

YOUR GUIDE TO WESTERN UUSIMAA



HISTORY, RECREATION AND SIGHTS

Ab Utbildning
Sydväst 



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Welcome to Western Uusimaa!



Western Uusimaa is fantastic. By its form it is a long region which starts in Kirkkonummi near to Helsinki and goes on to Hanko Cape, the southernmost point of the Finnish mainland.

Whether you are a newcomer or already well acquainted with the region, there is always a lot to see and experience:

- wonderful open-air recreation areas
- magnificent medieval buildings
- interesting churches
- exciting museums

The aim of this guide is to open your eyes to see the wonders of Western Uusimaa. In addition to the attractions presented on the cd-rom, there is much to discover when it comes to services in Western Uusimaa: there are cosy restaurants, nice hotels and interesting shops. Information on opening hours is available on the Internet once you have acquainted yourself with the sights presented on this guide. Welcome!

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1 HANKO - the Sunny South of Finland

The town on the cape stretching into the Gulf of Finland was born from the sea. Hanko was mentioned as a suitable berth already at the end of the 13th century. However, proximity to sea has also meant vulnerability in the times of war, especially after the Russian Tsar Peter the Great drew up general outlines for a maritime fortifications on both sides of the Gulf of Finland in the 18th century. These fortifications would guarantee the safety of his newly built St. Petersburg.

After the middle of the 19th century the Finnish economy developed at a great rate. The fact that maritime transport in wintertime came to a halt after the sea froze was a problem until the eyes fell on Hanko in the south of Finland. Hanko had most ice-free days, and during mild winters no ice at all.

However, a prerequisite for a functioning port was a railway connection. When both of them were built the town of Hanko was founded in 1874.

Today Hanko is a dynamic, pleasant small town with almost 10,000 inhabitants, a flourishing port, magnificent nature with over 30 kilometres of beaches and a history with both interesting and dramatic elements. The newly founded town became an appreciated seaside resort, until 1917 with many guests from Russia. After the Finnish Winter War, Hanko was occupied by the Soviet Union for almost two years.

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...and much more! More detailed information and opening hours available in the excellent tourist brochure of Hanko and on the city's web pages.

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BENGTSKÄR

- the gem of the archipelago



Photo: Olli Hassinen/Bengtskär homepage

On the furthest rock in the archipelago, 25 kilometres southwest of Hanko, towers a magnificent stone building, the lighthouse of Bengtskär. It is built of granite quarried from the very rock on which it stands to direct the seafarers in the treacherous waters where the Baltic Sea changes into the Gulf of Finland. Towering 52 metres above the sea, Bengtskär is the highest lighthouse in the Nordic countries.

Nowadays Bengtskär has a wonderful mixture of unique nature, exciting history and a wide range of services to offer. Bengtskär is an attraction of great importance, with the first lighthouse museum in Finland, interesting exhibitions, a chapel and premises for both accommodation and conferences. One of the lighthouse-keeper homes houses a museum, and in the café Beacon Maiden the visitor can enjoy genuine archipelago dishes and coffee. The view from the top of the lighthouse tower is breathtaking.

The light in the lighthouse was lit for the first time in December 1906. Those working at the lighthouse and their families lived on the island; at the end of the 1930's the number of inhabitants was almost 40 and there was a teacher on the island to teach the children.

When Hanko had been handed over to the Soviet Union after the Finnish Winter War, the lighthouse of Bengtskär became an important reconnaissance and target sighting post with strategic importance. The most dramatic episode in the history of the island took place in summer 1941 when there were fierce battles fought in which over 1,000 Finns and Russians participated. The lighthouse building was badly damaged by a bomb, and it was not until 1950 before the lighthouse was reinaugurated.



Photo: Yvonne Söderström-Rehn / Bengtskär homepage

Contact information:
The latest news available on Hanko City homepage
www.hanko.fi/tourism
or by phone +358 (0)19 2203 411

THE HOUSE OF FOUR WINDS

- a summer restaurant with long traditions



Photo: Aki Salo/Hanko City Tourist Office

There are not many summer restaurants which have been in operation for over a hundred years and where a future field marshal has stood and counted the day's takings. Where the shore promenade starting from Bellevue passes to Pieni Mäntysaari ("Little Pine Island"; in Swedish Lilla Tallholmen) stands the House of Four Winds. The history of the building is as interesting as the views are magnificent and the food and pastries delicious.

Carl Gustaf Mannerheim bought the café on Lilla Tallholmen in 1927 when he himself had a summer villa on Stora Tallholmen just next to Lilla Tallholmen. He first changed the name of the café from Café Africa to the House of Four Winds, and had the building fit up as a French country restaurant. When he returned to the political life first as the chairman of the Defence Council and from 1933 onwards as a field marshal, he sold the enterprise in Hanko.

From 1948 onwards Lauri and Alice Tuominen made the House of Four Winds a success. They were famous for their strawberry cakes, which were greatly appreciated by all post-war generations.

Hanko City nowadays owns the building, which has undergone some reconstruction work. A private company takes care of the restaurant and café operations. The atmosphere is as in the olden days.



Photo: Aki Salo/Hanko City Tourist Office



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Photo: Hans-Erik Nyman /Hanko City Tourist Office

Passing Hanko Cape was a challenge to seafarers, especially in the olden times. Southeast of the cape is the strait of Hauensuoli ("Pike's Guts"; in Swedish Gäddtarmen), which is a sheltering natural harbour, where seafarers could wait for more favourable winds. Today the strait is barely navigable, but the over 600 visible carvings on the Hauensuoli rocks make Hauensuoli a unique historical guest book, which is one of its kind and so precious that it has been proposed by the National Board of Antiquities on the Unesco World Heritage List.

The coats of arms of many famous Finnish and Swedish noble families, various Finnish and foreign owner's crosses and drawings from the Middle Ages to the 20th century are carved in the rocks. There is also the signature of President Urho Kekkonen from 1967 when the cleaned carvings were reinaugurated.

In summertime there are cruises daily to the Hanko archipelago and to Hauensuoli. The cruises leave from the Eastern Harbour in Hanko.



Photo: Hans-Erik Nyman /Hanko City Tourist Office



HANKO SPA PARK

- a unique entity of villas

The Monument of Liberty by the entrance to the Spa Park from Boulevard commemorates the German landing in 1918 which finished the Red control in Hanko. Tellina, one of the beautiful wooden villas, is the closest neighbour of the monument.

There are not many Hanko visitors who do not allow themselves at least a short stroll through the Spa Park. The beautiful old wooden villas in the pine-forest park-milieu are grouped together around the summertime attraction Hangon Kasino and the tennis courts next to magnificent beaches, and the views from the villas open up to the open sea.

Although Hanko was founded especially seafaring in mind, a spa was mentioned in the town charter. The spa was supposed to provide income also in summertime when competition with other ports was fierce. As early as five years after the town had been founded, Hangon Kasino and the Spa were ready to receive guests. The surrounding wooden villas were built for accommodation purposes, but also as summer residences for better-off Hanko inhabitants.

Spa life continued until the Finnish Winter War, which ended with the Soviet annexation of Hanko area. After the wars the Spa and many service buildings were in such a bad condition that they were torn down. The position of Hanko as a summer town is however unchallenged, and the Spa Park still constitutes a unique and well-kept villa entirety, one of its kind in Finland and admired by numerous visitors.

Hanko has become famous for many various kinds of events, for example the Nordic Song Festival, Hanko Theatre Days, the Regatta and Hanko Days.



HANKO FRONT MUSEUM

- original weapons in an authentic environment

The Moscow Peace Treaty in March 1940 signified the end of the Winter War and the beginning of an evacuation to Hanko inhabitants. The area was to be emptied within ten days and handed over to the Soviet Union, which built a powerful naval and air force base there. The border was drawn just east of Lappohja.

On the Finnish side construction work of defence lines across Hanko Cape were immediately begun. They would defend Helsinki, the capital, against an anticipated attack.



Photo: Hanko City Tourist Office

The Front Museum is located right along the main road 25, exactly where the battle line ran when the Continuation War broke out in June 1941. There are plenty of trenches and remains of fortifications of that time. The dugout called Kultainen Rauha ("Golden Peace", in Swedish Gyllyne Freden), which was built by the voluntary battalion from Sweden posted there, has been rebuilt, and it gives an insight into what it was like to live in a dugout under continuous shell fire.

In December 1941 when the Germans had taken over Estonia, the Soviet Union had to empty its base in Hanko. The Finnish forces with the Swedish volunteers in front were able to march to the treacherously mined area.

The Front Museum was built by ex-servicemen and opened in the summer of 1981. By means of special exhibitions the museum strives to deepen the knowledge of the hard years in Finland in 1939-1945, as well as other epochs in the Finnish history.

In Harparskog, not far from the Front Museum, Marshal C. G. Mannerheim thanked the troops 15 December, and there is a well sign-posted memorial stone to commemorate this.

In many places in Hanko there are monuments, guns and defences which remind of the times of war.

Contact information:

The latest news available on Hanko City homepage

www.hanko.fi/tourism

or by phone +358 (0)19 2203 411

The church on Vartiovuori has gone through an extensive transformation since it was consecrated for the first time in November 1892.

Originally the church was a neo-Gothic creation in red brick with high-pointed windows, drawn by Jac. Ahrenberg. However, the salty sea winds did not treat the church well, and it got worse when the Hanko area was occupied by the Soviet Union in 1940-1941. During that time the church was used as a club-house, a theatre and a cinema, and dances were arranged there. Most of the fittings were destroyed, and when the church was consecrated again in 1943 there was still a lot to do.

Architect Bertel Liljeqvist was the person who gave the church its current strictly classical and light appearance. The windows were made smaller, the facade was plastered and a roof-covered stair-well was built. In 1953 it was time to have a new consecration. At that point the closest neighbours, i.e. the Water Tower and the Town Hall which were destroyed during the occupation, had been rebuilt, also according to Liljeqvist's plans. The same architect has designed several other buildings in the modern Hanko.

In the 1970's the church got an annex consisting of a vestry and of a chapel which were united to the church with a glass-covered passage. The organ of the church dates back to 1965, and it is signed by Paul Ott, Göttingen. The chancel window made of glass-mosaic symbolises the Trinity and is an addition from 2004.

The sculpture of Christ dates back to the consecration year 1892. It was donated by the foremost promoter of the church Carl Korsman, and it has had a special place in the hearts of Hanko inhabitants, to such an extent that moving it away from the altar gave rise to a storm of protest which finally ended up in the sculpture being returned to its original place.

The Church of Hanko is a way church in summertime.



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HANKO MUSEUM

- housed in the last fortification



The cultural history museum has its exhibition premises in a granite building dating back to 1792; the building is the only remaining building left from the Hanko fortress. The museum is situated in the Eastern Harbour directly behind the row of old storehouses now housing restaurants.

When Finland came under Russian sovereignty in 1809, the foundation, which had been built already during the Swedish reign, was used to build a two-storey building which functioned as barracks and a warehouse. During the Crimean War in the middle of the 19th century the fortifications were blown up. After that only walls remained of the old barracks. The ruins were offered to Bromarf parish to be used as a church, but they were not interested, and instead the ruins were turned into a warehouse for uncustomed goods in 1882. The building got its current appearance then, and in 1972 it was renovated to house a museum.

Museum collections are presented in special exhibitions throughout the year. The extensive photo archives are housed in the Museum Office located in the City Hall.

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or by phone +358 (0)19 2203 411

The beginning of the spa epoch in Hanko was dominated by Russian visitors, who greatly enjoyed both the milieu and the climate. The fact that there was not an orthodox church was perceived as a shortcoming which the Russian spa visitors soon had put right. The Orthodox Church of Hanko was completed in 1895. It is consecrated to Prince Vladimir and Mary Magdalene.

The orthodox church was used not only as a club-house but also as a horse stable when Hanko was a Soviet military base 1940-1941. Of all the churches in Hanko it was in best condition after the occupation, because the mining behind a propaganda poster next to the church entrance was discovered in time and the church was saved.

Therefore also the Lutheran services were at first held in the orthodox church. Helsinki Orthodox Parish let the church rent-free to Hanko parish.

In Gunnarinranta (in Swedish Gunnarstrand) there is also a Russian cemetery.



