

## Information package: Getting married at Helsinki Airport

Every couple and wedding is different, and even at the airport you can tailor a special day just for you. This information package contains tips for arranging a successful wedding in the international atmosphere of Helsinki Airport. Follow the steps below and your wedding arrangements will soon be ready!

### 1. Examination of impediments to marriage

Request an examination of impediments to marriage from the Digital and Population Data Services Agency sufficiently in advance of the planned wedding day. Please note that this examination is only valid for a limited time. Read the instructions in more detail and check the time limits [on the website of the Digital and Population Data Services Agency](#).

### 2. Travel arrangements

If you are leaving for your honeymoon immediately after the wedding, please make the necessary travel bookings. You can have a wedding ceremony at the airport even if you are not going to travel afterwards.

#### Changing your last name

Please note that the Passport Act obligates Finnish citizens to ensure that their personal details match the information recorded in the Population Information System. If your new last name has not yet been processed by the Digital and Population Data Services Agency at the time of departure, you must make the travel booking with your old last name. If you are leaving for your honeymoon later, after the name change has been processed, the travel booking and passport must have your new last name.

### 3. Wedding officiant booking and witnesses

Book a wedding officiant and also agree on a schedule with the witnesses. At least two witnesses must be present for the marriage to be legally binding. The officiant can be, for example, the Airport Chaplain or a civil officiant. Agree on the wedding ceremony directly with the officiant. [Wedding officiants](#)

- Airport Chaplain Hanna Similä (Lutheran) ○ Civil officiant
- Any other officiant as agreed by you

#### Information about the wedding ceremony Church

wedding:

- [Airport Chaplain Hanna Similä](#) (Lutheran)
  - A church wedding is available to the following kinds of couples:
    - Both partners have been confirmed and are members of the Lutheran Church.
    - OR
    - Both partners have been confirmed, and one partner is a member of the Lutheran Church while the other partner belongs to some other Christian denomination. These include the Eastern Orthodox Church and

the Catholic Church as well as the Pentecostal Church, the Adventist Church, the Free Church and the Baptist Church.

- If you have been married in a civil wedding ceremony, you can receive a marriage blessing by the Airport Chaplain, which is very similar to a church wedding.
  - The Airport Chaplain also marries same-sex couples.
  - A wedding ceremony officiated by the Airport Chaplain is free of charge for the couple.
  - Read more about church weddings [on the website of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland](#) (in Finnish).
- A church wedding can also be conducted at the airport by another minister of a Lutheran congregation or a representative of another religion, in accordance with what you have agreed.

Civil wedding ceremony:

- Book a civil officiant from the Digital and Population Data Services Agency. Please note that a service fee will be charged for civil wedding ceremonies outside the service location and office hours.
- Learn more about civil ceremonies [on the website of the Digital and Population Data Services Agency](#).

Please note that the officiant, like other visitors to the airport, must carry a valid passport or identity card (a driving licence is not sufficient) if the wedding ceremony takes place in the airport's gate area. The accompanying arrangements must also be agreed in advance with VIP services. The accompanying service is subject to a fee. The Airport Chaplain has their own access permit for the area, which means that they will not need anyone to accompany them.

#### 4. Booking the VIP service

Finavia's VIP services are responsible for the airport's VIP services and practical arrangements for the wedding day. With the VIP service, you can tailor a wedding package that works for you using the following paid services.

- A **venue booking** for the wedding ceremony and reception such as VIP facilities.
  - If you wish, the wedding ceremony can also take place in the public areas of the terminal, such as in the quiet room. Please note that public areas cannot be completely closed to other visitors.
- An **accompanying service** if the wedding ceremony takes place in the gate area.
  - Visitors to the airport (e.g. witnesses, civil officiant, photographer, etc.) must always have a person accompanying them in the airport's security-controlled areas. At the end of the event, visitors will also be accompanied out of the gate area. The couple can move around the terminal independently in the area from which their flight is departing during the same day.
  - Airport visitors are subject to the same security control rules as passengers. You can read the instructions [on our website](#).

- Please note that every visitor must carry a valid passport or identity card (a driving licence is not sufficient).
- **Food and drink**
  - Catering services can be agreed upon with Finavia's VIP services when booking the venue.
  - Alcohol may not be served in the airport's public areas. Alcoholic beverages can be served in VIP facilities during serving hours.
  - In the gate area, using a non-alcoholic drink for the toast is a good alternative.
- **Decorations and flowers** More information from Finavia's VIP services when booking the venue.

## 5. Book the additional services of your choice

Would you like to complement your wedding with additional services? Here are some tips about businesses operating at the airport to help you plan your wedding day. The services mentioned below are booked directly with the service provider.

- Photographer
  - Pasi Salminen and Ville Vappula. Both are experienced in taking photographs at the airport and they also have their own access permits for the area.
    - [Pasi's website](#)
    - [Ville's website](#)
- Parking
  - Finavia's parking areas are located close to the terminal and there are various parking facilities for both short- and long-term parking. Learn more about parking services and make a booking in advance [on our website](#).
- Hotels
  - There are three hotels in the immediate vicinity of the airport. You can easily get to these hotels on foot.
    - [Comfort Hotel Xpress Helsinki Airport Terminal](#)
    - [Comfort Hotel Helsinki Airport](#)
    - [Clarion Hotel Helsinki Airport](#)
    - [Hotel Hilton Helsinki Airport](#)
    - [Hotel Scandic Helsinki Airport](#)
  - There are also other hotels in the vicinity of the airport, which are easily accessible by public transport or free airport shuttle services.
    - [Learn more about nearby hotels](#)