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km

max
2 days

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Koli National Park

Kiehisen kierros Trail

This trail in the lesser-known southern part of Koli National Park gathers together some of the rarer treasures of the park. On your hike, you can learn more about the values of the national park and operating in the wilderness.

Have you already learned basic outdoor skills from day hikes? The Kiehisen kierros Trail helps you get more confident on overnight hikes before tackling the longer hiking route around Herajärvi. The trail crisscrossing through gorgeous fell nature is a versatile hiking route where you can pick the starting point and length according to your outdoor experience.

If you start at Pirunkirkko, you will first come to the beautiful vistas of Jauholanvaara over the Herajärvi Lake and the opposite fells. The trail continues towards the Ylä-Murhi rental hut past meadowed yards where you can also camp. Pass

Pitkälampi to the managed meadow of Turusenaho. From there, the forested trail zigzags to the traditional environment of the Lakkala rental hut on the shore of Herajärvi where you can camp and enjoy the atmosphere of this pastoral site.

After enjoying the westward views of Vesivaara, you'll continue through a pine forest until you get to the wading cable in the Herajoki River. After you cross the river, you are rewarded by the stunning Rykiniemi beach with a possibility to camp on the Pielinen Lake.

The return trip runs partly along the same route. Are you brave enough to visit the Pirunkirkko Cave before heading home?



METSÄHALLITUS 12/2022. PHOTOS: MITJA PIIPPONEN.

TOP 3

1. Stunning views to Herajärvi
2. Traditional farmyards with grazing animals and meadows
3. Diverse options for an overnight hike.

AVAILABLE: In the snow-free season.

STARTING POINTS: Pirunkirkko parking area, Rantatie 118, Lieksa; Seppälä parking area, Herajärven rantatie 36, Kontiolahti and Rykiniemi parking area, Vaaralahdentie 116, Joensuu.

TRAIL MARKINGS: White circles. The signposts at trail junctions have been numbered and the numbers correspond to the numbering of the Koli service and trail map (1:50 000).

RECOMMENDED GEAR: Weather-appropriate hiking clothes, an insect hat, hiking boots suitable for varied terrain and river crossing. Backpack with water and water purification equipment, food, fire-making tools and portable stove, camping gear, head torch, toilet paper, trash bag, first aid kit, charged phone, compass and map.

SAFETY: The emergency number: 112

The route is partly difficult to hike and features open cliff faces which might be slippery. Especially in the dry season, carry enough drinking water and water purification equipment. Before your trip, always check for any weather warnings: en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/warnings

INSTRUCTIONS AND RULES: During a forest and grass fire warning, making a fire is not allowed at any of the trail's camp-fire sites. Please read before your trip:

nationalparks.fi/hikinginfinland/visitorguidelines
nationalparks.fi/kolinp/instructionsandrules

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