Art & Design Walking Tour

Helsinki is renowned for its architecture, and this walk takes in many exemplars of the city’s dramatically varying styles. It reveals the city’s evolution from market town to the cutting-edge capital it is today.

Start Vanha Kaupahalli
Distance 3.2km
Duration 3 hours

1. Helsinki’s traditional market hall, Vanha Kaupahalli, was built in 1888 and remains a traditional Finnish market.

2. The bustling kauppatori (market square) is flanked by stately 19th-century buildings.

3. Strolling east you can’t miss the gleaming gold onion domes of the Uspenskin Katedraali, a 19th-century Russian Orthodox church.

4. Head up Sofiaankatu to Senaatintori (Senate Sq) and Engel’s stately neoclassical Tuomiokirkko (Lutheran Cathedral).

5. Walk west to the country’s finest art museum, the Ateneum, in a palatial 1887 neo-Renaissance building.

6. National Romantic splendour reaches its peak at Helsinki’s spectacular train station, topped by a copper-caped clock tower.

7. Continue walking northwest then west through leafy backstreets to the Temppeliaukion Kirkko, an extraordinary rock-hewn church.

Take a Break...
Fuel up first with coffee and a pastry at the Vanha Kaupahalli.