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LAND OF A THOUSAND LAKES, 8 DAYS – FOR FISHERS

Tour the scenic highlights of Finland's famous Lake District including five national parks where pristine blue lakes are surrounded by green forests.

Activities: swimming, sauna, guided excursions, fishing, sightseeing in Lahti

Tourist information: www.visitpajanne.fi
www.nationalparks.fi/hamenaturecentre

DAY 1

Relax like the locals in a waterside cottage by beautiful Lake Päijänne. Start your trip in the most Finnish way possible with the soothing heat of a sauna and a refreshing dip in clear water.

DAY 2

Take a fishing trip on Lake Päijänne, Finland's second largest lake, also visiting the rocky Islands and sandy eskers of Päijänne National Park



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From Helsinki drive north to the shores of Lake Päijänne, via the city of Lahti, where you can stop to shop or see the sights. There are plenty of cozy cabins and cottages to rent by Lake Päijänne, where you can enjoy beautiful scenery, take a sauna, and go swimming and fishing. Forget the rush and just let your mind and body relax!

Accommodation: www.visitpajanne.fi
www.nationalparks.fi/pajannep/services/partners

Other options around the Lahti Region:
www.visitlahti.fi/en

Services: www.visitpajanne.fi



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Lake Päijänne is the second largest lake in Finland. In the middle of the lake lies a natural treasure: Päijänne National Park 📍🐟, with its many small islets, larger islands with rocky cliffs, and long islands made of sandy esker ridges. This southern part of the lake has about fifty uninhabited islands and islets. Visit Päijänne House, whose exhibition features the history of fishing in Finland from the Stone Age to modern times. Here you can also learn about the fishing lures made by the well-known local company Rapala. Many kinds of fish can be caught in this vast lake, including trout and lake salmon during colder



periods, and pike, perch and zander when the water is warmer.

Accommodation: www.visitpajanne.fi
www.nationalparks.fi/pajannep/services/partners
 Other options around the Lahti Region: www.visitlahti.fi

Services: www.visitpajanne.fi, Padasjoki Harbour (restaurant, summer shop, sauna, shower, barbeque, taxi boat services)

Fishing in Lake Päijänne: www.visitpajanne.fi/fishing
www.fishinginfinland.fi/lake_pajanne

Activities: The sandy shores and coves of Lake Päijänne's esker islands welcome visitors exploring the lake by boat or canoe. Hiking trails on the elongated island of Kelvenne offer fine Lakeland views. Boat services around the summer.

Tourist information: www.visitpajanne.fi
www.lehmonkarki.fi
www.nationalparks.fi/en/hamenaturecentre

DAY 3

Quintessentially Finnish Lakeland landscapes



From Asikkala drive towards the city of Jyväskylä along the shores of Lake Päijänne through sparsely

populated countryside, with vast forests, farmland, and occasional views of magnificent Lake Päijänne. Some of the most impressive vistas can be seen at Karisalmi Strait by Pulkkilanharju ②, an esker ridge within the Päijänne National Park. Further north, the graceful Kärkistensalmi Bridge ③ crosses the lake, offering unforgettable views. At your destination for the day, the city of Jyväskylä, you can follow in the footsteps of the world-famous Finnish architect Alvar Aalto, see the city's cultural attractions, and also enjoy amazing encounters with urban nature. Keen anglers can try their luck at the rapids along the River Muuramenjoki near Jyväskylä ④.

Accommodation: Hotels, apartments and campsites around Jyväskylä www.visitjyvaskyla.fi

Services: www.visitjyvaskyla.fi
Fishing in Jyväskylä: Muuramenjoki Rapids www.fishing.fi/rbu.asp?id=3302&iid=11554&l=e

Tourist information: www.visitpajanne.fi
www.visitjyvaskyla.fi

DAY 4

The crystal clear waters of Keitele and Konnevesi



From Jyväskylä drive north.

The splendid rapids at Kuusaankoski, just half an hour's drive from Jyväskylä, are a great place to try your luck fishing along the route ⑤. Go solo, or hire a local fishing guide to get good tips. The beautiful scenery around these wild rapids makes a photogenic setting for fishing adventures www.skyx.fi/virtual/El/varjola



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Drive on through the beautiful countryside of Central Finland. The town of Äänekoski has grown up alongside a set of rapids linking two large lakes. It is an important centre for Finland's thriving forest industries (pulp, paper and timber), and also known for sports and music, but the town still remains close to nature. With its clean, clear waters, nearby Lake Keitele is popular with local fishers, as are the rapids at Kapeenkoski ⑥.

After trying your luck in Lake Keitele, drive on to Southern Konnevesi National Park for the evening ⑦+⑧. Häyrylänranta Harbour in the town of Konnevesi, where you can swim by a sandy beach and take a lake cruise or paddle a canoe through superb lakeland scenery. Watch out for



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ospreys soaring over the lake. The pristine waters of Southern Konnevesi are home to many kinds of fish, including wild brown trout. The lake is dotted with hundreds of islands and islets.

Accommodation:

www.nationalparks.fi/southernkonnevesinp/services

Services: Häyrylänranta Harbour, cruises, restaurant, camping and canoe rental www.hayrylanranta.com

Stop off to enjoy a spot of fishing between Jyväskylä and Southern Konnevesi: Kuusaankoski Rapids www.varjola.com/activities

Kapeenkoski Rapids www.kapeenkoski.com/fishing

Activities: Swimming, canoeing, rowing, fishing

Tourist information:

www.nationalparks.fi/seitseminennaturecentre
www.visitcentralfinland.com



DAY 5

The rocky hills of Southern Konnevesi National Park
 Fishing waters in Southern Konnevesi National Park include raging rapids as well as placid clear-watered lakes. There are seven sets of rapids perfect for fly fishing in the area.

