



FINLAND FILM COMMISSION

Production Guide



Welcome to a world of extremes

Finland is one of the northernmost countries in Europe, with an incredibly diverse landscape. It offers a broad spectrum of locations across four seasons, thanks to its unique natural conditions: from the midnight sun and summer heat to long winters and guaranteed snow.

The country boasts a thousand kilometres of coastline, nearly 200,000 lakes, the world's largest archipelago, exotic arctic tundra, vast forests, vibrant modern cities and charming old wooden and medieval towns.

In addition, our highly skilled, English-speaking professional crews and service providers make our country one of the best places in the world to bring any production.





Getting to Finland is easy. With 5 international airports, there are direct flights from all over the world.

At your service: The Finland Film Commission

The Finland Film Commission is a consortium of seven regional film commissions across the country. We serve as the initial point of contact for all international queries related to filming in Finland, using production facilities and services and acquiring financing.

We act as a service provider for film, television and commercial production companies. Through the Finland Film Commission network, we can relay your needs to the region that best suits your production.

It is our job to best match your every need, help bring international productions to Finland and ensure that you have access to our top professionals. We act as the primary link to local authorities and to the audiovisual infrastructure in each area.

“ We will help you find the best locations, partners, services and crew for your production.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

www.filminginfinland.fi

info@filmfinland.fi
+358 50 559 0549

WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:



