



ISU European Figure Skating Championships® 2023

January 23-29, 2023

Espoo, Finland

Media Information



**INTERNATIONAL
SKATING UNION**

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The Finnish Figure Skating Association looks forward to hosting media attending the ISU European Figure Skating Championships® in Espoo, Finland. The event will be held at the Espoo Metro Areena ice rink from January 23 to 29, 2023.

This information will assist you in planning your trip to Espoo and to apply for media accreditation to cover the event. Every effort will be made to ensure journalists have all the appropriate facilities necessary to work at the event.

The Press Center and press tribunes will be open and operational for the first practice/ training session as from Monday, January 23rd, 2023 according to the following time schedule (it may be subject to changes and needs to be verified on-site):

Press Center opening times:

Monday, January 23th	7.30am - 22.00pm
Tuesday January 24th	7.30am - 22.00pm
Wednesday January 25th	6.30am - 00.00pm
Thursday, January 26th	6.30am - 00.30pm
Friday, January 27th	7.00am - 00.30pm
Saturday, January 28th	7.00am - 00.30pm
Sunday, January 29th	12.00pm - 20.00pm

1. Media Accreditation

All media must apply for media accreditation through the ISU Online Media Accreditation System (OMAS) on the International Skating Union (ISU) website (www.isu.org) under «[Media Accreditation](#)».

Only professional journalists, editors and photographers covering the ISU Event for editorial purposes, or producing content for news purposes, will be accredited.

1.1 Accreditation Requirements

All media must provide the following documentation when applying for media accreditation and further information could be requested (such as evidence of past articles, etc.):

1. Endorsement Letter from the editor-in-chief (formats: pdf, png or jpeg) - **Mandatory**
2. Copy of current professional media or journalist card (formats: pdf, png, or jpeg) – **if available**
3. ID photo (formats: pdf, png or jpeg) - **Mandatory**
4. Present the necessary documentation as requested by the OC, and which may include sanitary certifications/testing results - **Mandatory**

1.2. Quotas

If space is limited the following quota will be enforced:

Type of Media	Number of people per media organization
Writing Press	Media Organization (newspaper, magazine, web, agencies, ISU Member Federations): 1 journalist
	Agency, Major Newspaper: 2 journalists

Photographer	Media Organization: 1 photographer
	Agency, Major Newspaper: 2 photographers (limited to one rink side position, the other in an elevated position for Figure Skating, Synchronized Skating and Short Track Speed Skating. For Speed Skating, space permitting 2 rink side positions could be possible)
TV Non-Right Holder	Media Organization: 3 person crew max. (e.g. one reporter, one camera person, one editor)
Radio Non-Right Holder	Media Organization: 1 reporter (max.)
Freelancer	<p>Freelance journalist or photographer: 1 person</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freelancers must provide written evidence that they are assigned to cover the ISU Event by a media organization. • A freelancer operating under their own account may be requested to submit additional written evidence (presentation letter, copy of past editorial pieces etc).

1.3. Accreditation types and deadlines

The International Skating Union (ISU) and the Organizing Committee have been working diligently to ensure there will be ample coverage opportunities available to media outlets wishing to cover the ISU events either on-site or remotely. This in mind, there will be two types of media accreditations issued:

- **On-site** media accreditations will be subject to capacity.
- **Remote media accreditation holders** will not have access to the venue and will be covering the event virtually.

The deadlines to apply for media accreditations are as follows:

- On-site media accreditation requests: **January 9th, 2023**
- Remote media accreditation requests: **January 16th, 2023**

No late media accreditation applications will be accepted for on-site requests.

1.4. Restrictions to Media Non-Right Holders during ISU Events

Non-Right Holders media – print/web journalists, TV/Radio, photographers, content creators and social media reporters – who have not negotiated any special production rights – need to abide and agree to the following rules in the conduct of their editorial work during ISU events ([see Terms and Conditions here](#)).

1.4.1. Restricted areas

Filming in the below listed areas is strictly forbidden:

- Training sessions (at the Practice or Main rinks)
- Warm-up zone
- Changing rooms
- Mixed Zone area (unless approval has been provided by the ISU and its TV partners in advance)

- Competitions / Field of play
- From public seats at all times (even during ice resurfacing)

1.4.2. Authorized areas

Non-Right Holders media are only allowed to produce video, audio-recorded material for editorial purposes in the following areas:

- In the Press Conference room
- Outside the venue

[Special filming permissions](#) may be submitted to the ISU Media Team (media@isu.ch) in advance of the event. The transgression of any of these rules may result in the exclusion from ISU Events, removal of accreditation and legal actions.

