

Highlights of Southern Päijänne

Day trips, attractions and walking trails



www.visitpajanne.fi

Asikkala – Padasjoki – Sysmä
Hartola – Heinola

A daytripper's dream

Asikkala / Hartola / Heinola / Padasjoki / Sysmä

This guide introduces you to the most interesting sights, destinations, and walking trails in the Päijänne region. We invite you to explore them!

The most easily accessible lakeland destination in Finland, the southern Päijänne region offers a wide range of unique natural and cultural sights, charming small villages and magnificent lake views. This is the home of Päijänne National Park, a treasure for nature-lovers, including dramatic cliff faces, sandy eskers, sheltered lagoons and small islets. And all this is only a 90-minute drive away from the Helsinki region.

The road from Vääksy to Sysmä and onto the northern parts of Lake Päijänne has been elected the most beautiful scenic route in Finland. It follows the Pulkkilanharju esker, surrounded by open lake on both sides. This is Finnish lakeland nature at its greatest, and it provides a unique setting for your holiday. Welcome to Päijänne!

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE DESTINATIONS,

SERVICES AND EVENTS:
www.visitpajanne.fi

Did you know?
The Päijänne Tunnel, which starts near the Pulkkilanharju esker, distributes drinking water to over one million people?

Key to symbols

- Terrain rating
- Trail distance
- Total ascent
- Time
- Suitability
- Campfire site
- Campfire site with shelter
- Lean-to shelter
- Wild camping
- Visitor attraction
- Viewpoint
- Observation tower
- Nature trail
- Jetty
- Parking
- Visitor information
- Compost toilet
- Restaurant
- Charter restaurant
- Coffee shop
- Accommodation
- Camp site
- Swimming

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Visitpajanne.fi
The region's tourist services and destinations in one place


The Visitpajanne.fi site offers more information about the topics featured in this brochure, as well as a wide range of other interesting attractions, activities, accommodation alternatives, and tips for holiday-makers. You can check the location of your destination on the guide map, and use Google Maps for navigation.

See the Southern Päijänne guide map for local:

1. Accommodation providers
2. Restaurants and coffee shops
3. Attractions
4. Trails
5. Public beaches
6. Lean-to shelters, observation towers
7. Etc.



Explore the nature

 More information, photos, and services of the surrounding region: www.visitpajanne.fi

This section introduces the region's most popular walking trails. These trails offer a wide range of things to see and experience, and they vary in terms of difficulty and duration, so there is something for everyone to enjoy. These trails can be accessed during the snow-free seasons.

Päijänne Natural Park delights visitors with sandy beaches, esker islands and spectacular lake views that can be admired from hilltop lookouts. The Pirunkirkko (Devil's Church) rock in Paistjärvi is an impressive sight that makes you stop to admire the nature. The connection trails Aurinko-Ilves and Päijänne-Ilves offer a mind-soothing journey through forests and rural landscapes with comfortable stops at lean-to shelters by running water. Choose your favourites and explore the surrounding nature!

OTHER HIKING TRAILS IN THE AREA INCLUDE:

- Pasolanvuori nature trail, Vääksy
- Kullasvuori nature trail and observation tower, Padasjoki
- Koskensaari nature trail, Heinola
- Sataoja nature trail, Heinola
- Karhulenkki trail, Padasjoki
- Savottapolku trail, Padasjoki
- Evo hiking area with an extensive trail network





MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRAILS: www.visitpajanne.fi



Walking trails & Canoeing

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Pulkkilanharju nature trail

 Easy  4.4 km
 20 m  1-2 h

 Esker landscape shaped by the Ice Age |  Magnificent view of Lake Päijänne |  Karisalmi bridge



This easily accessible day-trip trail in Pulkkilanharju, in the heart of the Päijänne National Park, offers lovely lake views and esker terrain shaped by the Ice Age. Already when arriving to the trail, You get to enjoy the Finland's most beautiful scenic route already when arriving to the trail.

Description

A circular trail on the Pulkkilanharju esker, very close to Lake Päijänne. The trail starts from the Karisalmi bridge's parking area and has a well-maintained path passing through beautiful esker and lake landscapes. You can walk either the 2.2 km nature trail, or the whole trail of about 4.4 km. The trail crosses a few other paths and forest roads, where you should pay attention to blue painted marks on the trees to stay on the right trail. At a brisk pace, the trail can be completed in less than one hour, but those who like to take their time, read the nature trail information boards and thoroughly enjoy the scenery, can spend a couple of hours on the trail.

Good to know

The trail is relatively short, so the service facilities are limited; there is no campfire site along the trail. The nearest toilet is in the Karisalmi parking area. There is also a kiosk in the parking area that's open during the summer. The nearest shops and other services can be found in Vääksy or Kalkkinen.

Difficulty

There are duckboards on the damp sections of the trail. The terrain is mainly easily passable, and so the trail is rated Easy. The trail can be walked in running shoes.

Accessing the starting point

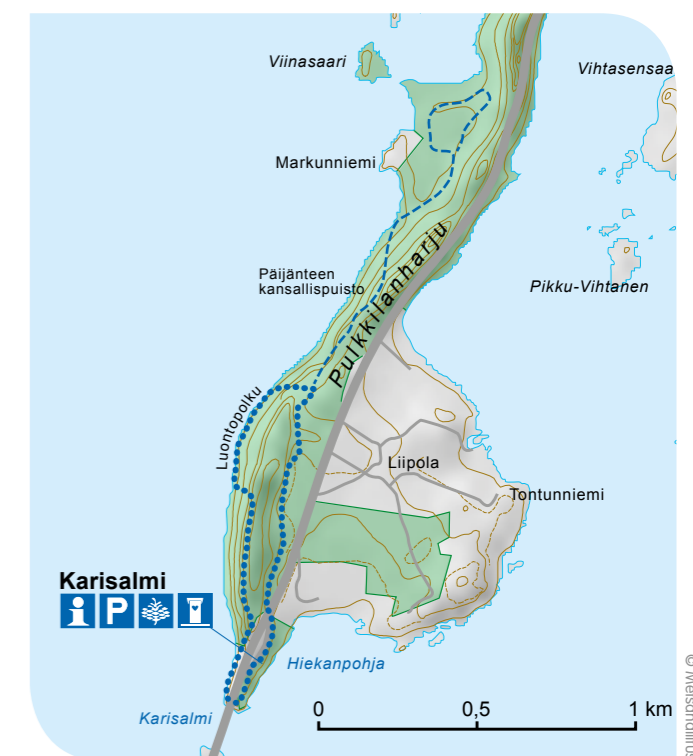
Pulkkilanharju can be accessed from Vääksy and Sysmä via road 314 by bike, car or bus. There is a pedestrian and bicycle route from Vääksy to Karisalmi.

START AND END POINTS:

Karisalmi parking area, Pulkkilantie 955, Asikkala
 N61 17.687, E25 32.082

TRAIL MARKINGS: Painted blue marks

MORE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND SERVICES OF THE SURROUNDING REGION: www.visitpajanne.fi



Kelvenne Trail

Medium 9.7 km
39 m 2-4 h

Great sandy beaches in sheltered bays | Kettle hole pond | Päijänne National Park

The Kelvenne Trail passes through the Päijänne National Park, taking walkers from beautiful sandy beaches to peaceful forests and tops of high eskers. It's an easy-to-follow path with lovely views. Kelvenne is an esker island formed during the Ice Age, and effects of the Ice Age can also be seen in the eskers, kettle holes and sheltered bays.

Description

The start and end points of the Kelvenne trail are in the south of the island (Kirkkosalmi) and in the north (Likolahti), and the trail can be walked in either direction. The trail passes through the entire island, winding along beaches as well as high eskers. Between Koukunlahti and Supanlahti, the trail splits into two: one that goes up on the esker and one that follows the western shore. These two branches come together again after about 500 metres. There are several nice resting places along the trail, in sheltered bays and on fine sandy beaches. In the middle of the island, there is a kettle hole that has formed a small lake. The trail also passes pine swamps oozing the charming scent of Labrador marsh tea. The Kelvenne island consists of beautiful esker and lake landscapes. Most of the forest is dry peaty forest with sections of broad-leaved forest near the lake.



© Johannes Siiponen

Good to know

There are three wild camping sites on the Kelvenne island: Hinttolanhiekkä, Nimetön and Isohieta. Kelvenne is also a great destination for a canoe or a boat trip. There are many nice, sandy beaches, for example, in Kirkkosalmi, Hinttolanhiekkä, Kyyränlahti, Isohieta, and on the eastern shore of the island, at the northern end of the trail. There are eight campfire sites along the trail, and all of these sites have toilets. In addition, there is a large, sheltered cooking facility in Kirkkosalmi. Things to remember to take with you: toilet paper and, if you are planning to have a fire, a knife and matches. The nearest tourist services are in Padasjoki.

Difficulty

Due to the elevation and rocky path sections, the Kelvenne Trail is rated Medium. The trail can be walked in running shoes, although in some rocky places hiking boots can be a better alternative.

Accessing the starting point

In the summertime, you can access the Kelvenne island on a lake cruise or alternatively by boat taxi, which can be booked from Kiuasniemi Marina and Kullasmarina in Padasjoki and from Lehmonkärki in Asikkala. Canoeing equipment can be rented, for example, from Padasjoen Latu ry. There are several excursion harbours for those arriving with their own boat.

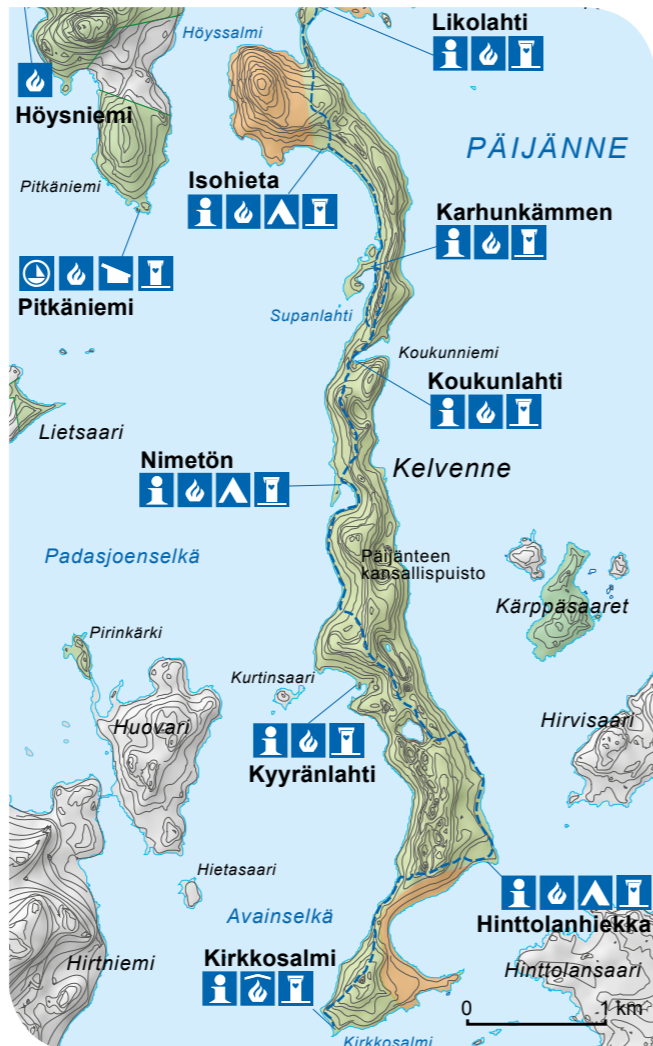


START AND END POINTS:

Kirkkosalmi, south Kelvenne N61 19.723 E25 27.122
Likolahti, north Kelvenne N61 23.633 E25 26.661

TRAIL MARKINGS: Painted blue marks

MORE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND SERVICES OF THE SURROUNDING REGION: www.visitpajanne.fi and www.nationalparks.fi/en/pajannenp



© Meischullius

Päijätsalo

Medium 4.1 km 37 m 2-3 h

19th century observation tower | Beautiful lake and forest scenery | Pyydysniemi beach & campfire site



© Outdoors Finland



© Johannes Siiponen

The Päijätsalo area in Sysmä offers several alternatives for a day trip in varied forest and lake sceneries.

