

Rovaniemi nature trails



TO NATURE FROM AMIDST THE CITY

Explore the nature trails of Rovaniemi



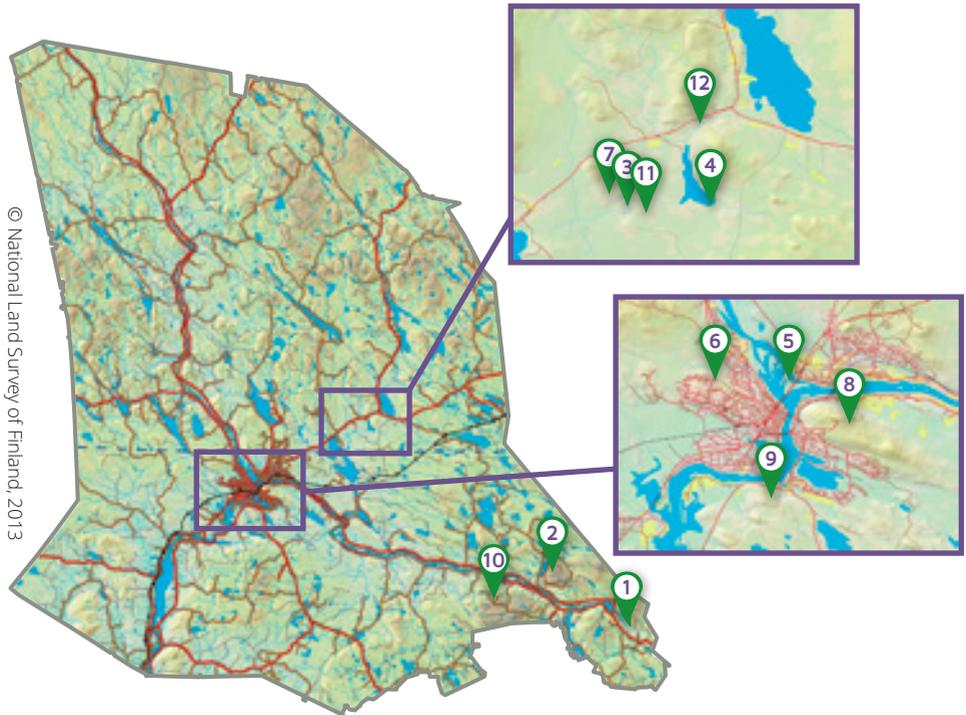
Rovaniemi has nature trails with suitable hiking destinations for families with children, experienced hikers as well as nature lovers with physical disabilities. Due to the clear seasonal variations and thus ever-changing nature, they offer interesting experiences throughout the year for both the city residents and visiting tourists.

How to read the brochure

Basic information is provided about each nature trail from the location to the length and special characteristics. The exact location is given using EUREF-FIN coordinates. In addition, a route map is provided for each trail giving a clear overview of the area's terrain and conveniences. The trails are divided into three categories of difficulty based on the route classification of Suomen Latu.

-  **EASY TRAIL** has an even floor and is marked on the terrain so that there is no danger of getting lost.
-  **INTERMEDIATE TRAIL** may have rough terrain in places and differences in height. The trail is clearly marked.
-  **ACCESSIBLE TRAIL** has a hard, even floor with low inclination.
-  **ACCESSIBLE YET DIFFICULT TRAIL** requires an electric wheelchair or a helper due to small potholes and higher inclination.
-  **STARTING POINT**
-  **BIRD-WATCHING/OBSERVATION TOWER**
-  **LEAN-TO**
-  **DAY-TRIP HUT**

NATURE TRAILS AND OUTDOOR AREAS



There are nine easily accessible outdoor areas in the Rovaniemi area. Each outdoor area is a great day-trip destination with its own special characteristics.

