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Art4Rights

Lake Suolijärvi, Citizens' bench – Tampere

Community art as part of an accessible hiking trail's renovation

We are Ecofellows – From generation to generation

- EcoFellows Ltd implements various sustainable development-oriented services in an environmentally and people-oriented manner.
- An important part of our operations is leading and participating in projects that support sustainable development.
- We work for a sustainable future by producing various services that support energy efficiency, circular economy, social responsibility, mobility, and biodiversity.
- We are part of the Tampere city group, and our activities are focused on Tampere region. Our owners are the city of Tampere, Pirkanmaa Waste Management Company, and Tampere Energy Company.



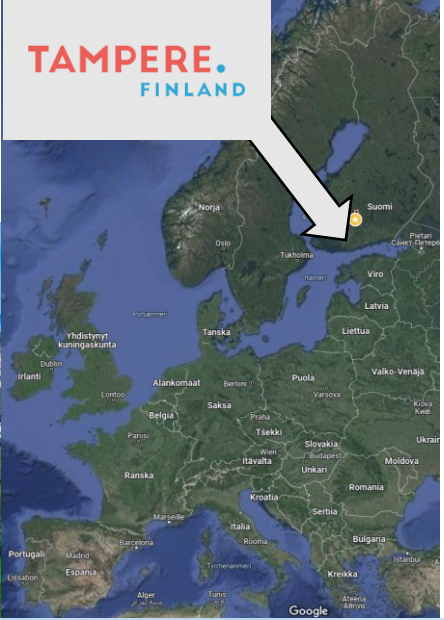
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Tampere

- 250 000 citizens
- Tampere region 515 000 citizens
- the third largest city in Finland
- Founded 1779
- Most popular city in Finland
- The focus of the city strategy is on experience economy, and smart & sustainable city
- The city is committed to be carbon neutral by 2030
- The center is located between two large lakes, Pyhäjärvi and Näsijärvi
- The temperature is between -30 to + 30; and the average temperature is about + 4 C
- The daylight in Tampere is between 5,3 and 19,5 hours.



Tampere

- Tampere is famous for culture, sports and nature
- Tampere has been named the sauna capital of Finland - 55 public saunas in the area
- 1.500 hectares of nature reserves
- 28 public fireplaces around the city
- More than 100 km of hiking trails (300 km in the entire region)
- Camping structures designed by architects



EU values

The values of Finnish people are about the same as the values of the EU. That is why it was easy for Finland to join the European Union in 1995.

- ✓ Human dignity
- ✓ Freedom
- ✓ Democracy
- ✓ Equality
- ✓ Rule of law
- ✓ Human rights

A good example of these values are **everyman's rights**.



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Everyman's rights and connection to nature

- Everyman's rights in Finland refer to the legal concept that allows everyone, including foreign visitors, to enjoy certain freedoms and access to nature.
- These rights include the freedom to walk, ski, cycle, camp out, and pick wild berries and mushrooms in forests and other uncultivated areas, as well as the right to access lakes, rivers and the sea for swimming, boating, and fishing, regardless of the land ownership.
- Everyman's rights are not an individual law but they are protected in Finnish culture by a common agreement between people. They ensure that everyone can enjoy the nature.



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Everyman's rights and connection to nature

- For Finns, the relationship with nature is very important. According to surveys, most people enjoy nature and find there a counterbalance to busy everyday life.
- Many Finnish names comes from the elements found in nature.
- The names of the months in Finnish have their origin in the cycles and phenomena people have observed in nature.

