



FinLine 2018

It is now time to register yourself for the no. 1 skating event in Finland

The FinLine skating event will take place next summer for the 27th time. The tradition started in 1992 with a weekend skate from Jyväskylä to Helsinki. Since then FinLine has become a one-week-event, with a different route every year.

In 2017 the FinLine skating event was celebrating the 100 years of Finland as an independent nation.

This time FinLine will be skated mostly in the Central Finland and North-Eastern Pirkanmaa. In that area, the land gradually rises and becomes hillier. At the same time, the proportion of cultivated land decreases, and forest and heath become increasingly dominant. Lakes surrounded by the forests will naturally give us unforgettable swimming experiences.

Because this year we do not have our hands tied for a specific theme or route, we will be able to optimize the day-trips better so that they will be mostly around 60...80 kilometres. This will give us more time in the evenings. We currently work on finding the best possible accommodation and spa services at reasonable price.¹

Large carnivores like wolves and brown bears will not be met while skating (hopefully), but the zoo in the city of Ähtäri is famous for the Finland's panda bears (they have just arrived there).



¹ Because you have carefully read all this praising so far, we can betray as an example that we have reserved an original Finnish **smoke sauna** for one evening (changes possible).

Other towns on route are known e.g. for open-air museums telling about the life in the area during the Stone Age and in 1800's. We will work also on finding more sights to visit while skating and during the evenings – FinLine shall be an experience not only for the body but also for the soul!

The pictures are from the actual route: Saarijärvi – Ähtäri leg of FinLine 2000, which will be skated again after 18 years.



Event Schedule

Skating on FinLine 2018 will both start from and end in Jyväskylä. The bus will start from Helsinki on Sunday morning July 8th and skating will finish in Jyväskylä on Friday July 13th. The return to Helsinki will be on Saturday July 14th with an estimated arrival time in Helsinki around 4 p.m.

Preliminary day-trips are as follows (minor changes possible):

Jyväskylä – Laukaa	35 km
Laukaa – Saarijärvi	64 km
Saarijärvi – Ähtäri	79 km
Ähtäri – Ruovesi	73 km
Ruovesi – Jämsä (Juokslahti)	85 km
Jämsä (Juokslahti) – Jyväskylä	48 km
Total	384 km

In this traditional event we are not competing against the clock, but we are enjoying the skating and the scenery. There will be skaters of varied skill and fitness levels participating and we all want to enjoy skating at speed enjoyable for ourselves. Five to seven skating groups allow you to choose the skating speed between 15 and 25 km/h. You can also change your group whenever you feel like that.

The service bus is following the skaters all the time and enables you to choose the number of skating days as well as the daily skating distance according to your feeling and weather conditions. The organizers will take care of the accommodation and meal arrangements, so you can concentrate fully on skating and enjoying sceneries.

For a detailed up-to-date version of the route map, visit:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1yTaZWuY6vDBxCAkPor_QE9PG0SA

Can I participate?

FinLine is a skating event also YOU can participate in. No previous experience of multi-day skating tours is necessary. To join the FinLine you only need to

- have experience of skating tours of 50 km – i.e. you are able to skate 50 km a day at your own speed
- enjoy a vacation week among other skaters
- be a member of Street Gliders or join Street Gliders (can be easily done at the same time when you register for the event)

What does it cost? What is included?

The participation fee is 150 €, including the services of the bus, snacks, transportation of your equipment during the skating, a technical t-shirt, and the bus transportation from Helsinki to Jyväskylä and back to Helsinki. In addition, you have to pay the membership fee 25 € of Street Gliders.

Furthermore, there are the costs of the dinners and accommodations (including breakfasts), about 40 – 70 € per day, and your own lunch and snack costs during skating.

Registration and additional information:

As we want to maintain a cosy small event feeling on FinLine and to make it easier to find accommodation for the group the number of participants is limited to 30.

You will find the registration form on our web-pages (www.katukiitajat.fi). Many of us have already reserved their places on the event but a few seats are still left.

To confirm your registration you need to pay Street Gliders' membership fee 25 € and the registration fee 150 € (+ possible bank charges). Do not lose this opportunity!

Please instruct your bank to forward payment orders through:

Bank: Nordea Bank Finland Plc
Swift code (BIC): NDEAFIHH
In favour of: Katukiitajät ry
IBAN: FI2521851800032949

If you have any questions, please contact info@katukiitajat.fi or directly the organizing team members:

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*Hope to see you next summer!
The FinLine organizing team*