The longest circular trail comprises 4.1 km of atmospheric forests and shores of Lake Päijänne. Part of the trail extends to the Päijänne National Park, and its main attraction is the observation tower built in the 19th century. Situated in the middle of the island, the tower offers an impressive view over Päijänne.

Description

The trail starts from the Päijätsalo parking area or, if accessed by boat, from Pyydysniemi. There are several paths in the area, and you can plan your route as you wish. The terrain consists mainly of peaceful coniferous forest with sections of broad-leaved trees near the lake. Thanks to the elevated grounds in the central part of the island, and of course the magnificent scenery, this is a nice hiking destination with varying terrain. There is a campfire site in Pyydysniemi, which belongs to Päijänne National Park. The lovely observation tower can be reached from both starting points.

Good to know

The trail can be accessed during the snow-free seasons. There is a campfire site, toilet and firewood in Pyydysniemi, which is also a great place to swim. Things to remember to take with you: toilet paper and, if you are planning to have a fire, a knife and matches. Various services, attractions, jetties and a boat fuelling station can be found in the nearby tourist businesses of Pinximäki and Ilola, which are open in the summertime. The nearest shops are in the centre of Sysmä, 7 km from the trail's starting point.

Difficulty

The trails are mainly in good condition and clearly marked. The most challenging sections are the rather steep incline to the observation tower and a rather rocky path by the lake north of Pyydysniemi. The trail can be walked in running shoes.

How to get there

Those arriving to the area with their own car start the trail from the Päijätsalo parking area. From the centre of Sysmä, continue to Supellontie (5 km), then turn left onto Päijätsalontie (2 km) and then right onto Sorolantie. Those arriving by boat start the trail from Pyydysniemi. There is a jetty for small boats.

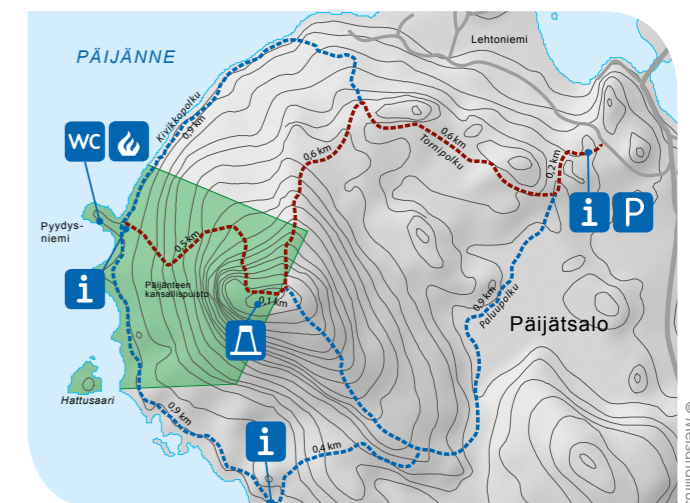


BY CAR: Päijätsalo parking, Sorolantie 28, 19700 Sysmä, N61 29.046 E25 35.043

BY BOAT: Pyydysniemi, N61 28.925 E25 33.659

TRAIL MARKINGS: Painted blue and red marks (see map)

MORE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND SERVICES OF THE SURROUNDING REGION: www.visitpajanne.fi



© Meischullius

Kammiovuori

Hard 4 km 120 m 2-3 h

Spectacular views from Kammiovuori hilltop | Boulder "Linta" | Hiskias's Cave

Located in Vintturi, Sysmä, Kammiovuori ("Chamber Mountain") is the highest spot in the Eastern Häme (Tavastia) region, offering breathtaking views over the region's forests and lakes. The trail passes through atmospheric, hilly forest terrain. Interesting sights along the path include the impressive, seven-metre boulder named "Linta", and Hiskias's cave. The cave is named after a vagabond who, according to local legend, used to live in the cave at the beginning of the 20th century. Despite the challenging terrain, Kammiovuori is a popular destination for families with children, as well.

Description

The trail starts from the parking area and goes up through a mixed, mostly coniferous forest towards Kammiovuori. A clearly marked path leads to a lean-to shelter and campfire site. This is a good place to stop and rest before continuing the climb. After the lean-to shelter, the trail divides into a circular trail leading past Hiskias's cave and the boulder Linta all the way to the top of the Kammiovuori hill. The view from the hilltop is spectacular, but be very careful near the edge of the cliff. The trail passes through very varied landscape from groves to dry pine forests and romantic spruce forests.

Good to know

The trail can be walked in running shoes, although hiking boots can be a better alternative for this varied terrain. One of the Struve Geodetic Arc triangulators is close to the summit of Kammiovuori. You can see several really large ant hills along the trail. Those arriving by boat can use the jetty in Vintturi village, 3 km from the trail. The nearest shops are in Sysmä.

Difficulty

This trail is rated Hard. The rocky sections with large stubs and steep inclines make it challenging. Despite this, Kammiovuori is a popular destination for families with children, as well. Extra caution should always be applied near the edge of the hill. The trail is accessible during the snow-free seasons. There are support ropes to help climbing at the steepest sections.

How to get there

You can get to the starting point of the trail by car. From Sysmä, take road 612 towards Luhanka and drive 24 km, then turn right onto Vintturintie and drive 2 km, turn left onto Nutturintie and continue about 1 km to the Kammiovuori parking.

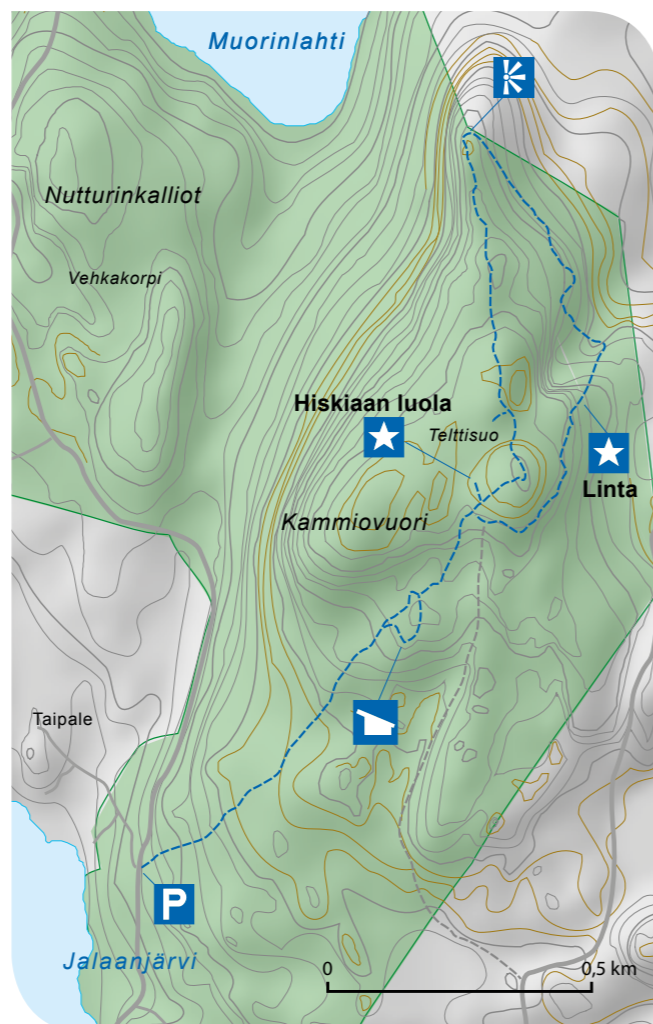
START AND END POINTS: Kammiovuori parking, Nutturintie 104, Sysmä, N61 41.443 E25 41.366

TRAIL MARKINGS: Painted blue and white marks

MORE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND SERVICES OF THE SURROUNDING REGION: www.visitpajanne.fi



© Eetu Uimonen/Outdoors Finland



© Meischullius

Juustopolku Trail

Medium 17 km 60 m 1-2 days

Kupparinkivi boulder | Romantic spruce forest | Korvenlampi lean-to

Juustopolku is an old connection trail from Heinola to Vuolenkoski. Leading through a fairy tale-like spruce forest, it helps you forget about all your troubles. The trail is suitable for a day trip, but it is also possible to stay overnight in the lean-to shelter. There is an impressive boulder, Kupparinkivi ("Copper's Rock"), by the trail. And if you pay close attention, you may see traces of beavers that have lived in the area.

Description

Juustopolku starts from Jyränkö, Heinola, by Lake Konnivesi. The terrain varies from paths to forest roads. Soon after the starting point, the trail leads to a spruce forest, and later it passes through lichen-covered rocks, groves and heathlands. The trail ends in the village of Vuolenkoski. There are two lean-to shelters along the trail: the Korvenlampi shelter in a beautiful lookout spot and Läpiä shelter in the forest. Korvenlampi is about 3.8 km from the starting point, and Läpiä is about 9 km from the starting point.

Good to know

In rainy weather, there are puddles on the trail, so waterproof shoes are a better alternative than running shoes. Bring a knife and matches to make a fire. The Juustopolku Hike is arranged every autumn, including bus transportation to both ends of the trail. Lots of berries and mushrooms can be found along the trail, and they can be picked freely.

Difficulty

There are some hilly and rocky sections on the trail, so sturdy shoes are recommended. In general, the trail is well maintained and clearly marked. Some sections have duckboards. Please take the duration of the trail into consideration and bring a sufficient supply of food and water. There are some lumbering sites along the trail, and in these places you must pay close attention to the correct route.

How to get there

You can start the Juustopolku trail from the centre of Heinola: walk down Tampilahdenkatu until the crossing with Muikkuojankatu. This is where the trail starts to follow the lakeshore. Heinola has good bus connections, and the starting point of the trail is within walking distance of bus stops. The nearest is the Jyränkö stop. In Vuolenkoski, the trail starts from the Vuolenkoski school or sports field. Vuolenkoski cannot be accessed by public transportation.