Finnish nature names

• Aaltot	• Jalava	• Murto	• Taateli
• Aamu	• Jasmin	• Mustikka	• Taimi
• Aarni	• Joutsen	• Myrsky	• Taivas
• Aava	• Jupiter	• Myrtti	• Tali
• Ahde	• Juuri	• Mäki	• Talvi
• Ahma	• Jänis	• Naava	• Tammi
• Aho	• Järvi	• Näätä	• Tavi
• Ahti	• Kaarna	• Nauris	• Tee
• Akileija	• Kaisla	• Neilikka	• Tallus
• Ali	• Kalla	• Neptunus	• Terhi
• Alppi	• Kallio	• Neva	• Ranta
• Amaryllis	• Kamomilla	• Niemi	• Rautu
• Angervo	• Kana	• Nietos	• Rentukka
• Anis	• Kaneli	• Nova	• Revontuli
• Apila	• Kanerva	• Nuppu	• Riekkö
• Aralia	• Kani	• Nurmi	• Rinne
• Arnikki	• Kanto	• Oja	• Ritva
• Aro	• Karhu	• Oksa	• Rousku
• Asteri	• Kari	• Omena	• Routa
• Atsalea	• Karpalo	• Oras	• Rusina
• Aura	• Karppi	• Ori	• Ruska
• Aurankukka	• Kastanja	• Orion	• Ruusu
• Auringonkukka	• Kastehelmi	• Orkidea	• Ruusunokkakukka
• Aurinko	• Katja	• Orvokki	• Ruusunokkakukka
• Daalia	• Kauris	• Otava	• Saari
• Eerika	• Kerttu	• Otso	• Saarni
• Eko	• Kesä	• Paju	• Saade
• Elo	• Kevät	• Paimu	• Sadehelmi
• Emi	• Kide	• Palo	• Sahrani
• Ensilumi	• Kieli	• Paprika	• Salama
• Esikko	• Kiiski	• Papu	• Salmi
• Gaselli	• Kirsi	• Parsa	• Salo
• Hai	• Kirsikka	• Peippo	• Salvia
• Halla	• Kissanminttu	• Peltto	• Sara
• Halme	• Kiuru	• Petunia	• Sateenkaari
• Havu	• Kivi	• Peura	• Saturnus
• Hede	• Koivu	• Pihka	• Saukko
• Heinä	• Korianteri	• Pihlaja	• Savi
• Helle	• Koski	• Pilvi	• Sei
• Helmi	• Kristalli	• Pinja	• Selja
• Herne	• Kuisma	• Pioni	• Siili
• Hiekka	• Kukka	• Piparminttu	• Siipi
• Hilla	• Kullero	• Pirkko	• Siira
• Hilleri	• Kulta	• Pisara	• Sini
• Hirsi	• Kultakukka	• Pluto	• Sinivuokko
• Honka	• Kura	• Poni	• Sipi
• Hopea	• Kurki	• Pouta	• Sirius
• Hortensia	• Kuu	• Poutapilvi	• Sirkka
• Humala	• Kuunsäde	• Pujo	• Sirkku
• Hunaja	• Kuura	• Pulu	• Soilikki
• Huurre	• Kuutamio	• Puolukka	• Sora
• Ilma	• Kuutti	• Pupu	• Sumu
• Ilta	• Kytö	• Puro	• Susi
• Ilves	• Käpy	• Pyry	• Susi
• Iiris	• Virna	• Pähkinä	• Suola
	• Virta		• Suvanto
	• Virve		• Suvi
	• Visa		• Syksy
	• Vuokko		• Syystuuli
	• Vuono		• Säde
	• Yrtti		
	• Yö		



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Mielenreitti – Mind`s Path

- Mind`s Path is located about 10 km from the center of Tampere on the side of Hervanta district.
- The construction of the district started 50 years ago. The first residents moved to the area in 1973.
- Today there are more than 25,000 inhabitants, university, a lot of high technology companies, and the only police academy in Finland.
- Citizens use the surrounding nature a lot.



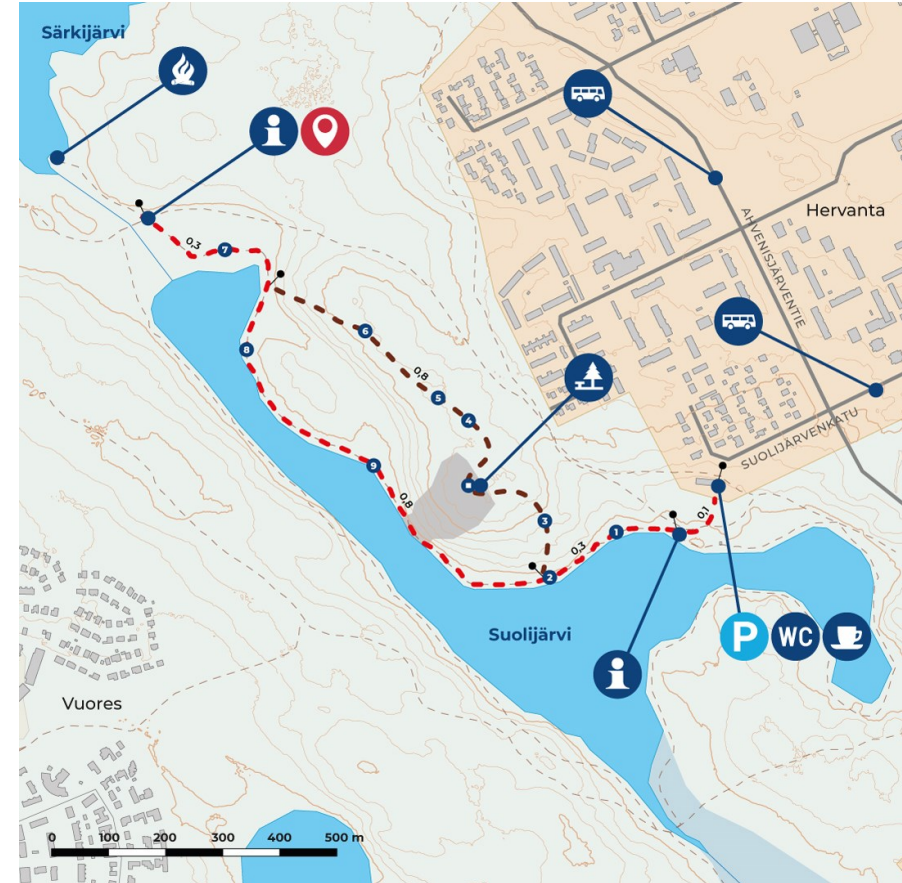
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Mielenreitti – Mind`s Path

