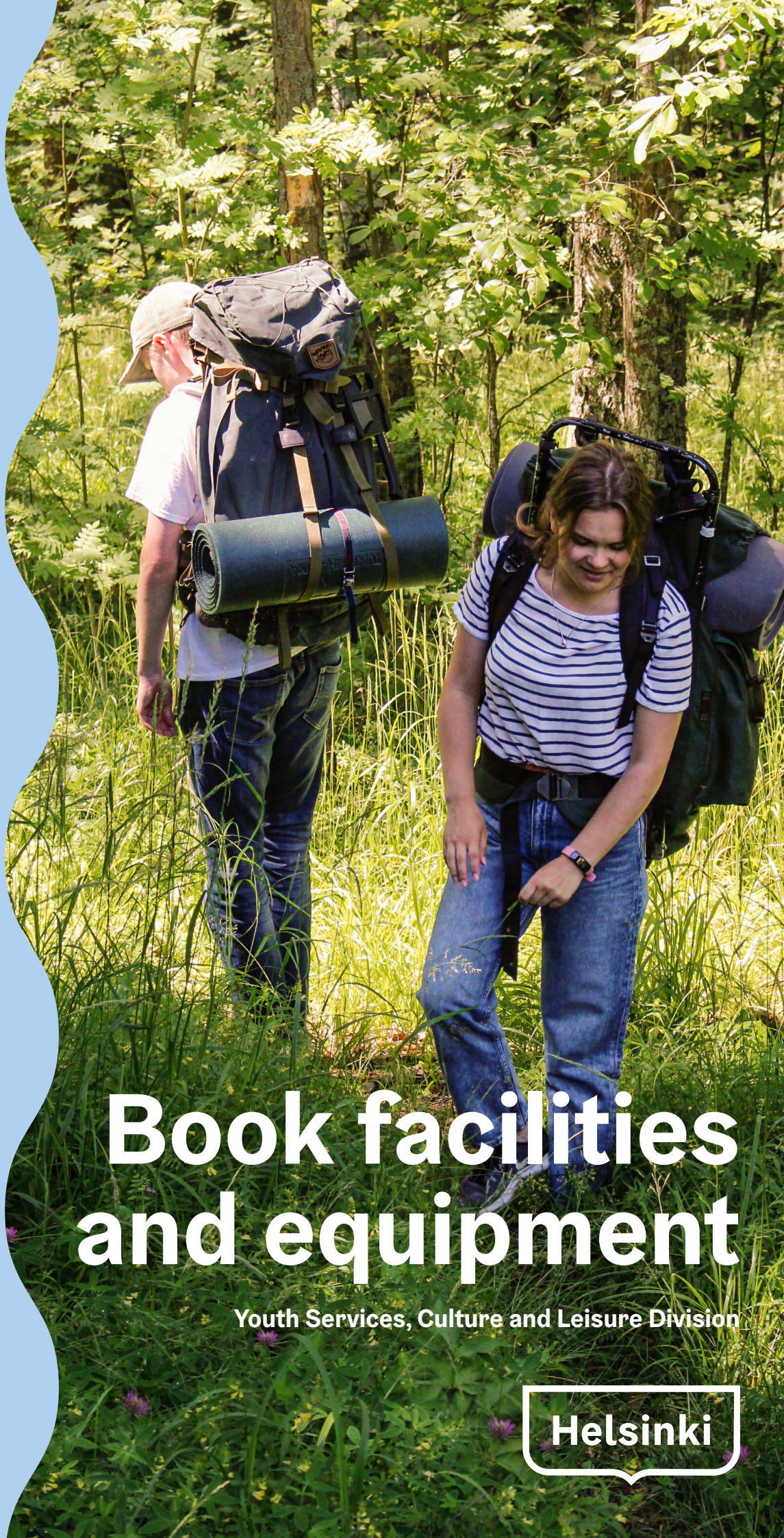


Camp centre brochure



Book facilities and equipment

Youth Services, Culture and Leisure Division

Helsinki

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Symbols:



café



island destination



not accessible



in summer use



all year round



no overnight accommodation

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Introduction

Hi there!

You're viewing the Youth Service camp centres introduction brochure. The brochure provides information about the general equipment of the facilities, as well as various services. It also highlights services aimed at making hiking easier. The facilities are administrated by the Environmental Activities Youth Work Unit, which organises environmental and adventure activities for young people in some of the facilities.

You can apply to reserve time slots in the facilities for continuous seasonal activities, camps, courses, day camps or temporary activities. When allocating time slots, priority is given to Helsinki-based youth organisations and youth groups, with other groups and schools in Helsinki taking second place. For more information on reserving facilities, see the end of this brochure.

