



## FinLine 2021

***Prepare yourself (again) for a week of skating in the wilderness!***

*Last summer we were forced to cancel our annual skating holiday first time in its history after 28 consecutive years.*

*It looks like the situation is now getting better in Finland and by postponing the event by one month from traditional July we try to maximize the possibilities for our European friends to travel and join the event.*

*In other words, we are trying again this summer!*

Finland is (still) a large country with big forests – and some paved roads in middle of them. We will re-use our existing plans: after the Swedish-speaking western coastline of FinLine 2019, FinLine will be skated in the wilderness of North Karelia, in the huge backwoods with bears and wolves split by the Russian border. <https://w.wiki/mqu>



*Skating on Punkaharju ridge between lakes.*

The plan is to follow roughly the borderline 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, North Karelian hillside villages and the Koli National Park.



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

Our plan is again to add optional “extras” on the route map for some of the skating days. Skaters that like to enjoy more kilometers can choose to skate the extras depending on their feeling and weather.

Skating 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 half kilometer from Russia, see traditional houses like Orthodox tšasounas, be able to visit the easternmost place of the continental EU and cruise across the huge Lake Pielinen.<sup>1</sup>

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

## Event Schedule

### Please note the updated event dates!

Please note that this time the tour would start on **Monday** morning (August 2) and end on **Sunday** (August 8). This leaves Sunday August 1 for travelling in case the travelling restrictions are not relaxed before the end of July. It is a pretty minor adjustment but, on the other hand, we wanted to do everything that could help us in making this possible.

The bus will start from Helsinki on early Monday morning August 2 and skating will finish in Joensuu on Saturday August 7. The return to Helsinki will be on Sunday August 8 with an estimated arrival time **in Helsinki around 7 p.m.**

Preliminary skating legs of the basic route (extras excluded, changes possible):

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

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

The participation fee will *most likely* be 200 €, including the services of the bus, snacks, transportation of your equipment during skating, a technical shirt with pockets and zipper, cruising across Lake Pielinen (changes possible) and bus transportation from Helsinki to Savonlinna and back from Joensuu to Helsinki. In addition, because FinLine is organized only for members of the club, you have to pay the annual membership fee 25 € of Street Gliders.

Furthermore, there are the costs of the dinners and accommodations (including breakfasts), about 40 – 70 € per day, and your own lunch and personal snack costs during skating.

### Registration and Additional 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. With this letter we give you a chance to express your interest and make a preliminary **reservation** for a place on the tour.

We will monitor the overall pandemic situation to see when it is the time to start collecting binding registrations for the event. The key thing needed is get some level of understanding how travelling would be possible in August 2021, especially in Europe.

We will contact you again when it is last chance to register yourself but in order not to miss the change, please stay tuned by yourself, too.

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

*We are pleased to tell you more!*

*The FinLine organizing team:*

*Vidhuran, Leea, Kaisa, Anne, Panu & Ilpo feat. Ari*