



*Edu Tours to Finland*  
[www.druseducationalconsulting.net](http://www.druseducationalconsulting.net)

***Greater Helsinki, Medieval Turku and Historic Rauma  
 Spring Break Week of March 16-23, 2019***

***Registration is open.***

Dear Educator,

You are invited to a Spring Break educator tour to Finland! Our **Edu Tour to Finland** will introduce you to the Finnish education system and take you inside the classrooms. You will meet teachers and administrators while you visit the Greater Helsinki Area, the Medieval Finland's Sweden era capital of Turku and the City of Rauma, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, dating back to 14<sup>th</sup> century. Boynton Beach, FL is Rauma's Sister City.

As you know, Finnish students consistently rank among the top performers in international comparisons (PISA, TIMMS) because the education system is one of the best in the world. In the Educator Program, you will visit schools and learn from experienced administrators and teachers how the Finnish education system works, about the current curriculum and teacher preparation programs. School visitations will focus on policies, practices, successes, challenges and learning outcomes which are very similar in schools across the country. The sightseeing and other activities complement the Educator Program. During the Edu Tour you will have an opportunity to enjoy the Nordic culture and cuisine.

This **itinerary** details the daily activities, the cost and the payment plan. Notice the tour cost covers the air travel to Finland and even the farewell dinner.

You will bring fresh research-based ideas, inspiration and memorable experiences as takeaways to your school or district or college!

At the website [www.druseducationalconsulting.net](http://www.druseducationalconsulting.net), you can view photos of past Edu Tours to Finland and print the **registration form** and the **itinerary**.

**For registration and further information**, please email to me at [dru@druseducationalconsulting.net](mailto:dru@druseducationalconsulting.net). I am happy to answer your questions.

Looking forward to your participation in this educational and memorable Edu Tours to Finland that even visits Rauma.



***Dr. Marja Ingrid Urponen***

Dr. U's Educational Consulting  
 LinkedIn Dr. Marja Ingrid (Inkeri) Urponen  
 Facebook Marja Ingrid Urponen

**Edu Tour to Finland-Helsinki, Turku & Rauma March 16-23, 2019**

Our Icelandair flights will depart direct to Helsinki via Keflavik **from Boston at 9:00 pm, New York JFK at 8:20 pm, Washington DC Dulles at 8:45 pm, Denver at 4:35 pm, Orlando at 6:55 pm and Seattle at 4:10 pm on Saturday, March 16, 2019.** The return flight from Helsinki departs at 3:35 pm on Saturday, March 23, 2019.

**The program begins at the Helsinki Airport at 2:00 pm on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.**

**Dr. Marja Ingrid Urponen**  
**Cell (561) 758-5941**  
[dru@druseducationalconsulting.net](mailto:dru@druseducationalconsulting.net)

**ITINERARY**



**Saturday, March 16 – Departure to Finland**

Departure with IcelandAir from Boston to Keflavik, Iceland at 9:30 pm. (The flights from other airport to Keflavik, the IcelandAir hub, depart earlier.) All flights arrive at Keflavik around 6:30 am. All tour participants pass through the European Union Passport Control and transfer to the Helsinki flight.

Departure from Keflavik to Helsinki at 7:30 am.

**Sunday, March 17 – Arrival Day**

Arrival at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport at 13:50 (1:50 pm)

Welcome at the airport and transfer to the bus with an English-speaking guide for the Helsinki sightseeing tour and Sunday Brunch.

Check in to: **Hotel GLO Kluuvi, Kluuvikatu 4, 00100 Helsinki**,  
<https://www.glohotels.fi/en/hotels/glo-kluuvi>

*A centrally located, first class hotel at the heart of the city, next to the shopping streets and near the Market Square and the Lutheran Cathedral. Breakfast, Free WIFI.*

Orientation: Welcome to Finland and Overview of the Edu Tour  
 Lecture: Understanding Finland and Finland in International Comparisons  
 Free evening.

