



STUDENT HOUSING IN KUOPIO

Kuopas (Kuopio Student Housing Company) is an independent company building and maintaining student housing in Kuopio. Kuopas is owned by the Kuopio City. More than 3,000 students and their families live in Kuopas housing – welcome to our community!

More information about the student housing at Kuopas:
www.kuopas.fi

Apartment types and rent

Kuopas offers housing for the students in Kuopio.

Shared (communal) apartments are available in the “**Katiska**” and “**Pankkola**” dormitories. Shared apartments provide accommodations for 2 to 4 students of the same gender. Each shared apartment has a communal kitchen and bathroom and includes a kitchen table and chairs.

In a shared apartment each student has their own private bedroom, which is between 13-20 m². These bedrooms are for one student only and include lockable doors, a ceiling light and a wardrobe. An optional furnished bedroom also contains a desk, a chair, bookshelves and a bed (mattress, pillow and duvet). The rent for these rooms is between €223 and €365 /month.

The “**Särki**” dormitory also offers a few small single room apartments that include private bathrooms. These apartments are 19m² and their communal kitchen is shared with 12 other students. The rent for these rooms is €332 /month.

In the “**Taivaanpankko**” dormitory there are a limited number of **mini single apartments**. These single room apartments are for one student only and have their own kitchenette and bathroom. These apartments are between 18–25.5 m² and the rent is approximately €375 /month.

There are also **studio apartments** that come with their own kitchen/kitchenette and bathroom and can be rented by either one or two students. The studios are between 29.5–44.5 m² and the rent is approximately €300–550 /month.

If you are coming to Kuopio with your family, you can apply for a **family apartment**. Families are eligible for specially designed 2–3 room family apartments, which are located in every Kuopas dormitory. The rent for a two room family apartment is about €430–600 /month and for the three room family apartment is about €500–900 /month. Please note that the family apartments are for families only.

If there are no specially designed family apartments available then families will be offered one of the regular apartments. The two room apartment is about 40–70 m², the three room apartment is 58–84 m² and the four room apartment is 82–87 m². There is a kitchen table and chairs in the kitchen and a ceiling light and a wardrobe in each bedroom.

Kuopas’s main goal is to provide housing for all applicants. The type and number of student houses available for incoming students vary from year to year. Studios, single and two-bedroom apartments are very popular among students and they usually have waiting lists. Studio apartments are so popular that it can take up to a year before they become available! Rooms are offered on a first-come first-served basis and requests for a certain type of apartment cannot be guaranteed. Therefore, Kuopas strongly recommends that all incoming students apply for and accept shared apartments in order to make sure they have a room when the studies start.

Where are the Kuopas student dormitories located?

The Kuopas dormitories are located in different neighbourhoods around Kuopio. The distance from the University campus is anywhere from 1 – 10 km. Most of the UEF international students live in the *Puijonlaakso*, *Särkiniemi* or *Rauhalahti* neighbourhoods as the apartments in these areas are furnished. These areas are located about 1.5 - 5 kilometres away from the University campus and are quick trip by foot, bike or bus.

Are utilities included in the rent?

The rent includes an internet connection, free laundry facilities, communal weekly saunas, water and heating. The usual **electricity** payment is approximately €8-20 /month. You can rent a parking space at most locations for €7 /month.

What kind of amenities are there in Kuopas apartments?

All apartments are equipped with a fridge, some sort of an oven, a kitchen table, stools, basic lighting, and a shower curtain. Bedrooms have a ceiling light and a wardrobe. A **furnished apartment** also contains a desk, a chair, bookshelves and a bed (mattress, pillow and duvet). All students will need to bring or buy kitchen utensils and bedclothes (sheets, pillowcase, and duvet cover) as they are not included as a part of our basic furnishing.



There is a free **internet connection** (10M) in every Kuopas apartment. Faster connections are available for a fee: <http://www.kuopas.fi/> → Tenant info → Internet, TV.

You can use the communal **laundry room** free of charge. All Kuopas dormitories include a **sauna** and all residents have access to a free weekly communal sauna. Students who prefer a private sauna can reserve 1 hour per week for €10 /month.

How to apply?

Please apply online: www.kuopas.fi → applicant info → housing application

Since Kuopas is an independent company and not associated with the University of Eastern Finland, applications must be sent **directly to Kuopas**. Each student must fill in an application individually. Joint applications with friends cannot be accepted.

When should I apply?

We encourage the students to apply for housing as soon as they have received the official Certificate of Admission from the University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio. Please note, however, that we can only accept applications asking for accommodations within three months of your actual arrival in Kuopio.

