Espoo's finest year shows our true potential

Espoo holds a well-established position among the top three congress cities in Finland. Our strengths on the conference market are a short distance to the capital and the main airport, a renowned and highly-rated university of technology and a highly educated populace. What's more, public safety in Espoo is nothing short of reassuring, and the beautiful archipelago and pristine natural surroundings are accessible to all. The very same reasons have led many international companies to establish their headquarters in Espoo, such as mobile phone giant Nokia and lift-maker Kone.

2006 was the best ever congress year for Espoo with about 60 international conferences attended by nearly 9,000 conference guests. The number of conferences increased by 40 percent and that of conference guests by 120 percent compared to the year before. While this success was assisted to some degree by EU meetings and the Housing Fair, it gives an excellent indication of our real capabilities and the shape of things to come. We in Espoo are only just beginning to realize our true potential.

Jaana Tuomi
Managing Director
Espoo Convention & Marketing



ESPOO CONVENTION & MARKETING
Member of FCB, ICCA, EFCT

Espoo Convention & Marketing News 1/2007. The next issue, 2/2007, will be released in October.

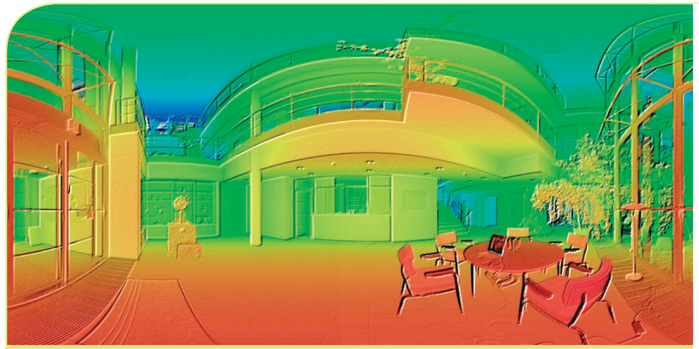
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Laser scanning researchers, developers and appliers BEAM DOWN IN ESPOO

The international laser scanning community will have its full attention focused on Espoo this September when the city hosts two conferences – the ISPRS Workshop on Laser Scanning 2007 and SilviLaser 2007, arranged by the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. The local organizers are the Helsinki University of Technology Institute of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, and the Finnish Geodetic Institute.

"Espoo is well connected, the home of one of the organizers and itself an advanced city in the utilization of laser scanning. As a venue, HUT's Dipoli Congress Centre is hard to beat due to its technical facilities and experience from similar events," says Professor Juha Hyyppä from the Finnish Geodetic Institute, who is Chairman of the Scientific Committee for the conferences as well as the local organizer.

A field of rapid development

100 to 150 researchers, system and application developers and end-users are expected to attend the two events. Juha Hyyppä predicts attendance not only from the Nordic countries and the rest of Europe but also from the United States and Japan.

"Laser scanning is a good example of a rather young field of technology where new commercial applications continuously emerge hand in hand with developments in research. Everyone involved is interested in finding out about the latest advances," Hyyppä explains.

Laser scanning produces a 3D model of an area or object. Applications of the technology include structural surveys, reverse engineering – that is producing a CAD model of an existing object – the study and preservation of cultural heritage sites and valuable artefacts, and the creation of digital 3D worlds for film and video games. Laser scanning equipment can also be attached to an aeroplane or helicopter to generate digital 3D models of terrain and cities, and to monitor power lines, detect coastal zone change and carry out forest inventories to name but a few examples.

Finnish strengths in the field include forest measurement as well as algorithms and software for laser scanning applications. Standwise forest inventories in Finland will be carried out using laser scanning by the year 2010.

To the forest!

A conference isn't a conference without a social programme. The City of Espoo is to host a reception for the ISPRS conference delegates at the WeeGee Exhibition Centre.

"We're also planning a nature trip to the Nuuksio National Park. The idea is to explore the area using maps produced by laser scanning," Hyyppä reveals.

www.foto.hut.fi/ls2007/

Honouring the gastronomy of THE FINNISH ARCHIPELAGO

A warm summer's day or evening, the sea glittering in the sun and small waves lapping at the shore – the perfect time to enjoy a relaxing meal at Restaurant Paven. This idyllic summer restaurant operates in a club house dating from 1913 and owned by the Esbo Segelförening yacht club, set on the eastern shore of Pentala island in the Espoonlahti bay.

"The restaurant aspires to honour the gastronomy of the Finnish archipelago," explains Paven's restaurateur and Chef de Cuisine, Kenneth Oker-Blom. "We prepare high-quality Finnish archipelago foods from fresh local ingredients in a modern style."

Fish is delivered to the restaurant straight from the catch by local fishermen, and mushrooms and berries are picked the same morning. All dishes are self-prepared from the start. True to tradition, the restaurant's menu follows the seasons.

