



Photo: Petri Järvinen

## Kimitoön, Pargas, Salo, Teijo and Archipelago National Parks

# Sea Eagle Trail

### – Boating and paddling route, Archipelago Sea

Experience the idyllic villages on the southwest coast and the beautiful landscapes of the Archipelago and Teijo National Parks. The waterway around Finland's largest maritime island, Kimitoön, is located within the three municipalities of Salo, Kimitoön and Pargas. The Sea Eagle Trail can be done by motorboat and sailboat as well as paddling or rowing. The "sea eagle" (i.e. white-tailed eagle) is the emblem of the Archipelago National Park – come to the eagle's territory and experience the Archipelago Sea, one of Finland's national landscapes.

- ▶ Explore the route with the [virtual guide](https://storymaps.arcgis.com) (storymaps.arcgis.com)
- ▶ The route video (youtube.com)



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# Overall trail information

During the summer, most villages and ports on the Sea Eagle Trail offer a variety of services for boaters and paddlers, and nature in Southwest Finland is at its peak. Even though there are fewer services available along the trail in spring and autumn, visitors will be able to experience the peace and tranquillity of life in coastal and archipelago villages as well as the awakening of the Archipelago Sea's unique nature or the colourful autumn showcase.

The Sea Eagle Trail consists of eight stages. The total length of the trail is approximately 155 kilometres. The idyllic villages along the Salo coast and their sights can easily be reached in the beginning stages of the trail. In the middle stages of the trail, visitors will stop at the villages of Kimitoön islands and the Archipelago National Park, with their charming excursion harbours and nature trails. At the end of the route there are fewer harbours and services available, but that also translates to the peace and quiet of rural landscapes.

The Sea Eagle Trail ranges from long and narrow sheltered bays between Kimitoön and Salo as well as between Kimitoön and Sagu to the more open expanses of Klobbfjärden and Gullkrona bays.

When boating and paddling the trail, always respect the coastal and archipelago nature, local residents and other visitors. Read instructions and tips for sustainable and responsible hiking and boating in Outdoor Etiquette.

## Services

Some of the destinations and services along the trail are only open during the summer. Check the websites of sites and services for up-to-date opening hours and weather warnings in the area. Plan your trip carefully, i.e. book accommodations in advance and check the location of the camping sites. Please note that you can only stay on boats and camping sites on islands in the Teijo and Archipelago National Parks along the Sea Eagle Trail.

## Safety

The Sea Eagle Trail is a long-distance water trail where traffic and weather conditions can vary greatly. The segment around the northern and eastern parts of Kimitoön is a narrower part of the trail that is protected by the mainland and islands. On the western and southern segments of the trail, the winds blowing across the bays of Hangö västra fjärden,

Gullkorna fjärden and Pemarfjärden, should be taken into account when planning your trip. Only bring along intact and well-maintained equipment and rescue equipment.

Use the trail in accordance with the water traffic rules, while exercising caution. As a rule, the trail described here follows the fairway marked on the nautical charts (lowest depth 2.9 m) but is only indicative. When navigating at sea, always use a nautical chart. The stage descriptions show the number of the nautical chart page where the stage and its harbours can be found. When exiting the fairway to turn into harbours and destinations, observe the trail and instructions for each guest, service and excursion harbour and guest pier. At the start point of the trail at Vuohensaari, the depth of the approach route is approximately 1.8 m. You can also start the trail from other harbours.

Bridge underpass clearances: Pungböle bridge 15.4 m, Strömman canal bridge 3.4 m, Strömman museum bridge 2.1 m. The contact details for opening the Strömman canal bridge can be found on the Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency website.

Protect yourself from ticks. Ticks thrive particularly well in coastal and archipelago nature. Wear light-coloured clothing so that the dark-coloured ticks are easier to spot. When travelling in tall grass and forests, wear pants with the legs tucked into your socks. Inspect for ticks every night and remove any found with tick removers, which are sold in pharmacies.

