



Rental Guide 2027

Everything you need to know before your houseboat holiday on Lake Päijänne

1 May – 31 Oct
Season 2027

Satamatie 4
18100 Heinola, Finland

No licence
1-hour skipper training
included

-20 %
for 7 days or more

Season 2027 at a glance

Season	1 May – 31 October 2027 (the start and end may shift with the weather – please ask us to confirm your dates)
Harbour	Satamatie 4, 18100 Heinola, Finland – open in Google Maps
Check-in / check-out	Check-in 15:00–18:00 · check-out by 10:00 · any day of the week
Minimum rental	3 days · 20 % off for 7 days or more, plus 50 % off extra equipment
Prices	Per houseboat per day, not per person, including 25.5 % VAT – see our Price list 2027
Damage deposit	2 500 €, paid by card at boarding and refunded to the same card within 7–14 days after check-out if the boat is undamaged
Skipper	No boating licence needed. The skipper must be at least 18 years old.
Contact	+358 40 164 6168 (phone, WhatsApp) · info@houseboat.fi · houseboat.fi

Where do the houseboats depart from?

All our houseboats are based in Heinola. Every rental starts and ends at our harbour at **Satamatie 4, 18100 Heinola**.

We offer round trips from Heinola. One-way routes are possible on request; the return transfer of the boat is then charged separately.

Where is Heinola?

Heinola is a lakeside town of about 18,000 inhabitants in the Päijät-Häme region. It lies on highway 4 (E75), about 140 km north of Helsinki and 40 km north of Lahti – roughly halfway between Helsinki and Jyväskylä. There are good coach connections along highway 4.

By car

Take the E75 to Heinola and leave at **exit 23** towards Heinola centre (road 140). At the first junction turn left towards “Hevossaari” and cross the bridge – the Neste station and K-Citymarket are on your left. Continue straight on **Hevossaarentie** for about 1.7 km, then turn right onto **Satamatie**. Our harbour is about 200 m further on, at Satamatie 4 – about 3 minutes from K-Citymarket.

You can stop at the harbour to unload your luggage; our team will show you where to park. Fast charging for electric cars is available at K-Citymarket.

By public transport

Direct buses run from Helsinki Airport to Heinola (timetables and tickets: matkahuolto.fi). By train, travel from the airport or Tikkurila to Lahti (vr.fi) and continue by bus or taxi (approx. 70 €). We can also arrange a private transfer from Helsinki – just ask when you book.



Do I need a licence?

No. You do not need a boating licence or any previous boating experience – houseboats are easy to handle. The skipper must be at least 18 years old.

Before you set off, our harbour team gives you a **one-hour skipper training** (included in the price): how to drive, moor and anchor the houseboat, how its technical systems work, the rules on Finnish waters and how to pass a lock safely. We also plan the route with you and show you the best places for swimming, fishing and nature walks. An extra hour of training can be booked if you wish.

Before your arrival we send you our **Captain's Handbook**. A copy also stays on board, and our harbour team is always just a phone call away.

Families and older travellers. A houseboat holiday is great for all ages – children have plenty of room to play, and every boat carries life jackets and safety equipment. If older people are travelling with you, please take any medical conditions into account, bring the medicines you need and plan a route close to the shore with good transport access.

Can I travel alone?

We strongly recommend at least two people per houseboat, one of them preferably over 15 years old – mooring is much easier with a helping hand.

Can I bring my pet?

Yes, if you tell us when you book. Our houseboats are kept allergy-friendly, so after a stay with a pet we carry out a special hypoallergenic cleaning: 140 € per booking, the same for every boat.



What's included in the price?

Included

- The houseboat with all equipment listed in its description
- One-hour skipper training and safety briefing
- Easy-to-use navigation system with electronic and paper lake maps – we can program your route into the navigator
- Route planning based on your wishes
- A small inflatable dinghy (3 m, up to 4 people) for going ashore
- Gas for cooking and one bag of firewood for the sauna
- Phone support during your trip (WhatsApp, Telegram)
- Final cleaning
- 25.5 % VAT



Not included

- Fuel – the houseboat is handed over with full tanks and must be returned full
- Bed linen and towels (can be rented from us)
- Transfers and other extra services, unless booked in advance
- Extra equipment (SUP, kayak, motor dinghy, RIB, bikes)

Prices of all extras are listed in our **Price list 2027**. For rentals of 7 days or more, extra equipment is 50 % off.