"Nettles are first on the menu in early spring, followed by rhubarb and later by new potatoes and fresh strawberries. Late summer is the season for crayfish and peas in the pod. We believe we can offer the best culinary experiences by serving nature's seasonal best," Oker-Blom says.

Re-established with its present summer restaurant concept in 2005, Paven quickly gained a crowd of loyal regulars as well as popularity as a venue for weddings, company events and other functions. Visitors can arrive with their own boats or have the restaurant arrange transportation from various locations in Espoo or the centre of Helsinki. Details of the restaurant's opening hours and how to make a reservation will be available later in the season on Paven's website.

www.paven.fi



17th Race around Suursaari island

Finland's biggest offshore yacht race, the Volvo Suursaari Race, sets off for the 17th time on the evening of Friday 8 June. The fastest racers should reach the finishing line during the night between Saturday and Sunday.

Approximately 160 yachts are expected to participate in the race around Suursaari island, which was part of Finland until the Second World War and is today on the Russian side of the border. The race starts and finishes in front of the Mellsten beach in Espoo's Haukilahti district.

www.volvosuursaarirace.fi

ESPOO FROM THE SEA

Guided sea trips in the summertime open a whole new perspective on Espoo for locals and visitors alike.

"Just a few hours on the waves are enough to experience the archipelago's unique natural beauty and see Espoo's architectural extremes – from 19th century fishermen's cabins and villas to the palace-like corporate headquarters of today. It's a great way to learn about the region's fascinating history," says Mari Nevalainen, awarded guide and guide trainer whose company Manoris Travel is responsible for the thematic sea trips in Espoo's archipelago together with boat companies.

Espoo has 58 kilometres of shoreline and 165 islands which have for centuries provided a magnificent setting for living, work and leisure time. The hard life of local fishermen was a stark contrast to the idle life of rich and famous summer residents, not to mention the adventures of some of Finland's most famous rogues.

"Even the court of Tsar Alexander III, a keen fisherman, visited the islands a few times. And during Finland's prohibition, the sheltered, shallow waters of the archipelago made Espoo the favoured route of smugglers," Nevalainen explains.

This summer's scheduled thematic sea trips focus on the visits made by the Tsar and his family and the archipelago during prohibition. Scheduled three-hour trips leave every Monday at 5.30 p.m. from Otaniemi's Otaranta quay. Guidance is provided in Finnish and English. The journey includes an hour's stopover on Iso Vasikkasaari, one of Espoo's most interesting



islands, where sightseers can relax a while in a café and restaurant in a historic setting.

Excursions can also be tailored according to a particular group's interests and schedule, and chartered trips are available with guidance in a wide range of languages.

www.espootravel.com

Take to the sea for lunch or dinner!

Royal Line arranges thematic lunch and dinner cruises in the Espoo archipelago, departing from the Haukilahti quay. Step onboard the new vessel, m/s RoyalCat, to enjoy lush archipelago scenery with exciting stories and a menu to match.

www.royalline.fi



www.c-trek.net

Adventures at sea with C-Trek

C-Trek's sea adventures offer unforgettable moments in the Gulf of Finland for first-timers and old salts alike. Sea adventures are tailored all year round to fit in with busy congress schedules or provide a full day's activity.

A wide range of programme alternatives is made possible by a combination of solid experience and a stout fleet, which includes British-built Tornado rigid inflatable boats, a fast and extremely seaworthy Targa 37 and Swedish-built Hägglunds all-terrain vehicles.

The latest from our partners in cooperation

Espoo enjoys ITS BEST VISITOR YEAR OF ALL TIME

2006 was the best year ever for Espoo's visitor trade. The number of nights spent in accommodation facilities reached a new record, as did the number of conference guests. In addition to commendable work by everyone involved, reasons for this success included Finland's EU presidency, the Espoo Housing Fair, an increase in business travel and the summer's exceptionally good weather.

The number of nights spent at accommodation facilities increased by more than 30,000 compared to 2005, reaching a total of 370,557. Visitors from abroad spent 20 percent more nights. Of foreign nationalities, most nights in Espoo were spent by Russian followed by Chinese, German, Swedish and British nationals.



The number of conferences in 2006 increased by 40 percent compared to the year previous. 59 conferences were arranged by international organizations, 7 of which were EU meetings. The number of conference guests increased by 120 percent to a total of 8,620.

In general, conferences are drawn to Espoo by the high scientific level and top researchers at Helsinki University of Technology, an excellent location in the capital region, the proximity of nature and the sea, and the high level of services refined to meet the needs of Espoo-based international companies.

RAIJA ÁCS
New Hotel Manager of Scandic Espoo

BSc (Hospitality Management) and eMBA Raija Ács has been appointed Hotel Manager of Scandic Espoo, starting in her new role in the beginning of October last year. She had been employed by the company since 2000, as Hotel Manager at Scandic Continental.

