

Helsinki – A small guide to recommendable restaurants, cafés, bars and nightclubs

Restaurants

Carelia

Carelia functions in the premises of a 1920's pharmacy and spoils its customers with great food. The wine list is extensive, and the prices are extremely reasonable. There is also a small lounge available for you, your friends and a bottle of wine.

Mannerheimintie 56, Helsinki

phone: +358 (0)9 270 90 976

e-mail: ravintola@carelia.info

open: Mon-Fri 11-01, Sat 16-01

Chez Dominique

Chez Dominique is a small, intimate restaurant for 34 guests. It was selected as the restaurant of the year in 2000 and holds a Michelin rating of two stars. No smoking.

Ludviginkatu 3-5, Helsinki

phone: +358 (0)9 612 73 93

e-mail: info@chezdominique.fi

open: Tue-Fri 11:30-14, 18-23, Sat 18-23

George

George was the third restaurant in Finland to be given a star in the Michelin restaurant guide. In addition to the à la carte and seasonal lists for dinner, George has a daily changing three course lunch.

Kalevankatu 17, Helsinki

phone +358 (0)9 647 662

e-mail: george@george.fi

open: Mon 11-15, Tue-fri 11-24, Sat 18-24

G.W. Sundman's

G.W.Sundman's has been rated worth one star by Michelin. Situated in a 17th century building, Sundman's offers Empire-style dining and lean modern cuisine with a varied wine list.

Eteläranta 16, Helsinki

phone: +358 (0)9 622 6410

e-mail: myyntipalvelu@royalravintolat.com

open: Mon-Fri 11-14:30, 17-24, Sat 18-24

Havis

Havis has specialized in fish and crustacean dishes and is considered by many as Finland's premier restaurant in its category. The excellent wine list even includes champagne from the 1950's.

Eteläranta 16, Helsinki

phone: +358 (0)9 6869 5660

e-mail: myyntipalvelu@royalravintolat.com

open: Mon-Fri 11:30-15, 17-24, Sat 17-24

Kosmos

Kosmos is a restaurant from the 1920's that quickly gained reputation as an artists' hangout. Today businessmen and architects value the traditional menu that will fill you up. Why not try the three-course lunch menu as the restaurant is right in the heart of the city?

Kalevankatu 3

phone: +358 (0)9 647 255

e-mail kosmos@ravintolakosmos.fi

open: Mon-Fri 11:30-01, Sat 16-01

La Petite Maison

La Petite Maison is a small, traditional French restaurant that has been rated *bib gourmand* by Michelin for excellent value for price. Reserve extra time for viewing their huge wine list of French wines.

Huvilakatu 28
phone: +358 (0)9 260 9680
e-mail: lapetite.maison@kolumbus.fi
open: Mon-Sat from 18:00

Palace Gourmet

Palace Gourmet has been a mainstay of Finnish gastronomy since 1952. The restaurant offers first class service, Franco-Finnish cuisine, a selection of over 400 wines and one of the best views over Helsinki.
Eteläranta 10
phone +358 (0)9 1345 6715
e-mail: sales@palaceravintolat.com
open: Mon-Fri 11:30-14:30, 18-24

Ristorante Papà Giovanni

Papà Giovanni serves the best pasta in town in a cosy italian environment. The abundant à la carte list offers alternatives from Italian classics to today's popular delicacies.
World Trade Center
Keskuskatu 7
phone: +358 (0) 9 622 6010
e-mail: ristorante@papagiovanni.fi
open: Mon-Tue 11:00-00:00, Wed - Fri 11:00 - 01:00, Sat 12:00 - 01:00, Sun 15:00- 23:00
The kitchen will be closed 1.5 hours before the closing time of the restaurant.

Safka

Safka is a small culinary oasis in Helsinki. The staff takes pride in providing a successful and pleasant visit for their guest. Michelin has given them a *bib gourmand* classification for their effort.
Vironkatu 8
phone: +358 (0)9 135 7287
e-mail: safka@safka.fi
open: Tue-Fri 12-14, 18-22, Sat-Sun 18-22

Sasso

Sasso is the restaurant for young cosmopolitans. Updating traditional Italian dishes into contemporary delights, this restaurant provides stylish surroundings for dining, lounging, or just for popping in for a coffee.
Pohjoisesplanadi 17
phone +358 (0)9 1345 6240
e-mail: sales@palaceravintolat.com
open: Mon-Fri 11:30-17-24, Sat 13-17-24

Savoy

Savoy is a true design restaurant from 1937. Since then this rooftop restaurant has set the standard for fine dining. A lot of attention is given to the quality of food, wine and service.
Eteläesplanadi 14
phone: +358 (0)9 684 4020
e-mail: myyntipalvelu@royalravintolat.com
open: Mon-Fri 11:30-14:30, 18-24

Seahorse

Seahorse is a sailors' joint turned neighbourhood restaurant from 1934 that offers large dishes of traditional Finnish cooking. Its casual atmosphere and excellent food has won it a true following and the restaurant attracts lunch crowd from all over the city.
Kapteeninkatu 11
phone: +358 (0)9 628 169
open: Mon-Thu 10:30-15-24, Fri-Sat 10:30-15-01, Sun 10.30-24.00

Cafés

Aalto

Aalto is situated in the second floor of the Academic Bookstore. Old style service, relaxing atmosphere, and the carefully selected menu are suited to give a respite from shopping.

