

Saimaa facts

Finland



The Cleanest environment in the world



The World's cleanest air has been measured here



Over 188,000 lakes



80 % of lakes are good or excellent quality (UNESCO)



Over 70 % of the land area covered in forests



More saunas per capita than any other country (over 3 million)



The Sauna tradition over 10 000 years old

Lake Saimaa



14,000 islands



Over 15,000 km of shoreline (more than Spain)



In the top 5 most beautiful lakes in the world



Over 50,000 cottages



Approx. 480 endangered Saimaa ringed seals

Savonlinna



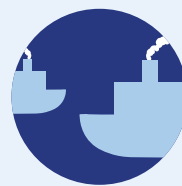
Approx. 32,500 inhabitants



Area 3,600 km² of which 1,350 km² is water



6,000 km of coastline



Home to Finland's biggest steamship fleet



Finland's oldest tourist destination since the 19th century

More facts about Savonlinna

- Is located in the province of **Eastern Finland** and in the **region of South Savo**
- 207,000 visitors and 346,000 overnight stays (in the Savonlinna region) in 2021
- **Olavinlinna Castle** is the northernmost medieval castle in the world (built in 1475).
- **Kerimäki Church** is the world's biggest wooden church (constructed in 1847).
- **Punkaharju** is one of the oldest nature conservation areas in the world.
- There are **two unique water national parks** Linnansaari and Kolovesi in the region. Linnansaari is one of the oldest national parks Finland.
- **Savonlinna Opera Festival** in July is one of the most notable international events in the world and organized in the Olavinlinna Castle since 1912. Every year, it brings around 60,000 visitors to the castle to enjoy world-class quality opera.
- There are **over a hundred artistic birdhouses** made by folk artist Marko Ruuskanen in the Savonlinna city centre.

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LAKE SAIMAA

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How to get here?

The easiest way to get to the Lake Saimaa area is to choose direct flights to Savonlinna or Lappeenranta. You can also fly to Helsinki and continue traveling to the area by rental car or by train.

Direct flights

Frankfurt - Savonlinna	2 h 20 min
Rotterdam - Savonlinna	2 h 20 min
Helsinki - Savonlinna	0 h 55 min
Bergamo - Lappeenranta	3 h 15 min



From Helsinki by Car

Mikkeli	2 h 40 min
Lappeenranta	2 h 45 min
Imatra	3 h 5 min
Savonlinna	3 h 55 min
Varkaus	3 h 29 min

From Helsinki by Train

Mikkeli	2 h 40 min
Lappeenranta	2 h 10 min
Imatra	2 h 30 min
Savonlinna	4 h 30 min
Varkaus	4 h 23 min