



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 Vääksy 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 Vääksy area, including the canal, coffee houses and shops.

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 Vääksy. There are good bus connections to the starting point. The nearest bus stop is in the old centre of Vääksy. 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.

Description

After departure from the Vääksy 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 Haarajärvi parking area.



STARTING POINT: Vääksy 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

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