

EuroHaptics 2012 – Last Minute Information

Arriving to Finland, Transfer to the Conference Venue

Arriving at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport

The easiest way from Helsinki-Vantaa Airport to Tampere is to take a direct bus (Express bus) to Tampere. You need cash (euros) to purchase a ticket from the bus. Tickets can also be purchased at the ticket sales office inside the terminal; they accept payment in cash (euros) and the most common bank and credit cards. The bus timetable can be found at <http://www.expressbus.fi/timetables-and-tickets>. There might be a bus change during the trip, but don't worry, the bus driver will transfer your luggage to the connecting bus and inform you about the transfer. The trip to Tampere takes approximately 2 h 20 min. The bus cost for a one-way trip is 26.30 € for one adult.

There is also an option to take the Finnair city bus to the Helsinki city center (30 min) and then take a train to Tampere (2 h). The city bus costs 6.30 €, and the train costs about 30 € (price may vary depending on the type of the train and the ticket).

Timetables for city bus: http://www.finnair.com/go/legacycontent/static/citybus_com.txt

Timetables for the train: http://www.vr.fi/en/index/aikataulut/tulostettavat_aikataulut.html

Arriving at Tampere-Pirkkala Airport

The cheapest way from the airport to Tampere is to take a bus that costs only 4.60 €.

Timetable can be found at <http://www.paunu.fi/pdf/TMP%20airport%20kesa%202012.pdf>.

If you stay in the Scandic Hotel Rosendahl, you have to take bus number **21** from the city center to Rosendahl (about 2 km from the city center, bus cost: 2.50 €). Timetables can be found at <http://aikataulut.tampere.fi/?lang=en&stop=15&direction=1&showLines=21>.

The Finnish taxi service is one of the safest in the world but somewhat expensive. The taxi from the airport to the city center costs about 25 € - 35 €, depending on the number of people and the hour of day.

Weather

You can check the local weather report at <http://en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/weather/Tampere>.

The weather in Finland may vary a lot. For example, it has been exceptionally cold during the last few weeks, so we recommend that you take some warm clothes with you. If you want to experience a true Finnish summer sauna and lake combo, please bring your own swimming suit. Finland is famous of the midnight sun in the summer. During the time of your visit, the sun sets around midnight and rises around 4 am, but there is no complete darkness during this time of the year.

Finnish etiquette and customs

As a general rule, tips are not expected as a service charge is included. However, if you are particularly pleased with the service, you can tip a person serving you. As mentioned earlier, the taxi cabs in Finland are very reliable but a bit expensive and they do not expect to be tipped. Our crime rate is very low and you should not be worried about your safety here. There is very little or no corruption at all in Finland, so don't ever try to give a bribe to anyone. The Finnish police force has a good reputation and you can always trust a police officer. Otherwise you can rely on that we pretty much follow western customs.

Useful Information Day by Day

Tuesday

Workshop registration opens at 11:00 at the University of Tampere in the Pinni B building, which is the location for all workshops. The workshops start at 12:00, except the Multi-Finger Haptic Interaction, which starts at 14:00. If you are coming straight from the airport, we can take care of your luggage while you are participating in the workshop.

On Thursday, the pre-registration for the main conference is from 16:00 to 18:00 at the main conference venue, Hotel Rosendahl.

Wednesday

Registration for the main conference opens at 8:00. The conference itself starts at 9:00. The detailed conference program and schedule for the sessions is available on the conference website at <http://www.eurohaptics2012.org>.

We have organized bus transportation from the conference venue to the city reception at Museum Centre Vapriikki, in the center of the city. A bus transfer is also organized at 20:30 from the reception at Vapriikki to Hotel Victoria, Hotel Cumulus and Hotel Ilves, as well as to the conference venue, Hotel Rosendahl.

After the city reception, 120 visitors will have a great opportunity to visit New Factory, a novel engine room of innovation. During the visit a short introduction of what New Factory is about will be given, followed by an exciting digital art performance. Some refreshments will be served. The conference participants can sign into this New Factory event at the conference registration desk. Since the number of visitors is restricted, please cancel your registration for the New Factory visit if you decide not to come, so that somebody else can take your place. There is no organized return ride after the event at New Factory.

Thursday

Registration for the main conference opens at 8:00. The main conference starts at 9:00.