Location
scouting and
shooting permits



Information
on versatile
financing



Help with
transportation,
catering and
accommodation



Information
and recruiting
of local film
professionals
and assistants



Links to local
businesses



Information on
local production
companies,
studios and
production
facilities



Information
on renting
production
equipment

REGIONAL FILM COMMISSIONS IN FINLAND

FINNISH LAPLAND
Film Commission

NORTH FINLAND
Film Commission

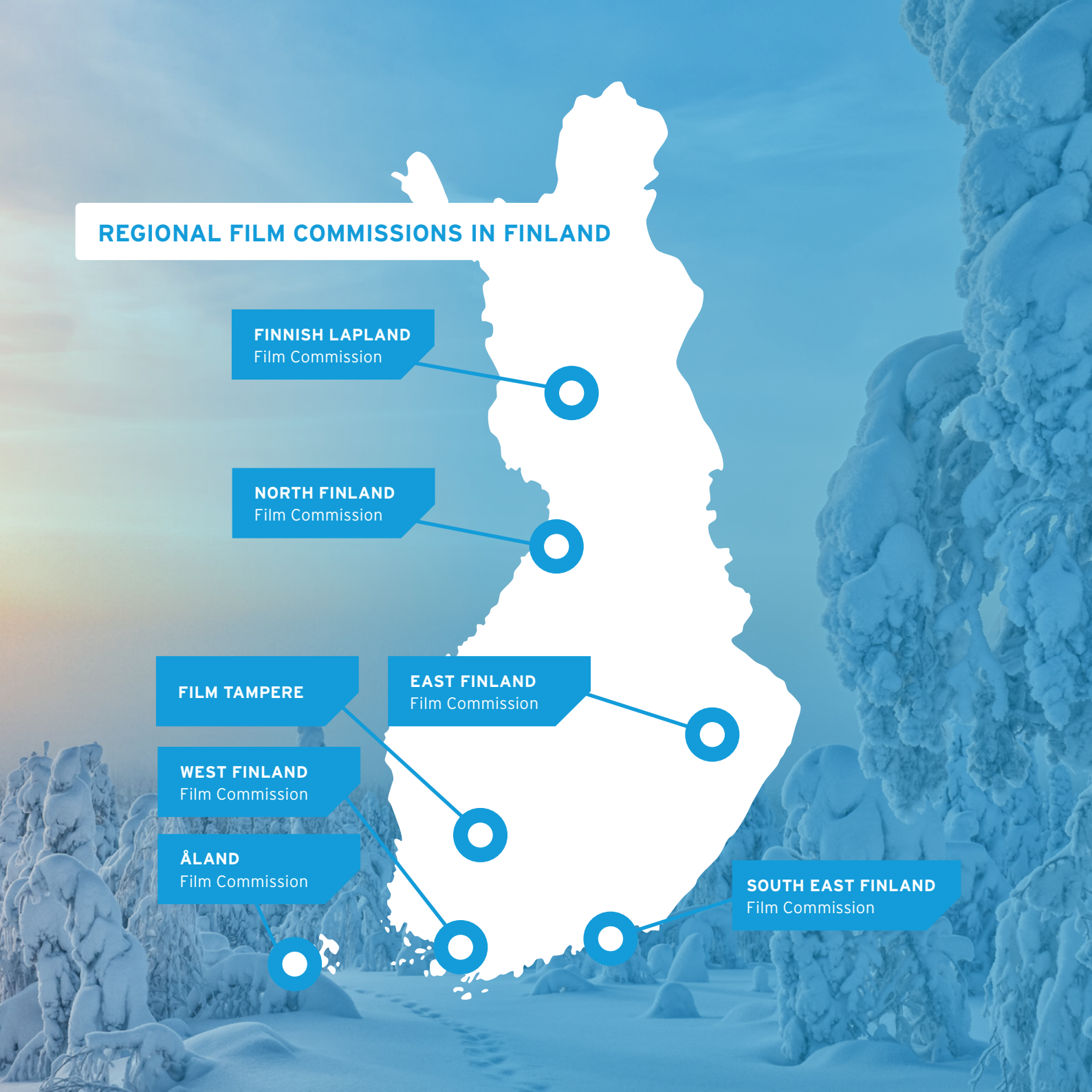
FILM TAMPERE

EAST FINLAND
Film Commission

WEST FINLAND
Film Commission

ÅLAND
Film Commission

SOUTH EAST FINLAND
Film Commission



Finland as a filming location

Finland is fresh and undiscovered as a filming location. It is easy to find unique places that haven't been seen in other productions.



