

The Finnish Youth Centres



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HOW DID EVERYTHING START?

The Conference For Security and Cooperation In Europe in 1975:
How to support national and international mobility of the youth?

Finnish solution was to establish Youth Centres

1982 Ahtela, Hyvärilä, Oivanki, Piispala

1983 Metsäkartano

1991 Villa Elba

1993 Marttinen

1994 Syöte, Vasatokka

2000 Anjala



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FOR THE WELLBEING OF YOUTH ON NON-PROFIT BASES

- Activities and Functions are stated in and regulated by the Finnish Youth Act
- The ministry of Education and Culture supervises the activities
- Ministry grants funds from lottery funds
- Centres can offer good quality services and facilities at reasonable prices for the youth
- Youth centre network covers the whole country
- Expertise in youth work
 - Outdoor, adventure & environmental education
 - Activity-based and participatory methods



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INFRASTRUCTURE AND SURROUNDINGS

- Youth centres are surrounded by beautiful nature
- Cosy and functional facilities and good equipment for diverse activities
- Wide range of activities throughout the year
- Accommodation capacity varies from 70–200 persons/centre



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COMMON FOR ALL THE YOUTH CENTRES

- Services related to
Camp schools, nature schools and environmental education,
Youth camps and youth events,
Family and recreational holidays:
Safe, versatile, experimental
- Social youth work – Nuotta coaching
- Big variety of regional and national development projects on youth work
- International youth work
- Each centre has its own administration and economy and offers services based on local strengths



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FINNISH YOUTH CENTRE ASSOCIATION

- Coordinates the Finnish Youth Centre network
- Offers advocacy and services for the Youth Centres
- Stands for Public relations, marketing and communication for the Finnish Youth Centre network
- Enhances useful partnerships
- Develops the youth centre pedagogy
- Coordinates and develops the national Adventure Education network



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