1.5. TV and Radio Rights Holders

All right holding media must also apply for accreditation via [OMAS](#). Access to the Right Holders area is restricted, therefore Right Holders are invited to contact the ISU Media Team media@isu.ch in order to obtain a username and password.

To book any broadcasting services or facilities please contact the host Broadcaster:

Videpe Oy

Kirkkoahonkatu 3
87250 Kajaani, Finland
<https://www.videpe.fi>

Pekka Hyvönen

Managing Director
+358 40 068 3848
pekka.hyvonen@videpe.fi

Joel Helenius

Broadcast Sales
+358 44 096 7717
joel.helenius@videpe.fi

1.6. Accreditation Confirmation

If the accreditation request – either on-site or remote - is accepted, an automatic email of confirmation will be issued. For on-site attendance, you may be asked to present a copy of the email of confirmation to receive your accreditation badge.

You will also be notified if your accreditation request is denied. Please note that the ISU and OC reserve the right to refuse accreditation with or without justification.

Media accreditation is located at the Espoo Metro Arena ice rink by the main door, and will be open according to the following time schedule:

Friday, January 20th	10.00am - 18.00pm
Saturday, January 21st	10.00am - 18.00pm
Sunday, January 22nd	10.00am - 18.00pm

Monday, January 23rd	09.00am - 19.00pm
Tuesday, January 24th	09.00am - 19.00pm
Wednesday, January 25th	09.00am - 19.00pm
Thursday, January 26th	09.00am - 19.00pm
Friday, January 27th	09.00am - 19.00pm
Saturday, January 28th	09.00am - 19.00pm
Sunday, January 29th	12.00pm - 15.30pm

2. Covid-19 Measures

The [Infectious Disease Guidelines for ISU Events](#) describe the minimum sanitary measures that must be put in place to host an ISU Event during a COVID-19 pandemic situation. If the local health authorities require a stricter policy in order to host the Event, those stricter policies will need to be followed.

General measures – subject to changes:

3. Masks are not mandatory but it is highly recommended to wear them inside the official Event locations (Ice Rink, Transportation, Hotel). If the host country/local community/venue has a stricter mask wearing policy, then masks must be worn as per the local authorities' policy.
4. Social distance must apply wherever possible and good hand hygiene is strongly recommended.

Additional information or clarifications regarding the Covid-19 pandemic-related travel & access restrictions/arrangements is available by contacting the Organizing Committee (entries@espoo2023.com).

Participants will be informed of any Covid-19 testing policy that could be implemented on-site during the event.

5. Visa Application

You will not need a visa if you are a citizen of a Nordic country or an EU Member State. Similarly, no visa is required if you are a citizen of a visa-free country and if you have a valid passport or a comparable travel document. More information <https://migri.fi/en/visiting-finland>.

Media representatives requiring an official invitation letter in order to apply for a visa must contact the Organizing Committee (entries_gpespoo@still.fi). Please note that an official invitation letter will only be provided to approved media representatives.

For visa request, please provide passport details and name of the Embassy where it will be applied.

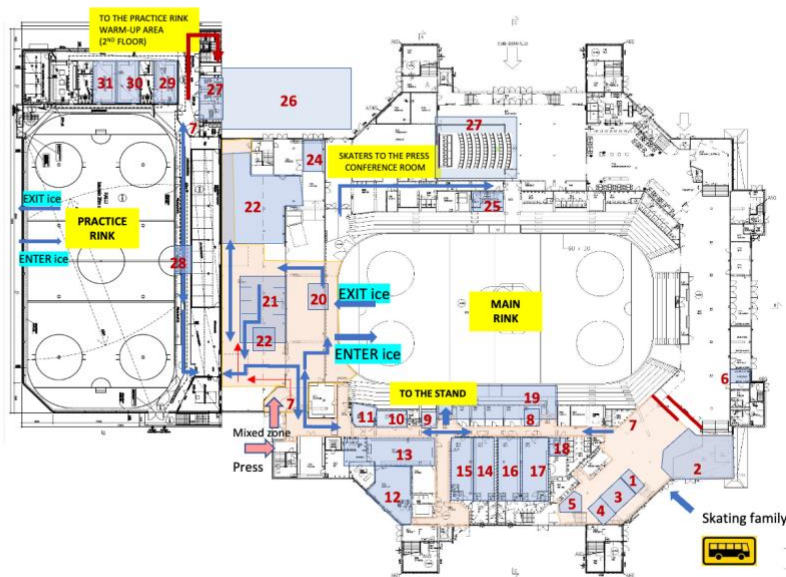
6. Media Facilities at the venue

The Press Center will include the media working stations, an area for photographers (incl. lockers), the Press Cafeteria, the Press Information desk and boxes. Currently approximately 140 working spaces are planned.

