

フィンランド  
SUOMI  
FINLAND



EXPO  
2005 AICHI  
JAPAN



SUOMEN KANSALLISPÄIVÄ  
12.05.2005

THE FINNISH NATIONAL DAY  
May 12th 2005



## Greetings by Prime Minister of Finland

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the National Day of Finland at the 2005 World Exposition in Aichi. In the best spirit of earlier World Expositions the Aichi Expo 2005 provides an opportunity for countries and regions to showcase their achievements in various walks of life under a common call for sustainable development. The theme of the EXPO, Nature's Wisdom is most timely, indeed. Finland is happy to participate in the joint effort of the Nordic countries to display the Nordic way of "slow life", a harmony of nature and high technology.

Last year marked the 85th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Japan and Finland. Japan was one of the first countries in the world to recognise Finland as a sovereign state after our independence in December, 1917.

The year was characterised by several bilateral high level visits. The most notable was the official working visit by the President of the Republic, Ms. Tarja Halonen to Japan in October. That was also reciprocal to the visit of Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor and the Empress in the year 2000.

I am happy to note this excellent state of our relations as well as the enlargement of these relations to new fields. In the political sphere Finland and Japan share the same values. Both countries stress the importance of multilateral cooperation in finding answers to global challenges.

We in Finland feel a certain affinity towards Japan. Being a country of forests and lakes, it goes without saying that we are a country of nature lovers, just like the Japanese are – amid your vast urban surroundings. We both respect silence and humility in manners, in order to better be in tune with Nature's Wisdom.

Finland offers ample opportunities for tourism for the nature loving Japanese. Our landscape - a mixture of forests and lakes - and our unique archipelago, our wilderness and modern cities, our four seasons and aurora, fascinate thousands after thousands European and Asian travellers and we are ready to host more. The land of the Moomin and Santa Claus warmly welcomes our Japanese friends.

As our third largest trading partner outside of the European Union, Japan is important to us commercially. Finland has also a lot to offer for Japanese investors. Our economy ranks consistently among the most competitive in the world. Finland also has an excellent infrastructure, high quality human capital and transparent regulatory environment. In addition, Japanese companies have a great deal to benefit from our location as a gateway to the European Union and to some of the most promising emerging markets to the east of our borders.

In the same vein Japan offers many opportunities for Finland. With a touch of creativity, opportunities to expand commercial and investment relations are plentiful. A good example is the Sendai Finland Wellbeing Center; a bilateral project realised in co-operation with public and private entities from both countries. The successful launch a few weeks ago paves the way for further expansion of our cooperation in this field.

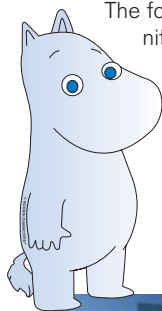
Finland congratulates the EXPO organisers for creating a spell-binding World Exposition in the hospitable fashion Japan is well known for. I invite you to visit the Nordic Pavilion hoping you will find our contribution inspirational and meaningful. I also encourage you to extend your experience from here at the EXPO, by personally visiting Finland to see and feel our way of life.

*Matti Vanhanen*  
*Prime Minister of Finland*

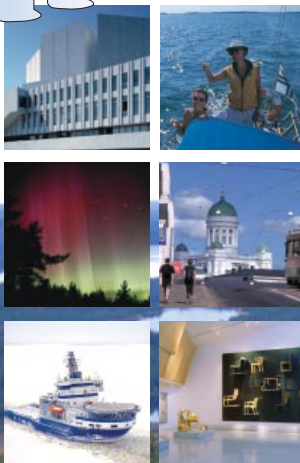
# Finland

Finland is best known for its clean and beautiful nature. For being such a small country, it is quite diverse. The landscape alternates between the seascapes in the southern archipelago, through the dense forests of Central Finland all the way to the treeless fjelds of Lapland. Our winters are cold and our summers are pleasantly warm. The basic elements of this land and the differences between seasons have influenced our way of life throughout history.

Finland is one of the most competitive countries in the world. The Finns who are building the information society of the 21st century still consider education to be one of the factors behind the success that Finland has enjoyed. Free basic education and internationally recognized universities create the conditions necessary to answer the challenges of the future. No wonder that Finland has transformed itself in record time from a nation dependent on natural resources to a knowledge-based economy that also takes good care of its citizens and environment.



The forest, a "green treasure chest", created the opportunity for Finland to industrialize. At first, tar and lumber, followed by paper and cellulose, have been important exports. Even today, the forest still provides jobs and a livelihood for thousands of Finns. Technology has emerged, however, as Finland's most important export sector. Finland is a significant hi-tech country that bears long-range fruit; the Finnish, global technology success story lives and is doing fine now and certainly in the future.