## Tips

When paddling, you can choose more sheltered and shorter routes between destinations than those described in this trail guide. There are some tips on sheltered route alternatives for paddling the stages as well as information on landings only suitable for paddlecraft. In addition to Vuohensaari in Salo, you can start the Sea Eagle Trail from several points. The recommended starting points for sailboats and bigger motorboats on the Sea Eagle Trail are Mathildedal and Särkisalo harbours in Salo, Dalsbruk and Kasnäs in Kimitoön, and Pargas Port. Boats and kayaks can be rented in Dalsbruk and Kasnäs, and kayaks and SUP-boards in Mathildedal.

If you choose to take a shortcut after Dalsbruk, going from Falkofjärden bay under the Lövä bridge (underpass clearance 18 m), heading straight to Högsåra island and skipping the stop in Kasnäs, the total trail length will be approximately 10 km shorter. The trail can be shortened by the same amount by

heading straight to Purunpää on the fairway north of Brändö after passing under the Lövä bridge and skipping Kasnä and Högsåra.

Book enough time to get to know the many interesting cultural and nature sites along the trail. During the summer months, guest harbours and accommodations may be in high demand, so check the availability of overnight accommodations in advance. If you plan to stay overnight somewhere other than on your boat or in a tent, book your accommodations in advance. Outside the summer season, guest harbours and some accommodations are closed or open only with advance reservations.

In Finland, Everyman's rights mean that each and every person has the right to use nature regardless of who owns or occupies an area. Everyman's rights may include boats, swimming, angling, roaming in forests, spending time, and staying overnight on a temporary basis in areas, where roaming is also permitted. Camping in national parks is only permitted at designated sites.

## 1. Stage Vuohensaari– Mathildedal

The Sea Eagle Trail starts on Vuohensaari in Salo and takes boat and paddle tourers to the ironworks villages of Teijo and Mathildedal past the marine islands of the Teijo National Park.

The island of Vuohensaari lies just the island of Vuohensaari, which lies just off the coast of Salo in Halikonlahti bay. Vuohensaari is a popular recreational area, with services such as camping, a café, restaurant, nature trail, miniature golf and beach.

The trail continues between Vartsalansaari and Angelansaari islands, towards Papinsaari, Mäntysaari and Kaisaari islands of Teijo National Park. Kayaks and small boats can land on Kaisaari island's sand beach. From here, the journey continues across Kirjakkalanselkä bay towards Teijonselkä bay.

Teijo ironworks village in Salo has one of Finland's most beautiful Rococo manor houses, Finland's

### More information

- [Outdoor Etiquette \(nationalparks.fi\)](https://nationalparks.fi)
- [The Finnish Transport Infrastructure Agency \(vayla.fi\)](https://vayla.fi)
- [Weather and warnings \(ilmatieteenlaitos.fi\)](https://ilmatieteenlaitos.fi)
- [Paddle safety \(nationalparks.fi\)](https://nationalparks.fi)
- [Safe boating \(nationalparks.fi\)](https://nationalparks.fi)
- [Protect against ticks \(nationalparks.fi\)](https://nationalparks.fi)
- [Salo map](#) (the boat ramp and parking area on Satamakatu are indicated by the letter P on the guide map)

### Starting and ending point Vuohensaari, Salo

The city of Salo has good public transport connections from Turku and Helsinki. From the city centre of Salo, you can reach the starting point of the trail on Vuohensaari via Satamakatu road (distance 4.4 km). Signs for Vuohensaari are posted on all main roads. Along Satamakatu, which leads to Vuohensaari, there is an asphalted boat ramp on the Salonjoki River. The boat ramp is located halfway between the city centre and Vuohensaari island. There is a parking area at the Satamakatu boat ramp. The parking lot is unguarded.

Photo: OneTake Productions



smallest stone church and several other cultural-historically important buildings. The village history is palpable everywhere and the beautiful trails of Teijo National Park can be easily reached from the village.

After Teijo, you can stop by or even stay overnight on Isoholma island, which is part of Teijo National Park. There are campfire sites, lean-to shelters and dry toilets on the island. It is roughly two kilometres from Isoholma island to Mathildedal.