ROVANIEMI OUTDOOR AREAS

Mäntyvaara – Pohtimolampi
Korkalovaara
Koivusaari
Pöyliövaara
Ounasvaara
Arctic Circle hiking area
Kivalot
Kaihuanvaara
Auttiköngäs

ROVANIEMI NATURE TRAILS

1. Auttiköngäs nature trail
2. Kaihuanvaara nature trail
3. Kielosaari plant and fungus trail
4. Kivalonaapa meadow culture trail
5. Koivusaari nature trail
6. Korkalovaara nature trail
7. Könkänsaari accessible nature trail
8. Ounasvaara nature trail
9. Pöyliövaara spring trail
10. Siberian wood-species trail
11. Mire trail
12. Vaattunkivaara nature trail



1 Auttiköngäs nature trail

INTERMEDIATE

LOCATION: AUTTIKÖNGÄS,
N 7352053 E 509050

LENGTH: 3.24 KM

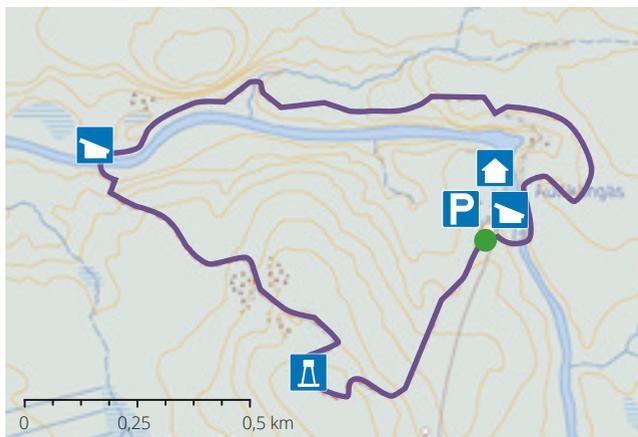
DIFFICULTY: INTERMEDIATE

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS:
PRIMARY FOREST, SUSPENSION
BRIDGE, KÖNKÄÄNVAARA



The Auttiköngäs nature trail is located about 70 kilometres from the Rovaniemi city centre toward Posio in the Auttiköngäs outdoor area. The trail passes on both sides of the Auttijoki river in varying and relatively difficult terrain. Steps have been built on the hillsides with resting places to make climbing easier. At the observation tower on the peak of Kōnkäänvaara, which is the highest point in the area, your efforts will be rewarded with gorgeous scenery.

When it is dry, you do not need rubber boots on this trail, which crosses the Auttijoki river on a suspension bridge. There are two lean-tos along the nature trail with campfire sites. Outhouses and woodsheds can be found at the lean-tos. The Auttiköngäs log driving cabin is a day-trip hut located near the parking area.



2 Kaihuanvaara nature trail

■ INTERMEDIATE

The Kaihuanvaara nature trail is located about 52.4 kilometres from the Rovaniemi city centre toward Posio. The trail is located in the Kaihuanvaara outdoor area. The nature trail passes through varying hillside forests and crosses small streams on duckboards. It takes you, for example, through a protected grove and beautiful hillside birch groves.

The information boards on the nature trail tell about the area's nature and how nature is a source of health and a good mood. Siren's day-trip hut, a campfire site, woodshed and outhouse can also be found along the trail. No public transport connections. No winter maintenance.

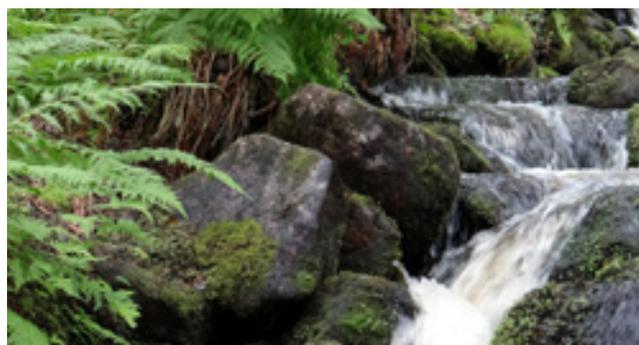
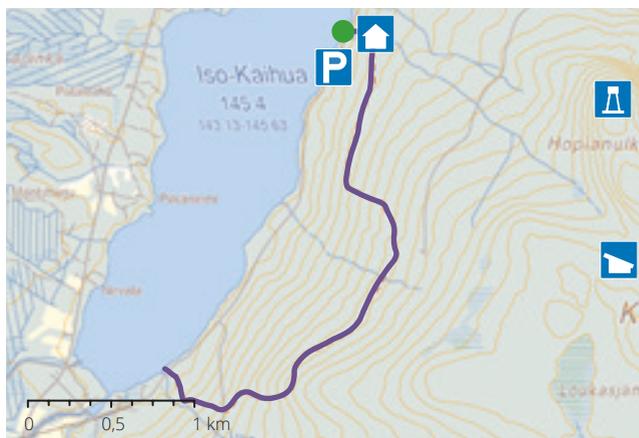


