



FinLine 2023

Six-day inline skating holiday in Finland

*Last year we celebrated the 30th FinLine skating event. — Now it is the time to prepare yourself for the next summer. — **Register now** and take your place in this exceptional skating event!*

Route Overview

After a few years in more distant areas of Finland, this time the plan is to skate in the southern part of the country.

Skating starts from Tampere, the largest inland city in the Nordic Countries. We will skate across the cultural areas of historical province Tavastia, crossing through the park of the medieval Tavastia Castle.

After continuing to the southern part of lake-rich Savonia we will pass by the Repovesi National Park and finally reach Mikkeli, the capital of the current Etelä-Savo (South Savonia) province. Mikkeli is a harbor city located by the largest lake in Finland, the labyrinth-like Saimaa.



*Happy skaters in Tavastia region on FinLine 2015.
Photo: Panu Tuominen*



*Lunch-time swimming stop in Jaala on FinLine 2015.
Photo: Panu Tuominen*

Last year we skated a few days in the Rokua UNESCO Global Geopark. To continue this “United Nations theme”, this year we have a special milestone in the Verla cardboard mill village, which has been inscribed in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1996.

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/751>

Geographically the first half of the week will be (most probably) somewhat flatter, while the undulating terrain on the second half would also mean the existence of hundreds of lakes and potential swimming stops! Our accommodations will include basic hotels to set the baseline plus various other places from cottages to mansions; a few of them are even with lakeside saunas for recovering and debriefing after a good day.¹

¹ Details subject to change.

Event Schedule

The bus starts from Helsinki Sunday **morning** on July 9, and after a few hours of travelling we reach Tampere and start skating directly from there. The sixth leg will finish in Mikkeli on Friday afternoon and our bus takes us back to Helsinki in the **evening** on Saturday July 15.

Preliminary skating legs (extras excluded, changes possible):

Sunday	Tampere – Lempäälä	45 km
Monday	Lempäälä – Hämeenlinna	71 km
Tuesday	Hämeenlinna – Vääksy	82 km
Wednesday	Vääksy – Verla	68 km
Thursday	Verla – Mäntyharju	59 km
Friday	Mäntyharju – Mikkeli	65 km
Total		390 km

For a detailed up-to-date version of the draft route map, visit: <https://bit.ly/3y3mR4E>

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 do not want to skate the full distances listed above.

Can I participate?

FinLine is a skating event that almost every recreational skater 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 preferred speed
- be able to enjoy one vacation week together with other skaters
- become a member of Street Gliders club (which can be easily done at the same time when you pay the registration fee of 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 follows the skaters all the time and enables you to choose the number of days to skate 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 170 € including the services of the bus, basic snacks, transportation of your luggage during skating and bus transportation from Helsinki to Tampere and back from Mikkeli to Helsinki. In addition, rent for a few separate lakeside saunas is covered by the fee. **Because FinLine is formally organized only for members of our club, you also have to pay the annual membership fee of 30 € of Street Gliders (total 200 € unless already a member for 2023).**

Note that for environmental reasons and to cut the increasing overall costs, we have decided not to include a skating shirt in the event fee; the participants are encouraged to use their own skating shirts (e.g. the ones received on FinLine 2019 or FinLine 2022).

Furthermore, there are costs of the dinners and accommodations, about 75 – 100 € per day and lunch & extra snack costs according to your personal preferences.

Registration Instructions

Because we want to maintain the cozy small event feeling of FinLine and in order to find accommodations for the whole group, the number of participants is limited to **35**.

The official registration is now open! You will find the registration form on our web pages at <https://katukiitajat.fi/english/finline-in-english/> To avoid ambiguity, we kindly ask everyone, including former FinLine participants, to fill in the registration form.

In order to avoid the event to be fully stuffed by a big group coming from a single country, former FinLine participants (any year) have priority in registrations until February 12th, 2023. **Newcomers are still very welcome and also they shall register themselves as soon as possible** — however, we may have to set a maximum number of participants per country. We will start confirming newcomers' registrations no earlier than in mid-February.

We will collect the Street Gliders' membership fee and the registration fee later in the winter. This may of course free some seats, which will be filled with registrations on the waiting list (if any). So, in short: act quickly to secure your place!

Important Dates

January 2023	FinLine 2023 registration period starts.
February 12, 2023	Last day for prioritized registrations by former FinLine participants.
February 13 (earliest)	We start confirming registrations received from newcomers.
Sunday, July 9	FinLine 2023 bus starts from Helsinki in the morning .
Friday, July 14	Skaters arrive to Mikkeli.
Saturday, July 15	FinLine 2023 bus returns to Helsinki in the evening .

When making your travel bookings, please check the cancellation policy of the tickets. In case of event cancellation (force majeure, impracticability) Street Gliders may refund the registration and the membership fees only. All indirect costs (e.g. airline tickets) are on your own risk.

If you have any questions, please contact us as soon as possible through info@katukiitajat.fi — We are happy to help you if you are in doubt.

Hoping to see you with us next summer!

*The FinLine 2023 organizing team:
Vidhuran, Leea, Kaisa, Anne, Panu,
Nina & Ilpo feat. Ari*



*A sunny day on FinLine 2015.
Photo: Panu Tuominen*