



Vaasan yliopisto
UNIVERSITY OF VAASA



Practical tips on travelling to Finland and to the University of Vaasa

X-Culture Symposium, 2025



Welcome to X-Culture Symposium 2025!

You will find below several things to consider when travelling to Finland and to the University of Vaasa for the X-Culture Symposium.

Please remember that these are recommendations for you to consider, the University of Vaasa organizing team cannot be held responsible for misuse or misinterpretation of the below recommendations.

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1 Obtaining a Visa

To travel to and within Finland for the duration of the X-Culture 2025 Symposium, you **may** need to obtain a Schengen visa, which is an entry permit for a short, temporary visit of less than 90 days. The main webpages to find the information on visa are:

- <https://migri.fi/en/visiting-finland>
- <https://um.fi/visa-to-visit-finland>

but a few additional answers and links are already provided for you hereafter.

Do I need a visa?

A visa might not be necessary for you depending on your nationality; to check whether you need a visa or not, consult this page: <https://um.fi/visa-to-visit-finland/do-i-need-a-visa-?>

How can I apply for a visa?

If you need to apply for a visa, this webpage will inform you on the necessary steps: <https://um.fi/visa-to-visit-finland/where-and-how-to-apply-for-a-visa-?>

Is there country-specific information to know?

Yes, you will find country-specific information via this link: <https://finlandabroad.fi/frontpage>. Additionally, the country-specific instructions and document requirements can be found on the Finland Visa webpage: <https://finlandvisa.fi/>.

Is a visa all I need to enter the country?

Once you will arrive in Finland, the conditions will be re-evaluated, it is called the *entry-check*, please make sure to read through the entry-check online: <https://um.fi/visa-to-visit-finland/entry-check> and are aware of what to expect when you will enter Finland.

The application form, processing fees and any other required documents are handled only by the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs; the University of Vaasa and the symposium organizing team in Finland does not have a role in obtaining a visa, is not responsible for visas and cannot provide additional help on the matter. Any questions, guidance, etc. related to the visa acquirement must be directly directed to the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Finnish Immigration Service.

You may also want to review:

- The FAQ about travel from the Finnish Border Guard: <https://raja.fi/en/frequently-asked-questions-about-travel>
- The guidelines for travelers from the Finnish Border Guard: <https://raja.fi/en/guidelines-for-travellers>

2 Travelling to Finland

Travelling to Finland is made easy with airports all around the country, and easy connecting flights within Finland.

The X-Culture Symposium will be held in the city of Vaasa located on the Western coast of Finland. The city has its own airport: Vaasa Airport, where you can land to attend the symposium. Apart from Vaasa Airport, the easiest airports for you to arrive would be: Helsinki Airport, Oulu Airport, Tampere Airport or Turku airport. From each of these airports you are able to commute to Vaasa easily via domestic flight, train, or bus.

Below is a quick view of the airports' locations.





3 Travelling to Vaasa

If your plane lands in Vaasa, please refer to the section 3: Moving within the city of Vaasa.

If your plane lands elsewhere than in Vaasa Airport directly, you can reach Vaasa three ways:

- **via domestic flight from where you land to Vaasa airport**, for example you can check flights from Finnair, the national airline: <https://www.finnair.com/fin-en/destinations/europe/finland/vaasa>
- **via train, from the city you landed to Vaasa Railway Station**, Finland's only train line is called VR: <https://www.vr.fi/> all trains are found there.
- **by bus, from the city you landed to Vaasa Bus Station (also called: Vaasa linja-autoasema)**, for example you can review these two companies: <https://www.onnibus.com/home> or <https://reittiopas.matkahuolto.fi/?locale=en>

4 Moving within the city of Vaasa

When getting to Vaasa you can commute to the city-center easily.

If you reach Vaasa by train or by bus, the stations are located in the center, so you are already in the city center.

If you arrive to Vaasa Airport, you can commute to the center two ways:

- **by public transport:** The bus line 4 will take you from the airport to the city center easily, more details via the link: <https://www.finavia.fi/en/airports/vaasa/parking-access/public-transport>
- **by taxi:** There are taxis in front of the terminal, or you can use one of the free hotlines inside the airport terminal to call one if the taxi line is empty. Check the link for more details: <https://www.finavia.fi/en/airports/vaasa/parking-access/taxis>

When in Vaasa, moving within the city is easy and quick. You can move around:

- **by public transport**

You can use the interactive map for Vaasa city public transports to move around in the city easily and for cheaper: <https://vaasa.digitransit.fi/?locale=en> (enter your departure

and arrival place or use your location and it will find the easiest way to reach your destination).

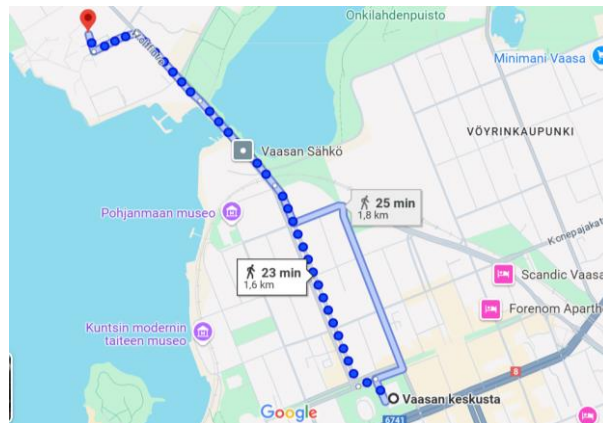
- by taxi: <https://www.taksivaasa.fi/en/>
- by walk

Vaasa is a walkable city where you can easily walk from one place to another. Google maps is your friend to walk around and within the city-center. [Link to google maps.](#)

5 Getting to the University of Vaasa campus

The University of Vaasa campus is located within walking distance of the city-center, you may reach the campus by walk, bus or taxi. The visiting address is: **Wolffintie 32, 65200 Vaasa.**

→ **Get there by walk:** Walking from the city center takes approx. 20-25 minutes. Below is a quick view of the route to the campus. To access this view on Maps, mark your starting point (below: Vaasa city-center) and University of Vaasa or the university address as the destination.



