



Puumala

Located in the heart of the Saimaa region

- 1000 islands, 3000 km of shoreline
- Archipelago cycling route 60 km
- Saimaa Seal Trail hiking path
- Saimaa Unesco Geopark nature sites
- Unique countryside restaurants
- Diverse sauna experiences
- Atmospheric lakeside resorts
- Sustainable nature activities

A warm welcome to Puumala!

Sustainable nature travel in heart of the Lake Saimaa, Puumala



Puumala - a perfect nature destination

Explore the hidden treasures of Finnish Lakeland in its most beautiful part! In Puumala you can enjoy many of Saimaa Unesco Geopark nature sites cycling, canoeing and hiking around. With a good luck you can spot the rare Saimaa ringed seal! You will get to know the Lakeland lifestyle, while tasting local delicacies in lakeside restaurants & enjoying traditional sauna experiences.

Location

Puumala is located in the middle of the Lake Saimaa, just 300km (3,5h) from Helsinki. You can reach us by private or public transport. We can offer unique experiences for a whole week or a shorter stay - around the year.

Nature

This area is well known for the lakeside nature. That's the reason why we have 4000 holiday cottages in our municipality of 2000 people. When you'll arrive to Puumala, there are wonderful Geopark & nature sites everywhere.

Routes

Lietvesi scenic road, one of the most beautiful in Finland, will surely make lifetime memories. Puumala Archipelago route has 60km ring route to explore by bike. There are also many fascinating canoeing routes on lake labyrinth.

Saimaa ringed seal

One of the rarest animals in Finland can be spotted in Puumala. With a good luck, you might see it while hiking along Saimaa seal trail with fascinating scenery and cozy lean-to. We recommend seal tour cruises by ecoboat.

Local food

Puumala is famous for the lakeside restaurants in the area. There are several places where you can enjoy traditional recipes or innovative food experiences made from local ingredients. Not to forget the view and lakeside surroundings!

Sauna experiences

An evening sauna is the essential part of stay in Saimaa region. Puumala has unique range of lakeside saunas - even the ice sauna in winter!



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Live like a local in
Lakeland - explore the
nature in sustainable way!

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Pistohiekka Resort - wood architecture

Pistohiekka is one of the finest beach resorts at the shores of Lake Saimaa. Come and enjoy magnificent nature and great architecture in the middle of Lake Saimaa labyrinth archipelago! The resort consists of 2 main buildings, sauna & restaurant, and 10 cottages. The beach restaurant with a fantastic lake view is famous for its wood architecture and a popular attraction of its own right.

Location

Pistohiekka is part of Saimaa UNESCO Global Geopark - surrounding nature is uniquely beautiful and there is a lot of things to do! You But, of course, there is nothing wrong with just relaxing and enjoying the scenery.

Nature

This area is well known for the natural sandy beaches, where you can go hiking, swimming or for a picnic. Archipelago of Lake Saimaa is at its best here - it offers perfect scene for kayaking, sup-boarding or cycling.

Architecture

In a rocky cove surrounded by trees, the resort consists of two square buildings that house a restaurant and saunas. Studio Puisto has planned both buildings with an oculus-like forms, designed to "invite the scenery in".

Restaurant

We offer you the best of the local food in a truly unique atmosphere. The menu is adjusted to the seasons - there is always a plenty of fish available. Menu is based on local products and most of our food supplies come from D.O. Saimaa qualified producers

Sauna

There are two saunas with lake views from their large seating-height windows. Lake Saimaa is always beautiful, but particularly on calm summer evenings. From the heat of the sauna, it is easy to dip into the pristine clear water.

Adverento travel

Adverento Travel is a co-founder of the resort - it offers guided nature tours for international travellers. Tours include some transport by a private minibus, essentially they are active holidays with days full of nature activities.



www.pistohiekka.fi
info@pistohiekka.fi





Lakeland GTE - guide, tours & events

If you are looking for a nature adventure or outdoor activity - Lakeland GTE provides you guided tours and activities in Puumala by lake Saimaa. The specialties in summertime are lake cruises and tours by nature-friendly Ecoboat or fast motorboat. In winter time you can try new electric Snowscooter safaris, Geopark snow shoe trips, ice fishing and Arctic Ice floating experiences. Guide Arto Keinänen has lifelong experience and will give the best service for you. Let's go and explore Lakeland!

Location

Lakeland GTE offers a wide range of different experiences in varying departure points depending on the activity: center of Puumala, Sahanlahti Resort, Okkola holiday cottages, Saimaa Seal Trail or Pistohiekka Resort.

