

Viru Prison

Location: Jõhvi

Opened: 2008

Type of prison: closed cell-based prison with open prison unit

Prisoners: adult males and females in remand custody, convicted adult and juvenile male offenders

Max. number of prisoners: 1,075 (incl. 75 prisoners in open prison)

Number of prisoners as at 07.05.2018: 853

The construction of Viru Prison buildings was completed in 2008. The prison with the surrounding premises extends across 16 hectares and is mainly guarded by way of electronic surveillance installed on prison barriers. Viru Prison is the first prison where all the buildings on the premises are connected by closed connecting routes for increased security.

Viru Prison incorporates a prison and a house of detention. The one- and two-person cells accommodate a maximum of 1,000 prisoners, plus 75 prisoners in the open prison unit and 150 prisoners in the house of detention. The prison also contains a residence for 300 persons in custody. The prison complex further includes a school, a sports hall, social work facilities, a chapel, and workshops.

The prison incorporates 466.5 staff positions, including 284 prison officer positions.

As a novelty in the history of the entire Prison Service, a maximum security unit was established at Viru Prison. The prison also has a unit for 250 juvenile prisoners housing all convicted juvenile offenders and remand juveniles as well as all convicted young adults.

The prisoners receive education from Kohtla-Järve Upper Secondary School for Adults and from Ida-Virumaa Vocational Education Centre; employment opportunities are provided by AS Estonian Prison Industry.

New Tallinn Prison

Location: Rae, ca 10 km from Tallinn

Will be opened: December 2018

Type of prison: closed cell-based prison with open prison unit

Prisoners: adult males and females in remand custody, adult convicted male and female offenders

Max. number of prisoners: 1,208 (incl. 100 prisoners in open prison)

Number of prisoners as at 07.05.2018: 0

The construction of the prison complex is planned to be finished by the end of June 2018, interior decoration works and refurbishing should be completed by the end of August 2018, and this will be followed by the installation and adjustment of technical equipment and preparation of prison staff.

The prison complex is planned to be opened on 1 December 2018 and after that the prisoners will be transferred to the facilities.

Size: net size 52,555.6 m². The area inside the perimeter is 60,300 m².

Inside the perimeter there are 7 buildings:

- 2 cell blocks for male prisoners
- a cell block for female prisoners (incl. mother-child unit)
- food preparation and educational facilities (incl. a chapel)
- main building (reception unit, medical unit and family meeting rooms)
- sports facility
- production work facility for male prisoners

Outside the perimeter:

- entrance facility (incl. a 25 m shooting range)
- open prison (for 100 prisoners: 86 male and 14 female)
- facility for dogs
- power station facility
- autonomous heating system facility

The prison is designed to hold 1,208 prisoners.

Cell blocks hold 512 cells for male and 92 cells for female prisoners, 16 isolation cells for male and 4 isolation cells for female prisoners.

Most cells are meant for 2 prisoners, with the exception of the open prison where some rooms are for 3 prisoners. A standard cell size is 11 m² and has a built-in shower.

The new prison is planned to be of the same size as the old Tallinn Prison.