

OULU



2011-2012

INFORMATION ABOUT OULU

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# INFORMATION ABOUT OULU

## 2011-2012

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PHOTOS: *City of Oulu, Tapani Pikkarainen,  
Airguitar World Championships, Safa  
Hovinen*



## Once Upon a Time in Oulu

Founded in 1605 by King Charles IX of Sweden opposite the castle built on the island of Linnansaari, Oulu is situated by the Gulf of Bothnia, at the mouth of Oulu River, an ancient trading site. The name Oulu comes from a word in the Sami language meaning floodwater.

From being a town known for tar and salmon, Oulu has evolved into a growing modern centre of competence. A versatile and international business sector as well as a sound economy and a business climate characterised by collaboration create an excellent basis for new business ventures. Today, the 'technological miracle' Oulu is known for equals usability: technology is used to facilitate people's everyday lives.

Oulu offers flexibility and options aimed to facilitate everyday life. The City is a vibrant combination of rural and urban nature and a rich city culture.

The people of Oulu are its most important

strength. The metropolitan Oulu region, with more than 200,000 inhabitants, is a unique combination of future competence, skills and determination in the fields of science, culture and technology.

Thanks to the youngest population in Finland, the region is driven by an undaunted spirit to create something new. The Oulu region is the most northern metropolitan area in Finland, and the largest urban centre in Northern Scandinavia.



## Traffic Connections

The distance between Oulu and Helsinki is about 600 km, the same as between Oulu and Nuorgam, the northernmost spot in Finland.

All main roads meet in Oulu. Oulu airport has the second-largest passenger numbers in Finland. The airport is currently undergoing expansion.



Flight to Helsinki takes about 60 minutes. From Monday to Friday, there are 25 daily flights to Helsinki. There are also direct flights to several other destinations in Finland and abroad. Oulu railway station is one of the busiest in Finland. The Pendolino train journey from Oulu to Helsinki takes six hours. The port of Oulu is open all year round.

You can also reach Oulu via Internet: [www.oulu.com](http://www.oulu.com). The website of the City of Oulu is visited by 2 million people every year. The average number of monthly visitors is 416,000. In addition to the front page, the most popular destinations on the website include the weather cams, the library, webcam, Oulu events calendar, social and health care services, sports, and job opportunities.

## Population and Surface Area

The New Oulu (Haukipudas, Kiiminki, Oulu, Oulunsalo and Yli-li), which comes into existence on January 1st 2013, is the fifth largest city in Finland measured by the number of inhabitants. For several years it has been one of the fastest growing urban centres in the country. What sets Oulu apart from other Finnish cities is its youthful age structure: there is a constant influx of students and job applicants, and nativity has always been high in the region. On Jan 1st 2011, the average age of people living in Oulu was 37.1 years.

Oulu is a place where you can live comfortably. The city centre is lively and relatively small, but the town is constantly expanding as new residential areas are being built. Nature is always close at hand in Oulu.

Surface area	1,513.3 km <sup>2</sup>
Land	1,411.8 km <sup>2</sup>
Water	101.5 km <sup>2</sup>

POPULATION ON 1.1.2011		141,671
Men	49.3 %	69,835
Women	50.7 %	71,836
Foreigners	2.5 %	3,501

Total population in Oulu area is about 220 000.

NUMBER OF INHABITANTS IN EARLIER YEARS:	
1.1.2010	139,133
1.1.2009	137,061
1.1.2008	131,585
1.1.2007	130,178
1.1.2006	129,962
1.1.2005	127,226
1.1.2004	125,928
1.1.2003	124,588
1.1.2002	123,274
1.1.2001	120,753
1.1.2000	117,670

## Internationalisation

Oulu creates and maintains actively international relations. The purpose of the internationalisation is to pursue activities that will promote the achievement of the City's strategic objectives and to develop the City where internationalisation and multiculturalism can be recognised as a valuable resource and to strengthen the international image of the City.

International co-operation is realised through international city networks, bilateral partnerships and collaborative projects. Good and versatile contacts to European Union institutions and other international organisations are emphasised.