Saimaa Seal Watching Cruises

Experience the beauty of lake Saimaa and spot rare Saimaa Ringed Seal! Ecoboat is weather-proof, comfortable, quiet & environmental-friendly. Join captain Arto on a cruise and you'll get a great and relaxing nature experience, and with some luck see a rare Saimaa Seal safely

Summer Tours

Saimaa story cruise by ecoboat, Geopark picnic cruise, wild food cruise, fishing tours and trips to Rokansaari paradise island - there's a lot to choose from! With the help of experience guide you can get the best out of Puumala & adventures on the lake labyrinth of Saimaa.

Winter Activities

Starting from autumn sunset cruises during the most colourful time Lakeland GTE has a lot to offer round the year! When the temperature cools down, it's time to put a drysuit on and explore the ice floating - Saimaa on the rocks!

Snowshoe fun is a great way for a Geopark adventure in wintertime. Ice fishing trip is a Finnish tradition. Our novelty is a safari by electric snow scooters - the winter adventure!

Group programs

The guide Arto is happy to make offers for group activities & organize safe and exciting programs to the wild with a personal friendly touch! Get insights to local life, surroundings, culture and history from your personal guide.



www.lakelandgte.fi
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Sahanlahti Resort - artisan food & view

Sahanlahti is a prestigious and traditional tourist destination with a magnificent location in Puumala. The unique, cultural-historically invaluable sawmill environment on the shore of Lake Saimaa creates a fantastic setting for holidays and festivities. Host couple Jaana & Janne will take care of you while you visit Sahanlahti Resort. Step in and enjoy your stay!

Location

Sahanlahti is an old sawmill village full of stories, located next to a small river between two lakes. Nowadays Sahanlahti is home to a wide range of tourism services - the resort is open round the year offering experiences.

Restaurants

We are famous for the artisan food made of local ingredients in our 3 restaurants. The view of Lake Saimaa opening up from the terrace of the Koskivahti restaurant has been described as the most beautiful in Finland!

Saunas

In Sahanlahti you can truly enjoy the sauna tradition! There's a traditional smoke sauna, Artturi-sauna with hot tubs, old-fashioned Niskalampi wooden sauna with stairs to the lake, and last but not least - ice sauna in winter!

Activities & events

Sahanlahti stays active all year round! We offer a wide range of programmes, equipment rental and activities. In our events calendar, you will find weekly and monthly programmes, as well as one-off events - concerts, dinners etc.

Accommodation

We have diverse personal and cozy options for accommodation. Stay in our wooden lakeside hotel, enjoy in modern villas, or experience the magic of summer night in traditional side accommodation.

We can accommodate a total of 60 people, and in addition for 30 people within a short walk from the resort.

In summer 2023 we'll open our new luxurious Elsanranta villas right next to the lake Saimaa.



www.sahanlahtiresort.fi
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Okkola holiday cottages & Niinipuu

Where can you go enjoy a genuine peace and tranquility? This is the place! At Okkola holiday cottages on Niinisaari island in Puumala, you can spend a holiday surrounded by the ruggedly beautiful nature of Lake Saimaa and enjoy the peace of the wilderness. Restaurant Niinipuu is located at owner-family's old farmhouse. 17 unique rental cottages and villas offer everything you need to enjoy the perfect holiday. Welcome to a happy place!

Location

Niinisaari is located 11km from the centre village of Puumala. On your way to Okkola, you will experience a short free ferry ride to enter the island. In this area you can truly enjoy the nature - in a small village neighbors aren't near.

Nature

Next to Okkola's farmhouse, there's a Metso well-being trail. On the harvest season you can pick berries or mushrooms and try fishing. On the same island you can also find a museum farm and a nature reserve in Liehtalanniemi.

Restaurant Niinipuu

Restaurant Niinipuu offers local Finnish food in the atmospheric old barn. You are welcome to taste our delicacies, such as rye-crust blueberry pie! Depending on the season and the catch, the restaurant may serve whitebait caught the previous night in Lake Saimaa or chanterelles picked from Niinisaari. Our speciality is plank-roasted local rainbow trout.

Karelian pie workshop

In this workshop you'll discover the old art of making tasty Karelian pies! The hostess, Paula, will guide you through the knicks and knacks of baking these traditional delicacies with old family recipes. Visitors will also experience a genuine Finnish country home and will learn about rural entrepreneurship, local flavours and genuine eastern hospitality.

Activities

Our area is full of archipelago activities! Saimaa Seal Watching cruises with ecoboat depart from Okkola's pier. You can find Saimaa Canoeing & Hanhiniitty smithy from the neighbour. And of course, each of our holiday cottages have their own rowing boat & sauna!