EC2023 - Metro Arena & Practice Rink, 1st floor – UPDATED 12.12.2022

1. Info Desk / Transportation
2. Skating Family Lounge
3. OC office
4. Printing Office
5. Clothes Repair
6. Accreditation
7. Info Board
8. Music Studio
9. ISU Technical Sports Director
10. Swiss Timing office
11. ISU Representative
12. Technical Panel
13. Judges' room
14. ISU Event Management
15. Dressing Room Women
16. Dressing Room Men
17. First Aid / Medical Room / Physiotherapy
18. ISU Medical Officer
19. Officials stand
20. Kiss & Cry
21. Mixed zone
22. Green Room
23. Warm-up
24. IMG Rink board storage
25. Dressing rooms, Gates, Ceremonies
26. TV Compound
27. Press Conference Room

- Practice Rink**
27. Information / OC office
 28. Music / Announcer place at rink
 29. First Aid/ Medical Service
 30. Dressing room Women
 31. Dressing room Men



The Draw & Press Conference area is on the 1st floor, behind the stand 203.

The Press Center will be open 30 minutes prior to the first practice of the day and 60 minutes after the last practice on, and until two hours after the last competition (or Victory Ceremony) on Wednesday 25th January and thereafter.

Journalists and photographers will also have free internet access (Wi-fi and/or LAN access – LAN access preferably for Photographers) in the Media Center. Dedicated Wi-fi should be available for Press in the Media Center, Press Tribune and Mixed Zone.

OC will offer the possibility to have lunch and dinner at the Espoo Metro Arena just next to the Press Center. Meals need to be ordered beforehand and those can be paid during the event or will be invoiced afterwards. Price per meal is 15 €. Meals include salad, warm food, bread, water, coffee and tea. Link for orders https://www.lyyti.fi/reg/EC_2023_Meals_7926

4.1. Media Tribune and TV Commentator positions

A total of 150 press seats are available at the venue in section 212. There will be 48 tabled seats and approx. 100 seats without tables.

At the moment 6 commentary positions are planned. The TV commentary positions will be located in section 210-211, last 3 rows. Requests for commentary positions should be included in the Rights Holders questionnaire. Should there be additional requests for commentary positions from TV Right Holders, these would be located in the same location.

1. Press working area
2. Lounge area
3. Cafeteria
4. Info Desk
5. Printer
6. Office of Press Officer
7. ISU Media
8. YLE studio
9. Press seats
10. Lockers



4.2. Mixed Zone & Press Conferences

The Mixed Zone provides an opportunity for media to interview athletes immediately after competition. It is split into five main sections and follows a pre-determined priority order:

- Quick Quotes (available through the ISU website)
- TV and Radio Rights Holders who have pre-booked positions
- ENG crews
- Non-Right Holders (written/web press, TV/Radio, social media without any production rights)
- Virtual Mixed Zone

