

YOUTH CENTRE  
**Marttinen**

**YOUTH CENTRE MARTTINEN**

– Experiences, companionship and equality!

**DISCRIMINATION FREE ZONE**

– We take part in the campaign against discrimination.



# MARTTINEN

## – YOUTH CENTRE AND CAMP RICH IN EXPERIENCES

Marttinen is one of the youth centres funded and overseen by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture. Our diverse youth centre is situated in beautiful scenery in Virrat, Central Finland. Marttinen is 100 km from both Tampere and Seinäjoki, 115 km from Jyväskylä and just 270 km from Helsinki. Marttinen is a pleasant and safe environment for camps, courses, training and other events the year round.

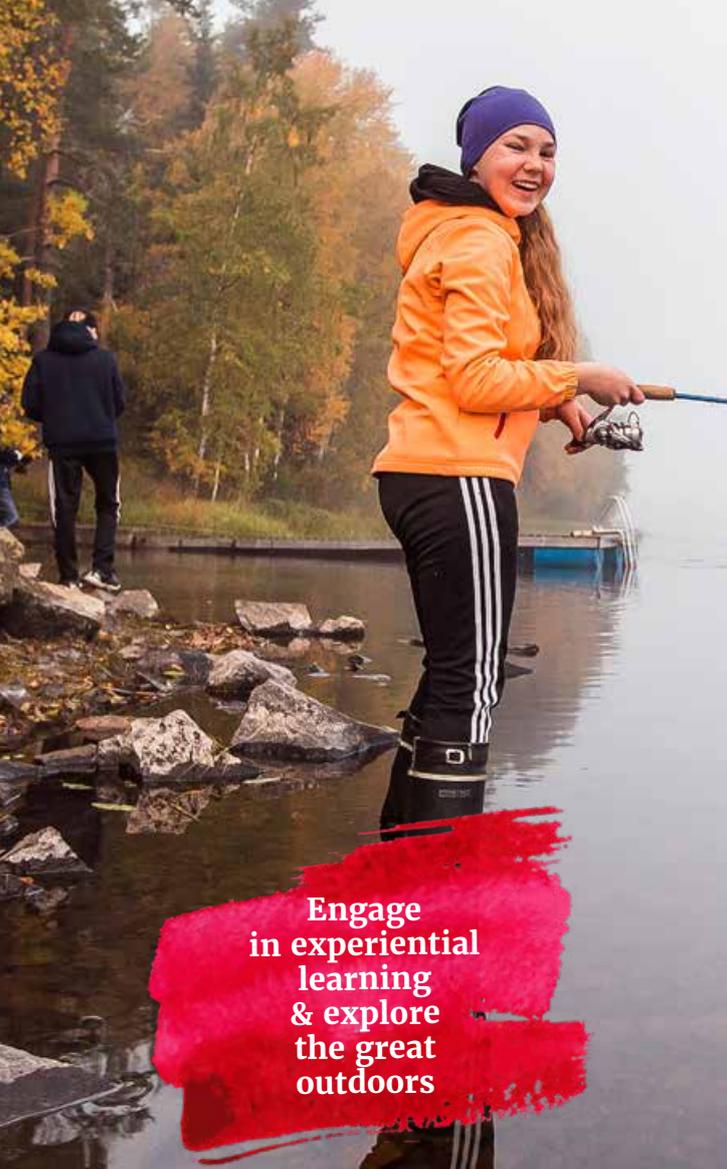
Our over 20 years of experience in organising camps and school trips guarantee a high-quality and diverse experience for your group. We offer guided activities

with our youth work professionals and opportunities for independent activities.

The historic milieu at Youth Centre Marttinen is home to both modern facilities for hosting larger camps, seminars, conferences and training events as well as esteemed and picturesque venues for weddings and other important days.

We also provide hotel and log cabin accommodation for up to nearly 200 guests, and our catering kitchen offers professional menus for both conferences and parties.





## WE ARE COMMITTED TO VALUES HELD IMPORTANT BY CHILDREN AND YOUTH:

### **EQUALITY AND COMPANIONSHIP**

No matter what our differences, we are all equal. We believe in promoting equality through our environment and actions. Together, we engage in shared activities and promote companionship and solidarity between children and youth on their own terms. We fight against bullying and support our friends.

### **RICH IN EXPERIENCES AND DIVERSITY**

All of us yearn for adventures and new experiences. Diverse activities, learning new and closeness with nature are important to us. New experiences allow us to learn new skills and take a break from everyday life.

### **INCLUSION**

Our voices are heard, and our opinions hold real weight. We are genuinely included and engaged in organising the centre's activities.

### **SAFETY**

We want to feel safe in a comfortable environment, where daily activities are consistent and predictable and our voices are heard.

**Engage  
in experiential  
learning  
& explore  
the great  
outdoors**

Youth Centre Marttinen is one of the 9 national youth centres in Finland. The Finnish youth centres are residential educational facilities for organizing courses, camps and other youth work activities, acting also as leisure time centres that are specialised in youth activities. The main aim of our centre is to provide and support quality youth work in the region, working tightly together with different regional, national and international partners. Marttinen develops and implements youth work methodology (such as social youth work, adventure pedagogics, school cooperation etc.) supporting competence development of the young people and youth workers in the area.