**Monday, March 18 – Helsinki Area Day**

Breakfast at the hotel.

9:00 Educator Program begins at the hotel: Lectures:

The Finnish Education System, the policy and the practice.

Overview of the initial teacher preparation programs at the universities.

Lunch. Check out. Transportation to Turku.

On a way to Turku, a visit to a school with an early childhood and elementary grades, age group 2-9

Check in to: **Radisson Blu Marina Palace Hotel, Linnankatu 32, Turku**  
<https://www.radissonblu.com/en/hotel-turku>

*Enjoy the lovely location on the banks of the Aurajoki River in Turku center. Breakfast, guest sauna, gym and free WI-FI*

19:00 Dinner at Brahen Kellari Restaurant with debriefing in Turku  
 Free evening

**Tuesday, March 19 – Turku Day**

Breakfast at the hotel

8:30 Introduction to the education system of the City of Turku, to different educational programs and to the current curriculum.

Lunch at a vocational upper secondary school with an overview of the school and its programs.

Visit to the Instructional Computer Center used for professional development  
*Sightseeing tour of city of Turku with visits to the Medieval Cathedral and the Castle. Turku is the Sweden-era capital of Finland dating back to 12<sup>th</sup> century.*

19:00 Dinner at the hotel and debriefing  
 Free evening in the Old Rauma

**36 Tobey Road Unit 37, Dracut, MA 01826**  
**7030 Half Moon Circle #318, Hypoluxo, FL 33462**

*Fresh ideas for life-long learners*

### Wednesday, March 20 – Turku Day

Breakfast at the hotel

8:30 Transportation for the school visits to:

A basic comprehensive school with lower grades for age group 7-10 and higher grades for age group 11-15.

The school has a wide range special education and support programs and a program for newly arrived immigrant and refugee students.

Lunch at the school. Meeting and discussion with principals and teachers.

Classroom visits and observation.

Debriefing at the museum ship S/S Borella at the Aurajoki River

16:30 Transportation to Rauma

Check in to: **Hotel Vanha Rauma, Vanhankirkonkatu 26, Rauma**

<https://www.hotelvanharauma.fi/>

*While staying in this good tourist class hotel, you can enjoy the unique atmosphere and the picturesque surroundings of the Old Rauma. (UNESCO World Heritage Site). Free WIFI*

Dinner at the hotel's Kalatori Restaurant. Free evening

### Thursday, March 21 – Rauma Day

Breakfast at the hotel

8:30 Welcome: Department of Education and Culture at Rauma City Hall  
Visit to a lower level comprehensive school, age groups 7-12.

School lunch.

Transportation and visit to an upper secondary schools, age group 15-18.

*A walking tour of Old Rauma, the historic city center of wooden houses and cobbled streets with visits to the Old Town Hall, to a Shipowner's historic house Marela, to the medieval Church and to the Rauma Library. Visit to a renovated Old Rauma residence.*

Dinner on your own. Free evening.

### Friday, March 22 – Rauma Day

Breakfast at the hotel

8:45 Transportation and visit to an English-Finnish bilingual daycare and preschool/kindergarten center. School lunch.

11:30 Visit to a upper level comprehensive school, age groups 13-15

Summoning up the experience of this week and debriefing. Discussion on takeaways to home with Dr. Urponen

Free afternoon and lunch on your own

*Sightseeing tour of the Rauma area famous for shipbuilding and college education. Along the sea coast and the harbor ending at the Maritime Museum for the Farewell dinner.*

Transportation back to the hotel. Free evening

### Saturday, March 23 – Back to Helsinki and Home Day

Breakfast at the hotel. Check out. Luggage loaded to the bus.

8:15 Transportation to Helsinki-Vantaa Airport

Time for duty-free shopping

15:35 Departure with Icelandair from Helsinki-Vantaa to Keflavik, Iceland.

Arrival at Keflavik. Departure from Keflavik to Boston and to other destinations with arrival in Boston and other destination in late afternoon or early evening.

There may be minor adjustments to the itinerary during the tour.

