

HELSINKI FINLAND

The World Design Capital 2012
– Introducing major urban
development projects



World Design Capital HELSINKI

is undergoing unparalleled changes

Helsinki has been chosen as the World Design Capital 2012. Urban planning and architectural design have played an important part in the selection process.

During the next ten years the Helsinki area will probably undergo more changes than any other large city region in Europe. In particular, the development of shore, port and railway yard areas will radically alter the appearance of the city. 250 hectares of waterfront area have already been vacated for redevelopment by the transfer of two cargo ports out of the city centre

This, together with the city's other major development projects, will create 4.5 million m² of new residential floor area and almost 2.5 million m² of business floor area by 2040, representing new homes for 100,000 people and jobs for tens of thousands.

Design will play an important role in these developments. The city's second centre, Pasila, which is to be built on the site of a vacated railway yard, will offer wide-ranging possibilities for innovative urban design and architecture.

Finlandiapark, an urban oasis for city dwellers, is being built in the old city centre, adjacent to many the main art and cultural institutions.

The old Empire -style quarters between the Cathedral and the harbour will be revitalised, forming a lively leisure area with restaurants, galleries and specialist shops.

The world-renowned Art and Design City will unite design, media and technology businesses in the shore district of Arabianranta.

Another important innovation, the Aalto University, merges economics, art, design and technology.





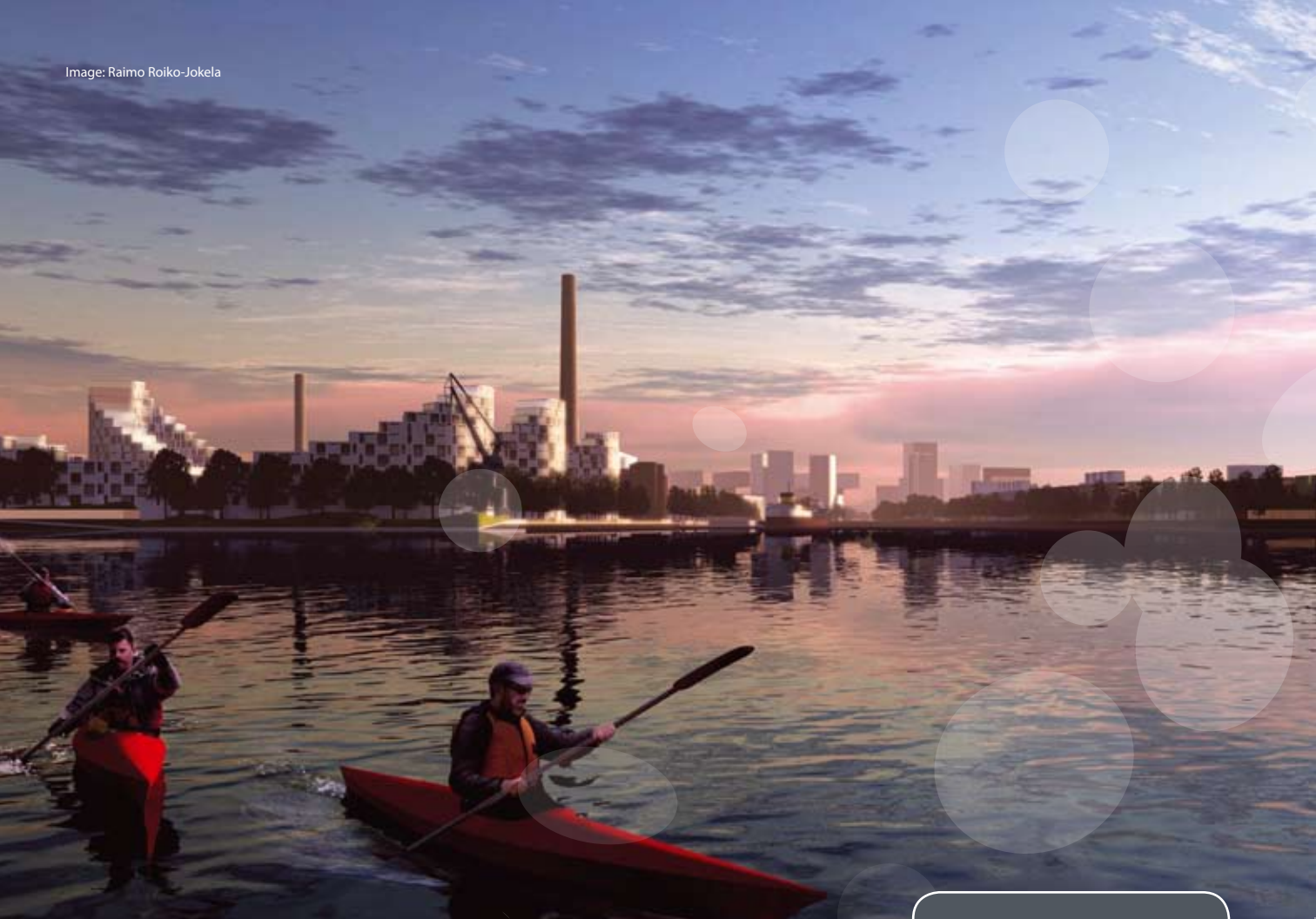
Area in figures

- Completion by 2040
- Land Area 167 ha
- Floor Area (commercial) 1 million m²
- Floor Area (residential) 0.5 million m²

