



Linnansaari National park

- Location: Rantasalmi, Savonlinna, Varkaus
- Total area: 97 km²
- Established: 1956



Metsähallitus, Parks and Wildlife Finland

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National Park

Linnansaari

Linnansaari National Park contains some of the best scenery in Finland's lovely Lake District, including hundreds of green islands and rocky islets. Explore the realm of the osprey and the rare Saimaa ringed seal and learn how local landscapes bear traces of farming methods used in days gone by.

Diverse nature

The park includes a watery labyrinth of channels, bays and islands, as well as the more open waters, which are only sparsely dotted with rocky islets.

The woodland habitats on the park's islands are very varied.

Some steep rocky shores are only sparsely wooded with pines. But further inland on the larger islands are many areas of lush broad-leaved woodland. Such habitats are more widespread here than in Finland's other national parks.

Heritage landscapes are actively maintained in parts of the national park today.

Lakeland wildlife

Linnansaari lies in a part of the vast Saimaa Lake System. The area is home to about 70 Saimaa ringed seals (*Pusa hispida saimensis*). The seals raise their pups in snowy dens on top of the frozen lake in late winter, when it is vital to avoid disturbing their breeding areas.

The warm winds of spring bring many winged migrants back to Finnish Lakeland, including fish-eating ospreys (*Pandion*

haliaetus), whose large nests can be seen in pine trees by the lakeshore. Osprey population densities are very high around Linnansaari, with 10–20 pairs breeding in the area annually.

Exploring the park

The park provides ideal settings for adventurous canoeists, boaters, ramblers and, in winter, long distance ice-skating trekkers.

The best way to explore the park is to rent a canoe or rowboat for a few days. Marked trails on the main island offer a possibility to experience diverse lakeland nature.

A simple campsite at Sammakonniemi offers simple cabins for rent, a sauna and a jetty for visiting boats and it is run by a local firm. A maintained skating trail passes through the park over Lake Haukivesi in late winter.

Please help us to protect nature

- Please respect nature and do not disturb your fellow hikers or wildlife.
- Please leave no litter! There are no waste bins in the park. You can leave biodegradable waste in the dry toilets.
- Take all other waste out of the area.
- You may freely explore the park by boat and on foot, except the restricted areas marked on the map.
- You can pick wild mushrooms and berries, but please do not collect plants or stones.
- You may not enter restricted areas marked on the map during the breeding season for the lake's seals and birds – between 1st January and 30th April (or in some areas 15th July).
- Using motor vehicles on ice is forbidden in the restricted area marked on the map from 1st January to 30th April.
- You can light campfires in the sites provided in the camping areas marked on the map (using the firewood provided). Lighting campfires is forbidden everywhere when strong winds are blowing or forest fire warnings are in effect.
- Camping is allowed 1.5.–31.12. in the marked camping sites where facilities are provided.
- Fishing is permitted with a simple rod and line, ice-fishing tackle or a reel and lure (subject to permit) except in the pond on Linnansaari island.
- Please keep pets on a leash!

www.nationalparks.fi/linnansaarinp > Instructions and rules

Emergency number 112



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