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HANKO WATER TOWER

- a fantastic lookout spot

One of the last measures the Russians took before leaving Hanko in December 1941 was to blow up the water tower on Vartiovuori. The water tower, which later was erected on the same spot, rises approximately 65 meters above sea level. The views from the water tower are fantastic. There are binoculars in the tower, which in summertime is open daily.

Bertel Liljeqvist was the architect who drew the water tower plans and gave his touch to the new Hanko which grew up after the wars.



THE CHURCH OF LAPPOHJA

- has a past as a Russian cinema



The Church of Lappohja was built as a chapel for the evangelic movement in 1913. As early as the following year it was first used by Russian and then by German troops. When Hanko was occupied by the Soviet Union, the old chapel functioned as a cinema. After that it was out of use for many years. The first renovation was carried out after Lappohja had been incorporated to Hanko in 1977, and the building was handed over to Hanko parish in 1982. The Church of Lappohja was consecrated in 1984.

MINI-LILIUM

- Carl-Gustaf Lilius' Art Museum



Carl-Gustaf Lilius: Self-portrait

© Irmelin Sandman-Lilius ja Muddle Lilius

Carl-Gustaf Lilius (1928-1998) made a career in many areas of art. He was a painter, sculptor, graphic artist, philosopher, author and poet. Lilius is known e.g. for his female figures. On his many study tours he visited most of the West and East European countries as well as India and Nepal. Lilius had about forty art exhibitions both in Finland and in Sweden, and his works of art can be found in various museums and collections. Lilius was the author of many books, e.g. *Metsytiska boken*, *En roman om tanken*, which came out 1973. Some of his sculptures can be seen in Hanko: *Fågeln* ("The Bird") is in Sibelius Park and *Lenore* in Jussi Lundmark's Park by Esplanaden.

Lilius was an active polemist, who got international attention when he loudly criticised the Soviet authority at a time when Finlandisation was an official secret.

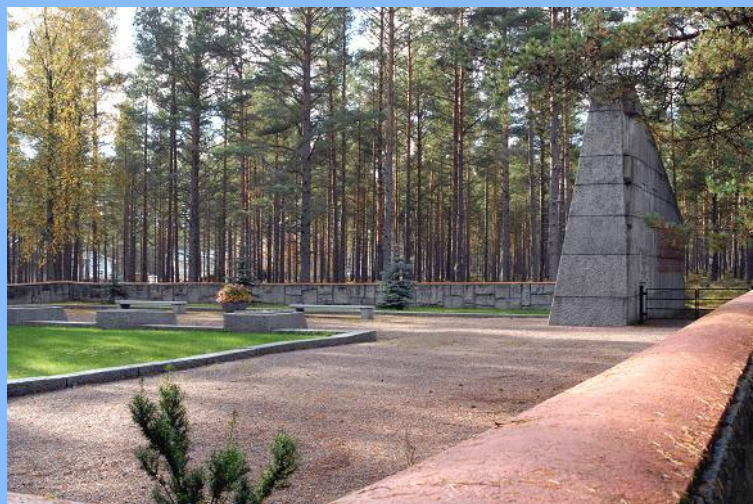
The Museum Mini-Lilius is maintained by the C-G Lilius Foundation. It houses temporary exhibitions from the collections of the Foundation, guest exhibitions, a museum shop and activities for children.

THE SOVIET MONUMENT

- to commemorate those who died in the battles for Hanko



In a pine forest by Täktomintie stands an imposing monument carved in granite. Here have 453 Soviet soldiers their grave. Most of them died in the battles of the Continuation War, but there are also some who missed the Soviet vessels when they left Hanko in December 1941. They died in connection with mine-clearance operations. Of those buried at the monument 267 are unknown; the rest have their names carved in the rock.



Information:

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THE CHAPEL OF TÄKTOM - to commemorate a little girl

When Lucie Vera Paula Gylphe had died, at the age of only two years, her father Carl V. Gylphe had a cemetery chapel built to commemorate her. The chapel was designed by professor Armas Lindgren and architect Bertel Liljeqvist. It was completed in 1920, and has had both Gothic Revival and Baroque as its sources of inspiration. Carl V. Gylphe had grand plans for Täktom, which he wanted to transform to a town with its own root vegetable drying plant, sauerkraut factory and ironworks. He already built a narrow-gauge railway, but bankruptcy soon put an end both to the railway and his plans. The only thing remaining from the Gylphian era is the originally catholic chapel. It was donated by its new owner to Hanko parish in 1936 and consecrated then to a Lutheran church.





Photo: Hango City Tourist Office

It is the harbours which give Hango its distinctive character. The biggest of them is the Western Harbour which together with the Freeport Area on Tulliniemi offers fast connections to many ports on the Continent. Industry and trade in entire Finland use the Hango Western Harbour for export of paper, import of cars and for container and trailer traffic. Russian car importers are among the big customers.

This predecessor of modern traffic and communications has its connections to the emigration to America. During the period 1865-1930 over 400,000 Finns emigrated. Over half of them and tens of thousands of Russians passed through Hango.

The export of butter was from the beginning one of the corner stones for the port of Hango, and in 1909 the new Butter warehouse was completed. It was designed by Gunnar Nyström, a professor and architect, and it was a single-storey building with brick walls clad with local red granite. The Butter warehouse was probably the first building in Finland erected using prefabricated concrete units. The construction work was carried out by the Swedish company Skånska cementgjuteriet, which today is better known by the name Skanska. After butter exports had ceased, the building was used for a long time as a cheese warehouse. At the beginning of the 21st century it was converted into a passenger terminal for Superfast Ferries. Today, for example the harbour office and a lunch restaurant are located there.

Contact information:

The latest news available on Hango City homepage

www.hango.fi/tourism

or by phone +358 (0)19 2203 411

Municipality Raseborg changes the map - not the names

On 18 June 2007 the historical decision was made to create a new municipality with 28,000 inhabitants, based on Ekenäs, Karis and Pohja. As from 1 January 2009 these three municipalities will thus form one joint municipality called Raseborg. They will, however, keep their separate identities and use the old place-names also after that.



- offers an abundance of cultural activities

Ekenäs was granted its town charter by King Gustavus Vasa in 1546; however, formally the town was founded already in 1528. After a number of amalgamations, Ekenäs nowadays consists also of Tenala, Bromarf and Snappertuna, and is one of the most extensive towns in Finland with an area of about 1,715 square-kilometres.

Tenala has been inhabited for at least 4,000 years, and the ancient market Tuna was located in Snappertuna.

The Ekenäs Old Town with street names such as Linvävaregatan (Linen Weaver's Street) and Snickaregatan (Carpenter's Street) remind of the olden times when Ekenäs was a little fishing village with a high self-sufficiency rate. In the Old Town there is still a pillory left where criminals used to be punished.

In Ekenäs the two elements, earth and water come together in the form of a wonderful archipelago. The total shoreline is over 1,500 kilometres and offers good opportunities for open-air recreation.

The school town Ekenäs has today about 14,700 inhabitants, and 82.2 percent of them have Swedish as their mother tongue which makes Ekenäs one of the most Swedish-speaking towns in Finland. Sydväst Polytechnic of Applied Sciences is the most recent addition to the educational establishments. Ekenäs offers a lot of cultural activities, and e.g. Ekenäs Summer Concerts and Bokkalaset, a feast for all who love literature, attract visitors from all over the country.

Every part of Ekenäs has its own charm. Stroll along the oldest pedestrian street, Kungsgatan (King's Street) on a beautiful Saturday morning and enjoy the atmosphere of the small shops and the market place. Be it summer or winter, autumn or spring, Ekenäs is unique.

THINGS TO SEE AND DO IN EKENÄS:

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- The Nature Park Hagen-Ramsholmen-Högholmen, *card 20*
- Ekenäs Old Water Tower, *card 21*
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BROMARF HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

- incredible how slim a maid-in-waiting's waist was

How is it possible that she was so slim? This is what the visitors to the Bromarf homestead museum ask themselves when they see the dress Venny Nordlund, a lady from Bromarf, wore when she was a maid-in-waiting at the Tsar Alexander III's court in St Petersburg.

There are also a lot of other things to see in the museum which is located in the old parish hall situated in the centre of Bromarf on a ridge between two bays. The old parish hall dates back to the 1850's. The village comes into life during the summer months and has diverse facilities to offer especially by the small archipelago information office located near the museum.

In the museum there are artefacts which describe the life in a parish in the archipelago where both seafaring and fishing were integral means of livelihood. Bromarf local folklore society owns the museum, which is usually open on the five liveliest summer Saturdays from Midsummer onwards. Otherwise the museum is open by agreement.



Photo: Per Lindgård

BROMARF CHURCH

- was rebuilt immediately after the fire



Photo: Sraffan Söderlund

On a winter night year 1979 the 18th century Bromarf Church was destroyed by fire. The parishioners immediately started to work on a new church which was consecrated already in 1981. The Carl-Johan Slotte architect's office was responsible for the plans, and the majority of the labour was from the village.

The parish of Bromarf is the smallest of the four parishes belonging to the Ekenäs Parish Union, but it is a very active parish, especially during summer when there is a succession of high-class concerts.

The altarpiece is designed by the artist Kaarina Heikinheimo from Vasa.

A trip to Ramsholmen in the springtime when wood anemones flower is a tradition both for people living in Ekenäs and for others who are thrilled by this unique experience. The area is an attraction which can be enjoyed throughout the year. The park area Hagen-Ramsholmen-Högholmen is the largest open-air activities area in the centre of Ekenäs, and has a very rich flora and fauna seldom seen in other parts of Finland. The park covers an area of approximately 55 hectares (Högholmen 11, Ramsholmen 14, Gåsören 2 and Hagen 28 hectares).

Ekenäs belongs plant-geographically to the Central European deciduous forests area which is characterized by hardwood species. Deciduous woodlands on Ramsholmen and in Hagen belong to the most magnificent and lush ones in southern Finland. It is typical for deciduous woodland that its appearance varies a lot depending on the season.

Spring is a gorgeous season with several blooming species, e.g. wood anemone, corydalis, yellow wood-anemone, lesser celandine, yellow star-of-Bethlehem and lilies of the valley. When the trees have put out leaves, the forest becomes shadowy and the spring flowers are replaced by e.g. big ferns, grass and narrow-leaved plants. Autumn is full of colours and the micro-organisms of the earth turn fallen leaves into nutritious soil. In winter the dark tree-trunks stand out beautifully against the sky.

Ramsholmen and Hagen have a flourishing bird life due to the exceptionally lush deciduous woodland vegetation. The bordering bays with their reed areas and the lush bushes along the shore are important breeding places for many species.

There are many paths which are perfect for walking, jogging and cycling to choose from. An excursion guide with a map is available at the tourist information.

Hagen-Ramsholmen-Gåsören and Högholmen is a natural conservation area; the rules and regulations to be followed are available on the notice boards.



Photo: Ekenäs Tourist office/ Viveca Blomberg

Hagen-Ramsholmen-Högholmen
Snäcksundsvägen

Information and excursion guides: Ekenäs Tourist Office, Rådhusorget
Tel. +358 (0)20 619 2100
www.ekenas.fi

EKENÄS OLD WATER TOWER

- enjoy the views from above

If one wants to have a good general view of Ekenäs with all its parks and the water areas surrounding the town, climbing up the 164 steps to the Old Water Tower is worth the effort. The Old Water Tower is situated on the centrally located Kvarnbacken which lies between Torngatan (Tower Street) and Larssongatan.

The Old Water Tower is 35.2 metres high but rises 60 metres above the sea level. Fairly comfortable stairs lead up to the room under the water reservoir, and from there one can take the stairs along the reservoir and finally the spiral stairs up to the outlook balcony.

The Old Water Tower was built in 1930 of red bricks according to the plans drawn by architect Ragnar Wessman. It was used as a water tower up till 1977. Nowadays it serves as an outlook tower. The keys are available at the Tourist Office.