### TOTAL COST per person in double room by departure city

Boston – US \$3,690.00

New York JFK and Washington DC Dulles – US \$3,790.00

Chicago, Minneapolis and Denver – US \$3,860.00

Seattle – US \$3,880.00, Orlando - \$3,980.00

Single room supplement – US \$490.00

**Edu Tour participants departing from outside the US (Australia, Canada, etc.) and arranging their own air travel to Helsinki – US \$3,090.00.**

### The Edu Tour Payment Due Dates

**At registration:** The nonrefundable registration deposit check \$400.00. No space will be reserved without the payment of the registration fee.

**Before November 30, 2018:** The check \$1,500.00

**Before January 1, 2019:** **Final payment by check or credit card.** For example, for travelers departing from Boston, it is \$1,790.00 (double room) plus \$490.00 single room supplement, if applicable.

**Third party billing:** Indicate the billing address of the paying organization in the Registration Form if your district, school, college, etc. covers your Edu Tour cost.

### The cost includes:

-Educator Program with lectures and school visits and listed activities

-round trip air travel to Helsinki from the above airports

-transfers between the airport and hotels

-GLO Hotel Kluuvi, 1 night, in downtown Helsinki

-Radisson Blue Marina Palace, 2 nights, in downtown Turku

-Hotel Vanha Rauma, 3 night in the Old Rauma historic district

-daily Nordic Buffet breakfast

-transportation to schools

-City sightseeing tours in Helsinki, Turku and Rauma and the Rauma walking tour with English-speaking guide

-lunch in Helsinki (Sunday, Monday), culinary arts school lunch in Turku (Tuesday), dinner in Turku and Rauma (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday), school lunches in Turku and Rauma (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)

-farewell dinner at the Maritime Museum with transportation (Friday)

**Not included:** Lunch and dinner beverages and travel insurance.

### Cancellation Fees

**Up to December 1, 2018:** Full refund less \$400.00

**From December 2, 2018 to January 1, 2019:** Full refund minus 50% of the tour cost

**January 2, 2019 or later:** No refund.

### Aviation Safety and Security Requirement

To ensure aviation safety and security, all airlines are required to adhere to the Advance Passenger Information System (APIS), which requires the collection of specific information from every passenger traveling on all flights to/from the United States. The Registration Form asks for this information required:

**Complete name as printed in the passport. Gender, Nationality, Country of residence, Date of birth and Passport Number.**

NOTE: Name correction cost is \$150.00 after January 10, 2019.



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### INFORMATION ON VISA TO FINLAND

<http://formin.finland.fi/public/default.aspx?nodeid=49459&contentlan=2&culture=en-US>

Citizens of Visa Waiver Countries (USA, Canada, Australia, etc.) do not need a visa to enter Finland or the European Union.

**Non-citizen legal residents** of the Visa Waiver Countries (for example, US green cardholders from non-Visa Waiver Countries such as Jamaica) need a visa. In case you need a visa, you are advised to contact the nearest Finnish Embassy or Consulate for an appointment. Dr. U's Educational Consulting will write a letter of support.

Edu Tours to Finland are coordinated by Dr. Marja Ingrid Urponen from the Dr. U's Educational Consulting in collaboration with principals, education officials and schools in the visited municipalities, the Florida Chapter of the Finlandia Foundation, Dooris Travel from Helsinki, and Icelandair.



**Dr. Marja Ingrid Urponen**

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***Greater Helsinki and Picturesque Porvoo  
 Vacation Week of April 13-20, 2019***

***Registration is open.***

Dear Educator,

You are invited to an April vacation educator tour to Finland! Our **Edu Tour to Finland** will introduce you to the Finnish education system while you visit schools in the Greater Helsinki Area and in the nearby coastal towns of Porvoo and Raasepori and enjoy the Nordic culture and cuisine.

