



HELSINKI PRISON

BROCHURE TO THE VISITORS

Address Ristikkokatu 8/ PL 40
00581 Helsinki

Telephone 010 3682100

Account number Nordea 166030-107980

There are five District Prisons in Finland. Helsinki Prison is one of the prisons in Southern Finland district Prison. The inmates are coming through Assessment and Allocation unit which is in Riihimäki Prison. Assessment and Allocation unit is drawing up an individual sentence plan to every single inmate. The plan is based on a risk and need assessment and the purpose is to develop inmates capacity to manage in society.

Location unit or the Prison can not give any information concerning the inmate.

THE STAFF

The prison director is in charge of prison functions in general. There is three deputy managers: one is in charge of the general administration and staff, one in charge of the prison activities and one in charge of security. The assessment of punishment is administered in the unit of assessment of punishment. There is a contact person in prison who answers to the inmates questions concerning assessment of punishment.

There is a prison service foreman in every wing, who are in charge of the plans for the term of sentences and daily life in prison. Social workers, psychologists and advisers are taking care of the inmates rehabilitation, intoxicant welfare and social work. Study advisor prepares individual study plans together with an inmate and organize prison study programs. There is also full time chaplain in prison. The clinic department is in charge of the inmates health care.

PRISON ACTIVITIES

Doing time is based on the individual plan for the term of sentence.

The plan can include work, studying, rehabilitation or treatment programs. Relocation to another prison or institution and having a home leave depends on the observance of the sentence time plan. The Assessment and Allocation unit makes decision concerning the relocation and adjustments in the plan of the term of sentence.

The inmates are working in metal industry, car- and bicycle repairing work shops, paperwork work shop or in the small handicraft workshops, redecoration work and maintenance work.

The prison has quite wide possibilities of different kinds of activities; there is a sports hall and gym, library, exercise, AA- and other groups to join. Finnish Red Cross has visiting services for long-timers, who don't have any other visitors. Further information from social workers and from the library.

The inmates have possibilities to study in comprehensive or secondary school, or carry out vocational studies. More information for study advisor. There is also different treatment programs in prison, as rehabilitation and intoxicant welfare for abusers.

The Prison arranges three or four family camps per year to inmates who has not yet permission to home leaves, but the permission time is almost beginning. Ask more about the camps of prison staff.

OUTSIDE CONTACTS

Inmates have a right to send and receive letters. The sender has to put to the letters inmates name and prison address. Prisons name is not needed. Sending money in the letter is not recommended. The best way to send money to inmate is to use prison account. The account number is in the brochures cover. It is necessary to put the inmates name and the prison name in a reference.

There is a possibility to use the phone in each department. Telephones operates with phone-cards which are available in the prison shop. Phone call-hours are on the notice boards. It is not possible to call to the inmates. The staff don't provide any messages in the phone to inmates.

Visiting hours are on weekends from 09.30 to 13.30. Visitors names are to be announced beforehand to chief of officers, who can also give more visiting time if the visitor comes from a longer distance. Normally one visit lasts 45 minutes. An inmate can meet two adult visitors (or one adult and children) per day and they have to come at the same time. For those who have little children, ask more from the personnel.

The visitor must verify their identity with official id-card with a photograph on it or a passport. Visitors must leave all bags, mobile phones and all substances forbidden in prison to a locker. It is forbidden to touch, give nor receive anything at the meetings or to make any notes.

Besides normal visits, an inmate has a possibility to unsupervised family visit. Family visit can be allowed among the inmates family members. The family includes, besides parents and siblings, such a spouse with whom the inmate has been living in a steady relationship and in same household already before imprisonment. The aim is to arrange a family visit to long-term inmates who can not get permission of home leaves.

The visitors can leave goods to inmate in visiting times to the pointed place, not to inmate himself. The visitors fill in a covering note, where is inmates name and number, visitors name, address and parcels content. The inmate can also deliver goods out of prison through the stuff in certain limits.

There is more information on life in prison, inmates position and Prison service in Finland in Criminal Sanction agency homepage, www.vankeinhoito.fi.

The inmate, who is not a Finnish national has the right to be in contact with his country`s consul. If the inmate desires, the prison authorities inform about the incarceration to the consul of the inmates own country.