The City is becoming a more international place even without reaching out over any frontiers, simply because of its population and the many cultures represented within it. Oulu wants to offer good living environment and services to all citizens and visitors regardless the nationality.

### MAIN NETWORK MEMBERSHIPS

*Eurocities*

*Eurofuturoscope*

*Bothnian Arc*

*Barents Advisory Board Finland*

*Barentskeskus Finland Oy*

*ICLEI*

*NFC Forum*

### OLU'S REPRESENTATION IN BRYSSEL

*North Finland EU Office*

### THE TWIN CITIES OF OULU

*Archangel, Russia*

*Leverkusen, Germany*

*Halle, Germany*

*Bursa, Turkey*

*Odessa, Ukraine*

*Siofok, Hungary*

*Boden, Sweden*

*Alta, Norway*

#### OULU'S PARTNER CITIES

*Luleå, Sweden*  
*Glasgow, Scotland*  
*Karlsruhe, Germany*  
*Sendai, Japan*  
*La Vienne, France*  
*Tshwane, South Africa*  
*San Jose, USA*  
*Hangzhou, China*

#### OULU'S FOSTER CITIES

*Umeå, Sweden*  
*Matagalpa, Nigaragua*  
*Ilembula, Tanzania*



#### THE LARGEST NATIONALITY GROUPS:

Russia	383
Iraq	329
Somalia	264
China	208
Vietnam	174
Sweden	166
Sudan	136
Thailand	127
Afghanistan	100
Estonia	97
Turkey	96
Great Britain	90
Serbia and Montenegro	89
India	80
Germany	79

There are a total of 3,509 foreign residents and 109 different nationalities in Oulu, situation on Dec 31st 2010.

## Municipal Administration and Economy

### CITY COUNCIL

The highest decision-making organ in the city of Oulu is the City Council, which is elected in a local election arranged every four years. During the 2009-2012 period, the Oulu City Council has 67 board members, with *Ms. Riikka Moilanen* (Centre Party) acting as chairman.

The Council makes decisions concerning the basis of economy and financing, and guides the development of the city in a concrete manner by wielding economic power. The Council also sets



### IN THE LOCAL ELECTIONS HELD IN THE YEAR 2008 SEATS WERE DISTRIBUTED AS FOLLOWS:

PARTY/ GROUP	VOTES	%	COUNCILLORS
Nat. Coalition Party	13,959	23.0	16
Centre Party	12,828	21.1	14
Green League	10,041	16.5	11
Left Alliance	9,504	15.6	11
Social Democrats	9,146	15.1	10
True Finns Party	2,825	4.7	3
Christian Democrats	1,852	3.0	2
Other candidates	597	1.0	0
Total	60,752	100.0	67

In addition 356 (0.6 %) disqualified votes. Poll 56.5 %

qualitative and operative objectives for the various administrative sectors by budget fund allocation.

The Council makes decisions concerning the structure of municipal administration, appoints elected officials and major municipal officeholders.

### CITY BOARD

The tasks of the City Board include responsibility for municipal administration and economy, preparation of matters to be decided by the City Council, and making sure that the decisions made by the Council are implemented and in accordance with the law. The City Board represents the municipality by using its right to speak and by performing various judicial actions on its behalf.

The City Board consists of 13 members elected by the City Council for a four-year term.

Chairman of the Board is *Ms. Mari-Leena Talvitie* (National Coalition Party). Distribution of the City Board members by political party/group: Centre 3, Nat. Coal. 3, Soc. Dem. 2, Left All. 2, Greens 2 and Christian Democrats 1.

The Mayor and the Deputy Mayors present the matters at meetings.

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT:

Mayor *Mr. Matti Pennanen*

PRODUCTIONAL AFFAIRS:

Deputy Mayor *Mr. Timo Kenakkala*

(Substitute of Mayor)

SERVICES:

Deputy Mayor *Ms. Sinikka Salo*

BOARDS AND EXECUTIVE BOARDS:

Boards are organs made up of elected officials.

