

HELSINKI DIRECTIONS

for participants of The Mathematics of Life conference

For general use. Invited speakers of The Mathematics of Life conference receive directions tailored to their needs.

Conference venue

The Mathematics of Life conference is held on the Kumpula campus of the University of Helsinki, in the building Exactum. The official street address of the building is Gustaf Hällströmin katu 2b but the alternative address Pietari Kalmin katu 3 is preferred by taxi drivers. Below you find instructions how to get to the conference by public transport. To find your way in the immediate neighbourhood, a local map of the campus area can be downloaded from http://www.helsinki.fi/mathlife/local_map.pdf and the floor plan of the building is at <http://www.helsinki.fi/mathlife/floorplan.pdf>.

General info

Tickets can be bought from the driver on all buses/trams and from the controller in designated carriages of trains, and these tickets are valid for 1h travel including change (show the ticket to the driver if changing). Within the city boundaries of Helsinki, the price of the ticket does not depend on the destination so there is no need to tell where you go. The airport is however outside Helsinki (in region 2, where a "seutulippu" ticket is needed on trains and city buses). Tourist tickets (matkailijalippu) are valid for 1-7 days and are available from kiosks called R-kioski.

There is a searchable map of Helsinki at <http://kartta.hel.fi/?setlanguage=en>, and you can pick up free town maps from the airport. Please note that Finland is bilingual such that each street has 2 names (Finnish, Swedish). An English journey planner is available at <http://www.reittiopas.fi/en/>.

From the airport to the centre:

(Airport = lentoasema, Central Railway Station = rautatieasema)

There is a new train connection between the airport and the Central Railway Station of Helsinki. The local trains I and P both operate between the airport and the Central Railway Station, but the shorter route is to take P from the airport to the centre and I the way back. The webpage <https://www.hsl.fi/en/ringrailline> shows a map of the route. The walkway to the trains leaves the airport inbetween terminals 1 and 2. As of writing, the walkway is not fully ready yet, which means you have to leave the airport terminal floor by way of an elevator. Follow the signs of a cartoon train. It is easiest to buy the ticket on the train (a "region 2" ticket, currently 5.50 euros).

From the airport, you can also take a shuttle to the Central Railway Station. There are actually two shuttles, one run by Finnair and the other is an ordinary city bus with number 615. Both airport buses go to the central railway station but stop on opposite sides of the station building (picture a classic terminal with a U-shaped building, the rails running inbetween the wings). For the timetable, route map and pricing of the Finnair shuttle, see http://www.finnair.com/go/2016.2-54/documents/PDFs/FINNAIRAIKATAULU_1115_WEB.pdf. The city bus operates min twice an hour, and costs the same as the train. Tickets can be bought from the driver on both shuttles.

From the centre to the conference venue:

From the central railway station to the Kumpula campus, take tram 6 from the stop in front of the main entrance of the railway station, direction Arabia. The stop where you need to get off is called "Kyläsaarekatu". The place is pretty easy to recognize. As the tram nears the campus, you will see a unique University landmark already from a distance (trees may hide it from nearby): On the left of the main road ahead, on a small hill with trees, there is a large white ball sitting on top of a grey tower. The hill is occupied by the University campus Kumpula, and the ball belongs to the Physics building. Immediately before the stop where to get off, the tram will make a sharp turn to the right, off the main road. On the right of the main road, more or less in front of the tram after the turn, is the shopping centre "Arabia" (note this is not the final stop, the tram continues to the factory "Arabia"). Get off at this stop and walk up the hill. Pass the tower with the white ball such that it is on your right side. The building on the left is Exactum. The journey may take 40 min from arriving to the tram stop at the railway station to entering Exactum.