Photo: Ekenäs tourist office / Eva Tordera-Nuño

Old Water Tower
Kvarnbacken

Information and excursion guides: Ekenäs Tourist Office, Rådhusorget
Tel. +358 (0)20 619 2100
www.ekenas.fi

EKENÄS CHURCH

22

- grey granite in the styles of baroque and neo-classicism

Ekenäs Church, which lies close to the town centre, is unique in the sense that it is the only church in Finland which was built of grey granite in baroque style. The initiator Gustaf Adolf Leijonhufwud grew to like the baroque style on his voyages in Europe. He never got to see the church finished as the construction work was begun in 1653 and he died already in 1656. But his heir Gustaf Mauritz Leijonhufwud managed to complete the construction of the church which at that point had continued, on and off, for twenty years. The church was praised by the bishop Johannes Gezelius as the biggest and most beautiful church in Finland, second only to the Turku Cathedral.

But the joy was short-lived. The devastating fire in 1821 destroyed a big part of the town, and also damaged the church where the church tower bells fell down and were broken as they hit the floor of the church porch. Charles Bassi was responsible for the plans for the reconstruction of the church, and as the prevailing fashion at that time was neo-classicism, the church appearance changed completely.

The damaged church bells were sent to Reval (Tallinn) where they were cast together into one bell. The altarpiece, which was saved from the fire, is one of the most valuable artefacts in the church. The altarpiece dates back to the 18th century. The artist has been inspired by Cornelis de Vos' the mourning of Christ motive. There are also artefacts in the church dating back to the 17th century.

The main entrance to the west is decorated by the coat of arms of the count Leijonhufwud, and the names of Gustaf Adolf and his countess are cut in sandstone.



Photo: Anders Lindström

Ekenäs Church
Lilla Kyrkogatan 3
Tel. +358 (0)19 241 1060
www.enksf.fi/ekenasforsamling/

- presenting the Exhibition Hall, the Commoner's House and the Photographer's Studio

The visitor should definitely reserve enough time to visit the museum courtyard in the centre of the town. There are three exhibitions which are completely different from each other.

The original Exhibition Hall was built already in 1963, and it is designed by architect Ola Hansson. An extension drawn by architect Kasper Järnefelt was built in 2005. The Exhibition Hall now houses a permanent exhibition on the history of the town and the region.

The majestic yellow-painted two-storey building is the Commoner's House, a Gustavian town-house from the 1790's. Here one can learn how a wealthy bourgeoisie watchmaker and alderman lived on the 19th century. The rooms are furnished in Gustavian, late Biedermeier and Neo-Rococo styles. The row of outhouses painted in red includes everything from a farm-hand's quarters and a baking cottage to an outdoor toilet, and is certainly worth a visit.

The so-called Lindblad's House at the other end of the museum courtyard houses a Photographer's Studio. It demonstrates a small-town photographer's working facilities around 1950. The premises consist of a studio, a darkroom and a shop, and furthermore there is a small camera exhibition.



Photo: Ekenäs museum / Nina Andersson

- acquaint yourself with the archipelago

On the way out to the extended Ekenäs Archipelago National Park in the archipelago, a visit to the Ekenäs Visitor Centre can be very useful. The National Board of Forestry has fit up the Visitor Centre in a 160-year-old salt storehouse which in the 1970's housed a well-known disco and had the Restaurant Knipan as its closest neighbour.

Films, exhibitions and a "dry" aquarium offer concrete information on the life in the archipelago, on animals and plants and on the importance of proceeding carefully when visiting the archipelago.

There are 50 seats in the auditorium, and the performances are free of charge and can be booked in advance.

In the Visitor Centre there is also a playroom where children can read books, draw, potter about and play games.



Photo: Ekenäs tourist office / Kari Palsila

EKENÄS ARCHIPELAGO NATIONAL PARK

- with Jussarö as a historical pearl

The Ekenäs Archipelago National Park was founded in 1989, and it comprises 52 square-kilometres. The National Board of Forestry administers the area.

The national park stretches from the open sea as far as to the inner archipelago. The park consists of e.g. the islands Älgö, Fladalandet, Modermagan and Jussarö. Private land and water areas within the park boundaries are not part of the national park and the park regulations do not thus apply to those areas. For information about the park, see Ekenäs Visitor Centre, card 22.

Rödjans fishing port with its service buildings has become a popular spot to go ashore. Even more visitors are attracted by the historically interesting Jussarö, which in 2005 was opened to the public and in summertime offers services which include a café, sauna and guest boat jetty. Bed and breakfast accommodation is one of the novelties, and guided sightseeing tours can be arranged. Jussarö Port is also equipped for the emptying of boats' septic tanks.

Jussarö has always been well-known among seafarers, both as a base and a place where to rest, but also for the magnetic disturbances which can be seen in compasses. In the beginning of the 19th century the first attempts were made to reach the iron deposits under Jussarö, and a new, fairly short-lived attempt was made in the 1960's.



Photo: Hans-Erik Nyman

- most magnificent in the whole region



Photo: Ekenäs tourist office / Eva Tordera-Nuño

The Raseborg Castle Ruins are situated on a rock alongside the Raseborg River. The exact year of construction is unknown, but the castle was probably built in the 14th century to defend the Swedish interests in the area. In the olden times the rock was still surrounded by water, and the waterway lead further towards Karis and into the country. The castle was deserted in the 1550's.

Raseborg is commonly regarded as the most magnificent monument in the whole region. There is no other castle of its kind in Finland, but at the end of the 19th century the ruins were on their way to disappear entirely. The decline was stopped, and the castle is now as well restored as it is possible without detailed information on its former appearance.

The castle ruins nowadays host a number of activities which include e.g. Midsummer celebrations, old markets, high-quality concerts and theatrical performances. By the theatre platform the old governor of the castle's cottage (Slottsknektens stuga) houses a café.

- this is how people lived in the archipelago

There is a winding path called the Love Path (Kärleksstigen) in the forest leading from the Raseborg Castle Ruins towards Snappertuna Folk Museum in Snappertuna village. The museum, which was opened in 1958, shows how people lived in an archipelago homestead around the middle of the 19th century. The museum consists of a main building, the oldest part of which is from the 18th century, of a loft, a food store, a larder, a seine shed, a privy, a barn and a smithy. All the buildings have been moved to the spot from elsewhere.

The Snappertuna Folk Museum is the result of the huge effort of the Snappertuna archaeological society, the Ekenäs headmaster Einar Öhman being the driving force during the first years. The museum is nowadays maintained by the City of Ekenäs.



Photo: Ekenäs museum / Nina Andersson

SNAPPERTUNA CHURCH

- with paintings from the 18th century



The construction of Snappertuna Church was completed in 1689. There is a chandelier hanging in the church as reminiscence of those times. It was a penance gift: it was made by a blacksmith who had stolen timber from the church construction site.

The paintings which decorate the pulpit and the galleries are somewhat newer. The parish painter and the clerk Gustav Graan made them in the 18th century and gave thus the church its character for centuries to come. The apostles, the reformers Luther and Melanchthon and the predecessors of the Reformation Hus and Savonarola are all portrayed in the gallery. In the middle there is a picture of Virgin Mary in front of a church. This may be the only picture of the church showing how it looked like before it was altered at the end of the 18th century and raised by eight rounds of logs.

The bell tower was built in 1776, and the organ was built in 1884. The church has been successively refurbished, and the latest renovations restored the interior with its original balanced colour scheme.

The exterior of the Snappertuna Church has inspired the artist Helene Schjerfbeck, and it is her piece of work which adorns this card.



Photo: Pentti Raunio

- an entire museum courtyard and premises for feasts



Tenala homestead museum in the village of Tenala is owned by the Tenala Housewives Association (marthaförening). The museum consists of an entire museum courtyard which has been built around a dwelling-house dating back to 1850, which stands on its original site. The house is surrounded by a storehouse, a loft, a smithy and the parish old loan storehouse from the 18th century. The latest addition to the museum buildings is line of kilns, i.e. a line with a threshing house, a loft and a barn.

Various organizers arrange feasts in the yard and the museum is open then; otherwise it is open by agreement.



Photo: Gun Lundsten

Tenala homestead museum
Sockenvägen 7

Tel. +358 (0)19 245 0956, +358 (0)400 92 8562 or +358 (0)19 245 0155
www.ekenas.fi/museum/tammisaari.htm

- with an organ celebrating its 120th jubilee year

There is varying information also on when the church in Tenala was built. What is certain is that the current grey granite church was preceded by a wooden church, and that the vestry constitutes the oldest part of the church. It has been concluded that the wooden church existed already before the 13th century and that the vestry was part of it. The vaults of the today's church were built in the 15th century. It was Petrus Murator from Kimito who was responsible both for this job and for some of the vaults in the Turku Cathedral.

Tenala Church is probably consecrated to Saint Olof. Triumph crucifix in the choir arch and the statue of Saint Olof both date back to the 14th century. The small bell in the bell tower is from the 12th century and together with the bell in the Eckerö Church on the Åland Islands they are the oldest church bells in Finland.

The walls of the church are decorated by 25 coats of arms which have belonged to noble families. The organ from 1887-1888 bears number 56 of the organs Z.A. Zachariassen built in Uusikaupunki. The organ has been renovated before its 120th jubilee year.



Photo: Tenala church

VÄSTERBY OUTDOOR RECREATION CENTRE - don't miss the Forest of the Trolls Tour



Photo: Ekenäs tourist office

Västerby Outdoor Recreation Centre comprises 1,500 hectares of varied grounds which you can freely try out in different combinations. There are several hiking routes and skiing tracks, an orienteering course and a skiing centre with an artificial snow course. The illuminated skiing track of app. 3 kilometres is a sawdust track in the summer.

Västerby Storträsk with its even rocky shores and Grabbskog Storträsk are parts of the area, as well as Långmossen which is an undrained swamp and will so remain. Many water birds breed in the area, e.g. the whooper swan and black-throated diver.

The Forest of the Trolls Tour is a guided tour along even paths or in a more challenging terrain with beautiful views over forests and small lakes. A luxurious picnic meal is included in the price. It is possible to have a swim or fish in the clear water; in wintertime the tour is made on skis. The programme can be ordered via the Tourist Office.

- see the persons and the instruments

In the basement of the Western Uusimaa Hospital one can meet a seemingly lifelike surgeon carrying instruments in his hands. But the surgeon is a doll, who wears the clothes of one of the retired hospital surgeons. A number of hospital employees are portrayed in this way and more will be soon on display. There are plenty of portraits as well as whole instrument sets and equipment which have been used in the past.

The Hospital Museum was established at the Länsi-Uusimaa Hospital in 1993. Since 1995 it has functioned in bigger and more modern premises. The museum gives a comprehensive picture of how nursing has developed. The focus of the collections is on the period 1950-1980. There is a cafe at the hospital.

The museum is open by agreement.



Photo: Ekenäs museum / Nina Andersson

- an important traffic junction for centuries

It all started when the most important inland-bound waterways crossed through the Karis region. During the Iron Age it was one of the most densely inhabited regions in Finland. The three castles in the coat of arms of Karis, i.e. Junkarsborg, Grabbacka and Raseborg, remind of how important these waterways were considered for many centuries.

When more connections by land were built, the position of Karis as a traffic junction became even more prominent. The railroad between Hanko and Hyvinkää was completed in 1873, and the coastal railway between Helsinki and Turku was completed in 1902. And Karis was in their intersection. The centre of Karis also lies in the middle of the iron works district of Western Uusimaa with Mustio, Billnäs, Fiskars and Fagervik as its closest neighbours.

Architecturally Karis is exciting: during his career as one of the most prominent architects in Finland Hilding Ekelund drew about twenty designs for buildings in Karis in the course of three decades in the 20th century and almost all of them were realized, for example. the town hall, the water tower, course and education centre Lärkulla, the vocational school of Western Nyland, Kila schools, etc.

Today Karis is often described as a garden town with a lot of people moving in. The number of inhabitants is about 9,000, and many use the electrical train to commute to their work in Helsinki.

THINGS TO SEE AND DO IN KARIS:

- Community Centre Fokus and Gallery Zebra, *card 34*
- Brobacka area of archaeological relics, *card 35*
- Grabbacka castle ruins, *card 36*
- Junkarsborg castle ruins, *card 37*
- Railway station, *card 38*
- Iron Age burial grounds on Kroggårdsmalmen, *card 39*
- Mjölballstad sanatorium museum, *card 40*
- Rejböle Gård, *card 41*
- St. Catharine's Church, *card 42*
- Mustio Church, *card 43*
- Mustio Castle, *card 44*

COMMUNITY CENTRE FOKUS

34

- with Gallery Zebra, Gallery Fokus and lots of other things

The marble-covered Community Centre Fokus in the centre of Karis, bus stations as its closest neighbour, is a real information centre. Both the town library and the culture office are located here, as is the information centre Luckan, which offers information about the region and the services of the Ticketmaster (Lippupalvelu). Gallery Fokus with art exhibitions and photo-gallery Zebra are also located in the building, where you can find a refreshment room and the bus station office.