The service provision of the City of Oulu is organized under their management.



**BUDGET 2011:** *Balance sheets of 2010 and 2009 were used as basis of comparison.*

FINANCIAL KEY FIGURES	2011	2010	2009
Tax rates	19	19	18
Income from one tax per cent, EUR mil	22.3	22.5	21.9
Tax income, EUR mil	500.4	501.6	459.4
Property tax income, EUR mil	24.4	23.1	18.3
State aid, EUR mil	136	134	111.6
Investments, EUR mil	126	96	144
Income financing of investments, % *	47	113	49
Change of long-term loans, EUR mil	59.8	37.4	44.8
Loan sums, EUR/inhabitant	1,854	1,443	1,200
Annual margin, EUR mil	61.1	121.2	68.7
Annual margin, EUR/inhabitant	430	856	494

\* Income financing percentage of investments =  $100 \times \text{annual margin} / (\text{investment costs} - \text{financial shares})$ . The investments of the municipal enterprises are not included in the calculation.

## Business and Industry

Oulu is internationally known as a city of technology. Cooperation between enterprises, research, education and public organisations has produced significant results. Today Oulu is a major centre of competence in the field of high technology, particularly IT and wellness technology.

More traditional industries, such as wood refining, paper and steel industry, are also strong in Oulu.

Oulu is investing and will continue to invest more and more in the development of extensive businesses as well as logistics, information technology, content production, media, well-being and bio and environmental fields.

### STRUCTURE OF INDUSTRIES

The active working population in Oulu is employed as follows:

	WORKING POPULATION ON DEC 31ST 2008
Services	43,049
Industry	11,111
Commerce	10,848
Construction	5,449
Transport	3,698
Farming, forestry and mining	582
Unknown	421
Total	75,158

In 2010, the average number of unemployed was 9,158, calculated on the basis of monthly statistics.

## MOST IMPORTANT EMPLOYERS IN 2011

EMPLOYER	PERSONNEL
City of Oulu	9,709
Northern Ostrobothnia Hospital District	6,144
University of Oulu	3,045
Nokia Siemens Networks	2,100
Nokia Group	2,000
The Oulu Region Joint Authority for Vocational Training	1,955
Kesko Group	1,426
Osuuskauppa Arina	1,107
Stora Enso Group ( <i>comprising the functions of Stora Enso Fine Paper, Herman Andersson and Stora Enso Wood Products</i> )	830
Itella Corporation	780
ISS Palvelut Oy	730
ODL Group ( <i>comprising the functions of ODL and ODL Terveys Oy</i> )	653



*BUSINESSOULU offers expert service, guidance, training and practical tools that help turn business ideas into reality.*

## Commercial Enterprises run by the City Authorities

### CITY'S PUBLIC UTILITIES:

Liikelaitos Nallikari (Services of Nallikari Camping and Beach), Oulu-Koillismaan pelastuslaitos (rescue service), Oulun Energia (energy supply), Oulun Jätehuolto (waste management), Oulun Konttori (administrative, economic, staff administration services), Oulun Satama (Port of Oulu), Oulun Serviisi (municipal catering, cleaning), Oulun tekninen liikelaitos (maintenance, construction and logistics services), Oulun Tietotekniikka (IT), Oulun Tilakeskus (acquisition and maintenance of municipal facilities), Oulun Työterveys (occupational health), Oulun Vesi (water supply)

#### ENERGY SUPPLY 2010

Delivered quantities of electric power (GWh)	1,983
Delivered quantities of heating power (GWh)	1,783
Volume of business (EUR mil)	242.8 <sup>*)</sup>

<sup>\*)</sup> Inc. Oulun Sähkönyynti, Oulun Energia Siirto ja Jakelu Oy, Turveruukki Oy and Haukiputaan Energia Oy

#### PORT OF OULU 2010

Channel depth (m)	10
Warehouses, city owned and private (m <sup>2</sup> )	74,972
- of which bonded custom areas (m <sup>2</sup> )	505
Outdoor storage (ha)	46.5
Outdoor areas (ha)	186
Total cargo (mil. tons)	3.5
Volume of business (EUR mil)	6.2

