

EFHK spotting points by FAP – Finnish Aviation Photography

This is a description of spotting points as mentioned and numbered in the Google Earth –file. We hope you find these instructions helpful. Should you feel that you need more info, don't hesitate to contact us via "About"/"Contact"! Also all feedback is welcome!

General

EFHK has plenty of spotting-spots, but there are still areas where spotting is hard or impossible. As a general rule, a car/motorcycle is a good idea, as the area is big and runways change pretty often and best spotting locations change. You can walk or bicycle, but you lose a lot of good spotting-time.

You won't get any trouble from the authorities, unless you try to climb over a fence etc. Using a ladder to get photos over a fence is generally OK as long as your ladder is not leaning on the fence.

Finland is mostly affected by winds from the south-to-west sector. When this is the case, the most used runway configuration is RWY22R for departures and RWY15 for arrivals. During rush-hours, arriving aircraft will use both RWY22R and 22L.

When the wind is from the north-to-east –sector, RWY04L/R are in use. Departures are from RWY04R, arrivals on both. RWY04L is only very rarely used for departures.

RWY33 is in use only during strong northerly winds. Usually this means cold but clear weather, although unstable. Approaches to RWY33 go over densely populated areas south of airport, so they are avoided, as are take-offs from RWY15.

All millimetres quoted here are for a camera with a crop-factor of 1,6.

Take a look at https://ais.fi/ais/eaip/aipcharts/efhk/EF_AD_2_EFHK_APDC.pdf to get an idea of the stands.

Frequencies (those in brackets are in use when simultaneous approaches on RWY22L/R or 04L/R are in use):

Radar:	119.100MHz 129.850MHz
Arrival:	119.900MHz (RWY22L/04R and 15/33) (124.325MHz) (RWY22R/04L)
TWR:	118.600MHz (RWY22L/04R and 15/33) 118.850MHz (RWY22R/04L)
Ground:	121.800MHz
Clearance delivery:	118.125MHz
ATIS DEP:	114.200MHz
ATIS ARR:	135.075MHz



Spot 1

How?

If you rely on public transportation, just take any bus to the airport and jump out at Terminal 1. The bus will leave you right in front of the terminal and all you have to do is walk right (stepping out of the bus...) for about a 100 meters and walk to the ramp.

You can take photos either on the ramp, or by the fence below, next to a small parking place.

If using the train, you can come out to the terminal and walk to Terminal 1. Turn left when exiting and follow the same instructions as above.

What?

This spot is most usable when RWY15 or RWY33 is in use. Most aircraft taxi along TWY Y, either to get to the terminal after landing or to holding point RWY33. Some landing aircraft vacate RWY15 earlier and can then be harder to get as the exit from runway is almost obscured by the terminal. Also aircraft stands 6 thru 11 are right in front of the fence and when in use, the aircraft block your sector somewhat. Cargo-apron is south (right) of this spot and all the passenger-terminals are north (left) of this point. You can photograph aircraft taxiing on TWY Y or larger aircraft operating on RWY15/33.

Also aircraft taxiing to the cargo apron can be caught here.

When and how many millimetres?

The sun is behind your back from around 10AM until sunset, so most of the day is good here. During rush-hours stands 6-11 will most probably be used.

An ATR-72 on TWY Y requires 135mm

An MD-11 on RWY15 requires 135mm

No ladder needed.

A B737 taxiing on TWY Y:



Spot 2

The Viewing Terrace.

Observe: outside area will be closed during winter! Planes can be viewed from the lounge, but photography will be hard.

How?

Exit Terminal 2 (1st floor) and turn right. When the pedestrian walkway turns left, climb the stairs in front of you. You can probably see the signs to the Terrace already. At the top of the stairs, walk next to the building and enter and take the lift up to floor 6.

What?

You will get aircraft operating on RWY22L/04R.

Also taxiing aircraft along TWY Z. When 04s are in use, RWY04R is used for departures, so most will taxi past and take-off in front of you. Heat haze is a problem! As are fumes from aircraft APUs.

When and how many millimetres?

Usable from sunrise until about 2-3PM.

An A300 on the runway requires about 220mm.

No ladder is needed.

A B747 on the RWY04R:



Spot 3

The morning-spot for final RWY04R

How?

By car from the terminal, exit the airport area along Lentoasemantie. Exit the road at the second exit and turn right to Tikkurilantie. Take the second exit at in the round-about. Take the first exit in the next round-about (about 1 km from the first one). Drive ahead to park in the parking lot of a Finnair Hangar. Walk on for about 50m on top of a rocky hill next to the road.