FOKUS

Centralgatan 90

Cultural secretariat: Tel. +358 (0)19 278 6540

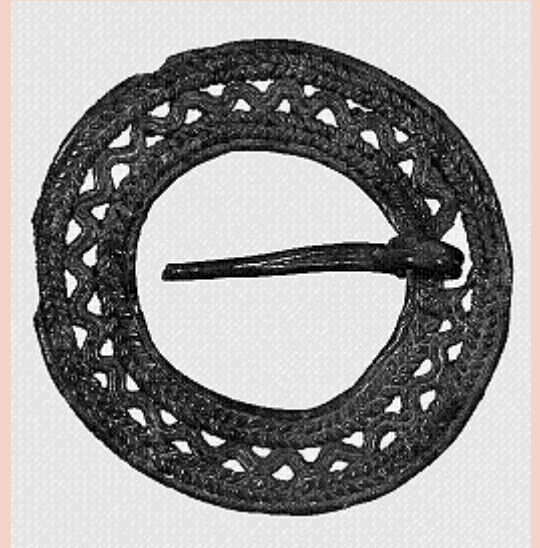
Luckan: Tel. +358 (0)19 239 0176

www.karis.fi

- this is where the Karis brooch was found

Brobacka area of archaeological relics lies by Lämpträsket, which has been elected by bird-watchers the most important bird-lake in the Uusimaa region. In Brobacka there are traces of settlement from the Iron Age to the 20th century. The rich flora with many cultivated plants tells about human activities in the course of a long time.

The oldest archaeological relics have been dated back to the Younger Roman Iron Age (200-400 BC.) and to the era of the Great Migration (400-600 BC.). Parts of spear heads and a lot of other objects have been found in the excavations. Most discussed has been the brooch which had been dated back to the Merovingian era (600-800 BC.). It has been the model for the piece of jewellery which became the Karis brooch of Kalevala Korut.



GRABBACKA CASTLE RUIINS

- interested also Gustav Vasa

King Gustav Vasa is said to have visited Grabbacka Castle when he passed Karis region on his trip to Finland in December 1555. If this is true, he must have been a guest at Erik Axelsson, son-in-law of the district judge Nils Grabbe, whose father Måns Andersson Grabbe built the castle.

Grabbacka was a manor, which was also used as a private residence. The castle is probably built in the 1480's with additions in the 16th century. It was destroyed by a fire in 1672 and rediscovered at the end of the 1930's.

The only things left of the castle are the walls of the ground floor and the basement, which is intact. The area is cleaned and the state of the constructions is supervised regularly.



Photo: Gunnel Lindberg / Karis website

JUNKARSBORG CASTLE RUINS

- Junkarsborg's role was taken over by Raseborg

Junkarsborg was built on a point in the Mustio river and the purpose of the castle was obvious: to serve as a lock for the waterway which flowed into the sea. Excavations have indicated that the first wooden castle was probably built at the end of the 12th or at the beginning of the 13th century. It was destroyed in a fire and replaced at the end of the 14th century by a castle made of wood and stone.

Elevation of the land was probably the reason for the decline of the castle, and as Raseborg Castle was built, Junkarsborg lost its importance. Today only ramparts remain of Junkarsborg. A modern canal has cut off the ancient point which nowadays forms an island.

When King Gustav Vasa founded Helsinki in 1550 it was the turn of the Junkarsborg successor Raseborg to lose its importance. Raseborg is nowadays an impressive attraction, but it now belongs to Ekenäs, not to Karis.



Photo: Gunnel Lindberg / Karis website

- the railway intersection got a worthy building



A class III station building with a restaurant. This is how the Karis station building was classified. The station was designed by Bruno Granholm when the coastal railway was completed. Karis became a railway intersection of the coastal railway, for the railway leading to Hanko and for the Hyvinkää-Karis railway. The national romantic style of the building is well-preserved, in spite of many rebuildings and additions after the introduction of the building in 1899.

Karis got its first station building as early as in 1873 when the Hanko-Hyvinkää railway was completed. The old building remained where it was next to the new one, and it was not demolished until 1970. The railway bridge made of concrete was built in 1932.

Today Karis is also the terminal station for local train services for the metropolitan area. The distance to Helsinki railway station is 87 railway kilometres.

The Finnish State Railways closed down their restaurant operations at the Karis station in 2001, and the restaurant is rented to a private entrepreneur.

IRON AGE BURIAL GROUNDS

- the explanation to the name Karis?

Did they come from Estonia, those Iron Age settlers who are probably buried in the centre of Karis? One of the many theories explaining the origins of the name Karis is based on the presumption that the name comes from Saaremaa in Estonia, where there still today is a village called Karja.

The area on Kroggårdsmalmen by Gjuterigatan was during the Stone Age a point used as a settlement. During the early Iron Age it was adopted as burial grounds. The grave-field had been partially destroyed by buildings when it was discovered in 1932.

The grave-field is classified to date back to the Older Roman Iron Age (approximately 0-200 BC.), and it might have been a burial-place for ancient settlers from Virumaa or Saaremaa in Estonia. The grave-field is circled by iron bars fastened on stone pillars; the iron bars are re-utilized as they originate from the bridge railing of a stone bridge demolished in the 1950's.



Photo: Jan Selén

- when tuberculosis was national disease number 1

The tuberculosis mortality in Finland used to be one of the highest in Europe. The fear of tuberculosis was still big in the 1930's when the Mjölbyllstad sanatorium began its operation. The sanatorium was one step on the way towards improved care and treatment. The tuberculosis was finally beaten with the help of efficient medicines and regular X-rays.

One can get acquainted with what the life was like at the Mjölbyllstad sanatorium 1931-1962 at the sanatorium museum where medical equipment, photographs and objects tell about the secluded life of the sanatorium. There are whole settings in the museum, e.g. the chief physician's office and patient halls. Treatment periods were long; sometimes the patients spent years at the sanatorium.

The museum is maintained by Folkhälsan Raseborg Ab, Mjölbyllstad unit. The museum is open for groups by agreement.



Photo: Rolf Björklund

REJBÖLE GÅRD

- makes the dream of the life in the countryside come true

Have you always dreamt learning to bake Karelian pasties or Christmas loaves and Lucia buns in an old-fashioned baking-oven or to make Finnish Easter pudding or dye with plant colours? Your dreams can come true on the Rejböle Gård where you can attend one of the many kinds of activity days arranged there. Equipment, ingredients and practical help are of course included in the price. And the environment is perfect even for berry- and mushroom safaris.

Rejböle Gård is situated exactly on the border between Karis and Ingå, by a lake called Marsjön. Since 1991 it has specialized in organic products; hay, oat, vegetables and berries are grown here. Highland cattle and sheep graze on the pasture-lands, and there are plenty of cats, dogs, rabbits and chicken.

Yarn, sheepskin, sheepskin products, linen products, woven rugs and woollen blankets are sold in the workshop store. According to the season, there is also honey, eggs, meat, berries and vegetables to order.

Three cosy cottages have been set for accommodation and the time really flies as the guest can for example canoe, row, angle and cycle. The guests can to participate in tending the animals and in taking care of other farm chores if they so wish.

Rejböle Gård is open throughout the year; the workshop store is open by agreement.



ST. CATHARINE'S CHURCH

- situated in the oldest parish in
Western Uusimaa

Karis parish and Karis Church are mentioned in the documents as early as in the 14th century, earlier than any other parish in Western Uusimaa. The first church was built closer to the fairway leading to Lämpträsket and was replaced by a new church on the place where the church still stands. The church was first made of wood and only the vestry was made of grey granite. The current stone-church of St. Catherine's with three aisles was consecrated in 1470.

Frescos were revealed in 1937 and they have been renovated since. There are about ten wood sculptures in the church, many of them older than the church itself. The triumph crucifix dates back to 1450.

The Turku Cathedral is said to have inspired bell-tower builder Anders Takolander to design the onion-shaped baroque dome on the bell-tower in 1768. Ekenäs Church has served as a model to the gate-house on the eastern side.

The wall gates facing Kyrksjö (Church Lake) date back to the Middle Ages and remind of the fact that boat was a common means of transport to the church and the market, which till the end of the 18th century used to be held on the church green.

The big vicarage next to the church has as long a history as the church. The first vicarage was built on this spot. The current building is from the 18th century and is nowadays employed as an assembly room.



The first church in Mustio was built by the ironworks owner Peter Thorwöste as early as in the beginning of the 17th century. The parish took over the church in 1745, and a new church was completed in 1761, after which the old church was torn down. The ground-plan of the church is cruciform with emphasis on the longitudinal direction (east-west).

The current church has artefacts from the previous one. The pulpit dates back to 1705 and the offertory bag from the same year is probably one of the very oldest in Finland.

The bell-tower from 1776 with its onion-shaped dome reminds very much the bell-tower next to St. Catherine's church and the reason is simple: these two bell-towers were built by the same builder, Anders Takolander.



Photo: www.mustio.fi

MUSTIO CASTLE

- with Gustavian atmosphere



Photo: www.mustio.fi

The magnificent wooden castle of Mustio, the biggest non-ecclesiastical building in Finland made of wood, was built during the reign of Gustav III and preserves a lot of the atmosphere of the Gustavian era. All the antique pieces of furniture and utility articles have their own history to tell, a history which is illustrated on the guided tours in the castle, which nowadays is a museum.

However, the castle milieu in Mustio is not only a museum. There is a hotel and a castle as well as a conference premises and a sauna. They are all located in buildings dating back to the 18th and 19th centuries and decorated reverentially. The park with its many hardwood trees, which even include a cork tree, is an oasis for the visitors.

In addition to the guided tours also other programme is organised, e.g. An evening à la lord of the castle, A medieval night in the castle inn and cooking courses with emphasis on delicacies.

Summer theatre and antiquities week in July attract a lot of visitors.

The history of the Mustio works began as early as in the 17th century when King Gustav Vasa built an ironworks here. In 1901 the works started to produce paper pulp.

- iron industry centre which became a tourist attraction

The many falls which on their way out to Pohja Bay generated enough power to work bar hammers and crushing mills made Pohja a centre of iron production in the 17th century. The three ironworks Antskog, Billnäs and Fiskars all existed already in the 1640's whereas Åminnefors works were not established until the end of the 19th century.

Iron and copper works were the foundations of the modern metal industry, which still today forms the basis for the economy of Pohja municipality. The industrial activities are, however, nowadays mostly located in other premises. When the works were abandoned, Pohja acquired a number of buildings of varying character and condition. Bruksindustri Ab, owned by Pohja municipality, has made an important contribution as regards to the renovation of the buildings.

New means of livelihood have developed, with emphasis on arts, crafts, cultural history, restoration and ecology. Fiskars and Billnäs attract a lot of visitors, who have the opportunity to experience various interesting processes from glass-blowing and forging to the production of paper pulp.

Today's Pohja with its over 5,000 inhabitants is also known for its demanding special cultivations and market gardens. The three full-length golf courses, two riding schools and a skiing centre guarantee access to recreation and sports throughout the year.

THINGS TO SEE AND DO IN POHJA:

- Antskog Ironworks, *card 46*
- Billnäs Ironworks, *card 47*
- Fiskars Ironworks, *card 48*
- Fiskars Museum, *card 49*
- The Church of St Mary, *card 50*
- Åminnefors, *card 51*

- from iron to textiles and from textiles to fire extinguishers

The smallest and oldest of the Pohja ironworks is Antskog, which according to documents was founded approximately 1630 by the river discharging itself to the lake Seljänala. Iron and copper production continued until 1880, but the owner of Fiskars works John von Julin was granted a privilege to build a textile factory for the production of clothes and a fulling and dyeing plant already in 1839. At the end of the 19th century even tricot was produced.

The cloth mill was destroyed by a fire in 1900, and therefore a large new industrial plant was soon built. Antskog Klädesfabrik Ab (Antskog cloth mill) employed over 100 people in the beginning of the 20th century, and it produced e.g. frieze, drap cloth, mantle cloth and suit fabrics. The operations came to an end in 1959. Today fire extinguishers are produced there.

