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Finnish Defence Forces' 100th Anniversary Events in 2018

4 Jun. National Parade on the Flag Day of the Defence Forces, Seinäjoki
6 Dec. National Independence Day Parade, Mikkeli

30 May–4 Jun. Defence Forces 100 Festival, Helsinki

Defence Forces 100 Summer Tour

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|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 4 Jun. Seinäjoki | 9 Jun. Mikkeli | 9 Aug. Joensuu | 18 Aug. Kajaani |
| 6 Jun. Tampere | 13 Jun. Kuopio | 10 Aug. Kouvola | 23 Aug. Helsinki |
| 7 Jun. Hämeenlinna | 15 Jun. Lappeenranta | 16 Aug. Rovaniemi | 24 Aug. Raasepori |
| 8 Jun. Lahti | 16 Jun. Jyväskylä | 17 Aug. Oulu | 25 Aug. Turku |

Defence Forces 100 Combat Exhibition Tour

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|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 18 Jul. Pori (SuomiAreena) | 17 Aug. Oulu (Summer Tour) | 7–8 Sep. Lahti |
| 9 Aug. Joensuu (Summer Tour) | 25 Aug. Turku (Summer Tour) | (Comprehensive Security Fair) |

9 Feb. 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Field Artillery of Independent Finland
and the Artillery School, Helsinki

22 Feb. Anniversary of the Army, Tampere

24 Feb. 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Homecoming of the Jaegers, Vaasa

6 Mar. Anniversary of the Air Force, Helsinki

16–17 Jun. Air Force 100th Anniversary Air Show, Jyväskylä

8–9 Jul. Anniversary of the Navy, Turku

30 Jul.–4 Aug. Hamina Tattoo 2018

27 Nov. Defence Forces 100th Anniversary Concert, Helsinki

Defence Forces Visitor's Day events in brigade-level units in May

Guard Parades and MIL-Espa Concerts in Helsinki in May–Aug.



Finnish military history at the Military Museum

The Military Museum collects and stores objects and images relating to Finland's military and weapon history and to the different stages of the Defence Forces and displays them to the public in its exhibitions. The Military Museum's exhibitions have more than 80,000 visitors every year, and its image, collection and information services are used by thousands of other customers.

The Military Museum's exhibitions are located on the island of Suomenlinna. In the Defence Forces' 100th Anniversary Year, the Military Museum will open a new exhibition on 9 May 2018. The exhibition, which is located in the Military Museum's Maneesi and Kuntomaneesi buildings, depicts the wars that have taken place during Finland's independence, as well as the Defence Forces' activities from the time after the wars to the present day. The Military Museum's submarine Vesikko will also be open.

A new publication presenting the 100-year history of the Defence Forces will also appear during the anniversary year.



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NATIONAL DEFENCE IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS



FACTS ABOUT THE FINNISH DEFENCE FORCES 2018

The Finnish Defence Forces 100 years

This year the Finnish Defence Forces turn 100 years. We will celebrate our anniversary year with more than 120 events around Finland.

The Defence Forces have played a vital role in securing Finland's independence and its citizens' livelihood throughout our history both in times of peace and war.

National defence is everybody's business. Built on our circumstances and needs, Finland's model is the foundation of our defence. Its corner stones are conscription, a credible defence that covers the entire country, and not belonging to any military alliance. In the background is the strong will of our citizens to defend our country. Our defence capacity is made up of the capabilities of our Army, Navy and Air Force as well as joint capabilities. Defence capacity is maintained and demonstrated every day of the year and at all times.

The Government's Defence Report, which was approved by Parliament in the summer of 2017, outlines the development of our defence far into the next decade. Focal points are the readiness and training of our troops, replacing outdated capabilities of the services, intelligence, cyber defence and long-range fire power. By implementing the guidelines laid out in the Report, our defence capacity will be maintained also in the future.



Commander of the Finnish Defence Forces

Jarmo Lindberg
General Jarmo Lindberg

The tasks of the Defence Forces are

- **Finland's military defence**
 - monitoring Finland's land and sea area and securing territorial integrity
 - guaranteeing the population's livelihood and basic rights, safeguarding the freedom of action of the government as well as the legal social order
 - providing military training, steering voluntary national defence training and promoting the people's will to defend their country
- **Supporting other authorities**
- **Participating in providing international assistance**
- **Participating in international military crisis management**



The Army is responsible for defending Finland's land area and participates in carrying out all of the Defence Forces' tasks.

The Army annually arranges call-ups for around 30,000 young people in approximately 250 municipalities around Finland and maintains contact with local government in connection with this. Annually, approximately 20,000 conscripts and female volunteers are trained in the Army's eight brigade-level units.

The defence of Finland's entire territory is based on the large, capable and if necessary rapidly available reserve that is produced through general conscription. Reservists' know-how is maintained through refresher training and voluntary exercises, in which almost 20,000 reservists are trained every year. The Army supports the rest of society by providing assistance to other authorities some 400 times a year.

The Army leads a majority of the military crisis management operations that the Defence Forces are involved in. It also trains and equips forces for crisis management tasks.



The Navy is responsible for monitoring and safeguarding territorial integrity, repelling attacks by sea and protecting maritime connections. The Navy monitors and protects Finland's sea areas round-the-year using maritime surveillance systems and vessels together with the other services and maritime authorities. The Navy participates in multinational surveillance of the Baltic Sea.

The Navy supports other authorities and participates in providing international assistance and in crisis management.

The know-how of the naval and coastal troops is maintained in day-to-day activities, national and international exercises and in refresher training. The Navy annually trains around 3,400 conscripts for the reserve.



The Air Force's primary task is to prevent and counter air attacks.

The Air Force maintains the capability for air operations and leads air defence on a national scale. The Air Force is a territorial surveillance authority that is responsible for airspace surveillance and for repelling aerial territorial violations.

During peacetime the Air Force's activities centre around surveillance and safeguarding Finland's territorial integrity. In a military crisis, the main task of the Air Force is fighter interception. The Air Force also supports the combat of all the services by means of air-to-surface weapon systems.

The Air Force provides assistance to other authorities and supports the safeguarding of society's vital functions. It also maintains readiness to provide and receive international assistance and is responsible for participation in crisis management duties that are assigned to it. The Air Force has approximately 2,000 uniformed and non-uniformed service members. The service trains approximately 1,300 conscripts annually.

General conscription

Every male Finnish citizen is liable for military service starting from the beginning of the year in which he turns 18 until the end of the year in which he turns 60. Military service includes conscript service, refresher training, extra service and service during mobilisation as well as participation in call-ups and examination of fitness for service. A man liable for military service is either in service, in the reserve or in the auxiliary reserve.

Conscript training produces the Defence Forces' wartime troops. Military service lasts 165, 255 or 347 days. Refresher exercises maintain and complement the training initially received during military service. They are also a flexible way of raising military readiness. A person who is in the reserve must take part in refresher exercises. The number of days – 80, 150 or 200 – depends on the training he or she initially received as a conscript. When normal conditions are disrupted or emergency conditions are declared, defence readiness can be raised either by ordering reservists into refresher training or extra service, or through mobilisation.

Voluntary military service for women

To complete voluntary military service, a woman must be a Finnish citizen and aged 18–29. She must have the required physical condition and personal attributes that are suitable for military training. Women go through the same training as male conscripts. Once a woman has finished her military service, she is placed in the reserve and will be ordered to attend refresher exercises just as men who have completed military service. Women also remain liable for military service until the end of the year that they turn 60.