STARTING POINT: Tampilahdenkatu 35, 18150 Heinola, N61 11.309 E26 02.207

Vuolenkoski school, Vuolenkoskentie 1298, Iitti
N61 05.076 E26 08.902

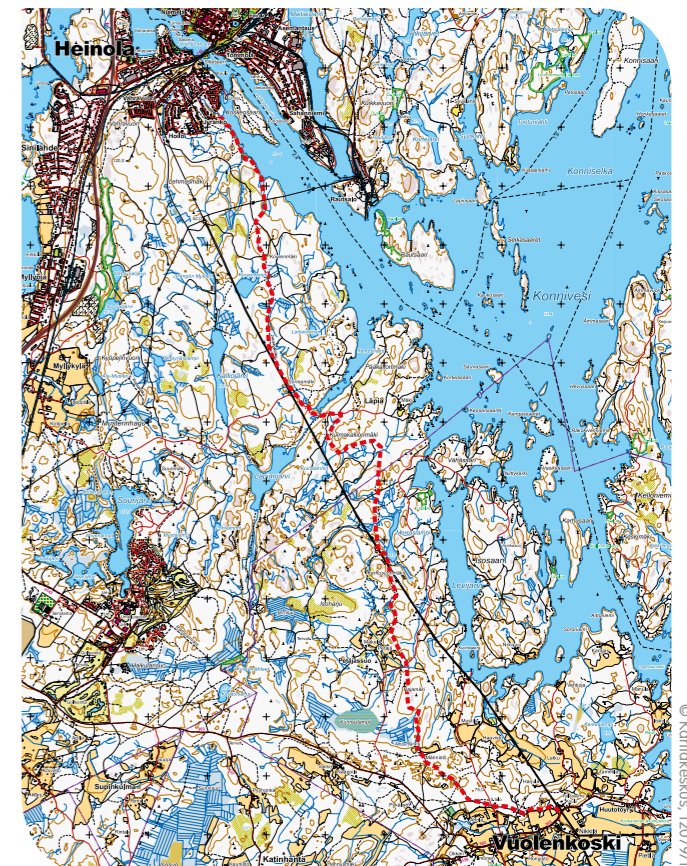
Vuolenkoski sports field, Herrojentie 12, Iitti

TRAIL MARKINGS: Painted white marks

MORE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND SERVICES OF THE SURROUNDING REGION: www.visitpajanne.fi



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© Karttikeskus, 12079/16

Paistjärvi, Pirunkirkko

Medium 4.4 km
58 m 2-3 h

Impressive rock formation Pirunkirkko | Pristine lakes | Wilderness

The Pirunkirkko area in Paistjärvi is a hidden treasure for hikers in Heinola. The Paistjärvi hiking area in the north-eastern part of Heinola provides a great setting for hikers with its wilderness landscape and pristine lakes. The Pirunkirkko ("Devil's Church") rock formation is a breathtaking sight, even for seasoned nature lovers.

Description

The trail to Pirunkirkko starts from the Niinilampi parking area. The first section of the trail follows a forest road, from which it turns onto a path. The path passes through about 300 m of hilly forest terrain and leads to Lake Iso-Vuorttunen. The next 300 m section of the trail follows the shore of the lake, and the final section of 200 m leads through forest to the Pirunkirkko formation.

This is a great place to have a break and enjoy the impressive view. There is a bench and a compost toilet at Pirunkirkko, but no campfire site. From Pirunkirkko, you can return to the starting point using the same route or continue on the circular trail towards the Simonlampi parking area.

The first section after Pirunkirkko is a 300-m path towards Lake Iso-Vuorttunen. This hilly section leads through beautiful, lichen-covered terrain. The most difficult incline is right after Pirunkirkko. After the wilderness and lake shore, the trail leads to the forest and onto the Simonlammi parking area, which is about 600 m ahead. The section from the lake to the parking area is easier and more level. North of the trail, there is a small pond called Simonlampi, surrounded by swamp. From the Simonlampi parking area, the trail continues 2.2 km along a forest road back to the Niinilampi parking area.

Good to know

Apart from the Pirunkirkko Trail, there are other walking trails and campfire sites in the Paistjärvi area. See outdoors.fi for more information. The only campfire site along the Pirunkirkko Trail is next to the Niinilampi parking area. There are three toilets along the trail: at Niinilampi, Pirunkirkko and the Simonlampi parking area.



Difficulty

The trail includes very hilly sections and varied terrain. Some of the stairs and duckboards of the trail have been repaired during autumn 2016 to make it easier to pass the most difficult sections. The most challenging part is the path west of Lake Iso-Vuorttunen; the other sections consist of fairly even paths or forest roads.

How to get there

Paistjärvi is in a remote area that is only reachable by car. There are no public transportation connections.



DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO NIINILAMPI PARKING AREA: From road E75 take road 46 towards Kouvola (5 km), turn onto road 4143 (19 km), when you reach Lake Sonnanen, turn left onto Kesäöntie (1.6 km), then turn right towards Pirunkirkko (0.5 km).

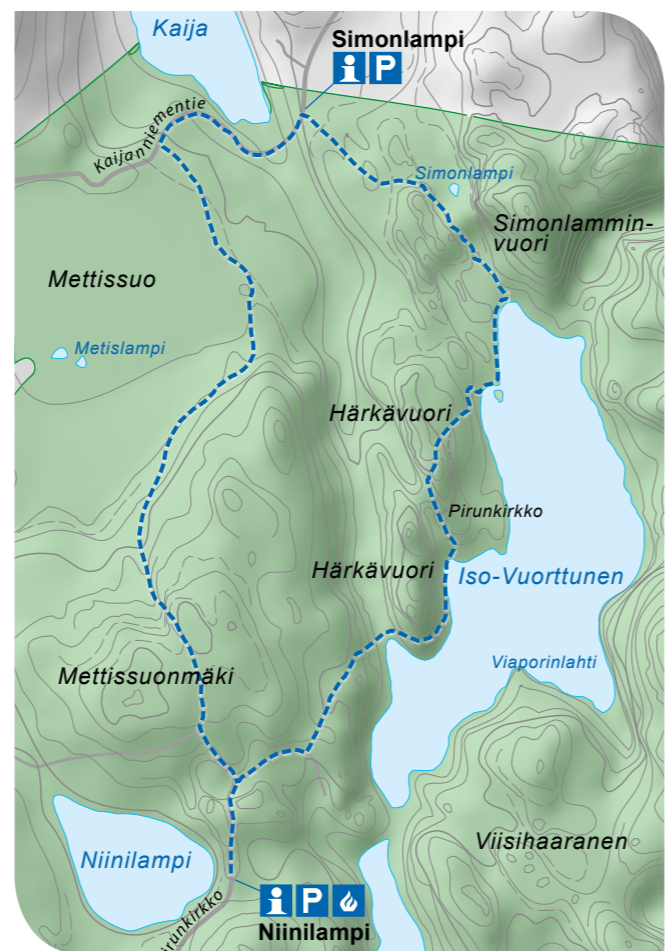
STARTING POINTS:

Niinilampi parking, Pirunkirkko 60, Heinola, N61 18.005, E26 23.502
Simonlampi parking, Kaijanniementie 244, Heinola, N61 18.877, E26 23.671

TRAIL MARKINGS: Yellow poles

MORE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND SERVICES

OF THE SURROUNDING REGION: www.visitpajanne.fi



Hartola, Kuninkaanpolku Trail

Easy 3.8 km
20 m 1-3 h

Pristine Tainionvirta river | Itä-Häme Museum | Atmospheric peatland forest

The Kuninkaanpolku Trail in Hartola is a fascinating mix of nature and culture. Stop on the Ekonkoski arched bridge to see trout swimming in the bright water. Continue with a relaxing walk through the pleasant peatland forest. Cross a gently rocking suspension bridge to the lovely surroundings of the Itä-Häme Museum, which showcases the varied history of the region.

Description

Kuninkaanpolku Trail can be started from the Linna Hotel or Itä-Häme Museum. When starting from the Linna Hotel, the first section of the trail passes lovely old buildings belonging to the folk high school Itä-Hämeen opisto. From there, the trail follows an idyllic country road towards the arched bridge crossing the pristine Ekonkoski rapids in River Tainionvirta. After the bridge, the trail continues along the road until it turns right into the forest. The path leading through the forest is clearly marked. The landscape consists of peatland forest, and you can give your feet a soothing peat treatment if you wish. After the forest section, the trail follows a field to the sports ground, from where a suspended bridge across River Tainionvirta leads to the beautiful surroundings of Itä-Häme Museum. After the museum, the trail continues to the old Hartola Church monument and makes one more turn towards the river before leading to the Kaikulantie road and back to the starting point along a lovely birch path.

Good to know

There are two swimming beaches along the trail: next to the sports field, and near Kaikulantie. In addition, there is a winter swimming place near the museum. In the winter, there are ski tracks in the forest sections of the trail and, therefore, it can only be walked during the snow-free seasons. The town of Hartola with its services is quite close to the trail. River Tainionvirta is also a good canoeing destination (see p. 16) and one of the most popular rapids fishing places in Southern Finland.

Difficulty

The trail consists of paths, dirt roads and pedestrian routes, and is very easy to walk. The hardest sections are between Ekonkoski rapids and the sports grounds, where the path leads through fairly damp swamp terrain. For this reason, waterproof shoes are recommended, unless the weather has been very dry.

How to get there

The trail can be started from the Linna Hotel or Itä-Häme Museum. Hartola has good bus connections.



STARTING POINT:

Linna Hotelli, Kaikulantie 86, Hartola, N61 34.269, E26 02.183
Itä-Häme Museum, Koskipääntie 4, Hartola, N61 34.128, E26 01.015

MORE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND SERVICES

OF THE SURROUNDING REGION: www.visitpajanne.fi





Aurinko-Ilves

Medium 31 km 54 m 1-2 days

Lake view from the top of Aurinkovuori | Deep kettle holes | Kurhila village's cultural landscape & romantic brooks

Aurinko-Ilves is a lovely connection trail leading from the beautiful Vääkysy Canal area through paths, forest tracks and old forest roads to the large forests and extensive trail network of the Evo Hiking Area. The scenery along the trail range from esker forest in Aurinkovuori to spectacular lake views, and the charming Kurhila village. When approaching to Evo, the murmuring forest brooks create a lovely backdrop for the walk.

Good to know

From the end point of the trail, you can continue using Evo Hiking Area's extensive trail network or onto the Päijänne-Ilves connecting trail leading to Padasjoki (see page 14). There are four lean-to shelters with campfire sites and compost toilets along the trail. The impressive deep kettle holes "Syrjänsuupat" are in the northern part of Aurinkovuori. To see them, you need to make a separate 1.5-km trip. In the summertime, there is a lot to see in the Old Vääkysy area, including the canal, coffee houses and shops.