The first lock in Finland was built in 1824 by one of the falls. Today there is a bathing beach near the lock canal.

Antskog is a vigorous small community with an active village council which in summertime arranges e.g. art exhibitions and Antskogsdagen (Antskog Day) on the first Saturday in July. Simijärvi nature reserve with its interesting flora is located nearby. Even vendace thrives in the clear water.



Photo: Pohja municipality homepage



Photo: Pohja municipality homepage

The first attempt to construct an ironworks by the untamed river in the mouth of the Mustio River with a fall of over 6 meters in 1641 did not succeed that well. During the Great Northern War the works was totally destroyed, but revived by Johan Hising (later ennobled, his name changed into Hisinger) at the end of the 18th century.

Hisinger's touch can be seen in Billnäs even today. He founded big gardens and his heritage includes a nursery garden on the grounds of an old horticultural school, which today houses both a restaurant and antique kiln.

Many of the ironworks buildings originate from the end of the 18th century, and they form a perfect milieu to spend a day in. Byggnadsapoteket (building pharmacy) is popular; it offers advice and material for the restoration of old buildings.

Billnäs is known internationally for many reasons, not least for the orange Fiskars scissors and their predecessors the Billnäs spades from the beginning of the 20th century. The solid Billnäs furniture made of oak was produced for half a century, and is nowadays more coveted than ever.

Faces Etnofestival is organised during the last weekend in July, and it has given Billnäs an image of understanding across borders. The Antiques Fair on the second weekend in July is also a popular event. And don't forget other events such as Byggnadsvårdsdagarna (traditional building days), Röer limonad och örffilar (Röer lemonade and cinnamon buns) and the Christmas Fair.

- a genuine and sustainable ironworks atmosphere

Fiskars Ironworks won the prestigious The Royal Destination Award for Sustainable Tourism in 2007, which shows that it is possible to turn the downward trend of an ironworks community into a success story. The prize drew attention to attractions which support sustainable tourism through good and innovative solutions.

The Fiskars Corporation has been an important contributor in the success as it actively set to revive the works when structural change in industry had practically depopulated Fiskars in the 1980's. The corporation has also supported ONOMA, The Artisans, Designers and Artists of Fiskars Co-operative, which now has approximately one hundred members with families. They live and work in the old ironworks buildings which they have renovated with their own hands.

Craftsmen who make ceramics, glass, smithwork, furniture, knives and many other things co-operate with painters, interior designers and graphic artists in marketing-oriented activities. The results of this co-operation can be seen e.g. in the famous summer exhibitions both in the Copper Smithy and Granary.

In Fiskars the visitor can see how smithwork and glass are made, buy products and enjoy a delicious meal e.g. at Fiskars Wårdshus, an inn established in 1836 and thus the oldest in Finland.

The atmosphere in the ironworks community is international and multicultural, exactly as it was also for almost 360 years ago when the founder of the works, Peter Thorwöste from Holland, was granted a permission to import specially trained workforce from Central Europe.



Photo: Pohja municipality homepage

FISKARS MUSEUM

- shows how people used to live in at the ironworks

Some ironworks employees started to collect objects and photographs from the ironworks as early as in the 1930's. The museum was inaugurated in connection with the 300-year celebrations of the ironworks in 1949 in the office building of the first mechanical engineering shop in Finland dating back to 1837.

It is mostly the ironworks inhabitants' lives and the ironworks milieu which are documented in the rooms with different themes. For example the Workers' room shows how tight the workers and their family members had to live. The Industry room has a fine collection of industrial products, and many visitors are thrilled to recognize old utility articles.

The museum was expanded in 1983 with the Slaggbuilding, where the permanent exhibition shows various living conditions. In summertime a special exhibition is arranged, often in connection with the ironworks milieu and its inhabitants.

The museum has a large collection of photographs with motives relating to Fiskars and other areas of Pohja. In Pohja Local History Archive you can find local history literature from Pohja and parishes nearby, as well as microfilms of the church registers from Pohja and six parishes in the area.



Photo: Fiskars museum

THE CHURCH OF ST MARY

- with stained-glass pictures from the 17th century

The administrative centre of Pohja grew up where the old King's Road between Turku and Viipuri meet the Pohja Bay. The oldest building is the Church of St Mary, which was consecrated in 1480 after two decades' hard construction work. The vestry is the oldest part of the church; however, it was preceded by a wooden church as often is the case in Finland.

The interior of the church tells about the passing of centuries. The oldest artefact is probably the wooden sculpture presenting Virgin Mary and the Infant Jesus, dating back to the 14th century. The pews were added in the 18th century, the loft with the old organ facade in the 19th century; the tile floor, the altar rail and the organ date back to the 20th century, and the new altar is a 21st century addition.

The stained-glass pictures of family coats of arms date back to the 17th century and are an especially popular attraction. Another popular attraction can be found outside in the cemetery: Helene Mannerheim, the mother of the Marshall of Finland, C. G. Mannerheim, is buried there.



Photo: Pohja church

ÅMINNEFORS IRONWORKS

- and Åminne Manor

Åminnefors Ironworks is the youngest of the Pohja ironworks. It was founded in 1877 for the purpose of zinc production by the last fall of the Mustio River before it reaches the Pohja Bay. The works did not, however, succeed. From 1890 onwards, when the Fiskars company took over the works, the operations started properly. The power plant was built at the beginning of the 20th century, and it is nowadays operated by Fortum Corporation. Reinforcement bars are still produced in the rolling mill, though not under Fiskars management. The rolling mill was completed in 1930 and has been renovated ever since.

Åminnefors has been accepted in the EU international cultural heritage programme Rafael to create visions of the future for historical industrial plants together with Spain and Greece.

Åminne Manor situated in vicinity of the ironworks has older traditions than the ironworks - it was founded as early as in the 1570's.

The middle lower floor of the current manor is said to date back to the middle of the 18th century, and the second floor was probably built towards the end of the 18th century. It was during that time the manor got its Gustavian character.

The manor has had many owners, and nowadays it functions as an independent restaurant called Åminne gård. It is also the club-house of Nordcenter golf.



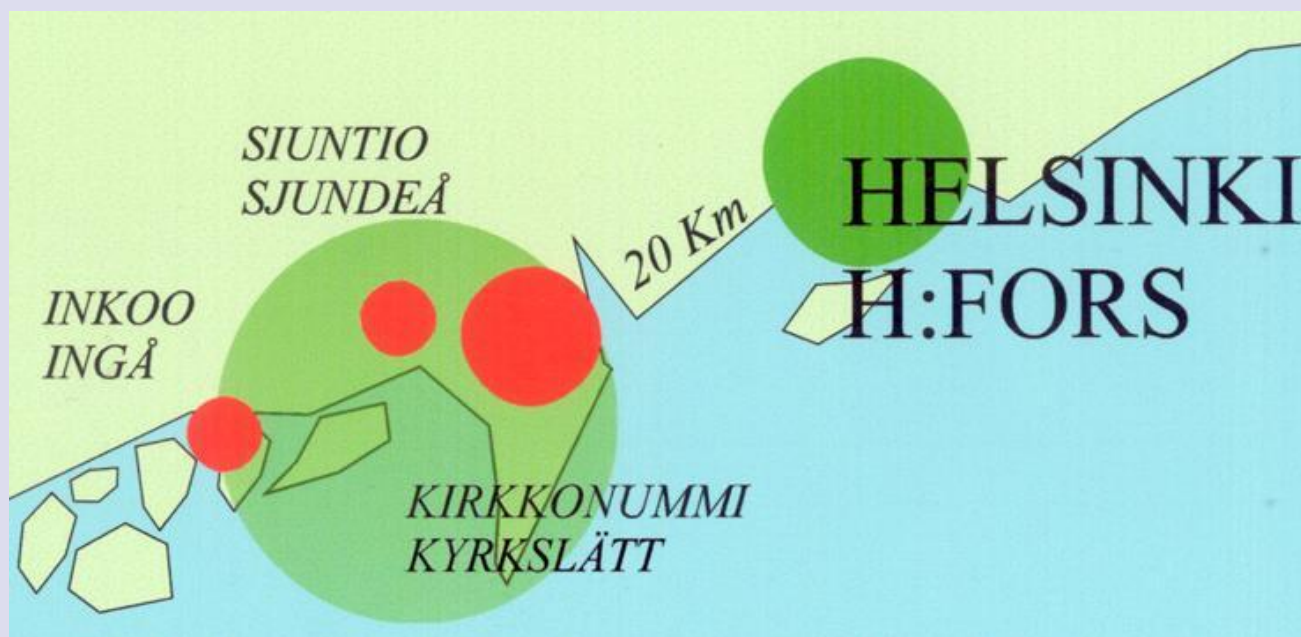
Photo: Ekenäs museum / Nina Andersson

Porkkala Parenthesis

1944-1956

The armistice agreement of September 1944 required that Finland in addition to the losses of Karelia and Petsamo also had to lease the Porkkala area for fifty years to the Soviet Union. Large parts of Kirkkonummi and Siuntio and almost all of Degerby were included in the area which was to be evacuated immediately to give space for a Soviet naval base. The lease period, which can be characterised as an occupation, came however to an end as early as at the beginning of 1956, and the area was returned in a badly vandalised state.

The lease era has characterised the Porkkala area, and since the end of the 1990's also constituted the basis for a successful tourism strategy, dedicated to promote the businesses in the three municipalities by utilising the information about this unique era in Finnish political history.



- was perhaps named after Inge the Viking

There are many explanations to the name Ingå. The most adventurous is the story of Viking Inge who arrived to Ingå about a thousand years ago. Where he went ashore a settlement started to grow - and the settlement was of course called Inges å (Inge's river). The focus is on the Vikings also in summer 2008, when a play on the battle of Hirdal, the Vikings' first documented landing in Ingå, will be performed for the first time on the outdoors festival grounds on Björkudden, in vicinity of Ingå centre.

Ingå is so much more than memories of the Vikings. Due to the wide archipelago the number of inhabitants multiplies during summer when the Ingå marina swarms with life. The choice of services has recently increased when the Ingå-inhabitant and rally world champion Marcus Grönholm opened his elegant shopping centre Strand. Many people also move permanently to Ingå; the number of inhabitants has in a couple of years increased to over 5,400.

Ingå has for a long time been predominately agricultural area, which is reflected in the well-kept manmade landscape. It was in Ingå that the first potatoes and tomatoes in Finland were grown. The German craftsmen, who came to work on ironworks in Fagervik, brought with them these crops unknown on Finnish latitudes when they arrived in the 18th century. Potato is naturally the most important ingredient in the parish dish, the potato porridge (in Swedish potatisgröt).

THINGS TO SEE AND DO IN INGÅ:

- Degerby Igor museum, *card 54*
- The Church of Degerby, *card 55*
- Fagervik manor, *card 56*
- Gammelgården's homestead museum, *card 57*
- The Church of Ingå, *card 58*
- The Cannons at Torp, *card 59*
- Kopparnäs open-air recreation area, *card 60*
- Malmtorp's Farm Museum *card 61*
- Storö Shop Museum, *card 62*
- The Tabor Church in vicinity of Ingå railway station, *card 63*

Tourist information
The internet café at the Library
Café Wilhelmsdahl
Tel. +358 (0)9 595 188
Ola Westmans allé 1
Luckan

Tel. +358 (0)9 2963 830
Kirkkotori, Kirkkonummi

The municipality of Ingå
Tel. +358 (0)9 295 151
Ola Westmans allé 3
www.inga.fi

Degerby is one of the many active villages in Ingå, but until autumn 1944 Degerby was an independent municipality. The armistice agreement between Finland and the Soviet Union resulted in Porkkala area being leased and becoming a Soviet naval base. The major part of Degerby belonged to the leased area, and the remaining part became part of Ingå. This arrangement still stands.

Degerby Igor museum tells about the quick evacuation of the area and about the return approximately eleven years later to a worn-down, hardly recognizable village. There are not any traces left of the naval base in the terrain, but on Grefvas in Degerby, by the main road 51, there is a sign-posted and illuminated Soviet cannon bunker. And the pictures and objects in the museum tell their stories.