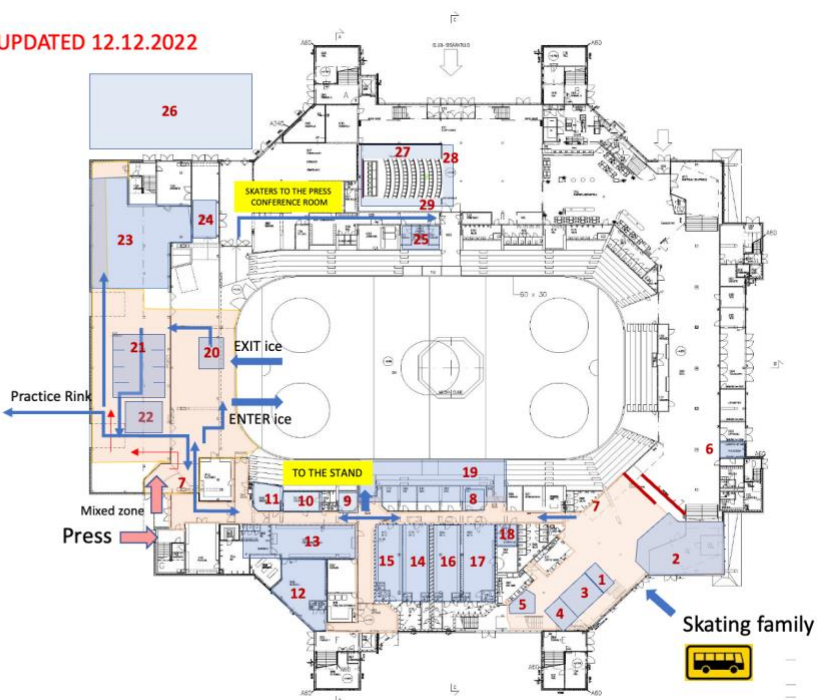
Athletes with requests will pass through the Mixed Zone on completion of every event. Coaches may also be requested for interviews, if required. The Press Officer and ISU Media teams will do their best to make sure that requested skaters go through the Mixed Zone for media interviews, but are also responsible to ensure that the medallists get to their ceremony on time and return to the Mixed Zone to finish TV interviews, before then attending Press Conferences.

The Mixed zone is located on the ice level. Media will use a stairway to go one floor down from the Media Center.

EC2023 - Metro Arena, 1st floor – UPDATED 12.12.2022

1. Info Desk / Transportation
2. Skating Family Lounge
3. OC office
4. Printing Office
5. Clothes Repair
6. Accreditation
7. Info Board
8. Music Studio
9. ISU Technical Sports Director
10. Swiss Timing office
11. ISU Representative office
12. Technical Panel
13. Judges' room
14. ISU Event Management office
15. Dressing Room Women
16. Dressing Room Men
17. First Aid / Medical Room / Physiotherapy
18. ISU Medical Officer
19. Officials stand
20. Kiss & Cry
21. Mixed zone
22. Green Room
23. Warm-up
24. IMG Rink board storage
25. Dressing rooms, Gates, Ceremonies
26. TV Compound
27. Press Conference Room
28. Podiums for TV Cameras and ISU stream
29. Mixer table

- colored areas only with accreditation
- with accreditation
- Press to the Mixed zone



Press conferences will take place with the top three Skaters/Couples after each competition segment and respectively after victory ceremonies on final competition days in the press conference room.

After the Short Program / Rhythm Dance the Skaters will be awarded with a small medal next to press center on the 2nd floor behind the stand 211.

All remote media accreditation holders will be able to access the virtual Mixed Zone and virtual Press Conferences through a Zoom link provided on the ISU Inside Event App. Once in the Zoom room, those wanting to ask a question will be asked to notify the moderator by using the chat or raise hand function. The moderator will call on those wanting to ask a question.

Press Conference Zoom meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93782999889?pwd=SmlVUFZwd3J3QkliTW5WL25CRFhwZz09>

Meeting ID: 937 8299 9889

Passcode: 664832

Virtual Mixed Zone Zoom meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96686697253?pwd=VGNTZW43TmgxTHVIQnY0UFpnWkFSZz09>

Meeting ID: 966 8669 7253

Passcode: 299212

7. Media Services

Press Conferences: Espoo Metro Areena, 1st floor behind the stand 203 Schedule (subject to change):

Pairs Short Program, Wed. Jan. 25th	15:45pm
Men Short Program, Wed. Jan. 25th	22:15pm
Women Short Program, Thu. Jan. 26th	18:15pm
Pairs Free Skating, Thu. Jan. 26th	22:30pm
Ice Dance Rhythm Dance, Fri. Jan. 27th	17:15pm
Men Free Skating, Fri. Jan. 27th	22:30pm
Women Free Skating, Sat. Jan. 28th	17:30pm
Ice Dance Free Dance, Sat. Jan. 28th	22:30pm

- [Media Guide](#)
- To access ISU photo galleries for editorial and non-commercial purposes, [click here](#). When using a picture, the ISU must be credited as follows: **@International Skating Union (ISU)** and must be tagged or mentioned in any social media post.
- OC Photographer: media@espoo2023.com
- Social Media accounts
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/taitoluistelu/>
 - Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SkatingFinland>
 - Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/skatingfinland/>
- Event Hashtags: #Espoo2023
- Event Website: <https://espoo2023.com/en/>

Connect with ISU official channels for all the latest and live information:

- [ISU website](#)
- [Event webpage](#)
- [ISU Newsletter](#)
- Facebook: [@ISUFigureSkating](#)
- Instagram: [@ISUFigureSkating](#)
- Youtube: [Skating ISU](#)
- Twitter: [@ISU_Figure](#)
- Tik Tok: [@isuskating](#)
- Weibo: weibo.com/isuofficial
- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/international-skating-union>

Inside ISU Event App :

- The Inside ISU Event App is the main source of information and means of communication for media attending ISU Events on-site or remotely.
- It gathers all the key media-related information (competition schedule, media areas operating hours, contacts, virtual mixed zone, transportation, press releases, entries/results, etc.), constantly updated live with push notifications alerts.

The credentials to access the Media channel of the relevant Event is provided via OMAS once an accreditation is approved.

8. Media Accommodation

The OC has designated 3 official media hotels.

Every individual media person is responsible for booking their own accommodation and bearing any cancellation fees.

6.1. Media Hotels

Hotel Matts ****

Located in Matinkylä, Espoo, 300 metres from Iso Omena Shopping Center and metro station, Hotel Matts provides accommodation with a restaurant, private parking, a bar and a terrace. Room rate is including breakfast and VAT. The property features a sauna, free WiFi throughout the property and room service.

Metro (M1) from Matinkylä to Urheilupuisto (Espoo Metro Areena) takes 4 minutes and is running approximately every 10 min. from 5AM to 12AM.

<https://reittiopas.hsl.fi/pysakit/HSL%3A2314601/aikataulu?locale=en>

More information and bookings: www.hotelmatts.fi/en or email hotelmatts@kassiopeia.fi.

Original Sokos Hotel Presidentti ****

Located in Helsinki City Center, only 3 minutes' walk from Kamppi Shopping Centre and 500 m from Helsinki Central Station. It offers free Wi-Fi, shopping discounts and a bistro style restaurant.

All rooms at Original Sokos Hotel Presidentti feature a minibar, wooden floors and air conditioning. All rooms include tea/coffee making facilities. Rate is including breakfast, VAT and use of swimming pool.

Metro (M1) from Kamppi to Urheilupuisto (Espoo Metro Areena) takes 14 minutes and is running approximately every 10 min. Link to the timetable:

<https://reittiopas.hsl.fi/pysakit/HSL%3A1040602/aikataulu?locale=en>

More information and bookings: <https://www.sokoshotels.fi/en/helsinki/sokos-hotel-presidentti>

Original Sokos Hotel Vaakuna ****

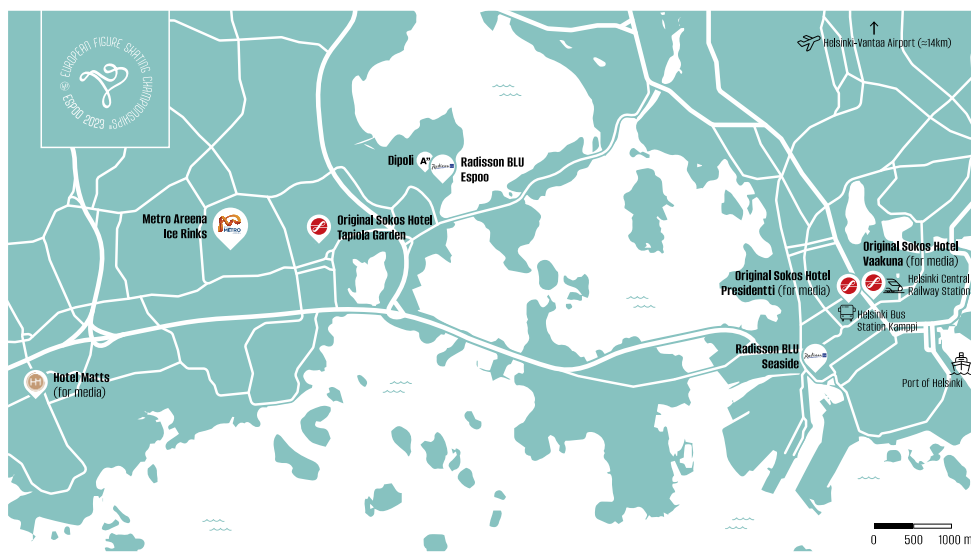
Located in Helsinki City Center, next to Helsinki Central Station, 5 minutes' walk from the Esplanadi shopping streets. Hotel was built for the 1952 Olympics and is set in a heritage-listed building. The soundproofed rooms include air conditioning, a minibar and modern décor. It offers a rooftop terrace, free sauna and WiFi access.

