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

© Johannes Sipponen

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.
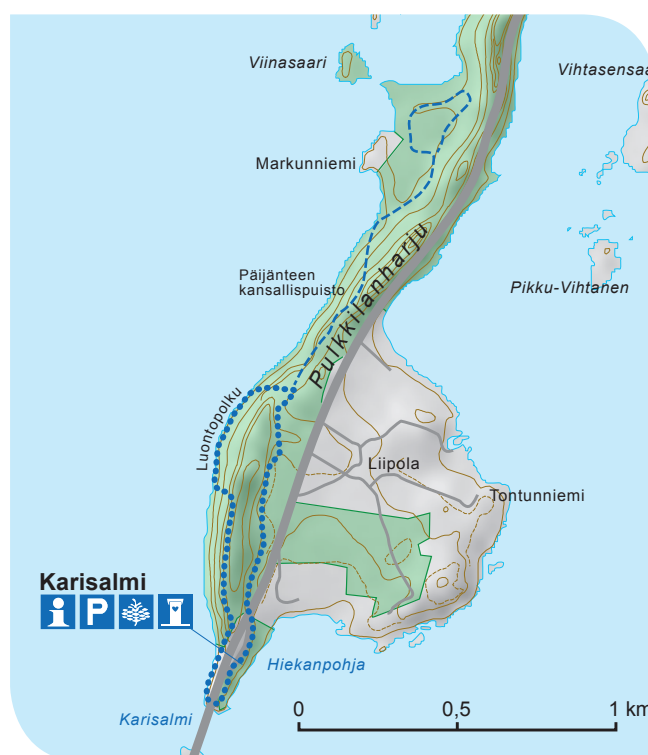
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