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Helsinki Cathedral front area to be turned into pedestrian street again – additional parking space to be reserved for tour buses

The Senate Square section of Hallituskatu will turn into a pedestrian zone and more parking space will be reserved for tour buses in the streets nearby to add to the area's comfort and to make it safer for pedestrians. The addition of parking space aims at reducing prohibited parking of buses in the Senate Square area. The traffic arrangements will enter into force on 1 April and be in effect until the end of October.

The tour buses will be allotted parking spaces on the Aleksanterinkatu edge of the Senate Square. The paid parking for private cars will have to yield to parking reserved for tour vehicles.

Parking spaces for tour buses will also be added in Unioninkatu, Kirkkokatu and Rauhankatu. Simultaneously, the Rauhankatu section between Unioninkatu and Snellmaninkatu will turn into a one-way street, where driving eastwards will be permitted, i.e. from Unioninkatu towards Snellmaninkatu.

The addition of parking spaces for tour buses is a continuation of a trial that began in the summer of 2018. Whether the parking arrangements are to become standard summer procedure will be considered when the lessons of the trial periods have been analysed.

A compilation of information about the traffic arrangements for tour vehicles can be found on the city's website at hel.fi/pysakointi.

Further information:

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Attachments: Map of the traffic arrangements in the Senate Square area

Links: Information about facilities for tour bus parking in Helsinki

(<https://www.hel.fi/Helsinki/fi/kartat-ja-liikenne/pysakointi/pysakointi-helsingissa/>)

The most functional city in the world – The Helsinki City Strategy 2017–2021 provides the guidelines for the future of Helsinki. The strategy is implemented in key projects, one of which concerns an expansion of the central pedestrian zone and the prerequisites for an underground collector road. The changes in the parking arrangements for tourist traffic on the Senate Square constitute one part of the solutions assessed in the project.