

Best tips for Hämeenlinna

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HÄMEENLINNA

Welcome to Hämeenlinna

Would you like to go on a trip to the medieval Häme Castle or fall in love with the beautiful landscapes of Aulanko Nature Reserve? There are things to see and do in Hämeenlinna, both for those hungry for history and culture, as well as for lovers of wonderful nature and outdoor activities!

Read more:

visithameenlinna.fi/en



visithameenlinna.fi



visithameenlinna



Founded
1639

Population
68 622

Information gathered in March 2026. City of Hämeenlinna reserves the right to changes.

FAVOURITES FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

1. Ahvenisto Race Circuit.....Poltinahontie 47
2. Vanaja Boulder.....Pietiläntie 6
3. Ahvenisto Adventure Park.....Olympiakatu 18-20
4. Aulanko HugoPark (adventure park).....Aulangontie 93
5. Scandic Aulanko.....Aulangontie 93
6. Hämeenlinna Swimming Hall.....Uimarinkatu 14
7. Ahvenisto Outdoor Swimming Pool.....Olympiakatu 18-20
8. Kids Park Hugola.....Keksikatu 5
9. Hampton Entertainment Centre.....Keksikatu 5
10. Getaway Room Escape Hämeenlinna.....Kustaa III:n katu 8
11. Hämeenlinna Bowlinghall.....Keilakatu 2
12. Fifth Avenue.....Sibeliuksenkatu 2

MUSEUMS

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14. The Prison.....Kustaa III:n katu 8
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18. Palander House.....Linnankatu 16
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28. Café & Rent Mahlia.....Hämeentie Mahlian puisto
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30. Nature 360 Aulanko.....Linnanen 77
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MOST INSTAGRAMMABLE PLACES IN HÄMEENLINNA

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33. Kantola murals.....Myllärinkatu
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- i** Hämeenlinna Tourist info, Wetterhoffinkatu 2
34. Hämeenlinna bus station.....Eteläkatu 1
35. Hämeenlinna railway station.....Hämeentie 16



Tourist info

tel. +358 3 621 3370
tourist.info@hameenlinna.fi
Wetterhoffinkatu 2
Open Mon–Fri 9–12 and 13–16



Public transport

www.hameenlinnanjoukkoliikenne.fi/en

Experience the nature in Aulanko

The Aulanko area offers unique natural wonders for visitors to explore, making it one of Hämeenlinna's top attractions. It's no surprise that Aulanko has inspired artists and attracted visitors for over a century!

Aulanko Forest Park

Admire the national landscape from the viewing platform, visit the bear statue, boost your heart rate on the jogging trails and enjoy a lunch on the shores of a woodland pond – the Aulanko forest park enchants its visitors!

Aulanko Observation Tower

The granite observation tower – more than 100 years old – and the accessible viewing platform offers a stunning view of the Finnish national landscape of the Vanajavesi valley and Lake Aulanko. Access to the observation tower is free of charge, and the tower is open from May until the end of October.

Sibelius and Aulanko

As a young man, Jean Sibelius wandered the woodlands of Aulanko. The national landscape is said to have inspired the genius composer's Finlandia Hymn. In 2018, a nature reserve covering around one hundred hectares was established in Aulanko and named Sibelius Forest.

Aulanko's outdoor trails

Aulanko's well-maintained park paths and spectacular outdoor trails pamper sports enthusiasts all year round. It is a unique setting for outdoor enthusiasts, joggers, trailrunners, skiers, mountain bikers and horse riders.

Joutsenlampi nature trail

An approx. 1km nature trail winds around the Joutsenlampi pond, along which around 50 different tree and shrub species have been marked. The route is also suitable for prams or wheelchairs.

Aulangonjärvi trail

The Aulangonjärvi trail (approx. 7 km) begins from the Nature 360 Aulanko and continues along duckboards to Sibelius Forest and towards the workout stairs in Kärmeskallio. The long climb is rewarded with an unforgettable view! Along the route, you'll have the opportunity to take a break at a campfire site and visit a beach either in Kihtersuo or near the Nature 360 Aulanko for a refreshing dip in the water.

Active Aulanko x4

1. HugoPark Aulanko

HugoPark Aulanko is an adventure park where climbers of varying skill levels can participate in physical activities and challenge themselves. The park has 9 adventure tracks with slides, various kinds of rope bridges, climbing nets and liana jumps. At an altitude of 20m, the highest treetop tracks in Finland are sure to present a challenge!

2. Spa hotel Scandic Aulanko

It's always summer at the spa – even on rainy days! The spa's pools and wellness services invite you to refresh yourself, while Aulanko Arena is where you can spend the day engaging in a variety of physical activities. Challenge yourself and your companions with glow bowling, minigolf, frisbee golf or the sports simulator!