Description

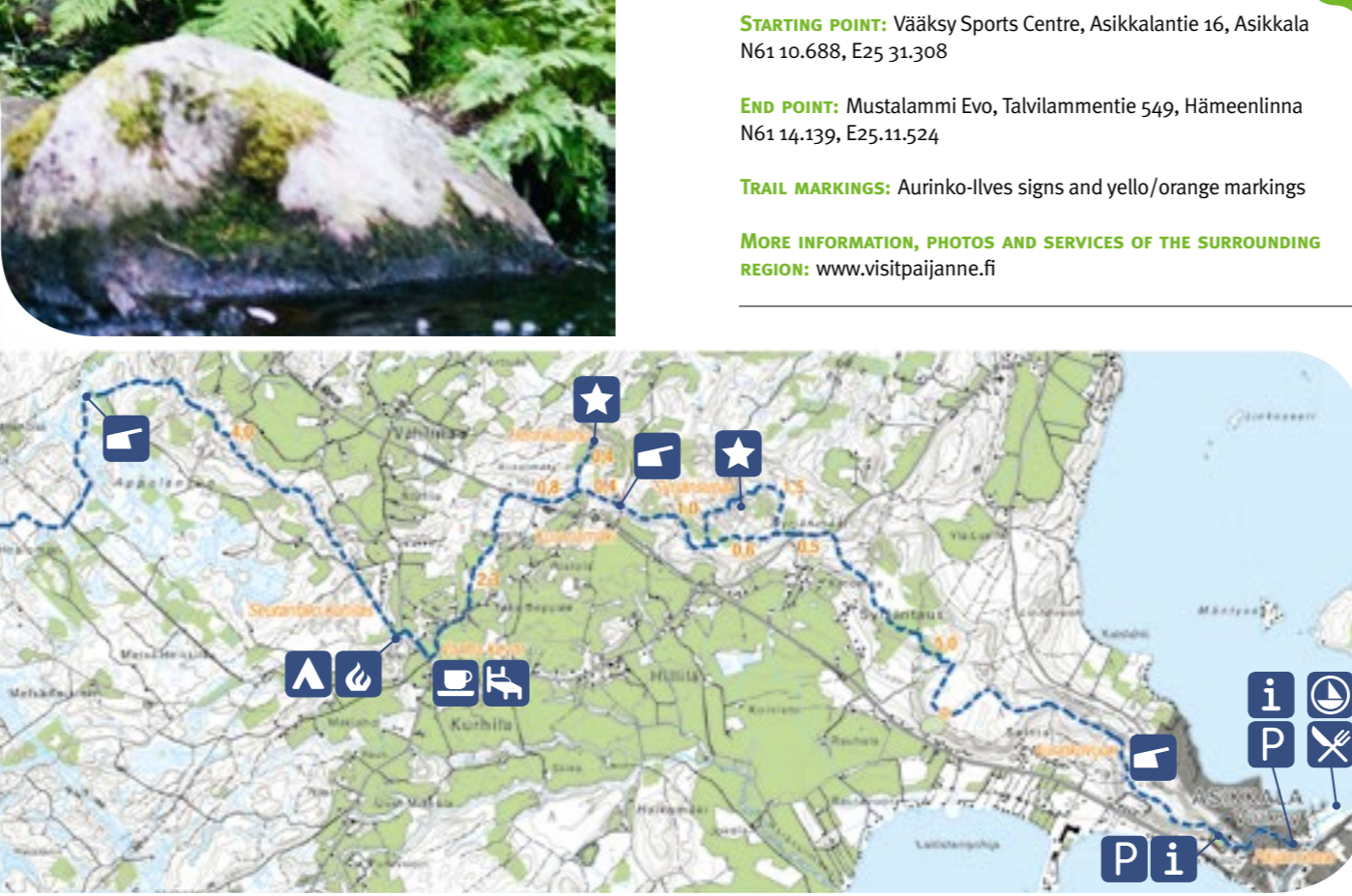
After departure from the Vääkysy Sports Centre, the trail climbs steeply to the Aurinkovuori hill ("Sun Mountain"). Close to the starting point, the Aurinkovuori lean-to and lookout spot offer a great view over Lake Päijänne. From Aurinkovuori, the trail continues towards the deep kettle holes "Syrjänsuupat" and the Kuurnamäki lean-to which, in turn, offers a nice view over the Finnish rural landscape. The next attraction along the trail is the Kurhila village, where the trail passes the coffee shop Vanha Kevar and leads to Seurantalo Kuhilas, a camping site with a sheltered cooking facility. From there, the trail mainly follows old forest roads with short sections of paths. There are two lean-to shelters in atmospheric places by brooks: Uusimylly and Kaupinsaari. The trail ends at Haarjärvi parking area.

Difficulty

Some sections of the trail include difficult terrain, and there are some steep hills. After heavy rain, the soil is soft. It is advisable to have a map with you, because some sections of the trail have tall grass and worn trail markings. Due to the length of the trail, you should reserve plenty of time and food for the trip.

How to get there

The Aurinko-Ilves trail can be started from Päijännetalo or Sports Centre in Vääkysy. There are good bus connections to the starting point. The nearest bus stop is in the old centre of Vääkysy. The end point of the trail is in a forest area, from where you can return by car (e.g. taxi) or continue hiking in the Evo Hiking area or along the Päijänne-Ilves trail leading to Padasjoki.



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STARTING POINT: Vääkysy Sports Centre, Asikkalantie 16, Asikkala N61 10.688, E25 31.308

END POINT: Mustalammi Evo, Talvilammentie 549, Hämeenlinna N61 14.139, E25.11.524

TRAIL MARKINGS: Aurinko-Ilves signs and yellow/orange markings

MORE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND SERVICES OF THE SURROUNDING REGION: www.visitpajanne.fi



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Päijänne-Ilves

Medium 13 km 78 m 3-5 h

Tuomasvuori observation tower | Frans Joosef Pond, nature reserve area | Forest brooks and ponds

The Päijänne-Ilves trail forms a connection to the Evo Hiking Area. It contains nicely varying terrain, including villages, forests, swamps and dry peaty forests. The Cudgel War memorial adds a touch of history, and Frans Joosef Pond's nature reserve lets you experience pristine nature. Another noteworthy landmark is an exceptionally large boulder close to the end of the trail.

Description

The diverse Päijänne-Ilves trail starts from Padasjoki Marina. It includes paved pedestrian and bicycle routes, gravel road, forest road, fields and forest paths. The start of the trail is easy to walk and there is not much elevation. Before the middle section of the trail, in the village of Nyystölä, there is a Cudgel War memorial, after which you can make a separate trip to the Nyystölä birdwatching tower. The end of the trail is more difficult, as it includes more incline and rocky places, and the scenery also becomes more forested. There is one lean-to shelter along the trail, Nuijamiehenkolo, about 10 km from the starting point. There is also a compost toilet next to the shelter. After the lean-to, the trail continues towards the Frans Joosef Pond nature reserve and on towards Tarus, where there is a campfire site, swimming beach, camping site and parking area.

Good to know

From the end point of the trail, you can continue using the extensive trail networks of Tarus and Evo Hiking Areas or onto the Aurinko-Ilves connecting trail leading to Vääkky (see page 12). There is one lean-to shelter along the trail. The Tuomastornit observation towers near Padasjoki Marina are definitely worth visiting. A wide range of services is available at the Padasjoki Marina and in the centre of Padasjoki at the beginning of the trail.

Difficulty

This medium trail takes about 3 to 5 hours to walk. It can be walked in running shoes, but in rainy weather and early in the morning the grass is wet, so waterproof shoes are recommended. Due to the challenging rocky sections and inclines, hiking boots may be a better choice. In addition, take a map, knife, matches and toilet paper with you.

How to get there

The trail starts from Padasjoki Marina. You can travel by bus to the centre of Padasjoki, which is about 2 km from the starting point. The end of the trail in Tarus is about 3 km from the nearest bus stop (which is on highway 24).

STARTING POINT:
Padasjoki Marina, Laivarannantie 41, Padasjoki
N61 21.744 E25 17.705

END POINT:
Iso-Tarusjärvi, Taruksentie 290, Padasjoki
N61 17.295 E25 15.562

TRAIL MARKINGS: Yellow painted marks and ribbons

MORE INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND SERVICES OF THE SURROUNDING REGION: www.visitpajanne.fi



Tainionvirta canoeing route

Medium 43 km
14 m 1-4 days

Bright water | Beautiful countryside | Good fishing opportunities

The canoeing route from Hartola to Sysmä passes through a cultural heritage landscape and offers an unforgettable adventure in the calmly flowing river with sounds of aquatic birds in the background. The route is suitable even for beginners. Most of the rapids are easily passable, and the most difficult sections can be skipped by walking along the shore. The route makes for a good weekend trip, and it can be accessed from spring until late autumn.

Description

KOSKENNISKA – GASTHAUS CAMPING KOSKENNIEMI 3.6 KM

The first section passes through inhabited areas. The first shoots are at the very beginning of the route, in Ekonkoski. The Ekonkoski rapids are approached using the right-hand side of the river, and the rapids are shot on the right-hand side. After this, the route continues in a calm stream past the Itä-Häme Museum towards the Highway 4 underpass, where you can dock at a coffee house's landing stage. The next shoot is the quietly flowing Vuoteenkoski next to Gasthaus-Camping Koskenniemi.

GASTHAUS CAMPING KOSKENNIEMI – KEIJULANKOSKI LEAN-TO SHELTER 4.0 KM

The route continues in an easy stream until it reaches its most difficult section, Vanhanmyllynkoski rapids. This is a relatively long shoot section including a turn to the left. It's a good idea to familiarise yourself in advance with the currents and rocks, and the exact course you'll take. The rapids can also be passed by carrying the canoe on the shore. The first canoe-carrying route is the Hotilankoski dam before the Keijulankoski lean-to shelter. The landing site is on the right-hand side of the dam. The landing site for the Keijulankoski lean-to is before the rapids on the right-hand shore.

KEIJULANKOSKI LEAN-TO SHELTER – KIRVESKOSKI DAM 3.8 KM

In the Keijulankoski section, the canoeing course is on the left-hand side of the rapids. After this, the route continues in an easy stream through field landscapes all the way to the Kirveskoski dam. The landing place in Kirveskoski is on the right-hand shore. The easiest way to get your canoe to the launching site is to pull it in the brook for the last 20 metres before the landing stage.

KIRVESKOSKI DAM – HAAVISTONNIEMI LEAN-TO SHELTER (HUUTONIEMI) 5.6 KM

Approximately 700 metres downstream after the dam, it seems as though the river divides into two. Pass the surface rocks from the right. The final 2.9-km section of this leg is in a lake.

HAAVISTONNIEMI LEAN-TO SHELTER (HUUTONIEMI) – MAATIAISKOSKI DAM 9.9 KM

This leg of the route consists of both lake and river sections. There are three resting places: the Joutsjärvi lean-to shelter, Enojärvi landing, and Krouvin Camping's landing. If the wind is high, it is safer to stay close to the lake shore. Before the Maatiaiskoski dam, there is a river section that divides twice. Always choose the left side. Pass under the Nuoramoinen bridge on the right-hand side. The landing site is quite close to the dam, on the right-hand shore of the river.

MAATIAISKOSKI DAM – ROUVASAARI ISLAND 3.3 KM

This is the longest, most open lake section of the route, so you must pay attention to wind conditions when choosing your course. You can pull the canoe ashore on Rouvasaari island. On the northwest side of the island, there is a sheltered landing place, whereas the northeastern side has lots of surface rocks.

ROUVASAARI – VIRTAANKOSKI DAM 4.8 KM

The route continues across Lake Nuoramoijsjärvi onto the last river section. Before the Virtaankoski dam, there is a 3-km river section with easy shoots. At the dam, the landing site is on the left-hand shore. You must carry the canoe about 50 metres to pass the dam. This can also serve as the end point of the canoe trip for those who don't want to complete the final, longer lake section.

VIRTAANKOSKI DAM – CAMPING SYSMÄ 7.6 KM

The first kilometre of this final leg is a river section with an easy stream. Then, you paddle along the shores of the lake for about 6.6 km and arrive in the centre of Sysmä. There are no common resting places along this leg.

Good to know

Canoes are available for rent in Hartola. The Kuninkaanpolku trail (see p. 11) goes close to the river at the start of the route, and the Itä-Häme Museum by the suspended bridge is also worth visiting.

Tainionvirta is one of the most popular rapids fishing destinations in Southern Finland for both fly and spinning fishers. A special permit and the State Fisheries Management Fee are required for fishing in the river. Permits are sold separately for the Hartola and Virtaa areas. The lakes along the route are also rich in fish. On the lakes you are allowed to fish with the State Fisheries Management Fee. Angling with a float and bait is covered by everyman's rights on the lakes, but not in river.

Difficulty

There are six Class I rapids along the route, as well as four dams where you have to carry the canoe. During high water, the Ekonkoski and Vanhanmyllynkoski shoots have quite a strong flow, and should be followed from the shore before attempting them. All rapids can be skipped by walking along the shore. There are four dams that must be skipped on ground by carrying the canoe. In lake sections, wind conditions must be taken into account when determining the course.

