

## VF monthly follow up

January 2024

# Summary

#### Travel to Finland and to the Nordics compared to previous year and pre-pandemic

- According to our Border survey (Matkailijamittari), the total number of trips to Finland by foreign visitors was 4.3 million during March 2023 – January 2024, and the total amount the visitors spent in Finland was 3,432M€. The median length of stay was 4 nights, and 73% of the visitors were travelling for leisure.
  - Leisure travellers tend to travel most often with family or friends, stay at a hotel or with their friends or relatives, and over half have had nature experiences during their visit.
- Number of <u>registered</u> foreign overnights in Jan-2024 were 10% above the figures of Jan-2023, but still 13% below the Jan-2019 level. If we leave the Russian travellers out of scope, the overnights were 11% above both Jan-2023 and Jan-2019 figures.
  - France, UK, Germany, and the Netherlands were the biggest source markets for registered overnights.
- Comparison with the registered overnights in the Nordics in January 2024 shows that Finland's recovery has been slower than in the other Nordic countries due to the big impact Russian and the Asian travellers had on travel to Finland pre-pandemic.
  - Even though Finland's market share did not reach the pre-pandemic level in Jan-2024, Finland's market share is among the biggest within the Nordic countries.
- Registered foreign overnights in Finland increased by 15% in 2023 compared to 2022 but remained 19% below 2019 level. Tourism income increased at a similar pace with the overnight stays when comparing to the previous year but remained 26% below the 2019 tourism income figures.
- International flight bookings to Finland for the spring months of March May 2024 show a good increase compared to 2023 even though the pace of bookings has slowed down a bit compared to previous year. When comparing to pre-pandemic, the total int'l bookings are now at a lower level. However, several of the main source markets show still positive development also compared to 2019.
  - Total int'l bookings to Norway and Sweden for the spring months are growing even stronger than to Finland.
- Seat capacity to Finland for March May 2024 is 12% above 2023 level, but still -18% compared to the pre-pandemic level.
  - Seat capacity from **Europe** and **Asia** is improving compared **to previous year**.

# Border Survey / March 2023 – January 2024

#### Foreign visitors in Finland

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Link to the report: Matkailijamittari - Visit Finland



## Traveller portrait / Mar-2023 – Jan-2024

#### Foreign visitors in Finland

- Traveller portrait gives a view on travellers' profile coming from different source markets to Finland
- When focusing on leisure travellers in general
  - Helsinki is clearly the most visited destination, followed by Rovaniemi
  - Travelling with **family or friends** is the biggest group
  - Hotel or staying with friends or relatives are the most common for the overnight stays
  - Over half of the leisure travellers have had nature experiences during their visit



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# Foreign registered overnights & flight statistics

Compared to corresponding period in **previous year** (& 2019)

\*) Flight bookings including at least 1 night stay in Finland.



Sources: Visit Finland Statistics Service Rudolf, Statistics Finland; ForwardKeys Destination Gateway

# **Registered overnights**

### • January

- Foreign overnights: **589,800** (+10% vs. Jan/23 & -13% vs. Jan/19)
- Foreign excl. Russia: 588,500 (+11% vs. Jan/23 & +11% vs. Jan/19)
- Top source markets: France, UK, Germany, the Netherlands
- Top destinations:

Helsinki, Rovaniemi, Inari-Saariselkä, Kittilä-Levi, Kolari-Ylläs, Kuusamo, Sodankylä, Vantaa

#### o Accommodation revenue in January

- Total revenue increased by 4% as the foreign revenue increased by 18% compared to Jan-2023 (domestic revenue -6%)
- The share of foreign revenue was as high as 46% of the total accommodation revenue, even though the share of foreign overnights were 39% of the total number of registered overnights, so foreign visitors paid clearly higher prices in average for the overnights (price per foreign night 87€ vs. domestic night 65€)