NINA PELTOLA
New Sales Manager at Hotel Korpilampi



Nina Peltola has been appointed Sales Manager at Hotel Korpilampi starting from 2 January. She was previously employed in sales tasks with Tallink.

JARI GUVENIUS
New Hotel Manager of Sodexho Hotels

BSc (Hospitality Management), SMB Jari Guvenius has been appointed as the new Hotel Manager of Sodexho Hotel Kuninkaantie and Sodexho Hotel Matinlahti. Guvenius has been employed in various managerial tasks at Sodexho for nearly a decade.

International congresses in Espoo

www.espootravel.com

Mar 28–30 230 delegates	SVEPM Society of Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine, *Dipoli Congress Centre*
May 24–25 200 delegates	Environmental Management Accounting Network EMAN *Helsinki University of Technology, TUAS building*
Jun 14–15 100 delegates	6th Conference on Telecommunication – Techno-Economics CTTE07, *Dipoli Congress Centre*
Jun 18–20 50 delegates	SCANDEM 2007, *Helsinki University of Technology*
Jun 23–24 100 delegates	Nordic Process Control Workshop, *Helsinki University of Technology*
Sep 12–14 150 delegates	ISPRS Workshop Laser Scanning 2007, *Helsinki University of Technology*

The above lists information that has the organizers' consent for publication, possessed by Espoo Convention & Marketing, regarding forthcoming international congresses. The estimated number of attendants is printed in red.



What's on in Espoo
Exhibitions and Events

Apr 25 – May 1	April Jazz Espoo in Tapiola
May 18–20	Street and Show Dancing Finnish Championships at the Länsi-Auto Areena
May 26 – Sep 2	Nordic Artist Couples, an exhibition at the Gallen-Kallela Museum
Jun 4	Nice Run, women's running event in Tapiola
Jun 7 – Aug 30	Organ Night and Aria at Espoo Cathedral and the Tapiola Church
Jun 8–10	Volvo Suursaari Race
Jun 9	Garden market at the Marketanpuisto park
Aug 21–26	Espoo Ciné film festival in Tapiola
Sep 9	eCross cross-country running event in Leppävaara
Oct 12–21	9th Espoo International Piano Festival in Tapiola

Further information about these and other events can be found from our website at **www.espootravel.com**

APRIL JAZZ ESPOO
comes of age



The first major music festival of springtime in Finland will be celebrated at the end of April, when April Jazz Espoo takes place for the 21st time. This biggest annual jazz event in the capital region gathers friends from the length and breadth of Finland to enjoy an unforgettable combination of good company and fine music.

Principal artists set to appear at the Espoo Cultural Centre include a number of top names in the jazz world, headed by rapidly rising New York star vocalist Andy Bey, the long-established sounds of Archie Shepp together with leading jazz chanteuse Mina Agossi, the masterful a cappella work of Sweden's Real Group, the Manu Dunkel Quartet & Rick Margitza, and the surprising music of Birdy Nam Nam from France.

Leading Finnish performers will include ethnomusical recording artists Värttinä, the new and distinctive Korpi Ensemble, the Five Corners Quintet, the Alexi Tuomarila Trio, the extraordinary Marzi and friends and the Tapiola Sinfonietta with a traditional Mayday concert.

April Jazz Espoo
25 April – 1 May
www.apriljazz.fi

A FEAST OF SOPRANOS
at the Organ Night and Aria



The Organ Night and Aria festival returns this summer with the best of vocal and organ music. The festival will open with a recital by Jorma Hynninen at the mediaeval Espoo Cathedral on June 7, and culminate in a recital by Soile Isokoski at Tapiola Church on August 30.

Other singers due to appear at night-time concerts on each festival Thursday include Helena Juntunen, Dilbèr, Topi Lehtipuu, Heikki Siukola and Markus Nieminen. The organists will include Sibelius Academy organ professors Kari Jussila and Olli Porthan, and Kalevi Kiviniemi, Jan Lehtola and Harri Viitanen.

The main feature this summer will be Handel's Messiah. Russian song will be celebrated by soprano Olga Trifonova, who is one of the leading soloists of the Mariinsky Theatre in St Petersburg.

Other guests from abroad at the festival will be organist of Sainte Trinité in Paris Carolyn Shuster Fournier, and Baroque harp player Andrew Lawrence-King.

Organ Night and Aria June 7 to August 30, Thursdays at 10 p.m. at Espoo Cathedral or Tapiola Church.

www.urkuyofestival.fi

MEET SALVADOR DALI
and the paper dolls at WeeGee

Five museums, a modern art gallery, a media-art centre, an art school and a café and museum shop are to be found under one roof at the WeeGee House in Tapiola.