The Mathildedal ironworks village has experiences for those interested in history, culture and nature. The village is located near the Teijo National Park, between Lake Matildanjärvi and the sea. This

charming artisan village is an ideal setting for enjoying the wide range of services and cultural offerings.

### More information

- [Vuohensaari Camping, in Finnish \(vuohensaari.fi\)](http://vuohensaari.fi)
- [Teijo National Park \(nationalparks.fi\)](http://nationalparks.fi)
- [Teijo and Mathildedal \(visitsalo.fi\)](http://visitsalo.fi)

## 2. Stage Mathildedal–Ulkoluoto

On the second stage, tourers pass through the historic Strömman canal, which separates Salo and Kimitoön. The journey continues to the various maritime islands of Salo, such as Särkisalo, Isoluoto, Ulkoluoto and Pettu, and relaxing archipelago life.

Photo: OneTake Productions



At Särkisalo, you'll encounter magnificent nature and a maritime vibe - here, the sea and nature are omnipresent. Sit and admire the sunset, take a cycling trip to different islands, or explore the shores of Särkisalo, its rocks with spectacular views or its diverse nature. The area is also known for its excellent fishing waters. Särkisalo is busiest in the summer, when the island harbours are filled with boats and summer residents arrive at their cottages.

The end point of stage 2 is on the small island of Algrundet, which lies between the islands of Niksaari and Ulkoluoto. The island has a guest pier

and café-restaurant, among other services. Other good stopping places nearby are Förby harbour at Ulkoluoto and Tiiranta at Särkisalo main island, with its many services. In addition to cafés and restaurants, Särkisalo also has rental cottages. On Algrundet, there are guest piers with buoys on both sides of the bridge. The pier on the mainland side is used particularly by customers of the Archipelago Restaurant Nixor.

### More information

- [Services in Särkisalo \(visitsalo.fi\)](http://visitsalo.fi)
- [Algrundet, Förby and Tiiranta, in Finnish \(visitsarkisalo.fi\)](http://visitsarkisalo.fi)

## 3. Stage Ulkoluoto–Dalsbruk

On the way from Ulkoluoto to the Dalsbruk ironworks village, you will be travelling along relatively sheltered routes past the archipelago off the Västanfjärd village coast. As you approach Dalsbruk, you will already be able to see old historical wooden houses lining the village shoreline, with modern blocks of flats rising behind them, and the profile of a factory and its tall smokestacks.

Photo: OneTake Productions



Västanfjärd has a centuries-long limestone mining history, which dates back to the 1600s. It also has strong ties to the history of shipping and sailing

ship construction. These waters were once used to transport ore to the ironworks operating in Dalsbruk in 1686–2012.

You can find a full service guest harbour, shops and restaurants in the village of Dalsbruk. There are hiking trails in the nearby forests and a disc golf course. There are accommodation options ranging from Tentsile tree tents to the hotel. From early spring to autumn, the Dalsbruk guest harbour serves visitors arriving with their own boat. Paddlers should

land either at the boat ramp next to the service station or approximately 300 metres to the east, where there is open shoreline.

### More information

- [Services and sights in Dalsbruk \(visitkimitoon.fi\)](#)

## 4. Stage Dalsbruk–Kasnäs

In Stage 4, you will travel from Dalsbruk harbour across Falkofjärden bay, where you can see the Lövö bridge rising high above the water to the east. Paddlers can weave their way between islands on their way to Kasnäs. The fairway passes through more open waters. At Kasnäs harbour, you can find everything you'll need at sea.

Photo: Petri Järvinen



Stop at Fåfängskäret recreation island, which has a pier and dry toilet. The island is the perfect spot for a short break.

In Kasnäs, you can savour an authentic archipelago buffet and even stay a bit longer to relax in the archipelago spa and enjoy a wide range of activities. Hotel Kasnäs does offer comfortable accommodations, but you can also get a good night's sleep in a Tentsile tree tent. There are also lovely nature trails

at Kasnäs village. The Geological Nature Trail (600 m) in Kasnäs takes you on a journey into the world of volcanoes, mountains and the Ice Age. The trail begins in front of the former Archipelago National Park Visitor Centre (Sinisimpukka).