# **Registered overnights Jan 2024**

	Jan 2024	Change-% vs. Jan <b>2023</b>	Change-% vs. Jan 2019	
Total	1.5M	-1%	-2%	
Domestic	930,400	-6%	+7%	
Foreign, total	589,800	+10%	-13%	
Foreign excl. Russia	588,500	+11%	+11%	
Scandinavia	37,200	+2%	-12%	the first the second the
EU-27 + UK	408,200	+4%	+23%	man and the second s
America	35,300	+34%	+50%	
Asia	71,000	+47%	-25%	

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## **Top16 origin countries**

Jan 2024 vs. Jan 2023 & Jan 2019

During Jan 2024, number of overnights exceeded both Jan-2023 and Jan-2019 figures from these biggest source markets:

- France
- UK
- Netherlands
- USA
- Italy
- Switzerland
- Belgium
- Spain
- Australia
- Denmark
- Poland





**Rudolf statistics report** 

#### Source: Visit Finland Statistics Service Rudolf, Statistics Finland 9

#### Visit Finland Registered overnights RU

#### RUDOLF STATISTICS - MONTHLY YoY COMPARISONS



2019 2020 2021 2022	2023	Latest	Jan Feb	Mar	Apr May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	
Main area Region		Sub-regi	on	Muni	cipality							
All		∼ All	$\sim$	All		$\sim$					REVERT	то с
REGION VIEW FOREIGN REGION VIEW	v	$\land \lor \sqcup \downarrow$		3		OVERN	GHTS 2024	compare	d to 202	3 months	1-1	
OREIGN OVERNIGHTS 2024 compared to 2023 months 1-1	2024	2023						year 🔿 N				
Main area	MAX year	MIN year	Change %				<b>WIA</b> A	year 🛛 N	nin year			
B LAPLAND REGION	363,516	317,783	14.4		Fr	ance 📕					7	1.438
HELSINKI REGION	150,256	141,198	6.4		United King	dom 📕					65,65	
COAST & ARCHIPELAGO	40,875	37,349	9.4			nany 📕				5	8,404	
North Ostrobothnia (excl. Kuusamo)	15,872	14,120	12.4		Netherl	ands 📕				5	7,975	
Southwest Finland	6,404	5,653	13.3		United S	tates		26,36	9			
Uusimaa 2 (excl. Helsinki Metropolitan Area)	4,344	4,919	-11.7		China and Hon		9,665	22,703				
Åland     Satakunta	3,848	3,402	13.1			Italy		21,398				
Ostrobothnia	3,748 3,066	3,015	41.2			eden 📕		20,699				
Kymenlaakso	1,799	1,213	48.3		Switzer			20,063				
South Ostrobothnia	1,799	1,554	-16.0			gium	1	18,677				
Central Ostrobothnia	488	818	-40.3			tonia 📕	15,	372				
	35,151	39,164	-10.2			Spain	15,	352				
Pirkanmaa	10,218	10,480	-2.5			tralia	12,19	3				
Central Finland	8,006	7,615	5.1			mark	8,981					
Päijät-Häme	3,131	8,912	-64.9			land	7,897					
North Savo	3,026	2,660	13.8			apan	7,532					
South Karelia	2,837	1,584	79.1			istria	7,039					
Kainuu	2,669	3,753	-28.9			rway	6,865					
South Savo	2,216	1,278	73.4				6,157					
I North Karelia	1,736	1,750	-0.8			eland 🚽 India 🚽	6,076					
Kanta-Häme	1,312	1,132	15.9				-,-,-					

The most popular destinations with the biggest growth rates compared to Jan-2023 -

- Kuusamo
- Rovaniemi
- Helsinki
- Sodankylä
- Inari-Saariselkä
- Kittilä-Levi
- Kolari-Ylläs

From these destinations only Helsinki was below (-23%) the figures of Jan-2019.

