**iht teaser\_ver1.mp3**

Automatically transcribed by Speechnotes on: 4.7.2024 klo 9.27.15

Total recording length: 00:11:52

{ 0:08 }

Hi everyone, a very warm welcome to the teaser episode of the International House Tour Group podcast. My name is Jonathan Murphy. I work for International House Tour School and I'm delighted to be one of your Co hosts here. Hi, my name is Roza Pambukhchyan. I work at International House Turku. Thank you Jonathan. Great to be here on this almost summary warm weather almost summary that if there isn't, that's a really good way of describing the finished summer. I think particularly here in tour court, we will be talking a little bit about summertime a bit later on. It's one of the things in this teaser episode. So it's not a full episode today, but maybe we can give you a flavour of the type of things and the type of content you can expect from International House Turku in the autumn. But maybe we should start with the the basics. International House Turku has been going for a few years now. I think now our view is kind of fairly well established.

{ 0:59 }

But for many people who are unfamiliar with International International House Turku, Roza, I mean what would you say to someone who says to you what is International House Turku? So first of all, let me take you back down the History Rd. memory lane. Yes, where we started in 2021 and that was another almost summary day in August, end of August, where we opened our doors widely to the public. And after that 2021 we have been ongoing providing services, advisory services to the internationals that are planning to move to Turku are here already and need any kind of advice in their livelihood matters pretty much. And Jonathan can tell in more details. No sure that sounds good. Any type of advice, a wide range of advice that's setting us up for a lot of pressure, which is a good thing. But you mentioned outdoors. So most of our advisory services run from monitory, which is a customer service point in the city center, but we actually operate all over the city.

{ 1:59 }

So we do different kind of services and different events, which we we'll be talking about in the series of this podcast, I'm sure. And another reminder also that if even you are not physically located here, we even have services for those of you who are even abroad. So we are not forgetting anyone who who plans to move even here. Sure. And I mean, one of the things I really like about International House Turku was that, of course, as you can maybe tell from our accents, like we have so many internationals that work here and we have that kind of experience. We've been probably in your shoes, whether you are thinking about moving here or you've just arrived here or even if you've been here for a few years. Normally one of us has kind of been in that same situation. And we kind of know what we would have liked to have known kind of a few years ago. And we'll be sharing our personal stories throughout these podcast episodes as well. So look forward to that. Absolutely. I think that's a great, great thing that I wish I had actually when I moved to Finland as an international.

{ 2:55 }

And especially some kind of advice shared by another internationals who is smarter, wiser every day. And then looking back, they just give a good advice, practical advice about how to do, what to do. And also it's an official one. So in a way you're not going to be misleaded, mislead in a way. No, the city of Turku takes these things very seriously. Maybe we can talk a little bit more or hear a little bit more about our advice services because we have our first guest for us. Yes, please introduce yourself. First of all, thank you for Jonathan and also Rosa for like inviting me today to share. My name is Parisa Jokinen and I'm working as an advisor at International House Turku. We have so many languages there as maybe if you are familiar with our website, you will find that we have almost 18 language, I think. I'm sorry if I'm making a mistake here.

{ 4:00 }

Time of recording, I think it's about 18. Yeah. So, but anyway, me myself, I do the service in English, in Finnish and as well as in Thai languages. So what should I say, what should I tell? So question please, please tell us a little bit more maybe what are the main services that you help the clients with or what are those questions that people more often turn to you for advice? OK, I would say that first of all, our main point is that we are trying to help people to to to get the job.

{ 4:38 }

And also if someone is looking for the school to continue and all kind of questions with the living in Turku, maybe you know, international come here with the family, also related to the children, where to find a school, the hobbies for their kids and then all kind of information related to other organization. For example, we have a lots of questions concerning what is this Kayla or what is this TE office or now they have even the name of Kunta Kokelu and Tuapiste and this kind of thing. So we answer all of this and of course, we include this service with my colleague here, you too, Jonathan and Rosa, who are providing the soft landing service. Sure. And I mean, this sounds extremely comprehensive, but like, how much does this cost? How much? What's your fee for these services? OK, believe it or not, even people always say there's nothing free, but these are free offered by Turku, city of Turku, Very nice. So the city of Turku has generally very generously offered these services.