LOCATION: KAIHUANVAARA,
N 7363828 E 493822

LENGTH: 3.74 KM

DIFFICULTY: INTERMEDIATE

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS:
DIVERSE NATURE, INTERESTING
INFORMATION BOARDS





LOCATION: ARCTIC CIRCLE HIKING AREA, N 7386089 E 461063

LENGTH: 0.24 KM

DIFFICULTY: EASY

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS:
DUCKBOARDS THROUGHOUT,
LUSH VEGETATION AND
ABUNDANT FUNGI

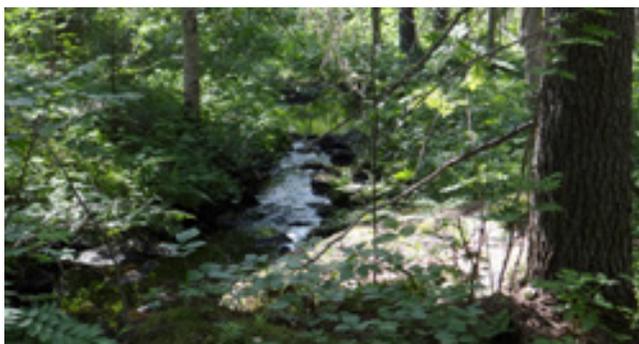
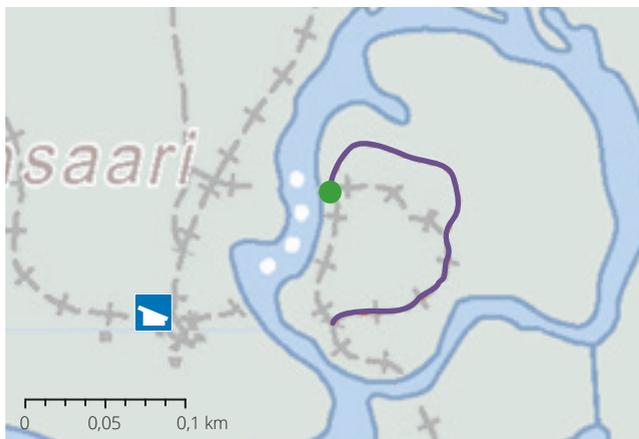


3 Kielosaari plant and fungus trail

EASY

The Kielosaari plant and fungus trail is located in Vikajärvi, about 20.8 kilometres from the Rovaniemi city centre toward Sodankylä. The trail is part of the Arctic Circle hiking area. The plant and fungus trail is a small-scale nature trail on Kielosaari, one of the Könkäänsaari islands. The trail introduces the lush vegetation and variety of mushrooms on the islands. Duckboards cover the entire trail.

Besides hiking, the trail is also suitable for snowshoeing in the winter. The conveniences of the plant and fungus trail include the well-equipped rest stops of Könkäänsaari and Karhukumpu. There are benches as well as a lean-to, campfire site, woodshed and accessible outhouses at Könkäänsaari. There is a lean-to, campfire site, woodshed and outhouse at Karhukumpu. The Vaattunkiköngäs parking area is equipped with outhouses.



4 Kivalonaapa meadow culture trail

EASY

The Kivalonaapa meadow culture trail is located in Vikajärvi, about 23.2 kilometres from the Rovaniemi city centre toward Sodankylä. The meadow culture trail is part of the Arctic Circle hiking area.

The Kivalonaapa meadow culture trail presents traditional haymaking in peatland meadows. This meadow culture can be explored on the nature trail that diverges from the Könkäiden trail near the Vaattunkilampi lake. The dock of the Vaattunkilampi lean-to can also be accessed by boat along Raudanjoki. There are many information boards along the trail.

Resting places are available along the Könkäiden trail and at Vaattunkilampi where there is a lean-to, campfire site, woodshed and outhouse. The Meadow Cabin, a day-trip hut equipped with a fireplace, is located at the end of the meadow culture trail. The cabin's yard features a campfire site, woodshed and outhouses.

