

Rocks, caverns, islands and beaches

Puumala's nature sites



Puumala

NATURALLY BEAUTIFUL

Cultural sites, roads and hiking trails

1. Sahanlahti
2. Liehtalanniemi museum farm and nature trail
3. Muuramäki
4. Elsa Heporauta trail
5. Kukkeisten polku trail
6. Koskenselkä nature trail
7. Ristiina-Hurissalo road
8. Puumala archipelago road
9. Lietvesi scenic road

Nature preserves

10. Tohmosaari Island
11. Kavatsaari Island
12. Susiranta Islands
13. Keriniemi
14. Laamiopuro stream
15. Vuoriniemi escarpment

Forests

16. Suursaari tilia forest in Kylliöjärvi
17. Harmaala old-growth forest

Beaches

28. Rokansaari Island
29. Ruuhonsaari Island sand dunes
30. Rokansalo, Pistohiekka and Laajahiekka beaches

Prehistoric sites

31. Maksasaarenselkä rock painting
32. Syrjäsalmi rock painting
33. Stone Age dwelling
34. Ancient archaeological relics site
35. Stone and Bronze Age dwellings

Military history sites

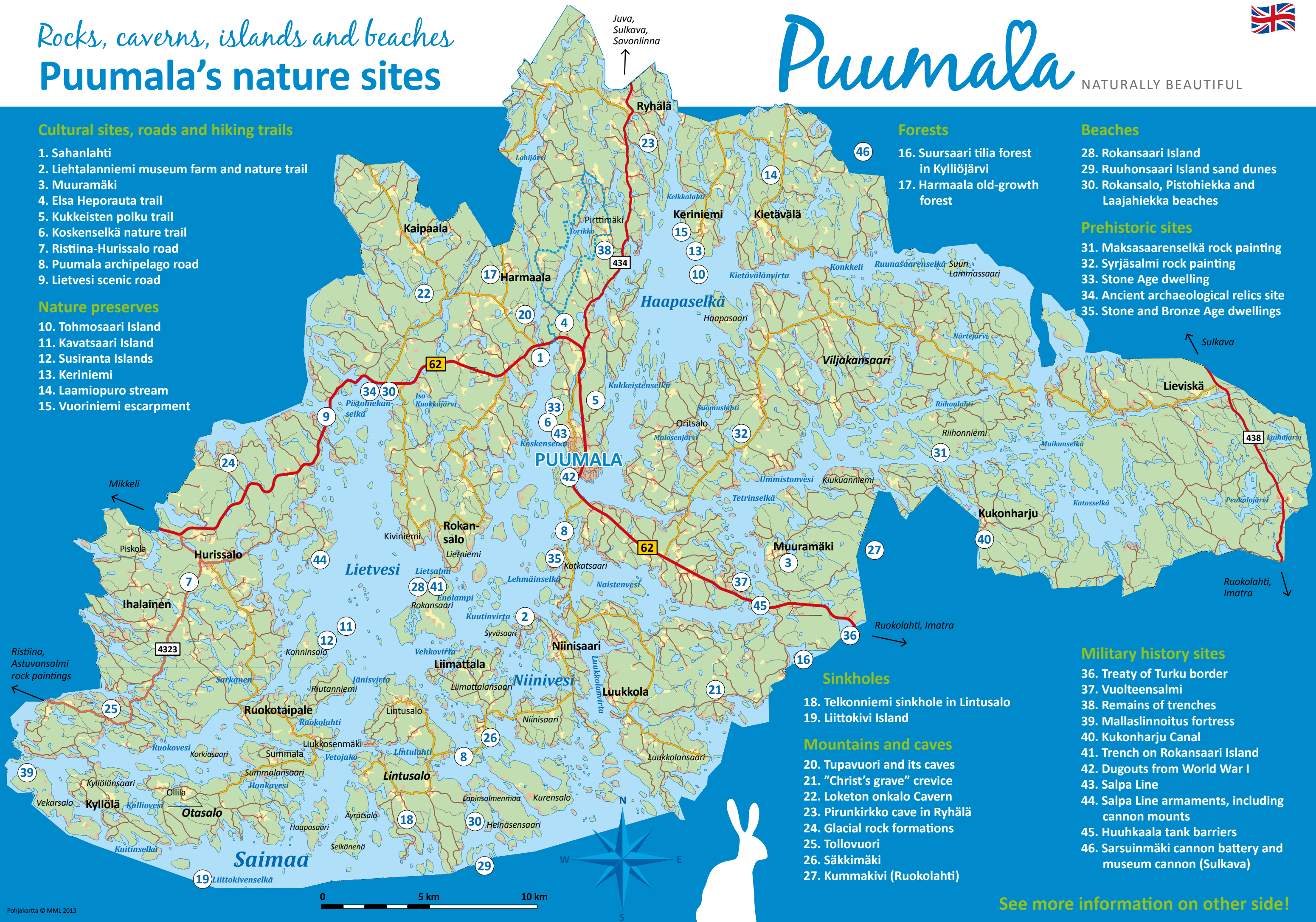
36. Treaty of Turku border
37. Vuolteensalmi
38. Remains of trenches
39. Mallaslinnoitus fortress
40. Kukonharju Canal
41. Trench on Rokansaari Island
42. Dugouts from World War I
43. Salpa Line
44. Salpa Line armaments, including cannon mounts
45. Huuhkaala tank barriers
46. Sarsuimäki cannon battery and museum cannon (Sulkava)