### More information

- [Services and sights in Kasnäs \(kasnas.com\)](#)
- [Kasnäs trails \(visitkimitoon.fi\)](#)

## 5. Stage Kasnäs–Sandön

Set out from Kasnäs by first curving to the west and then heading north. The trail now runs primarily inside the Archipelago National Park. Experience Holma island's unique traditional landscape, Högsåra island's old pilot village and the marvellous sand beaches of Sandön. Hike the nature trails and visit idyllic villages.

Photo: OneTake Productions



From Kasnäs, you can head straight to Högsåra island, but a short hop south to the island of Holma is a worthwhile detour. The west side of the island is part of the Archipelago National Park. Starting

from the village road, there are two nature trails that wind through traditional landscapes and to a scenic overlook, where you can see out to Gullkrona open water.

Have a coffee in Högsåra's idyllic pilot village, which was the favourite summer retreat of Russian Emperor Alexander III. There are two guest harbours on the island and sandy beaches for paddlers right next to the village guest harbour, on the north side of the island at Kejsarhamnen and on the west side at Sandvik. Sandvik beach is part of the Archipelago National Park, and has a maintained campsite. Please note that Högsåra's services are limited outside the summer season, and only small boats and kayaks can land at Sandvik.

After Högsåra, the sheltered inner archipelago changes into the open expanses of the outer archipelago in one fell swoop, as you continue your journey to the sandbar island of Sandön. Let the sea breezes push you towards the stately headland of Purunpää, which is a natural reserve. The ruins of a medieval tavern and its remaining rock carvings can also be found at Krogarudden in Purunpää. Take a break at Jungfruholmen, where you can find the

largest giant's kettle in the Archipelago Sea.

There is a campfire site and campsite with dry toilets in the Archipelago National Park on Sandön. Because the shoreline is shallow, please keep this in mind when mooring a boat. However, paddlers can easily land on the island.

You can also make a quick side trip to the charming Söderlångvik Manor. Visitors may moor their boats for the day, but overnight stays are not allowed. Enjoy the manor atmosphere, a treat at the café and hike the nature trails.

### More information

- [Holma Island \(nationalparks.fi\)](https://nationalparks.fi)
- [Högsåra \(visitkimitoon.fi\)](https://visitkimitoon.fi)
- [Sandvik \(nationalparks.fi\)](https://nationalparks.fi)
- [Purunpää \(visitkimitoon.fi\)](https://visitkimitoon.fi)
- [Sandön \(nationalparks.fi\)](https://nationalparks.fi)
- [Söderlångvik \(soderlangvik.fi\)](https://soderlangvik.fi)

## 6. Stage Sandön–Högland

Enjoy the magnificent landscapes in the northeast corner of the Archipelago National Park. Climb up to the Högland observation tower and see the landscape from a sea eagle's perspective. Even though there are few commercial services along the route, the landscapes are spectacular.

The nature of the Archipelago Sea is exceptionally diverse. Already during the Stone and Bronze Ages, people sought out by the sea, which provided abundant prey, and human settlement began to spread to the area of the Archipelago National Park during the Iron Age.

Next stop is at the island of Högland. It is easy to land there in the north-facing bay, where there is a campsite, campfire site and dry toilet. The island has a pier for boats. In the summer, the fairways can be crowded with pleasure boats, but in the off-season visitors can immerse themselves in true peace and quiet. Remember to watch out for the shoal at the mouth of Högland's bay. Bait a hook and watch the bobbing of the float! And take a hike on two nature trails, you can learn about the life of fishermen and the island's nature on the information boards.

Photo: OneTake Productions



Högland is the highest island in the Archipelago National Park, and the observation tower on the island offers a magnificent view of Gullkorna open water. The triangulation tower that preceded the current tower played an important role during World War II.

On the shore of the main island of Kimitoön, in Ölmos, the skipper and his party can finally relax by wading in the shallow water of the wonderful sandy beach. The beach is also the perfect launch spot for paddlers.

