, so watch out for warning signs.



What do I need to hire a car with Enterprise

- A full, valid driving licence
- An international driver's permit (check if you need this!)
- Your passport
- A credit card for the deposit

Top cars to choose from in Finland*



Compact

Toyota Corolla Sedan
Opel Astra
Kia Ceed



Intermediate

Opel Mokka
Peugeot 2008



Premium

BMW 3 Series
Touring (Estate)
Mercedes C Class
Audi A5

**Subject to availability.*



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