As you know, Finnish students consistently rank among the top performers in international comparisons (PISA, TIMSS) because the education system is one of the best in the world. In the Educator Program, the tour participants will visit schools and learn from experienced Finnish administrators and teachers how the Finnish education system works, about the current curriculum and teacher preparation programs. School visitations will focus on policies, practices, successes, challenges and learning outcomes which are very similar in schools across the country. The cultural, sightseeing and nature activities complement the Educator Program.

The **itinerary below** details the daily activities, the cost and the payment plan. Notice that most of our needs are covered by the tour cost including the air travel to Finland and even the farewell dinner.

You will bring fresh research-based ideas, inspiration and memorable experiences as takeaways to your school or district or college!

At the website [www.druseducationalconsulting.net](http://www.druseducationalconsulting.net), you can view photos of past Edu Tours to Finland and print the **registration form** and the **itinerary**.

**For registration and further information**, please email to me at [dru@druseducationalconsulting.net](mailto:dru@druseducationalconsulting.net). I am happy to answer your questions.

Looking forward to your participation in this educational and memorable Edu Tours to Finland,



*Dr. Marja Ingrid Urponen*

Dr. U's Educational Consulting  
 LinkedIn Dr. Marja Ingrid (Inkeri) Urponen  
 Facebook Marja Ingrid Urponen

**Edu Tour to Finland-The Greater Helsinki Area, April 13-20, 2019**

Our Icelandair flights will depart direct to Helsinki via Keflavik from **Boston at 9:30 pm, New York JFK at 8:20 pm, Washington DC Dulles at 8:30 pm, Denver at 4:50 pm, Minneapolis at 7:30 pm, Chicago at 7:30 pm and Seattle at 3:50 pm on Saturday, April 13, 2019.** The return flight from Helsinki departs at 3:35 pm on Saturday, April 20, 2019.

**The study tour begins at the Helsinki Airport at 2:00 pm on Sunday, April 14th.**

**Dr. Marja Ingrid Urponen**  
 Cell (561) 758-5941  
[dru@druseducationalconsulting.net](mailto:dru@druseducationalconsulting.net)

**ITINERARY**



**Saturday, April 13 – Departure to Finland Day**

Departure with IcelandAir from Boston to Keflavik, Iceland at 9:30 pm. (The flights from other airport to Keflavik, the IcelandAir hub, depart earlier.) All flights arrive at Keflavik around 6:30 am. All tour participants transfer to the Helsinki flight.  
 Departure from Keflavik to Helsinki at 7:30 am.

**Sunday, April 14 – Arrival Day**

Arrival at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport at 13:50 (1:50 pm)  
 Welcome at the airport and transfer to the bus with an English-speaking guide for the Helsinki sightseeing tour and Sunday Brunch.  
 Drive to the Hotelli GLO Kluuvi, Kluuvikatu 4, 00100Helsinki,  
<https://www.glohotels.fi/en/hotels/glo-kluuvi>  
*A centrally located, first class hotel at the heart of the city, next to the shopping streets and near the Market Square and the Lutheran Cathedral.*  
*Free WIFI.*  
 Orientation: Welcome to Finland and Overview of the Edu Tour  
 Lecture: Understanding Finland and Finland in International Comparisons  
 Free evening.

**Monday, April 15 – Helsinki Day**

Breakfast at the hotel.  
 9:00 Educator Program begins at the hotel: Lecture: The Finnish Education System, the policy and the practice.  
 Lunch.  
 Transportation.  
 Visit to an upper secondary school (age group 16-18)  
 Transportation to the Helsinki University Teacher Training Unit  
 Theme: Bridging the gap between formal education and informal learning  
 Transportation back to the hotel.  
 19:00 Dinner and debriefing.  
 Free evening

**Tuesday, April 16 – Porvoo Day**

Breakfast at the hotel  
 8:30 Transportation to Porvoo  
 Visit to a preschool, age group 2-6  
 School lunch.  
 Visit to a comprehensive school, upper level, age groups 13-15  
*A walking tour in Old Porvoo with a local guide*  
*Porvoo, Finland's second oldest city, is a picturesque town with wooden houses and narrow lanes. It played a central role in the relationship of Nordic countries and the Russian Empire. After the tour, time for shopping in local boutiques.*  
 Transportation to dinner.  
 Dinner and debriefing in Porvoo  
 19:30 Return to Helsinki.  
 Free evening