#### WATER SUPPLY 2010

Sold volume of water (mil. m <sup>3</sup> )	8.575
Price of water (EUR/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.30 <sup>*)</sup>
Price of waste water (EUR/m <sup>3</sup> )	1.78 <sup>*)</sup>
Financing effect on City budget (EUR mil)	4.3
Volume of business (EUR mil)	22.9

<sup>\*)</sup> sis. alv. 22 %



## Education

Oulu is the most popular place of study in northern Finland. At the end of 2010, there were the following educational establishments in Oulu:

	COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOLS	STUDENTS
Grades 1-6	20	5,100
Grades 7-9	6	1,970
Grades 1-9	13	5,500
Special education, grades 0-10	3	415
Oulu International School, grades 1-9	1	300

SECONDARY SCHOOLS	STUDENTS
Upper secondary schools (incl. one for adults): 12	4,050
Vocational institutes	9,000
Apprenticeship training and educational facilities for adults in several schools	1700
<b>OULU UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES</b>	<b>9,000</b>
School of Vocational Teacher Training, School of Business Studies, School of Social and Health Care, Institute of Technology, School of Music, Dance and Media, School of Renewable Natural Resources, Raahe Institute of Computer Engineering and Business	
<b>UNIVERSITY OF OULU</b>	<b>15,880</b>
6 faculties: Humanities, Education, Science, Medicine, Economics, Technology	

In addition 1,079 people were studying at the University of Oulu Learning and Research Services, and 3,408 at the University of Oulu Open University. 7,338 students were using the services of the Oulu unit of the Summer University of Northern Ostrobothnia.



## Social and Health Care Services

Social and health care services make up the core of wellbeing in Oulu. Services for all stages of life are available to all residents, from the youngest to the oldest. The annual sum spent on service provision totals about €456M.

### DAYCARE

Daycare provides support for children and their families during the crucial early childhood period. In 2010, the number of children in municipal daycare was 5,741, which is more than half of all children under the age of 7 living in Oulu. Not all children are in traditional full-time daycare; some use daycare on a part-time basis, e.g. a few days a week. Open early education comprises supervised activities for children who are cared for at home.

### HEALTH CARE SERVICES

There are 9 health clinics providing health care services for the people living in Oulu. In

MUNICIPAL DAYCARE UNITS	70
Number of children cared for	about 5,400
Family daycare, number of caregivers	122
Number of children cared for	about 370
Number of children in open early education	about 670
Home care allowance paid to	1,727 families
Private home care allowance paid for	1,267 children
Number of daycare staff	about 1,100

addition, services are purchased from the Seppä health clinic. Maternity and well-baby clinics look after pregnant mothers and families with children under school age. School health care monitors the health of school-age children and adolescents. Student health care provides support to students, the student community and the study environment, helping them to maintain student health and enabling students

NUMBER OF HEALTH CLINICS OF THE CITY OF OULU	9
Total number of health clinic clients	about 91,000
Maternity and well-baby clinics	9
School health care units	49
Oral health care units	13
Total number of clients	about 47,000
Number of staff in health services	about 850

to qualify for jobs that are suited for them.

Oral health care services are available at several facilities around the city, and at a special oral health unit in Aapistie.

Oulu City Hospital represents the so-called Oulu model, where geriatric hospital treatment is separated from long-term institutional elderly care. The hospital provides short-term continued care and rehabilitation.





## ELDERLY SERVICES

In Oulu, the aim is to support home dwelling among the elderly and to promote their coping. Home care workers help the elderly to manage independently in their own homes with the aid of a variety of services provided. Those with significantly impaired capacity to cope at home may seek 24-hour residential and institutional care.

Proportion of those over 75 living at home	91%
Proportion of those over 75 in 24-hour residential and institutional care	9%
Number of regular recipients of home care services	1,700
Number of 24-hour residential care places	349
Number of long-term care units	7
Number of places available	529
Number of staff in elderly care services	about 900

## MENTAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Social services provide a variety of help, support and counselling for various life situations.

