

## Exploring Helsinki: Thrift stores & cheap beer

Right now, Helsinki is truly embracing sustainable fashion and thrifting has become a huge trend. It feels like there are new secondhand stores opening up every week. Or as we would say, popping up like mushrooms on a rainy day (a Finnish saying). Here is an overview of a few...

### **UFF / IG: @uff\_fi**

UFF is a well-known chain in Finland, and they have locations all over Helsinki. On the more affordable side, you can find anything for everyone here. If you happen to visit when the "*tasarahapäivät*" are on, you will save some big bucks!

### **Fida / IG: @fidasecondhand**

Like UFF, this one is also a chain, and you can find one in Punavuori and one in Hakaniemi (Kallio). Fida offers a wide variety of second-hand goods, including clothing, books and small home décor. It's a great place to find unique items at bargain prices.

### **Relove / IG: @relovelifestyle**

Relove combines a cozy café with a thrift store. You can sip on a latte while browsing through stylish second-hand clothes, shoes, and accessories. They also serve some delicious food! There is even one at the airport nowadays, in the departures hall.

### **Moody Monday / IG: @moodymonday\_secondhand**

Kind of similar with the vibe of Relove, minus the food and coffee. This is also a small chain and has stores in the bigger malls of Helsinki such as Tripla and Kamppi.



Relove.

After you have been shopping all day, you are probably feeling a bit thirsty, right? But you spend all your money on thrifting? Then cheap beer it is!

Beer in a bar or pub in the city center of Helsinki can be a bit expensive. Therefore, for a cheaper one, head to Kallio. This area used to be a working-class neighborhood, but like always gentrification finds its way everywhere. Rent prices have gone up, but the beer prices remain low. Bars and pubs are on every corner, but the cheapest beverages you can find on Vaasankatu or Helsinginkatu. However, these places are not ones you go for the cool décor or fancy drinks.



Helsinginkatu.

**Itakoulu:** For a more laid-back experience, head to this one on Vaasankatu. Now during the spring/summertime they have a nice terrace where you can enjoy the sunny wather. This cozy, old-school pub serves reasonably priced drinks.

**Siima:** Also on Vaasankatu, this one is probably one of the cheapest ones in the area. The atmosphere is very 'local' and it surely is not the trendiest of places, but beverages are cheap!

**Lepakkomies:** This one is located on Helsinginkatu, Lepakkomies is a rock bar that hosts live bands and DJ nights. The bar's edgy decor and lively crowd create an exciting environment for rock music lovers.

These bars of Kallio (and Sörnäinen, the neighborhood next to Kallio) are usually the places where student 'apros' are also held, due to their affordable pricing.



Kallio's bar scene is as diverse and dynamic as its residents. The neighborhood is packed with bars that cater to all tastes, offering a lively atmosphere without breaking the bank. If bars are not your scene, grab something from the supermarket (or maybe Hesburger) to grab some snacks and go to Tokoinranta to chill for the evening.

For the ones who want to continue their night enjoying Helsinki's nightlife, you can head to Siltanen, Kaiku or Kutonen. The beer prices won't be as cheap there, but they are all great for nigh-out with friends!

**Siltanen / IG: @siltanenbar**

**Kaiku / IG: @clubkaiku**

**Kuudes linja / IG: @6.linja**

PS. Extra tip! If you are in Kallio area and like nice views, the tower of Kallio church (Kallion kirkko) has just opened to public. The price to enter the viewpoint is 14 euros and there are a lot of stairs, but the views are worth it.



Church of Kallio.

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<https://www.finnvera.fi/finnvera/yritystarinat/relove>

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kallio,\\_Helsinginkatu,\\_July\\_2005.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kallio,_Helsinginkatu,_July_2005.jpg)

<https://www.helsinginseurakunnat.fi/kallionkirkko.html.stx>