International Achievements 2016

December 2016

Helsinki 3rd on National Geographic's The Cool List 2017

National Geographic magazine named Helsinki among 17 destinations to visit in 2017. Helsinki was 3rd among the culture capitals, hipster hotspots, wild escapes and places generally keeping it cool in 2017.

Helsinki 3rd on the Competitiveness Index of Talent

Cities and regions that previously focused their attention on attracting corporate investment and tourists are now turning to a new target – skilled professionals.

First-year version of the European Cities Talent Competitiveness Index (ECTCI) included 27 cities located in European Union countries and representing a mix of national capitals, regional centres as well as up-and-comers in the talent competitiveness space.

The aggregate results which combine data points and the corresponding scores across six pillars of talent competitiveness ranked Helsinki on the 3rd place among fellow cities.

More information

November 2016

Helsinki 3D city models won an international contest

The Helsinki 3D city model project received international attention in the Be Inspired event in London, where significant infrastructure projects are annually awarded. Helsinki won first prize in the 'Innovation in Reality Modelling' series.

Helsinki has used 3D data for city modelling since 1985. As part of a three-year project to be completed in 2017, the City of Helsinki launched a project to generate a 3D representation of the entire city.

The team acquired data using a combination of laser scanning and oblique photogrammetry. As part of their smart city initiative, the 3D model will improve Helsinki's internal services and promote smart development. The project will also showcase the technology and promote its use in higher education.

The reality mesh model is useful in online services, and Helsinki is the first city in the world that makes the reality mesh model available for free use as open data.

Read more: Be Inspired - Reality Modeling Winners

Helsinki 4th on the European Digital City Index

Helsinki was ranked fourth overall in European Digital City Index which is an annual survey of European cities.

The index looked at how well 60 cities support digital entrepreneurship. Each city's final ranking is based on 10 core metrics, including access to capital, business environment, digital infrastructure and market. Helsinki was ranked third for entrepreneurial culture and skills, as well as fourth in mentoring.

More information

Helsinki 11th on the Most Reputable Cities report

According to an annual ranking published from the Reputation Institute, Helsinki has 11th best reputation based on data from more than 23,000 consumers from G8 nations who ranked 55 cities.

The cities were ranked in three dimensions: appeal of the environment, effectiveness of the governing administration, and how advanced the economy is.

Helsinki won Global Sustainability Innovation Award

Helsinki in won the Global Sustainability Innovation Award for its Greening Events & Eco Compass project. The project has created an operating model for voluntary environmental work between cities and events. The awards were presented at the annual ICCA Congress.

The Global Destination Sustainability Index (GDS-Index) currently covers almost 40 cities worldwide. The index measures environmental deeds, social responsibility, the commitment of service providers and the deeds of convention bureaus.

On the 2016 Index, Helsinki was ranked sixth.

More information

October 2016

Finland 3rd on Lonely Planet's Best in Travel 2017 list

Finland has been ranked third on Lonely Planet's Best in Travel 2017 list, which looks at the globe's hottest trends, destinations and experiences.

According to Lonely Planet, there's never been a better time to discover Finland's proudly unique culture and landscape, especially in light of 2017 marking 100 years of its independence.

More information

September 2016

University of Helsinki continues among 100 best universities in the world

According to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings, the University of Helsinki was placed 91st. The University of Helsinki retained its position as the best multidisciplinary university in the Nordic countries.

The University of Helsinki has consolidated its position among the 100 best research universities in the world. It rose to 91st position in the QS ranking published earlier in September, and 56th in the Shanghai ranking, which was published in August.

More information

August 2016

Metropolis Magazine: Helsinki 3rd best city to live in 2016

Helsinki places third in the 2016 ranking of the best cities to live in by US architecture and design oriented US Metropolis Magazine.

There was 65 cities in the first phase of the ranking, and 10 cities in the final ranking. Metropolis praised Helsinki for design and liveability, top-tier education, public transportation, safety and proximity to nature.

Metropolis Magazine "The Best Cities to Live in"

Helsinki 9th in the most liveable cities ranking

Helsinki was placed ninth in Liveability Ranking by The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU). Annual survey looks at the liveability of 140 of the world's major cities.

Using healthcare, education, stability, infrastructure, culture and environment as defining factors, Helsinki's placement in 2016 is a step up from last year's findings.

The World's Most Liveable Cities Ranking

The University of Helsinki is nearing the top 50 universities in the world

The University of Helsinki rose to the 56th position in the Shanghai Ranking. The ranking improved 11 positions from last year.

This represents the University's best ranking in the 14-year history of the Shanghai Ranking. The University also broke its ranking record last year.

A significant factor in the University of Helsinki's success this year is that it has a larger number of highly cited researchers selected by Thomson Reuters, represented by the HiCi indicator.

Among Nordic universities, the University of Helsinki ranked third, preceded only by the University of Copenhagen (30th) and the Karolinska Institutet (44th). Last year, the University of Oslo and Uppsala University ranked higher than the University of Helsinki.

More information

March 2016

University of Helsinki on 28th place in top 200 universities of Europe ranking

Times Higher Education World University Ranking data reveal the top 200 universities in Europe. Institutions were measured on their teaching environment, research environment, research influence, industry income and international outlook. Finland's University of Helsinki was ranked on joint 28th place. Altogether the ranking included 6 universities from Finland.

More information

February 2016

Helsinki-Uusimaa Best Mid-sized European Region for International Investments

A survey made and published by the Financial Times ranked the Helsinki-Uusimaa Region as the best European region in the category of regions with 1,5–4 million inhabitants. Helsinki-Uusimaa was 10th among all 148 European regions.

The survey was based on data on the economic potential, which gave Helsinki-Uusimaa the top position, the human capital and lifestyle, which gave Helsinki-Uusimaa the 2nd position, as well as the connectivity, business friendliness and cost effectiveness.

More information

Helsinki was ranked Europe's fifth major city with Economic Potential and sixth with Connectivity, as well as

ninth in both Patent Registration and Human Capital. When taking into account cities of all sizes, Finland's capital was ranked as the 11th European City of the Future.

Data was for the publication was collected for a total of 481 locations, including 294 cities, 148 regions and 39 local enterprise partnerships. These were each assessed under five categories, including Economic Potential, Labour Environment, Cost Effectiveness, Infrastructure and Business Friendliness.

More information

January 2016

Finland contributes most to global innovation

Thanks to positive policy, Finland contributes most to global innovation in the world according to a new study.

The stronger a country's contribution to global innovation, the greater its own success in innovation domestically. The countries were ranked based on 27 different factors reflecting the way their economic and trade policies contribute to innovation globally.

Research was made by a think tank of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF) found.

More information

Finland is the greenest country in the world

According to the environmental performance index (EPI) 2016, Finland is the greenest country in the world. Index included 180 countries.

Finland's top ranking is mostly based on country's societal commitment to achieve carbon-neutral society that does not exceed nature's carrying capacity by 2050. The report indicates that Finland has actionable goals and measurable indicators of sustainable development.

EPI index ranks countries' performance on environmental issues in two areas: protection of human health and protection of ecosystems. The index is created by Yale and Columbia universities along with the World Economic Forum. EPI is constructed through the calculation and aggregation of nine issues that include more than 20 indicators.