

Visit the open-air gallery

The works of art on the western riverside of the Porvoonjoki river surprise, delight, and leave a mark on the viewer.

In a short time, the area and its nearby quarters have become an open-air gallery open to all, the works of which one can explore at any time. There are already over 20 works of art in the art district, and the collection is still being completed. The Porvoo Art Factory and Porvoo Art Hall are also located on the western riverside. More information at: www.taidetehdas.fi/en

The Art Factory is a living quarter and part of Porvoo city life. At the Art Factory, you can visit the Art Hall and venues, shops, restaurants, and cinema. The walls of the former factory building carry memories, but today they echo the work of artists, the construction of exhibitions, and the rhythm of events.



Stilleben, Anssi Pulkkinen & Taneli Rautiainen 2013

Whose works of art are there in the area?

The creators of the works of art are well-known representatives of contemporary art from Porvoo, the rest of Finland, and abroad. In the area there are sculptures and other three-dimensional works, murals, and light and sound works.



Delphi, Astrid Sylwan 2018



Pathfinder, Anne Meskenen-Barman 2023

Accessibility of the western riverside Art Route

The Art Route runs through pedestrian and bicycle ways, in parks, and alleys. Many of the objects on the route are located near the Art Factory. Most of the route is suitable for movement with a wheeled assistive device, but assistance may be needed to be able to move. On the route one needs to cross streets and in some of the crossings one has to move over kerbstones in streets.

The yard and multi-storey garage of the Art Factory have accessible parking spaces and there is an accessible toilet in the lobby, which can be accessed during the opening hours of the Art Factory. There are plenty of different seats along the route where one can rest.



You can find more detailed information on the accessibility of the objects at:



King of the Hill, Tommi Toija 2021

How did the area become an art district?

In the early 2000s, construction of the western riverside of the Porvoonjoki river was still just beginning. The first work of art was acquired in 2009 to the August Eklöf Park. Porvoo Art Factory was opened renovated to the public in 2012, and it gave momentum to the artistic and cultural use of the entire area.

The Art Programme for the western riverside was completed in 2014. Since then, most of the works have been acquired in accordance with the Art Programme and via various art competitions. The works have been financed by developers in the area. In addition, there are art acquisitions and temporary works of art by the city, educational institutions, and private actors in the area.



Magic Stroke, Åsa-Maria Bengtsson 2018

Public art and Art Programmes

Learn more about public art in Porvoo, art programmes, and current art competitions.



(Content available only in Finnish and Swedish)

Art in Porvoo streetscape

See more detailed descriptions and more art online.



#cityofcharmingmoments
porvoo.fi/en/culture-and-leisure



Art on the western riverside of the Porvoo river

PORVOO  BORGÅ

MAP

Choose your own route and let art lead you

You may explore the works of art in the order you want, by walking or cycling. The works are placed close to each other, and the terrain is largely flat.

Some of the works are located in the yard areas of housing associations or on the walls of buildings. Please remember to take into account the privacy of residents when you explore or photograph the works. Some of the works are located in closed staircases to which the public do not have access.

Porvoo Art Factory and Art Factory Quarter

1 Art Factory

Works from the following artists are on display inside the Art Factory: **Paul Green, Åsa Hellman, Suvi Härkönen, Ylva Holländer, Petri Hytönen, Irmeli Mäkilä, Kirsi Kaulanen, Nelli Nio, Antti Ruuhela, Pan Jianfeng, Paula Salmela, Aino Ulmanen and Milja Viita.**

2 Porvoo Art Hall, Art Factory, 2nd floor

Contemporary art exhibitions, events, and concerts. In addition, art and design products and Porvoo Artists' Association's art lending library Konsta. **Yrjö A. Jantti's** art collection will open revised in 2026.



3 Anssi Pulkkinen & Taneli Rautiainen Stilleben, 2013

In the work, the lamp poles that have taken the shape of the tree form a still life painting in front of the Art Factory. In addition to the four poles, the work includes two branches that have fallen to the ground.

4 Kislow & Kreemos, Twice, 2015 Four-part work on the façade of the Art Factory

The work, consisting of text and images, is located on the façades of the Art Factory facing the streets. It is a joint work of two street artists, Alexei Kislow and Kreemos. Kislow often uses dreamlike images and symbols from diverse cultures in his art. Kreemos' works are characterised by typography and spatial, geometric patterns.



5 Corinna Helenelund Before long, 2018

According to the artist, the starting point of the work is an idea of the bus stop as a waiting room and a shelter providing peace. Nature's forms and abstract forms are combined in the work into a piece of furniture that attracts to rest, wait, and observe the surroundings.

6 Laura Pehkonen, Mélange, 2025–2027

The work is a ceramic wall relief that can be experienced both by looking and touching. The work, consisting of handmade ceramic pieces, is located on the exterior walls of the buildings of the wooden house quarter in the Tehtaantuisto park and on the arcade around the basement.