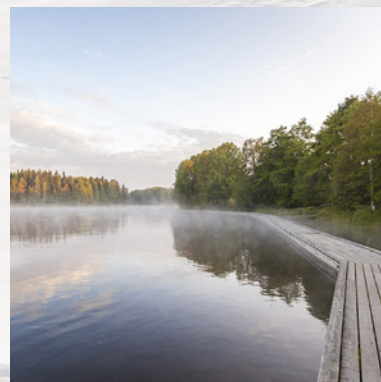
Snow and ice



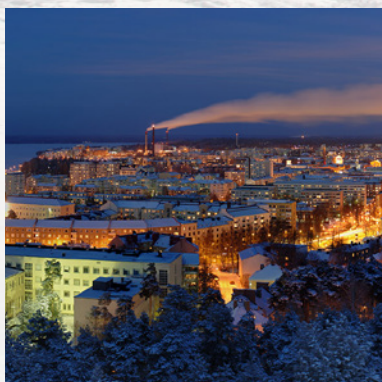
Unique archipelago



Beautiful countryside



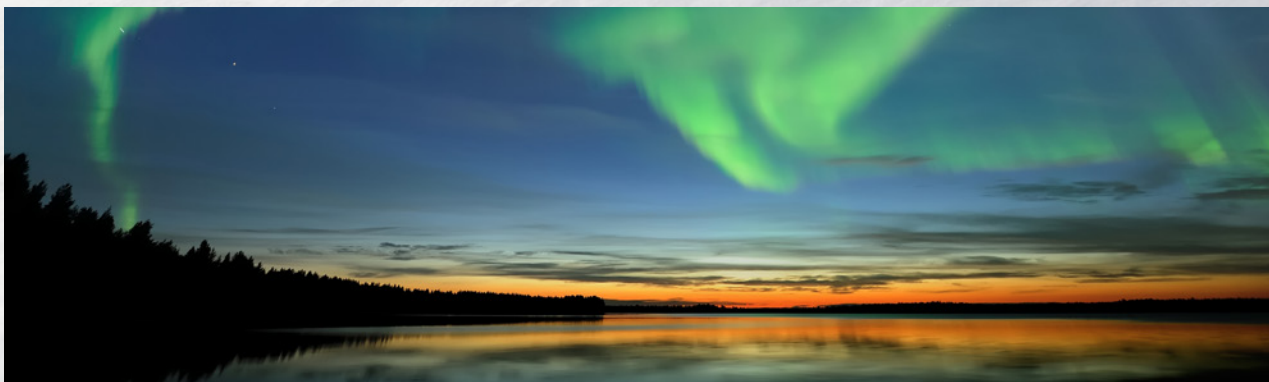
200,000 lakes, unspoiled forests



Modern cities, old wooden towns



Captivating summers and the midnight sun



Northern lights, polar nights, autumn colours



Churches, historical buildings



Harbors, factories



Wilderness

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LAND**

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PRODUCTION NEEDS**

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GPN
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“*Finland is one of the safest, most stable countries in the world according to a survey based on social, economic, political and military indicators.*”

Finland in a nutshell

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Official Name | The Republic of Finland |
| Capital | Helsinki |
| Population | 5.5 million |
| Currency | Euro € |
| Language | Finnish, Swedish The majority of Finns speak fluent English. |
| Time | GMT +2 Daylight Saving Time (DST) is in use during the summertime as in the rest of the European Union. |
| International Calls | Dialling code +358 |
| Electrical Current | 220 volts, 50 HZ AC Most electrical outlets are DIN (the German industrial standard, two round pins). |

Infrastructure

Finnish infrastructure and logistics work perfectly. You can get everywhere around the country by either car, railroad or plane. The internet network is one of the best in the world, and high-speed mobile networks cover the whole country.

Flight connections

Finland offers the fastest route between Europe and Asia. With 27 airports, five of which are international, there are direct flights from many European, American and Asian cities.

Ferry connections

There is frequent international passenger and cargo traffic from Helsinki and Turku. Helsinki has ferry connections to Germany (Travemünde, Rostock), Poland (Gdynia), Sweden (Stockholm) and Estonia (Tallinn).



Geography

Location

Northern Europe, between Sweden and Russia.

Surface Area

338,424 km² of which 10% is water, 70% forest and 6% farmland

Dimensions

1160 km from North to South, 540 km from East to West

Coastline

1100 km

Lakes and islands

187,888 lakes and 179,584 islands

Largest lake

Saimaa (4400 km²)

Some of the highest fells

Haliti (1328 m), Saana (1029 m), Pallas (807 m)

Helsinki Film Sound Ltd.

sound design and location sound
for film and TV since 2006

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info@helea.fi

Climate

Finland enjoys all four seasons. The climate is marked by cold winters, warm summers and everything in between. Temperatures range from +25°C in the summer to -25°C in the winter.

DAYLIGHT HOURS

| MONTH | UTSJOKI Lapland | HELSINKI Southern Finland | OULU Northern Finland | JOENSUU Eastern Finland | TURKU Western Finland |
|-----------|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| January 1 | polar night | 5:59 | 3:53 | 5:07 | 5:54 |
| April 1 | 13:58 | 13:16 | 13:34 | 13:26 | 13:18 |
| July 1 | midnight sun | 18:47 | 21:42 | 19:52 | 18:53 |
| October 1 | 11:11 | 11:30 | 11:22 | 11:24 | 11:27 |

Summer days are long and in the winter they are short. In northernmost Finland, the sun doesn't set at all during Midsummer, and during wintery polar nights it doesn't rise at all.

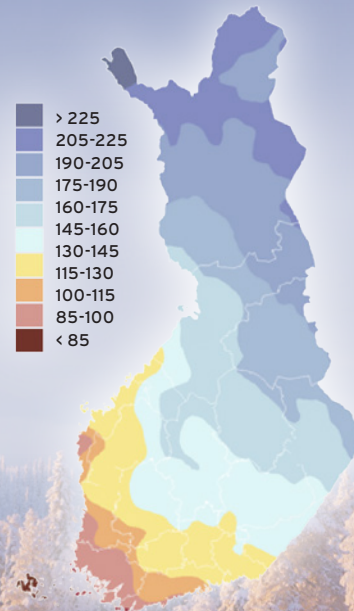


SNOW COVERAGE

In Lapland, winter lasts for approximately half the year. The first snow falls already in September and the first snow cover appears in October. A permanent blanket of snow covers the ground usually by November. In Southern Finland, the snowy season is shorter. In some places, it might even remain completely snow-free.