### More information

- [Högland \(nationalparks.fi\)](https://nationalparks.fi)
- [Ölmos beach \(visitkimitoon.fi\)](https://visitkimitoon.fi)

## 7. Stage Högland–Eknäs

The Sea Eagle Trail continues from the island of Högland to the northeast towards Pemarfjärden bay. The trail follows the fairway, which runs around Sandön island and curves towards the Rungoströmmen bridge linking municipalities of Kimitoön and Sagu. Located approximately one kilometre before the bridge, on the Kimitoön side, the Eknäs Holiday Village is the last stop on this stage.

Photo: Johannes Sipponen



Located just over five kilometres to the north of Högland, Pargas Port is the closest place with a shop on this stage. You can also enjoy a sauna and dine at the restaurant and café at Pargas Port's guest harbour. More than ten kilometres west of Högland is the Archipelago National Park island of Dalskär, whose unique underwater sculpture trail is worth exploring. The underwater works of art are submerged at a depth of approximately 3–4 metres and form a sculpture trail, which can be found using buoys and guide ropes. You can explore the sculpture trail by snorkeling and scuba diving. About four kilometres from Dalskär is the idyllic island of Gullkrona, which has a guest harbour, sauna, nature trail and a small museum exhibiting fishing tackle.

There are mainly summer cottages and private beaches along the trail between Högland and Eknäs, so it is a good idea to have an ample food supply on hand - particularly for paddlers. Boats can easily moor at the Eknäs Holiday Village guest pier. Paddlers can land on the sand beach. The holiday village offers good services for overnight stays.

Alternative stops and overnight stays for Eknäs are the farm of Grelsböle and the Sarapisto caravan site in Sagu.

### More information

- [Eknäs Holiday Village \(visitkimitoon.fi\)](http://visitkimitoon.fi)
- [Dalskär \(nationalparks.fi\)](http://nationalparks.fi)
- [Pargas Port \(visitpargas.fi\)](http://visitpargas.fi)

## 8. Stage Eknäs–Vuohensaari

The final stage of the Sea Eagle Trail runs from Eknäs on Kimitoö main island back to the starting point of the trail on Vuohensaari island in Salo.

Photo: OneTake Productions



This stage of the trail passes under the Rungoströmmen bridge, which connects the municipalities of Kimitoön and Sagu.

Along this stage, you can have a break at a beautiful yard of Angelniemi church. The wooden church dates back to 1772 and is mainly used in the summer.

As the trail continues from Kimitoön to Salo, the

next possible stop is the village of Kokkila. Watch out for the cable ferry running from Kokkila harbour to the opposite shore. Kokkila village has a variety of good services on offer in summer. Here you can find, for example, an accessible sand beach suitable for the whole family and a summer restaurant with a rock vibe and plenty of refreshments to enjoy. After Kokkila, Vartsala village is also located in the same bay.



Photo: OneTake Productions

The Sea Eagle Tour ends on Vuohensaari, where there are campsites, café and restaurant services, a nature trail and beach.

### More information

- [Angelniemi church \(outdooractive.com\)](https://outdooractive.com)
- [Kokkila services \(visitsalo.fi\)](https://visitsalo.fi)
- [Vuohensaari Camping, in Finnish \(vuohensaari.fi\)](https://vuohensaari.fi)

- ▶ [The trail map with details and additional information of the trail on Outdoor Active platform \(outdooractive.com\)](https://outdooractive.com)
- ▶ [Explore more the Southwest Coast and Archipelago of Finland \(visitkimitoon.fi\)](https://visitkimitoon.fi)
- ▶ [Watch a video of the new routes in the area \(youtube.com\)](https://youtube.com)
- ▶ [Visit Salo \(youtube.com\)](https://youtube.com)
- ▶ [Visit Kimitoön \(visitkimitoon.fi\)](https://visitkimitoon.fi)
- ▶ [Visit Pargas \(visitpargas.fi\)](https://visitpargas.fi)
- ▶ [National Parks \(nationalparks.fi\)](https://nationalparks.fi)



This guide was produced as part of the Coastal Bootcamp project 2018–2021. The joint development project was funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). The project partners are the municipality of Kimitoön, the town of Pargas, Yrityssalo and Metsähallitus.



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