



15TH FINLINE LONG DISTANCE INLINE SKATING TOUR

The 15th FinLine, organized by the inline skating club Street Gliders, will be skated under the midnight sun in the beautiful sceneries of the Finnish Lapland. The skating route is: **Nuorgam–Utsjoki–Karigasniemi–Muotkanruoktu–Inari–Saariselkä** and the total skating distance will be about 310 km.

FinLine skating event has been arranged every summer after the pilot trip from Helsinki to Lahti in 1991. Finnish FinLine is thereby one of the oldest regularly arranged long distance inline skating tours.

It is not a skating competition but the meaning of FinLine tour has always been to introduce inline skating as a good opportunity for people of all ages – and conditions. These kind of non-competitive multi-day skating events are quite exceptional. This is probably one of the reasons for the increasing number of the international skaters attending FinLine. This year we will have 40 participants including Finnish, Dutch, Russian, Swedish, American, and German nationalities.

- ✂ **Sunday July 9th** The bus will leave from Helsinki to Nuorgam at 12.00 (noon).
- ✂ **Monday July 10th** FinLine starts by skating from Nuorgam to Utsjoki that is 45 km. During this day-trip, we will skate across the N 70° latitude. Some skaters are probably going to start their day from the Norwegian coast of the Arctic Ocean instead (total 77 km).
- ✂ **Tuesday July 11th** The trip will continue from Utsjoki to Karigasniemi, Rovisuvanto. The trip goes along the River Teno. This route is 86 km long.
- ✂ **Wednesday July 12th** We will leave the Teno behind and turn towards Muotkanruoktu. The trip is 51 km long. If the weather is nice, we will have an extra skate from Karigasniemi to the Norwegian side of the border.
- ✂ **Thursday July 13th** This day includes a 56 km skating trip to Inari. We will skate close to the round coordinates N 69.00°, E 27.00°.
- ✂ **Friday July 14th** We will close the tourney after 68 km of skating at Saariselkä, on the top of the Kaunispää fell, which is 438 m above the sea level. On Saturday morning the program has a traditional option for a sightseeing skate/walk at Saariselkä.

We will start daily at around 9–10 a.m. (UTC+3:00) and we will arrive at the destination at around 3–5 p.m. Skaters use the left side of the road when there are no cycling paths available.

Based on safety reasons we will be divided into five or six groups, in which the skating speed is around 15–25 km/h. The service bus will take care of the skaters' baggage and the drinking water. In urgent case also the skaters may use the bus (heavy rain / thunderstorm / exhaustion etc.).

More information about the FinLine-event and its 15-year history is available on Street Gliders' internet pages at www.katukiitajat.fi/english/finline. Welcome to follow our skating tourney!

For information and interviews, also during the trip:

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