



Useful information about Mikkeli

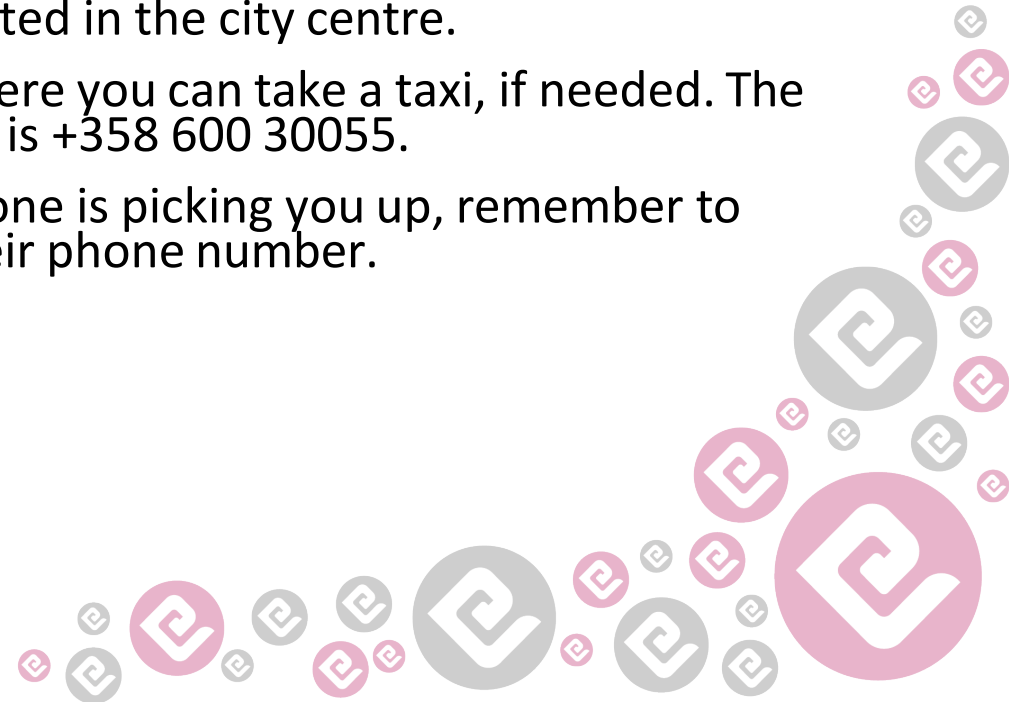
For international exchange students





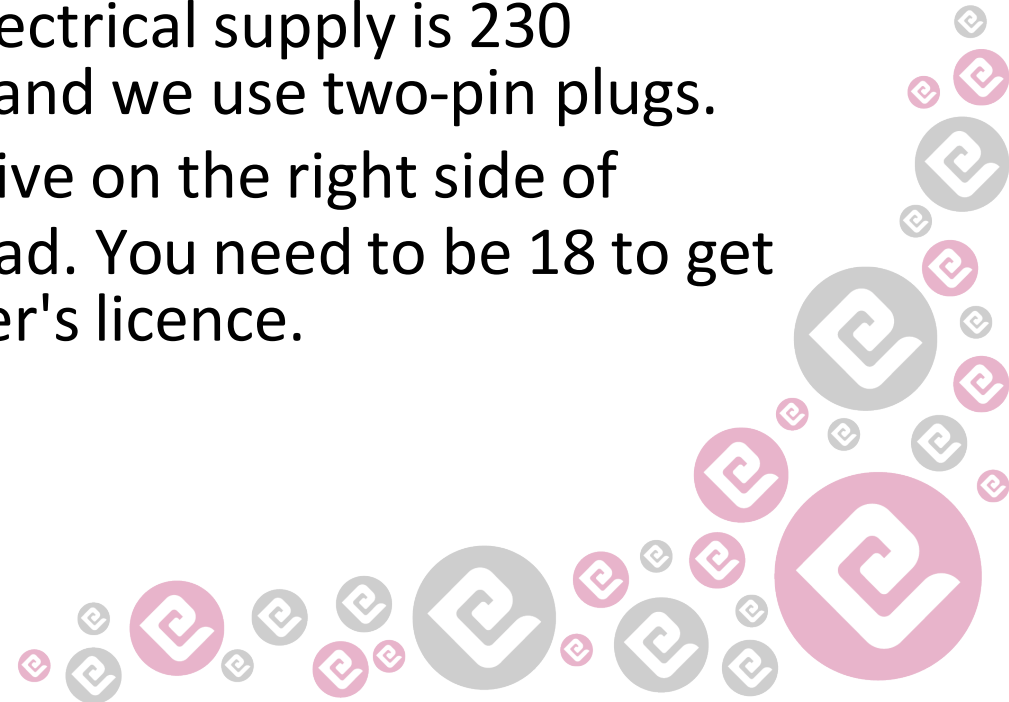
Arriving in Finland

- **How to get to Mikkeli from Helsinki airport**
- You can take a train directly from the airport
- Travelling time is about 2,5 - 3 hours.
- [Link to train tickets and timetables](#)
- Because of covid19 there are no bus routes from the airport to Mikkeli. If you prefer a bus, you first need to take a bus to Helsinki bus station (Kamppi) and from there a bus to Mikkeli.
- [Link to bus tickets and timetables](#)
- **Arriving in Mikkeli**
- [Mikkelin Matkakeskus](#) (travelling centre) is the place where both trains and buses arrive. It is located in the city centre.
- From there you can take a taxi, if needed. The number is +358 600 30055.
- If someone is picking you up, remember to save their phone number.