{ 5:59 }

So if you really are thinking about moving to a place where you will get this kind of services, I think that's another thing to definitely consider. Sure. And I think one of the things that we've done our international house Toko kind of presents itself as this very accessible point. So if you are kind of not sure if a service is for you or if kind of a different activities for you, then just ask us and you can get our advice free of charge and we will kind of point you in the right direction to the best of our abilities. And I think if you want to check all of these services, you could just go to our web page where we have all the information in Finnish and in English at our web page IHturku dot FI. So you can find all what we talked about here. What is going on in summer in Turku, summertime in Turku? I have to say that in my opinion, you can kind of divide cities in Finland up into kind of winter cities and summer cities. And well, Turku is very nice in the winter as well, but I really feel it comes alive in the summer.

{ 6:57 }

So I'm happy to say that I'm basically spending my summer in Turku. I think the city centre, the kind of our Riverside, there's lots of kind of nice kiosks and kind of terraces. And I am definitely ready for those kind of like summer after work cocktails after a long year so far. Absolutely. And one thing that also I would like to remind or tell those who are not so much familiar, maybe the city of Turku as such as an organization is not going to be as open or if you're looking for services in summer, that's not the best time to look for the services, but all the cafes, all the terraces and festivals, Absolutely. So this said, most of the city workers usually are taking their summer vacation, summer break towards July. So do not be surprised if you try to contact somebody or e-mail them and they do not get back to you immediately. Yeah, this is a big cultural difference When I kind of first moved here, but now after like six, I think it's actually my 7th summer in Finland.

{ 7:58 }

I really have that kind of Finnish mentality where if you're not off work for like, you know, 3-4 weeks, then is it really a summer vacation? It's kind of hard to say. Parisa, how about your summer plans? What do you recommend? OK, I'm going to go a little bit out from Turku also because even I mean like just half an hour drive, you will be finding yourself enjoy a little bit of the archibilical scenery, the island crossing, the free ferry with the car ferry crossing to the island of Nawa for example, that's also quite nice. Or even just in the city of Turku, you can also go to the island like Rui Salo or Hirvensalo. These are and you will find scattering around swimming the the beach that you can go for a swim.

{ 8:52 }

It might be a little bit cold water, but you know still that it's something if you enjoy to to soaking in the sun and and doing some activity on the beach. Most of those places have to offer also place for you to barbecue and that is the big thing in Finland, right, The BBQ things, absolutely. Sausages and Finnish sun. Yeah. Sausages, yeah. That is something that will be a big culture. Also things, I mean, the food and culture that Finnish, Finnish people are really grilling these macara or sausages. Yeah. Luckily, our Finnish word of the podcast, yes, that is the Finnish words for that. Yeah. OK. How about you, Jonathan? Yeah, my summer will be fairly local. I think we did a little bit of travelling on kind of already, but it's nice. Like I often feel that if you go go, go kind of on this like big abroad vacation, then you come back and you don't really feel like you relaxed in the same way. So yeah, we'll be we'll be around in in tuk or so, but we want to throw it out to you, the listener as well.

{ 9:58 }

We're always interested to hear kind of what what your plans are. So do tell us on social media. You can follow us on Instagram, on LinkedIn, or on Facebook. And we really kind of want your feedback because we want this podcast to be interactive when we're doing this for you. So I mean, what do you want to hear about? How can our podcast kind of help you feel more at home in toku? That's what we're asking. Yes. We're very much interesting. Interested to hear what you have to say. And we will have it in the description. Obviously, you can get back to us. There are different channels pretty much. So, yeah. And I think we have an e-mail address, yes. So if you want to send us an e-mail with your suggestions, you can do that at IHT dot viestinta dot, FI VSTN dot in finish means communications, but that would be VIESTINTA at Turku dot FI. And for any non Finnish speakers, we'll be putting that in the the episode description as well.

{ 10:59 }

But please do get in touch because we already have some ideas in the pipeline for the autumn. We'll be looking in closer detail at job seeking, at networking, at education, at the language, all of the big topics. But of course, if there are things that you really want us to cover, then by all means get in touch. And we hope to have a range of episodes, topics and guests. So we look forward to that. Yes, we're looking forward to that. But for now, we will go on a break, rest a little bit, recharge and get back to you towards autumn. Sounds great. So to both of you, have a great summer vacation, have a great summer, See you next time. See you. Bye, bye, bye.

 --- End of transcript ---