3. Natural exercise services

SUP boards, canoes, kayaks, fatbikes, kickbikes and other equipment can be rented from Aulanko Outdoors. Call and book in advance! Nature 360 Aulanko offers guided tours and events, communal saunas and the delicious services of the cafe.

4. Aulanko Golf

At Aulanko, you can play golf in unique national landscapes on two courses. Built in 1940, the Hugo course's sloping and fast greens require players to be patient and have good short game skills. Players will find conditions at the 18-hole Eversti course's club building to be cosy both before and after the round!

Discover the best of Aulanko area

www.hameenlinna.fi/aulankoarea

Olympic spirit and outdoor activities in Ahvenisto

An active day outdoors at the Ahvenisto Nature Reserve and beach just flies by, and the area offers things to do for all ages all year round! You can rent SUP boards and e-mountain bikes for your summer adventure from the café – thanks to a ready-made route suggestion (approx. 3 hrs), you can also tour all of Hämeenlinna's attractions at the same time!

Did you know that the sports and outdoor centre was built for the 1952 Olympic Games, during which the pentathlon was held in Ahvenisto? The winding outdoor and running trails built for the Olympics on Ahvenisto's eskers guarantee that your heart rate will increase nicely! The approximately 6-kilometre-long circular nature trail is marked with yellow triangles.

All of this is just a short distance from the centre of Hämeenlinna!