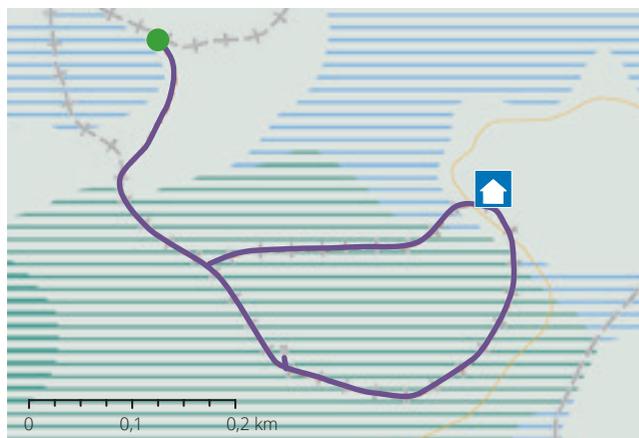


LOCATION: ARCTIC CIRCLE HIKING AREA, N 7386129 E 463828

LENGTH: 1.08 KM

DIFFICULTY: EASY

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS: INTERESTING INFORMATION BOARDS, GOOD CONVENIENCES





LOCATION: KOIVUSAARI,
N 7377962 E 444245

LENGTH: 2.11 KM

DIFFICULTY: EASY

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS:
SHEEP IN THE SUMMER



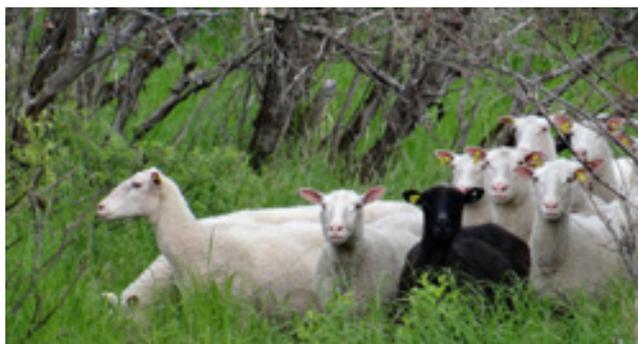
5 Koivusaari nature trail

EASY

The Koivusaari nature trail is located about 2.3 kilometres from the Rovaniemi city centre toward Sodankylä, on an island in the Ounasjoki river delta. The trail is part of the city centre trail network of Rovaniemi.

The information boards along the nature trail present the history, flora and fauna of Koivusaari, and there is a floating bird-watching tower at the end of the duckboards. The Koivusaari island was used as a pasture up to the 1960s. As agriculture has decreased, shoreline meadows have become rare, along with the flora and fauna that thrived on them. Today, sheep graze on the island during the summer, and the area is also popular with many rare nesting and migrating birds.

Benches are provided for hikers along the nature trail. Next to the adjacent Ounaspaviljonki beach, there is a log-built lean-to equipped with a campfire site and a woodshed nearby. The area features toilets, a boat ramp and marina.



6 Korkalovaara nature trail

EASY

The Korkalovaara nature trail is located about 3.6 kilometres west of the Rovaniemi city centre. The Korkalovaara nature trail winds through a forest dedicated to recreation and silviculture between the residential areas of Korkalovaara and Vennivaara. The natural environment along the trail includes dry coniferous forests, coniferous mires, various bogs, and forests turning into swamps. The nature trail has several starting points. There are large, sand-based, strong-flowing springs along the trail. The largest has been named Keisarin lähde, or Tsar's Spring. Rare plants, for example, can be seen in and around the springs.

There are two lean-tos built opposite each other and a campfire site along the trail, as well as a woodshed nearby. There are no outhouses in the area. Two springs along the trail provide drinking water, if necessary.

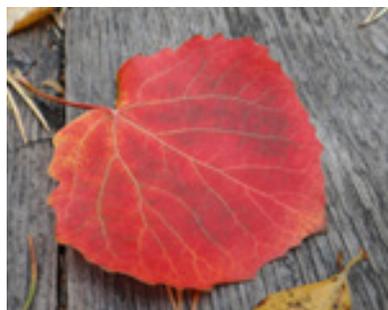
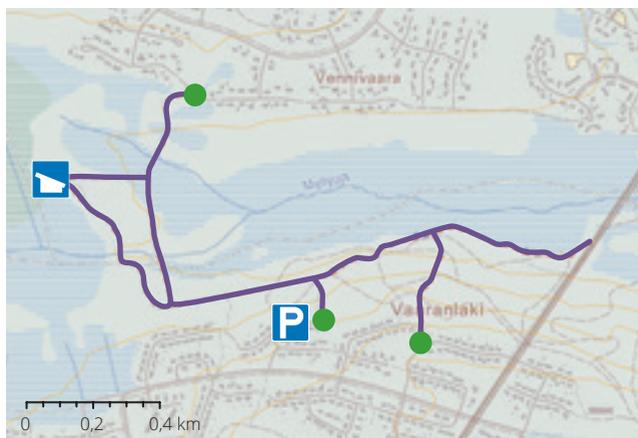


LOCATION: KORKALOVAARA,
N 7378308 E 440075

LENGTH: 3.35 KM

DIFFICULTY: EASY

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS:
LARGE SPRINGS WITH RARE
PLANTS, ETC.