7 Artwork chosen through Open Art Competition 2026–2027

Art Factory riverside park and Kokonniemi

8 Jenni Tuominen Lovely Porvoo Photo Frames, 2024

Photo frames delineate picturesque points from the shore landscape. The frames are lined with pictorial motifs, from which one can distinguish not only plant motifs but also pine trees and jackdaws typical of Porvoo's urban nature. There are nine frames of varied sizes between the Art Factory riverside park and the Old Bridge and the Näsi stone.

8 Maija Hynninen, Minna Leinonen & Jussi Suonikko, Jennah Vainio, 2022

Sound artwork in collaboration with chamber orchestra Avanti. The works are played every hour at 12–20, total length approx. 15 min.

Sound works are played from two lamp poles in which has been installed speaker systems. The works are composed by Minna Leinonen, Jussi Suonikko, Jennah Vainio and Maija Hynninen.

9 Paula Salmela, Flow, 2019

The relief attached to the wall of the Porvoo Vesi water pumping station symbolises the cycle of water. The patterns resemble bubbles and foam generated by the turmoil of water. According to the artist, the round shape of the work refers to continuity and endlessness. It also resembles an area bounded by a microscope and thus refers to research and technology.

Quarter 448 in the western riverside and the August Eklöf park and Aleksispark

10 Petri Hytönen, Color Party, 2021

The work consists of colourful, silhouette-like figures painted on the wall, paving, shaped benches, mirror mosaic ball and lighting. The actual party is going on in the bus shelter, but the work spreads out on the façade of the entire multi-storied building facing the street.

11 Tommi Toija, Little Paradise and King of the Hill, 2021, two-part work

In both parts of the work, a little person, an old man, adventures in the big world. The work Little Paradise at the riverside consists of a paradise environment with giant flowers and plantings. The King of the Hill sitting on a large stone on the side of the Aleksinpolku follows passers-by bewildered.



12 Kirsi Kaulanen & Ylva Holländer The Diet of Porvoo, 2009

The work and the surrounding August Eklöf park are part of the projects of the Diet of Porvoo's 200th anniversary. They are a permanent memory of the Diet of Porvoo in 1809, when the foundations for Finland's state development and later independence were laid. The three walls of the work depict Finland, Sweden, and Russia. The motifs and symbols on the walls are derived from folk art and heraldry.

13 Anne Meskanen-Barman Pathfinder, 2023, four-part work

The basis of the work are history, memory, and memories. It highlights the inhabitants of the riverside, the prominent figures of history, craftsmen in the area, and workers in the factories. According to the artist, some of the human figures in the whole have been wiped out, some are in invisible shadows, or dazzled by the sunlight. We see only some of the figures, but our imagination builds the image whole.

Aleksanterinkaari Street in Porvoo

14 Åsa-Maria Bengtsson Magic Stroke, 2018

The work makes one think of a broad stroke of a brush. The artist describes that the work is like a long breath, or a thought process cut off by complex knowledge. A brush that the artist has acquired from China and that has made her think of history as if it were a long, always continuing brush stroke, has served as a model to the steel brush that belongs to the work.

15 Marko Vuokola, Green Flash, 2019 The light artwork can be seen on the hour in the dark

Some of the light fittings in the residential quarter have been converted into art luminaires. The colour of their light changes slowly and stepless from blue to red and returns from red to blue again. The transition includes all the colours of the spectrum. The light is green for a brief moment on the hour. The work thus also serves as a clock. The themes of the work are constant slow change, time, and movement.

16 Kirsti Taiviola, Beacon, 2018

The work consists of wall lamps and photographs which characterise a leading or sector light, a torch, or a beacon projected for the façades of buildings by glass lenses. The lights guide the travellers on the pedestrian street of the inner ring of Aleksanterinkaari at dusk. They also mark the places of the entrances to residential buildings. Each building has its own light pattern.

17 Astrid Sylwan, Delphi, 2018

Delphi transforms a multi-storey garage into a classic temple, describes the artist her work. In its forms, one can see the forms of an antique container, amphora. The work creates an illusion of a space that is like a landscape in which the viewer can enter. The work can be experienced physically, and the large building becomes approachable and human.

Hellberg Hill

18 Sari Palosaari, Draft, 2021

The work is located in the stairwell of a multi-storied building, but it can also be seen from outside the building. The parts of the work resemble loose handrails that have bent in a bow. In addition to railings, one may see a reference to bicycle spokes, where the artist refers to the history of the area as the Hellberg's bike hall. The translation of the title of the work in Finnish can be an outline or sketch, but also an airflow or draught. According to the artist, the work visualises a vortex of an imaginary airflow in the buildings narrow and high light shaft.

19 Arja Kärkkäinen, In turn, 2021

The work's motif consists of large hand figures in which one can see wrists, palms, and fingers. The artist encourages the viewer to walk along the work and 'read the performance'. Thus, individual images form a series of images as a result of the viewer's movement.



Artist-owned temporary artworks:

20 Kirsi Kaulanen & Aaron Heino Aistikas, 2015

21 Maj-Britt Huovila & Laura Hyyti Kummeli, 2015