- Mind's Path hiking trail is a trail with a beautiful scenery that offers a peaceful escape from the chaos of everyday life. Even though it is located right next to a residential area, Mind's Path runs through the forest and breathtaking views. It is a perfect choice for those seeking peace of mind.
- Mind's Path hiking trail has several resting places along the way, providing hikers opportunities to take a break, and enjoy the environment with all the senses.
- These resting places include benches, campfire site and special viewpoints where hikers can pause, relax, and appreciate the beauty of nature that surrounds them.



A closer map of the Mind`s Path

Mielenreitti – Mind`s Path

Community art as part of an accessible hiking trail`s renovation

- The inclusion of community art as part of an accessible hiking trail's renovation is an interesting approach that not only enhances the appeal of the trail, but also fosters a sense of community ownership and engagement.
- When citizens are involved in the creation of art installations along the trail, a unique experience that reflects the character and culture of the surrounding area is created.
- Additionally, it encourages more people, including those with disabilities or limited mobility, to explore and enjoy the beauty of the nature along the trail, making it a more inclusive and accessible for all.
- Only an accessible trail ensures that citizens of all abilities can experience the nature and participate in hiking activities. This renovation not only enhances the trail's infrastructure but also increases participation of citizens and promotes the importance of appreciation of nature.



partly the path is made with gravel

Citizens' bench – in the beginning...



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Citizens' bench

- When citizens transform a communal space into a personal place without seeking permission, they are asserting their ownership of their surroundings. This act of reclaiming the space can result in the creation of a unique environment that reflects the interests and needs of the individual, potentially turning a simple community art bench or hiking trail into a more meaningful and personalized place.
- By taking matters into their own hands and creating their own benches using the materials from the hiking trail project, citizens transform the space into a personalized gathering place without seeking formal authorization for their actions.
- With the assistance and inspiration of Art4Right project, citizen's benches were successfully implemented along the hiking trail. These benches provide much needed rest spots where people can appreciate the surrounding nature while they are promoting their physical and mental well-being.
- Art4Right project has greatly improved the quality of life of citizens by creating inclusive places where people can connect with nature and each others.



Finished Citizens' bench in use

Citizens' bench

- The journey from land art to building wooden benches in a semi-urban forest that evolved into community art was a collaborative and participatory process.
- Starting with the intent to create artistic interventions in the natural landscape, the project expanded to involve citizens in the construction of benches, allowing them to actively contribute to the transformation of the space. Through this collective effort, the project evolved into a form of community art where individuals became co-creators and stakeholders in the artistic process.
- The benches not only have a functional purpose but also serve as symbols of citizen engagement, fostering a sense of collaborative ownership within the local community.



Citizens' benches were made in four different places

Pictures

Mind`s Path's
grand opening
was September 27,
2023.

More than 500 people
participated in
the opening event.



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Pictures

The City of Tampere,
3 local third sector
organizations and
one educational
organization
were participating in
the event.



Pictures

Citizens' bench.

Built from old planks
and wood from the
forest.



Pictures

Citizens' bench
along Mind`s Path



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Pictures

Citizens' bench
along Mind`s Path.



Thank you!

More information

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