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Rudolf statistics report

## **Registered overnights in the Nordics** Jan 2024

- Compared to the other Nordic countries, Finland's recovery has been slower due to the big impact Russian and the Asian travellers had on travel to Finland pre-pandemic.
- However, winter travel to Finland has recovered faster. Thus, Finland's market share keeps being one of the biggest even though Jan market share has decreased compared to 2019 as it was the holiday season especially for the Russians and Chinese.
- $\rightarrow$  Finland's market share is still among the highest in January.





#### Nationality $\sim$ Year $\sim$ Month NORDIC COMPARISON OF VISIT FINLAND **OVERNIGHTS BY A TARGET MARKET** 2024 Foreign January ICELAND FINLAND NORWAY ●2019 ●2020 ●2021 ●2022 ●2023 ▲2024 ●2019 ●2020 ●2021 ●2022 ●2023 ▲2024 ●2019 ●2020 ●2021 ●2022 ●2023 ▲2024 500K 2000K 500K 0K November January August September January August

JUNE

SWEDEN

JUN

March

April

Na



November December

"October .

September

August

JUM

DENMARK

●2019 ●2020 ●2021 ●2022 ●2023 ▲2024



November

October

December

The latest available figures in report format for Sweden are until Oct-2022.

No

Total foreign cumulative overnights							
	Jan 2019	Jan 2023	Jan 2024	Change 2023 vs. 2019	Change 2024 vs. 2023		
Sweden	705 500	640 200	707 900	0 %	11 %		
Denmark	452 600	433 700	458 400	1%	6 %		
Norway	347 300	324 500	382 400	10 %	18 %		
Finland	677 600	535 500	589 800	-13 %	10 %		
Iceland	248 200	254 700	235 100	-5 %	-8 %		

JUN

JUNE

October

Monthly overnight statistics for Iceland include hotels only.

January

February

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March

ADT

Sources: Rudolf Data Base, Statistics Denmark, Statistics Finland, Statistics Iceland, Statistics Norway, Statistics Sweden

March

April

Statistics for the Nordic countries

## Finland's market share still among the highest in January

Registered overnights	Jan 2019	Jan 2023	Jan 2024	Change 2023 vs. 2019	Change 2024 vs. 2023
Sweden	705 500	640 200	707 900	0 %	11 %
Denmark	452 600	433 700	458 400	1 %	6 %
Norway	347 300	324 500	382 400	10 %	18 %
Finland	677 600	535 500	589 800	-13 %	10 %
Iceland	248 200	254 700	235 100	-5 %	-8 %
Nordics, total	2 431 200	2 188 600	2 373 600	-2 %	8 %

Compared to the other Nordic countries, **Finland's recovery** has been **slower** due to the big impact Russian and the Asian travellers had on travel to Finland pre-pandemic.

However, winter travel to Finland has recovered faster. Thus, Finland's market share keeps being one of the biggest even though Jan market share has decreased compared to 2019 as it was the holiday season especially for the Russians and Chinese.

Jan 2024



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# Registered foreign overnights and tourism income

Year 2023

- Tourism income increased in 2023 by 16% compared to 2022 but remained 26% below 2019 level.
- **Registered foreign overnights** increased in 2023 by **15%** compared to 2022 but remained **19% below 2019 level**.
- **Q4/2023 performed strongest** in 2023 both regarding tourism income and foreign overnights.





# Registered foreign overnights in Finland and Tourism income (€ millions) 2019-2023



## **Overnights in short-term rentals**

We have now an easy access to the **Eurostat statistics on overnights in short-term rentals** (collaborative economy platforms, e.g. Airbnb), and the new data tables have been published in <u>Visit Finland Statistics Service Rudolf</u> by Statistics Finland.

Publishing schedule is slower than the one for registered overnight statistics. **The most recent update was for the months of Q3 2023**, so that's why we have now the statistics available until September 2023.

The monthly statistics shows us the aggregate level (total – domestic – foreign) of overnights, while source country and destination specific statistics are published only on a yearly basis.