**36 Tobey Road Unit 37, Dracut, MA 01826  
 7030 Half Moon Circle #318, Hypoluxo, FL 33462**

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### Wednesday, April 17 – Raasepori Day

Breakfast at the hotel

7:45 Departure to Raasepori

A whole day visit to a basic comprehensive school with lower grades for age group 7-10 and higher grades for age group 11-15.

School lunch. Meeting and discussion with principals and teachers. Classroom visits and observation. Collaboration with a US school.

The Co-teaching, Language, Easter and Anti-Bullying Programs.

*Transportation to the Fiskars Village. Late afternoon guided tour and meal in Fiskars Industrial Village, founded in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, and known today as the center of Finnish art and design.*

Transportation back to Helsinki

18:30 Return to the hotel. Free evening

### Thursday, April 18 – Espoo and Helsinki Day

Breakfast at the hotel

8:00 Transportation to visit a comprehensive school, age groups 7-15

Transportation back to Helsinki

*Visit the new Helsinki Central Library, Oodi*

*Theme: The new Open Public Space – A Space of Education*

*The Role of Public Libraries in the Finnish Literacy and Culture*

Lunch at Musiikkitalo

*Social Studies and Culture: A walking tour of Downtown Helsinki to the Market Square. Ferry to the Suomenlinna and a guided tour of the island*

18:30 Ferry back to downtown Helsinki. Walk to the hotel. Free evening.

### Friday, April 19 – Nuukio Day

Breakfast at the hotel

9:00 Educator Program Themes:

The Initial Teacher Education in Finland and the Teachers' Occupation Questions and Answers.

Summoning up the experience of this week and debriefing. Discussion on takeaways to home with Dr. Urponen

Free afternoon and lunch on your own

*17:00 Departure for the Nuukio National Park for an outdoor nature lesson and coffee cooked over an open fire followed by the farewell dinner in a Lapland kota.*

22:00 Transportation back to the hotel. Free evening

### Saturday, April 20 – Back Home Day

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning free. Check out. Luggage loaded to the bus.

11:45 Transportation to Helsinki-Vantaa Airport

Time for duty-free shopping

15:35 (3.35 pm) Departure with Icelandair from Helsinki-Vantaa to Keflavik, Iceland.

Arrival at Keflavik. Departure from Keflavik to Boston and to other destinations with arrival in Boston and other destination in late afternoon or early evening.

**There may be minor adjustments to the itinerary during the tour.**

### TOTAL COST per person in double room by departure city

Boston – US \$3,890.00

New York JFK and Washington DC Dulles – US \$3,990.00

Chicago, Minneapolis and Denver – US \$4,060.00

Seattle – US \$4,080.00

Single room supplement – US \$420.00

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### The cost includes:

-Educator Program with lectures and school visits and other programs

-round trip air travel to Helsinki from the above airports

-transfers between the airport and hotel

-GLO Hotel Kluuvi, 6 nights, in downtown Helsinki, with WIFI

-daily Nordic Buffet breakfast

-transportation to schools, ferry ticket to the Suomenlinna Island

-Helsinki City sightseeing tour, Helsinki and Porvoo Walking tours with English-speaking guides

-lunch in Helsinki and Fiskars (Sunday, Wednesday, Thursday), dinner in Helsinki and Porvoo (Monday, Tuesday), school lunches (Tuesday, Wednesday)

-farewell dinner with nature activities in the Nuukio National Park with transportation (Friday)

**Not included:** Lunch and dinner beverages and travel insurance.

### Cancellation Fees

**Up to December 11, 2018:** Full refund less \$400.00

**From December 12, 2018 to January 10, 2019:** Full refund minus 50% of the tour cost

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