How to get there

Apart from the official starting point Koskenniska, the route can be started in Koskenniemi, Keijulankoski, Kirveskoski, or Krouvi Camping, for example. Hartola has good bus connections. The other starting points can be reached by car.



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Asikkala Ice Age Trail

 Impressive Ice Age relics

The Ice Age Trail in Asikkala passes through magnificent landscapes shaped by the Ice Age. The steep Aurinkovuori cliff formation, the large kettle holes Syrjänsupat, the Pulkkilanharju esker crossing Lake Päijänne, the Vesivehmas delta area, as well as many other objects along the route remind us of the enormous power of nature, as it shaped the landscape and created the views we see today.

Description

The 80-km route can be travelled by car. It passes through seven unique objects related to the Ice Age and the emergence of Lake Päijänne. At each sight, there are information boards telling stories of these impressive landscapes. Part of the trail follows the route that has been elected the most beautiful landscape route in Finland (see page 17), and there are many other interesting sights and destinations along the way. Learn more about these destinations from the Southern Päijänne Guide map at www.visitpajanne.fi.

1 Vääksynjoki river and canal Meijeritie 1, Vääksy

The isthmus between Lakes Vesijärvi and Päijänne has gone through multiple changes over the ages. There is an information board about this at the parking area by Vääksynjoki.

2 Aurinkovuori Asikkalantie 14, Vääksy

A fine example of a ridge formed at the glacier terminus, Aurinkovuori boasts a uniquely thick layer of gravel that is an excellent groundwater filter, and also provides a great setting for outdoor activities. There is an information board between Aurinkovuori sports ground and the indoor sports arena.

3 Tallukanmäki Tallukantie 1, Vääksy

Tallukanmäki forms part of the Second Salpausselkä ridge system. There is also an information board next to the observation tower

4 Syrjänsupat kettle holes Kirkkotie 298, Asikkala

The enormous kettle holes were created by the melting of large slabs of ice buried underneath the sand and gravel in the area. There is an information board next to the kettle holes along the forest road, about one kilometre west of road 3141.

5 Pulkkilanharju esker Pulkkilantie 941, Asikkala

The picturesque Pulkkilanharju crossing Lake Päijänne is the longest uninterrupted esker formed by melting glacial ice. There is an information board at the Karisalmi rest area.

6 Kalkkinen canal and rapids Kanavakulmantie 440, Asikkala

Kalkkistenkoski rapids used to flow in the opposite direction until 7,000 years ago, a new channel to River Kymijoki opened up. Consequently, the water level in Ancient Lake Päijänne reduced by approx. 12 metres. There is an information board at the crossroads right after crossing the canal.

7 Vesivehmaankangas Lentotie 105, Vesivehmaa

Vesivehmaankangas consists of flat, sandy terrain. It forms part of the II Salpausselkä ridge system, which was formed from deposits carried by the glacial melt water to this delta area. There is an information board at Vesivehmaa Airport, close to the air traffic control tower.

MORE DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS AND SERVICES OF THE SURROUNDING REGION: www.visitpajanne.fi

ICE AGE TRAIL BROCHURES PRODUCED BY THE MUNICIPALITY OF ASIKKALA CAN BE BOUGHT: Päijänne House Tourist Information, Meijeritie 1, Vääksy Municipal Office, Rusthollintie 2, 17200 Vääksy



Finland's most beautiful landscape route

 Pulkkilanharju esker | Päijänne national Park | Magnificent lake views and beautiful countryside

Description

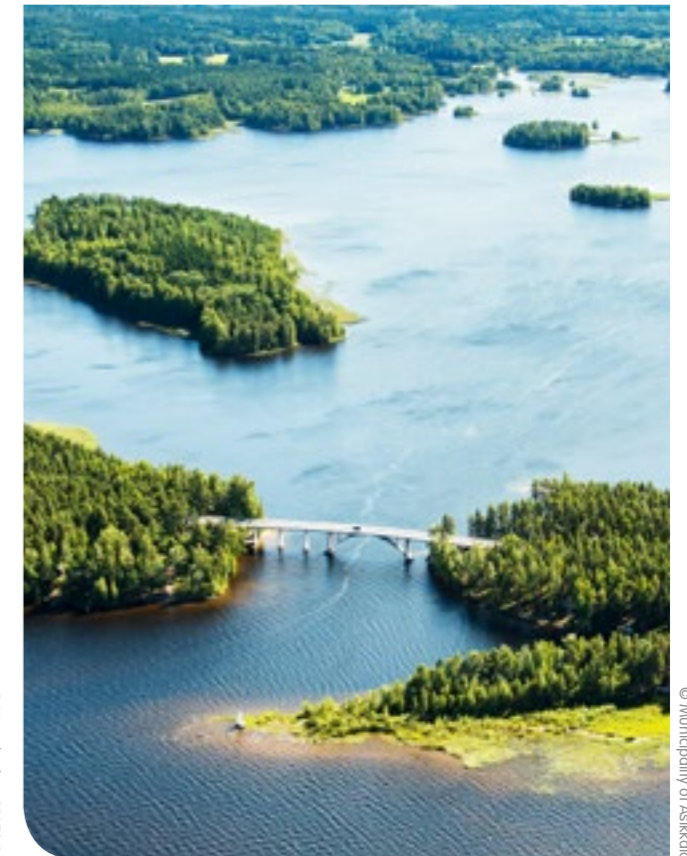
Finland's most beautiful landscape route leads from Vääksy via Pulkkilanharju and Sysmä to Korpilahti. The route follows the eastern side of Lake Päijänne and showcases the most picturesque Finnish lake-land and countryside. The Pulkkilanharju section of the route belongs to the Päijänne National Park. There the road goes on a narrow esker surrounded by open, pristine lake areas on both sides. Pulkkilanharju is the starting point of the Päijänne Tunnel that distributes drinking water to more than one million Finns living in the Greater Helsinki Area.

You can take a walk on the Pulkkilanharju Nature Trail starting from the Karisalmi bridge (see p. 5) or board a lake cruise to the esker island Kelvenne (see p. 6). In Sysmä, noteworthy attractions include the Päijätsalo observation tower (see p. 7) and Kammiovuori with its ruggedly beautiful landscape (see p. 8). In addition, the route passes through many charming villages that have various interesting events.

This route was elected the most beautiful landscape route in Finland in 2014 in a competition in which voters were asked to pay attention to local services and unique attractions in addition to views. Learn more about the attractions, services and other destinations along the route from the electronic guide map at www.visitpajanne.fi.

MORE INFORMATION:

Electronic map, information about services: www.visitpajanne.fi



Heinola National Urban Park

 Cultural heritage area | Esker and wilderness nature | Hiking opportunities on islands

The national urban park showcases the best of Heinola in the very centre of the town: historical attractions, culture, peaceful nature, magnificent water areas, recreational areas, fascinating architecture and cozy parks. The urban park forms a unique entity with something for everyone to enjoy!

The centre of Heinola is a well-preserved example of Gustavian grid planning. Many parks date back to the 18th and 19th centuries. The parks are connected to impressive buildings representing different periods of time, such as the Aschan House and its garden, Seminar buildings, Harju pavilion, WPK-talo (old Voluntary Fire Brigade's House), Art Museum, Local Museum, church and vicarage. The railway station park area, including residential buildings and a water tower, as well as the two bridges that have become symbols of Heinola, emphasise the town's importance as a hub of transport. The actual park areas are connected to the city's forest north of River Jyrängönvirta, which offer excellent opportunities for recreational activities. The consistency and diversity of green areas make the Heinola National Urban Park unique.

Highlights

- Fascinating buildings and gardens from different periods of time
- Chain of parks around the town centre
- The Jyrängönvirta river flowing through the town, and the nearby water systems
- Active beach areas in the town centre
- Tähtiniemi and Jyränkö bridges
- The Jyränkö area with cultural heritage of national significance
- Nature trails, lean-to shelters and other recreational activities

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HEINOLA ATTRACTIONS, SEE P. 26

What is a national urban park?

A national urban park is a comprehensive entity comprised of valuable cultural and natural landscapes and recreational areas in an urban environment. The municipality in question is committed to preserving and maintaining these areas. National urban parks can be seen as the urban counterpart of national parks. Heinola National urban park was established in 2002. It was the second national urban park in Finland. Today, there are eight national urban parks in Finland.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

www.visitpajanne.fi and www.heinola.fi/kansallinen-kaupunkipuisto



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Sysmä Architectural Heritage Trail

 Fascinating examples of architecture from different ages

The guided tour of architectural sights around the centre of Sysmä is a convenient way to learn about the town's history and architecture. In total, four different architectural heritage tours are available in Sysmä; here, we introduce a combination of two of them.

Architectural heritage tour destinations

1 Pusukuja, Maalarintie and Poikkitie area

Step into the spirit of old Sysmä; a typical Finnish village with small-scale residential buildings, outbuildings and gardens.

2 Lopperi Lopperintie 1. Built in 1843.

Lopperi is one of the oldest estate houses in Sysmä. The estate includes a guesthouse building, staples, two-storeyed warehouse, drying barn and a cowshed that is even older than the main building. Lopperi was the venue of Sysmä's first municipal council meeting in 1866, and it has also served as a guesthouse and local courthouse.

3 Theatre house Vaihkyläntie 1. Built in 1898.

When completed, this castle-like, beautifully decorated building custom-made for the Sysmä Savings Bank was a rarity. In addition to the bank, it has hosted a post office, library, civil guard headquarters, and a furniture store. Today, it has been restored to its original beauty and serves as a meeting and conference venue.

4 Villa Sarkia Myllymäentie 1. Built in the early 1900s.

This house was built to serve as the home of the bank manager, but it is not as decorative as the bank building itself. It has also been used as a dentist's practice and a daycare centre. Now, it is a writer residence.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS:

www.sysma.fi and www.visitpajanne.fi

5 Aurinkola Valittulantie 77 Pusukuja. Built in 1938.

This building was transferred from Helsinki and set up in its current place around 1938. The name of the house, Aurinkola, means "Sunny place", and it is, indeed, a bright spot in the Sysmä townscape. The building has been used for various purposes but now it has been restored and serves as a private residence.

6 Harmaala Lilumäentie 1/Valittulantie. Built in 1863.

One of the oldest buildings in Sysmä, Harmaala ("Grey place") accommodated a shop until 1930. The harmonious architecture follows the same tradition as that of Aurinkola.

7 Suurkylä Manor Suurkyläntie 2. Built in 1801.

Built for Hans Anders Wijkman, this manor, its outbuildings and old trees form a prestigious sight in the Sysmä village. This is the only preserved manor in the central village, and a valuable remembrance of the rich manor history of the area.

8 Church of St. Olaf

Kirkkokuja 1. Built in the early 16th century.

Dating back to the early 16th century (if not further), this is one of the oldest churches in Finland. In the course of its existence, the church has undergone several phases of construction. The Medieval, natural stone-built church is an impressive sight and churches like this are rare in the Finnish inland east of Lake Päijänne.