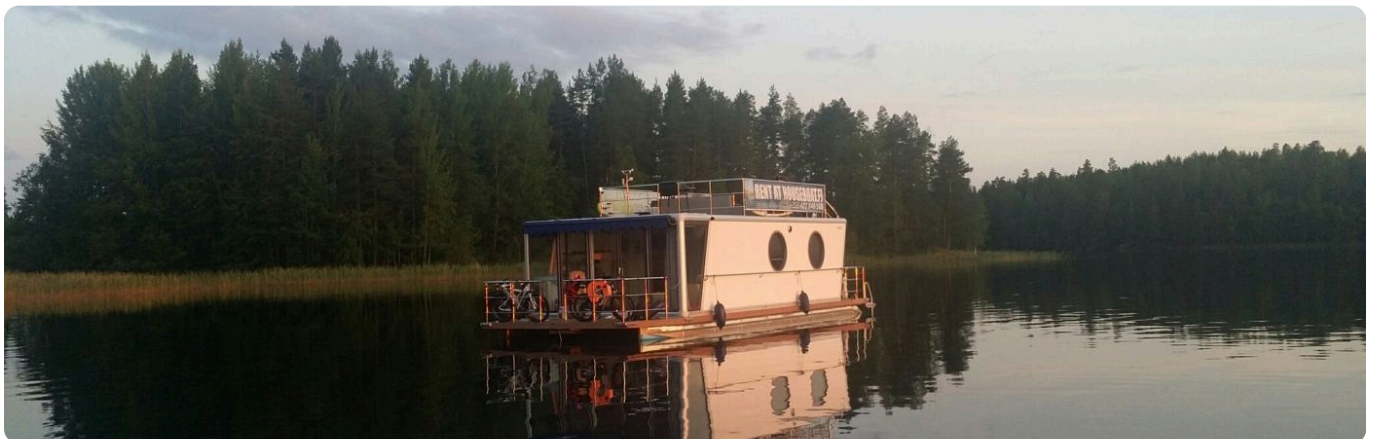


Fuel

Even the smallest houseboat carries 144 litres of fuel – enough for about 250 km. The larger boats have 350-litre tanks. Please return the boat with full tanks. Our team will show you where to refuel; if you prefer, we can refuel the boat for you for a fee (see the price list).

Check-in and check-out

Your houseboat is ready on the day of arrival between **15:00 and 18:00**, and our staff will be waiting for you on board. Check-out is **by 10:00** on your departure day. Earlier check-in, later check-in (18:00–20:00) and later check-out can be booked in advance for an extra fee, subject to availability.



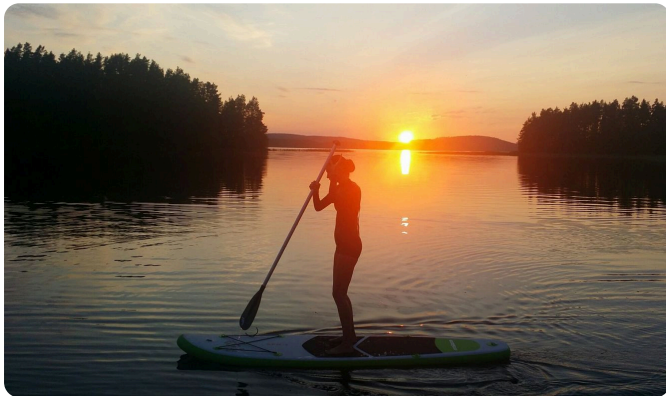
Where to go and what to see

A houseboat cruises at 6–7 km/h – the perfect speed for the Finnish Lakeland. We plan your route together with you, based on your wishes and the length of your stay.

Päijänne National Park lies in the middle of Finland's second-largest lake. Its heart is **Kelvenne**, a long ridge island with sandy beaches, sheltered bays and hiking trails. The row of ridge islands at **Pulkkilanharju** forms the south-eastern gateway to the park, and from the highest point of **Paatsalo** you can see Tehinselkä, the widest open water of Päijänne. The area is part of the **Salpausselkä UNESCO Global Geopark**, and you can find Stone Age and Bronze Age sites along the way. National parks have their own rules, which our team will explain before you go.

Many islands have public rest areas with jetties, fire places with firewood, shelters and dry toilets. Thanks to their shallow draught, our houseboats can moor at almost any island you like – and you may pick berries and mushrooms freely.

Along the route you will find museums, restaurants, shops and farm shops – for example the old farm at **Kalkkinen**, with local berries, liqueurs and sparkling wines. Golfers can play the world-class courses of **Vierumäki**, about 4 km from a possible mooring spot. Towards Kouvola you can pass through the **Kimola Canal** (ask us before you go – a bridge on this route has only about 4 m clearance), with a 12-metre lock and a tunnel cut through the rock.