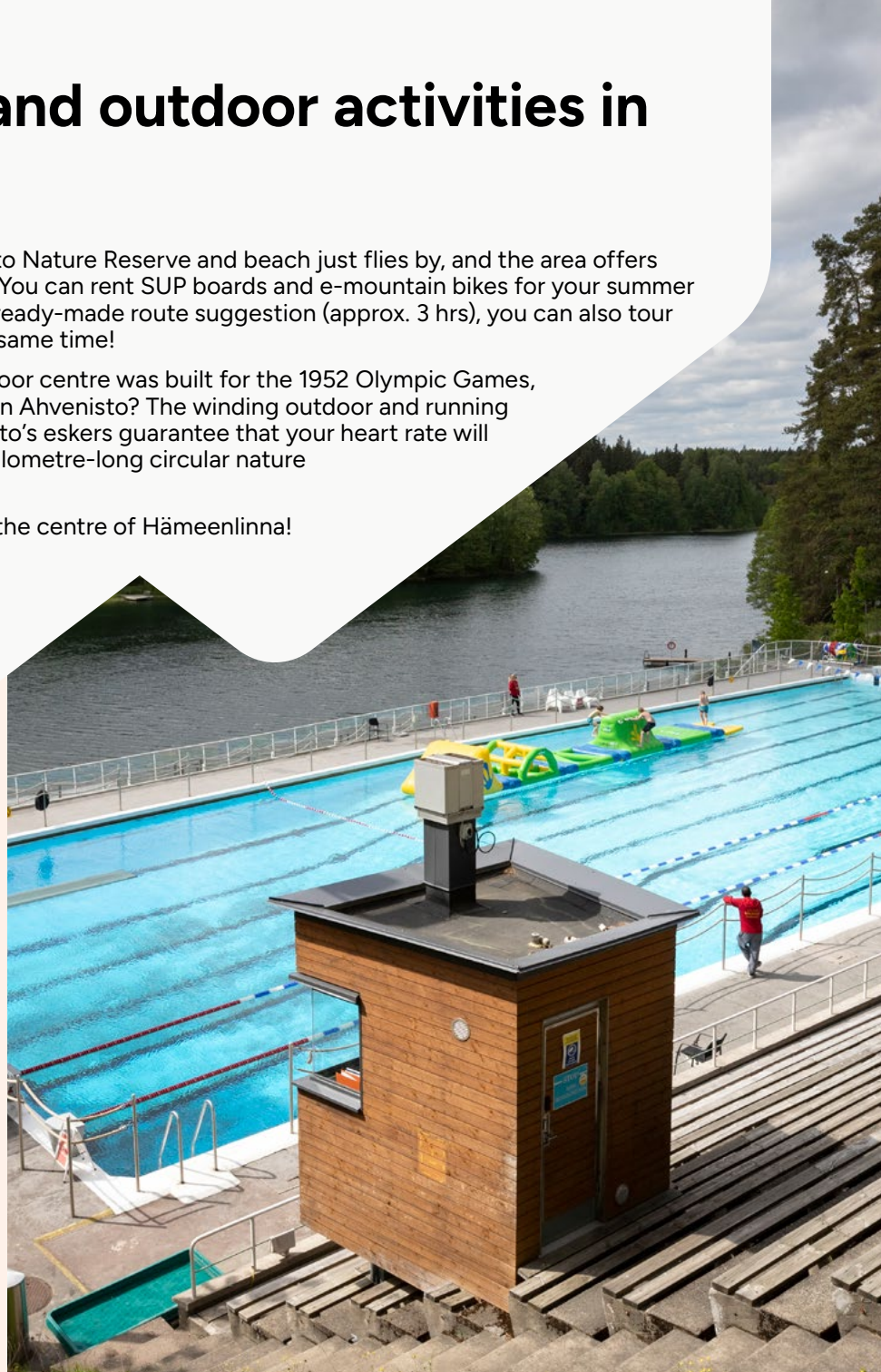
www.ahvenisto.fi/en



Experience the thrill of speed on the Ahvenisto Race Circuit

On the other side of the Ahvenisto esker is one of Finland's oldest motorsports arenas: the legendary Ahvenisto Race Circuit, where a variety of events and competitions are organised throughout the summer.

www.ahvenistoracecircuit.com/en



Favourites for families with children

We've gathered some tips on exciting places to visit that offer experiences and stimulate the imagination – regardless of age and weather!

Adventures for all tastes

Test your climbing skills at the Vanaja Boulder climbing centre. Adventurous daredevils should head to the adventure parks in Ahvenisto and Aulanko.

Warm water all year round

Swimmers and water lovers will enjoy the Scandic Aulanko spa hotel or the Hämeenlinna Swimming Hall. The Ahvenisto outdoor swimming pool is open during the summer period from June to the beginning of September.

The Hämeensaari and Sairionranta beaches serve the beachgoing population right in the heart of the city!

Action and competition for the playful

Kids Park Hugola is an indoor playground with exciting activities for the little ones. Slides, climbing, a ball pit, a foam pit, a trampoline, an activity area for the little ones and much more! Hampton Entertainment Centre is located in the same building and is ideal for school-aged children and adults alike.

Read more

www.hameenlinna.fi/forfamilies



Hämeenlinna's Museums & culture

Hämeenlinna is a city of culture where you can experience history, art, museums and design. With The Museum Card, you can access eight museum sites in Hämeenlinna, and there are also a number of smaller specialised and local museums. The crown jewel of the Hämeenlinna museum tour is, naturally, Häme Castle.



Häme Castle - a must-see museum in Hämeenlinna

Hämeenlinna's best-known landmark is the Häme Castle, even the city is named after it ("Hämeen"=Häme's, "linna"=castle). This medieval castle from the late 13th century tells many interesting stories about the

history of Finland and Hämeenlinna. Discover Scandinavia's most well-preserved stone castle through fascinating exhibitions and guided tours all year round. The castle is one of the main tourist attractions

of southern Finland, being the centerpiece of the city and a popular venue and background for events.

Read more

www.visithameenlinna.fi/en



Hämeenlinna Art Museum

Opened in 1952, the art museum's collection is based on works of art evacuated from the Viipuri Art Museum during the Second World War. The collection includes more than 8,000 works of art, and it represents an extensive cross-section of Finnish visual arts.

Militaria Museum

Militaria Museum offers a wide range of Finnish military history, showcasing the history of artillery, pioneers and communication corps from the Middle Ages to the present day. With three floors and a garden to explore, the whole family will find this museum fascinating.

The Prison

The Prison is the largest prison museum in Finland, and until 1993, the building served as the Hämeenlinna county prison. The museum showcases the history of prisons and prison life. The Prison's exhibitions present rooms, cells and objects that tell a gruesome story about everyday life in the prison.

See also Iittala Glass Museum
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Birthplace of Jean Sibelius

Did you know that master composer Jean Sibelius (1865–1957) was born in Hämeenlinna and spent his early years in the city? The birthplace of Jean Sibelius is a globally unique museum, displaying furniture, documents, photographs and small objects that both tell the story of Jean's childhood and depict what life in Hämeenlinna was like at the time.

Skogster Museum

Skogster Museum, also known as Hämeenlinna City Museum, is a treasure trove of Kanta-Häme's cultural heritage! Learn more about the main exhibition hall's temporary exhibitions here:

www.hmlimuseo.fi/en

Palander House

Located in an adorable wooden building area right in the heart of the city centre, this regional museum showcases the life of a bourgeois family in Hämeenlinna a century ago. On guided tours, you can explore the rooms from the grand hall to the kitchen used by servants.



Verkatehdas area

Verkatehdas is an event centre located by the lake Vanajavesi. Built in the milieu of an old red-brick factory, the unique and versatile venue offers opportunities for congresses, meetings, concerts and theater performances, for example. In the Verkatehdas quarter, you will also find wonderful restaurant experiences and premises for companies, communities and professionals in the creative industry.

www.verkatehdas.fi/en

Tom of Finland, the musical

The most praised Finnish musical of all time! Tom of Finland, the musical comes to Verkatehdas in autumn 2026.