You can find snow statistics at
<http://en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/snow-statistics>.

ANNUAL DAYS OF SNOW



Source: Finnish Meteorological Institute 2018



VALOFIRMA
The Light House

www.valofirma.fi



KAMERAFIRMA
The Camera House

Crew rates

DAY SALARIES FOR 8-HOUR DAYS

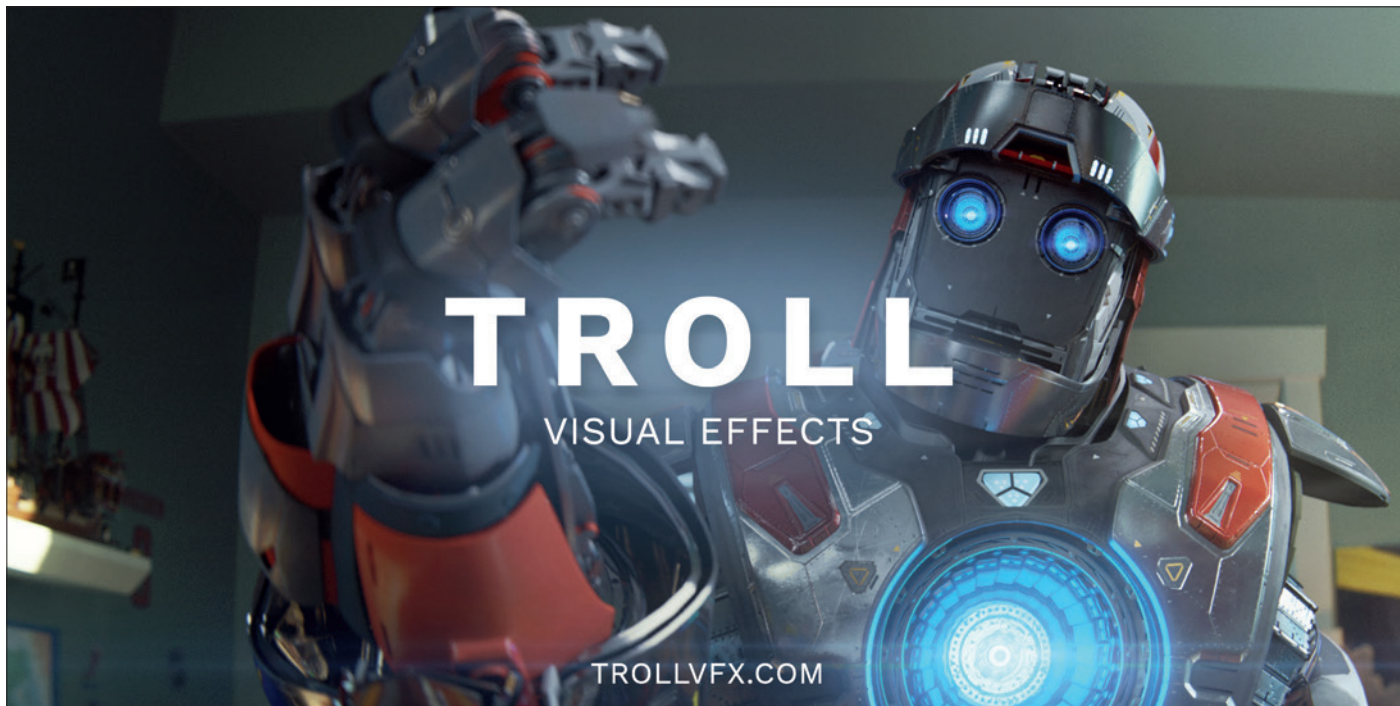
You can calculate 10-hour day salaries by adding 37.5% to these figures. All figures indicated are in Euros (€)