Pohjoisesplanadi 39

open: Mon-Fri 9 – 21, Sat 9-18 (Sun 12-18 during summer/Christmas)

Ekberg

Ekberg is a traditional café in Viennese-spirit. There is a *pâtisserie* next door guaranteeing the quality and freshness of pastries, cakes and breads.

Bulevardi 9

open: Mon-Fri 7:30-19, Sat 8:30-17, Sun 10-17

Engel

Engel looks at the White Cathedral from across the Senate Square. Frequented by younger crowds, the café is delightfully lively place. The inner courtyard doubles as Finland's only open-air movie theatre.

Aleksanterinkatu 26

open: Mon-Fri 8-23, Sat 9:30-23, Sun 11-22

Esplanad

Esplanad was made popular by the products of its own bakery. Central location, good lunch menu and central-european style attract lots of people. Be prepared to queue a while if you visit during the afternoon.

Pohjoisesplanadi 37

open: Mon-Fri 8-22, Sat 9-22, Sun 10-22

Succés

Succés started as an ice-cream parlor in 1957. Ever since, it has been one of most popular cafés in Helsinki. Stop by and ask for a "Korvapuusti": you won't be disappointed.

Korkeavuorenkatu 2

open: Mon-Fri 8-21, Sat 9-18, Sun 11-21

Ursula

Ursula was founded in time for the Helsinki summer Olympic games of 1952, sunny skies attract people to the Café. Situated in the very southern tip of central Helsinki, the café sits on the seashore, flanked by parks and the diplomatic quarter.

Ehrenströmintie 3

open: everyday 9 - 24 (summer) / 20 (winter)

Bars, lounges and nightclubs

American Bar

American Bar is a bold union of contemporary and 1930's style. Without a doubt the premier cocktail bar in Helsinki, with a drinks list to match.

Kalevankatu 5, Hotel Tornio

open: Mon-Thu 17-01, Fri 17-02, Sat 18-02

Ateljee Bar

Ateljee Bar occupies the 14th floor of the Hotel Tornio (Fin: tower) and provides quest with 360-degree view over the rooftops of central Helsinki. One of the attractions are the toilets with large windows: now you are truly above all others.

Kalevankatu 5 or Yrjönkatu 26, Hotel Tornio

open: Mon-Thu 14-01, Fri 14-02, Sat 12-02, Sun 14-24

Helsinki Club

Helsinki Club has functioned in the same space since 1971, proving to be the longest standing night club in Helsinki despite the occasional change in shape and colours.

Yliopistokatu 8

open: Wed-Sat 22-04, Sun-Tue 23-04

Kappeli

Kappeli serves to all your needs from breakfast to nightcaps. During the summer, the terrace is one of the most popular in Helsinki. Prices are very affordable and the building from 1867 is worth a look.

Eteläesplanadi 1

open: Mon-Sat 10-24, Sun 10-23

O'Malley's

O'Malleys is the first and the best Irish bar in town. Ale, food and feeling worthy of St. Pat.

Yrjönkatu 26, Hotel Tornii

kitchen open: Mon-Thu 11:30-22:30, Fri 11:30-23:30, Sat 16-23:30

Mecca

Mecca is a four-fold experience: it facilitates a restaurant, a bar, a nightclub and a lounge. All in fresh and crisp modern style.

Korkeavuorenkatu 34

phone +358 (0)9 1345 6200

e-mail: sales@palaceravintolat.com

open: Mon-Tue 11:30-24, Wed-Thu 11:30-02, Fri 11:30-04, Sat 16-04

Storyville

Storyville has been ranked among the best jazz-clubs in the world and the best in Europe. Built in an old coal cellar, the club boasts three bars and a kitchen serving i.e. cajun-creole cuisine until 3 am.

Museokatu 8

phone: +358 (0)9 408 007

open: Mon-Sat 18-04

Studio 51

Studio 51 is a nightclub mimicking the legendary Studio 54 in New York. As it is the newest nightclub in Helsinki and the owners keep the prices reasonable, the club draws big crowds into its big halls.

Fredrikinkatu 51-53

open: Wed-Sat 22-04

Teatteri

Teatteri is a restaurant, bar, deli and nightclub complex in the very heart of the city. In addition to the stylish interior, the park-side terrace is open in the afternoons during the summer.

Pohjoisesplanadi 2

phone: +358 (0)9 681 11 30

e-mail: myyntipalvelu@royalravintolat.com

open: Mon-Tue 09-01, Wed-Fri 09-04, Sat 11-04; club Wed-Sat 23-04

Uniq Nightlife

Uniq Nightlife is one of latest additions to Helsinki's night scene. The club's specialty is the Arctic Ice Bar: the walls are covered with 20cm iceblocks, the rooms temperature is held at a constant -5°C, and patrons are provided with warm cloaks.

Yliopistokatu 5

open: Wed-Sat 22-04