

Finnish higher education institutions are small enough to operate functionally and effectively. They are all internationally oriented with special regional features, and you can choose between very different study environments ranging from larger urban campuses to close-to-nature campuses.

Higher education institutions are highly autonomous, but largely funded by the Ministry of Education and Culture. Therefore, the Ministry also closely oversees the quality of teaching.

Finland is a global leader in information technology and enjoys gender equality and low levels of corruption. We have one of the most advanced education systems in the world, and because of our innovative mindset and investing in education we are blessed with high standard of living and quality of life.

### Industries & Research

Scientific research in Finland is concentrated in universities and state-funded specialised research institutions. The task of universities is to promote freedom of scientific research. Universities and research institutes Endeavour to attain a level of science which is also high in international terms.

Finland has a highly industrialized, mixed economy with a per capita output equal to that of other western economies such as France, Germany, Sweden, or the United Kingdom. The largest sector of the economy is services at 65.7 percent, followed by manufacturing and refining at 31.4 percent.

Notable companies in Finland include Nokia, the market leader in mobile telephony; Stora Enso, the largest paper manufacturer in the world; Neste Oil, an oil refining and marketing company; Aker Finnyards, the manufacturer of the world's largest cruise ships (such as Royal Caribbean's Freedom of the Seas); KONE, a manufacturer of elevators and escalators; and Finnair, the largest Helsinki-Vantaa based international airline. Though foreign investment is as not high as some other European countries, the largest foreign-headquartered companies included names such as ABB, Tellabs, Carlsberg, and Siemens.

### What is Finland Famous for?

- a) Nokia Phones,
- b) Sauna,
- c) Black Candies,
- d) Snow and Cold,
- e) Santa Claus,
- f) Reindeers,
- g) Ice Hockey.

## Lifestyle

According to common beliefs and surveys, Finns are among the most polite, friendly, and helpful people in Europe, although they are a little bit more introverted. Finns are very active people, both in production and consumption of everything that their country has to offer. People are known to be eager readers, a fact that probably explains the fact that they have many libraries, well stocked with foreign and local books and journals.

The way of life in Finland is relaxed and easy going. Finns are straight forward people – they will say what they mean. Unlike many western cultures, Finns do not experience any form of awkwardness if there is a silence during conversation. A Finn will not talk while someone else is speaking. He or she will only respond after the other person has had their say.