Economic aid is available in the form of social assistance, economic and debt counselling and social loans. Child welfare services target families, children and adolescents in need of special support. Services provided in the home and various types of residential support gives those in need of special assistance a chance to lead independent lives.

Mental health services provide support, assessment, treatment and rehabilitation for clients using multiple, individually tailored services in collaboration with other actors. Mental health services encompass crisis services, family counselling clinic, psychiatric outpatient services, institutional psychiatric care, services for drug and alcohol abusers and rehabilitation.

Clients under 65 years receiving informal care support	480
Number of children in Oulu targeted by child welfare services	2,500 (8.8%)
Number of people in Oulu receiving social assistance	10,600 (7.5%)
Number of 24-hour residential care places for groups with special needs	about 500
Proportion of those receiving mental health or drug/alcohol abuse services	5%



## Technical Services

The Technical Services Department provides a setting for a good life by offering the residents of Oulu a variety of opportunities for living, working, transportation and recreation. By focusing on its role as owner, service purchaser and authority the Technical Services Department supports the local business sector, at the same time making sure that the City's streets and parks are pleasant and safe for all residents, and takes good care of the City's land property.

LAND PROPERTY 2010	
City owned land property	24,060 ha
Forestry land	17,493 ha
Agricultural land	269 ha
Water areas	6,485 ha
Areas included in the City plan	11,347 ha
Value of land property	121,286,083€

### LOTS FOR HOMEBUILDERS

Number of empty lots for homebuilders let/sold by the City	252
Number of empty lots sold privately	38
Number of built lots sold	383

### TRAFFIC CHANNELS

Roads inside the City plan	634 km
Roads outside the City plan	333 km
Light traffic tracks	616 km
Total road network (maintained by City authorities)	1,597 km

Traffic accidents reported to the police	584
Accidents that led to injuries	122
Accidents that led to death	4
Parking penalties	25,552

OULU HAS	
Bridges	350
Outdoor lamp posts	30,000
Traffic light intersections	109
Boat places	335
Boat docks	906
Built green areas (parks)	1,035 ha
Housing units completed in 2010	1,730 kpl



## Culture

Oulu is a versatile and modern city of culture. The City's Culture and Events Unit is engaged in coordinating, planning and developing a lively urban culture and the structures needed for implementing it. Work is carried out in collaboration with all levels of the City's organisation, various event producers as well as other independent operators and partners active in the field of culture.

The aim is extensive incorporation of a cultural aspect in operation in different fields. The Culture and Events Unit promotes visibility of cultural phenomena in Oulu both nationally and internationally. The City's own cultural institutions produce a major proportion of the cultural services that promote and create a sense of local identity.

### OULU CITY LIBRARY 2010

Main Library	1
Branch libraries	13
Libraries operating within institutions	1
Mobile libraries	2
Total number of users	1,484,146
Number of loans	2,971,269
Loans per inhabitant	21.4
Number of borrowers	59,123
Stock of books	716,400
Other material	123,353

### OULU MUSIC CENTRE

Oulu Music Centre is a lively centre of culture and education in Oulu. It is the host of Oulu Symphony Orchestra, Oulu Conservatory and Oulu Music Festival.

## OULU SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 2010

Performances	60
Total attendance	32,476

## THE HALLS OF THE MUSIC CENTRE IN 2010

Madetoja Hall total attendance (includes Symphony Orchestra attendance)	103 events 53,629
Madetoja Hall lobby total attendance	42 events 1,830
Tulindberg Hall and Little Hall total attendance	142 events 7,434

## OULU MUNICIPAL THEATRE

The history of Oulu Municipal Theatre goes back to 1931, when a theatre company was established under the name Oulun Näyttämö. In 1951 the name was changed to Oulun Teatteri

(Oulu Theatre), and the Municipal Theatre was established in 1965.