The Degerby Igor museum is located in the Rosenberg building, which once was Degerby town hall. The special exhibitions widen the perspective to e.g. Estonia, civil guards, women's auxiliary defence services and the Karelian Finns.

A flower bed with about 50 different perennial plants on the museum courtyard is a delight in summertime.



Photo: Inkoo municipality / Laura Taskinen

THE CHURCH OF DEGERBY

- the Soviet officers danced in the church

The Church of Degerby was the declaration of independence for Degerby inhabitants. Already in the 18th century the Degerby farmers grew tired of making the long way to the Church of Ingå. They got permission to build a church, which was completed in 1748. In the 1920's the church was in such a bad condition that the vicar, Arvid Wigge, started an extensive lobbying to build a new church. The new church, which was drawn by Bertel Liljeqvist, was consecrated in 1932, and it is a beautiful church with classical design. The altar is turned towards west and the entrance towards east, which is not that common when it comes to church construction.

The church functioned as a dance hall and community centre during the Soviet naval base era. – "We danced a lot here", said Vija Borzova, wife of a Soviet officer, when she visited the church some years ago. The church was renovated with ten million Finnish marks after the Porkkala Parenthesis and consecrated in 1958. The alter-piece dating back to 1761 was restored then. The altar-piece was painted by alderman Jacob Marten. In the room next to the organ loft there is a small exhibition on Arvid Wigge, who was the first, last and only vicar of Degerby.



Photo: Inkoo municipality / Laura Taskinen

FAGERVIK MANOR AND CHURCH

- a well-kept ironworks milieu

When Carl Billsten founded the ironworks in Fagervik in 1646, he chose an ideal spot as regards to communications and water and charcoal supplies. The southernmost stretch of the King's Road leading from Turku to Viipuri winds through the ironworks premises, and the sea is close. And the forests guaranteed fuel for a long time ahead.

The heyday of the ironworks was in the 18th century, when Johan Hisinger was in charge, but the activity continued till 1903 when the operations were finally laid down. A tour can start in the old tinning house, which is unique in Finland. Nowadays it houses a museum, a gift shop and a café.

The buildings on the ironworks area form a unique entity with the workmen's dwellings painted in red ochre, the restored smithies and the three-storey main building from 1773, designed by C. F. Shröder in Gustavian style. The church from 1737 was once the centre of an independent parish and it houses the oldest playable organ in Finland. The park area which surrounds the river was planned in the 18th century.

Guided tours are organised and a visit to the church can be included. The manor itself is a private dwelling, and visitors are not admitted.



Photo: Inkoo municipality / Laura Taskinen

GAMMELGÅRDEN'S HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

- a fantastic manifestation of voluntary work

Gammelgården's homestead museum right next to Ingå centre with its verdant lawns and red ochre buildings is a peaceful oasis to admire and where to relax. The approximately 20 buildings have all been transported from various part of Ingå, and they have their own stories to tell. Most of the over 4,000 listed artefacts are kept in the farm-house, which is originally from Ill farm in Illans. Johannesberg old school houses the picture and textile collections of the museum, and it also functions as an exhibition hall and conference room.

The enormous amount of work required for finding, dismantling, transporting and rebuilding the buildings has mainly been done by voluntary workers, and the same applies to the maintenance work.

There is also a herb garden, a well, a cross-cut saw and a village-swing on Gammelgården. Arts and crafts day, Hantverkardagen, is held in July on Gammelgården. The old-fashioned Christmas fair in December is one of the big events in Ingå.

Next to the car park there is an information board which tells about the fortifications from the coast going through Ingå, Lohja and Vihti regions. These fortifications were built 1913-1917 when the Russian rulers feared, as usual, an attack coming from west.



Photo: Inkoo municipality / Laura Taskinen

THE CHURCH OF INGÅ

- famous for the Dance of Death painting

The patron saint of Ingå Church, St. Nicholas, is also the patron of seafarers, which seems to be quite natural in a parish which such an extensive archipelago. When the church actually was built is disputed among scholars. Earlier studies have claimed that the church was built at the end of the 13th century, whereas according to more recent studies the church was probably built between 1430 and 1480, and it did not get its final form until the 16th century. The church was then vaulted, it got its two aisles, and the current gable decorations were built.

The Church of St. Nicholas is most famous for its wall and vault paintings also dating back to the 16th century and containing a sequence where the Death dances with people. The Death Dance is a unique motif on our latitudes, however it can be found in the Baltic countries and Central Europe. Its appearance in Ingå is thus an indication of close contacts over the Gulf of Finland.

Above the altar there is a crucifix dating back to the 1360's. The pulpit and the altar-piece are both from the 1840's.



Photo: Inkoo municipality / Laura Taskinen

THE CANNONS AT TORP

- the cannons which saved Finland
can be found here

The Cannons at Torp museum is located somewhat outside Ingå centre, with a shooting-range providing appropriate sound-effects. The museum is based on the arms collection of Sven Wadstein. During the years there have been additions to the collections, and they nowadays include a fine collection of approximately 40 cannons, anti-tank weapons, anti-aircraft guns, infantry and naval cannons and heavy machine-guns. The latest addition is a grenade-thrower.

The museum has for example a sample of the cannons that General Nenonen bought from the USA in winter 1940, and also of the anti-tank cannons which were used in the final battles on the Karelian Isthmus in 1944 and which saved Finland.

There are also several vehicles on the museum area, and they are all in driving condition. A collection of automobile miniatures, mines from the barrier built by the Finns and Germans to the Gulf of Finland during the Second World War, and a complete collection of Soviet military medals can be mentioned as parts of the varied selection of items.



Photo: Inkoo municipality / Laura Taskinen

- came up as the location for the biggest nuclear power plant in the world

Kopparnäs was till 1944 the only manor in Degerby, and it was known for its fruit and asparagus cultivation. The Soviet naval base meant an end for that era as Kopparnäs became the target area for artillery exercises and all the buildings were destroyed. After Finland got the area back, it came up in the 1970's as the location for the biggest nuclear power plant in the world. The plant was supposed to provide energy for the metropolitan area. Ingå municipal council said no to the plans, and in 2003 Kopparnäs was sold to Föreningen Nylands friluftsområden (open-air recreation area association in Uusimaa).

Kopparnäs open-air recreation area now comprises 480 hectares of land, 71 hectares of islands and 235 hectares of waters. There is an inn with a restaurant and accommodation on the area.



Photo: Inkoo municipality / Laura Taskinen

Kopparnäs open-air recreation area

Tel. +358 (0)9 476 7411

www.uudenmaanvirkistysalueyhdistys.fi

Kopparnäs gästgiveri (inn)

Kopparnäsvägen 428

Tel. +358 (0)9 295 9650 or +358 (0)400 701 159

www.kupariniemi.fi

MALMTORP'S FARM MUSEUM

- tractors and articles for everyday use in long lines

The Malmtorp's Farm Museum in Ingarskila comprises approximately 2,500 items. Most of the items originate from the home of the museum owner, Carl-Johan Fagerström, some items are donations and the rest of them are the result of Fagerström's goal-oriented collection work which he started as early as in the 1950's.

In the collection there are most varied items, starting with the Sunday suit which Fagerström wore as a six-year-old little fellow when he participated in the 600-year celebrations of Ingå parish, and ending with the tractors he continually restores, one tractor each year. The latest addition is a 1957 Ferguson. In a building dating back to 1877 there is for example a complete small school museum.

And there are a lot of other interesting things to see from horse-riding equipment to the clever little cutting machine, which was used in the olden times when sugar beets were grown from seed in the vegetable gardens, and then cut and cooked into syrup.



Photo: Inkoo municipality / Laura Taskinen

- everything from cucumber seeds to
teddy bear eyes

In the delicious Storö Shop Museum there is almost everything you wish to find - and a wonderful atmosphere thrown in. To enter the shop feels like taking a giant step backwards through the decades and landing somewhere around the beginning of the 1950's. And whatever you care to wish, from cucumber seeds to teddy bear eyes, you will probably find it from here. Teddy bear eyes were used when making decoys for bird hunting.

You can almost hear the squeaking of an imaginary wheel-barrow arriving loaded with cellar-cold lemonade. Unfortunately you cannot buy anything as the shop was closed in 1964.

Storö is situated on the outskirts of Ingå archipelago. The shop came into the hands of Rautaruukki Corporation for some years ago, and the museum was founded by an agreement with the Ingå municipality. Guided tours to the museum are arranged in summertime; going ashore is otherwise prohibited.



THE TABOR CHURCH IN VICINITY OF INGÅ RAILWAY STATION

- offers high-quality musical programme

The passengers of the coastal railway often notice the decorative brick cathedral which lies close to the Ingå railway station. The Tabor Church belongs to the United Methodist Church, and it was built in 1925. The plot - near Ingå railway station - where the church is located was originally donated by goldsmith Ferninand Timper, who was the owner of the nearby situated Vahrs and Brännbollstad manors. He also donated most of the funds needed in the construction work. The church was built to commemorate his mother.

The small Methodist congregation in Ingå is active and takes well care of the church which was restored in the 1980's. A completely new organ loft with a new organ will constitute the latest addition to the church. The addition will emphasise the high-quality musical programme which the church is famous for.



Photo: Inkoo municipality / Laura Taskinen

- a manmade landscape which offers a lot of activities

Siuntio, which is located only 50 kilometres west of Helsinki, borders the metropolitan area and offers the visitor beautiful views over the fertile flat lands which in the north and east turn into a picturesque landscape with fantastic differences in height.

The three medieval buildings in Siuntio, i.e. the church, Suitia Castle and Sjundby Castle give together with the old country-houses evidence of the history of the region – Siuntio has been the focus of many varying interests since the 15th century. The Siuntio-region has even a longer history as it was inhabited already during the Stone Age.

Proximity to the metropolitan area has contributed to the fact that moving into Siuntio has increased, and the number of inhabitants is close to 6,000. This development has also moved the centre of the municipality from the old parish village to the community which has grown around the railway station.

A part of Siuntio, south of the railway station, was a part of the area which the Soviet Union annexed after the Second World War and used as a naval base during the period 1944-1956.

The choice of activities for the residents and visitors is nowadays plentiful, including e.g. canoeing along the Siuntio River, golf and an adventure in the spirit of the Porkkala Parenthesis.

THINGS TO SEE AND DO IN SIUNTIO:

- Fanjunkars, *card 65*
- Gårdskulla Agricultural Museum, *card 66*
- Homestead museum, *card 67*
- The King's Road and Pikkala Bridge, *card 68*
- Sjundby Castle, *card 69*
- Siuntio railway station, *card 70*
- Siuntio Church, *card 71*
- Triumphal Arch in Pikkala, *card 72*

Information:

Tel. +(0)9 260 611 or +358 (0)50 412 4080 or +358 (0)9 296 3832

www.siuntio.fi

FANJUNKARS

- this is where the national writer
Aleksis Kivi could work



The national writer of Finland Aleksis Kivi found a permanent home for the years 1864-1871 in the old tenement soldier's cottage Fanjunkars in Siuntio. It was because of the warrant officer's daughter Charlotta Lönnqvist's good care that he had the peace and quiet he needed in order to be able to write. Charlotta, who was a popular village banquet caterer and who in addition taught young girls how manage domestic chores, showed extra consideration for her writing guest. Because he hated the smell of e.g. blooming apple trees, she once in the springtime destroyed the apple-blossoms near his window.

The nature and people in Siuntio were the sources of inspiration in Aleksis Kivi's authorship, and it was in Siuntio where he wrote most of his most prominent works. Before he moved to Fanjunkars, he lived for a couple of years around Siuntio parish, e.g. at his brother Purnus where he wrote some chapters to the novel Seven Brothers.

Siuntio homestead museum moved into Fanjunkars in the 1930's, but was evacuated when the Soviet Union annexed the Porkkala region in 1944. During the so-called Porkkala Parenthesis Fanjunkars was torn down, but on the initiative of the Pro Fanjunkars Foundation the cottage was rebuilt and inaugurated in 2006. Furniture and objects which have probably been used by Aleksis Kivi have been transferred from the homestead museum to Fanjunkars. Fanjunkars is nowadays an appreciated tourist attraction, and it also serves as a meeting and conference location.

