



Nuukio Nature Centre - Espoo's Greenest Addition to Events & Meeting Facilities

A new multi-functional Nature Centre is to be built at the doorsteps of Nuukio National Park in Espoo, Finland, during years 2011 and 2012. When opened it will be the flagship of Finnish national parks presenting the entire spectrum of Finland's natural environment to hikers, tourists, congress participants, business guests and visiting foreign dignitaries.

Nuukio Nature Centre will be Espoo's newest addition to events and meeting facilities. Approximately 200 seated auditorium, different sized classrooms and a restaurant for up to 220 people offers facilities for conferences, smaller meetings and other festivities. Facilities and services include also a sauna, exhibitions, guiding services, equipment rental, nature schools and a shop. The Centre is estimated to open early 2013 and attracting 150,000 visitors per year.

Nature meets design - Partnering with the World Design Capital Helsinki 2012

Architecture and design play a key role in the Centre. It is Espoo's most significant contribution to the World Design Capital Helsinki 2012, which is a joint project by cities of Helsinki, Espoo, Vantaa, Lahti and Kauniainen.

The Nature Centre with its views over Lake Pitkäjärvi and the surrounding forests comprises several interesting spaces. The Centre will be a unique showcase of Finnish nature and wood architecture. Architecture is strongly supportive of the Centre's ecological approach and all technological solutions used for building services are also progressive in ecological terms. Carbon footprint of the building will be kept as light as possible, and the main source of energy will be geothermal heating, supplemented by solar energy.

Nuukiokeskus Ltd, a company owned jointly by Metsähallitus, the City of Espoo and Solvalla Sports Institute, will be in charge of developing the Nuukio Nature Centre. Centre is designed by Lahdelma & Mahlamäki Architects.

Further information:

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- [Nuukio Nature Centre web page](#)

Visual material:

Print-quality conceptual images available for the press (www.metsa.fi, in Finnish)