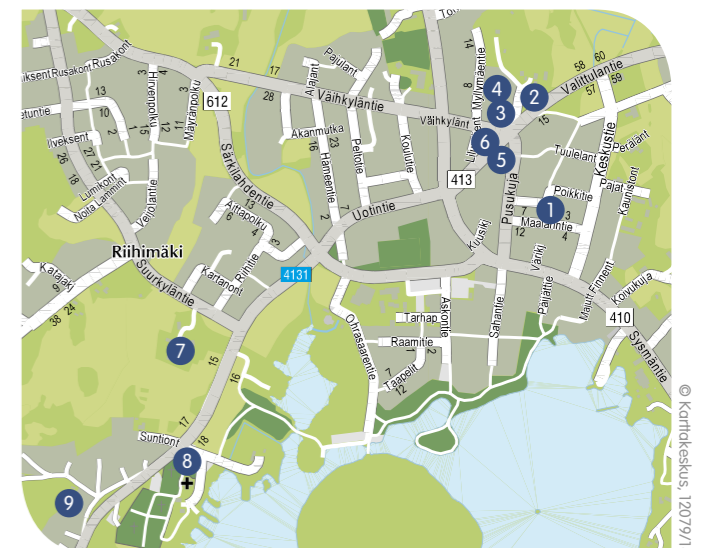
9 Sysmä Museum of Local History and Culture

Makasiinmäentie 4. Built in 1855.

Sysmä municipality's grain storehouse (entitled Leipälä, "Bread place") was built about a decade before the famine of the 1860s. It served as a granary that provided grain for local residents on interest during the challenging times. Today, the building is home to the Sysmä Museum of Local History and Culture maintained by the local association Sysmä Seura.



© Ahoiti Koru



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Attractions in Asikkala and Vääksy

i Guided tours and group trips: www.asikkala-oppaat.fi

1 Old Vääksy

Known for the beautiful canal area, as well as many cozy coffee shops and a variety of boutiques, Old Vääksy attracts visitors even from afar. The area is particularly popular in the summertime. River Vääksynjoki and the Norrlin park offer great opportunities to enjoy peaceful nature. A guided walking tour introduces visitors to the stories and eventful history of the buildings.

MORE INFORMATION AND A MAP OF THE WALKING TOUR: www.vanhavaaksy.fi

2 Vääksy Canal area

The Vääksy Canal between lakes Vesijärvi and Päijänne, which serves as a gateway to the Finnish lakeland, was completed in 1871. Today, the charming canal area attracts visitors to enjoy a summer day, watch the lockage of boats, explore the parks, attractions and shops, and have a delicious ice cream in the historical setting.

3 Päijännetalo – Päijänne House

Meijeritie 1, Vääksy

Located next to the canal, Päijänne House hosts the leisure fishing museum, where you can see fascinating exhibitions and learn about the birth of the world-famous Rapala lures. Also in the building, Asikkala Tourist Information has the best tips about attractions and activities in the area, and arranges guided nature tours. There is a parking area with electricity outlets for caravans and mobile homes. The building also accommodates the Kanavan Panimo brewery and summer kiosk.

MORE INFORMATION: www.suomenkalastusmuseo.fi, www.asikkala.fi and www.kanavanpanimo.fi

4 Vääksy Mill Myllytie 3, Vääksy

The mill at Vääksy is one of the few remaining – and thriving – village mills in Finland. The village shop is known for its excellent produce, which is offered in an atmospheric environment with a smile. Vääksyn Mylly supplies the flour for the famous Viipurilainen kotileipomo rye bread, for example.

MORE INFORMATION: www.vaaksynmylly.fi and Facebook

5 Water Mill Museum

The Vääksy Water Mill Museum preserves a centuries-long tradition, and remains a living embodiment of Asikkala's vivid water mill heritage. Museum visitors can participate in guided tours, and popular sing-along events are also arranged.

MORE INFORMATION: www.asikkala.fi and by telephone +358 44 7780 680

6 Workshops in the canal area Vääksy

KOIRUUKSIA CERAMICS:

Pet-themed ceramics. www.koiruuksia.fi

KESÄ KÄSILLÄ:

("Summer at Hand") Handicrafts and art. fb.com/kesakasilla

KANAVAN PAJA: ("Canal Blacksmith") Forged products and art.

Terveystie 5, Vääksy. www.kanavanpaja.fi

7 Lauri Rapala's statue Vääksy Canal

The statue of Lauri Rapala, (1905 -1974), inventor of the world-famous Rapala lures, is on the riverfront adjacent to the museum.

8 Taidevintti exhibition space Kanavatie 17, Vääksy

This exhibition space maintained by the Asikkala Artists' Association hosts fascinating exhibitions.

MORE INFORMATION: taidevintti.suntuubi.com

9 Danielson–Kalmari villa Kalmarintie 8, Vääksy

This impressive villa and its garden, between the Canal and Kalmarinranta, are definitely worth visiting. The Finnish politician and historian Johan Richard Danielson-Kalmari (1853-1933) acquired the neo-renaissance villa in 1892 as a summer residence for his family. Parts of the villa have been restored for museum display purposes, and the premises are also available for hire as a private venue.

MORE INFORMATION: www.asikkala.fi, tel. +358 3 888 6111.



10 Pihamaa Winery and Gardens

Siltatie 12, Kalkkinen

Pihamaa is an excellent place to visit and make purchases. You can pick up souvenirs at the shop and coffee shop Viinitupa and just relax, enjoying the wonderful atmosphere and idyllic rural setting.

MORE INFORMATION: www.viini-pihamaa.fi and Facebook

11 Kalkkinen Canal

Kanavakulmantie, signage from road 3142

The Kalkkinen Canal connecting lakes Päijänne and Ruotsalainen features the longest stretches of freshwater canal between locks in Europe. It is an interesting summertime sight. The canal and the adjacent Kalkkistenkoski rapids form the start of the Kymenvirta river system.

12 Kalkkinen church Kirkkotie 42, Asikkala

This "million tile church" is near the road to Sysmä, about 6 km from Vääksy. The church was completed in 1880 and designed by architect G. Wilenius.

MORE INFORMATION: www.asikkalanseurakunta.fi/toimitilat/kirkkot

13 Asikkala Local Heritage Museum

Kirkkotie 42, Asikkala

This atmospheric local history museum introduces the area's peasant culture. The museum is close to the Asikkala Church and run by the local heritage association (Asikkalan kotiseutuyhdistys).

MORE INFORMATION: tel. +358 40 755 1309 and Facebook

14 Päijänne National Park visitor information

Lehmonkärjentie 180, Asikkala

There is a Päijänne National Park visitor information point at the Lehmonkärki holiday centre. The information point, as well as other Lehmonkärki facilities, are open all year round.

MORE INFORMATION: www.lehmonkarki.fi and www.nationalparks.fi/paijannenp

15 Hägg Taxidermist's Museum Häggintie 28, Urajärvi

The museum displays exhibits related to the work of a taxidermist, preserved animals, and materials from the early 1900s.

MORE INFORMATION: www.hagginelaintayttamo.wordpress.com

16 Urajärvi Manor Museum Kartanontie, Urajärvi

One of the oldest manor museums in Finland, the Urajärvi Manor Museum was opened for public in 1928. Guided tours are arranged in the summertime, introducing the fascinating history of the museum. The museum area is also home to a very popular summer theatre and a lovely summer café.

MORE INFORMATION AND OPENING HOURS: www.urajarvenkartanonystavat.fi, www.urajarvenkartanoteatteri.fi, www.kahvilahugojalilly.fi

17 Päijänne Tavastia Aviation Museum

Vesivehmaa airport.

The aviation museum at Vesivehmaa airport showcases historical aircraft from a touching distance. The museum is open during weekends in the summer and upon request at other times.

MORE INFORMATION: www.lahdenilmasilta.fi

18 Antti's Automobile Museum Vesivehmaantie 308, Vesivehmaa

Antti's Automobile Museum is a small-scale home museum displaying about 30 old vehicles. The museum is open upon request.

MORE INFORMATION: www.antinautomuseo.fi

19 Children's traffic park

Between the canal and Kalmarinranta, there is a traffic park where the youngest members of the family can enjoy riding pedal cars and bicycles. Open in the summertime.

MORE INFORMATION AND OPENING HOURS: www.asikkala.fi

20 Kalmarinranta recreational area

Kalmarinranta is one of the best beaches in Finland and a great place to enjoy warm summer days. The sandy beach with shallow water is particularly suitable for families with children. There is also a frisbeegolf course, volleyball field, tennis court, pétanque area and outdoor gym in the area, and a kiosk where you can buy refreshments.

MORE INFORMATION: www.asikkala.fi



Attractions in Hartola

i Guided tours: Hartola guide Hannele Heinonen, tel. +358 50 330 5678

1 Itä-Häme Museum and Koskipää Manor

Koskipääntie 2, Hartola

This local heritage museum covers seven civil parishes and introduces visitors to local manor culture, a chimneyless hut and local agricultural heritage. In addition, there are rooms dedicated to the famous Finnish writers Maila Talvio, Mika Waltari and Uuno Kailas. In the summertime, various temporary exhibitions are arranged.

MORE INFORMATION: www.ihmuseo.fi

2 Maila Talvio Salon Koskipääntie 4, Hartola

Art exhibition arranged every summer in honour of the life and career of author Maila Talvio.

MORE INFORMATION: www.facebook.com/mailatalviosalonki

3 Hartola Church Keskustie 55, Hartola

A roadside church in the centre of Hartola, completed in 1913. The church is made from granite and represents a combination of romantic nationalism, gothic revival and art nouveau architecture.

MORE INFORMATION: www.hartolanseurakunta.fi

4 Taitajien Tupa Keskustie 59, Hartola

The arts and crafts centre run by the local association Itä-Hämeen Taitajat sells crafting supplies, souvenirs and warps and offers advice and courses.

MORE INFORMATION: www.facebook.com/taitajientupa

5 Harju Heritage Landscape Farm

Vuorenkyläntie 2249, Putkijärvi

The Harju Farm features a heritage landscape that has been elected the Finnish Heritage Landscape of the Year. Farm animals have been grazing the farm's pastures for hundreds of years and, therefore, the flora of the pastures has become very diverse. Guided farm tours are arranged.

MORE INFORMATION: www.mattlar.fi/harju

6 Eko Manor Kaikulantie 90, Hartola

The oldest buildings in this peaceful area surrounded by forest and river landscapes date back to the 18th century. The cozy Hotel Linna and 18-hole Hartola golf course are also in the area, and the Kuninkaanpolku Trail (see page 11) passes it.

MORE INFORMATION: www.ihop.fi, www.linnahotelli.fi and www.hartolagolf.fi

7 Purnu Ski Tohtaantie 68, Putkijärvi

A ski resort for the entire family. Varied, well-maintained slopes with an elevation of 100 m. This nice ski resort is located in the middle of peaceful countryside.

MORE INFORMATION: www.purnu.com

8 Marin Tarhat / Viidakon Mari garden farm

Juvanharjuntie 355, Pohela

Small groups can reserve a visit to this organic farm. Fresh produce sold directly from the farm.