What?

Here you will get aircraft landing on RWY04R. When both 04L and R are used for landings, most will land on RWY04L. During quiet hours 04R is used more because it is closer to the terminals.

When and how many millimetres?

This spot is useful during morning and midday until around 3PM. The light will be more from the rear around 1PM, though.

A B737-800 from this point requires 250mm.
No ladder needed.

A Yak-42 on final approach for RWY04R:



An ERJ-170 on short final RWY04R:



Spot 4

The evening spot for final RWY04R

How?

By car from the terminal, exit the airport area along Lentoasemantie. Exit the road at the second exit and turn right to Tikkurilantie. Take the second exit at in the round-about. Take the second exit in the next round-about (about 1 km from the first one). Drive on (less than 2km) and turn right to park your car where there is an entrance to a construction-site. Walk to a place that suites you best on the small cliff next to the road.

What?

Here you will get the same as with Spot 3, only in the evening. The problem is, you are a bit "under" the aircraft, so this is not the ideal spot.

You can also try and walk closer to the RWY through the forest.

When and how many millimeters?

This spot is useful from around 3-4PM.
For an Avro RJ85 you need about 150mm.
No ladder needed.

A B737 landing on RWY04R:



An A350 on short final for RWY04R:



Spot 5

The morning spot for final RWY04L.
During rush-hour, when runways 04 are in use, this runway receives most landings.

How?

By car from the terminal, exit the airport area along Lentoasemantie. Exit the road at the second exit and turn right to Tikkurilantie. Take the second exit at in the round-about. Take the second exit in the next round-about (about 1 km from the first one). Drive on past Spot X and take the second exit at the next round-about. A little under 1 km after this round-about you can park your car and climb on a hill on the west-side of the road (away from the airport). Take the highest position.

What?

A nice place to photograph landing aircraft. You have a good sector.

When and how many millimetres?

This place is useful in the morning and midday until about 3PM.

No ladder needed.

An A300 requires about 160mm.

A B767-300 on final approach for RWY04L:



Spot 6

"Rotation Rocks" Popular for photographing heavies taking-off, these places are definitely worth a go!

How?

By car from the terminal, exit the airport area along Lentoasemantie. Exit the road at the second exit and turn right to Tikkurilantie. Take the second exit at in the round-about. Take the second exit in the next round-about (about 1 km from the first one). Drive on past Spot 5 and take the second exit at the next round-about. After going under a bridge with approach lights for RWY04L turn left and then right onto Katriinantie. On your left you will see a DHL-building. Along the fence there are many spots for photography, although you need a ladder at some points to be able to take photos over the fence.

What?

From here, you will get aircraft landing on RWY04L, as well as aircraft taking off RWY22R. Most heavies taking-off from RWY22R rotate perfectly abeam DHL, while lighter aircraft tend to be higher up abeam these spots.

Landings on RWY04L, especially later in the evening.

When and how many millimetres?

This spot is useful from around 4PM until sunset.

Millimeters depend on the actual location. Most usable lense is 70mm+.

Ladder is needed.

An An-12 taking-off RWY22R:



An A350 taking off RWY22R:



Spot 7

Line-up for RWY22R.

How?

By car from the terminal, exit the airport area along Lentoasemantie. Exit the road at the second exit and turn right to Tikkurilantie. Take the second exit at in the round-about. Take the second exit in the next round-about (about 1 km from the first one). Drive on past Spot X and take the second exit at the next round-about. After going under a bridge with approach lights for RWY04L turn left and then right onto Katriinantie. About 3,8 km from there, follow a sign "MYLLYKYLÄ/KVARNBACKEN" right. Drive on for about 500m, and turn right. The road is pretty straight for about 500 meters, and where it turns left there is a wider point in the road. Leave your car there. Now you will have to walk. There is a path going more or less in the same direction as the road did before it turned. Walk the path (sounds poetic...), and after about 200m you will reach the fence and RWY22R opens up in front of you.

What?

You will get aircraft lining-up on RWY22R and landing on RWY22R (although this is rare during the hours when the sun is behind you). When winds are from the south-west most departing aircraft use RWY22R, the only exceptions being some turboprops using RWY22L or RWY15.

When and how many millimetres?

This spot is useful from around 4PM until sunset. About 130mm for a B757-200. Ladder is needed.

An A340-300 lined-up RWY22R:



Spot 8

Useful most of the day, worth a visit

How?