- In August 2023, the number of foreign overnights in short-term rentals hit a new record with nearly 276,000 overnights. That was 31% of the total foreign paid overnights in Finland.
- In overall, slightly more than every fifth paid foreign overnight is spent in a shortterm rental accommodation.
- American and European travellers tend to use short-term rental more often than travellers from Asia.
- Among the most visited destinations in 2022, **Turku**, **Rovaniemi**, **Oulu**, **Jyväskylä**, and **Kittilä** had the biggest shares of short-term rental overnights.



## Foreign overnights in short-term rentals (Airbnb etc. platforms)

-2018 - 2019 - 2020 - 2021 - 2022 + 2023300 000 250 000 200 000 150 000 100 000 50 000 0 Feb Jul Sep Dec Jan Mar Apr May Jun Aug Oct Nov

Short-term rentals: Foreign overnights in Finland 2018-2023

Number of foreign overnights in shortterm rentals exceeded the 2019 level again in July and especially in August, when the number of overnights reached nearly 276,000.

The share of overnights in short-term rentals was very high in August (31%).

Data is available until September 2023 at the moment.

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## **Registered and short-term rentals overnights in Finland - Year 2022**

#### Foreign overnights 2022: 6.5M in total

- Registered 5.0M (77%)
- Short-term rentals 1.5M (23%)



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Source: Visit Finland Statistics Service Rudolf, Statistics Finland



### **Top source markets for overnights in Finland - Year 2022**

# Registered and short-term rentals overnights in regions Year 2022



#### Foreign overnights in other Finnish regions - Year 2022

Registered overnights
Short-term rentals overnights



# Registered and short-term rental overnights in the most popular travel destinations in Finland Year 2022



Foreign overnights in some other Finnish municipalities - Year 2022

Registered overnights Short-term rentals overnights



## Flight bookings for March-May 2024

- Airline bookings for the spring months of March May show a good increase compared to 2023 even though the pace of bookings has slowed down a bit compared to previous year. When comparing to pre-pandemic, the total int'l bookings are now at a lower level. However, several of the main source markets show still positive development also compared to 2019.
- Total int'l bookings to Norway and Sweden for the spring months are growing even stronger than to Finland. Especially Norway continues with very good growth both compared to 2023 and to 2019.



## Int'l bookings for March – May 2024

# 143,800

+10% (-10%)

Bookings to Finland, foreign for Mar-May 2024 change vs. 2023 & (2019)

### Total int'l flight bookings for March-May 2024



# 91,300

**+9%** (+2%)

Bookings to Finland,

selected markets\*&USA

for Mar-May 2024 & change vs. **2023** & (2019)



## Follow up on flight bookings\* to Finland for <u>March-May 2024</u> compared to 2023 & (pre-pandemic)

	*Bookings for Mar-May	→ 4.2.	→ 3.3.
Total int'l 2024 vs. 2023 & (2019	+18% (0%)	+10%	(-10%)
Germany	+10% (+34%)	+7%	(+18%)
USA	+15% (+13%)	+14%	(+10%)
France	<b>+27%</b> (+47%)	+13%	(+26%)
UK	+9% (-31%)	+5%	(-35%)
Netherlands	<b>+2%</b> (+12%)	-4%	(+1%)
Switzerland	+17% (-11%)	+9%	(-14%)
Italy	+50% (+34%)	+36%	(+29%)
Spain	+16% (+52%)	+2%	(+36%)
Japan	+76% (-52%)	+87%	(-50%)
India	+ <b>6%</b> (+57%)	+9%	(+58%)
Hong Kong	+1% (-63%)	+10%	(-63%)
China	+199% (-72%)	+129%	6 (-76%)



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\*) Bookings including at least one night in Finland.

# Seat capacity on int'l flights

March – May 2024

- Seat capacity for the spring months of March May is 12% above 2023 level, but still -18% compared to the prepandemic level.
- Seat capacity from Europe and Asia is improving compared to previous year.
  - Seat capacity from nearly each source market in Europe are developing positively compared to 2023.
  - From the Asian source markets, seat capacity is growing from Japan, Thailand, and China.
- Seat capacity from **USA** is slightly below the 2023 level during the spring months, but still clearly above the pre-pandemic level.