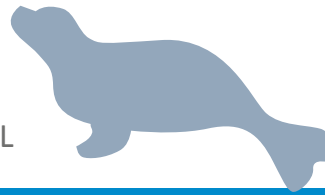
Sinkholes

18. Telkonniemi sinkhole in Lintusalo
19. Liittokivi Island

Mountains and caves

20. Tupavuori and its caves
21. "Christ's grave" crevice
22. Loketon onkalo Cavern
23. Pirunkirkko cave in Ryhälä
24. Glacial rock formations
25. Tollovuori
26. Säkkinmäki
27. Kummakivi (Ruokolahti)





Lietvesi



Glacial rock formations



"Christ's Grave"



Loketon onkalo Cavern

Cultural sites, roads and hiking trails

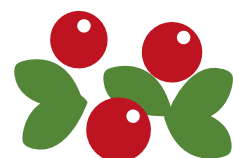
1. **SAHANLAHTI.** The Miettula sawmill was the province's first export sawmill (established in 1765). Timber floating continued until the beginning of the 1950s. Sahanlahti is also the birthplace of writer and founder of Kalevala Koru jewelry Elsa Heporauta. Current travel services see www.sahanlahtiresort.fi
2. **LIEHTALANNIEMI MUSEUM FARM** and a 22-hectare nature preserve is on Niinisaari Island. Visitors' pier, landing place for canoes and nature trail (2 km). Signs from Route 62.
3. **MUURAMÄKI** is a scenic old village site.
4. **ELSA HEPORAUTA TRAIL** (formerly Torikonpolku Trail) is a hiking and off-road biking trail 22 km long that starts at the rest stop on Route 62 in Hylkeenlahti. The trail is of medium difficulty, but hiking equipment, food and a water bottle are recommended as there are no services along the trail. The route is marked with wooden signs. The first part of the trail, up to Kaijansalontie road, is a forest trail where in places you may need to walk your bike. If you start from Pirttimäki, biking goes smoothly. For the final leg of the trail you can use Kaijansalontie road instead of the forest trail. The trail is named after author Elsa Heporauta, who was born in Sahanlahti.

Route description: Around Torikkajärvi Lake, which flows to Lake Saimaa, along old trails, dirt roads and village streets. The landscape varies from dry moraine to damp, deep forests. You can start the hike from the rest stop on Route 62 in Hylkeenlahti or from Pirttimäki. The trail begins across the road from the rest stop. The

trail diverges onto dirt roads in the forest. The first stop at the lakeshore is just before Hiislahti. The trail continues along the shoreline. The route passes by Pirttimäki, where a heated battle in the Gustav III War was fought in 1789. After Pirttimäki the trail joins up with a village street leading to the eastern side of Torikkajärvi Lake and passes by Heinaidanvuori near the shore. The final 4 km leg of the trail takes you along Kaijansalo's local road. There is a lean-to at a resting spot on the western shore of the lake.

A map can be downloaded from www.puumala.fi/activities or purchased from tourist information.

5. **KUKKEISTEN TRAIL** is a hiking trail about 10 km long in Kukkeistensalo. The route is marked with wooden signs. The route is accessible from the northern end of the village fitness track or from Takakuja road (when coming from Koskenselkä from Venetie road). The landscape is a varied pine forest. The marsh portion has duckboards, a resting spot and an outhouse.
6. **KOSKENSELKÄ NATURE TRAIL**
7. **RISTIINA-HURISSALO ROAD**
8. **PUUMALA ARCHIPELAGO ROAD** (22 km) crosses 11 islands. A ferry runs on Hätinvirta (24 hrs).
9. **LIETVESI** is one of Finland's most photographed lake scenes. The causeway weaving through the heart of Lake Saimaa was completed in 1956 and the Lietvesi Bridge replaced ferry transportation in 1985. The road's unparalleled scenery can be seen from Pistohiekka and the observation spot on the Lietvesi Bridge on Route 62.



Nature preserves

10. **TOHMOSAARI ISLAND** Haapaselkä is in part an underwater ridge formed from sand.
11. **KAVATSAARI ISLAND** and the
12. **SUSIRANTA ISLANDS** are beautiful, scenic, crag islands in a seal habitat.
13. **KERINIEMI** is for the most part sand moraine. The area has very few peat grounds and cliffs. Small, peat fields have formed on sheltered shorelines.
14. **LAAMIOPURO STREAM** has diverse marsh flora, including rarities.
15. The **VUORINIEMI** escarpment's upper portion is a vertical stone wall and its lower portion a broad field of rocks. There is a variety of moss on the underside of the rocks that was thought to be extinct in all of Southern Savonia.

Forests

16. At Suursaari on Kyllöjärvi there is a rare **TILIA FOREST**.
17. The Sielusenmäki **OLD-GROWTH FOREST** is located in Harmaala. The site is marked with a Green Gold Cultural Route sign.

