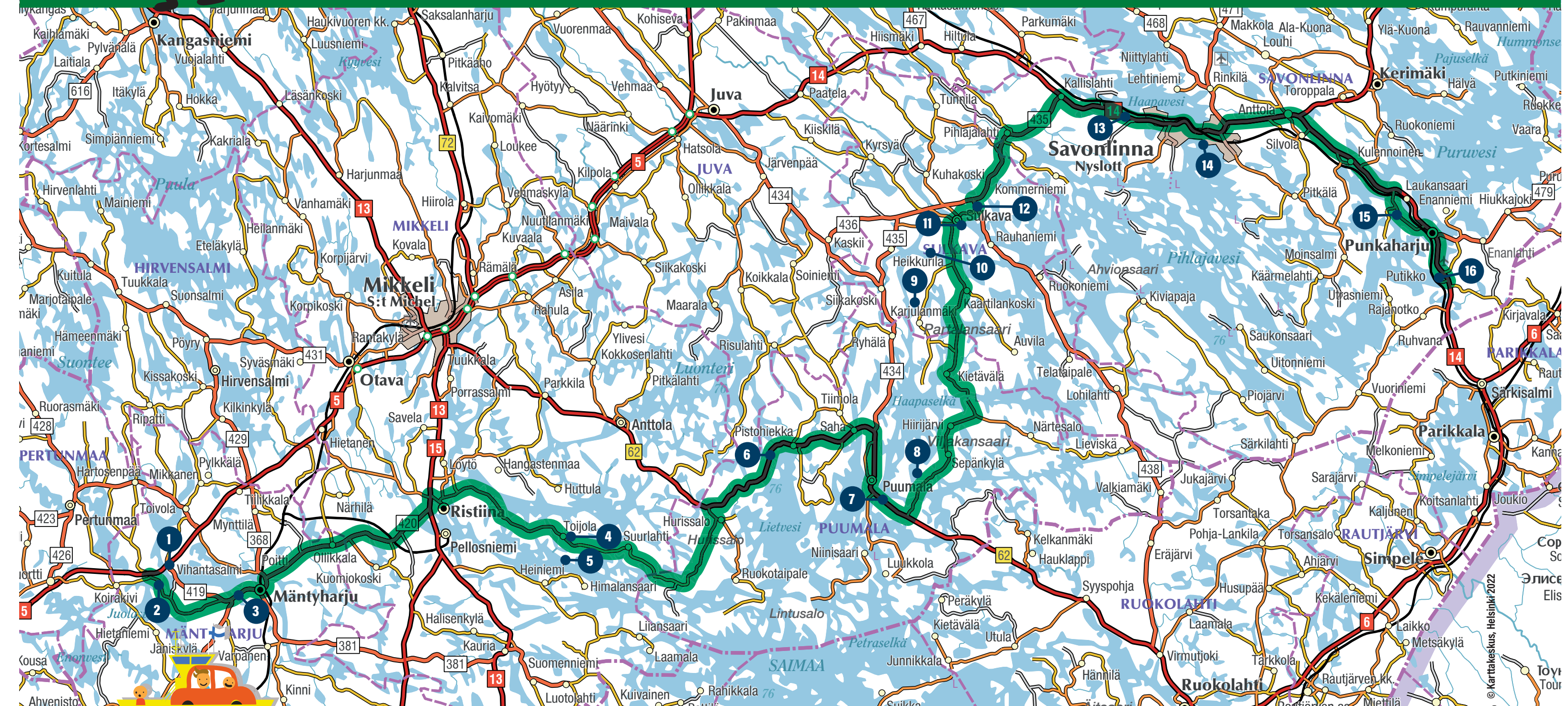




The Green Gold Culture Road



THE GREEN GOLD
CULTURE ROAD



Magnificent lakescapes, sites for delicious breaks and unique places to visit ensure that the Green Gold Culture Road is an experience for all senses. This road makes you stop and marvel at nature and culture!

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|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Vihantasalmi | 7. The Puumala archipelago | 13. Savonlinna |
| 2. Miekankoski | 8. The rock paintings in Syrjäsalmi | 14. Shipping in Savonlinna |
| 3. Mäntyharju village | 9. The Karjulanmäki stone church | 15. The Punkaharju national landscape |
| 4. The Pien-Toijola Open-Air Museum | 10. The Pisamalahti hill fort | 16. Putikon kylä |
| 5. The Astuvansalmi rock paintings | 11. The Sulkava rowing race | |
| 6. The Lietvesi scenic road | 12. Vilkaharju | |

You can find the site descriptions on the back of the map.





THE GREEN GOLD CULTURE ROAD



The **Green Gold Culture Road** is the official tourist route in Southern Savo and runs for 250 kilometres from Mäntyharju to Punkaharju through Ristiina, Puumala, Sulkava and Savonlinna. The route is lined with lush landscapes and allows visitors to admire the area's rich cultural heritage, which has been strongly linked to the forest throughout history. In addition to its unique nature and culture sites, the route also invites you to enjoy a great variety of services, products and events offered by the region's entrepreneurs. Welcome to the Green Gold Culture Road – enjoy exploring the many treasures of the forest.

The Green Gold Culture Road sites

The longest wooden bridge in the world is located in **Vihantasalmi (1)**. Vihantasalmi is also the official starting point of the Green Gold Culture Road.