7 Könkäänsaari accessible nature trail

ACCESSIBLE YET DIFFICULT

The Könkäänsaari accessible nature trail is located in Vikajärvi, about 20.8 kilometres from the Rovaniemi city centre toward Sodankylä. The nature trail is part of the Arctic Circle hiking area. The Könkäänsaari accessible nature trail is a small-scale nature trail presenting the nature of the Könkäänsaari island and Raudanjoki riverside. It is especially well-suited to families with children and the physically disabled. The information boards tell stories about the area and its nature. It is a great nature experience to see the lushness of the islands and their diverse trees and animals, especially in the summer.

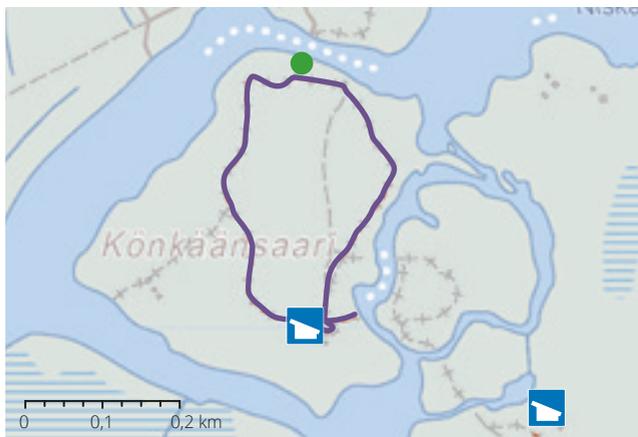
The resting place on Könkäänsaari takes into account the physically disabled. The Vaattunkiköngäs parking area and Könkäänsaari lean-to are equipped with accessible outhouses. There is an accessible duckboard trail from the Könkäänsaari lean-to to a dock on the riverside. Benches are provided along the Könkäänsaari nature trail.

LOCATION: ARCTIC CIRCLE HIKING AREA, N 7386322 E 460925

LENGTH: 0.98 KM

DIFFICULTY: ACCESSIBLE YET DIFFICULT

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS: FULLY ACCESSIBLE TRAIL AND CONVENIENCES



8 Ounasvaara nature trail

■ INTERMEDIATE

The Ounasvaara nature trail is located about 2.9 kilometres east of the Rovaniemi city centre. The Ounasvaara nature trail goes around the southern edge of the hill eastward to a lean-to. At the start, the trail passes through herb-rich forests and a wetland area. After the lean-to, it climbs over outcrops and dry pine forests to the northern side of the hill, where there is a vantage point with fantastic views over, for example, the Kemijoki river. The trail continues along the shore of an ancient lake. Traces of the previous ice age are clearly visible in the grooves on the rocks and outcrops along the trail and in the shore rocks of the lake. The Ounasvaara winter trail follows partly the same route as the nature trail.

There is a log-built lean-to along the trail under some high cliffs, with a campfire site and woodshed. There is a clear, bubbling spring about 100 metres from the lean-to.

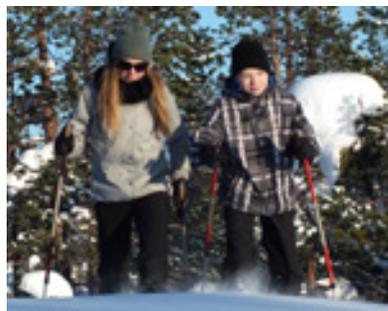


LOCATION: OUNASVAARA,
N 7375867 E 445851

LENGTH: 4.85 KM

DIFFICULTY: INTERMEDIATE

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS:
EASILY ACCESSIBLE, TRACES
OF THE ICE AGE





LOCATION: PÖYLIÖVAARA,
N 7373175 E 443859

LENGTH: 1.90 KM

DIFFICULTY: INTERMEDIATE

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS:
POPULAR BERRY-PICKING SITE