Kuopas guarantees housing for all applicants whose application arrives by the following deadlines:

- **June 15** for the autumn term (Aug-Dec) **or** the full academic year (Aug-May)
- **November 15** for the spring term (Jan-May)

It is very important to submit your application by these deadlines - otherwise Kuopas cannot guarantee accommodation for you. If you do miss the deadline, please apply as soon as possible.

All the rental agreements will take effect at the beginning of a month. The rental agreements for the autumn semester usually start on the 1st of August. This ensures that a room/apartment will be reserved for you. The rental agreement that you will get from Kuopas will specify the month your tenancy begins.

What happens after I have submitted my housing application to Kuopas?

After sending in the on-line application, you will receive an email from Kuopas confirming that your application has been received.

Keep checking your email regularly because Kuopas will send you the rental agreement proposal for your room/apartment by e-mail. Usually you will receive this proposal about one month before your planned arrival. Please keep in mind that hundreds of students are sending applications to Kuopas in June-July. During this period, Kuopas processes rental agreement proposals on a daily, first-come first-served basis. Kuopas will process all applications as soon as they can.

You will get only one proposal for a room. Those students who will be staying in Kuopio for longer than a year may apply for a different apartment after living in their first apartment for six months.

What does the rental agreement proposal contain?

The rental agreement proposal contains the address of your new apartment/room, its type, size, rent and the starting date of the rental period. The notification also contains the international bank details for making the security deposit.

How can I reserve the room offered to me?

In order to accept your rental agreement you must pay a security deposit. The security deposit is €250 for a shared accommodation and €400 for single and family apartments. This security deposit guarantees the housing for you.

Please read the terms of agreement carefully. Paying your security deposit confirms your acceptance of Kuopas's terms of agreement. Your lease agreement begins when you pay the deposit by the due date and send the receipt of your payment to Kuopas office by email to customerservice@kuopas.fi.

Your security deposit will be refunded to your bank account in your home country after your departure from Kuopio if you have fulfilled all obligations to Kuopas (e.g. returned the key, paid all bills and rent) and if your apartment is clean and in a good condition.

The only way to reserve accommodation at Kuopas is to pay the security deposit by the due date mentioned in the proposal and to send the receipt of your payment to Kuopas by email. If you do not pay the security deposit, you will not have a room!

How can I pay the security deposit from my home country?

International bank details that you need for paying the security deposit are clearly printed in the proposal that Kuopas sends to you. *IBAN*, *SWIFT* or *BIC* codes are needed when making international transactions.

IBAN=International Bank Account code (needed for making payments within EU, EEA and Switzerland). BIC=Bank Identification Code. SWIFT=Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication.

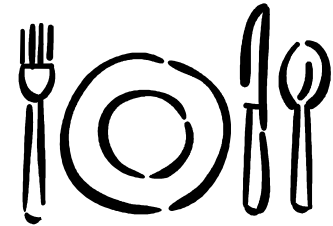
The payment must be made through a bank. **Cash, cheques and credit card payments are not accepted.** Please note that it is your responsibility to pay all international transaction fees. Kuopas cannot advise you on how to make an international transaction from your country. Please contact

your own local bank for more information on making an international transaction as soon as you receive the proposal from Kuopas. If you are unable to make the payment through your own bank, ask for their advice how to make the payment.

Everyday issues

Survival packages are available for exchange students who are members of the Student Union. The deposit for the package is €35 but you will get €25 back if you return the package in good condition. The packages are available from the Student Union office and include:

- sheet, pillowcase and duvet cover
- saucepan
- frying pan
- dinner plate
- soup plate
- fork, knife and spoon
- mug
- kitchen knife
- can opener
- bowl
- ladle
- spatula



A local **monthly bus pass** costs approximately €40. Depending on the location of your dormitory you may need to add this fee to your monthly costs.

Contact information and opening hours

Kuopas housing office

Address Torikatu 15, 70110 Kuopio, Finland
Tel + 358 20 710 9740
Email customerservice@kuopas.fi
Website <http://www.kuopas.fi>

Kuopas on Facebook: Kuopas
<http://www.facebook.com/kuopas.asunnot>

Kuopas on Twitter: @Kuopas_Oy
http://www.twitter.com/Kuopas_Oy

Kuopas on Instagram: @kuopas_oy
https://www.instagram.com/kuopas_oy

Opening hours **Monday - Friday from 8 am – 3 pm.**
On the first working day of the month we are open from 8 – 3:30.

The contact person at the University of Eastern Finland, Kuopio campus is:

Tel Ms Kirsi Konttinen
 Coordinator of International Student Services
 International Mobility Services, Kuopio campus
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