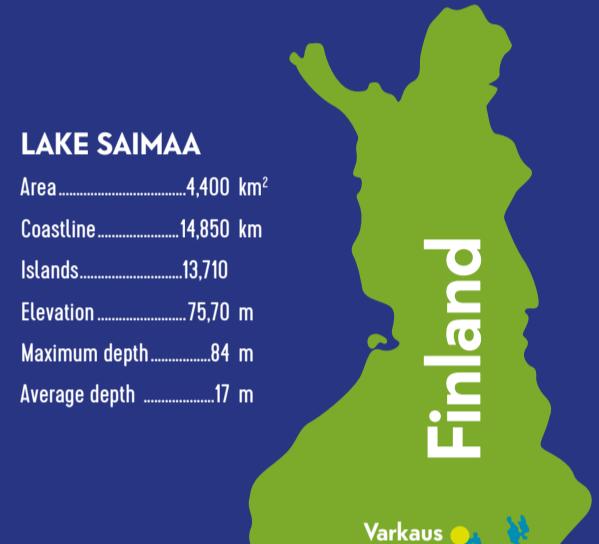




EXPERIENCE THE REAL SAIMAA

People have holidayed at Lake Saimaa for centuries. Finnish soul landscapes – open lakes, a maze of islands and beautiful bays and coves – create a wonderful setting for both relaxation and all sorts of things to do. Clean nature, seasonal variations, diverse cultural sites and delicious food experiences invite both locals and visitors to enjoy unique experiences on Lake Saimaa.

visitsaimaa.fi • gosaimaa.com



Driving time from	HELSINKI	IMatra	Lappeenranta	Mikkeli	Savonlinna	Varkaus
HELSINKI	3:00	2:45	2:30	4:00	0:55	3:45
IMATRA	3:00		0:30	2:00	1:30	2:15
LAPPEENRANTA	2:45	0:30		1:30	2:00	2:30
MIKKELI	2:30	2:00	1:30		1:30	1:00
SAVONLINNA	4:00	1:30	2:00	1:30		1:30
VARKAUS	3:45	2:15	2:30	1:00	1:30	

Mikkeli, Savonlinna and Varkaus region
visitsaimaa.fi

Lappeenranta and Imatra region
gosaimaa.com

visit Saimaa

GO SAIMAA

Co-funded by the European Union REGIONAL COUNCIL OF SOUTH KARElia South Savo Regional Council

FIVE-STAR LAKE SAIMAA

Lake Saimaa has unique accessibility. You can choose your tour, starting from any direction and on any form of transport. The themed routes around Mikkeli, Varkaus, Savonlinna, Imatra and Lappeenranta also include great rural destinations, great restaurants and accommodation, unique attractions and many nice things to do. It is also worth checking out smaller local routes. There is something to do and see in Lake Saimaa for a day, a week or even longer!

gosaimaa.com and visitsaimaa.fi



TRAILS AND CIRCULAR ROUTES

Explore the stunning Lake Saimaa archipelago by cycling the Saimaa Archipelago Route. This 100-kilometer path takes you around Lake Saimaa's towns and cities, municipalities, and villages such as Roodokuhni, Joroinen, and Taipalsaari. A notable segment, the 40-kilometer Pernaja Archipelago Route, features both asphalt and gravel roads, plus a ferry ride that requires advance booking.