**Surface area:** 338,000 km<sup>2</sup>, of which 10% is bodies of water and 69% forest, with 187,888 lakes

**Population:** 5.2 million inhabitants, 17 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>

**Capital:** Helsinki

**Other large cities:** Espoo, Tampere, Vantaa, Turku, Oulu

**Languages:** Finnish and Swedish

**Religions:** 85.6% Evangelical Lutheran, approximately 1% Russian Orthodox

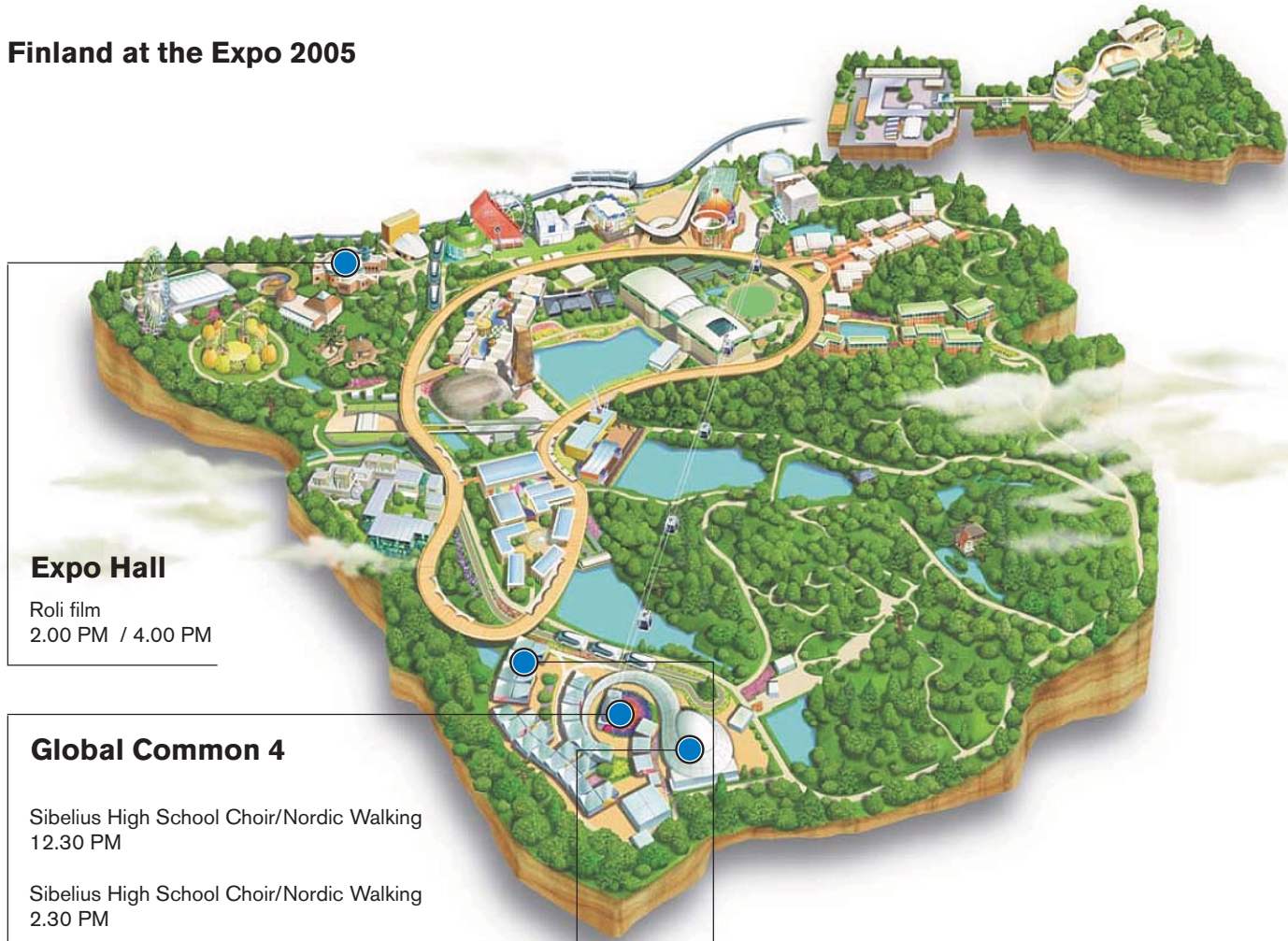
**Most important export sectors:** electronics 27.5%, machinery and metal 27.1%, forestry industry 26.5%, chemical industry 12%

"The power of a small nation is in its culture," stated J.V. Snellman, Finnish philosopher and statesman. Thus, Finland is a strong country. Our country's cultural life and art is marked by boldness, intellectual curiosity, expansiveness and the passion to create something new. Our geographical location on the border of two cultural spheres has provided Finland with a subtle and rich spiritual legacy. Our architecture and design have been widely recognized for its quality, functionality and simplified beauty. Finnish art has traditionally had room to experiment, suggest and even play.



