

International Achievements 2018

November 2018

Finlandia Hall wins prize for Best Congress Venue

Bea World Festival is an annual Oscar gala for the international event community, in which the best events of the year are awarded. The 2018 festival launched a new category, Best Congress/Conference/Convention Venue, to award the world's best venue for events. The first ever prize in this category went to Finlandia Hall of Helsinki. The merits of Finlandia Hall cited in the arguments for the prize were the adaptability of the hall's spaces and its ability to handle challenging commissions successfully, such as turning itself into the media centre for the Trump-Putin Summit Meeting in July 2018 with a lead time of slightly over one week only.

More information: [Finlandia Hall - Best Venue in the world](#)

Helsinki ranked 8th most attractive real estate investment destination in Europe

Helsinki is the eighth most attractive real estate investment destination in Europe, according to the Emerging Trends in Real Estate 2019 Europe report published by PwC and Urban Land Institute. In last year's report Helsinki was ranked in 18th position.

More information: [Emerging Trends in Real Estate Europe 2019](#)

Helsinki ranks 5th in sustainability among congress cities

According to the latest Global Destination Sustainability Index, Helsinki now ranks fifth among congress cities.

The GDS Index ranks congress destinations according to their social and environmental sustainability strategies, policies and performance on an annual basis. In addition, the index measures the commitment of service providers and the activities of convention bureaus from the perspective of sustainability. The purpose is to promote awareness of sustainable solutions among congress actors.

More information: [Global Destination Sustainability Index](#)

September 2018

Helsinki wins European Capital of Smart Tourism 2019 competition

Helsinki has taken first place in the European Commission's new European Capital of Smart Tourism 2019 competition. The title for 2019 was awarded to two cities: Helsinki and Lyon.

Factors that were evaluated in choosing the European Capital of Smart Tourism included city image, accessibility, sustainable tourism, digitalisation in tourism services, cultural heritage and innovativeness in tourism offerings.

Altogether 38 cities from 19 EU Member States participate in the inaugural competition.

More information: [European Capital of Smart Tourism](#)

August 2018

Helsinki's city reputation continues to be strong

The reputations of different cities were mapped in the “City RepTrak – The World’s Most Reputable Cities 2018” comparison published by Reputation Institute. In the comparison, Helsinki ranked 11th out of 56 cities, and improved its ranking by five places.

The research method used was an online questionnaire about city perceptions. About 23,000 consumers in the leading industrial G8 countries participated in the survey. The surveyed dimensions were Advanced Economy, Effective Government and Appealing Environment. The recipients were asked about for instance their views on beauty, safety and business friendliness in the surveyed cities.

Read more: [City RepTrak](#)

Helsinki ranks 16th among the most liveable cities in the world

Helsinki reached 16th place in the survey of the most liveable cities in the world, published today by The Economist Intelligence Unit.

The yearly report compared living conditions in 140 cities. Significant factors were assessed across the categories of stability, infrastructure, educational system, healthcare, culture and environment.

More information: [The Global Liveability Index 2018](#)

July 2018

Monocle: Helsinki is the world’s 10th best city to live in

British lifestyle magazine Monocle has again ranked the cities of the world in its Quality of Life Survey. This year, Helsinki is ranked 10th among the cities of the world, and 8th among the cities of Europe. Helsinki has managed to move up from last year, when the City was 13th on the global ranking and 6th among the European cities.

The annual ranking, published by Monocle since 2007, is compiled by the editorial staff of the magazine. The magazine studies the quality of life in different cities and publishes a list of the top 25 cities.

Read more: [Monocle](#)

May 2018

Helsinki in second place in the world's startup city comparison

According to a recent comparison carried out by the Danish digital startup platform Valuer, Helsinki is the second best location in the world for a startup entrepreneur.

What pushed Helsinki to the upper reaches of the list were aspects such as talented entrepreneurs, accelerators, investors, key influencers and business hubs, as well as early-stage funding channels and the city's international networks. The comparison also took into consideration the cities' cost of living, safety, housing market and quality of life.

In addition, the international reputation of Helsinki's startup field was mentioned, which has been boosted by companies such as Nokia, Rovio, Supercell and Linux.

Additional information: [Valuer – The Top 50 Best Startup Cities in the World](#)

Helsinki tops social cohesion category in Cities in Motion index

The international Cities in Motion Index (CIMI) carried out by IESE Business School ranked Helsinki 22nd overall in the index, which comprises 165 cities. Helsinki kept its top spot in the social cohesion category. Helsinki improved its overall ranking by seven places from last year and nine places from 2015, which was used as the reference year for the index.