Activities

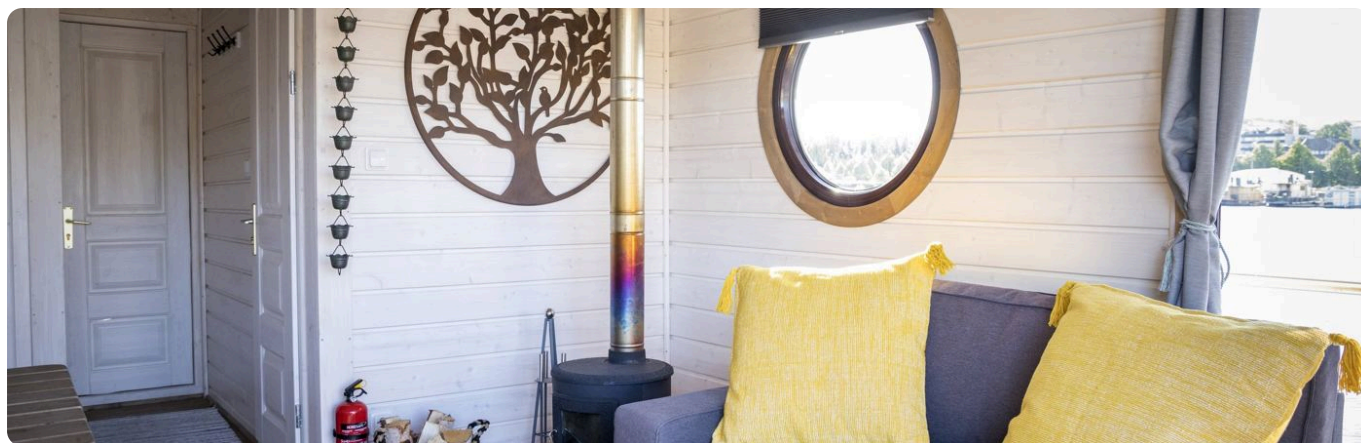
Paddle the quiet bays by kayak or SUP board, explore nature trails by bike, or try your luck with a fishing rod – all the equipment travels easily on board. And at the end of the day: your own wood-fired sauna on the back deck and a swim in the lake.

On board

Packing is easy – almost everything you need is on board. The kitchen is fully equipped with cookware, dishes and cutlery. The boats also have cleaning supplies, toilet paper, hand soap, pillows and blankets, eco-friendly shampoo, shower gel and dishwashing liquid, and insect protection.

Electricity and water. The houseboats have 230 V electricity and heating – depending on your country, you may need a plug adapter. The taps have hot and cold water. The water comes from the lake through a filter and can be boiled for tea, coffee and cooking; for drinking, we recommend bottled water. During a blue-green algae bloom (green, paint-like streaks on the water) boiling does not help – then use bottled water only and call us.

Wi-Fi. Every houseboat has free Wi-Fi. Mobile coverage is good across almost the whole lake area; in remote spots the connection may be slower.



Packing list

- Food for your trip – there are several shops along the way, so there's no need to buy everything at once
- Coffee or tea, coffee filters, spices, cooking oil
- Bed linen and towels – or rent them from us
- Warm and waterproof clothes – it can be cooler on the water than on shore
- Personal toiletries and medicines
- Fishing gear – or rent it from us



Fishing

Finland has about 188,000 lakes, and Lake Päijänne is one of the best fishing waters in the country, with reedy bays, beaches and shallows. The most common fish are pike, perch, pike-perch, whitefish, burbot and bream; trout and salmon bite best in spring and autumn, when the water is cold.

Fishing with a simple rod and line and ice fishing are free for everyone. For lure fishing, people aged 18–69 must pay the national fisheries management fee, and some waters need an extra local permit. We're happy to help you get the right licence.

Everyman's rights

In Finland, everyone may enjoy nature freely – no matter who owns the land – as long as you cause no harm or disturbance.

You may

- walk, cycle and camp temporarily where access is allowed
- pick wild berries, mushrooms and flowers that are not protected
- swim, row and boat on lakes and rivers
- fish with a rod and line

You may not

- light a fire on someone else's land without permission (use the official fire places)
- camp or moor too close to homes, or make loud noise
- cut or damage trees, or collect wood, moss or lichen
- disturb birds' nests, chicks or animals
- leave litter – please take all rubbish back with you
- let your dog run off the lead from 1 March to 19 August
- take sauna firewood from public fire places – that wood is for the campfire only

In an emergency call 112. For any question during your trip, call or WhatsApp our harbour team: **+358 40 164 6168**.



Welcome aboard – and welcome to Finland!

Enjoyed your trip? We would be very grateful for a Google review: g.page/r/CdkFpPiB-lrcEAE/review

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