Timber was transported through **Miekankoski (2)** back in the 19th century, and logs continued to be driven on the Mäntyharju route until 1975. The Miekankoski Museum of Log Floating exhibits the history of log driving in an original environment.

Mäntyharju village (3) is the perfect place to explore the traditions of log and wood construction. The village church, built in 1822, is the largest saddle-notched log building in Finland.

The **Pien-Toijola Open-Air Museum (4)** allows visitors to appreciate the full range of the ways in which wood was used in rural areas. The museum's courtyard houses wooden buildings from the 17th century to the late 19th century, and it is a nationally significant rustic culture environment.

The **Astuvansalmi rock paintings (5)** are one of the largest and most significant rock painting sites in the Nordic countries with approximately 80 prehistoric images.

The **Lietvesi scenic road (6)** is one of the most beautiful stretches of road in Finland. The viewpoint gives a stunning panorama over the blue waters of Lake Saimaa.

The **Puumala archipelago (7)** is a great place to see how islanders used to live on the shores of Lake Saimaa. If you're lucky, you might even catch a glimpse of a Saimaa ringed seal in the lake.

The **rock paintings in Syrjäsalmi (8)** offer visitors an idea of our ancestors' relationship with the forest and nature. The figures captured on the rocks are prehistoric relics protected under law.

The **Karjulanmäki stone church (9)** is a huge boulder transported to the site by a continental glacier in the Ice Age. Its cavities and sturdy walls offered a shelter for ancient people.

The **Pisamalahti hill fort (10)** used to protect people from enemy attacks. Now people are impressed by the view from the top of the hill.

The **Sulkava rowing race (11)** was organised for the first time in 1968. The summer event combines the joy of nature activities with traditional Finnish wooden boats.

Vilkaharju (12) is a geologically significant landscape in Southern Savo. You can learn about the nature in the area and the history of forestry along the trails in the Vilkaharju nature reserve.

Savonlinna (13) is famous for its opera festival. The town is built on islands and surrounded by lakes and forests, so it also has plenty of experiences to offer nature enthusiasts.

Shipping in Savonlinna (14). Steamboats remind us of a time when waterways were the main access routes for residents of the Saimaa archipelago. Today, a cruise aboard a steamboat offers visitors an opportunity to experience the waves of Lake Saimaa.

The **Punkaharju national landscape (15)** is characterised by the narrow esker, which is lined by tall pines and surrounded by lakes. In addition to magnificent views, there are also various nature and culture sites in Punkaharju.

Putikko (16) is a village community of beautiful wooden buildings set up around the sawmill, which was founded in the late 19th century.



Experience the Green Gold Culture Road on a virtual tour



The Green Gold Culture Road audio tour

The Green Gold audio stories take listeners on a journey spanning thousands of years of the relationship between the forest and people in Southern Savo. The audio tour combines the turning points of local forest culture with folk tales from the archives of the Finnish Literary Society. The audio tour is available on the free Glopas app. The location-based app starts the tour automatically when a listener reaches a set navigation point along the route. The tour stories can also be listened to individually and at any point along the route.



The story trail that takes you on a journey back in time in Sahanlahti

See what life was like in the past in the Sahanlahti sawmill courtyard in Puumala through augmented reality and animation. Use the free Salmi AR app to try out various experiences such as watching log drivers working on the rapids or marvelling at the dead at an old morgue.



The virtual route on Outdooractive

The sites, companies, products and services along the Green Gold Culture Road can all be found on the Outdooractive platform, which also helps you to plan your route. Outdooractive can be accessed through the app and via a web browser.



THE GREEN GOLD CULTURE ROAD

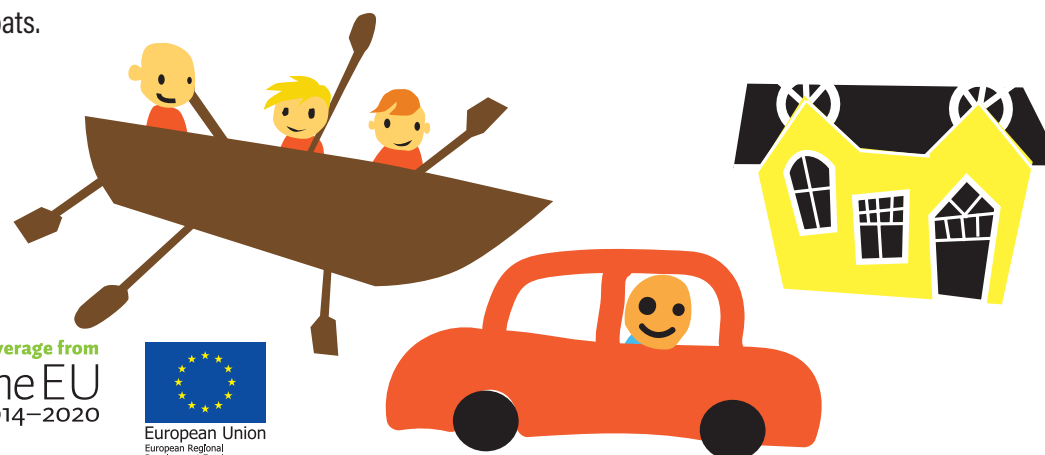


South Savo Regional Council

Leverage from the EU 2014–2020



European Union European Regional Development Fund



Drawings: Anna Korhonen