All of the facilities are smoke-free and substance-free, and the principle of the Smoke-free Helsinki programme is followed in them. The locations apply a sustainable lifestyle, i.e. operate as ecologically as possible. The facilities run by Youth Services have been certified with the EcoCompass environmental management system. The facilities



are free of charge for operators based in Helsinki. Rents approved by the Culture and Leisure Committee apply to businesses and religious communities. You can see the current rental prices in the Varaamo service.

By subscribing to Youth Services' partnership newsletter, you will be the first to receive key information and reminders of upcoming dates. Subscribe to the newsletter via this link (page in Finnish): nuorisopalvelut-kumppanuuskirje.hel.fi/

We are looking forward to seeing you in our facilities and services!





Meriharju Nature House and Uutela cabin

Meriharju Nature House and the Uutela cabin are located in the Vuosaari district of East Helsinki, in the Uutela outdoor recreation area. Meriharju Nature House, or Villa Meriharju (built in 1910), serves as the heart of the camp centre. On school days, the facilities are also used for the nature school activities of Youth Services.

The Uutela cabin and seashore sauna are located about 400 metres away as the crow flies. The cabin and its equipment are suitable for smaller groups. Both facilities can be reserved separately or together. The facilities of Villa Meriharju are also suitable for meetings.

The villa is surrounded by a beautiful seashore, forests, swamps and meadows. The Särkkäniemi nature reserve is also located nearby.



Equipment of Meriharju Camp Centre:

- Overnight accommodation in bunk beds for 34 people
- Four accommodation rooms with a private toilet
- The villa has three floors
- Industrial kitchen with appliances, a high-speed dishwasher and tableware for 40 people
- The second floor features a dining room, a fireplace room, accommodation rooms and small group rooms
- The third floor features two small group rooms
- The ground floor features two showers and a toilet
- The yard features a separate sauna with one shower and a water boiler
- Poor internet connection, projector, HDMI connector



Equipment of the Uutela cabin:

- Overnight accommodation for 11 people: 9 in the cabin and 2 in the seashore sauna, no camping in tents
- The cabin features a kitchen with a gas stove, a solar-powered small fridge without a freezer compartment, tableware for 11 people
- Lighting with solar power and camping lights, heating with the fireplace or stove
- Summer water (cold water) is supplied via a hose from Meriharju Camp Centre
- Seashore sauna with a separate washroom and a water boiler
- The cabin terrace features a barbecue hut
- The yard area features two outhouses, a woodshed and a dishwashing station
- Poor internet connection

Website:

[Meriharju Nature House and Camp Centre – Youth Helsinki](#)

[Uutela cabin – Youth Helsinki](#)





Östersundom Camp Centre

The camp centre is located in the Östersundom district in eastern Helsinki. The camp centre is a former school building, the area of which provides a good setting for camp activities. The yard area features a large sand field and is surrounded by forest.

Users of the camp centre can also borrow bicycles from the centre (6 available). The bikes provide easy access to nearby nature sites, such as Sipoonkorpi National Park, which is located roughly five kilometres away.



*Mainly accessible

Equipment of the camp centre:

- Overnight accommodation for 34 people: two dormitories with bunk beds for a total of 32 people and a two-person bedroom
- Kitchen, appliances, dishwasher and tableware for about 40 people
- Gymnasium with wall bars and a small stage
- Small group room
- Shower facilities and toilets
- The basement features an electrically heated sauna with a washroom and a dressing room
- Internet connection, projector, HDMI connector, TV
- The yard area features a good barbecue site and a large playing field

Website:

[Östersundom Camp Centre – Youth Helsinki](#)



Vartiosaari

Vartiosaari is an old villa island in Southeast Helsinki, near Laajasalo and Tammisalo, a short boat ride from the mainland. The Aurinkolautta charter boat service operates between Yliskylä and Vartiosaari from May to September. The boat ride across Reposalmi only takes a few minutes.

In addition to the island's diverse nature, some of its finest attractions include the sea view from the

Vartiokallio viewpoint, a glacial erratic, a giant's kettle and a forest church. The Vartiosaari nature trail leads to many of the island's attractions and is open all year round. The sheep of Haltiala Farm often graze on the island in the summer. The reservable facilities of Vartiosaari include Mäntyniemi Camp Centre, Villa Furubacka and the Vartiosaari Stable.