→ **Get there by bus:** Take buses n° 1, 2 or 4. Access the [timetables and routes at digitransit.fi](#).

→ **Get there by car:** Parking areas are indicated with a P. There are places for students and guests near Tervahovi, Technobothnia and Fabriikki buildings. Be careful where you park, some areas are reserved for the staff and you will receive a fine for parking in the wrong area.



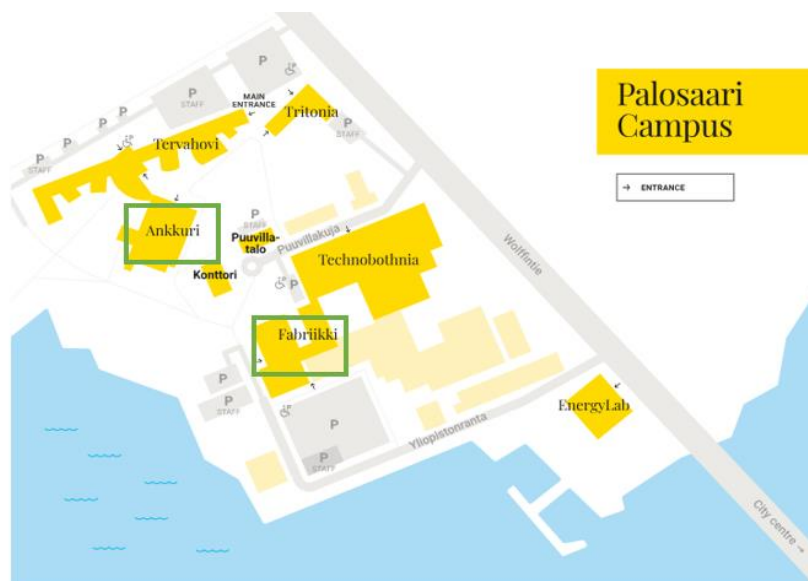
More information on the university's webpage for visitors:
<https://www.uwasa.fi/en/university/welcome>

6 Getting around on campus

Within the campus, you can walk or bike easily. And maps of the campus can be found in several places, inside and outside the buildings.

The information desks are located in the lobby of two buildings (in green on the map below):

- in the lobby of Ankkuri, the address is: Yliopistonranta 7
- in the lobby of Fabriikki, the address is: Yliopistonranta 10





Please note that each building has its own opening hours, you must make sure you are aware of the hours during which you can access and leave the facilities.

The opening hours of the buildings are:

- **Tervahovi** on weekdays at 8.00 – 21.00, sat. 12.00 – 16.00, sun. closed
- **Fabriikki** on weekdays at 8.00 – 18.00, closed on weekends
- **Ankkuri** on weekdays at 8.00 – 18.00, closed on weekends
- **Tritonia** (library) – Opening hours accessible online: <https://www.tritonia.fi/en>

7 Tips on clothing

During the summer, from June through August, Finnish weather can be warm, moist, and rainy. But, Finnish summer is also as bright in the evenings and night as it is in the morning and the day. Finnish summer is often called the Season of the Midnight Sun. Visit Finland has a few informative FAQ at the bottom of this webpage: <https://www.visitfinland.com/en/things-to-do/summer/> that you could review.

Below are a few recommendations on what to bring along, but you may want to check online how the weather look like right before your arrival by visiting the webpage of the Finnish Meteorological Institute: <https://en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/weather/vaasa>, because the Finnish summer temperature may not be what you are used to; for instance in the summer the highest average ranges between 22° and 27° Celsius.

August is known to be one of the rainiest months in Finland, but it will also be bright all day long so a few good things to remember:

- take an umbrella or a light rain coat
- a wind coat might be useful as Vaasa is located on the Western coast
- take sunscreen and sunglasses
- plan to dress according to the activity or the dress code
- bring along waterproof shoes

But, do not worry if you forget something you will be able to find several shops in the city-center of Vaasa where you will be able to get what you are missing.



8 Good things to think about

Bring your camera! If you are a photograph-enthusiast, Vaasa will offer you incredible landscape, unique winter-wonderland and beauty for your camera to capture. Make sure you take a few minutes during your stay to go outside, and capture the sun and pretty views of Vaasa.

Have fun! It is about the fun and gathering of people, so if you have some time walk to see the seaside views (please make sure beforehand that it is allowed – always check the signage!), walk around the building and discover the University campus.

Taste the Finnish delicacies! In town like in the University of Vaasa, the restaurants will offer you traditional Finnish foods as well as international meals, don't be scared and try it out.

9 Useful links

Find below a non-exhaustive list of links you could find useful during your stay:

- City of Vaasa: <https://www.vaasa.fi/en/>
- Visit Finland: <https://www.visitfinland.com/en/>
- Vaasa weather forecast : <https://en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/local-weather/vaasa>
- University of Vaasa NewsHub : <https://www.uwasa.fi/en/newshub>
- Seasons in Finland, what it is like: <https://en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/seasons-in-finland>
- For your visa
 - <https://migri.fi/en/visiting-finland>
 - <https://um.fi/visa-to-visit-finland>