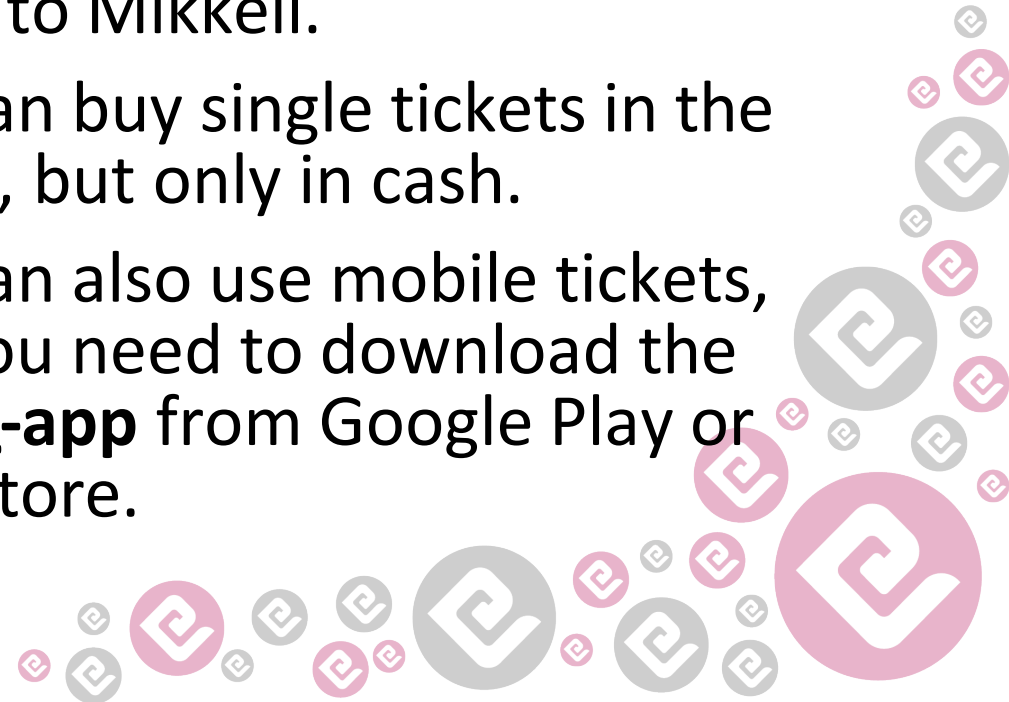
Daily life

- The country code for phones in Finland is +358.
- The currency is Euro.
- Major credit cards (Visa, Mastercard etc.) are accepted in most shops.
- Many Finns pay their purchases by bank card, they rarely use cash.
- Tap water in Finland is drinkable and very good.
- The electrical supply is 230 volts, and we use two-pin plugs.
- We drive on the right side of the road. You need to be 18 to get a driver's licence.



Getting around in Mikkeli

- Mikkeli is a small town, and you can walk almost everywhere.
- You can borrow a bike from the school's international office.
- If you need to travel by local buses a lot, it's less expensive to buy a bus card.
- Here is a link where you can [buy the bus card](#) before you come to Mikkeli.
- You can buy single tickets in the buses, but only in cash.
- You can also use mobile tickets, but you need to download the **PayiQ-app** from Google Play or App Store.



Emergencies, illness

- Emergency (police, ambulance, fire) number is **112** in Finland.
- If you feel ill, call +358 116 117 first. They will tell you, if you need to go to health centre/hospital or just stay at home.
- Health centre and hospital (Mikkelin keskussairaala) are in the same building in [Porrassalmenkatu-street](#)
- Take you European Health Insurance Card with you



Shopping



- The grocery stores are called K-Market, S-Market or Lidl, and you'll find them all around the town.
- There are two shopping centres in the town centre ([Stella and Akseli](#)) and big supermarkets in [Graanin kauppakeskus](#) (Prisma and Citymarket).
- You find everything you need from clothes and shoes to mobile phones and toys in the shopping centres Akseli and [Stella](#) or in supermarkets in Graani
- There are three farmacies (apteekki) in the town centre and one in Graani.
- Finnish handicrafts are sold in Taito-shop in Akseli shopping centre or in [Kenkävero area](#).
- If you want to save money, there are two general discount retailers in Mikkeli, Tokmanni and Rusta, both in [Setrikatu](#)-street, not far from the town centre.



Spare time

- There are two cinemas in the centre,
 - Kinolinna in [Vuorikatu](#)-street
 - Ritz in [Mikonkatu](#)-street
- All the films are shown in original audio with Finnish subtitles.
- There are two bowling alleys in Mikkeli: [Keilakukko](#) in the Akseli shopping centre and [Mikkelin keilahalli](#) (pages only in Finnish)
- You can exercise sports e.g. at [SportForum](#) (Finnish pages only) and [Saimaa Stadiumi](#)
- Age limit in most restaurants and bars is 18 years in the evenings. Remember to take your ID-card/passport with you.
- Eating and drinking in a restaurant is quite expensive.
- [Library](#) has newspapers and books in many languages



Work placement

- Esedu finds you a work placement
- One of our teachers acts as your supervisor
- He/she introduces you to the work place and visits it during your stay
- You will have a supervisor at the work place



Accommodation

- [Mikalo – We rent an apartment – Find rental apartments in Mikkeli.](#)
- Low price apartments
- No services are included (cleaning etc.)
- Esedu reserves the apartment for you, and signs the tenancy agreement
- If you stay at Forest school (Metsäkoulu), you live at their dormitory
- In some cases we reserve you a room in a hostel/hotel



Esedu, international office

- International office is in Otavankatu 4 on the 2nd floor.
- If you have any problems or questions during your stay, contact either your supervising teacher or us.
- We work in the office:
- Ms Satu Lyytikäinen
 - Satu.lyytikainen@esedu.fi
- Ms Juliana Hokkanen
 - Juliana.hokkanen@esedu.fi



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