

Artistic Directors violinists Antti Tikkanen and Minna Pensola

KUHMO CHAMBER MUSIC

for the 57th time on July 11-24, 2027

For two frenetic weeks in July, Kuhmo in Eastern Finland is a host to a chamber music festival attracting thousands of music lovers. In that fortnight, this town of 7,000 inhabitants echoes to the sound of music against a backcloth of a lake that almost laps the walls of the concert halls in the clear, unbelievable northern light.

The concerts are held in three wonderful wooden venues – in Kuhmo's beautiful old church (built in 1816), at the Kuhmo Arts Centre (built in 1993) and in the Tuupala School (2018). The concert venues are all within walking distance of one another, or bicycles are a popular means of getting about, for artists and audiences alike. Music is everywhere. There are concerts from morning to late at night, and people just live for the music. In the evenings, gathered round an open fire in the yard of the festival restaurant, musicians and festival-goers get together and strike up friendships.



Kuhmo Arts Centre



Kuhmo Church



Tuupala School







Artists on stage and in the nature

  

The amazing summer nights during the festival

In over 56 years, Kuhmo Chamber Music has grown to become one of the world's foremost music festivals. As early as 1989, the prestigious American journal Connoisseur was already calling it "possibly the best anywhere". In summer 2014 the British Financial Times described it as "a remarkable event, where unfettered creative idealism reigns". The Austrian music magazine Festspiele rated Kuhmo among the world's leading festivals in 2008–2016.
In 2018 Kuhmo Festival got the Cremona Musica Award in Italy.
In 2026 Finland Festivals named Kuhmo Chamber Music "The Festival of the Year 2026".

Each year Kuhmo adopts a different theme.
In 2027 the chosen theme is (*R)evolution*.
The Kuhmo Chamber Music Festival will run from 11 to 24 July in 2027.
The number of concerts will be 60, 4–5 per day. Among the pieces will be traditional chamber works, but also surprises, novelties, and exotic experiences. The composers of the summer's world premieres will be Marzi Nyman and Heta Aho. In addition to the main concerts there will be children's concerts, student concerts, talks on the programmes for the day, instrument demonstrations, meetings with artists and composers, art exhibitions, workshops, and unexpected musical moments in the surrounding nature. Together these side events will amount to 25 events.

Around 100 international artists will perform at Kuhmo Chamber Music in 2027.
Among the artists will be pianists Silke Avenhaus, Emil Holmström, Hyung-Ki Joo and Dirk Mommertz, violinists Priya Mitchell, Daniel Sepec, Cecilia Zilliacus and Sini Simonen, viola players Lilli Maijala, Yuval Gotlibovich and Garreth Lubbe, cellists Kati Raitinen and Senja Rummukainen, double bass player Oliver Thierry, baritone Thomas Florio, Trio E.T.A., the Paddington Trio, the Quartetto Quiroga, the Vertavo Quartet, the Meta4 String Quartet, and Felipe Salles Jazz Quartet.

The best flight connections to Kuhmo are through the Finnish capital Helsinki. Take the first flight to Helsinki and another one from Helsinki to the nearest airports in Kajaani/Kuopio/Joensuu. Local bus companies will help in organizing transportations from the airports to Kuhmo. Timetables: finnair.com.

It is possible to stay in Kuhmo in hotels, hostels, and even in private houses.
The best hotel in Kuhmo is the Hotel Kalevala.
The Vuokatti holiday region near Kuhmo has further accommodation for concert lovers.

Between the concerts there are other kinds of culture and nature activities in Kuhmo.
How about exploring the summer art exhibitions or paddling in the sunset?
More information: wildtaiga.fi and arcticlakeland.com

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Welcome to Kuhmo – the capital city of chamber music!