By car from the terminal, exit the airport area along Lentoasemantie. Exit the road at the second exit and turn right to Tikkurilantie. Take the second exit at in the round-about. Take the second exit in the next round-about (about 1 km from the first one). Drive on past Spot X and take the second exit at the next round-about. After going under a bridge with approach lights for RWY04L turn left and then right onto Katriinantie. About 3,8 km from there, follow a sign "MYLLYKYLÄ/KVARNBACKEN" right. Drive on for about 500m, and turn right. Drive for about 700-800 meters, then turn right. There's a junction immediately after the previous one, leave your car to the right and continue by foot to left. After the earthbank on your right ends, you're there. From here you will get nice photos, or you can walk on next to the fence. The fence won't bother you, as you will photographing upwards.

What?

You will get all aircraft landing on RWY15. During rush-hours approaching traffic may use RWYs 22L/R, which you can't reach from this point.

When and how many millimetres?

This spot is useful from around 11AM until sunset. About 250mm is needed for an B737-800. No ladder needed.

A B757 on final RWY15:



Spot 9

The morning side for flare RWY22L and morning-side for landings RWY15.

How?

From the terminal again, take Lentoasemantie towards Kehä/Ring III. Take the first exit from this road (about 1 km from the international terminal) and turn left at the lights (direction "RAHTI"). Drive straight on until turning left again to "RAHTI II" (about 1,2 km). About 1 km on this road, take the first exit in the round-about to go under a highway. Take the left lane and turn left in the lights. Drive on until you come under a bridge and turn right towards "ILOLA/GLADAS" and "TUUSULA/TUSBY". Then turn right. Drive over the highway and straight on until the road makes a harp turn left. Turn right here, to go down a steep hill. The road then turns left, and again you take a right onto a gravel road. Leave your car here and walk on until you come to a gate, which you can walk by and follow the fence to your favourite position.

What?

You will get landing aircraft on RWY22L, and, on rare occasions, departing aircraft on the same RWY. You will also get landing aircraft on RWY15.

When and how many millimetres?

This spot is useful from sunrise until about 2-3PM (RWY22L) or from sunrise until about 10-11AM (RWY15).

About 110mm is needed for an A300 (RWY22L).

About 230mm is needed for an A321 (RWY15).

No ladder is needed.

An A400M landing on RWY22L:



An A321 landing on RWY15:



Spot 10

The evening side for final RWY22L

How?

From the terminal again, take Lentoasemantie towards Kehä/Ring III. Take the first exit from this road (about 1 km from the international terminal) and turn left at the lights (direction "RAHTI"). Drive straight on until turning left again to "RAHTI II" (about 1,2 km). About 1 km on this road, take the first exit in the round-about to go under a highway (green "TUUSULA" sign). Turn right on the next lights to "TUUSULA". You will come on the highway. Drive on about 3,5 km and exit ("KORSO" and the red cross for a hospital). Turn left over the highway. You will see a hill in front of you, which is a popular place for viewing aircraft landing on RWY22L, you can see the planes as they fly right over your head, all the way to touchdown. Not good for sideshot-photography, though, as the planes really fly over your head... For nice photos, drive right past the hill instead, for maybe a hundred metres, until you see a small parking lot of an industrial building on your left. Here you can get some photos, although there are some powerlines that you may find obstructive. You can also walk to the forest following the fence from the gate of the industrial building ("Lemminkäinen"). Walk for about a hundred metres (fence on your left) and you come to a small clearing next to the fence, where you will have a nice view of the planes on final.

What?

You will get aircraft on final approach for RWY22L.

When and how many millimetres?

This place is useful from around 4PM until sunset.

A B737-300 requires about 195mm at the parking lot. No ladder needed.

A B737 taken from the parking lot:



Spot 11

The evening side for final RWY22L (larger aircraft).

How?

From the terminal again, take Lentoasemantie towards Kehä/Ring III. Take the first exit from this road (about 1 km from the international terminal) and turn left at the lights (direction "RAHTI"). Drive straight on until turning left again to "RAHTI II" (about 1,2 km). About 1 km on this road, take the first exit in the round-about to go under a highway (green "TUUSULA" sign). Turn right on the next lights to "TUUSULA". You will come on the highway. Drive on about 3,5 km and exit ("KORSO" and the red cross for a hospital). Turn left over the highway. Drive on. The road turns into a gravel road and makes a sharp left. After about a hundred meters, there's a sign prohibiting motor-vehicles. Leave your car here and walk on to the top of the hill.