This spring's featured artists at EMMA – the Espoo Museum of Modern Art – are Raimo Utriainen, Igor and Svetlana Kopystiansky and Mari Sunna. The summer exhibition between 6 June and 26 August will display work by Antoni Tàpies. EMMA's autumn season will open with an exhibition of works by Salvador Dali, from 3 October to 16 December.

Espoo City Museum's exhibition on the life of the aristocracy in the 19th century, 'Aurora Karamzin and the Stages of Power', will be on display until 3 June. The textile tradition of the Indonesian islands Java and Sumba is the theme at the ethnographic Helinä Rautavaara Museum this spring and summer. The Finnish Museum of Horology is exhibiting wristwatch and clock forgeries, while the Finnish Toy Museum, Leikkilinna, will be focusing on a display of paper dolls.

www.weegee.fi

In the next issue 2/2007
to be released in October

you can read more about autumn highlights including the Salvador Dali exhibition at the Espoo Museum of Modern Art EMMA, the 9th Espoo International Piano Festival and the grand opening of the refurbished Conference Hotel Meripuisto – as well as the forthcoming events related to Espoo's 550th anniversary year in 2008.

How to reach Espoo:
By plane: Helsinki-Vantaa airport, approx. 30 min. drive from Tapiola
By boat: Helsinki seaports: South Harbour and West Harbour, approx. 15 min. drive from Tapiola.
Ferry destinations: Sweden, Estonia and Germany



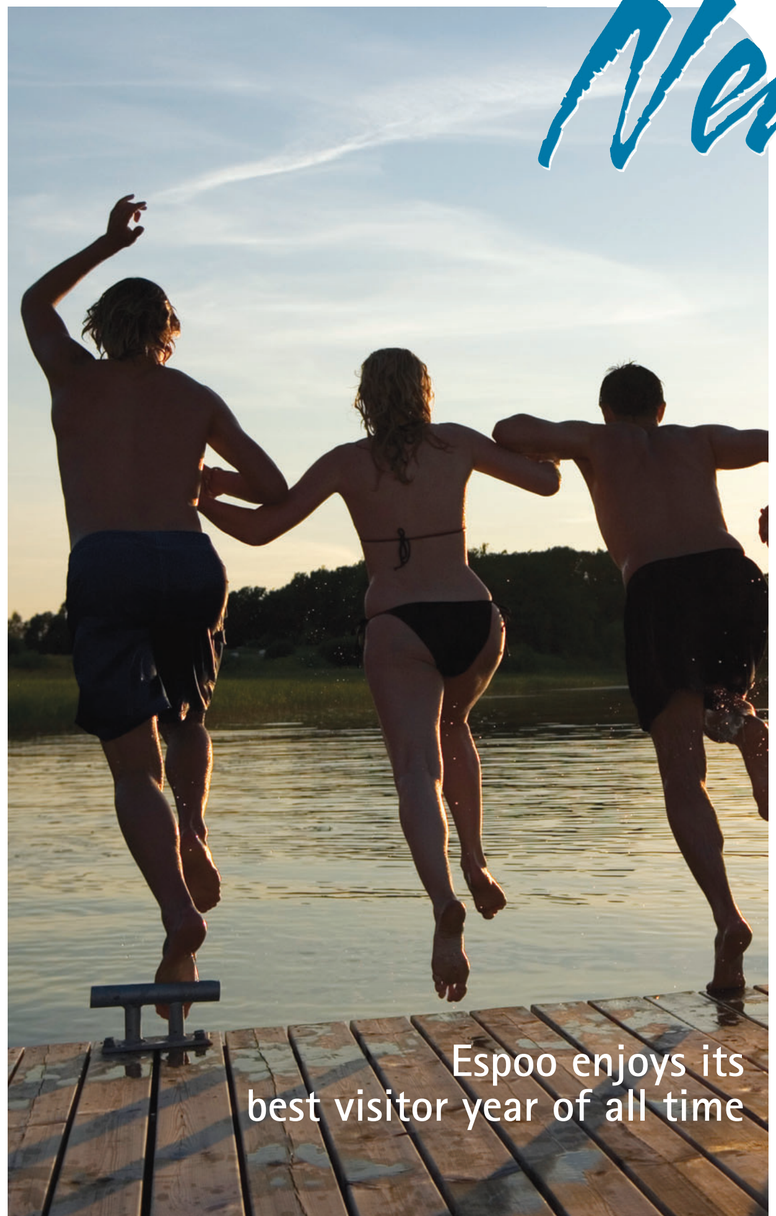
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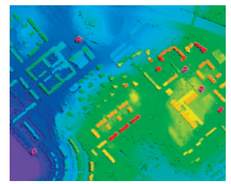
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Espoo Convention & Marketing News



Espoo enjoys its best visitor year of all time



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