



## FinLine 2016

### ***Still places available for FinLine skating event next summer!***

To celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> FinLine the skating will be a day longer than normally, we will be skating for seven days and the whole trip will take nine days (from Helsinki to Helsinki). Next summer we will be skating in Lapland, with its beautiful sceneries and exotic flora and fauna. This is a unique opportunity to experience Lapland in a different way.



*"I have been skating in Lapland on FinLine 2001 and FinLine 2006. I would say this is an 'once in a decade' opportunity that you should really consider to take. Lapland is so remote location that you have to wait for probably at least one more decade for the next possibility.*

*What you could expect from a FinLine in Lapland? Honestly saying, not much: treeless tundra, semi-wild reindeers, skating under the midnight sun, lots of mosquitos (if we are lucky, it rains instead), refreshing arctic rivers to swim, high summits, long uphill and downhill. But the*

*thing is the silence of the sparsely inhabited wilderness: empty roads, tens of kilometers without any houses. We stay in different places, from the quiet Pallas national park hotel above the tree line to the rich services of the alpine skiing world cup location Levi, not forgetting the night in huts beside a lake in the middle of nothing.*

*My feeling based on earlier experience is that although the hills are longer, there are less of them and the resulting total climb per leg is less than in southern Finland: it has been rather exhausting to skate up and down small bumps in recent years. Also the preliminary altitude profiles for FinLine 2016 support this feeling.*



*Some of you have expressed their concern about the road conditions in Lapland. I would say that anything is possible – it is the 'salt' of FinLine – but in general the surfaces are at least*

as good as in southern part of the country. The thick snow cover protects the surface from tire studs and the smaller amount of heavy traffic allows the use of smoother tarmac. Also, many of the roads were originally narrow and therefore they have been recently rebuilt for safer winter-time tourist traffic.

*I hope that you and your friends will be able to share this unique experience with us!"*

— Panu



FinLine 2016 will start from Helsinki on Friday July 8<sup>th</sup> with a bus trip to Lapland. Alternatively you can join the group in Rovaniemi Saturday morning. (The bus will arrive in Rovaniemi around 7 a.m. Saturday morning). The actual skating will start on Saturday from Kivilompolo on the Norwegian border and end in Rovaniemi on Friday July 15<sup>th</sup>. For those returning by bus to Helsinki the arrival time in Helsinki will be early Sunday morning. The total skating distance will be a bit over 450 km, with daily skating distances between 50 and 90 km. For those joining the group in Rovaniemi we will take care of hotel reservations for Friday night July 8<sup>th</sup>. The rest of the group will join you for breakfast on Saturday morning and we will be using the same hotel the next Friday.



#### The planned route

Sat July 9 <sup>th</sup>	Kivilompolo – Hetta	39 km
Sun July 10 <sup>th</sup>	Hetta – Pallas	85 km
Mon July 11 <sup>th</sup>	Pallas – Levi	55 km
Tue July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Levi – Ylläs	60 km
Wed July 13 <sup>th</sup>	Ylläs – Lappea	81 km
Thu July 14 <sup>th</sup>	Lappea – Meltosjärvi	89 km
Fri July 15 <sup>th</sup>	Meltosjärvi – Rovaniemi	55 km
Sat July 16 <sup>th</sup>	Skating in Rovaniemi	

You will find the route map behind this link:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/viewer?hl=en&authuser=0&mid=z6EnTEfgMVhs.kpOsHuG75tXg>

The profiles of the route you will find behind this link:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1WvDt5A7So6cuhrMEohXi6l9p7QyuVfQ4TLiXoPCZNpc>

The most challenging but also rewarding uphill and downhill are around Pallas and Ylläs.

In this traditional event we are not competing against the clock, but we are enjoying the skating and the scenery. There will be skaters of various skills and fitness levels and we all want to enjoy skating at speed enjoyable for ourselves. Five to seven skating groups allow you to choose the skating speed between 15 to 25 km/h. You can change group whenever you feel like it. The service bus enables you to choose the number of skating days as well as the daily skating distance according to your feelings and weather conditions. If you don't feel like skating some day (or part of a day) you can always join Ari on the bus. The organizers will take care of the accommodations and meal arrangements, so you can concentrate fully on skating and enjoying sceneries.

## Can I participate?

FinLine is a skating event also YOU can participate in. No previous experience of several day skating tours is necessary. To join and enjoy the FinLine you only must:

- have experience of skating trips of e.g. 50 km = you are able to skate 50 km a day at your own speed
- want to spend one vacation week among other skaters
- be a member of Street Gliders (or join Street Gliders, see below)



## What does it cost? And what is included?

The participation fee is 250 € (if we can fill up the whole event we can decrease the fee to 200 € and you will get 50 € back) including the services of the bus, snacks, transportation of your equipment during the skating, a technical t-shirt and the optional bus transportation from Helsinki to Kivilompolo and back to Helsinki from Rovaniemi on the last day. In addition you have to pay the membership fee 25 € to the Street Gliders. Furthermore there are the costs of the dinners and accommodations (including breakfasts), about 60 € per day, and possible lunch and own snack costs during the skating.



## Registration and additional information:

Because we want to ensure the cosy feeling of FinLine and in order to find accommodations for the group, the number of participants is limited to 38. Please register as soon as possible because there are only a limited number of places left. You will find the registration form on our web pages ([www.katukiitajat.fi](http://www.katukiitajat.fi)). NB! The last day for paying the registration fee is 29<sup>th</sup> of February 2016.

If you have any questions, please contact [info@katukiitajat.fi](mailto:info@katukiitajat.fi) or directly:

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We hope to see you next summer!

Best regards,

The FinLine organizing team

*Actual footage from FinLine 2001 and FinLine 2006.*

