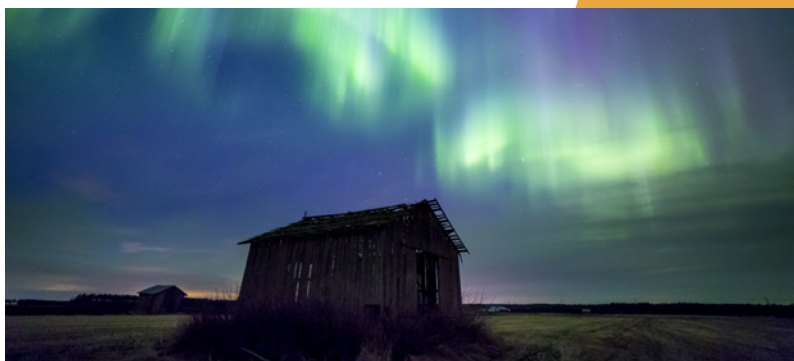
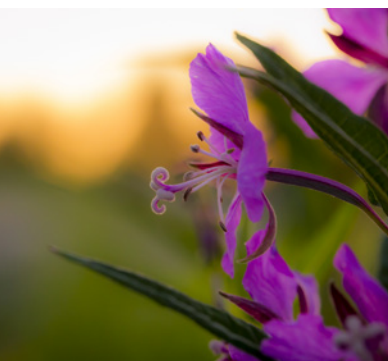


# THE REGION OF SOUTH OSTROBOTHNIA



## COME WORK WITH US



## WORK FOR THOSE WHO DO

The Southern Ostrobothnian entrepreneurial spirit means resilience and talent for problem-solving. If something that we need doesn't exist, we roll up our sleeves and make it. No wonder Southern Ostrobothnia is known as the region of entrepreneurs. There are more businesses per capita here than anywhere else in Finland and the proportion of entrepreneurs of people in employment is the highest in the country.

Businesses thrive throughout the region. Most are small or micro-businesses, but there are also several high-growth enterprises. The spearheading industries are wood industry, food industry and metal and technology industries.

It is in the nature of the Southern Ostrobothnian businesses to join international networks across sector boundaries and to face new challenges head-on. Business collaboration with the public sector, education and the industry is a positive strength. In their R&D and innovation activities and competence development, our businesses work closely with the University of Applied Sciences and the University Consortium and their scientists.



## COMING HERE IS LIKE COMING HOME

The Region of Southern Ostrobothnia is located in Western Finland. It is formed by 18 municipalities and has a total population of 195,000 residents. The capital city of the region, Seinäjoki, is a vibrant city with 64,000 residents that has benefited from a steady population growth since 1951 – the longest sustained period of growth among all regional centres in Finland.

The landscape is known for its wide open plains and fields intersected by rivers. The largest river valleys are the Kyrönjoki and Lapuanjoki valleys. The landscape in the eastern edge of the region is marked by beautiful lakes. The largest lake is Lappajärvi, which was formed by a meteor colliding with Earth tens of millions of years ago.

Southern Ostrobothnian people live in busy cities or in the midst of the quiet countryside. Whichever you choose, it is a safe place to live and work, with pure and pristine nature never far away. There is a good availability of services and amenities, and people are spoiled with choice for leisure-time activities.





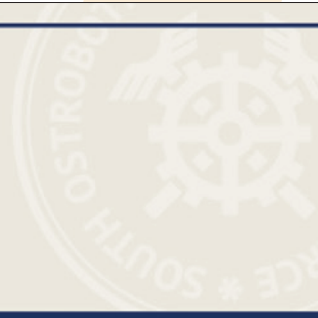
*With a healthy job market, Southern Ostrobothnia's employment rate has long remained at a high Nordic level (approx. 77%, 2019) and the unemployment rate is low. New jobs and opportunities emerge at a steady pace as older generations retire, and businesses grow. In fact, many businesses report having difficulties recruiting new employees. **There is plenty of work to do here – could some of it be for you?***



## SOUTH OSTROBOTHNIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Your gateway to successful business with our region

[etela-pohjanmaankauppakamari.fi/en/](https://etela-pohjanmaankauppakamari.fi/en/)





## FEEDING THE NATION

Southern Ostrobothnia plays a key role in the Finnish food technology development and security of supply. Our farmers grow cereals and vegetables and keep beef cattle and poultry. The region is a major hub of food industry with two-thirds of the production catering for customers and consumers outside the region. The region is also home to several beverage producers.



## RESPECTING THE CRAFT

The region has long and proud traditions in a variety of crafts. For centuries, the region's joiners, carpenters and textile-makers have produced furniture and fabrics with skills that have been passed from one generation to the next. Businesses in the traditional fields have never lost sight of their roots when taking their traditional industries to the new age.



## HIGH-END WOOD INDUSTRY

Southern Ostrobothnia has a dense network of small and medium-sized sawmills and other wood industry enterprises, often family-owned. The region produces innovative wood materials for the construction industry to build large housing blocks and public buildings.



## TECHNOLOGY BOOSTING REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The region has several technology clusters, and the regional centre Seinäjoki serves as a major logistical hub. The region is also home to a highly specialised metal subcontracting industry, including a number of larger companies who, with their own products and exports, lead the sector forward.

