



## FINLAND FOR MEETINGS, EVENTS AND INCENTIVES 1/2009

This newsletter, produced by Finland Convention Bureau (FCB), presents you with ideas and event organisers, and brings you the latest news from Finland. We hope you will find it helpful and informative!

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please contact [info@fcb.fi](mailto:info@fcb.fi).

### See you at IMEX!

Welcome to the Finland stand (F280) at IMEX 2009 in Frankfurt from 26-28 May. The stand will present Blue1/SAS, Finland Convention Bureau, Helsinki City Tourist & Convention Bureau, Jyväskylä Paviljonki, S-Group Hotels and Viada Oy Ltd. Visit the website [www.imex-frankfurt.com](http://www.imex-frankfurt.com) to register for a meeting with Finnish representatives in advance.

### The fruits of nature within an hour's drive

For Finns the clean and unspoilt nature is a matter of fact, something that is within reach of everyone. This also applies to visitors arriving from abroad. Nature is always nearby in Finland – your meetings venue may be situated beside the sea, in the middle of the forest or on the slopes of a fell, yet still be less than an hour's drive away from the nearest airport.

Finland's legal concept of everyman's right gives everyone the chance to enjoy outdoor pursuits, and the freedom of the country's vast forests and fells, and many lakes and rivers, with few restrictions. Everyone in Finland has the right to roam freely in the countryside without needing to obtain permission from the owner, as long as these activities do not damage the environment or disturb others. You can thus canoe freely along waterways, or enjoy hiking, cycling or Nordic Walking across the terrain.

A unique way to experience nature up close is to fish or pick berries and mushrooms directly from nature and then use these ingredients to cook a delicious and healthy meal outdoors under the guidance of a gourmet wilderness chef. Or you could sit serenely and wait for bears and other wild animals to appear and then take photographs of them in their own natural habitats. And of course, in Finland you are not restricted by the clock thanks to the white summer nights and midnight sun.

Nature, clean air and relaxing experiences will inspire fresh thinking, whether these outdoor activities are part of the social programme of a meeting or a team-building exercise of an incentives visit. And new ideas mean better results by both people and companies.

Contact us by sending an e-mail to [info@fcb.fi](mailto:info@fcb.fi) to hear more about the added value that Finland's nature can provide for your corporate event.

### NEWS

**FCB organised the Finland Showcase** sales event in Helsinki from 2-3 April. The event attracted a total of 29 buyers from Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain, Russia, Spain and Switzerland. On the evening of their arrival the guests were introduced to Helsinki, and a get-together was held at the Restaurant Savu. Following a workshop event, most of the guests participated in pour-tour visits to Helsinki, Levi, Kuopio-Tahko and Turku.

### CONTACT

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Finland Convention Bureau is a non-profit organisation offering free assistance and consultation to all meeting planners.

Together with its 14 member destinations, 4 partner destinations and around 80 related organisations FCB is your guide when planning a meeting, incentive, conference or other event in Finland.

**The Travel Experience's** "Helsinki Action Weekend" was voted "Best Incentive Experience" in the Helsinki City Tourist & Convention Bureau's Best of Helsinki Awards. [www.bestofhelsinki.fi](http://www.bestofhelsinki.fi)

## HOTELS

**The RukaVillage hotel** in the Ruka resort in Northern Finland will be opened this September. The hotel, designed especially to cater to the requirements of skiers and active guests, is situated in the center of Ruka's upcoming pedestrian village. Each high-standard room and apartment is equipped with its own kitchen and excellent facilities. The hotel's ground floor also houses restaurants and shops. [www.ruka.fi/incentive](http://www.ruka.fi/incentive)

**The Spa Hotel Levitunturi** in Lapland will undergo a major expansion as part of a two-year project beginning in May. The project includes a large expansion of the sauna and pool section of the spa, as well as the construction of a new hotel building, a new bowling alley and a children's world. The water surface of the spa will be more than tripled. The new three-floor hotel building will be constructed near the main slope at the Levi ski resort and include 30 junior suites, each with a balcony and a sauna, as well as 18 luxury double rooms. Upon completion of the project in August 2010, the hotel will offer a total of 220 rooms. [www.hotellilevitunturi.fi](http://www.hotellilevitunturi.fi)

## SUPPLIERS

**The new Alandica Kultur & Kongress centre** opened its doors at the beginning of March in Mariehamn, the capital of Finland's autonomous Swedish-speaking province of Åland (Ahvenanmaa). The complex is situated beside the sea and consists of the three wings connected by a glass foyer. Alandica offers two large halls, one seating 600 and the other 200, as well as seven meeting and conference rooms for 10 to 30 persons. [www.alandica.ax](http://www.alandica.ax)

**The Rantasipi Congress & Business Center** at the Aviapolis business park in Vantaa is being expanded in a project that will be completed in 2010. The new congress centre will feature a multipurpose facility that will be able to accommodate congresses and events with as many as 700 participants, as well as several smaller conference facilities, a restaurant world and an Executive Department with its own conference and lounge facilities. [www.rantasipi.fi](http://www.rantasipi.fi)

**Jyväskylä Convention Bureau** has launched a new website at [www.jcb.fi](http://www.jcb.fi) that lists products and services in Jyväskylä that are ideal for international visitors and event organisers.

## TRANSPORT

Blue1 expanded its codesharing agreement with Lufthansa in January. All daily flights by Lufthansa from Frankfurt and Munich to Helsinki are now operated also with Blue1 flight numbers. Similarly, all of Blue1's internal flights in Finland that have connections to Lufthansa's flights to Germany are operated with Lufthansa flight numbers, also from Helsinki to Lapland. [www.blue1.fi](http://www.blue1.fi)