Mäntyniemi Camp Centre

Mäntyniemi Stuga (built in 1896) serves as the main building of the camp centre. The yard area features Sinikkala, which serves as an accommodation building, and Punakkala, where you will find the activity equipment. The yard area also features a barbecue shelter, a hut, a playing field,

a sauna with a pier and a tidy beach for swimming. Mäntyniemi provides a setting for fishing and water activities such as SUP boarding and canoeing, for example. There is plenty to do in the yard area, in winter and summer alike. Mäntyniemi Camp Centre can be used to hold daytime events for around 40–50 people.



Equipment of the camp centre:

- Overnight accommodation for about 25 people.
- Camping in tents in the yard can be arranged
- The building has two floors
- The ground floor features a kitchen and lounge area, while the second floor features three small rooms
- Kitchen with appliances, a dishwasher and tableware for about 30 people
- Separate sauna building next to the pier, featuring a washroom without showers, a water

- boiler and a dressing room
- Barbecue shelter and outdoor tables in the yard area
- The yard area features outhouses, a woodshed and a dishwashing station
- Pier, rowboat, SUP boards and canoes, trampoline and disc golf goal
- Internet connection

More information:
[Mäntyniemi Camp Centre – Youth Helsinki](#)



Villa Furubacka

The heart of the camp area is the beautiful two-storey Villa Furubacka (built in 1908). The area provides a good setting for water activities such as SUP boarding and canoeing.

The yard area also features a barbecue shelter, a tidy beach, rowing and pedal boats and a floating sauna. The Furubacka camp area can be used to hold daytime events for around 30–40 people.



Equipment of Villa Furubacka:

- The main building can provide overnight accommodation for 16 people
- Three separate bedrooms upstairs, one accommodation room downstairs (for instructors, for example)
- The main building features a kitchen with appliances and tableware for roughly 20 people
- The main building features a dining area and living room for lounging
- Barbecue shelter and outdoor tables in the yard area

- Wood-heated floating sauna with room for four people at a time, no running water and no washing facilities
- Pier and a sandy beach
- Outhouses
- Various recreational equipment, such as canoes, kayaks, dinghies and pedal boats, as well as a volleyball area
- Internet connection

More information:
[Vartiosaari Camp Centre – Youth Helsinki](#)



Vartiosaari Stable

The Vartiosaari Stable is located by a nature trail around the island, close to garden allotments. In the past, the history-rich stable has hosted Youth Services' own summer activities. The Stable provides a good base for day camps or excursions, for example. A service desk-like solution has been built on the side of the Stable, which enables the organisation of a summer café or small-scale

events, for example. The permits required for such activities and waste management must be arranged by the person reserving the facilities.

The Stable yard is beautiful and natural in summer. The yard area features two outhouses, a water point and a barn. The barn features a small stage, and the space is suitable for organising events such as dances. Use of the barn is agreed upon separately when making a reservation. For more information on reserving the barn as part of other activities, please contact the staff of the Environmental Activities Youth Work Unit. The Stable has room for around 15 people at a time inside, but the yard has room for more people. This makes the Stable a good option for holding activities such as day camps, excursions or small summer events.



Equipment of the Stable:

- Suitable for activities such as day camps and excursions
- Stable (indoor facilities for roughly 15 people), with a separately reservable barn in the yard
- The Stable kitchen features a fridge, microwave and coffee maker, but no tableware
- Two outhouses and a water point (summer/cold water) in the yard area
- Charging outlets
- No overnight accommodation



Edible Park

The summer paradise of the Edible Park can be found at the western end of Mustikkamaa, near the Isoisän silta bridge. The urban natural environment provides a setting for art and nature workshops, farming and animal care. In the red house that serves as the heart of the park, visitors can stop by for refreshments served by a summer café run as a business activity for young people. In the outdoor garden, you can see some summer chickens and farming activities.



Equipment of the Edible Park:

- Suitable for activities such as day camps
- House with an outdoor storage facility, fenced yard with allotments, summer chicken coop, garden furniture
- The house kitchen features appliances, a dishwasher and tableware for about 20 people
- Toilet
- Summer water
- Internet connection
- No overnight accommodation

More information:
[Edible Park – Youth Helsinki](#)



Bengtsår Camp Island

North of Hankoniemi in the inner archipelago of the Gulf of Finland, roughly 120 kilometres from Helsinki, you will find a naturally beautiful camp island where people have been spending unforgettable camp summers since 1948.

The island provides a setting for a wide range of hiking and adventure activities. There are seven separate campsites on the camp island. Four of them are located on the main island, one in Barnholmen

and two in Aspholm. Kitchen and activity beach services can also be reserved on the island.

