

Winds of Change in Jõhvi Central Library

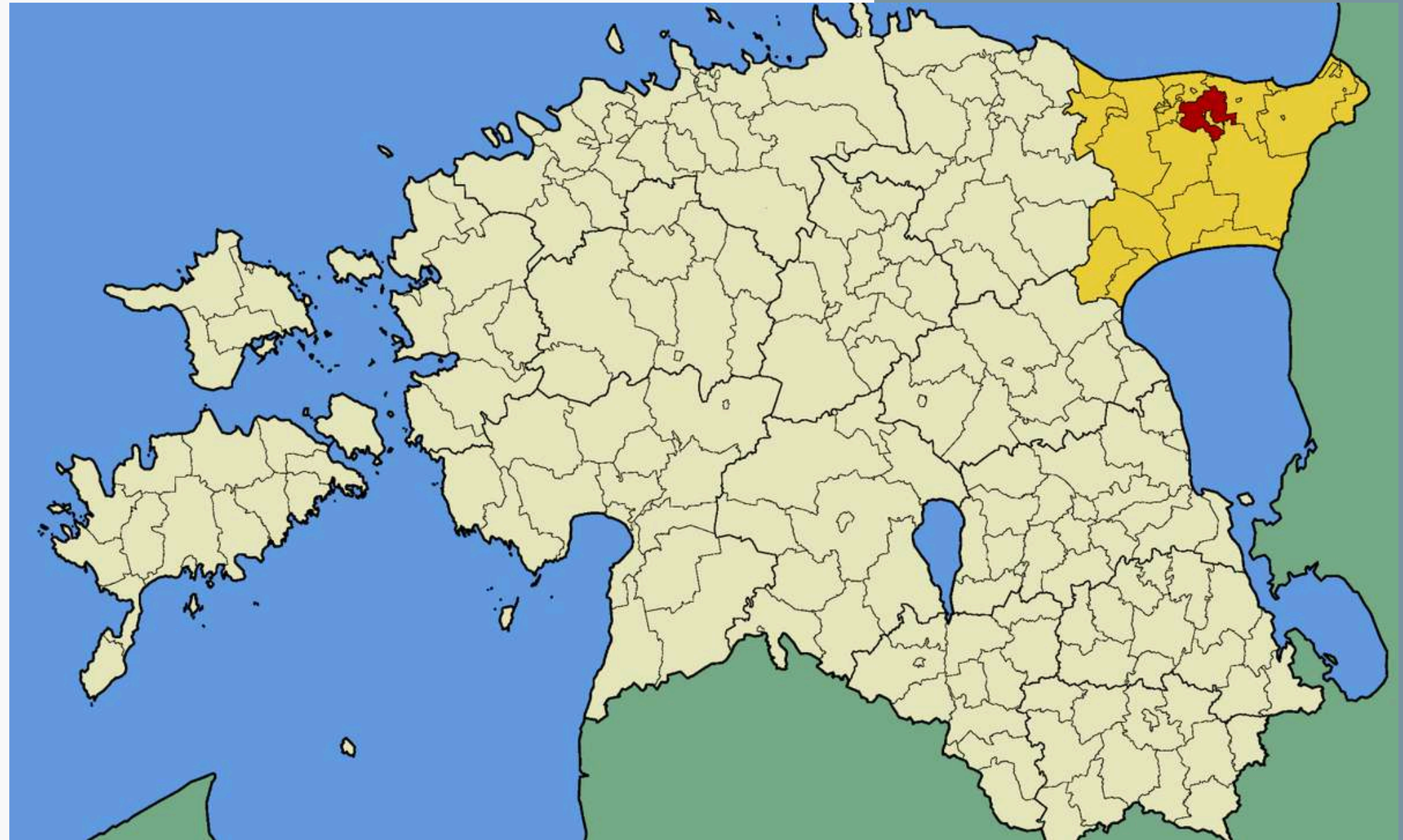
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Background

- Population about 12 182 (2025)
 - Estonians 66%
 - Others 34%
 - Now about 500 refugees from Ukraine.
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- Over 40 different ethnic groups
 - About 50% of Jõhvis population is Russian-speaking



Jõhvi Central Library today

- 1960s cinema-style building, modified into a library
- Limited space for readers & events
- Not adapted to digital/modern needs
- About 500m²



Vision & Goals

Vision & Role

- A library as a community centre
- Flexible spaces for learning, culture, and events
- Focus on technology and innovation
- Open, welcoming architecture

Design & Location

- Situated in the new education & culture campus
- Large reading areas with natural light
- Dedicated children's and youth zones
- Multi-use halls for workshops and events
- Outdoor plaza & green spaces
- Total area: 2,500 m²

MORE THAN BOOKS



First Floor Highlights

- **Welcoming foyer & café** - bright space connecting all entrances, with info desk and periodicals
- **Two event halls** - **Small hall** (≈50 people), **Large hall** (≈100 people)
- **Recording studio** - for youth media, music, and professional use
- **Children's area** - play zone for babies & toddlers, reading space
- **Day centre & hobby rooms** - art and language classrooms, club rooms, multipurpose hall
- **Resilience centre** - designed to serve community needs in crisis situations
- **Kitchens** - for food service and events and cooking classes



Second Floor Highlights

- **Library Core** - Open layout connecting children's, youth, and general library areas, tiered seating staircase for reading, small screenings, and presentations, balcony with integrated reading nooks overlooking first floor
- **Children's & Youth Zone** - Fairy Tale Room, play zone, storage area
- **Soundproof classroom** - for 28 students, with connected teacher office



Third Floor Highlights

- **Library area** - Quiet, peaceful atmosphere with best views toward the viaduct and a corner balcony
- **Study rooms** - Glass-walled quiet rooms for individual or small-group learning
- **Staff area** - Staff lounge & workrooms, library director's office, shared office for 4 employees, book processing & preparation room



Library as a Community Hub

Current Activities:

- **Children & Youth Programs:** Story hours, robotics clubs, and creative workshops.
- **Community Engagement:** Author talks, handicraft circles, and group meetings.
- **Cultural Events:** Exhibitions, concerts, and thematic evenings.
- **Educational Workshops:** Language classes, digital literacy sessions, and skill-building workshops.



Library as a Community Hub

Future Plans:

- **Expanded Spaces:** Larger areas for group activities and events.
- **Enhanced Facilities:** Dedicated rooms for workshops, meetings, and cultural events.
- **Technology Integration:** Makerspaces, digital labs, and interactive learning zones.
- **Community Collaboration:** Partnerships with local organizations for diverse programs.





Thank you