Sinkhole and Liittokivi

18. To Telkonniemi **SINKHOLE** in Lintusalo. The route to the Telkonniemi sinkhole in Lintusalo is marked with signs from Miekaniementie road.
19. **LIITTOKIVI** is a rock islet in the middle of the Suur-Saimaa ridge. It also marked the border between Sweden and Russia in the 18th century. A tragic legend explains the rock's name - "liitto", meaning "union" - two young lovers perished when their boat came loose from its mooring and went adrift.

Mountains and caves

20. **TUPAVUORI** and its caves. No marker signs.
21. **"CHRIST'S GRAVE"** crevice in the stone in Luukkola in Karkia. No marker signs.
22. **LOKETONVUORI CREVICE** (approx. 10-13 metres deep and 70 metres long) forms a canyon called Loketon Onkalo. There are wooden step up the cliff-side, and a resting spot. About 5 km from Pistohiekka along Honkajoentie road until the sign at Saarijärvi where the trail runs to the left.
23. **PIRUNKIRKKO CAVE IN RYHÄLÄ.** No marker signs. The mouth of the cave has collapsed in 2014.
24. **GLACIAL ROCK FORMATIONS**, barren rocks in Hurissalo. Sign on Route 62 at the Lomamökki cottages in Reponen.
25. **TOLLOVUORI** in Pukinsalo in Hurissalo. Highest peak above Lake Saimaa 67 metres.
26. **SÄKKIMÄKI** is the archipelago's highest mountain (133 metres above sea level). It once housed a triangulation tower built by the Russians in 1912. No marker signs.
27. **KUMMAKIVI** is a protected area of glacial rocks on the border of Puumala and Ruokolahti that defies gravity. No marker signs.

Beaches

28. **ROKANSAARI** is known for its excellent sandy beaches. You can admire fresh-water ponds and lush ridge views from the island's trails. At different elevations on Rokansaari Island there are current and ancient seawalls, some even thousands of years old. The Rokansaari holiday area (25 hectares) has six "retro cottages" built in the 1950s and 1970s, a visitor's marina, camp-fire spots and a sauna. In

summer, Café Mallun kahvila is open in the former Rokansalo full-board cottage. www.saimaanvirkistysalueyhdistys.fi

29. **RUUHONSAARI ISLAND** has excellent sand dunes.
30. **SANDY BEACHES** in Pistohiekka, Rokansalo and Laajahiekka (Heinäsaari Island) are perfect places to sunbathe.

Prehistoric sites

31. There are **ROCK PAINTINGS** on Makasaari Island. Not marked with signs.
32. The **SYRJÄSALMI ROCK PAINTING** is located in Valtola. Signs from Viljakansarentie road, forest trail about 300 metres. A total of eight rock paintings have been found in Puumala. Additional information at www.puumala.fi/sightseeing.
33. **A STONE AGE DWELLING** is located near the northern end of the Koskenselkä ridge camp site near the village.
34. Pistohiekka has a Bronze Age **ARCHAEOLOGICAL RELIC SITE** and its dwellings. It also has Puumala's only ruins of stone structures, an ancient burial place that has been partially destroyed.
35. Kotkatlahti also has a **STONE AND BRONZE AGE DWELLING**.

Military history sites

Puumala has often been the site of battles between Russian and Sweden.

36. The **TREATY OF TURKU BORDER** (1743) ran more or less along Route 62, the current border of South Savonia and South Karelia.
37. The first shot in the Gustav III War was fired in **VUOLTEENSALMI** in 1788.
38. One of the battles of the Gustav III War was fought in **PIRTTIMÄKI**. The site has remnants of trenches. No marker signs.

39. Remnants of the **MALLASLINNOITUS FORTRESS** from the late 18th century are located at the northern tip of Vekarsalo Island near the Ristiina border.

40. The **KUKONHARJU CANAL**, built under the leadership of General Suvarov in the 1790s, was part of a chain of fortresses to defend Russia's western border. The canal is about 600 metres long and is marked by a National Board of Antiquities sign, historic trail and resting spot. Signs to the canal from Route 62.

41. There is a World War I **TRENCH** in Tillikanmäki on Rokansaari.

42. At the beginning of Virrantaustie road there are **DUGOUTS** made by the Russians during World War I.

43. The **SALPA LINE** is a World War II defensive line, which in the end never needed to be used. Building of the Salpa Line was started after the Winter War. It includes six concrete dugouts right in the centre of Puumala. The site at Pappilantie 2 is open to the public.

44. In Jänniemi there are **SALPA LINE ARMAMENTS**, including fortress-cannon mounts.

45. **HUUHKAALA** has tank barriers built after the Winter War (1939-1940).

46. A Salpa Line fortress's **CANNON BATTERY** along Hirviniementie road in Sulkava. The cannon battery was built 1940, and it was the 30th of its' kind in Finland. Signs from Kietäväläntie.

Puumala tourist information
+358 50 562 0706

Puumala marina information
+358 400 929 365

Emergency police / fire / rescue number 112