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If you wish to also explore the park on foot, we recommend starting your day by exploring the lakeside forests. Drive to the car park at Kalaja. The 4.6-km Kalajan Kierros trail leads to Kalajanvuori Hill through old-growth forests where huge aspen trees reach towards the sky. By the pond at Vuori-Kalaja there is a campfire shelter where you can enjoy your packed lunch. Allow plenty of time to follow the trail all the way to the hilltop, wear strong shoes, and don't forget your camera!



DAY 6

Linnansaari National Park



After your day in Southern Konnevesi, head on to Finland's largest lake: Saimaa, and lovely Linnansaari National Park  .

Accommodation: Oravi Village www.oravivillage.com
Porosalmi www.jarvisydan.com

Accommodation is also available in Savonlinna www.visitsavonlinna.fi

Activities: Hiking, fishing

Fishing in Southern Konnevesi National Park:

www.etela-konnevesi.fi/luontomatkailun-koordinoitihanke/kalapaikat
www.nationalparks.fi/southernkonnevesinp/activities
www.konnevedenkosket.fi/en/21/home

Today's destination is Linnansaari National Park – an ideal place to spot rare lake seals and majestic ospreys. This part of Lake Saimaa is dotted with lush green islands and rocky islets. A boat service takes trippers to the main island where you can fish and swim in Lake Saimaa or walk along the trails. You can also join boat or fishing trips organised by local firms.

Accommodation: Oravi Village www.oravivillage.com
Porosalmi www.jarvisydan.com

Accommodation is also available in Savonlinna
www.visitsavonlinna.fi

Services: www.nationalparks.fi/linnansaarinp/services
www.visitsavonlinna.fi

Fishing and other activities in Linnansaari National Park:

Boat trips to Linnansaari National Park, nature trail, sauna, organised outings:

www.nationalparks.fi/en/linnansaarinp

Enjoy an unforgettable fishing trip on Finland's largest lake, Saimaa:

www.saimaaholiday.net

www.oravivillage.com/en/Activities/Summer/Fishing

Tourist information: www.visitsavonlinna.fi



DAY 7

Outstanding views from the famous ridge of Punkaharju



Today's first sightseeing stop is the historic town of Savonlinna, where a grand medieval castle overlooks Lake Saimaa. From Savonlinna head to



the esker ridge of Punkaharju  , which has been an internationally known tourist destination for 200 years, due to its exceptional natural beauty. This scene, with beautiful blue lakes visible on either side of the pine-clad ridge, is considered to be one of Finland's national landscapes.

Finland's lovely lake district is also ideal for fishers. In Punkaharju there are many great spots for lure fishing, jigging or fishing with a simple rod and baited line. Many accommodation providers also rent out boats and fishing tackle.

Another unmissable attraction here is Lusto – The Finnish Forest Museum.

You can choose to stay another day in picture perfect Punkaharju, or head on for the evening to the town of Lappeenranta on the southern shores of Lake Saimaa.

Accommodation: Punkaharju www.visitpunkaharju.fi and the town of Lappeenranta offers a variety of accommodation www.visitlappeenranta.fi

Services: www.nationalparks.fi/punkaharju
www.visitpunkaharju.fi
www.lusto.fi
www.visitlappeenranta.fi

Fishing in the Punkaharju area and Lappeenranta:

Hire a local professional fishing guide from Punkaharju to help you discover the best fishing spots and techniques:

www.visitpunkaharju.fi/en/activities

In Lappeenranta you can try angling, trolling, trawling excursions, jig-fishing, crayfish safaris, or setting and lifting traditional local fishnets, with help from local experts:

www.gosaimaa.com/en/activities

www.visitlappeenranta.fi/en/activities




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DAY 8

Back to Helsinki



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On the last day of your tour head back south to Helsinki. The Finnish capital is a modern city with over half a million residents. Helsinki offers lots to see, do and experience for visitors of all ages – including keen fishers. Though the River Vantaa  lies near the outer suburbs of Helsinki, it flows through beautiful natural scenery and farmland. There are many great places to fish from its banks, and you can get to the river easily from the city centre, also on local buses.

- Vanhankaupunginkoski Rapids
- Vantaankoski Rapids
- Pitkääkoski Rapids

www.iesite.fi/vantaanjoki

Local fishing guides: www.helsinkiifishingguide.com

Tourist information: www.visithelsinki.fi

For more information:

Finnish Nature Centre Haltia, haltia@metsa.fi

Häme Nature Centre, hame@metsa.fi

Seitsemäinen Nature Centre, seitsemainen@metsa.fi

Saimaa Nature Centre Riihisaari, saimaa@metsa.fi

www.eraluvat.fi is a web portal giving access to thousands of Finnish fishing waters. Check how and when you need to pay the national fisheries management fee and where you also need separate local fishing permits. The website also provides information on different fishing methods and explains how Finland's fishing waters are managed. When planning your fishing trip please note that in some fishing waters, especially rapids, "catch and release" is the only permissible form of fishing.

Nationalparks.fi
Up-to-date information about Finnish national parks and their facilities

VisitFinland.com
The official travel guide of Finland

Outdoorsfinland.com
Find the best hiking, cycling and canoeing trails in Finland

Outdoors  Visit Finland

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