Youth centre Marttinen has experience in youth work 25 years and international youth work is a big part of it - recognised by the Council of Europe's quality label for youth centres. This experience gives us an expert status working on activities and working with young people i.e through adventure education, social youth work and formal/non-formal education cooperation. As one of our key focuses we've also been taking an active role in activating and informing other regional youth organisations about international possibilities. Marttinen coordinates networks and partnerships that allow smaller youth work actors and more young people and youth workers to gain experiences from internationality, bringing also advantages to further cooperation on local level and benefit from it

on daily basis. We provide guidance and support for the local youth organisations when they are making their international projects.

## **WHAT DO WE OFFER?**

### **Match making and partnerships for international youth and youth work related projects**

We constantly promote new international cooperation in our region. If you have a good idea for cooperation, Marttinen's team can help you find the right partners from our local, regional, national and international partnerships.

### **Intercultural learning mobilities for young people and field of youth work**

We coordinate, send, and host several short term and long term learning mobilities for young people and youth workers every year.

### **Expertise and on-going support for youth work processes on local, regional, national and international level**

Our extensive experience in working within European and national frameworks of youth work activities and funding gives us a lot of expertise, knowledge, practices and tools to initiate, plan, implement and evaluate youth work processes.



# NATURE

## – ROAM IN YOUR ENVIRONMENT

On the lush island of Marttinen, you have the chance to expand your understanding of nature and the environment and strengthen your bond with nature. At Environment School Kuukkeli, we identify all sorts of bugs and animals and learn about sustainable ways of living.

The surrounding lake sceneries invite for a lap around the island on a canoe or as part of a traditional church boat crew, or to set out on a pleasant fishing trip. Shared activities set in the inspiring nature improve team spirit and create a positive atmosphere, all the while enjoying the prettiest scenery in Finland.



### LET'S GO FISHING

Learn about fishing rods, lures and the best spots to catch a big one on the nearby shores or out on the lake. In the spring, fishing is mostly with lures and boats, while in the autumn, the focus on is on rod fishing. In the winter, ice fishing is possible on the frozen lake some 10 kilometres from Marttinen.



### NATURE TRIP TO KEITURI OR TORISEVA

Trekking to the Keituri or Toriseva gorge lakes while exploring nature, learning camping skills and increasing environmental awareness. After a refreshing morning of hiking, it's time for open-fire cooking in the wilderness. The trip can also include rock climbing and abseiling.



Finland is the world's cleanest and greenest country, with 70% of its surface area being composed of forests.

# EXERCISE

## – DISCOVER YOUR LIMITS

Marttinen has opportunities for a wide range of indoor and outdoor sports activities the year round. We encourage you to find your limits and surpass them to feel like a champion! Marttinen can take your group to try out indoor, rock or ice climbing and explore abseiling points around the millennia-old cliffs and boulders. On our high ropes challenge course, you'll need to bring along daring, teamwork and problem-solving abilities, and the easiest, quickest and wildest way to come down is by the exciting cable slide!

Experience the joys of indoor exercise in sports such as sumo wrestling, archery and 'club ball', a cousin of floorball. Our version of team dodgeball is played with sticky balls and Velcro vests.

### ABSEILING

Descend with a rope down a cliff in Toriseva or from the Keiturinsalmi bridge under the supervision of a professional instructor. Abseiling lets you test your limits and overcome them, and you'll walk away feeling like a champion. The ruggedly beautiful scenery in Toriseva are sure to leave a lasting impression.



### ICE CLIMBING

The 12-metre high ice walls in Marttinen offer challenges to both first timers and experienced climbers. This is an adventure for excelling yourself and encouraging others to the same feat.





# TEAMWORK

– PLACE YOUR TRUST IN THE GROUP

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Our fun collaborative activities are perfect for team building and developing problem-solving skills. Challenging and sometimes hilarious positivity encouragement games help build a connection with group members and create a relaxed atmosphere. The importance of cooperation is also highlighted in the exciting Room Escape game, where the group has one hour to decipher clues in order to make it out of the room.

## CAMP OLYMPICS

In these Olympic games, participation is more important than competition. The sports vary depending on the season, type of group and the weather. We have fun sports planned for all ages! The Olympics develop skills in working as part of a small group and help foster an encouraging atmosphere.



# HANDICRAFTS

– FEED YOUR CREATIVITY

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Handicrafts are in fashion today, and also popular among the youth. In the programmes, we learn useful skills, explore new materials, refresh old ideas and see them turn to reality. A hand felted hat, traditionally crafted candle, a friendship band gifted by a friend, or a mug with unique designed paintwork are all wonderful memories to take home.



## SMOOTHIE BAR

Healthy, self-made smoothies for the whole group with organic and fair trade ingredients. Choice of flavours includes chocolate, strawberry, blueberry and raspberry. Choose your favourite and enjoy!



