

Summer bus trips July 1 to August 15

ON TUESDAYS

Discover the wonders of Mäntyharju on a day trip



Embark on a Musical Day Trip to the Wonders of Mäntyharju. Join us for a guided tour to explore the following attractions: Makasiini Shop and Café, Woikoski Feeling, Miekankoski, and optionally, Art Center Salmela, Mäntyharju Church, and the Iso-Pappila Museum Area.

Duration: approx. 7 hours

Price*): €15 (children aged 4-16: €7)

ON FRIDAYS

Day trip to Juva's cultural heritage sites from Mikkeli



Set off on a story-filled day trip to Juva's cultural sites. Join us for a guided tour to explore Pattoi Heritage House, Juva's Stone Church, and the Partala Museum Area. For those who appreciate authentic South Savo culinary delights, there are plenty of opportunities to indulge at TeaHouse of Wehmais, Rapio Mill, and Tertti Manor.

Duration: approx. 8 hours

Price*): €15 (children aged 4-16: 7 €)

Detailed itineraries and tickets: visitmikkeli.fi

* The ticket price does not include refreshments.

We reserve the right to make changes.

Welcome to explore the fascinating habitat of the Saimaa ringed seal on Lake Saimaa!

Saimaa is the largest lake in the Nordic countries and the fourth largest freshwater body in Europe. It covers over 4,400 square kilometers and includes about 14,000 islands. The deepest point of Saimaa, approximately 86 meters, is located in Käenniemenselkä, Yövesi, Ristiina.

The bedrock of the Saimaa region is a remnant of ancient mountains, about 1.9 billion years old, that have since eroded away. The ice ages shaped and refined the lake landscape, dotted with numerous rocky islands. After the last ice age, about 10,000 years ago, the first inhabitants settled in the Saimaa area. Evidence of the lives of ancient hunters can be seen in many rock paintings.

The uniqueness of Saimaa is also reflected in its rare species, such as the Saimaa ringed seal, the landlocked salmon, and the Saimaa Arctic char.

Saimaa ringed seal - the rare treasure of Lake Saimaa

The Saimaa ringed seal is one of the world's rarest seals, found only in Lake Saimaa. These seals became isolated in Saimaa about 8,000 years ago when the connection to the Baltic Sea was cut off due to land uplift.

Curious Saimaa ringed seals explore the islands and can dive for up to 25 minutes at a time, hunting fish such as perch and vendace.

The Saimaa ringed seal is a protected species, and preserving its habitat is crucial for its survival. Today, there are about 450 individuals left. Stories of these seals remind us of the importance of nature and environmental conservation.



visitmikkeli.fi



Weekly trips
from Jun. 4 to Sep. 10

Saimaa
HopOn
HopOff



visitmikkeli

Summer bus and boat trips 2025

- Astuvansalmi rock paintings • Puumala archipelago •
- Cultural heritage sites of Juva • Wonders of Mäntyharju

MIKSEI MIKKELI



South Savo
Regional Council

SAIMAA
GEOPARK
FINLAND



Lake cruises to the Astuvansalmi rock paintings

Take a bus trip and boat tour to the majestic natural beauty of Saimaa and explore the ancient history of the Astuvansalmi Rock Paintings aboard M/S Aino! During the boat trip, you will have ample time to enjoy the beautiful scenery of Lake Saimaa.



The Astuvansalmi rock paintings in Ristiina constitute the largest rock painting site in the Nordic countries, featuring around 80 pictures dating back 5,000–6,000 years. These paintings offer a unique window into the lives and culture of ancient hunter-gatherers. Explore the paintings on guided tours and enjoy the beautiful lakeside scenery!

Wed., Jun. 11, Jun. 25, Jul. 9, Jul. 23, and Aug. 6

From Mikkeli to Varkaantaipale Canal, Astuvansalmi, and Puumala

You can hop on the tour bus in Mikkeli at the bus station, the market square charter stop, or at the Ristiina market square bus stop.

Thu., Jun. 12, Jun. 26, Jul. 10, Jul. 24, and Aug. 7

From Mikkeli and Puumala to the Astuvansalmi rock paintings and Varkaantaipale canal

You can join this tour from Mikkeli or Puumala. For the tour heading to Puumala, you can hop on the tour bus in Mikkeli at the Tbus station or the market square charter stop.

Duration: approx. 10 hours, with approx. 5 hours on the cruise

Price^{*)}: €65 (children aged 4–16 : €25)

^{*)} The ticket price does not include refreshments.

Cruises to the Puumala archipelago

Explore the stunning Puumala archipelago aboard the M/S Kaunis Veera every two weeks during the summer season. The tour bus departs from Mikkeli and travels through Pisto-hiekka and Sahanlahti to Puumala and back. Cruises from the Puumala harbour depart at 11:00 AM. In many locations, you can also swim, so be sure to bring a towel and swimsuit.

Wed., Jun. 4, Jun. 18, Aug. 27, and Sep. 10

Rokansaari and Pistohiekka

Sink your toes into the fine sand, listen to the silence, and feel the nature. The lovely sandy beaches of Rokansaari are perfect for a family swimming trip. You can stay longer on Rokansaari or join us for a visit to Pistohiekka. At the Pistohiekka Resort restaurant, you have the opportunity to enjoy local flavors.

Wed., Jul. 2, Jul. 16, Jul. 30, and Aug. 13

Okkola and Liehtalanniemi

Welcome to Niinisaari, an authentic island village on Lake Saimaa. Restaurant Niinipuu in the Okkola courtyard's stone barn offers local South Savo cuisine made from seasonal ingredients. At the Liehtalanniemi museum farm, you can relax in the enchanting archipelago nature, pet sheep, or listen to the caretaker's stories about the farm's last resident, Liehtalan Jallu.

Thu., Jul. 3, Jul. 17, Jul. 31, and Aug. 14

Rokansaari and Nestorinranta

On this trip, you have the opportunity to spend a summer day on the home waters of the Saimaa ringed seal. Enjoy the day at the paradise island of Rokansaari or visit Nestorinranta, where you can savor pancakes and coffee.

Duration: approx. 10 hours, with approx. 5–6 hours on the cruise

Price^{*)}: 55 € (children aged 4–16 : €20)

Explore the cruises offered by our partners:

M/S Aino • Themed cruises and multiple departures to the Astuvansalmi Rock Paintings. • ainosaimaa.fi

RIB Saimaa • Multiple departures to the historical canals of Kukonharju and Käyhkä, Astuvansalmi rock paintings, and Rokansaari. • ribsaimaa.fi



We reserve the right to make changes.



Take a day trip or enjoy an extended stay at the destination.



Rokansaari – A Paradise on Lake Saimaa

Rokansaari is renowned for its stunning sandy beaches and ridges. Here, you can immerse yourself in the tranquility of nature – the island is a perfect escape for a peaceful holiday. Thanks to its unique natural environment, Rokansaari is part of the Saimaa UNESCO Geopark area. You can admire the island's nature on a day trip.

Green Gold Cultural Route and Glopas App



The forest tells a fascinating story. The Glopas audio guide leads you to fascinating places in South Savo, sharing stories and insights into the Finnish relationship with the forest. You can embark on an audio-guided exploration along the routes of Mäntyharju, Ristiina, Puumala, Sulkava, Savonlinna, and Punkaharju.

Download the free Glopas app from your smartphone's app store.

Routes, schedules, and tickets:
visitmikkeli.fi/en/teema/saimaa-hoponhopoff