What?

You will get aircraft on final approach for RWY22L. This place is rather far from the extended centreline of the runway, and is best for larger types (B757, widebody). For smaller types, see Spot14.

When and how many millimetres?

This place is useful from around 4-5PM until sunset. An MD-80 requires about 360mm. No ladder needed.

An MD-80 on short final for RWY22L:



Spot 12

An earth-bank next to the TNT-terminal

How?

From the terminal, take the normal exit towards Kehä/Ring III. Take the first exit from this road (about 1 km from the international terminal) and turn left at the lights (direction "RAHTI"). Drive straight on until turning left again to "RAHTI II" (about 1,2 km). After about 900 m turn left again "RAHTI II". You can already see the bank or wall on your right.

What?

You will get a nice sideshot of the day's TNT (weekdays only).

You will get nice landing-shots on RWY33. Also, aircraft taxiing to/from cargo or TNT-apron can sometimes be photographed.

When and how many millimetres?

Useful from dawn until around 4PM.

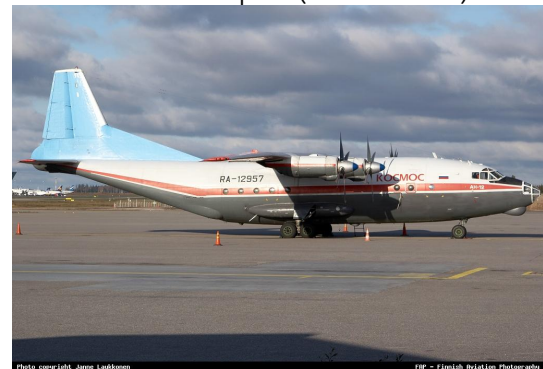
Millimetres depend on stand used.

Ladder needed if you go next to the fence.

A B747 turning to cargo-apron:



An An-12 on TNT-apron (from the fence):



Spot 13

On the rare occasion when RWY33 is being used for landing, here you can get some pictures.

How?

From the terminal, take the normal exit towards Kehä/Ring III. Take the first exit from this road (about 1 km from the international terminal) and turn left at the lights (direction "RAHTI"). Drive straight on until turning left again to "RAHTI II" (about 1,2 km). Drive for about 300 metres, park your car and climb on the small cliff next to the road, on the left.

What?

You will get aircraft on short final for RWY33.

When and how many millimetres?

The sun is behind your back from around 10AM until sunset.

An An -124 requires about a 100mm.

An Avro RJ85 requires about 165mm.

No ladder needed.

An An-124:



Spot 14

A "fishing expedition" next to the general aviation terminal might yield some nice biz jets...

How?

From the terminal, take the normal exit towards Kehä/Ring III. Take the first exit from this road (about 1 km from the international terminal) and turn left at the lights (direction "RAHTI"). After about 600 metres turn left towards "RAHTI". Take the next right, and again the next right. After a couple of hundred metres turn left to "LIIKENNELENTOTERMINAALI". You will see the terminal after a hall on your left, and next to it you can get to the fence facing the apron.

What?

You will get some biz-aircraft parked or taxiing on the biz-apron.

When and how many millimetres?

The sun is behind your back, depending on the stands, during the whole day until early afternoon.

A biz-jet next to the gate does not require a lot of millimetres, around 50mm will do it. You need a ladder.

A HS-125 next to the gate:



Spot 15

To get a nice angle on a plane taxiing or standing on the cargo apron, go here.

How?

This spot is between the Finnair and Globeground-cargo terminals. As when going to the general aviation terminal, follow this time "RAHTI"-signs to the end, navigating into between the terminals. You can park your car on the lot next to the Globeground-terminal, and walk next to the fence.

What?

You can get a good photo of an aircraft manoeuvring to/from a stand on the cargo apron.

When and how many millimetres?

As with spot 1, this spot is useful during most of the day from around 10AM.