This private agricultural museum, which is situated on one of the biggest farming estates in Finland, is a real heaven for tractor-lovers and for everybody who wants to know more about the life and development country life on the 19th and 20th centuries. In the collections there are about one hundred veteran tractors, museum cars, household articles and utensils and a lot of farming machinery and equipment. There are approximately 15,000 objects on an exhibition area of about 3,000 square-metres.

The old village shop on the upper floor of the museum hall is a sheer treasury for those who want to be nostalgic and see the trademarks and packages which have not been produced in years. In the village smithy there are tools from the beginning of the 20th century.

Among the most valuable articles in the museum are the Arbor power saw from 1916 and the first combine-harvester in Finland, i.e. an Oliver Grain Master from 1937. The oldest tractors in the collection are from the 1920's. An American wind-motor of the trademark Chicago twirls on the museum courtyard.

The tractor carnival in the beginning of July is a major event for the whole family, with demonstrations of both machinery and working methods. In the tractor parade there are tractors from 1922 International to more modern models from the 1960's. Starting the 1932 Fordson wood gas tractor is usually one of the exiting moments.

In connection with the agricultural museum there is a café and a restaurant with a license to sell alcohol. In addition, there are premises for meetings and a lakeside sauna to rent.



Photo: GÅRDSKULLA AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM

HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

- from the Stone Age to Plastic Age

The homestead museum is situated on the slope of Krejansberget, and it occupies premises of an old elementary school. The majority of the collection of almost 4,000 objects is located in the old school house, where e.g. objects from the era of the Soviet naval base or Porkkala Parenthesis and Mona Leo's theatre dolls form permanent exhibitions.

The objects tell about the everyday life of people living in Siuntio, and they cover the period from the Stone Age to the Plastic Age. The most recent addition to the collection calls forth most emotions: the Nymans worked as dentists in the middle of the 20th century and their equipment is now on display. The equipment is placed in the so-called Petroffska(?) cottage. There are objects portraying peasant life in the cottage, which is open to the roof. The museum complex also includes two provision sheds built on posts and a recently built caretaker's apartment.



There is documentation from the 14th century describing a coastal main road between Turku and Viipuri Castle. The road was later named the King's Road, and it passes through Siuntio from two directions. The southern route runs through Ingå and Degerby to Sunnanvik, and the northern route from Virkkala past Siuntio parish village. The roads unite in Sunnanvik and cross the Pikkala River in Broända, south of Vikträsk, where there once used to be an inn.

The first notes which have been found about the Pikkala Bridge date from 1382. There has probably been a bascule bridge where the waterways and the coastal road meet, because waterborne traffic continued up to Sjundby rapids. In the 18th and 19th centuries popular autumn fairs were held east of the bridge. When the coastal railway was completed in the beginning of the 20th century, the steamer traffic, which had gone all the way up to Broända, came to an end. And so did the fairs.

The footbridge, which can be seen here today, was built in 1991. The earlier bridge was supposed to be torn down in 1986 when the National Road Administration also decided not to build a new bridge. But some enthusiastic Siuntio-inhabitants founded a society ("the Bridge Builders") which got permission to tear down the bridge and to build a new one. The old bridge was burnt in September 1987, and a new one was built on the old caissons. Motor traffic is not allowed on the bridge.

The first nature school in Finland functions in a building called Åvikhemmet, which is situated west of the river. The building was donated to the Siuntio parish and Folkhälsan by Minister Rafael and Mrs Hellin Erich.



- a source of inspiration for Helene Schjerfbeck



The grey granite castle in Sjunby has kept watch over the gently rolling landscape with its rapid on the river between Tjusträsk and Vikträsk for almost 450 years. But Sjunby is mentioned for the first time already in 1417, at that point as a manor farm. It was the admiral and field colonel Jakob Henriksson Hästesko who built the castle which later was passed to the Tott family for four generations. During that time the castle was visited e.g. by Karin Månsdotter whose daughter Sigrid Vasa, whose father was Erik XIV, was married to one of the Totts.

From 1698 onwards Sjunby has been the family estate within the Adlercreutz family, from the 20th century onwards in the matriarchal line. One of the most renowned persons to visit the castle in the 20th century was the artist Helene Schjerfbeck who was inspired by the castle and its surroundings in many of her works.

When the Soviet Union took over the Porkkala area in 1944, the castle was situated on the wrong side of the border and was badly damaged during the years to come. The castle with its two-metre-thick walls and deep vault cellars has undergone pious restoration after Finland got the area back in 1956. There are still texts in Russian on the gable wall of the old dairy which remind of the era of the Soviet Naval base.

The castle is still today a private home and tourist groups are accepted to a limited extent. The grey granite granary, which is located by the working power station by the rapid, is rented for various occasions.

The coastal railway between Helsinki and Turku was completed in 1902. The station building in Siuntio was finished the following year and the post office was opened at the end of the same year. The five station buildings along the coastal railway between Helsinki and Karis were all drawn in the national romantic style by Bruno Granholm. The railway and the station resulted in an upswing for that particular part of the Siuntio municipality, an upswing which gradually meant that the area around the railway station became the centre of Siuntio. The arrival of the railway also led to the disappearance of steamer traffic and a large increase in the number of dairy cattle on the farms – the milk could now be transported quickly to the dairies.



Valokuva: Tammisaaren museo / Nina Andersson

The era of the Soviet naval base 1944-1956 caused a delay in the development of the station area, but the lost time was made up quickly. The station building itself is not used any longer for its original purpose: the ticket sales and waiting room have been converted into a bakery with a lunch café and an art gallery. Electric trains to Helsinki and Karis are appreciated by the increasing number of people moving into Siuntio.

St. Peter appears in three different places in the Siuntio Church. First of all he is shown crucified on one of the wall paintings, secondly he is painted on the old pulpit donated to the church by Karin Månsdotter, and thirdly he is portrayed in a sculpture on the pulpit. In the sculpture he holds the keys to the paradise in his hands, and this explains why the key symbol appears in the Siuntio coat of arms.

The church with St. Peter as its patron saint was built in the 15th century and is thereby the oldest building in Siuntio, but there already existed a church at the same place in the 14th century. The stone base of the bell tower probably dates back to the 14th century, and as far as it can be judged, it is contemporary with the first chapel.

The visitors first notice the ceiling and wall paintings when they enter into the church. The paintings date back to the beginning of the 16th century, but they were white-washed in the 18th century. In 1938 they were displayed again, and now they surprise with their exuberant presentations of the Bible stories.

The baptismal font from 1550 is one of the oldest objects in the church. It was donated to the church by Heblä Siggesdotter from Suitia, who was the widow of the 16th century Royal Councillor and military commander Erik Fleming.



TRIUMPHAL ARCH IN PIKKALA

- a manifestation of pompous militarism

There were many blue-coloured triumphal arches left in various places when the Soviet Union returned the Porkkala area to Finland in 1956. The arches were located by the entrances to sports grounds, railway stations, yards, etc., and they had usually been built of wood, and were torn down quite soon by the Finns. The only one remaining today is the only one built of steel. It had been placed by the entrance to the sports ground which had been built near Pikkala manor. The sports ground was located by Kabanovvägen (Kabanov Street) which was a cobbled street for troop and tank transport from Pikkala to Porkkala Cape, built by Commandant Sergej Kabanov.

The triumphal arch in Pikkala has been sign-posted on a private initiative, and it can be seen when one chooses to turn from the main road to Marsuddintie. Through-passage over the Pikkala mansion premises is prohibited.



Photo: Maaret Eloranta

- an active and idyllic garden city with diversified nature

Kirkkonummi with its ample traditions is located only 30 kilometres west of Helsinki, and it is one of the municipalities surrounding the metropolitan area. According to the findings, the first inhabitants arrived probably about 9,000 years ago. Kirkkonummi has been inhabited from north and from south, from west and from east, and during the last decades the pace has grown ever faster. Nowadays the number of inhabitants is over 34,000.

The villas, manors and farms in Kirkkonummi attract attention. The history of the municipality bears evidence of the fact that the most important routes for both merchants and soldiers have gone through Kirkkonummi, either by sea or land.

The approximately eleven years 1944-1956, when a large part of Kirkkonummi belonged to a Soviet naval base, have influenced the dramatic recent history and traces of them can still be seen. Memories of even older times can be found in place-names, which carry the influence of both Swedes and Estonians.

And the best of all: there are ample opportunities to enjoy outdoor life in Kirkkonummi, either on one's own or in connection with activities such as golf, slalom, fishing and boating.

THINGS TO SEE AND DO IN KIRKKONUMMI:

- Alisgården homestead museum in Lapinkylä, *card 74*
- Kolsarby cemetery, *card 75*
- Building tools museum in Siikajärvi, *card 76*
- Farm shop in Eestinkylä and Rehndal animal farm in Hila, *card 77*
- Haapajärvi Church and the surrounding cultural milieu, Eerikinkartano, Navala, *card 78*
- Hvitträsk, *card 79*
- Kirkkonummi Church, *card 80*
- Majvik Castle in Art Nouveau style, *card 81*
- Masala Church, *card 82*
- Meiko area with Russian bunkers, *card 82*
- Upinniemi Sea Chapel, *card 83*
- Astronomical observatory in Vols, *card 84*
- Pokrova brotherhood and Orthodox Church, *card 85*
- Porkkala Havsby, *card 86*
- Ragvalds museum, *card 87*
- Sarfvik Manor museum, *card 88*

ALISGÅRDEN HOMESTEAD MUSEUM

- describes how people used to live in
Kirkkonummi



Alisgårdens reminds of the days when army officers got residences which belonged to the crown, i.e. the state. Originally Alisgårdens was a sergeant residence from the 18th century. The house itself was built in Evitskog in 1827 by the tenant, and it has been later moved to Lapinkylä and become a homestead museum. The building consists of a cottage with a baking house, a guest house and a hall with a small room in the middle. The old artefacts give a good picture of how the life in the countryside used to be.

Kirkkonummi homestead association maintains the museum, which is open all summer Saturdays 11-15 (except for the Midsummer) and by agreement.

The cemetery in Kolsarby, by Upinniementie, is the most visible monument for and the most well-known place of pilgrimage of the period 1944-1956, when the Soviet Union leased a large part of Kirkkonummi.

The cemetery got its current design in 1958, when most of the remains of the Soviet citizens who were buried in Porkkala were gathered in Kolsarby. The place had functioned as a graveyard already during the lease period, but there were graves also elsewhere in the area.

According to the official inventory made by the provincial administrative board in 1975, there were approximately 210 graves in the area, but the real number is probably approximately 500 when the names on the back of the black gravestones are also counted.

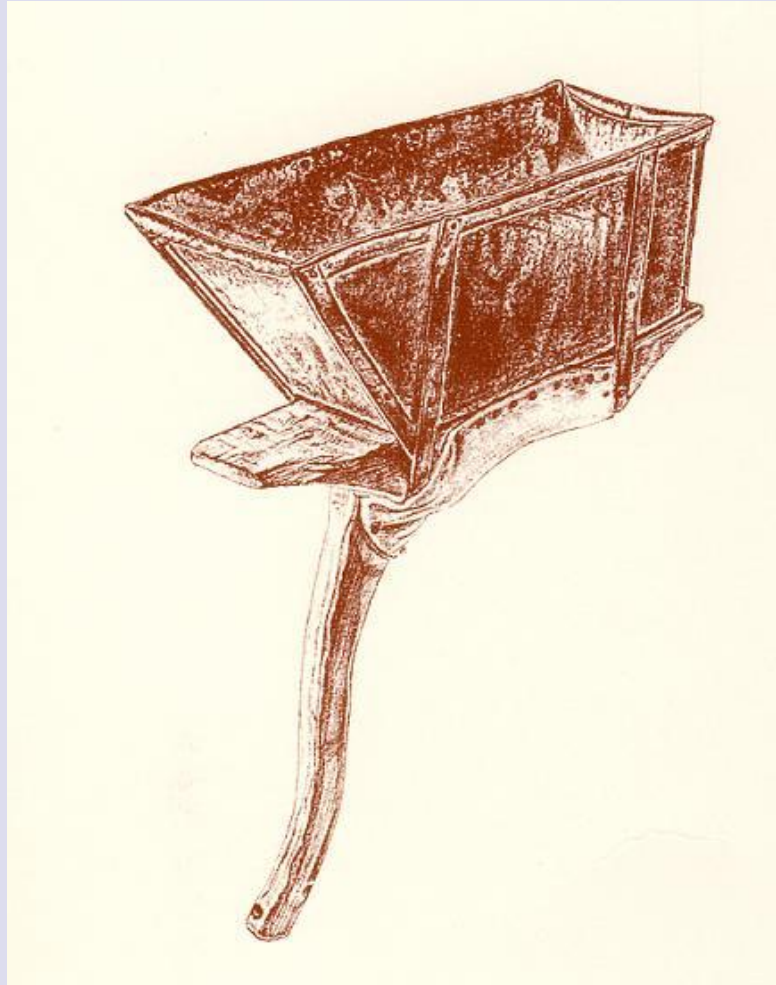
It is the state of Finland which maintains and looks after the graveyard, which is regularly visited by the Russian embassy.