FILM PRODUCTIONS

| Number of working days | 2-10 | 11-24 | 25 and above |
|---|--------|--------|--------------|
| Wage Group I | 125.06 | 114.80 | 105.67 |
| * In Production: assistant work In Film Productions: e.g. runner | | | |
| Wage Group II | 219.71 | 187.79 | 161.55 |
| * Executive work In Film productions: e.g. best boy In TV production: camera man, script supervisor | | | |
| Wage Group III | 263.04 | 200.34 | 174.09 |
| * Executive: accountable work In Film production: gaffer, key-grip and 1st camera assistant In TV production: cinematographer, production sound mixer | | | |
| Wage Group IV | 308.66 | 240.25 | 217.43 |
| * Artistic responsibility in production In Film production: director, cinematographer, set designer, etc. In TV production: e.g. director, journalist, producer | | | |

TV PRODUCTIONS

| | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Wage Group I | 107.78-128.79 EUR | Wage Group III | 177.57-285.26 EUR |
| Wage Group II | 152.16-214.14 EUR | Wage Group IV | 217.19-305.58 EUR |



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production
in one go

On-site
catering

Good
connections
via local
airport

Accommodation
options for
all budgets

Fringes & Basic Facts

- To these rates you will have to add social security rates at +23%.
- Normal working hours are 8 hours per day, 5 days a week 40 hours), Monday to Friday.
- 10-hour days are most common.
- A lunch break is mandatory when working at least 6 hours. Lunch is a minimum of 30 minutes and a maximum of 1 hour, and added on top of work time, along with two 10-minute coffee breaks.
- The first two (9th and 10th) extra hours are paid at time and a half. The following hours (11th ->) are paid double.
- You can directly calculate 10-hour day salaries by adding 37.5% to the 8-hour salary.
- The first 8 hours of the 6th and 7th working days of the week are paid at time and a half, and the following hours are paid double.
- The minimum hours for rest: 11 hours/day and 35 hours/week. But it is possible to work in periods that allow for more flexibility.

Shooting permits

No permits are required for filming in public places. Filming on private property requires a permit either from the owner or from city authorities. Permit costs are usually very low.

A permit from the police is needed if filming requires special traffic arrangements (i.e. re-routing or stopping traffic). Filming of artworks (objects) protected by copyright law requires the consent of the copyright owner unless the works are publicly accessible and not the main focus of filming.

Filming in Finland is simple thanks to the Everyman's Right principle. This allows everyone free access to land and waterways without having to go through the process of applying for a permit or separate permission. However, a landowner's permission is required for filming on private property or land.

Working permits

The right to perform gainful employment in Finland is determined according to citizenship.

It is the employer's obligation to ensure that a foreign citizen entering service and employment has the required worker's residence permit or that the foreign citizen does not need a residence permit.

EU/ETA citizens are entitled to work in Finland without a worker's residence permit. Citizens of countries outside the EEA are usually required to have a worker's residence permit.

More information is available
from the Employment and
Economic Development Office.

» [CLICK HERE!](#)



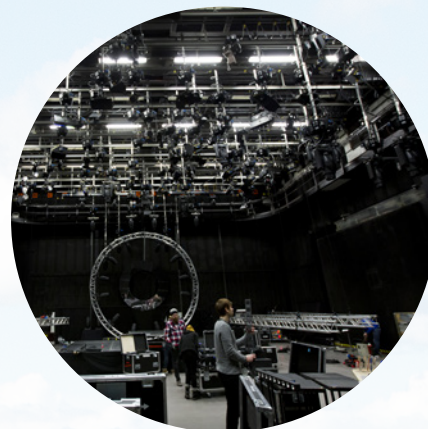
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in the heart of Helsinki**

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Local stages

MEDIAPOLIS, CITY OF TAMPERE

- Factory drama and entertainment hall: 1,500 m² (16,146 ft²)
 - height 11 m (36 ft)
- Studio ST1: 449 m² (4,833 ft²)
 - height 11 m (32 ft)
- Studio ST2: 340 m² (3,660 ft²)
 - height 9.5 m (31 ft)
- Virtual Studio ST3: 90 m² (969 ft²)
 - height 4.5 m (15 ft)
- Country's largest sound stage facilities. More information from mediapolis.fi/en.