The Fenno-Ugric peoples have often been called the waterfowl nation. Maybe because, in the ancient ways and beliefs of our ancestors, waterfowl were extremely significant. It is also said that he who has inherited the heart of a waterfowl lives in peace with nature, people and himself.

# Finland at the Expo 2005



## Expo Hall

Roli film  
2.00 PM / 4.00 PM

## Global Common 4

Sibelius High School Choir/Nordic Walking  
12.30 PM

Sibelius High School Choir/Nordic Walking  
2.30 PM

## Expo Dome

Open ceremonies for the National Day  
11.00 AM – 12.00 PM

Jazz & Folk music  
Trio Töykeät, Kähärä/Kuusisto  
3.00 PM – 4.00 PM



OASIS IN THE NORTH  
FIVE NORDIC COUNTRIES / EXPO 2005 / AICHI / JAPAN

## Nordic Pavilion

The pavilion is open  
9.00 AM – 9.00 PM



## Trio Töykeät

Trio Töykeät has played more than 2,000 concerts in 43 countries and visited five of the seven continents. Last year, Trio Töykeät played in 15 countries and their tour abroad continues this year. The countries that Trio Töykeät visits the most are Japan, South Korea, Australia, Germany, Denmark, the Benelux countries and Norway.

Trio Töykeät was founded "almost by accident" in 1988. Its lineup of **Iiro Rantala** on piano, **Rami Eskelinen** on drums and **Eerik Siikasaari** on bass) has been the same since the beginning, except for the first two months they were together. Trio Töykeät has published 4 CDs to date, including Finland's best-selling jazz recording. Trio Töykeät has had the pleasure of working with such soloists as Rick Margitza, Jaakko and Pekka Kuusisto, Lew Soloff, Cornell Dupree, Helena Juntunen and Marzi Nyman over the years. In 1995, the group was selected to be the world's first UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador.



## Anna-Mari Kähärä and Pekka Kuusisto

**Anna-Mari Kähärä** is a composer, a pianist and singer that has been acting as the driving force behind the How Many Sisters group, Zetaboo, etc. Her work as a producer, director, composer and arranger in a variety of musical projects has spanned several different genres. In 2002, she received the Yrjö Award from the Finnish Jazz Union and the Suomi Award of Arts.

**Pekka Kuusisto** won the Jean Sibelius Violin Competition in 1995 as the first Finn to do so. After that he established himself internationally as a remarkable concert violinist. He is a regular guest soloist with several symphony orchestras, renowned for his chamber music and as a concert soloist. Kuusisto changes styles and genres without bias. For jazz, he is recognized as having collaborated with Trio Töykeät and he has even ventured into rock music with his electric violin. Kuusisto plays folk music, as well, with his Luomu Players band.

These two broad-minded musicians started to create music together at the turn of the millennium. Their repertoire includes both Kähärä's and Kuusisto's compositions and arrangements, oftentimes with their performances merrily skipping off down uncharted paths due to improvisation.



## A Cappella Group Rajaton

Rajaton is an a cappella group that was established in the fall of 1997 with six singers. Rajaton has, in a short time, risen to the top internationally and is a pioneer in introducing Finns to a cappella music.

Rajaton has performed both at jazz festivals and in churches, singing everything from spiritual music to pop. Group members include **Essi Wuorela** (soprano), **Virpi Moskari** (soprano), **Soila Sariola** (alto), **Jussi Chydenius** (bass), **Hannu Lepola** (tenor) and **Ahti Paunu** (baritone). The musical backgrounds of the singers range from classical to folk music, pop and rock. From this is born the genuinely unique sound that is Rajaton.

The most recent proof of Rajaton's growing popularity is Joulu, their album that was published at the end of 2003. It contains both new and old Christmas carols and made its way to second place on the Finnish charts, selling gold.



## Sibelius High School Choir

A lot of sound, songs, laughter and a love for music. Mix these together and you get the Sibelius High School Choir. This choir is composed of both current and former members and has been directed for years by **Marjukka Riihimäki**.

The choir's repertoire includes works by Finnish composers and beloved Finnish folk songs.