Photo: Maaret Eloranta

BUILDING TOOLS MUSEUM

- many interesting tools on display



The Finnish Construction Trade Union has placed this special museum in its conference and education centre Siikaranta in Siikajärvi. The museum houses a comprehensive collection of traditional tools used in earlier times by construction workers.

- gives a delicious glimpse to local farming



The farm shop on Kärras and Fräsars farms is an example of the input of the modern Finnish farming on locally grown products. In the well-stocked shop there is a wide range of products provided by a large network of suppliers. Here you can find everything from root vegetables, flour and patterned woollen sweaters to bird-seed and jams. The farm shop bakery provides both plain bread and buns and cakes, which can be enjoyed in the café next to the shop. An interesting guided tour to the history of the farms and the shop can also be booked.

Fräsars is the third oldest family estate in Kirkkonummi. Since 1991 the estates have belonged to Ingemo (born Öfverström) and Henrik Fröberg. The farm shop was built in 1993 in the Kärras old earth cellar, and an addition was completed in 2002.

Rehndahl animal farm is located in the neighbouring village. It is open throughout the year and offers a lot to see and do for all age-groups.

HAAPAJÄRVI CHURCH

- was built with the parishioners'
voluntary work

Haapajärvi Church in northern Kirkkonummi was consecrated in 1823, and it is the result of voluntary work and donations from the entire parish. The main entrance stairs are cut in stone and so unique that they are protected and cannot be altered. The bell-tower was completed in 1850.

The solemn church is especially popular for weddings and christenings. The church has also functioned as Kirkkonummi main church during the period 1944-1956 when the southern parts of the parish were part of the Soviet naval base.

Eerikinkartano (Erik's Mansion) and the surrounding Navala Park are located close to the church. They are part of the biggest private donation that Kirkkonummi municipality has ever received. The main building performs the functions of a meeting and celebration hall, and in the park there is a dance barn where Midsummer is usually celebrated.



Photo: Timo Merensilta

- an architectural dream in the national romantic style

The three architects Herman Gesellius, Armas Lindgren and Eliel Saarinen became world-famous almost immediately after graduating from the Technical University since they had drawn the Finnish pavilion to the Paris world exhibition in 1900. Immediately after this they bought a domain next to Vitträsk where they built Hvitträsk 1901-1903. All three built a house of their own, in national romantic style, made of natural stone and logs. The differences in height on the rocky plot were used skilfully.

The main building, which was drawn by Eliel Saarinen, was built in seven levels and functions nowadays as a museum. The Saarinen family lived in the building, and all the furniture was designed by Eliel Saarinen.

The northern wing was designed by Armas Lindgren, but it was destroyed by a fire in 1922. The reconstructed wing was drawn by Eliel Saarinen's son Eero Saarinen. The architects shared a studio which lay between the wing and the main building. The studio was visited by many esteemed figures such as Akseli Gallen-Kallela.

Herman Gesellius built his house, which was called the Little Villa, on the other side of the courtyard. It nowadays houses a restaurant and a café.

Many plans have been drawn at Hvitträsk, e.g. for the Helsinki Railway Station and the National Museum of Finland. There are many buildings in Kirkkonummi designed by the Hvitträsk architects.



Photo: www.nba.fi / Museovirasto



Photo: Timo Merensilta

When was the construction work actually started on the grey-granite church which now gives its profile to Kirkkonummi centre? Already in the 13th century or as late as in the 15th century? Experts still have varying opinions about the point of time. However, one thing is for certain: after the construction was started there has been additions to the church, and it has reached a magnificent cruciform shape and space for 550 people.

Four stained-glass pictures were ordered from the artist Lennart Segerstråle before Kirkkonummi parish had its 600 anniversary celebration in 1930. They still belong to the most precious treasures the church houses, although they had to be evacuated for the period when the Soviet naval base operated in the Porkkala area. The church-visitors also appreciate the simple charcoal-drawing made by Lennart Segerstråle before the evacuation. This drawing almost created a serious political conflict.

The church housed dances and theatre and film performances during the Soviet naval base era. Significant donations were received afterwards for the renovation of the church, also from the neighbouring Nordic countries. The 32-register organ came from Denmark.

The urn cemetery below the church with its extensive plantations is also worth a visit. It is planned by Bey Heng.



The magnificent Art Nouveau style castle of Majvik was built already at the beginning of the 20th century and it was probably designed by Armas Lindgren. The first owner of Majvik was Professor A. E. af Forselles. The castle is well-preserved with all its exquisite Art Nouveau details. Many of the hardwood and rare trees, bushes and plants which he planted can still be found in the park surrounding the castle.

When the Soviet Union used the Porkkala area as a naval base, the castle got a new function. Because it was situated so close to the border and quite high up on the second highest hill of Kirkkonummi it was a perfect location for a spy centre from where the activities of the Finnish defensive forces were carefully monitored. Majvik also functioned as a spy training centre.

The castle is nowadays a part of Majvik Meeting and Convention Hotel.

MASALA CHURCH

- a 21st century church in Apostle Matthew spirit

The symbols on the walls and on the richly coloured mosaic floor in Masaby Church are clear and deeply anchored to the Bible, especially to the Gospel of Matthew. The church has thus quite logically been named the Church of Matthew, also when bearing in mind that there are lots of families with children in Masala and the parish hopes that they will find their way to the church.

Masala Church was consecrated in February 2000 and it is an unusually harmonious architectural creation. Architect Erkki Pitkäranta, who drew the plans, has together with the artist Jan-Erik Andersson concretized the decorations full of symbols into practical art. These two men have also designed all the church textiles which have been made by local craftsmen.



Photo: Timo Merensilta

MEIKO AREA WITH RUSSIAN BUNKERS - magnificent nature and warlike history



Photo: Maaret Eloranta



Meiko wilderness area by the big Meiko lake has very clear water and lies in Kvarnby in northern Kirkkonummi. Meiko is part of the Nature 2000-area which lies in the Kirkkonummi and Siuntio municipalities, and it covers an area of almost 2000 hectares. A large part of the shores, groves and old forests are protected or restricted areas.

The nature is varied from old forests to lush groves. Primary rock can be seen in many places, and there are small swamps in the hollows. For example eagle owl, hazel-hen and nightjar represent the bird species of the area.

There are resting-places and marked paths which makes it easier to find one's way.

The northern border of the Soviet military base ran through this forest area. Inside the base area extensive fortifications were built 1944-1956. Two reinforced cannon bunkers and the surrounding trenches have been sign-posted; the forest however hides dozens of trenches, bunkers and remains of border constructions.

UPINNIEMI SEA CHAPEL

- the sea as its inspiration



A bow of a ship proceeding through the waves. This is the impression the Upinniemi Sea Chapel should convey according to architect Mikko Heliövaara's intention. The impression is reinforced by the bell-tower.

Upinniemi Sea Chapel is the first military church built in the independent Finland. The chapel was consecrated in 1965. It is located on the garrison area which once constituted the grounds of Upinniemi manor. The Soviet Union founded a fortified naval port during the time the Soviet naval base was active on the area. The port was taken over by the Finnish Defence Forces when the Porkkala area was returned.

A special permission granted by the garrison administration is needed for visiting the Sea Chapel. Every now and then Kirkkonummi parishes arrange services for the public in the chapel.



Photo: Maaret Eloranta

ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY IN VOLS

- always open on Sunday evenings if the visibility is good

Only a couple of kilometres from Kirkkonummi centre, in proximity of Vols old people's home, lies the observatory of the astronomical society Kirkkonummen Komeetta. The circumstances for making observations are ideal as the visibility is good and there are no disturbing sources of light. The observatory is always open on Sunday evenings if the visibility is good.



Photo: Seppo Linnaluoto

POKROVA ORTHODOX BROTHERHOOD

- an aesthetic experience with profundity

The gilded dome of the Pokrova Church shines like a sun over the Jorvas landscape and dispels any doubts about the nature of the building. Pokrova stands for Virgin Mary's protection. The Dannebrog property got the Pokrova name when Father Hariton in 1996 commenced the enormous task which today constitutes a brotherhood trying to get the status of a monastery.

The old horse stables, which were used as a bakery during the Soviet naval base era 1944-1956, have been transformed into a colourful church with the help of Russian icon painters and many voluntary workers. The kitchen and a cosy dining-hall are placed in the main building. The guests are treated with delicacies with a Russian touch.

The garden has been restored and added on during the years, and it is an oasis to enjoy in silence. And the visitors have the chance to stay as there are accommodation premises in the new building.

Pokrova welcomes visitors to a limited extent, by pre-agreement during certain periods of time. Open-house days are arranged regularly, and there are borscht soup and cabbage pasties on sale.

The Finnish Orthodox Archdiocese constitutes an autonomous church in connection with the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople. The number of members in the Finnish Orthodox church is approximately 60,000.



PORKKALA HAVSBY

- surrounded by well-equipped open-air recreation areas

Porkkala Havsby with its guest harbour is situated on the southernmost point on the Porkkala Cape, by the fairway between Helsinki and Hanko. It is a boater's closest stage when leaving Helsinki and setting off to west. The protected harbour in Dragesvik has 30 places for guest boats and a service building with a toilet, sauna, shower and laundry-room. On the harbour area there is a shop, a café, and a summer restaurant and fuel sale. In the harbour there is also a launching ramp which is popular among sport fishermen.

The guest harbour is surrounded by areas owned by Föreningen Nylands friluftsområden (open-air recreation area association in Uusimaa), Kirkkonummi municipality, city of Vantaa and Nurmijärvi municipality. The open-air recreational areas are sign-posted, and there are parking spaces, covered cooking areas, places where log-fires can be lit, wells and toilets.



Photo: Jonna Harju

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Photo: Maaret Eloranta

The main building on Ragvalds farm is as it used to be when the last owner Bertil Malmström was alive. The current main building was built at the beginning of the 19th century. Bertil Malmström was a bachelor and careful with his money, thus there is 19th century furniture acquired by his parents still left in the dining-room and the main-room.

The exhibition in the Eliasvilla on the museum area is dedicated to the period 1944-1956 when a large part of Kirkkonummi was a part of the Soviet naval base. For example photographer Jan Kaila's photo series "96 Russian objects" is on display here.

The farm-hand's quarters next to Ragvalds' main building have been rebuilt into an activity hall, where there is for example a museum workshop for children.

Old ornamental plants and other plants which belong to the traditional farming environment flourish on the museum area, where there is also a teaching garden with old cultivated and useful plants. Pick a seed of the German chervil which tastes of anise and liquorice. It grows wild in the vicinity of many farms, and it can be enjoyed as reminiscence of the monks from Padise monastery in Estonia – they brought with them cultivation skills to the south coast of Finland.

SARFVIK MANOR MUSEUM

- a well-kept milieu with fine details



Photo: Börje Forsberg

Sarfvik Manor has a long history which dates back to the 16th century. The current main building was built around 1890, and the Kirkkonummi homestead society got the right of disposal to the manor and the premises according to the will of Anna Nyman, the last owner.

The manor now functions as a museum with many exciting details. In the museum there are for example a long-pile rug from 1786 and a tiled stove probably inspired by the Statue of Liberty in New York. In the kitchen one can acquaint oneself with the kind of household utensils which were used before the 1950's.

The manor is located right next to the border which was drawn when the Soviet Union had a naval base on the Porkkala area. During that period Anna Nyman and her siblings lived e.g. in Pernå and Borgå, and there are many objects from that time in the attic.

Sarfvik Manor Museum

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We made this guide!

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