Green and Maritime Helsinki

Helsinki's Green and Recreational Network: Today and Tomorrow

The prospective green and recreational network of Helsinki

Legend

- **Green Finger**
- Östersundom Green Network
  - Planning situation in spring 2018
- Main route of the green finger or a green line, i.e. a transverse (east-west) green route, prospective connection
- Park connected to the green line
- Neighbourhood park
- Area to be developed in the future
  - Planning situation in 2018
- Recreational islands
  - The archipelago will be increasingly opened to the public in the future
- New prospective neighbourhood park
- Port or pier / vision
- Main attractions of the green fingers
- Main shore route / targeted connection
- Need for a recreational connection
Green and Maritime Helsinki

Helsinki is a green city, close to the sea. Green areas offer recreational opportunities for residents, sustain biodiversity in the urban setting and preserve the cultural environments of different eras. However, green areas do not remain attractive without support. The green network of the growing city of Helsinki must be developed systematically. This brochure sets out the goals for the development of the green network and a strategy to reach these goals.

The Green Fingers

Central Park – The forested spine of Helsinki from the stone core of the city to the deep forests of Helsinki's Central Park stretches from Töölönlahti to Helsinki. It has combined nature and culture for over a hundred years. Most importantly, the unity of the area and its forested nature must be ensured, and connections and guidance must be developed. The park is a true metropolis in Töölönlahti that is treasured. The objective is to diminish the impact of the railway in the Töölönlahti and Eilämä areas.

West Park – A string of pearls following the Mätkäpää river and the shores of Seurasaarenlahti bay The westernmost green finger stretches from Mätkäpää to the Lauttasaari district. The main attractions along the route of the Mätkäpää river such as Kruununhaka, Taka, and Park and the Park Manor, are a string of pearls that is connected to Seurasaarenlahti bay. The shores are to be developed so that they better serve the needs of all users of the waterfronts.

Green areas in city neighbourhoods

In city neighbourhoods the goal is to improve parks and central squares according to each area’s own nature. In suburbs the connection to the city forests becomes central squares according to each area’s own nature. Green areas are better suitable for relaxation and enjoyment of the atmosphere.

Viiikki–Kivikko Green Finger – From reed bed shores to Helsinki’s highest heights The Viiikki–Kivikko Green Finger stretches from the shores of Vanhankaupunginkirka to the neighbour-hood of Jätkänsi. The reach bed and open fells in Viiikki meet rugged rocky slopes in the east and north. The accessibility of the spectacular scenery will be improved by new routes and a viewing platform that is planned for Hallisirsi. Options for increasing recreational opportunities are being explored in the north of the area, by the ponds of Jätkänsi. Recreational and tourism opportunities in Kivikko will also be diversified.

Östersundom Green Network – From bird wetlands to Sipoonkorpi The Östersundom Green Network consists of one large green finger and several smaller connections that connect Östersundom bird wetlands and Mustavuori grove protection areas to the vast forest and conservation areas in Sipoonkorpi.

The Blue Palm

In Helsinki, the maritime entity of shores and islands creates the “Blue Palm”.

Green areas offer landscape experiences, exercise facilities, rare nature sites, and pleasant resting areas. Green and recreational areas help to maintain the city’s ecological, social and financial sustainability, and they are being utilised actively in the adaptation to the city’s ecological, social and financial sustainability, and they are being utilised actively in the adaptation to climate change and other experiences of nature.

East Helsinki Culture Park – A route around manors and narrow sea bays East Helsinki Culture Park portrays the history of the manor culture in Helsinki from Kruununhaka to Vantaanlahti. The objective is for the manor and villa settings and the nature sites to be both united by a route that follows the shores of the sea bays in East Helsinki and offer recreational services. In order to improve accessibility, boat connections are needed. The planned bridge to Vartioharju will connect the shores of Vuosaari to the park.

Each Green Finger has its own character. They complement each other and form an entity.

Vilppula Park – The birth scenery of Helsinki from Halikko to Halmari Helsinki Park stretches from the shores of the Vertaisaar to the Halmari and Kaijonharju and further to the open sea and outer islands. Helsinki Park brings together the main recreational scenes in Helsinki, from the fields and forests to the open sea. The goal is to form an exciting Helsinki Park central area and gateways from Vanhankaupunginkirka. A further objective is to improve the water traffic conditions in all water areas, including between recreational islands.

Vuosaari Recreational Park – From the shores of Uteloa to the top of Vuosaari Vuosaari Recreational Park offers different kinds of environments for recreational activities – routes by the sea shores, forests in their natural state, manor parks and sports facilities. Vuosaari Hill offers beautiful views over Vuosaari. It is possible to make the recreational opportunities and incorporate the harbour scenery as part of the recreational and tourism network.

The Viikki-Kivikko Green Finger stretches from the shores of the Mätkäpää river, such as Strömberg Park and Lauri Park, to the sea shores of Vanhankaupunginkirka. It has combined nature and culture for over a hundred years. Most importantly, the unity of the area and its forested nature must be ensured, and connections and guidance must be developed. The park is a true metropolis in Töölönlahti that is treasured. The objective is to diminish the impact of the railway in the Töölönlahti and Eilämä areas.

The shore route following the shores of Helsinki will be developed to be a cycle and pedestrian walking and cycling route that covers the whole city. The main route is suitable for fast cycling, bike paths on the stone shores are better suitable for recreation and enjoyment of the atmosphere.

One of the goals is to improve water transport connections and to enable island hopping. The valuable architectural heritage is being conserved as part of the recreational and tourism network, and the nature stays help to adapt to climate change and other experiences of nature.

Sipoonkorpi is being developed especially as an entity that supports recreational activities and the area’s nature values. The connection between Mustavuori and Sipoonkorpi is created especially as an entity that supports recreational activities and the area’s nature values.

The body of the green network in Helsinki is formed by the green fingers, the sea with its islands and shores, and the sea and east-west green connections, i.e. green areas to be easily accessible by land and sea. Green areas offer landscape experiences, exercise facilities, rare nature sites, and pleasant resting areas. Green and recreational areas help to maintain the city’s ecological, social and financial sustainability, and they are being utilised actively in the adaptation to climate change.