## INSPIRED BY ACHIEVEMENT

Southern Ostrobothnia is known for its fearless entrepreneurial spirit. Great ideas and the joy of achievement have been transformed into many popular events and festivals, an amusement park, a large shopping centre and a natural environment zoo. These and the many other attractions of the region welcome visitors in great numbers from near and far, year after year. The region has plenty to offer to friends of high-quality architecture, art and theatre as well as athletics, motor sports and the outdoors.



*The Lauhanvuori National Park invites hikers into the heart of Southern Ostrobothnian scenery to witness the beauty of pine forests, nature trails and ancient shoreline embankments. The hilltop lookout tower affords sweeping views over dozens of kilometres. The Lauhanvuori National Park is part of the UNESCO Geoparks Network.*

## MEET THE HIGHEST STANDARDS

### Fortaco Vehicle Cabins

Designed, engineered and manufactured to meet the highest standards. We support our customers by creating optimal solutions, from design to manufacturing of full plug & play cabins, tailored to our customers' applications. Over 30 years of experience and hundreds of successful products are the proof of our expertise and reliability as a modern manufacturer of operator cabins for various industry applications.

### Fortaco Vehicle Assemblies

The next step, in your manufacturing strategy. Fortaco's complete vehicle or module assembly offering is a solution to the growing industry need, to look for alternative manufacturing strategies and to meet the changing market environment. Fortaco has a proven track record on production transfers and manufacturing of off-highway equipment.

**FORTACO**





# RESEARCH, INNOVATE AND LEARN

The higher-education system in Southern Ostrobothnia is based on a regional network of schools and universities. Its members include Seinäjoki University of Applied Sciences and University Consortium, the municipalities of the region, public financiers and representatives of business and industry. There are also three colleges in the region that provide upper secondary-level vocational training. The businesses in the region maintain close partnerships with the higher-education institutions by sponsoring professorships and RD and innovation activities.



## THE BEST FIT FOR A HIGHER-EDUCATION STUDENT

The Seinäjoki University of Applied Sciences (SeAMK) is an international provider of higher-education for future professionals and offering RD and innovation services to businesses. The multi-disciplinary institution has a strong track record in entrepreneurship and food industry studies with an international dimension.

## A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY COMMUNITY

The University Consortium of Seinäjoki is a multi-disciplinary community of four universities and nearly a hundred scientists and experts, offering exciting opportunities for postgraduate students. The Consortium hosts the Epanet research network with professors and research teams driving high-level research activities within the region.

*The SeAMK campus is located in a leafy river valley opposite the innovation and technology centre Frami. This community serves as an ideal environment for high-achieving education and training, research and business life.*

# PELLON

## Productive Solutions for Animal Husbandry

[www.pellon.com](http://www.pellon.com)

# YOU ARE WELCOME

## COME ON IN!

Southern Ostrobothnia offers a wealth of inspiring opportunities for work, business and study. The Finnish authorities provide plenty of support to help you make Finland and Southern Ostrobothnia your home and a place to work. To access the services, make sure you have the appropriate permits.

## IF YOU ARE AN ENTREPRENEUR

Entrepreneurs are welcome to use the services of the public employment and business services (TE Services), which include training for new business owners and personal business advice. You may also be eligible for a start-up grant if you meet the required conditions. The regional development agencies and local authorities are also at your service when you are looking for business locations and facilities. If you wish to invest in Finland, Business Finland is your best port of call.

## IF YOU ARE AN EMPLOYEE

TE Services offer language training and other integration services for newcomers. TE Services also provide training on job seeking and digital skills as well as training leading to vocational qualification. Do not hesitate to contact the EURES job mobility expert via a video call to discuss your options and opportunities in the region.

## IF YOU ARE A STUDENT

Contact the student services of your chosen place of study. They will provide you with guidance on how to plan your studies, find accommodation and are happy to answer any other questions you may have.



 <p><b>FLEXIBLE</b> INDIVIDUAL STUDY PATHS</p>	 <p><b>EXPERIENCED</b> IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR THE WORKING LIFE</p>	 <p><b>RESPONSIBLE</b> YOU CAN RELY ON US — COME RAIN OR SHINE</p>	<p><b>PAS SION FOR PROFES SION</b></p> <p>sedu sedu.fi</p>
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## DEDICATED TO COOPERATION

The Regional Council of South Ostrobothnia is a federation of 18 municipalities and cities.

The success of our region rests on fruitful collaboration between our local authorities, businesses and people. Our goal is to increase the appeal of our region for competitive business life and vibrant cultural operators and as a safe and comfortable living environment with good access to a wide range of services and amenities.

We work closely with our regional, national and international partner organisations. Our mission is to open the doors to international operators while encouraging local businesses and communities to make their mark globally.



**ETELÄ-POHJANMAAN LIITTO**  
Regional Council of South Ostrobothnia

firstname.surname@etela-pohjanmaa.fi  
[www.epliitto.fi/frontpage](http://www.epliitto.fi/frontpage)

### Travel

[www.visitseinajoki.fi/en](http://www.visitseinajoki.fi/en)

Photos in brochure: Etelä-Pohjanmaan liitto, Hakola huonekalu Oy, Jokipiin Pellava, Jukka Risikko, Sampsä Köykkä, Seinäjoen ammattikorkeakoulu, Seinäjoen kaupunki