The camp island uses a climate menu to raise awareness of the climate footprint of food. In summer, the island is home to grazing sheep, who play an important role in protecting the cultural landscape of Bengtsår and preserving its range of species.



Equipment of the Bengtsår campsites:

- Overnight accommodation for around 50–100 people per campsite
- Each campsite features a tent area, cooking shelter, dishwashing station, pier, boat, campfire site and outdoor toilets
- The camp island provides Niger tents, groundsheets (under the tent), a half-platoon tent with full equipment, a gas stovetop and gas bottle, a kettle for heating water, drinking water canisters, cleaning equipment and firewood
- The main island features a nature reserve, a large sports field, a cowshed, lean-tos, a hut and an activity beach and two wood-heated saunas (Rantasauna and Merisauna), which can also be reserved for accommodation outside the summer season

- Canoes, other activity equipment and kitchen services can be reserved during the summer season
- Food and washing water is brought to the island separately in accordance with the size of the camp
- No power grid; electricity from solar panels on the roof

Things to note:

- In the summer season, Bengtsår has its own ferry to and from the island
- From autumn to spring there is no transport to the island; instead, camp organisers have access to an 8HP outboard motor boat
- School groups can order an instructed camp school package on the island. More information on the Bengtsår Camp Island website.

More information:

[Bengtsår Camp Island – Youth Helsinki](#)





Camping equipment loan centre Wempaimisto
Wempaimisto is a camping equipment loan centre located in Youth Activity Centre Silmu in Itä-Pasila. Wempaimisto lends equipment (e.g. tents, backpacks, camp stoves) to young people and groups of young people under the age of 29 in Helsinki, Helsinki-based youth organisations, other organisations in Helsinki and the City's divisions. The equipment is provided only for domestic activities.

A private borrower must have a valid Youth Services membership card. The membership card is free of charge, and you can register on the Jässäri website. Young people aged 13–28 can also download the membership card electronically. Underage card applicants must have their guardian's approval.

More information:
Camping equipment loan centre Wempaimisto – Youth Helsinki



Facility reservations:
The Environmental Activities Youth Work Unit grants reservations at its facilities for continuous seasonal activities, camps, courses, day camps and temporary activities. When allocating time slots, priority is given to Helsinki-based youth organisations and youth groups. The reservations are free of charge for users such as the aforementioned groups, the schools of Helsinki and groups of City divisions.

There are three different calls for reservations:

Primary call: a reservation period held every year from 1 August to 15 September, during which operators can use an online form to apply for reservations at the camp centres for camp, course and day camp activities and other temporary activities in the next calendar year. For more information on the primary call for reservations and the principles for free-of-



charge use of the facilities, please visit the reservation website of the Environmental Activities unit.

Additional call in the Varaamo service: you can apply for reservations in the current calendar year only directly in the Varaamo service. In addition to the camp centres, you can also find other reservable City facilities in Varaamo. If any time slots at the camp centres are left unreserved in the primary call, they are made available for reservation in Varaamo. You can find Varaamo at varaamo.hel.fi.

Call for seasonal activities: you can apply for reservations for continuous seasonal activities in the next school year in spring via Varaamo. For more information on the call for seasonal activities, please visit the City's facility reservation website.

Services of the Environmental Youth Work Unit:
In addition to facilities and equipment, we provide young people with a wide range of environmental activities across Helsinki, mostly free of charge.

Youth Project Grant Sponssi
Sponssi is a project grant for youth groups that supports young people's independent activities. Independent activities mean that the activities are independently planned, decided on and carried out by young people as a group. The project grant can be awarded to a youth group in which 2/3 of the members are Helsinki residents aged 7–28.


The Sponssi project grant is available for a wide range of activities, such as events or cultural, civil activism, hobby or sports activities. You can apply for the Sponssi grant by submitting a project grant application online.


Further information Sponssi – Youth Helsinki
The grants are administrated by Youth Services' Partnership Unit. You can contact the unit for more information on grants or for help with applying for the Sponssi grant.

AV loaning office
The AV loaning office is a service for adult private individuals and groups in Helsinki. You can use the service to borrow lighting and audio equipment, for example. Reservations must be made one week prior to the start of the loan period. Lainaamo is located in Itäkeskus, in Cultural Centre Stoa at Turunlinnantie 1.



Contact information:

 [Youth Activity Centre Silmu](#)

 [House of Adventure](#)

 [Bengtsår Camp Island](#)

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Reserve facilities:
<https://nuorten.hel.fi/en/things-to-do-and-places/facility-and-camp-reservations/>

Subscribe to the partnership newsletter: <https://nuorisopalvelut-kumppanuuskirje.hel.fi/>



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