Read more

www.tofmusikaali.fi/en

Relax in the city centre

The Hämeenlinna Market Square is filled with cafes, stalls and terraces in the summer. At the edge of the square stands the Hämeenlinna Church, which was built in 1798 and is said to have been inspired by the Pantheon in Rome. The neo-Renaissance-style Town Hall, which was completed in 1888, and the neo-classical county administration hall, which was built in 1834, are also located on the edge of the square.

Tip! Just one block away from the market, experience the Sibelius Park's musical benches, which play the melodies of The Trees collection composed by Jean Sibelius!



Shopping x4

1. Goodman Shopping Centre

A trendy and casual shopping centre in the centre of Hämeenlinna. Here, you will find more than 60 shops and services, as well as cafes and restaurants.

2. Tavastila Shopping Centre

There are 20 specialised stores providing clothing, interior design, beauty, well-being and refreshments.

3. Willa Vaski House of Arts and Crafts

In this craft shop set up by local artisans, you can buy gifts, souvenirs and all manner of beautiful objects either for yourself or as gifts. There are also a cafe and a gallery in the same building.

4. Wetterhoff House

A unique interior design and craft store offering high-quality interior design products, gifts, ryas, craft supplies and a wide selection of yarn.

most pleasant outdoor route

The six-kilometre Vanajavesi lakeside route in the centre is the pride of the people of Hämeenlinna! Along the route, you'll discover not only magnificent scenery, but also restaurants, campfire sites and beaches. From the train station, it takes as little as five minutes to reach the duckboards. The lakeside route passes through 13 different parks, with history strongly present. It's multi-dimensionality is sure to make it one of Finland's most pleasant outdoor routes!

Restaurants and terraces along the lakeside route:

- Le Blason**
www.leblason.fi
- Vanai Bistro & Bastu**
www.vanai.fi/en
- Cafe & Rent Mahlia**
www.mahlia.fi
- Rantakasino**
www.rantakasino.fi/in-english

Hämeenlinna is part of Lakeland Finland - The largest lakeland district in Europe.

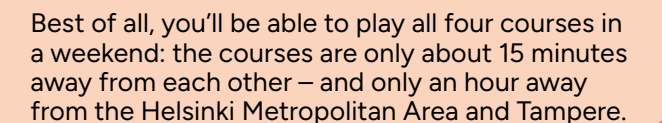
Read more
visitlakelandfinland.com

Restaurants and terraces along the lakeside route:

visitlakelandfinland.com

Appara Experience Center

www.appara.fi

A photograph showing three people water skiing on a lake. They are wearing wetsuits and helmets, and are holding onto tow ropes. The water is splashing around them. In the background, there are green trees and a building. The image is framed by a dark, jagged border.

Treat yourself in Hämeenlinna

Restaurants in Hämeenlinna combine a love of local ingredients with atmospheric environments. You can celebrate life's highlights, a successful day off or simply enjoy everyday life with tasty food and friends. Restaurants range from traditional Häme flavours to classic restaurant delicacies and from authentic street cuisine to modern fine dining.



The laid-back atmosphere of Hämeenlinna is also reflected in its café culture. There's always time for a cup!

What if you stay for a night? Or two!

Add a touch of magic to your holiday with a unique place to stay that combines story and atmosphere! In Hämeenlinna, you will find accommodation options full of character, from a manor hotel to a guesthouse with an old-fashioned atmosphere or from a modern city centre hotel to a unique spa hotel.

Read more

www.hameenlinna.fi/eatdrink

littala Glass Museum

littala Glass Museum presents the history of the littala Glass Factory and the success story of Finnish glass design. Guided tours are available on demand.

littala – Finland's glass capital

littala - Finland's glass manufacturing capital - offers an unforgettable experience to explore Finnish design, art and handicrafts. The littala brand is known around the world, making the littala Village a popular destination among tourists. Here you will find the littala Glass Factory where you can watch the glassblowers at work, littala Outlet, littala Glass Museum, naive art exhibition, many artisan craft shops and much more!

Come here for a day trip and find beautiful souvenirs to bring back home. littala is only a 15 minutes train ride away from Hämeenlinna railway station or within 20 minutes of reach by car.

www.iittalavillage.fi/en

Tip!

Hämeenlinna is full of events!
Hämeenlinna is an active city where sports, music and art events are organised all year round.

Most Instagrammable places in Hämeenlinna

1. **Aulanko viewing platform**
2. **Häme Castle and the castle grounds**
3. **Kantola murals**
4. **Lakeside route landscapes**

Hello, visitor!

Share your most memorable moments in Hämeenlinna!

Tag us with #visithameenlinna, and we'll share your memories from Hämeenlinna with other fans of the city on social media!

www.visithameenlinna.fi/en

 [visithameenlinna](https://www.instagram.com/visithameenlinna)

 [visithameenlinna.fi](https://www.facebook.com/visithameenlinna)

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