THE KINGDOM OF THE SAIMAA RINGED SEAL

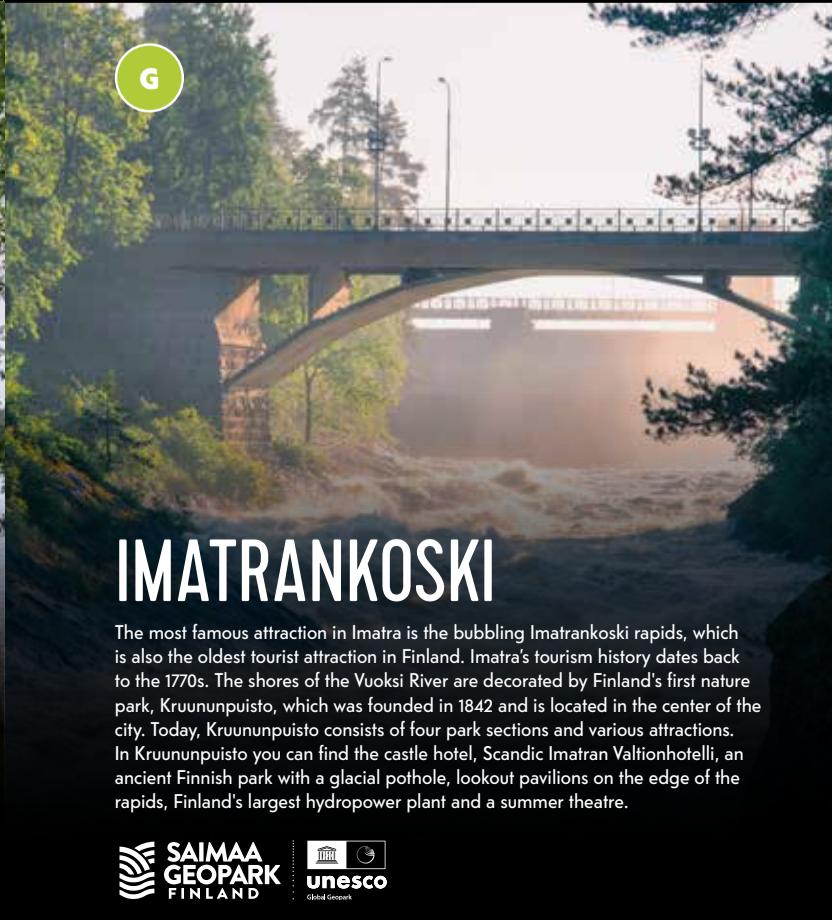
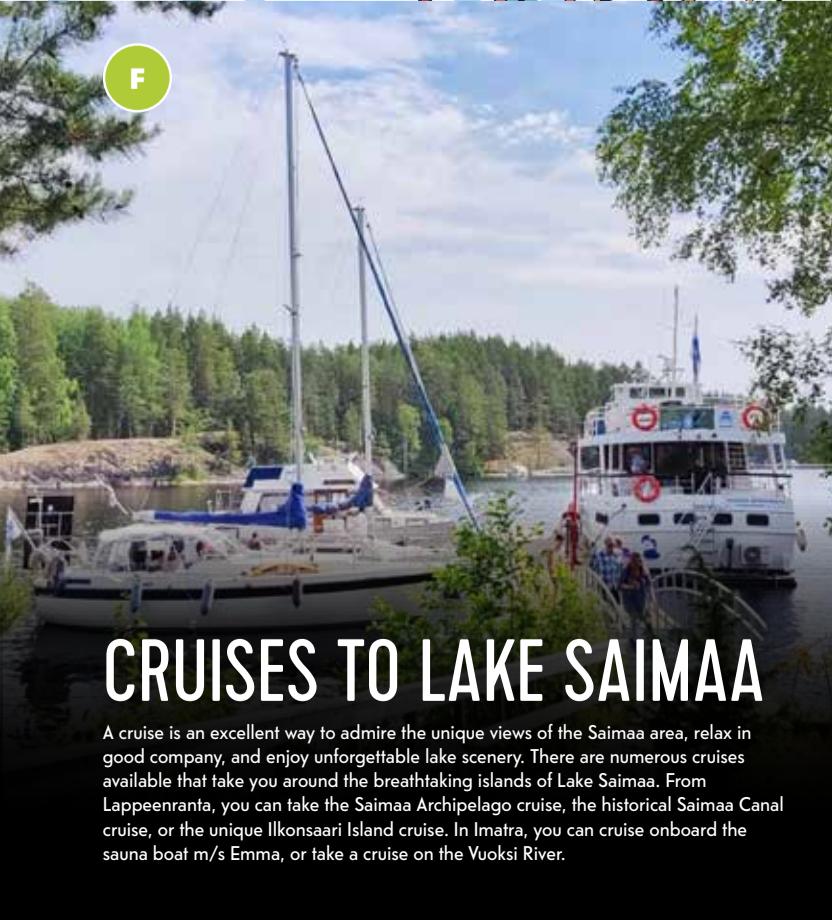
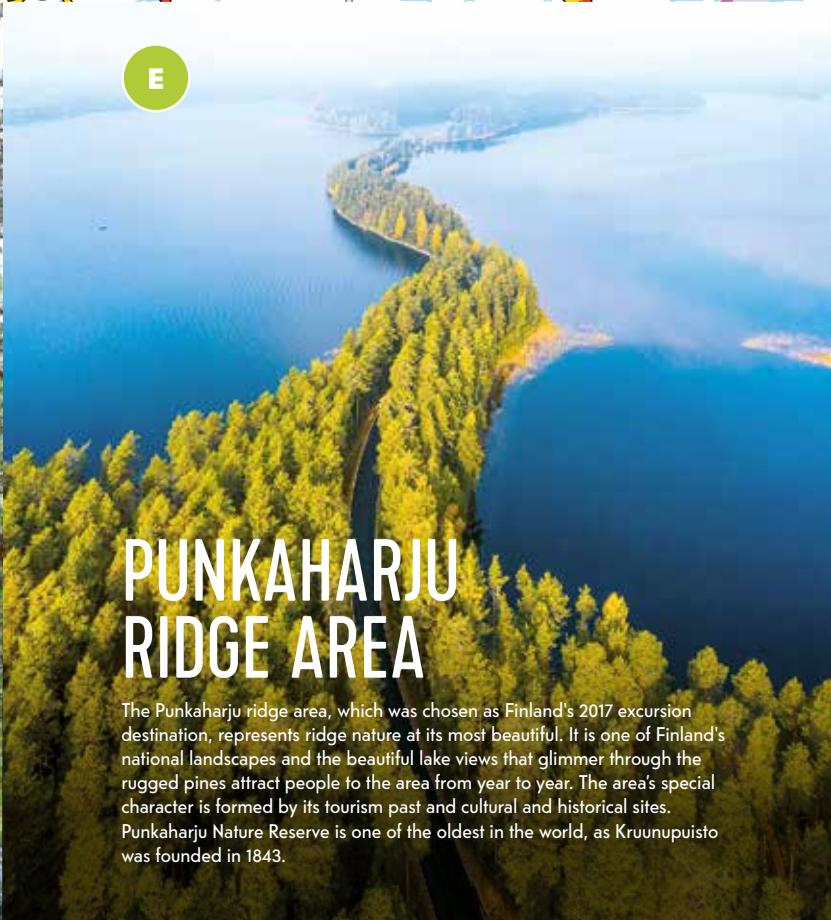
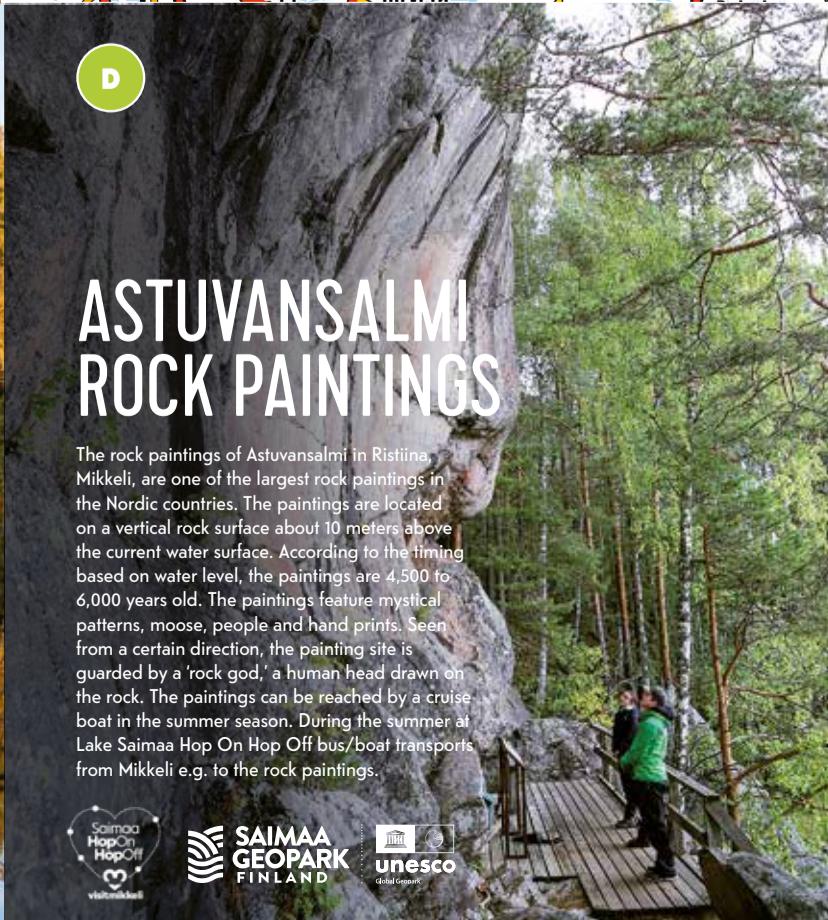
