

An aerial photograph of a small, rocky island in the middle of a dark lake. The island is covered in lush green trees and has a blue tent pitched on it. Two kayakers, one in a yellow kayak and one in a blue kayak, are on the water near the island. The text 'VISIT LAKE SAIMAA' is overlaid in large white letters, with a white wavy line underneath it. Below the line, the text 'LAKELAND · FINLAND' is written in smaller white letters. In the bottom right corner, there is a white text box containing the text 'GET INSPIRED ABOUT LAKE SAIMAA REGION Savonlinna | Mikkeli | Varkaus SUMMER 2025'. In the bottom left corner, the website 'visitsaimaa.fi' is written in white.

VISIT LAKE SAIMAA

LAKELAND · FINLAND

**GET INSPIRED ABOUT
LAKE SAIMAA REGION**
Savonlinna | Mikkeli | Varkaus
SUMMER 2025

Discover the Magic of Lake Saimaa

Lake Saimaa, Finland's largest and Europe's 4th largest lake, is a destination like no other—a place where nature, history, and culture come together in perfect harmony. With thousands of islands, crystal-clear waters, and ancient forests, it's a haven for those seeking tranquillity, adventure, and authentic Finnish experiences.

Step back in time as you explore the region's rich history. Visit the medieval Olavinlinna Castle, charming old manors, and quaint lakeside villages. For a touch of modern luxury, unwind at our unique resorts that blend seamlessly with the natural surroundings. The culinary scene here is equally captivating, with fresh fish, wild berries, and forest mushrooms crafted into pure and delicious seasonal dishes.

Saimaa's unique connection to nature is woven into everyday life. Paddle through hidden coves, spot rare Saimaa ringed seals, or relax in a cosy lakeside sauna. In the evenings, soak up the endless summer light as it dances across the lake's shimmering surface.

Lake Saimaa isn't just a destination—it's an escape into Finland's soul, where every moment feels like a postcard.

Welcome to explore the summer of Lake Saimaa you'll never forget!

Sustainable Savonlinna Region & Puumala

We are dedicated to responsible tourism, ensuring that our activities respects the environment and honours local culture. Social and cultural responsibility are at the heart of everything we do, and as a testament to these efforts, the Savonlinna region and Puumala have proudly received the regional Sustainable Travel Finland (STF) label. See all of our companies with STF label here and make sustainable travelling choices.



Explore our cottages here



Cottage Like a Finn

The highlight of the summer is, of course, a cottage holiday on the shores of Lake Saimaa. Finns start their cottage season as soon as the ice has gone and stop when the ice arrives. In between, there are incredible sunsets, magical sunrises, the freshest smells and mesmerising sounds of nature. Countless dips in the pure Saimaa and relaxing baths. There are no schedules at the cottage, just being and watching the days go by. After a cottage holiday you are guaranteed to be relaxed.

But if you're looking for something to do, the Lake Saimaa region offers it in terms of culture, food and nature activities. Choose the way you want to spend your holiday.



What to Do?

Lake Saimaa is a destination that truly has it all. Whether you're an adventurous nature enthusiast, a culture seeker, a food lover, or simply looking for a peaceful retreat away from the crowds, Saimaa welcomes you with open arms. Bursting with activities to suit every taste, Lake Saimaa invites you to explore its wonders either on your own or with a guide. Paddle through purest waters by kayak or canoe, cycle along scenic lakefront routes, or hike trails that wind through breathtaking landscapes. Try your hand at fishing, embark on a wildlife-watching safari, or go island-hopping to uncover hidden gems.



See our activities



Saimaa ringed seal and nature watching safaris

Cruises

Kayaking and canoeing

Cycling

Camping

Fishing

Traditional Finnish baking workshops

Hop-On Hop-Off tours

Tastings - Berry wines, tea and beer

Handicraft workshops

Spas and treatments



Explore the Region

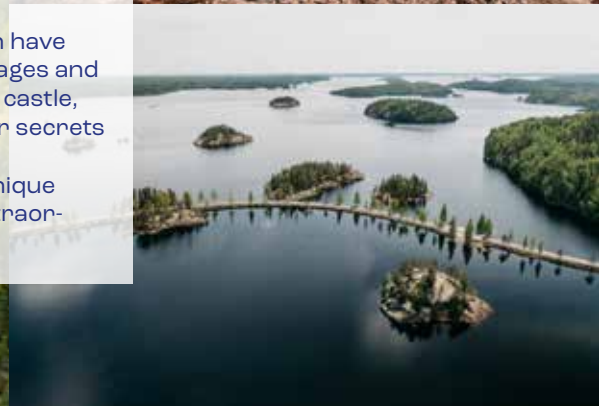
Lake Saimaa is a treasure trove of history, culture, and natural beauty. Here, you'll find some of Finland's oldest and most iconic attractions. The region's unique geography and rich history offer countless opportunities to explore and discover.