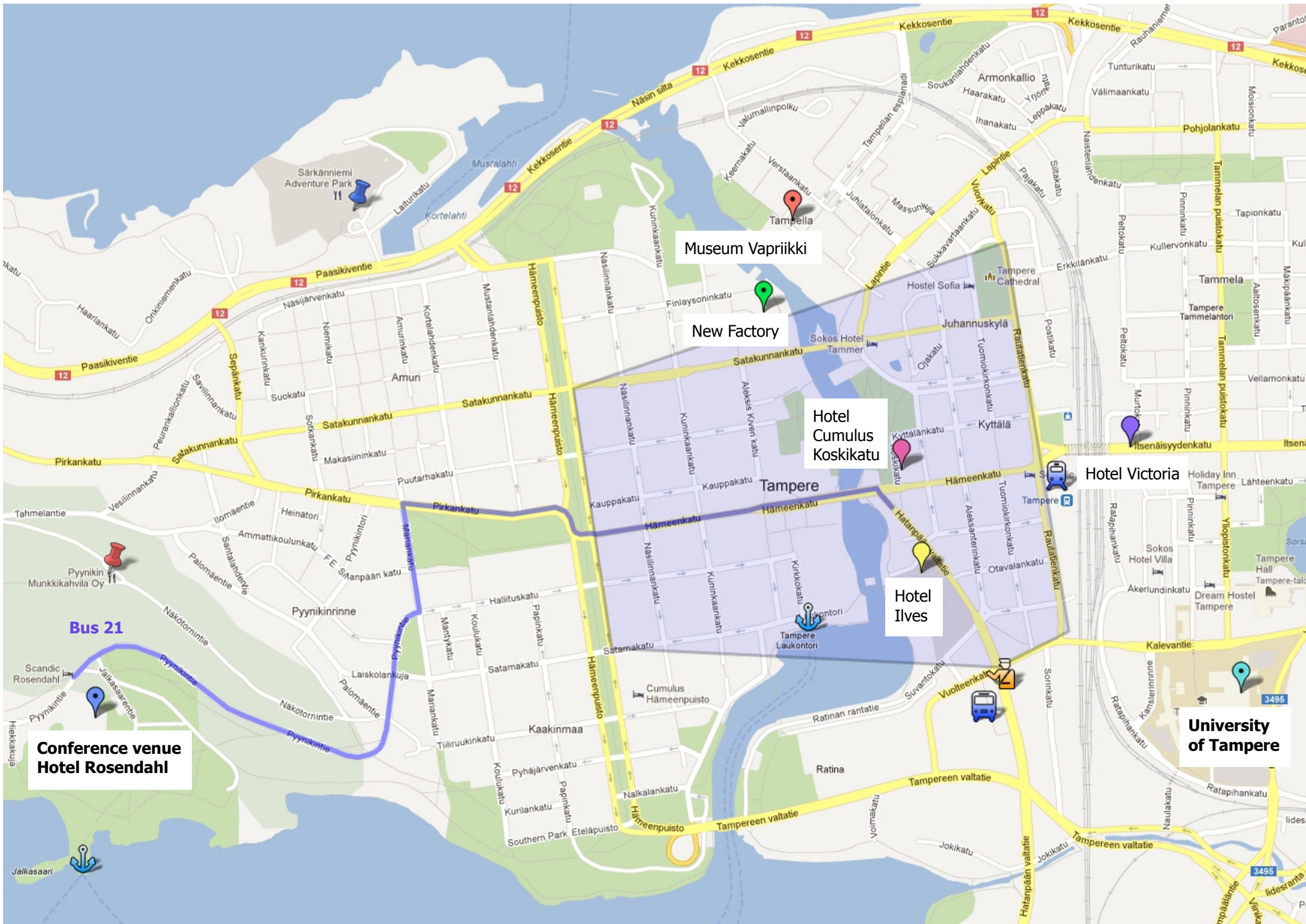
A late night sun cruise is organized at the Pyhäjärvi lake, and the conference dinner at the Viikinsaari Island. There is also a possibility to try the Finnish sauna and lake combo; be sure to bring your own swimming suit. If you wish to try the sauna, it is important that you sign up for the sauna at the registration, so we can order enough towels to the sauna. (However, you do not need to register separately for the cruise and dinner, those are included in your conference registration.) The departing times from Viikinsaari Island back to the hotel are at 22:30 and 23:30. People who choose to go to the sauna are scheduled to leave by the later boat at 23:30. Both times the boat goes also to the city center.

Friday

Registration for the main conference opens at 8:00. The main conference starts at 9:00.

Those who have a poster or demo should take down their material after the last poster and demo session, or during the lunch break at the very latest. We will start dismantling the poster stands and demonstration stands already during the lunch.

There is also a post-conference demo session at the TAUCHI research center, at the University of Tampere. It includes a guided tour to the TAUCHI labs. Demos and snacks are available. A bus to the TAUCHI labs departs right after the closing of the conference.



Museum Vapriikki

New Factory

Hotel Cumulus Koskikatu

Hotel Victoria

Hotel Ilves

Conference venue
Hotel Rosendahl

University of Tampere

Bus 21

Särkänniemi
Adventure Park

Pyynikin
Munkkikahvila Oy

Jaikasaari

3495

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