MORE INFORMATION: www.viidakonmari.fi

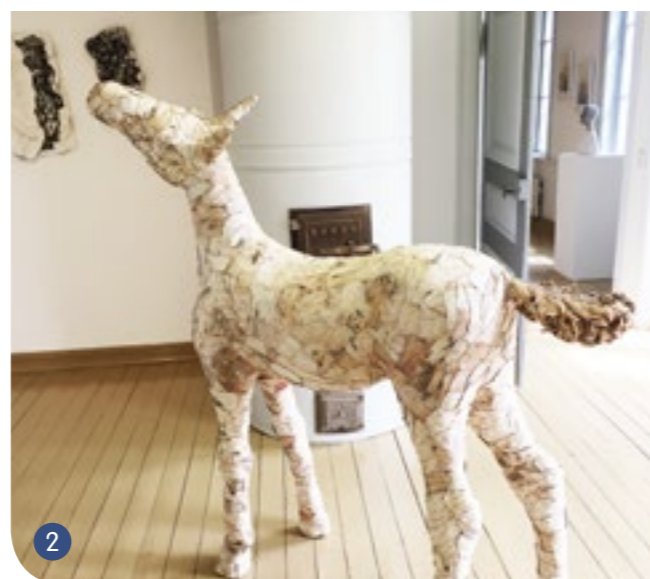
9 Tainionvirta recreational fishing area

Tainionvirta in Hartola is one of the most popular rapids fishing destinations in Southern Finland. The bright-watered river offers a magnificent setting for fly and spinning fishing. The water is so bright that you can see trout swimming in it from the bridges crossing the river. A separate fishing permit is required for this area. The river is also an excellent canoeing destination (see p. 16).

MORE INFORMATION: www.hartola.fi

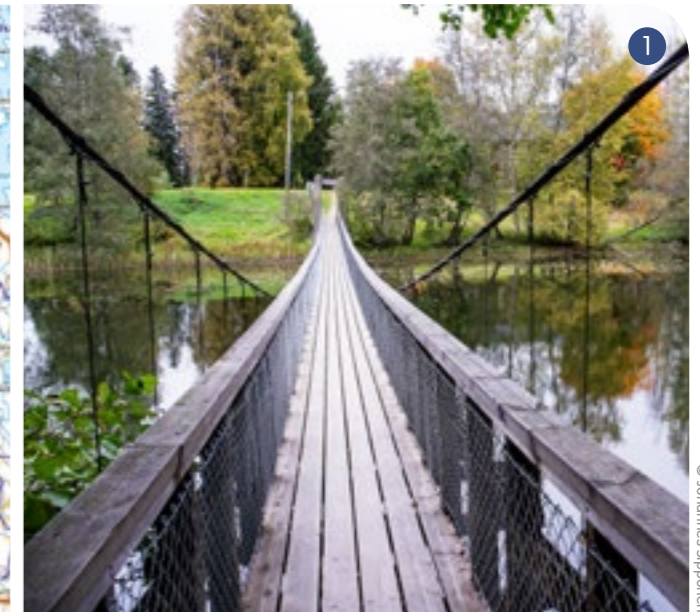


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© Johannes Sipponen



© Johannes Sipponen

Attractions in Heinola

i Guided tours: Heinolan Matkailuoppaat ry, Marja-Leena Ahtiainen, mallu.ahtiainen@gmail.com, tel. +358 40-5007538

1 Heinola Bird Sanctuary A. F. Airon katu 3, Heinola

Here, you can see different birds, from familiar birds common in Finland to tropical species. The Sanctuary is open all year round free of charge. The idea behind the Heinola Bird Sanctuary is to take care of injured wild birds and return them back to the wild.

MORE INFORMATION: www.heinolanlintutarha.fi

2 National Urban Park

Heinola National Urban Park features picturesque landscapes, diverse nature and significant objects of cultural history, all within an easy reach. See page 20 for a more detailed description.

MORE INFORMATION: www.heinola.fi/kansallinen-kaupunkipuisto

3 Lakeside park and harbour

The Lakeside park (Rantapuisto) next to the Heinola harbour represents this town at its most beautiful. The park area reminds us of the early 1900s and includes many rare plants, as well as Finland's biggest trees, black poplars with a circumference of nearly 9 metres. The comfortably lit park is welcoming even on dark autumn nights. There are the RantaCasino restaurant and summer café Tyrpuuri close to the lake.

MORE INFORMATION: www.heinola.fi/puistot-ja-viheralueet

4 Beach and water slide

Maaherrankatu 1, Heinola

An oasis in the heart of the town and a great place to enjoy a beach day: the 60-metre water slide, volleyball field, diving platforms, comfortable lawn and a kiosk selling refreshments guarantee a pleasant visit. In the winter, the beach serves winter swimmers.

MORE INFORMATION: www.heinola.fi/ulkoliikuntapaikat

5 Maaherranpuisto park

Maaherrankatu 9, Heinola

Between Maaherrankatu and Kymenkartanonkatu there is a unique, boulevard-like urban park in the 18th century spirit. Maaherranpuisto also has a playground, and exercise equipment.

MORE INFORMATION: www.heinola.fi/maaherranpuisto

6 Dorkin puisto park Ratakatu 20, Heinola

A park area featuring art made entirely from recycled materials.

7 Tourist information

Vanhatie 34, Heinola kk

The village living room comprises a souvenir shop, coffee shop, tourist information, art exhibition and flea market.

MORE INFORMATION: www.kylapirtti.fi

8 Heinola Local Museum

Kauppakatu 14, Heinola

Heinola Local Museum features the multi-faceted history of the town, as well as temporary exhibitions. The museum is in a house built for merchant U. Lindholm in 1872, representing the late Empire style of design.

MORE INFORMATION: www.heinola.fi/heinolan-kaupunginmuseo

9 Heinola Art Museum Kauppakatu 4, Heinola

The art museum has different temporary exhibitions throughout the year. It is located in a house built in 1830 for merchant Alexander Toropoff. This beautiful Empire-style building decorated with rose and bayleaf ornaments has a rich history itself.

MORE INFORMATION: www.heinola.fi/heinolan-taidemuseo

10 Aschan's House Kauppakatu 3, Heinola

This kind of a house was very rare in inland Finland in the 18th century. Visitors can also see the lovely garden designed in the 18th century style including typical utility and decorative plants of that era.

MORE INFORMATION: www.heinola.fi/laaninkivalteri-aschanin-talo

11 Heinola Church and Belltower

Siltakatu 18, Heinola

The wooden Heinola Church stands on a small hill in the centre of the town. The octagonal church building was completed in 1811. The classicistic bell tower next to the church was designed by architect Carl Ludvig Engel and completed in 1842.

MORE INFORMATION: www.heinolanseurakunta.fi

12 Heinola Parochial Church Kirkkotie 1, Heinola

The oldest church in Heinola, the Parochial Church, which represents typical eastern Finnish church architecture, was completed in 1755. The separate bell tower was built in 1834 and designed by Carl Ludvig Engel

MORE INFORMATION: www.heinolanseurakunta.fi

13 Heinola Summer Theatre Kauppakatu 4, Heinola

Located in the lakeside park Rantapuisto right next to the harbour, the Heinola Summer Theatre is very popular.

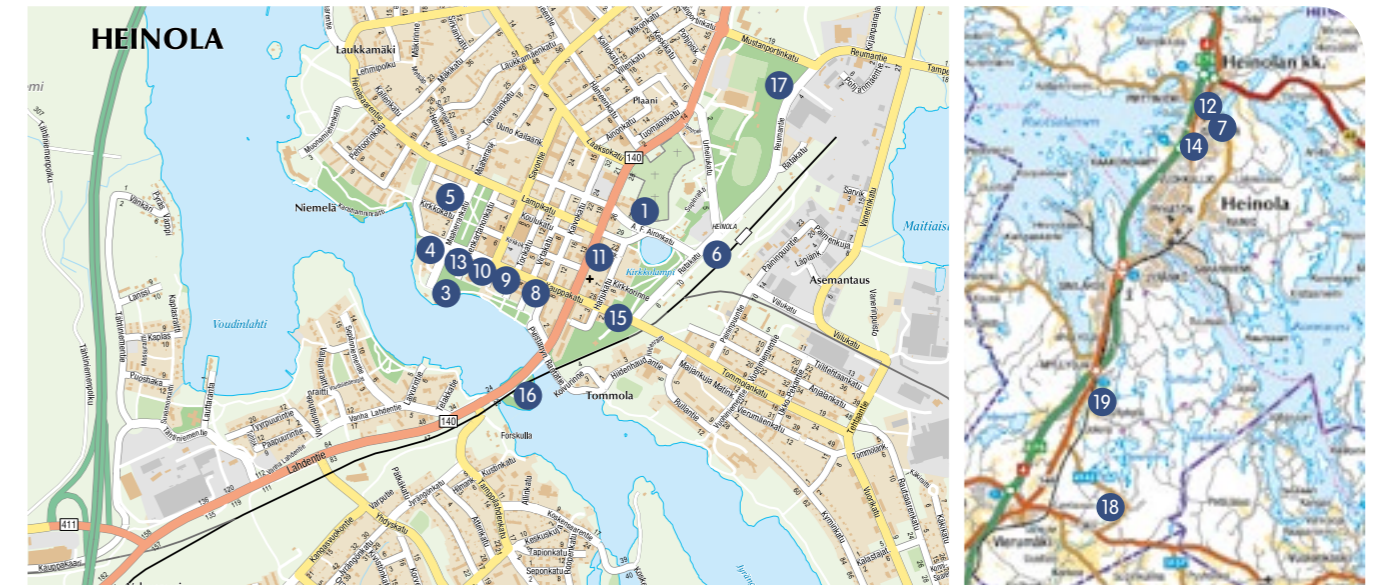
MORE INFORMATION: www.heinola.net

14 Heila local food market Työmiehentie 35, Heinola

The Heila market offers a wide range of high-quality, pure and clean produce from local small producers.

MORE INFORMATION: www.heilan.fi

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© LemtoKuva Valias

15 Lookout spots and coffee shops on the esker view Kauppakatu 30, Heinola

The Water Tower's café, which is 45 m tall, and the Harju Pavilion offer magnificent views and a unique atmosphere.

MORE INFORMATION: www.harjupaviljonki.fi and www.cafetorni.fi

16 Siltasaari Siltasaari 1, Heinola

The Siltasaari island makes a beautiful setting. In the summertime, it is home to the Rauniotheatteri theatre. Cafe Kailas represents central European café culture and offers delicious snacks in a nice atmosphere.

MORE INFORMATION: www.kailas.fi and www.facebook.com/rauniotheatteri

17 Kippasuo frisbeegolf Reumantie 7, Heinola 22 drives in a varying terrain.

MORE INFORMATION: www.facebook.com/KippasuonFrisbeegolf/

18 Vierumäki Sports Training Centre

Vierumäki is the number one destination for sports enthusiasts. It offers a very wide range of sports and leisure activities.

MORE INFORMATION: www.vierumaki.fi

19 Husky farm Koirakikka Suurijärventie 77, Myllyoja

Visitors can see the husky farm all year round; reservations must be made in advance.

MORE INFORMATION: www.koirakikka.fi, tel. +358 40 4153952

Attractions in Padasjoki

i More information: Padasjoki municipality, +358 3 552911, info@padasjoki.fi

1 Padasjoki Marina Laivarannantie 41, Padasjoki

The Marina offers a range of services. It is also a gateway to the Päijänne National Park. In the summer, there are regular cruises to the National Park. The restaurant and other facilities make sure that you can also enjoy spending time at the Marina.

MORE INFORMATION: www.kiuasniemimarina.fi, www.kullasmarina.fi & www.padasjoki.fi

2 Tourist information

Laivarannantie 41, Padasjoki

The Padasjoki Tourist information serves at the Marina in the summertime. It offers, for example, bicycles, pedal boats, a row boat, fishing rods, SUP boards and frisbee golf frisbees to lend or for hire.

MORE INFORMATION: www.padasjoki.fi

3 Tuomasvuori observation tower, nature trail and frisbee golf Kullasvuoreнкуja 2, Padasjoki

Situated in the Kullasvuori recreation area, Tuomastorni offers a magnificent view over the Päijänne National Park and its surroundings. Apart from the observation tower, the recreation area has a frisbee golf course and a nature trail.