Pasila

An Ever-Expanding Hub Area

- Central Pasila will form a new urban centre for business, services and housing just 3.5 km from the Helsinki city centre.
- Pasila is the core area for enterprise and business development, with a concentration of broadcasting media companies, and providers of digital contents and services. Pasila also houses the strongly expanding Helsinki Fair Centre (construction 2010-2012).
- An international land assignment and architectural competition for the central city areas and landmarks will be launched in 2010.
- All trains to Helsinki will stop at Pasila Railway Station and it is intended that in the future, Pasila will be connected to both the metro and a high-speed airport link. The station will be used daily by around 100,000 passengers.
- Pasila covers more than 167 hectares, comprising Central Pasila, Ilmala Media City, Pasila Machine Workshop and Northern Pasila.
- Bordering the Central Park, western Pasila combines inner-city-type housing, affording excellent recreational possibilities.



Kalasadama

A Waterfront District in the Inner City

- The district forms a part of the science, arts and business cluster currently under development around the Vanhakaupunki Bay. The area's maritime aspect will be enhanced by a 5 km public shoreline route.
- Excellent public services will be provided. Housing types will include apartment buildings, terrace houses, urban villas, loft apartments and floating houses.
- The transport services will include trams, buses, a metro line and highway connections to the north, east, west and to Helsinki International Airport.
- Office areas and service facilities will be situated along the main streets and in the building blocks next to the metro station.
- A developer for the area adjacent to the metro station and eastern highway will be selected in 2011, via an ongoing competition. The area will consist of office, residential and commercial premises, with a total floor area of 110,000 m², 10,000 m² of which will be residential.

Area in figures

- Construction Period 2009-2035
- Land Area 175 ha
- Floor Area 1.3 million m²
- Inhabitants 18,000
- Jobs 10,000



Jätkäsaari

Urban Dwelling by the Open Sea

- The new urban district, a mere 10-minute tram ride from Helsinki city centre, has a metro station nearby, a highway connection to the west and a newly designed pedestrian and cycle route Baana to the city centre.
- The shoreline is to be developed to provide public recreational areas with seafront promenades, cafés and marinas.
- The area will offer schools, daycare centres, a social services centre, a public library and a large central park. A large former harbour warehouse will be transformed into a recreation centre.
- The passenger harbour, used by more than 3 million passengers annually, will remain in Jätkäsaari.
- Premises for businesses and services will be built in the harbour area, the commercial centre and at street level along the main thoroughfares.
- The commercial centre, which also includes residential properties, will have a floor area of over 40,000 m². A competition to select the developer is to be organized in the next few years.

Area in figures

- Construction Period 2009-2025
- Land Area 100 ha
- Floor Area 1 million m²
- Inhabitants 16,000
- Jobs 6,000



Area in figures

- Construction Period 2009-2025
- Land Area 200 ha
- Floor Area (residential) 500,000 m²
- Floor Area (commercial) 5,000 m²
- Inhabitants 10,000
- Jobs 1,000

Kruunuvuorenranta

An Archipelago Landscape

- Just 3 km from the centre of Helsinki, the area boasts unique views of a beautiful archipelago and the Suomenlinna sea fortress, a Unesco World Heritage site.
- An area vacated by oil tanks is to be transformed into a pleasant residential neighbourhood close to nature. Excellent public services will be provided, and sports facilities, beaches and marinas will be constructed.
- A series of bridges for pedestrians, cycles and trams, offering direct access from Kruunuvuorenranta to the city centre, is under consideration.
- Some of the original oil refinery structures, such as loading platforms and oil tanks will be preserved as landmarks, creating an interesting atmosphere and defining the identity of Kruunuvuorenranta.
- The area, which has been planned in accordance with principles of sustainable development, will include environmental art and advanced technical solutions, such as cutting-edge lighting design to enhance its unique character.



Image: Suomen Ilmakuva Oy

Arabianranta

Arts and Design City

- The University of Art and Design and the numerous surrounding design, media and technology businesses form the heart of Arabianranta, which is currently emerging as the most important design and media cluster within the Nordic Countries.
- Arts and construction are interrelated, with up to 2 % of the building costs being earmarked for artistic cooperation.
- The Arabianranta housing area opens onto a wide green belt that encircles the Vanhakaupunki Bay.



Image: APRT and Näkymä

Finlandiapark

An Urban Cultural Oasis

- Finlandiapark, the southernmost tip of the Central Park, is an area of cultural and educational activity. Design has been the main emphasis in the landscape planning.
- Situated in the heart of Helsinki, the area functions as a meeting place, with plazas and themed parks; a lively, varied and functional blend of urban cityscape and the natural environment.
- Finlandiapark is home to several important cultural institutions and is to be one of the main locations for the World Design Capital events.



Image: K2S Architects

Revitalising the Old City Centre

Bringing the Old Quarters to Life

- The Empire- style quarters surrounding the City Hall will be opened up for public use from 2011 onwards. New functions and events will bring the expanding pedestrian centre to life.
- The city blocks next to the market square will form a lively area with cafés, restaurants and exhibitions, and specialist shops, including craft and fashion.
- A total of 15 000 m² of old office area will be leased for new use. The area is being developed by the property development company Helsingin Leijona Ltd.



City of Helsinki

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