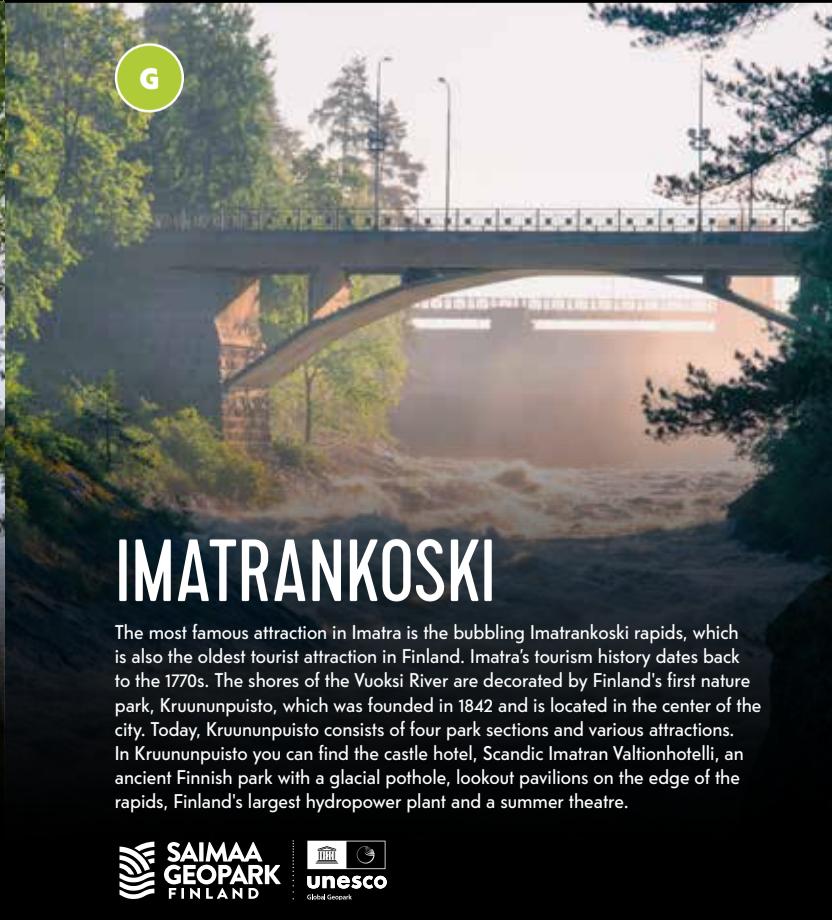
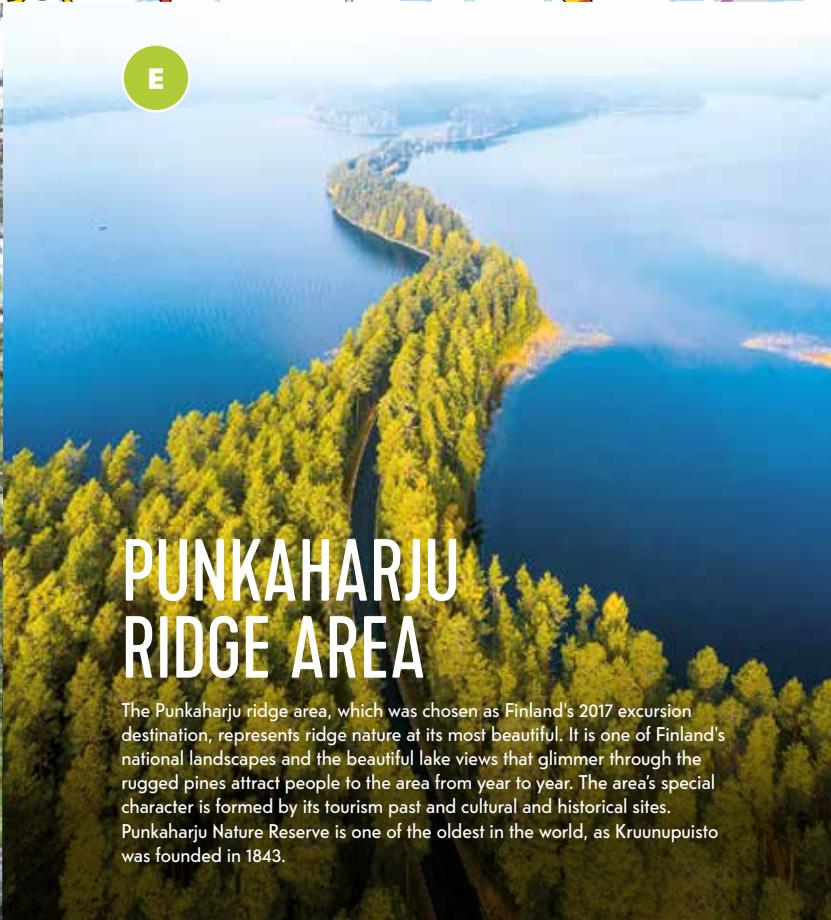
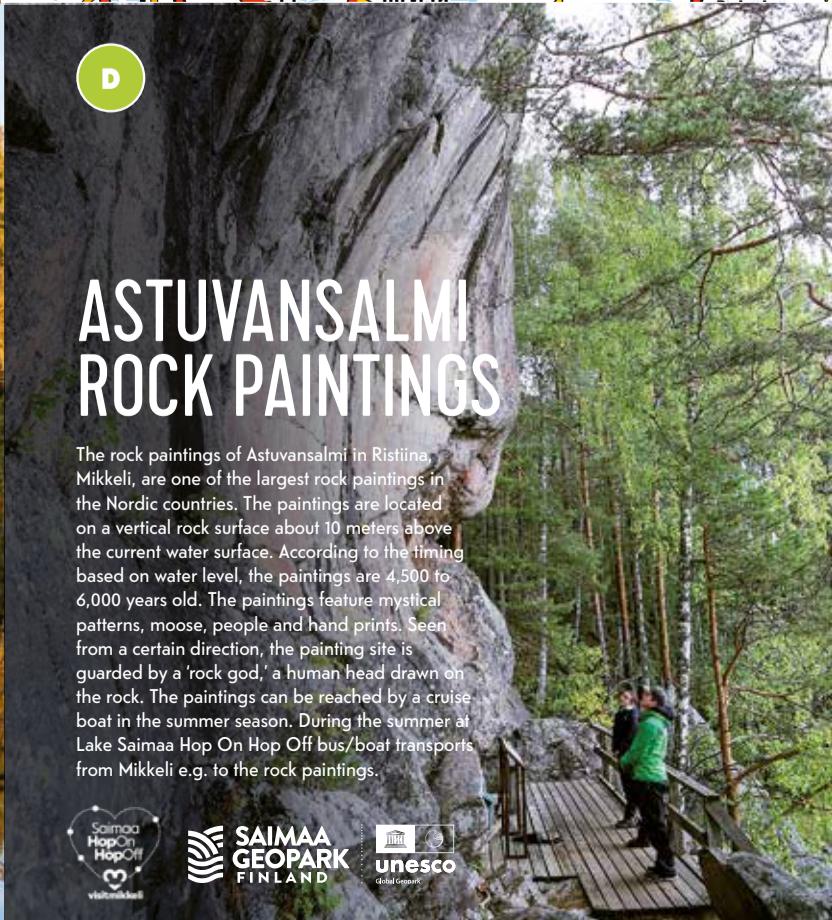
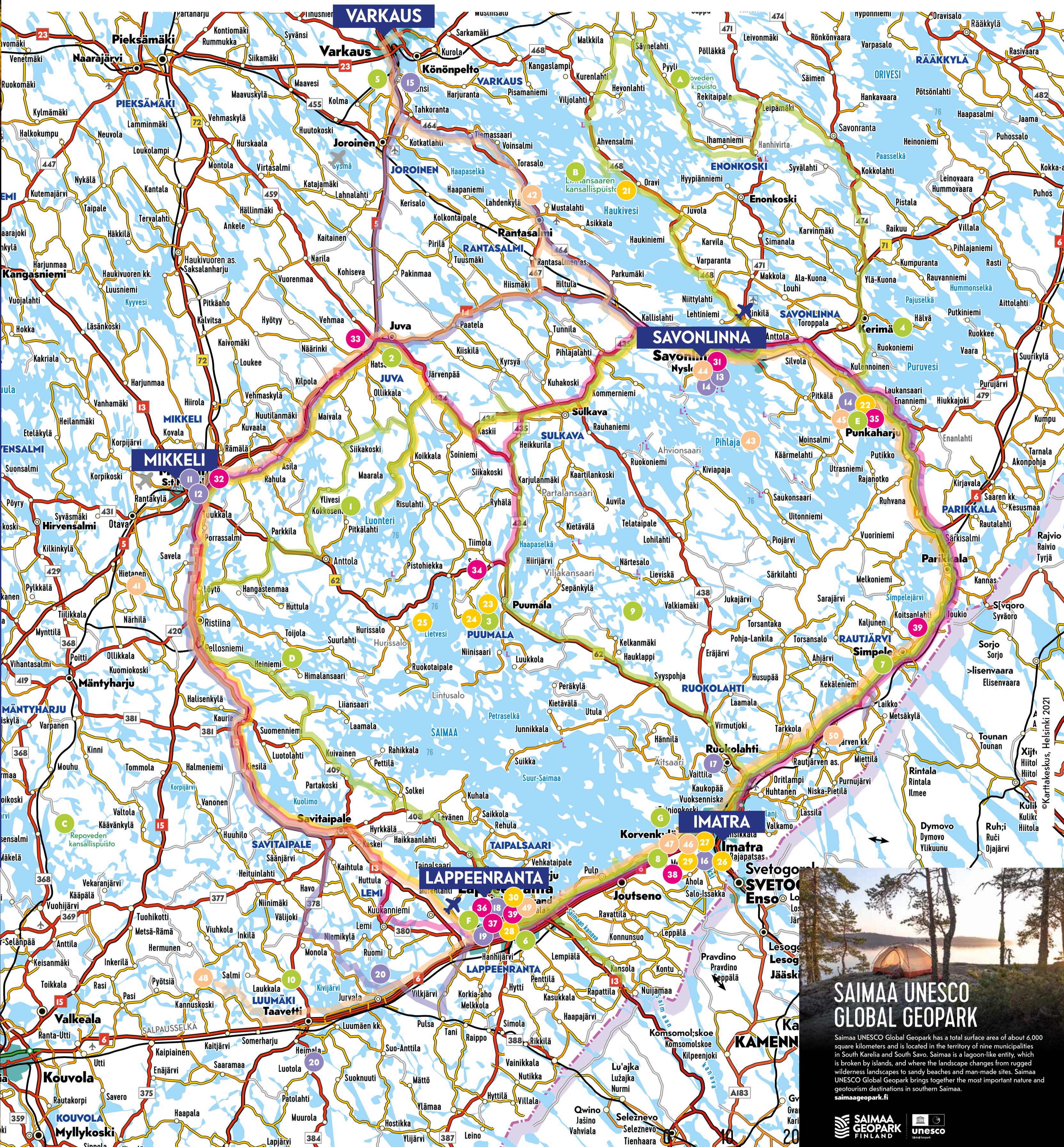
One of the most unique inhabitants of the Saimaa region is the most endangered seal in the world – the Saimaa Ringed Seal, which has inhabited Lake Saimaa for more than 8,000 years. There are only about 400 Saimaa ringed seals left. Their sweet and curious animals have a strong Saimaa attitude as they greet a passing boat or bask on the rocks in the spring sunshine and their sociability as they greet a passing boat are also core characteristics of the people of Saimaa. The locals cherish the ringed seal and do their utmost for their population growth and well-being.