MORE INFORMATION: www.padasjoki.fi and www.visitpajanne.fi

4 Nyystölä birdwatching tower Turvantie, Nyystölä

The birdwatching tower at Nyystölälahti bay of Lake Päijänne allows you to spot various birds residing around this big lake, without forgetting the beautiful rural landscape views.

MORE INFORMATION: www.nyystola.com

5 Pikantti Gallery Keskustie 16, Padasjoki

The gallery run by the Padasjoki Art Association has monthly exhibitions. Free entry.

MORE INFORMATION: www.padasjoentaideyhdistys.blogspot.fi

6 Udelviisii Ceramics

Keskustie 25 A, Padasjoki

Hand-made, unique ceramic art and decorations.

MORE INFORMATION: www.pns.fi/uudelviisii

7 Ars Arrakoski Tevännintie 17, Arrakoski

A museum and art gallery in the charming village of Arrakoski.

MORE INFORMATION: www.facebook.com/ars.arrakoski.gallery

8 Ars Auttoinen

Keinuhongantie 17, Auttoinen

A centre of art and design that arranges popular exhibitions in the summertime.

MORE INFORMATION: www.auttoinen.fi



© Johannes Sipiläinen

9 Ala-Savi's Art Savintie 228, Auttoinen

Paintings and environmental art by M. Mäntynen.

MORE INFORMATION: www.mmtaide.fi

10 Padasjoki Summer Theatre

Nyystöläntie 233, Nyystölä

Padasjoki Summer Theatre performs at the Padasjoki Museum in Nyystölä.

MORE INFORMATION: www.padasjoenharrastajateatteri.com

11 Torittu Sepänmäki Museum Torittu

A village blacksmith museum with an enchanting atmosphere of the old countryside. The oldest buildings date back to the 18th century.

MORE INFORMATION: www.torittu.fi

12 Palsa mill museum and café

Vesijaonraitti 562, Vesijako

A lovely summer café connected to a watermill and sawmill museum.

MORE INFORMATION: www.kapteenska.fi/palsanmylly

13 Vesijako farmers' market

Vesijaonraitti 303, Vesijako

Fresh, genuine local produce.

MORE INFORMATION: www.vesijaontuoretori.fi

14 Keinuhonka farm

Keinuhongantie 54, Auttoinen

A visiting destination with many functions, such as a farmers' market, décor shop and various events.

MORE INFORMATION: www.keinuhonka.fi

15 Torittu natural heritage and cultural trail, 27 km

Torittu

The trail consists of two parts: Lake Humaljärvi loop, 13 km, in the south and Lake Kuivajärvi loop, 14 km, in the north. There is a hut along both loops. The trail is marked with green poles and ribbons.

16 Beach and traffic park

Uimalantie, Padasjoki

The beach and traffic park by the small lake Kirkkolampi invite families with children to have a nice summer day.

MORE INFORMATION: www.padasjoki.fi

17 Cudgel War memorial Nuijamäentie, Padasjoki

18 A.I. Arwidsson's statue Karl Fiandtin kuja, Padasjoki

A I Arwidsson was a Finnish historian and politician and a strong proponent of Finnish independence. His statue stands at the house he was born in.

19 Padasjoki church

Laivarannantie 1, Padasjoki

The red brick church was completed and inaugurated in 1928.

MORE INFORMATION: www.padasjoenseurakunta.fi

20 Artist Enni Id's home

Kellosalmentie 579, Padasjoki

Artist Enni Id's cottage is one of the most peculiar sights in the area. What looks like an ordinary cottage on the outside takes visitors to a whole different world inside.

MORE INFORMATION: www.facebook.com/enni-idin-taiteilijakoti and www.kellosalmi.net

21 Päijänne National Park

The national park with its magnificent sandy beaches, sheltered bays, and tall rocks starts right next to the Padasjoki Marina.

MORE INFORMATION: www.nationalparks.fi/pajannennp

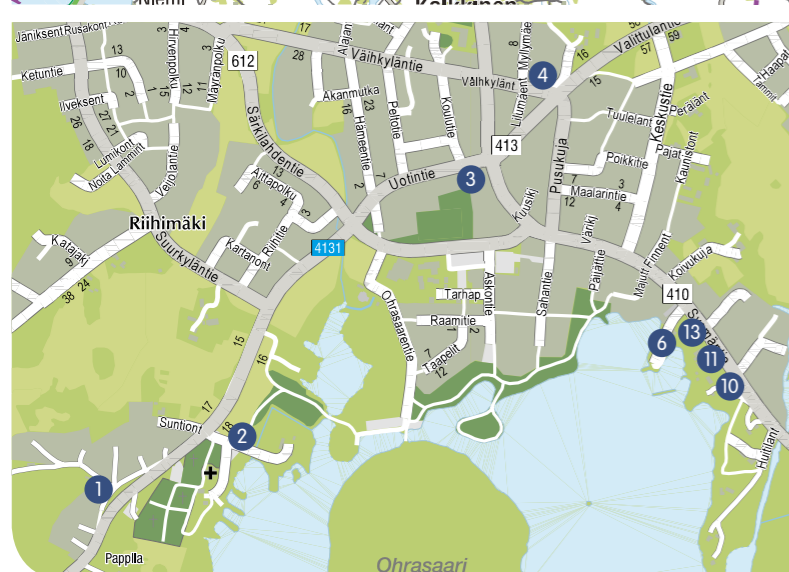


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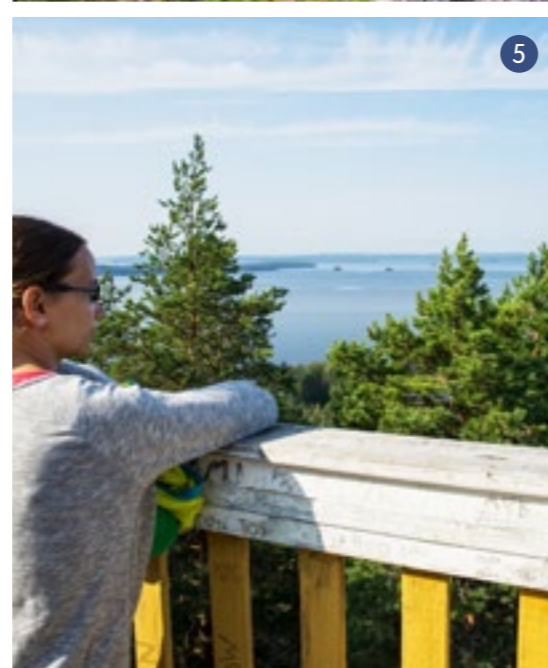


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© Municipality of Sysmä

Attractions in Sysmä

i Sysmä tourist guides, reservations from Raija Hänninen, tel. +358 44-7134511, raija.hanninen@sysma.fi

1 Sysmä Museum of Local History and Culture Makasiinmäentie 4, Sysmä

The Museum is in the local parish granary built in 1855 in a place that, according to a legend, was an ancient sacrificial site. The museum collection includes exhibits dating back to the pre-historic era. The museum area also contains a house built in 2010 according to ancient traditions, including interior decorations.

MORE INFORMATION: www.sysmaseura.fi

2 Church of St. Olaf Kirkkokuja 1, Sysmä

The Church of St. Olaf is one of Sysmä's most popular sights. The latest research findings set the time of its construction to the early 16th century.

MORE INFORMATION: www.sysmanseurakunta.fi

3 Finnish Accordion Museum Uotintie 4, Sysmä

The museum's large collection comprises a total of 170 instruments, the oldest of which are from the 1850s. In addition to instruments, the museum showcases the history of Finnish popular music.

MORE INFORMATION: www.haitarigalleria.com

4 Sysmä Theatre House Vaihkyliantie 1, Sysmä

The beautiful Art Nouveau-style building is home to the Kuurina Theatre and Sysmä Kino cinema. Designed by Architects Nyström-Petelius-Penttilä for a bank in 1898, the house is a sight in itself. Its facilities can also be rented for private occasions.

MORE INFORMATION: www.sysma.fi

5 Päijätsalo observation tower

This 19th century observation tower in the Päijänne National Park area offers a magnificent view over the Tehinselkä section of Lake Päijänne. The observation tower can be reached on foot using the Päijätsalo walking trails or by boat from the Pyädysniemi jetty.

MORE INFORMATION: See Päijätsalo Trail, p. 7

7 Mynnilä Arboretum Mynniläntie 92, Sysmä

An interesting arboretum with 800 different plant and tree species about 10 km from the centre of Sysmä.

MORE INFORMATION: www.mynnilanarboretum.info

8 Taideparatiisi Art Gallery Vääksyntie 2151, Karilanmaa

An art gallery along highway 314, half way between Sysmä and Vääksy.

LISÄTIEDOT: www.taideparatiisi.fi and FB



© Hanna Pihkonen

9 Pinxinmäki Art Hall Suopellontie 644, Sysmä

Different exhibitions every year. In Pinxinmäki, visitors can enjoy quality art and pure food made from local product in a magnificent setting by Lake Päijänne.

LISÄTIEDOT: www.pinxinmaki.fi and FB

10 ITÆ Art Association's exhibition Old fire station, Sysmäntie 14, Sysmä

Art exhibitions featuring different themes in the summertime.

11 Lintan kammari Sysmäntie 16, Sysmä

Café and crafts shop, also featuring temporary art exhibitions.

MORE INFORMATION: www.facebook.com/KahvilaLintanKammari

12 The Päijänne Hermit's hut Koreakoivu, Päijänteen Tehinselkä

Known as the Päijänne Hermit, Toivo Pylväläinen lived in primitive conditions in a small log hut in a Päijänne island for decades. The hut with stories of this interesting person's life can be explored by boat or as part of a cruise.

LISÄTIEDOT: www.kulkeevettenhalki.fi

13 Olavi Virta Memorial Sysmäntie 18, Sysmä

The legendary Finnish singer Olavi Virta was born in Sysmä, and the town has set up a memorial and named a park after him. The memorial sculpture, entitled Hopeinen kuu ("Silver Moon") after one of Virta's most beloved songs, was designed by Kimmo Pyykkö.

14 Korven karitsa Farm Ravioskorventie 151, Nuoramoinen

Korven Karitsa has a petting zoo of domestic farm animals, offers horseback riding, and sells lamb meat and other lamb products produced at the farm.

LISÄTIEDOT: www.korvenkaritsa.fi and FB



Helsinki – Asikkala..... 130 km / 1h 30 min
 Helsinki – Padasjoki 160 km / 2h
 Helsinki – Sysmä..... 175 km / 2h 10 min
 Helsinki – Hartola 180 km / 2h
 Helsinki – Heinola..... 135 km / 1h 35 min

Lahti – Asikkala 25 km / 30 min
 Lahti – Padasjoki..... 53 km / 50 min
 Lahti – Sysmä 70 km / 1h
 Lahti – Hartola..... 81 km / 55 min
 Lahti – Heinola 38 km / 30 min

Tampere – Asikkala 126 km / 2h
 Tampere – Padasjoki..... 98 km / 1h 30 min
 Tampere – Sysmä 162 km / 2h 25 min
 Tampere – Hartola..... 180 km / 2h 35 min
 Tampere – Heinola..... 162 km / 2h 20 min



www.visitpajanne.fi

www.asikkala.fi / www.hartola.fi / www.visitheinola.fi
www.padasjoki.fi / www.sysma.fi / www.visitlahti.fi