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Saimaa Canoeing & Hanhiniitty smithy

Explore the hidden treasures of Finnish Lakeland in its most beautiful part! In Puumala you can enjoy many of Saimaa Unesco Geopark nature sites cycling, canoeing and hiking around. With a good luck you can spot the rare Saimaa ringed seal! You will get to know the Lakeland lifestyle, while tasting local delicacies in lakeside restaurants & enjoying traditional sauna experiences.

Location

Saimaa Canoeing & Hanhiniitty Smithy are located in the same courtyard in Niisaari island, within a short distance from Okkola holiday cottages & Liehtalanniemi museum farm. Here you can start exploring various parts of Saimaa.

Guided tours

A guided tour is a safe way to go - the guide will help you to enjoy the surrounding nature and tell you stories about the local lakeside life. Our trips have variable lengths and levels. We organize them at any time throughout the seasons. Just pick up the best route for you!

Paddling routes

We have planned the exclusive routes, which include overnight stays on designated cabins and campsites. This makes your self-guided paddling trip easy and safe! Would you like to try Saimaa Seal route, Katosselkä, Canal tour or maybe head to the Rokansaari paradise island?

Courses & rental

We offer paddling courses for equipment and technique to help you to start safely and smoothly. We have a wide range rental gear. Our jewel is the cool winter paddling course! Ice canoeing with a drysuit is truly unforgettable.

Hanhiniitty Smithy

Welcome to Hanhiniitty Smithy - here you can take a part in the tradition of making your own knife! In the selection of blacksmith, you can find e.g. handmade knives, kitchen knives, hiking axes. In our courses, you can forge yourself and experience the craft tradition!

Hammering & forging workshops and courses can be organized for groups. How about "Chef's knife course" or "A Day as a Blacksmith"?



www.saimaacanoeing.fi
info@saimaacanoeing.fi





Nestorinranta resort - on a cycling route

This is the meeting point of the Puumala and Saimaa archipelago routes – bicycle ferries operate from Nestorinranta beach. In the middle of the archipelago countryside, we offer accommodation of different types, from tents to villas. We have Nestoris Barn café offering local food, and there's also popular pancake bar on the beach in summer. Our speciality is the Saimaa nature excursion with wine-tasting and local stories about Nestori.

Location

Nestorinranta is located in the southern point of Puumala archipelago. From there you can continue your way by bike to Puumala (60km) or Saimaa (152km) Archipelago Routes. We offer an ideal milieu for boat trips or winter fun.

Accommodation

Villa Hauki is a modern lakeside cottage, which is ideal for fishing lovers. Kauppiaanranta (the "Shopkeeper's shore") is also available year-round. In summertime, there's plenty of choice from camping or glamping to cabins or rooms.

Food

Nestoris Barn café offers local food, and our pancake bar is known for creative fillings. We prepare most of our food ourselves, using ingredients from our gardens, the forest & the lake. Many of our recipes were developed in-house, passed down through the generations.

Experiences

Nestorinranta offers a wealth of experiences in the country and on the lake in every season! There's wide selection of rental equipment, fishing possibilities, animals and different thematic nature trails - all full of experiences.

Legends of Moonshine Tour

This nature excursion will tour in the forest, where you'll hear stories of the Finnish drinking habits & how people made moonshine. And of course, about Nestori, who used to live here and has inspired a legendary song about Saimaa. With different wines you'll experience flavour sensations crafted by a rotisseur chef.

An evening lakeside sauna is perfect ending for the day. Paired with a jacuzzi towards sunset & a kota-hut with large wood-heated grill...



www.nestorinranta.fi
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Guide Tiina - feel the spirit of Saimaa

Experience the most beautiful archipelago waters, home to Saimaa seals & amazing Geopark sites by canoe. Enjoy the nature opening all your senses. Choose from guided nature tours, rental of paddling equipment, canoeing trips & courses and winter activities. Feel the ancient atmosphere spending overnight in Pienniemi Taiga farm. Guide Tiina will introduce you to the spirit of lake Saimaa!

Location

Guide-Tiina offers nature activities in several locations, such as her Pienniemi Taiga farm, new Pistohiekka Resort and other Saimaa Geopark nature destinations - on land & water.

Nature

This area is full of places to see! Have you heard about Haukkovuori cliffs or Lietvesi arhipelago labyrinth? Guide Tiina has an inspirational touch and combines area's cultural heritage, mythology & stories with relaxing nature experiences in this amazing rural environment.

Canoeing

Morning canoeing mindfulness, a kayak trip to the Rokansaari paradise island or canoeing on magical white nights. You can take part on guided day trips or feel the sounds and colors of Saimaa sunset in overnight paddling excursions. With some luck, also the Saimaa ringed seal may be seen on the lake.