April 2018

Helsinki region public transport ranked second in European benchmarking

Helsinki region maintained its second place in the 2017 BEST survey comparing public transport systems of some European cities. Geneva came out on top. The other cities included in the survey were Stockholm, Copenhagen, Oslo, Rotterdam and Bergen. Satisfaction with public transport in the HSL area had increased by two percentage points in two years.

HSL area ranked above the BEST average in public transport loyalty (HSL 76%, BEST average 61%) and value for money (HSL 50%, BEST 40%). In addition, satisfaction with the reliability of public transport (HSL 78%, BEST 69%) and the availability of seats ((HSL 85%, BEST 66%) stand out in the comparison.

More information

Global Startup Ecosystem Report: Helsinki number one with its local connectedness

Startup Genome compares annually startup ecosystems and their strengths. The report was published today at the Global Entrepreneurship Congress. It states that Helsinki is an example for the whole world with its local connectedness. In addition, Helsinki was well presented as the gaming hub, but also AI and health were acknowledged as Helsinki's strengths.

More information: **[Startup Genome Report 2018](#)**

Helsinki 14th on the Global Sports Impact GSI Cities Index

Helsinki was ranked 14th on the Global Sports Impact (GSI) Nations and Cities Index. Also two other Finnish cities were among the best 100: Lahti 91st and Tampere 97th.

The index is based on an in-depth analysis of almost 700 major multi-sport games and world championships over a rolling 14-year period, covering seven years in the past and seven years in the future. For example, in April 2018, the analysed period was 2012–2025.

The aim is to identify which cities and nations are bidding for and winning the right to host global sports events.

More information: **[Global Sports Impact \(GSI\) Cities Index](#)**

March 2018

Spotahome ranking: Helsinki named the best city for equality

Spotahome researched various aspects of equality to find out how a number of cities and countries in Europe compare with each other. Helsinki was ranked as the best city for equality in Europe.

Spotahome's Equality Index for cities ranked 33 European cities on 10 distinct equality factors. Equality Index for countries measured 36 European countries against 6 distinct equality factors. Finland was ranked fifth.

More information

The smart neighbourhood of Kalasatama awarded

The smart neighbourhood of Kalasatama in Helsinki won the first prize of its category in the international KNX Award contest. Kalasatama's smart real estate and housing automation and energy solutions participated in the contest along 40 other propositions. In total, almost 10,000 propositions were submitted to the contest.

In Kalasatama, the KNX standard is used in the automatisisation of the building services engineering. This means that the system steers the functions of the buildings, such as the heating, lighting and safety technology in a flexible and energy-efficient way. Kalasatama is becoming the world's most extensive integrated area that utilises a building services engineering standard.

More information
KNX Award

UN report: Finland happiest in the world

Finland has topped the 2018 Global Happiness Report, published by the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network.

The World Happiness Report ranks 156 countries by happiness levels, assessing factors such as life expectancy, social support and corruption. This year, for the first time, the report also evaluated 117 countries on the happiness and wellbeing of their immigrants. Finland topped also this ranking.

World Happiness Report

February 2018

Greater Helsinki number one with its' FDI strategy in international ranking

European Cities and Regions of the Future -study ranks annually the most promising investment location in Europe. This year fDI Intelligence, a service from the Financial Times, named Greater Helsinki as the winner in the FDI strategy category, when comparing small regions. In addition, Uusimaa region won in its own size category.

This particular category compares how well regions attract foreign direct investments and the ability of the regional development agencies to market the region for the investors. In the Helsinki region, this work is done by regional development agency Helsinki Business Hub.

More information: **fDI Intelligence**

January 2018

Helsinki fifth in growing and attracting top talents

Helsinki was ranked fifth in the GTCI study's city comparison. According to the study, the strengths of Helsinki and Finland are social mobility, formal education, openness and equality of the sexes. Other strengths are tolerance of minorities and collaboration across organisations.

The comparison examines the cities' and countries' abilities to grow and attract top talents to their region as well as retain them.

Finland ranked sixth in the GTCI country comparison this year.

The GTCI study was carried out as a cooperation between INSEAD, Adecco Group and Tata Communications.

More information: [The GCTCI study](#)

The Port of Helsinki takes the top spot among European passenger ports

In 2017, Helsinki grew to become the busiest passenger port in Europe and possibly the entire world with 12.3 million passengers. Passenger numbers continued to increase on the Helsinki-Tallinn route in particular.

More information: [Port of Helsinki](#)