About 120 people, some 35 of them artistic staff, work permanently at Oulu Municipal Theatre. There is a large stage (for 527 spectators), a small stage (100-200 spectators) and Vinttikamari, a stage for children's theatre (max. 80 spectators).

The repertoire of the Oulu City Theatre features 6-8 opening nights, as well as several visiting productions every year. Its repertoire covers the entire range of theatrical styles, often featuring new Finnish plays set on stage for the very first time. The Theatre also puts up opera as well as other musical productions each year, in addition to the Annual International Theatre Festival for Children and Youth. The Theatre has a total audience of 75,000 yearly.

## MUSEUMS

Oulu has 9 museums. Their total number of visitors came to 128,162 in 2010.

Oulu City Art Museum	30,661
Museum of Northern Ostrobothnia	25,686
Turkansaari Outdoor Museum	18,995
Sailor's Home Museum	2,271
Pateniemi Sawmill Museum	766
Car Museum	6,300
Zoological Museum	37,000
Geological Museum	6,483
Science Centre Tietomaa	59,281

Valve Cultural Centre produces arts and culture services for people of all ages, and offers a place for cultural operators to arrange events and activities. Hundreds of events are held in the building each year: theatre, dance and cinema performances, concerts, workshops, clubs, exhibitions, and festivals.



## Sport and Exercise

Oulu offers good facilities for sports and exercise: as an example, the Raksila sports area near the city centre is an area where you can ski, swim, exercise, skate and play indoor games. Featuring a swimming pool, ice hall, artificial ice rink, Finnish baseball stadium and Oulu Hall, Raksila is also a prime location for spectator sports on Finnish championship level.

In 2010, the City's sports facilities had a total of 2,082,691 visitors (spectators at sports events are included in the figure).

In 2010, there were a total of 194 registered sports associations in Oulu. Oulun Tervahiihto (Tar Ski race) is the oldest long-distance cross-country ski race in the world. The City has excellent bicycle paths, and its residents are enthusiastic cyclists all year round.

Other sport facilities include many tracks and fields (including a trotting stadium with riding areas, and a golf course), bathing beaches,



waterside rafts for washing rugs, lighted skiing and running tracks, a bowling alley, a squash hall, a motor sports area as well as Sankivaara Skiing.

CITY'S SPORT FACILITIES 2010	VISITORS
Oulu Swimming Pool	621,005
Raatti Swimming Pool	101,979
Oulu Ice Hall	261,992
Sports House	245,428
Oulu Hall	337,900
Linnanmaa Ice Hall	104,872
Linnanmaa Exercise Hall	128,031
Värttö Exercise Hall	86,017
Garrison Exercise Hall	43,096
Toppila Exercise Hall	19,510
Fire Department Exercise Hall	52,880
Heinäpää Football Hall	79,981

## Youth Services

The Youth Affairs Department produces youth services in the City of Oulu. Youth work supports the role of parents and promotes balanced growth among young people.

Oulu has a number of youth and band practice facilities around the town, as well as two camp centres. Youth organisations and youth groups can use the facilities free of charge and apply for operation grants from the Board of Youth Affairs.

Guided activities for children and adolescents aged 7 to 17 are arranged at the youth facilities. They offer young people a safe and important environment where they can meet others. Youth workers collaborate with schools and other organisations.

The Youth Affairs Department promotes the implementation of young people's own ideas, offering a wide range of opportunities for international contacts, events and leisure activities. Services are provided for young people with an immigrant background and those in need

of special support, for example. A special feature of Youth work in Oulu is a participatory approach, aimed to encourage young people to have a say in matters affecting them.

During school holidays, various camps and courses are arranged. Information on them is available in the Fiilis brochures distributed at schools.

The Information and Counselling Centre Nappi provides information, counselling and guidance in various areas affecting the lives of young people: [www.nettinappi.fi/immigrant/en](http://www.nettinappi.fi/immigrant/en).

Morning and afternoon care is provided to pupils in 1st and 2nd grade.