If don't have earlier experience – book the ABC of canoeing course and Tiina will teach you.

Pienniemi Taiga farm

Leave modern gadgets behind and simplify your life for a moment by becoming a tenant in a traditional Finnish 19th century farm. Located in the middle of archipelago, in the heart of mountainous terrain. This idyllic destination offers farmhouse, sauna cabin & camping accommodation and opportunity for day trips & retreats in the surrounding nature.

Winter activities

Tiina will help you to enjoy the seasons of the year! Canoeing on a misty lake in autumn is as unforgettable as snowshoeing in crystallized lake or untouched forest in the wintertime!



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Location

Viljakansaari is located in eastern part of Puumala. From the nearby area you can find for example Syrjäsalmi rock paintings, Puumala-Sulkava cycling route and beautiful water to explore by paddling or boat. All of our villas also have a rowboat in your use.

Holiday cottages & cabins

Our accommodation ranges from a traditional Finnish summer cabin for two people to a luxurious well-equipped "Tähti" villa for eight persons. It's your choice!

Surroundings

All our cabins are detached from the neighbours, so you can really get to enjoy tranquility and your own peace. This is a great place to detached from a hurry. The area around the cabins is well-suited for jogging, and for picking berries and mushrooms.

There is also a wooden barbeque hut nearby one of our cottages, where you can enjoy cooking for example your own fish on an open fire. We offer also a catering service.



Loma-Autio holiday cottages & cabins

Welcome to Viljakansaari in Puumala by Lake Saimaa for a relaxing stay at an imposing villa. We serve our guests with 30 years of experience in hospitality, and many of our guests return every year to their favourite place. Each villa has a private sauna, and some have another sauna in a separate building on the lakeshore. Here you can enjoy comfortably all the seasons of Saimaa!

www.loma-autio.net
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Location

Saimas Spinnery is located in the center village of Puumala. Ideal places to stay nearby, when visiting in our spinnery, are for example Okkola holiday cottages or Sahanlahti Resort.

Spinnery

We are one the new companies in Finland that have made a commitment to the Carbon Neutral Textile Industry 2035. Usage of latest technology with director Sanski's lifelong experience and knowledge of wool & spinning tradition the visit even more interesting.

Experiences

Would you like to learn about yarn production? We present the history of spinning with story-telling tours, as well as the current work phase. On the tour, you will also learn what it means to hand card or comb wool.

We organize spinning experience tours for groups of 10 people (at a time). In our production facilities, we also arrange courses and workshops upon request. After a tour, you can also shop in the Spinnery's store. Welcome!



Saimas Spinnery

Saimas Spinnery, based in Puumala, by lake Saimaa, is the start of a new era for the Finnish wool spinning industry. Our comprehensive know-how, experience of the international knitting field, plus the state-of-the-art modern technologies we use, will take the production of Finnish woollen yarns to another level. All our processes are sustainable, environmentally sound and animal-friendly. For the ones interested in handicrafts, this is an essential part of trip to Puumala!



www.saimasspinnery.com
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Saimaa Coop & Saimaa Bikes rental

Explore the lake Saimaa by bike!
Admire the stunning archipelago scenery, cross the open waters by bike ferries, and take a dip in the sparkling water of the finest sandy beaches. Enjoy the relaxed archipelago atmosphere, Finnish sauna experiences and local delicacies along the way. Puumala Archipelago Route Route offers cyclists the best parts of the Lake Saimaa!

Route

The Puumala Archipelago Route offers 60 km of pleasant cycling through islands, bridges and eskers. The route can be explored in one day, but we recommend to divide it into parts to enjoy and spend several days in the area, because there's really a lot to see!

Services

You can rent our bikes or ebikes from several places - there are many starting points around Puumala, as well as many cozy places to stay. There are two ferries on the round route. You will find fascinating Saimaa Geopark & nature sites, local stories, cozy accommodation and tasty food experiences to explore on the way.

Rental equipment

With an electric bike you always ride with the wind behind your back! Pedaling is light and smooth even on longer trips. If you'd like to use just your own muscle strength when cycling around lake Saimaa, without the help of electric motor, take on our hybrid bikes. Bike bags and trailers are also available, and our specialty is an electric Puumala-rickshaw. Choose a suitable model and head to Saimaa!

Saimaa Coop cooperation

We created a cooperative to promote the sustainable development of the Saimaa region. Our philosophy is to combine our capacities and help each other, as people do in countryside.

Together we produce services that also contribute to the possibility of working and living a good life in the Saimaa region. Currently we develop Visit Puumala network, produce tourism support services and run the Saimaa Bikes rental bike network.



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