## Direct int'l flights to Finland March – May 2024

and change in seat capacity compared to pre-pandemic



## **Direct flights to Finland March – May 2024**

## and change compared to 2023 & (pre-pandemic)

Region	Weekly flights on average	Vs. 2023	(Vs. 2019)	Seats available 2024	Seats available 2023	Seats available 2019	Vs. 2023	(Vs. 2019)	Share of total seat capacity to Finland 2024	Share of total seat capacity to Finland 2023	Share of total seat capacity to Finland 2019
USA	19	-2	0	68,700	74,200	62,500	-7%	+10%	3%	3%	2%
Asia	76	+4	-58	287,500	276,200	488,800	+4%	-41%	11%	12%	16%
Europe	1,159	+150	-194	2,211,000	1 947,000	2,555,000	+14%	-13%	86%	85%	82%
Total	1,254	+152	-248	2,568,800	2,299,600	3,115,800	+12%	-18%			





### **EUROPE to Finland / March-May 2024**

From (selected countries)	Share	Seat capacity compared to 2023	Seat capacity compared to 2019
Germany	13%	+19%	-12%
Sweden	12%	+6%	-30%
Spain	9%	+7%	-21%
UK	7%	+7%	-21%
Italy	6%	+5%	+38%
Denmark	6%	+4%	-14%
France	5%	+13%	+2%
Netherlands	5%	+16%	+1%
Latvia	4%	+8%	+32%
Norway	4%	+36%	-9%
Poland	4%	+45%	+3%
Estonia	3%	+52%	+30%
Turkiye	3%	+14%	+32%
Greece	3%	+7%	-2%
Switzerland	2%	+19%	+5%
Belgium	2%	+4%	+4%
Austria	2%	+7%	+12%



## ASIA to Finland

Mar-May 2024

Finnair	
Juneyao Air	+37.2%
Japan Airlines	-8.1%
Tuifly Nordic Ab	-29.0%
Sichuan Airlines	Discontinued

From	Share	Seat capacity vs. 2023	Seat capacity vs.2019
Japan	28%	+22%	-40%
Thailand	15%	+11%	-33%
South Korea	10%	-2%	+2%
China	10%	+22%	-69%
Singapore	9%	-3%	-7%
Qatar	9%	-1%	-38%
India	9%	-29%	+35%
Hong Kong	8%	-2%	-55%
UAE	1%	+2%	-85%

Share ↑↓ YOY

+3.9%

Finnair's share 89%

From	То	Average weekly frequency
Tokyo (HND)	HEL	10-12
Bangkok (BKK)	HEL	14 → 7
Doha (DOH)	HEL	7
Seoul (ICN)	HEL	7
Singapore (SIN)	HEL	7
Delhi (DEL)	HEL	6-7
Hong Kong (HKG)	HEL	6-7
Tokyo (NRT)	HEL	$4 \rightarrow 6$
Osaka (KIX)	HEL	3 → 5
Shanghai (PVG)	HEL	4-7
Zhengzhou (CGO)	HEL	1
Phuket (HKT)*	HEL	4-6
Dubai (DXB)*	HEL	3

In addition, Nagoya starting end-May

\*) winter season only

Source: Destination Gateway by ForwardKeys Database update 11-Mar



## USA to Finland



#### Mar-May 2024

Finnair

From	То	Avg. weekly frequency
New York (JFK)	HEL	7
Dallas (DFW)	HEL	4-6
Chicago (ORD)*	HEL	5
Los Angeles (LAX)	HEL	3
Miami (MIA)**	HEL	3

\*) starting end-March

\*\*) ending end-March

In addition, Seattle starting end-May



Share ↑↓

-7.3%

YOY

