

Matarsmiðja Matís – Food Entrepreneurs Centre

Matarsmiðja Matís is intended for entrepreneurs and small producers who are taking their first steps in food production. The facility can be rented for a full or half day at a time and is open on weekdays from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

The term Food Entrepreneurs Centres refers to a facility for diverse food processing operations that has been granted an operating licence by the relevant authorities. The facilities may vary but what they have in common is a wide range of food processing equipment and tools, as well as other infrastructure required for production.

Food processing operations

Matarsmiðjan facilities are arranged as follows: in the basement there is a reception room, a processing room, an equipment room, a heating room and a packaging room. On the third floor is an experimental kitchen. These areas are served by storage rooms, refrigerators, and freezers.

When working in these areas, appropriate workwear must be worn and housekeeping practices as required. Disposable overalls, shoe covers, and hairnets are available for users of the Matarsmiðjan.



How do I apply?

- Send an email to [matís@matís.is](mailto:matis@matís.is) expressing your interest in using the Matarsmiðjan.
- The application must contain the name of the applicant and the company, (if already established), along with their ID number, phone number, address, as well as the name of the person responsible for the operation.
- Brief description of the intended production should be included – i.e. what raw materials will be used, what equipment will be required and how the production process will be carried out. It must be stated whether the purpose is product development or production for distribution and sale. It should also be indicated whether an operating licence is already in place or whether an application for one is being prepared.
- Once all necessary information has been provided, an access agreement for Matarsmiðjan is made.

Entrepreneurs and small-scale producers who do not yet hold a valid operating licence but intend to produce, distribute and sell food products should immediately begin preparing an application to the Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority (MAST) or the relevant Public Health Authority, as applicable. Part of this preparation involves, among other things, the development of a quality manual.

Production, sale and distribution may commence once an operating licence has been obtained.

Entrepreneurs and small-scale producers selling products on the market are permitted to use Matarsmiðjan for up to three years from the date of signing the access agreement.

When the three year period has passed, the producer must seek permanent premises. Five years is the maximum period that entrepreneurs and small-scale producers may use Matarsmiðjan.

The facility is rented out in accordance with the current price list. Payment is due upon each visit to Matarsmiðjan unless otherwise agreed.

Facility

The experimental kitchen, which is part of the Matarsmiðjan, is equipped with a wide range of tools and utensils necessary for the activities carried out.

- The reception area contains a scale, a band saw and a portable worktable and is equipped with two refrigerators. The reception area can be cooled.
- The processing room contains cooking pots of 110 and 240 litres, a 20 litre mobile mixer, a meat mincer, a sausage stuffer and more, as well as a 5 litre mixer, a scale, worktables, cutting knives, loose cutting boards and a dishwasher. It is possible to set up cooking hobs and a baking oven. The processing area can be cooled.
- Adjacent to the processing room is a storage room for cleaning and operational supplies used in the food processing facility.
- The equipment room provides access to a blast freezer/blast chiller.
- Next to the equipment room is a packaging area, equipped with two vacuum packaging machines.
- There is access to coolers and storage freezers -18°C and -24°C.

Equipment

- Blast/steam/frying oven
- Hobart mixer 20L
- Kitchen Aid household mixer
- Kitchen Aid pasta maker
- Two stove tops
- Frying pan
- Small mixer
- Juice press/machine
- Large blender
- Pots
- Pans
- Dishwasher