Shared activities build team spirit. Don't be shy to ask the person next to you for help.



## CULTURAL HERITAGE

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The Heritage Village is an open-air museum on the history of local agriculture and forestry, and the learning environment for cultural heritage at Youth Centre Marttinen. Our aim is to help children and young people recognise cultural heritage in their environment and to share knowledge of the past and old ways of life. The programmes teach history through doing and experiencing.

### LIVING TRADITIONS

Take a tour around the Heritage Village in Virrat with Juhani Viita as your guide and learn about old pastoral life. In the atmospheric Rajalahti House Museum, guests can enjoy a programme on local history or visit the neighbouring forester's hut museum with a guide. Suitable for all ages and for those needing mobility assistance.



# LOG CABIN APARTMENTS AND YOUTH HOTELS

– STAY IN COMFORT AT MARTTINEN

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Log cabin apartments at Marttinen offer cosy and comfortable accommodation for families and small groups. The cabins are situated on the shore of lake Tarjannevesi, and each have a terrace overlooking the lake. The cabins have three or four double bedrooms, a private sauna and a well-equipped farmhouse kitchen with tableware.

Marttinen youth hotels are located in scenic forest surroundings on the lake shore, right next to our activity facilities. The youth hotel is the preferred accommodation for groups, with the whole group staying under one roof in comfortable and spacious rooms. Campers and school groups can spend shared time in the cosy lobby lounge.





# RESTAURANTS

– ENJOY DELICIOUS ORGANIC FOOD

Our kitchen at Marttinen is committed to the Steps to Organic nationwide training programme that provides professional kitchens with a reliable way to gradually increase the use of organic ingredients. Our delicious organic dishes have received much praise, both for their healthiness and taste.

We currently have 8 organic ingredients in daily use at our kitchen. The full board rate for groups includes breakfast, lunch and dinner. Our kitchen will also pack along lunches and snacks for group excursions. Evening meals may be arranged for groups on separate order.



Environmental matters and sustainable development are important to Marttinen



# VIHTA-SAUNA

– REFRESHING FOR ALL AGES

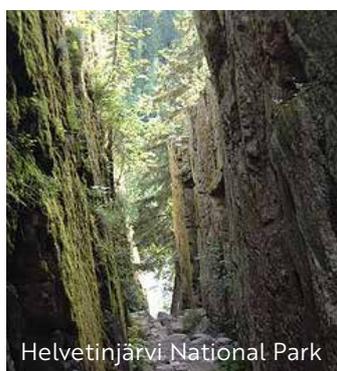
The newly constructed, modern Vihta Sauna at Marttinen has room for groups of up to 40 camp-goers. The sauna is designed in collaboration with the Tampere University of Technology School of Architecture, which organised a student design contest for the sauna in Autumn 2015. The goal of the contest was to let the sauna's principal future users, young people, to have input in the design. The sauna also has excellent facilities for conferences and training events.



# WELCOME

## AND ENJOY YOUR STAY!

Marttinen is situated in Virrat, in a central location at a crossroads between nearby cities. Thanks to our central location, Marttinen is perfect for day trips to Ähtäri Zoo or Särkänniemi amusement park in Tampere, for example. Enjoy your stay in our communal youth hotels or lovely log cabins with a lake view.



### DISTANCES FROM VIRRAT

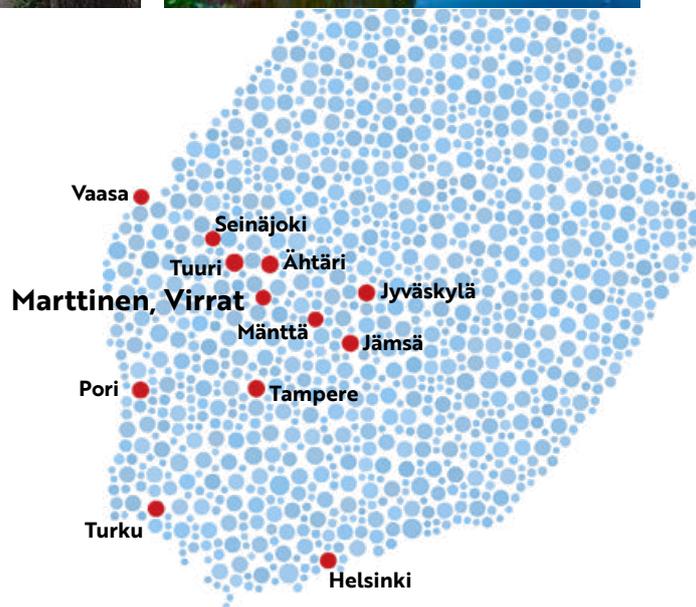
- Tampere 100 km
- Seinäjoki 100 km
- Jyväskylä 115 km
- Pori 150 km
- Vaasa 170 km
- Turku 250 km
- Helsinki 270 km

### DISTANCES FROM MARTTINEN

- Toriseva gorge lake 10 km
- Helvetinjärvi National Park 40 km
- Ähtäri Zoo 45 km
- Tuuri 50 km

### CONTACT DETAILS

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