

Aulanko Nature Reserve

- 152,5 ha
- Established: 1930
- Location: Hämeenlinna
 (4 km from the centre
 of Hämeenlinna. Signposted
 from main roads 3 and 10)

Metsähallitus, park management

- Customer Service mon-fri from 9 am to 3 pm: tel. +358 (0)206 39 5270, sisasuomi@metsa.fi
- nationalparks.fi/aulanko
- www.facebook.com/ aulangonluonnonsuojelualue

Nature Reserve

Aulanko

Take a romantic walk in the heart of the National Urban Park. Become enthralled by a national landscape, enjoy the tranquillity of a cedar forest or climb up the granite stairs at Aulangonvuori Hill to lift up your spirits and to stay in shape. Open all year round, Aulanko is an ideal place to relax, hike, enjoy nature and study the cultural history of the area.

From a manor house to a nature reserve

There were fortifications on Aulangonvuori Hill (150 metres above sea level) in ancient times. Aulanko forest park was constructed in the late 19th and early 20th century by Colonel Hugo Standertskjöld, who had gained his wealth from arms business in Russia. He bought the Karlberg manor on the shores of Lake Vanajavesi and built an English-style park in the area. The Karlberg manor was located where Hotel Aulanko stands today. Extensive building work took place, the park area was cleared, foreign tree and shrub species were planted, and two ponds, pavilions and a solidlooking granite castle were also constructed. The 33-metre high observation tower on Aulangonvuori Hill is the most impressive of the structures in the forest park.

Standertskjöld's wish was that the park should remain an open place for everyone to enjoy. After passing through various hands, Aulanko became a statutory nature reserve in 1991. Today, Aulanko Nature Reserve and the Sibelius Forest Nature Reserve established on the eastern side of Lake Aulangonjärvi in 2018 are part of the wider Natura 2000 network and Finland's first National Urban Park.

Hiking trails in a lush forest

Compared with its surroundings, Aulanko is characterised by lush vegetation. Species planted here in the early 20th century diversified the plant life. Nearly all southern broadleaved tree species growing naturally in Finland can be found in Aulanko. The park's specialities include curly birches and groves of foreign tree species. The natural rowan tree forest in the Rose Valley is a rarity, and the impressive cedar forest is one of the gems of the area.

There are several hiking trails in the area to choose from. The one-kilometre trail around Joutsenlampi lake showcases the tree and shrub species of the park. In addition to walking trails, Aulanko has a six-kilometre demanding MTB trail and riding

trails. Cycling is allowed on sandy paths. In winter, you can take a tour around Aulanko forests on skis on two lit ski tracks (4.5 and 6 km)

Sights and services

There is a fresco depicting a hunting scene on the lower platform of the Aulangonvuori Hill observation deck. From the observation deck, a set of steps descends to the Bear Cave where a bear family sculpted by Robert Stigell greets the visitors. In summer, there is a café at the tower, and a children's theatre can be found at the Granite Castle. The tower is open from 8 am to 8 pm daily during the summer. . Aulanko Nature Activity Center in the immediate vicinity of the nature reserve is a good starting point for exploring the area. Local buses take you from the city centre to the parking area of the Nature Activity Center.

Partner companies' services: www.nationalparks.fi/aulanko/services/partners



Enjoy the outdoors while protecting nature

- •You can explore Aulanko on foot and on skis.
- •The one-way ring road is open to motor vehicles every day in summer between 8am and 11pm.
- •Cycling is only permitted on the paved one-way ring road and gravel-surfaced roads and trails. When cycling, please take other people walking on the trails into consideration.
- •A designated MTB trail (demanding 6-km trail) is available for mountain biking. The starting point of the trail is in the parking area of Aulanko Nature Activity Center. When cycling, please take other people walking on the trails into consideration.
- Horse-riding is only permitted on designated trails.
- •Camping and lighting open fires are not allowed.
- Visitors are allowed to pick berries and edible mushrooms, but not rocks or plants. Remember to leave wild animals undisturbed.
- •Follow the rules of litter-free hiking. Please take all wastes away when you leave.
- •Hunting and fishing is not permitted in the park.
- •Pets must be kept on a leash.



Instructions and Rules

nationalparks.fi/aulanko/instructionsandrules

Outdoor Etiquette

nationalparks.fi/hikinginfinland/visitorguidelines

Emergency number 112

- some parts of the park have no mobile phone reception!

METSÄHALLITUS 5/2023 PHOTOS: METSÄHALLITUS/MAARIT VAAHTERANOKSA