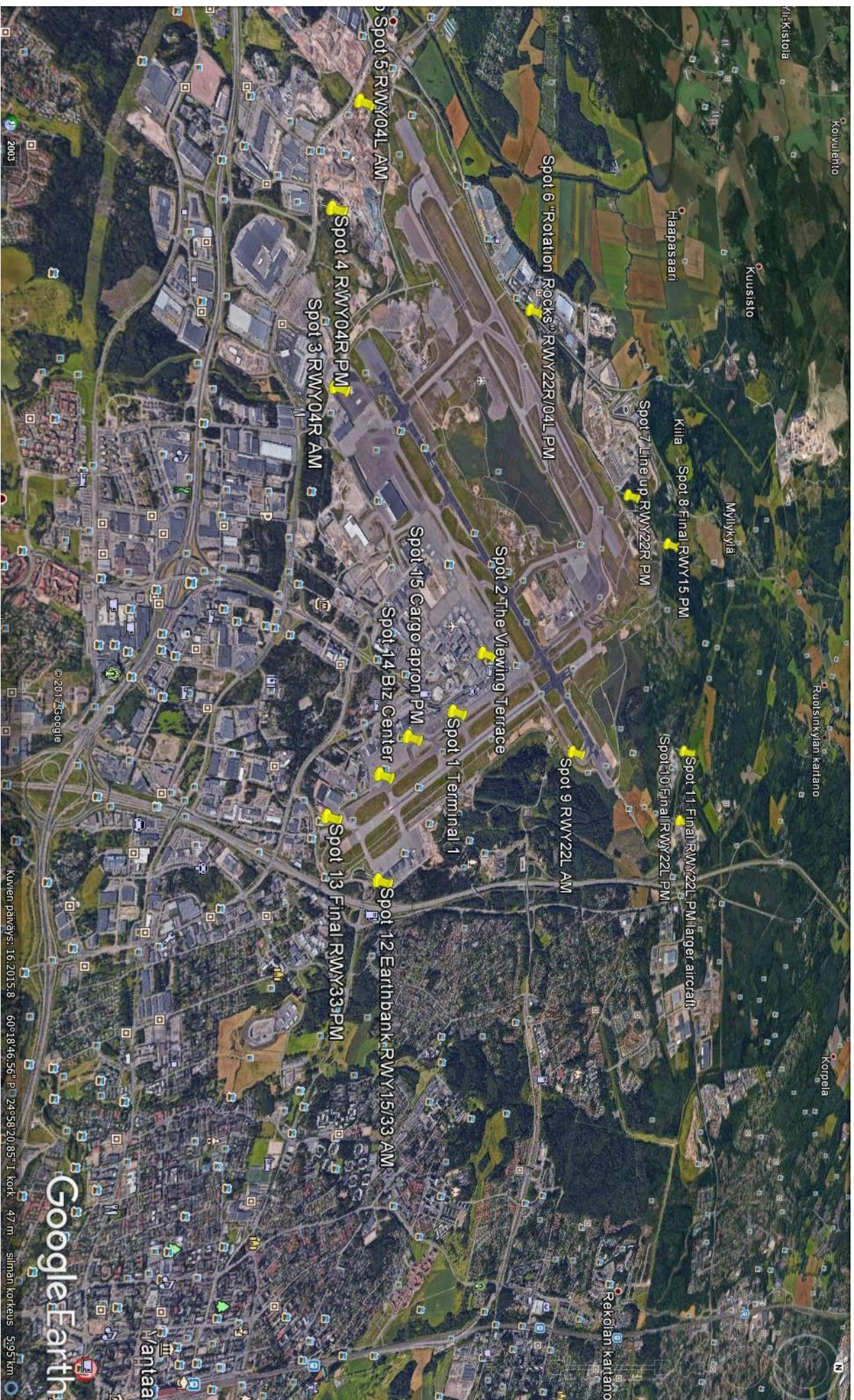
An An-12 on the closer stand requires about a 100mm. Ladder is needed.

An An-124 taxiing on the apron:



An An-12 standing on the apron:





Koivunho

Kil-Kistola

Kuusisto

Haapasaari

Myllykylä

Killa Spot 8 Final RWY 15 PM

Spot 7 Lineup RWY 22R PM

Rautasinkyan kaitano

Korpela

Rekolan kaitano

Spot 6 "Rotation Rocks" RWY 22R/04L PM

Spot 2 The Viewing Terrace

Spot 11 Cargo apron PM

Spot 5 RWY 04L AM

Spot 4 RWY 04R PM

Spot 3 RWY 04R AM

Spot 14 Biz Center

Spot 1 Terminal 1

Spot 13 Final RWY 33 PM

Spot 12 Earthbank RWY 15/33 AM

Spot 10 Final RWY 22L PM

Spot 11 Final RWY 22L PM larger aircraft

Spot 9 RWY 22L AM

Google Earth

Kuiven päiväys: 16.10.2015 8 60°18'46.56" P 24°58'20.85" T korkeus 47 m silmän korkeus 595 km