Savour the flavours of Saimaa with local culinary delights and restaurants of which have earned national recognition. Feel the savonian and karelian atmosphere in local villages and see how the locals live. Walk through history at the world's northernmost medieval castle, uncover stories in historic manors, and admire ancient rock paintings that whisper secrets of the past.

Every corner of Saimaa has a story, every moment a new way to connect with its unique way of life. Discover it for yourself and be inspired by the timeless charm of this extraordinary region.

Punkaharju Ridge
Linnansaari, Kolovesi and Repovesi National Parks
Astuvansalmi and Kolovesi Rock Paintings
UNESCO Saimaa Geopark Destinations
Hills Linnavuori and Neitvuori
Hytermä Museum Islands
Puumala Archipelago Road
Old Manors and Gardens
The Living Area of Endangered Saimaa Ringed Seal and Osprey
Olavinlinna Castle
The Finnish Forest Museum Lusto
Muisti - Museum of War and Peace
Worlds biggest wooden church in Kerimäki
Local food and awarded restaurants

Explore attractions



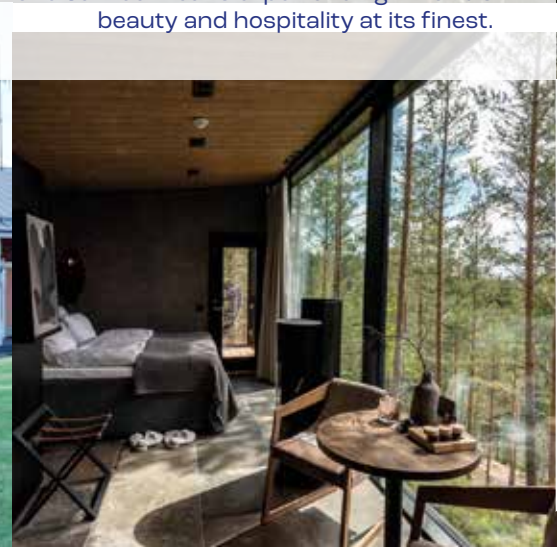


See all
options



Where to Stay?

Lake Saimaa offers accommodations that blend perfectly with the stunning natural surroundings. From cosy lakeside cottages and historic manors to modern spa resorts and boutique hotels, there's a place for every traveller. Wake up to breathtaking views of the lake, enjoy the tranquility of private saunas, and savour local delicacies right at your doorstep. Whether you're seeking luxury, a family-friendly escape, or a rustic retreat, staying in Lake Saimaa means experiencing Finland's beauty and hospitality at its finest.





Events

- Saimaa Ringed Seal Safari season - May/June
- Midsummer - 20.-22.6.2025
- Savonlinna Opera Festival - 3.7.-2.8.2025
- Sulkava Rowing Race - 10.-13.7.2025
- St Michel Horserace - 18.-20.7.2025
- Mikkeli Music Festival - 2.-10.8.2025
- Endurance Quest Saimaa - 29-31.8.2025
- Finlands Nature Day and Sleep Outside Night - 30.-31.8.2025
- Punkaharju Swimrun - 30.8.2025
- The End of Summer Season in Oravi 27.9.2025



Eat & Shop

The Lake Saimaa region offers a delightful mix of flavours and unique shopping opportunities. Food lovers can savour local delicacies like muikku (vendace), lörtsy, karjalanpiirakka (Karelian pie), and berry wines, all made with fresh, local ingredients. Many restaurants and cafés focus on seasonal, farm-to-table dishes, giving you an authentic taste of Saimaa.