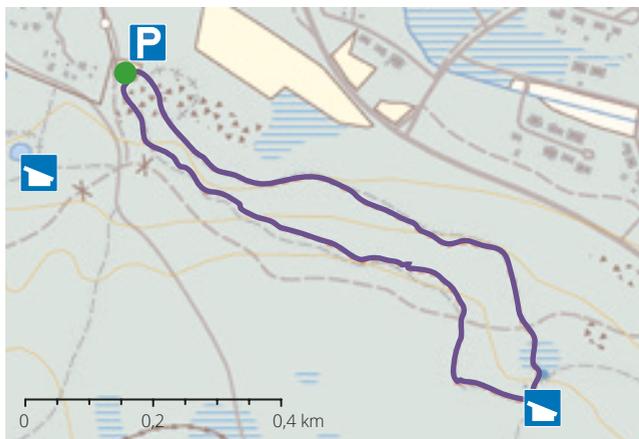
9 Pöyliövaara spring trail

INTERMEDIATE

The Pöyliövaara spring trail is located on the south side of Rovaniemi and the Kemijoki river, about 3.1 kilometres south of the Rovaniemi city centre. Dry pine forests are typical to the whole trail. There is also a bog area where the trail runs on duckboards. The trail is rocky, so it is slippery when it rains.

The log-built Lähde lean-to is along the trail in a dry pine forest by the hill, equipped with a campfire site and woodshed.

The spring trail starts at the edge of the parking area. The trail is accessible when the ground is free of snow from May to October. There are several daily local bus connections to the parking area.



10 Siberian wood species trail

EASY

The Siberian wood species trail is located about 45.6 kilometres from the Rovaniemi city centre toward Posio on the south side of the Kemijoki river and Vanttauskoski rapids. The wood species trail is part of the Kivalot outdoor area. The rare wood species trail starts among handsome Siberian larches. The trail leads you to explore over 20 wood species growing in the northern coniferous forest zone. The information boards are in Finnish and English.

Forest research can be clearly seen in the Kivalot area. The Finnish Forest Research Institute has operated in the area for decades, and many projects are ongoing. The Siberia day-trip hut is located near the parking area. The hut is equipped with a stove and the yard features a campfire site and outhouse. There is a spring nearby.

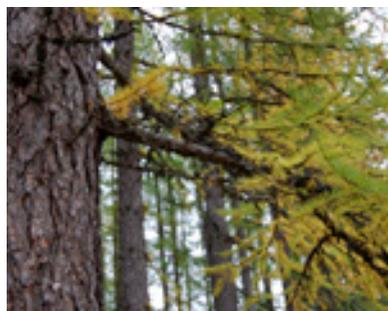
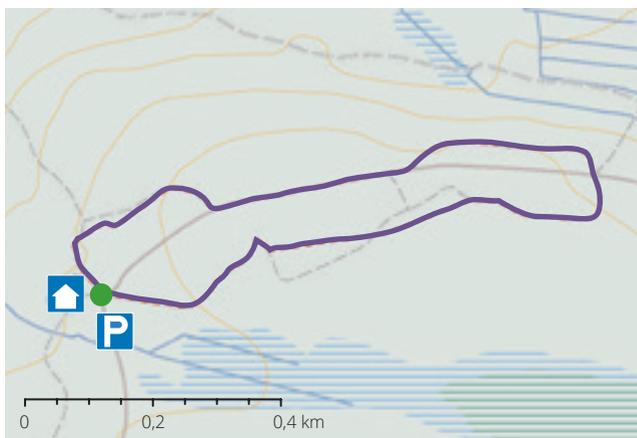


LOCATION: KIVALOT,
N 7358276 E 484908

LENGTH: 1.89 KM

DIFFICULTY: EASY

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS:
MANY SPECIES NOT INDIGENOUS
TO FINLAND





LOCATION: ARCTIC CIRCLE HIKING AREA, N 7385864 E 461234

LENGTH: 5.69 KM

DIFFICULTY: EASY

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS:
MANY BOG TYPES, VARYING
FLORA AND FAUNA