LOGOMO, CITY OF TURKU

- Logomo Hall: 500 m²-1,700 m² (5,382 ft²-18,299 ft²), depending on the position of the back wall
 - height 12 m (40 ft)
 - 100% levelled floors throughout + soundproofed
 - detailed technical info here logomo.fi/wp-content/uploads/Logomo_Hall.pdf
- Logi 1 + 2: can be used as separate studios or combined into one
 - 390 m² (4,198 ft²) in total
 - height 6.5 m (21 ft)
- Teatro: also adjustable walls, etc.
 - approx. 370 m² (4,000 ft²)
 - height 8 m (26 ft)
- plus a number of other spaces (smaller studios, dressing rooms, catering, offices)

THE LIGHT HOUSE/THE CAMERA HOUSE, CITY OF HELSINKI

- STUDIO 450: 450 m² (4,850 ft²) studio www.valofirma.fi/valofirma_studio450-en.html
 - Technical floorplan www.valofirma.fi/assets/studio_450tech.pdf
- STUDIO CHROMA/WHITE: white and green parts www.valofirma.fi/valofirma_chromastudio-en.html
 - Technical floor plan www.valofirma.fi/assets/studio_chromatech.pdf

ANGEL FILMS, CITY OF HELSINKI

- 800 m² (8,611 ft²) studio that can be divided into two halves
- Studio blueprint angelfilms.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/AF_Studio_Blueprint.pdf
- Plenty of rental equipment angelfilms.com/equipment/hmi/

FINNISH BROADCASTING COMPANY YLE, CITIES OF HELSINKI AND TAMPERE

- ST1: 456 m² (4,908 ft²)
 - LED lights, plus adjustable pre-rigging
- ST2: 567 m² (6,103 ft²)
 - Tungsten lights, 230 motorised telescopes and 69 point lifts
- ST3: 323 m² (3,477 ft²)
 - audio drama suite with three studios and a control room
- ST4: 221 m² (2,379 ft²)
 - Tungsten lights + black and white studio curtains
- ST7: 660 m² (7,104 ft²)
 - only standards in the space are the roof trusses

VILLILÄ STUDIOS

- total combined floor space of 860 m² (9,257 ft²), with a free height of 4.8 m (16 ft) for 600 m² (6,458 ft²)
- direct drive-in entrance to studio
- production office, wardrobe, dressing, make-up departments, etc.
- More information from www.villilastudiot.fi.



Fast and simple: The Finnish 25% cash rebate

Business Finland offers a 25% cash rebate to cover production costs in Finland. The incentive is available to Finnish and foreign production companies from pre to post-production. It is targeted at feature films, documentary films, scripted fiction series and animation productions. A Finnish co-producer is not mandatory for international applicants, only a production service coordinator with a Finnish business ID is require.

| Production type | Minimum total budget of the production | Minimum spend in Finland |
|---------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Feature Film | 2,500,000 € | 150,000 € |
| Documentary | 325,000 € | 50,000 € |
| TV drama, animation | 5,500 €/minute | 250,000 € |

All applicants are required to have a distribution agreement for at least one platform or one territory. Ongoing applications. First come, first served basis. Annual budget is €10 million. Qualifying costs in Finland are local expenditure. Payment of funding possible during production.

PLEASE ASK US MORE:

Merja Salonen | merja.salonen@businessfinland.fi | +358 2950 55974
Laura Andersson | laura.andersson@businessfinland.fi | +358 2950 55991

Co-production funding

International co-productions are also eligible for production support from The Finnish Film Foundation if a Finnish co-producer is involved. The foundation funds around 8 to 10 minority co-productions every year with a support budget of around €1 million. The amount of production support for minority co-productions has traditionally ranged from €25,000 to €500,000, depending on the Finnish creative/technical input. There are no spend requirements for the support, nor is the support recoupable. Regional production support is also available, and film commissions can offer links to private equity.

Support eligibility for co-productions is determined according to the following criteria:

- Involvement of a Finnish co-producer with Finnish distribution rights
- Artistic and/or technical input from Finland
- Distribution of the project in Finland
- Relevance of the project for Finnish audiences
- Possibilities for an ongoing co-operation between the parties

Read more:

» www.finlandcashrebate.fi

Visas

More information available from
the Ministry for Foreign Affairs
of Finland.

» CLICK HERE!

Citizens of EU Member States enjoy free and unhindered passage to Finland. In accordance with the Schengen agreement, country passport holders do not need a visa to visit Finland.



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