LIFE IN THE LAKESIDE PARADISE

A paradise for summer cottages and lakeside saunas can be found in Saimaa. Kilometres of clean, pebbled shoreline and thousands of atmospheric coves, sunsets and sunrises accompanied by the Black-throated loon's sweet song. Lake pier where it is good to fish, wash potatoes, fetch water for the sauna or just listen to the lapping of the waves. Soft steam in the sauna, gentle brushing with birch twigs, and a dip in the clear waters of Lake Saimaa are well-being at its best. Both the body and the mind rest in the Saimaa archipelago.

PART OF CLEANEST FINLAND

Saimaa's beautiful landscapes are nature at its purest. The clear waters of Saimaa and the greenery of its forests have a positive effect on well-being. Clean, oxygen-rich air helps both the mind and the body to regenerate. Saimaa has the highest forest area in Finland and the waters of Saimaa are also the clearest in Finland. Saimaa's nature is unique - aesthetically, historically and from a well-being point of view.





NATURE

- 1 Neutuori-Luonteri area
– Savo's Switzerland
visitmikkeli.fi/nature-trails
- 2 Squirrel Route
– 57 km canoeing route and water trail from Juva to Sulkava ending to Tittala Manor
oravareitti.fi
- 3 Norppapalkki – Trail on the shores and cliffs of Lake Saimaa approx. 13 km route including lean-to shelter, campfire sites and a pier and Saimaa Geopark signs
visitpuumala.fi/hyterma
- 4 Hytermä Nature Reserve – Beautiful ridge nature of the Hytermä Islands and a unique open-air museum with its old buildings
visitpuumala.fi/hyterma
- 5 Ämmäkoski and Kämäri Islands – In the center of Varkaus, 3 km nature trail between Ämmäkoski and Taipale canal
visitvarkaus.fi
- 6 Cruises on Lake Saimaa, Saimaa Archipelago and to the unique Ilkkonsaari island, m/s Saimaa Margaretta
saimaanristityllyt.fi
- 7 Hiitolanjoki River, Rautjärvi
– Landscape trail, good for bird watching
rautjärvi.fi
- 8 Rauha-Ukoniemi area
– perfect setting for an active holiday
ukoniemi.fi
- 9 Kummakivi – Strange Stone.
Huge boulder is balancing on a convex rock.
gosaimaa.com
- 10 Luumäki – Itsenäisyysdien road in Luumäki introduces various attractions and presents local and Finnish history
luumaki.fi

CULTURE

- 11 Mikkeli Music Festival – Annual classical music festival with world-class musicians such as London Philharmonia
mikkelinmusiikkijuhlat.fi
- 12 Savonlinna Opera Festival – World class opera in a medieval lakeside castle, Olavinlinna
operafestivaali.fi
- 13 Olavinlinna – An iconic castle of thousands of stories and battles
olavinlinna.fi
- 14 Lustö & Riihiäri
– Stories of the forests and Lake Saimaa in the Savonlinna region
visitpuumala.fi
- 15 Canal area of Taipale and the Canal Museum in the centre of Varkaus
visitvarkaus.fi
- 16 Imatrankoski Rapids and Kruunupuisto Park – Finland's oldest tourist attraction
gosaimaa.com
- 17 Historical Ruokolahti Church Hill and the wooden Bellry
ruokolahti.fi
- 18 Lappeenranta Fortress and harbour
– History from the 18th century, not forgetting the present
gosaimaa.com
- 19 Parkkala Sculpture Park – mystical park with about 560 concrete statues
pafaspaisisto.fi
- 20 Kokaniemi
– Home museum of President P. E. Svinhufvud
kokaniemi.fi

ACTIVITIES

- 21 SaimaaHoliday Oravi – All year round nature activities in Linnaasari and Kolovesi National Parks
oravivillage.com
- 22 Rock and Lake - Husky safaris, horse riding and guided fishing trips
rockandlake.com
- 23 Lakeland GTE – Services and experiences in Puunala and Saimaa
lakelandgte.fi
- 24 Varied cycling routes with the most amazing views in Lake Saimaa region
visitpuumala.fi/pyoraily
- 25 Punkaharju Resort – Adventure park, water park and minigolf
punkaharjur resort.fi
- 26 Vuoksi Fishing Park – Fishing and water activities all year round
vuoksenkalastuspuisto.fi
- 27 Tuplakasi – Activities to suit all tastes
tuplakasi-action.fi
- 28 Discover local culture and nature, and part of Finnish history with cozy Salpalinjan Hovi packages
salpalinjanhovi.fi
- 29 Discover Saimaa
– Guided nature experiences and rental equipment all year round
discover saimaa.fi
- 30 SaimaaPaju Events – Activities, equipment and guides for an active vacation
saimaapaju.fi