Workshops aimed at young people give local youngsters between 17 and 24 years of age a chance to train their skills and find employment. The workshops give them an opportunity to get acquainted with a number of fields, such as car repair, woodworking, cooking and home economics, office work as well as art and the media.

## Tourism

Warm summer days filled with light and a cold winter with lots of snow are both regular features of the year in Oulu. Events are arranged all year round to suit every taste. You can get to know Oulu on your own e.g. with the aid of tourist maps, or by taking part in a guided sightseeing tour on foot or by bus.

Time flies when you visit science centre Tietomaa, children's racetrack Vauhtipuisto or take part in a cruise out on the sea or along the river.

### NALLIKARI CAMPING VISITORS 2010

Number of overnight visitors	71,323
- foreign nationals	25,595
Cottages for hire in the summer	78
- with total of beds	310

*Additional information available at the City's tourism website at [WWW.VISITOULU.FI/EN](http://WWW.VISITOULU.FI/EN).*

## Things to see in Oulu

*CITY HALL* (Kirkkokatu 2a), completed in 1887, was once the centre of refinement and culture in northern Finland with its imposing halls and restaurants. Nowadays the building houses part of the City's central administrative office.

*VALVE CULTURAL CENTRE* (Torikatu 8/Ojakatu 4) was completed in 1894. The house has also been known as the old Nuku centre, City hall and police station.

*OULU MARKET SQUARE* is guarded by the Toripolliisi, the market square policeman statue in bronze by Kaarlo Mikkonen (1986). The market square area also hosts a market hall from 1901 and old salt warehouses, the oldest dating back to the 18th century.

*THE CASTLE OF OULU* was built in 1590 and was destroyed by lightning in 1793. There is an

exhibition on the history of the castle on the site. The old observation tower built in 1875 for teaching astronomy now serves as a summertime café.

*ROTUAARI* is the pedestrian street in downtown Oulu.

*"THE NORTHERNMOST PYRAMIDS IN THE WORLD"*, Romeo and Juliet, are the greenhouses of Oulu University botanical gardens.

*FRANZÉN PARK* is surrounded by Oulu Cathedral, Franzén House, Kolmiotalo House, Oulun Lyseo Upper Secondary School, and Regional State Administrative Agency.

*OULU CATHEDRAL*, designed by Daniel Hagman, was completed in 1777. The wood structures of the church burned in the Oulu fire of 1822, but



the church was soon rebuilt according to plans by Carl Ludvig Engel. The renovated church was completed in 1832, and is an example of neoclassical architecture.

*PIKISAARI ISLAND* just off the city centre was once a busy industrial area: it used to have a wool factory, an enamel factory, an iron foundry and a sawmill. Nowadays Pikisaari is known for arts and crafts: dozens of artists and craftspeople live and work on the island.

*HUPISAARET, "THE FUN ISLANDS"*, is an area with a beautiful natural scenery, a summer theatre, the Gingerbread House, a large playground and the longest fish passage in Finland – something for everyone, from children to adults. The Ainola park, which is a part of Hupisaaret, also hosts the Northern Ostrobothnia museum.

*TURKANSAARI* was an important market and fishing place as early as the 15th century. Today, the area is used as a museum in the summertime. There, you can learn about old ways of life: farming, cattle-farming, fishing, logging, timber floating and tar burning.

*POTNAPEKKA* is a train-look-alike miniature bus that runs on pedestrian streets and bicycle paths in the summer.

*OULU MUSIC CENTRE* is a lively place for culture and education in central Oulu giving home to Oulu Symphony Orchestra, Oulu Conservatory, and Oulu Music Festival. Madetoja Hall has room for 816 visitors, Tulindberg Hall for 220.

*TECHNOPOLIS*, founded in 1982, was the first technology park to be established in Scandinavia.



❖ Region: Oulu, Finland

❖ Coordinates: 65°01' N, 25°28' E

❖ Elevation: 0 meters (0 feet)

❖ Time Zone: East European Daylight

❖ Time (GMT + 2:00)

❖ [www.oulu.com](http://www.oulu.com)

I ♥ OULU

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