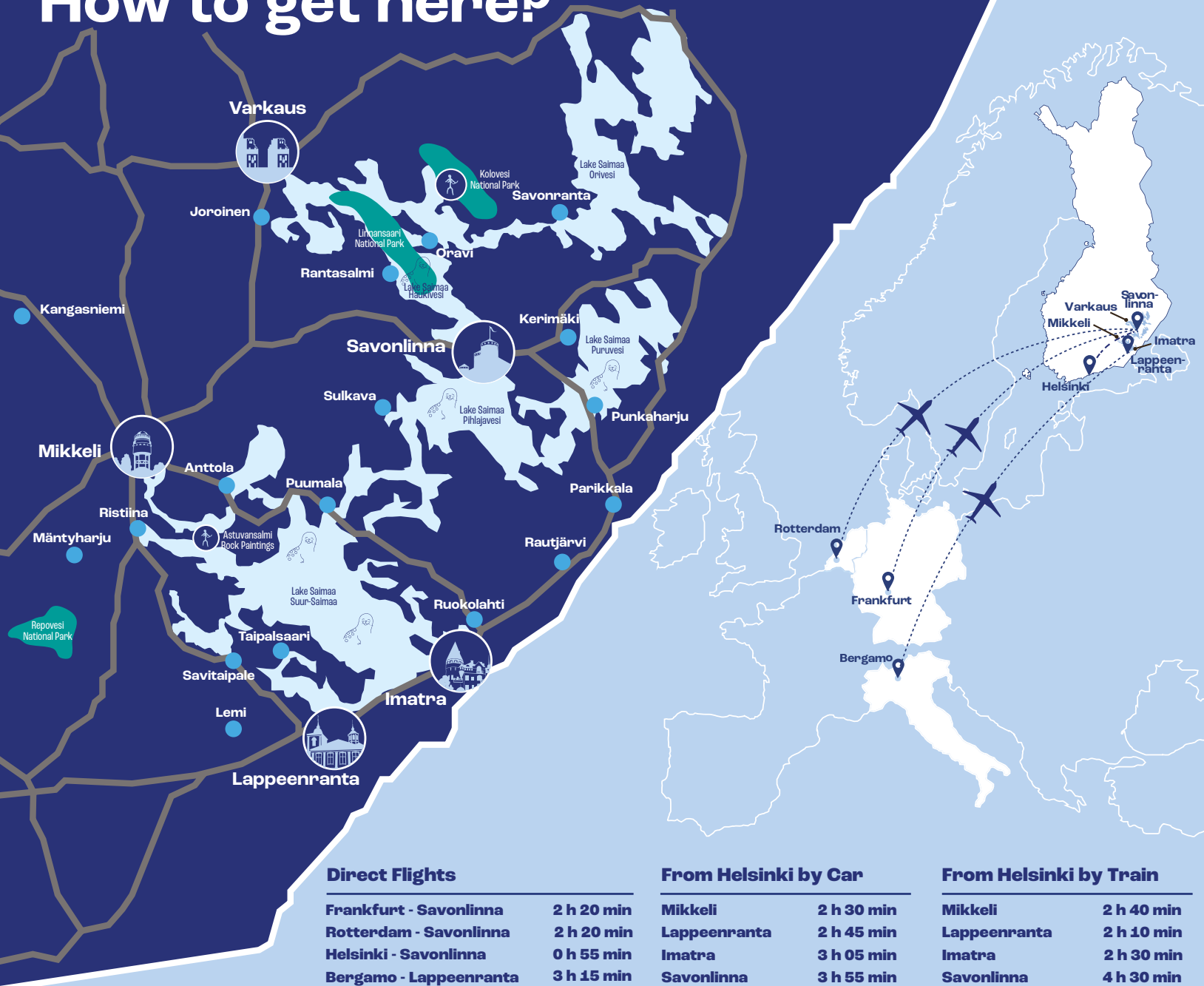
For shopping, explore charming boutiques, local markets, and artisan workshops. You'll find handmade crafts, woodwork, ceramics, and textiles inspired by the region's natural beauty, along with gourmet products like berry jams, honey, and rye bread to take home. Perfect for souvenirs or gifts!



Tastes of Saimaa



How to get here?



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 30 min
Lappeenranta	2 h 45 min
Imatra	3 h 05 min
Savonlinna	3 h 55 min
Varkaus	3 h 35 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 25 min