FOOD

- 31 Restaurant Siimes in PihlasResort – Unforgettable culinary delights based on local ingredients
pihlasresort.com
- 32 Manor and garden restaurant Teriti Manor – A food lovers paradise in a lovely manor setting, listed as one of the best 21 restaurants in the world by National Geographic
terinkartano.fi
- 33 Organic and tea restaurant Teahouse of Wehmuis – Taste experiences in a rural landscape with authentic local flavours
teahouse.fi
- 34 Artesian restaurant Sahanlahti Resort – Local food experiences in the Puumala archipelago
sahanlahtiresort.fi
- 35 Waahlo Group – All the best flavours in Savonlinna
waahlobrewhouse.fi
- 36 Restaurant Sunu in Lappeenranta – surprising dining with a dash of mystery
sunuidining.fi
- 37 Restaurant The Kitchen – an easygoing restaurant in Lappeenranta
ravintolakitchen.fi
- 38 Restaurant Sula – Summer restaurant located in the banks of the River Vuoksi, with best views of Imatra
sulamatra.fi
- 39 Café Majurksa – old style café in the Lappeenranta Fortress. Café is well known for its delightful bákings
kahvilamajurksa.com
- 40 Finland's best coffee, Lehmuus roastery and Satafami 6-café
satafami6.com

WELL-BEING

- 41 Kyhylä Wellbeing Resort – Luxury of nature a stone's throw from Mikkeli
kyhyyla.fi
- 42 Kuru Resort – Adults paradise for relaxing surrounded by pure nature
kururesort.com
- 43 Pistoiekkä Resort – Scenic sauna by Lake Saimaa, sandy beach, restaurant, great outdoors and cozy accommodation
pistoiekkä.fi
- 44 SpaHotel Casino – Break away from routines, pamper yourself in the heart of Savonlinna
spahotelcasino.fi
- 45 Kruunupuisto – A leisure paradise in Punkaharju national landscapes
kruunupuisto.fi
- 46 Imatran Kylpylä Spa Resort – Outdoor activities and spa facilities
imatrankylpla.fi
- 47 Holiday Club Saimaa Rauha – Holiday and Spa resort on the shores of Lake Saimaa
holidayclubsresorts.com/fi/kohleet/saimaa
- 48 Tuhanne Tarinan Talo – Rural tourism at its best
tuhannentarinantalo.com
- 49 SaimaaPaju Events – A floating sauna ferry cruising from Lappeenranta harbour
saimaapaju.fi
- 50 Hugo's Smoke Saunas – Atmospheric smoke saunas on the shores of Lake Rautjärvi
savusaunat.fi



Guided ringed seal trips to Lake Saimaa
visitpuumala.fi/saimaa-ringed-seal

Guided mushroom foraging and other nature excursions
ukuva.fi

Cruises from Savonlinna to the Saimaa archipelago
visitpuumala.fi

Rooke Holiday Village - Fishing holidays to crystal clear Lake Purvesi
rookeenlomakylä.fi

Nature activities of your choice, from fishing trips to swimming with horses in Lake Saimaa
naaranlahi.com

Private cruises on Lake Saimaa with m/s Charlotte.
gosaimaa.com

Cruises to Lake Saimaa on the Sauna boat m/s Emma, from Imatra.
ms-emma.net

Start the Saimaa Archipelago Route by cycling from the magnificent surrounds of Taipalsaari
taipalsaari.fi

Cruises on the Vuoksi River
vuoksenkalastuspuisto.fi

Nature stories, nature trips and adventures with Creative Kaiku
creativekaiku.fi

Museo Centre of War and Peace
– The events of the wars can be experienced with the latest exhibition technology in Mikkeli
muisit.org

Imatra City Museum
etelakarjalammuseot.fi

Woikosi Car Museum in Nurmaa
woikosifounding.fi

At Pulsa station, café, shop and B&B – in a beautiful rural Lappeenranta landscape.
polasanasema.fi

Theatre, club evenings and musicals
varkauenteatteri.fi

Theatre and concerts in heart of Savonlinna
savaninnantanteatteri.fi

Kokaniemi: Garden and courtyard and museum
kokaniemi.fi

Kehruhuone -restaurant and meeting place in the historical fortress of Lappeenranta
kehruhuone.fi

Guided horse racing events
mikkelinravirata.fi

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