

Profile of the country:

Finland



National language:	Finnish and Swedish (both are official national languages)
Geographical size:	130,677 square miles
National flag:	The flag of Finland consists of a blue Scandinavian cross on a white background.
Number of inhabitants:	Around 5.5 million (as at 2023)
Currency (money):	Euro (EUR)
Capital city:	Helsinki
Animals:	Elks, Reindeer, Bears, Wolves and lynxes and Birds: A variety of bird species, including swans, which are considered a national symbol.
Fruit and vegetables:	Fruit: Apples, berries (such as blueberries, cranberries, raspberries) Vegetables: Potatoes, carrots, onions, cabbage, turnips
Most important economic sectors:	Forestry, Technology and electronics, Metal and mechanical engineering, Tourism, especially popular are activities related to nature, such as hiking, skiing and fishing. Services, especially in the area of IT and digital services

Common female names:	Maria, Sofia, Aino, Emma, Venla
Common male names:	Juhani, Johannes, Mikael, Onni, Elias
Myths and customs:	<p>Kalevala: This is the Finnish national epic that tells of heroic sagas and myths.</p> <p>Sauna (warm steam bath): An essential part of Finnish culture, often associated with purity and health.</p> <p>Midsummer (Juhannus): A festival to celebrate the summer solstice, which is celebrated with large bonfires and feasts.</p> <p>Christmas: Christmas is celebrated intensely. Many people believe that Santa Claus comes from Lapland.</p>
Special features:	<p>Education system: Finland has one of the best education systems in the world, known for its equal opportunities and quality.</p> <p>Close to nature: Finns have a deep connection to nature, which is reflected in the popularity of outdoor activities such as hiking, skiing and fishing.</p> <p>Sustainability: Finland attaches great importance to environmental protection and sustainable practices.</p> <p>Midnight sun and polar night: In summer, the sun shines around the clock in the northern parts of Finland, while in winter the polar night brings darkness.</p> <p>Architecture and design: Finland is known for its modern design and architecture.</p>

Bonus material of the book series: „Elfie and Twelfie 2 brave Elves on Journeys“
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