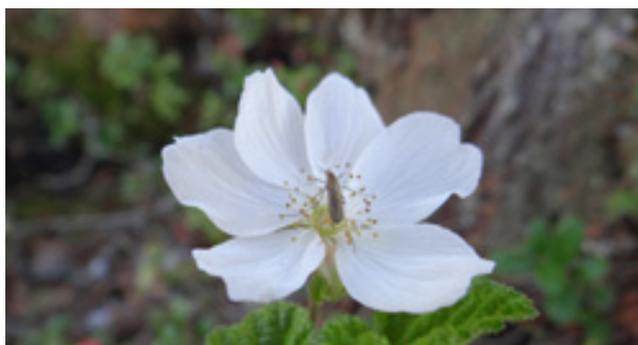
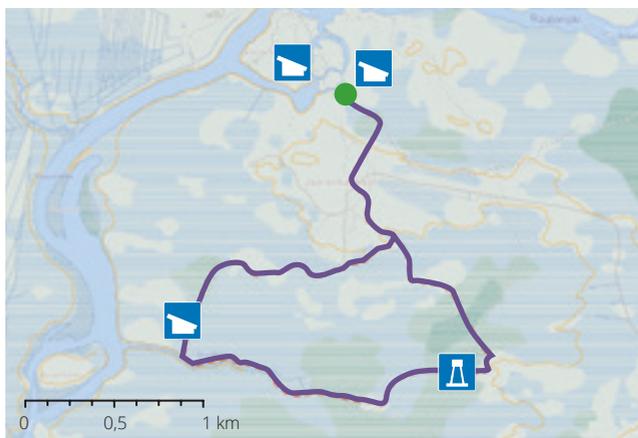


11 Mire trail

EASY

The mire trail is located in Vikajärvi, about 20.8 kilometres from the Rovaniemi city centre toward Sodankylä. The mire trail is part of the Arctic Circle hiking area. The trail, which is mostly duckboarded, crosses poor fens, bogs and coniferous mires, and occasional patches of forest. The mire trail introduces different bog types and their northern flora and fauna. In spring when the snow melts, Säynäjäoja floods over the trail, making it impassable.

Besides hiking, the trail is also suited to cross-country skiing in the winter. There is a lean-to, campfire site, woodshed and outhouse at the starting point of the trail in Karhukumpu. You can rest at the Säynäjäoja lean-to around halfway through the trail. There is also a bird-watching tower along the trail.



12 Vaattunkivaara nature trail

■ INTERMEDIATE

The Vaattunkivaara nature trail is located in Vikajärvi, about 24.7 kilometres from the Rovaniemi city centre toward Sodankylä. The nature trail is part of the Arctic Circle hiking area. The Vaattunkivaara nature trail starts in Vikaköngäs. Themes of the trail include northern nature and species. Fowl are particularly well represented on the information boards of this trail. The trail passes through the rocky hill-top pine forest of Vaattunkivaara where the oldest trees are over 450 years old. There is an observation tower at the top of the hill that offers great views.

The Kaltio lean-to is embraced by a beautiful pine forest around 1 kilometre from Vikaköngäs. It features a woodshed and outhouse. There is also a spring near the lean-to, and resting places along the trail on the hillside of Vaattunkivaara.

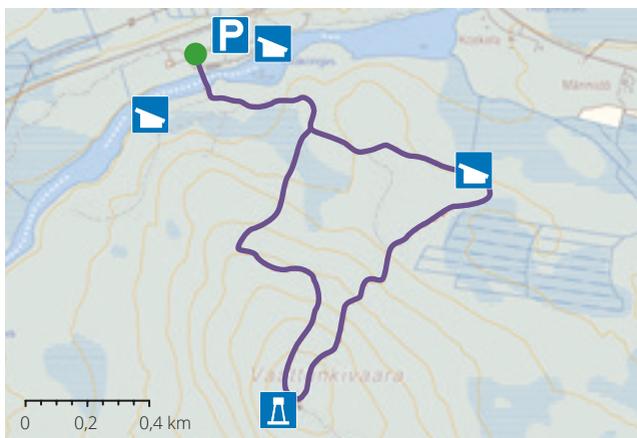


LOCATION: ARCTIC CIRCLE HIKING AREA, N 7389173 E 463843

LENGTH: 3.41 KM

DIFFICULTY: INTERMEDIATE

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS: OLD FOREST, GREAT VIEWS





All trails and hiking destinations in the Rovaniemi area with precise driving instructions and descriptions are available on the Internet and mobile service Etiäinen. Etiäinen leads you to a source of essential information, guides you in the right direction in the terrain and provides you with the opportunity of both following the traces of others and leaving a trace to be followed by others.

Creators

City of Rovaniemi, 2014

Photos by Aarno Torvinen

Text by the City of Rovaniemi and Metsähallitus

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