The stylish à la carte restaurant offers a mix of Finnish and international dishes. After-dinner drinks can be enjoyed in the bar, which offers magnificent views of Helsinki's bustling city center.

Metro (M1) from Rautatientori to Urheilupuisto (Espoo Metro Areena) takes 16 minutes and is running approximately every 10 min. Link to the timetable:

<https://reittiopas.hsl.fi/pysakit/HSL%3A1020602/aikataulu>

More information and bookings: <https://www.sokoshotels.fi/en/helsinki/sokos-hotel-vaakuna>



6.2. Reservation Payment Conditions

Hotel Matts

Room rates:

Standard Single Room: **starting from 94€/night**

Spacious Apartments: **starting from 99€/night**

Payment in cash or credit card on arrival.

Free cancellation on arrival date before 6PM.

Kindly use booking code PROEVENT at www.hotelmatts.fi/en or send email hotelmatts@kassiopeia.fi.

Offer is subject to availability.

Original Sokos Hotel Presidentti & Original Sokos Hotel Vaakuna

-15% discount from best available daily rate.

Available for bookings between January 22-30, 2023.

Payment in cash or credit card on arrival.

Free cancellation on arrival date before 6PM.

Booking code: MEDIA15 <https://www.sokoshotels.fi/en/helsinki>

9. Transportation and Telecommunications

7.1. Transportation

Shuttle transportation by bus will be arranged from all the official media hotels to the main venue and the practice arena. Shuttle schedules will be provided on site. Please be advised that the transportation service will only be available for the designated official media hotels.

A detailed shuttle schedule will be available at the time of Accreditation.

/! Those media representatives who will be staying at any of the official media hotels should confirm in which hotel they are staying so that a transportation can be organized. To do so, please write an email to the following address: media@espoo2023.com.

By air

Helsinki International Airport (HEL) locates 30 km from Espoo Metro Areena. It takes around 40 min by train or by car. Take P- or I-Train to Helsinki main railway station and continue with Metro. Metro M1 you can reach to Espoo Metro Areena (Urheilupuisto).

By ferry

Helsinki has ferry connections with Germany, Poland, Sweden and Estonia. Viking Line and Silja Line has daily routes from Stockholm and Tallinn to Helsinki. Finnlines has route from Travemünde.

By metro

Urheilupuisto metro station is situated approximately 500 meters from the Espoo Metro Areena. Metro M1 takes you to Espoo Metro Areena.

By bus

Buses passing by the Espoo Metro Areena are 114, 115, 119.
Read more here: [HSL](#) and [Journey Planner](#).

If you plan to go sightseeing and shopping around Helsinki metropolitan area, you might want to look for daily tickets. With just one ticket you can take buses, trams, metros and trains in the area you choose, for 1-7 days. Please note, that for traveling between Helsinki and Espoo Metro Areena you need a "Regional" ticket, which allows you to travel in Helsinki, Espoo and Vantaa.

7.2. Telecommunications

WIFI will be available in all media areas.

To book additional services such as dedicated internet line in the press center, press tribune or rink side for agency photographers, please contact media@espoo2023.com

10. Useful Information

Average weather in Espoo in January: January is one of the coldest and snowiest months in Finland. The daily mean temperature is -3 °C.

Credit cards: All major credit cards are generally accepted in Finland.

Currency: The currency of Finland is the euro (EUR).

Electricity: The electric current in Finland is 230 V, 50 Hz. European two-pin plug system is used.

Emergency number: Finland uses the European emergency number, which is 112.

Opening hours: Most shops are open from 10am to 8pm or 9pm. However, the opening hours vary widely and some supermarkets are open 2 h.

Time zone: Finland is located in the Eastern European Time Zone (UTC + 2 in winter).

VAT included in the prices: The Value Added Tax (VAT) is always included in the price presented to the customers.

Water: The tap water is safe to drink in Finland.

11. Competition information

Schedule, Entry List, Results and Rankings will be available on the <http://results.isu.org/events/fsevent00113584.htm>

For any additional questions or information, please do not hesitate to contact:

OC Press Officer:

Salla Mäkelä

E-mail: salla.makela@stll.fi

Phone: +358 40 586 4585

[Official Event webpage](#)

[Event webpage](#)