



## FinLine 2020

***It is again time to register yourself for the no. 1 skating event in Finland!***

The FinLine skating event will take place next summer for the 29<sup>th</sup> time. The tradition started in 1992 with a weekend skate from Jyväskylä to Helsinki. Since then FinLine has become a one-week-event, with a different route every year.

Finland is a large country with big forests – and some paved roads in middle of them. Therefore, after visiting the Swedish-speaking western coastline, FinLine 2020 will be skated in the wilderness of North Karelia, in the huge backwoods with bears and wolves split by the Russian border.



*Skating on Punkaharju.*

We follow the borderline roughly up to the most uninhabited areas of the province.

During the journey, we will see many of the officially declared national landscapes of Finland, like Olavinlinna Castle, Punkaharju Ridge between lakes, North Karelian hillside villages and the Koli National Park.



*Some FinLine 1996 skaters on the top of Koli. Johan Korhonen*

Based on the good feedback last summer, our plan is again to add optional “extras” on the route map for some of the skating days. Skaters who like to enjoy more kilometers can choose to skate the extras depending on their feeling and weather.

Skating on FinLine 2020 starts from Savonlinna and ends in Joensuu, the capital of North Karelia and a lively university town. On the way, in addition to the national landscapes, we will enjoy the clear Puruvesi Lake, skate along the border less than a half kilometer from Russia, see traditional houses like Orthodox tšasounas, be able to visit the easternmost place of the continental EU and cross the huge Lake Pielinen with a hydrofoil.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Route details are subject to change.

## Event Schedule

The bus will start from Helsinki on early Sunday morning July 5 and skating will finish in Joensuu on Friday July 10. The return to Helsinki will be on Saturday July 11 with an estimated arrival time in Helsinki around 7 p.m.

Daily skating distances for the basic route are (minor changes still possible):

Sunday	Savonlinna – Punkaharju	37 km
Monday	Punkaharju – Kitee (Puhos)	95 km
Tuesday	Kitee (Puhos) – Tuupovaara (Hoilola)	75 km
Wednesday	Tuupovaara (Hoilola) – Ilomantsi (Hattuvaara)	93 km
Thursday	Liekka (Kitsi) – Kontiolahti (Romppala)	77 km (+ hydrofoil cruising)
Friday	Kontiolahti (Romppala) – Joensuu	50 km
<b>Total</b>		<b>427 km</b>

For a detailed up-to-date version of the route map and further link to the daily elevation profiles, visit: <https://drive.google.com/open?id=1orAaolORSVkJLuWqe41zMC6jZZQhPGnA>

In order to serve the needs of different skaters we have designed the basic route with average day-trip distances. However, skaters who want to enjoy more kilometers, do not need to worry: optional “extras” will be added to the online version of the route map closer to the event. On the other hand, the service bus is available for those who are worried about completing the full distances listed above.

## Can I participate?

FinLine is a skating event that almost everyone can attend. No previous experience of multi-day skating tours is necessary. To join the FinLine you only need to:

- have some experience of skating trips of 50+ km – i.e. you are able to skate 50 km a day at your own speed
- enjoy a vacation week among other skaters
- be a member of Street Gliders (or join Street Gliders, which can be easily done at the same time when you register for the event)

In this traditional event we are not competing against the clock but we are enjoying the skating and the landscapes. There will be skaters of varied skill and fitness levels participating and we all want to enjoy skating at speed enjoyable for ourselves. Five to seven skating groups allow you to choose your skating speed between 15 and 25 km/h. You can also change your group whenever you feel like that.

The service bus is following the skaters all the time and enables you to choose the number of skating days as well as the daily skating distance according to your feelings and weather conditions. The organizers will take care of the accommodation and dinner arrangements, so you can concentrate fully on skating and enjoying.

## What does it cost? What is included?

The participation fee is 200 € including the services of the bus, basic snacks, transportation of your luggage during skating, a technical T-shirt (new, even more advanced one than on FinLine 2019), charter hydrofoil trip across Lake Pielinen and bus transportation from Helsinki to Savonlinna and back from Joensuu to Helsinki. In addition, because FinLine is officially organized only for members of our club, you have to pay the annual membership fee 25 € of Street Gliders.

Furthermore, there are costs of the dinners and accommodations, about 40 – 70 € per day and lunch and personal snack costs according to your personal preferences.

## Registration Information

Because we want to maintain the cozy small event feeling of FinLine and in order to find suitable accommodations for the group, the number of participants is limited to 30.

**The official registration is now open!** You will find the registration form on our web pages at <https://katukiitajat.fi/english/finline-in-english/>. Skaters who have recently participated in FinLine can alternatively register themselves just by sending email to the organizers. Note that the new T-shirt has (again) a new sizing system, so you will need at least to update us your preferred shirt size!

To confirm your registration you need to pay Street Gliders' membership fee **25 €** and the registration fee **200 €** (+ possible bank charges). ~~The last day to confirm your registration by paying the registration fee is 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 2020. After that, any unconfirmed registrations are cancelled in favor of skaters on the waiting list (if applicable).~~

**Please instruct your bank to forward payment orders through:**

Bank:	Nordea Bank Oyj
Swift code (BIC):	NDEAFIHH
In favor of:	Katukiitäjät ry
IBAN:	<b>FI25 2185 1800 0329 49</b>

**Our intent is to organize this unique event for skaters even on this tough year if it will be allowed by the authorities and will be practically possible. But at this stage we decided to postpone FinLine 2020 payment deadline. Please, kindly let us know if you want to cancel your registration. We will reconsider the situation in the beginning of May 2020.**

If you have any open questions, please contact us through [info@katukiitajat.fi](mailto:info@katukiitajat.fi)

*Hoping to see you next summer!*

*The FinLine organizing team:*

*Vidhuran, Leea, Kaisa, Anne, Panu, Ilpo, Bosse, Heikki*