



500 m/  
Direction

30 min  
- 1 h

Easy

#napapiirinnopia #landofnationalparks  
#accessibletrails #oulankanationalpark



## TOP 3

1. The relaxing murmur of Koutajoki River and beautiful riverside scenery
2. A picnic at the atmospheric Rytiniva campfire site and shelter
3. First section of the legendary Karhunkierros trail



## Napapiirin nopia

### Accessible Trail in Oulanka National Park

This accessible trail close by the Arctic Circle leads visitors to the beautiful Koutajoki River and a lean-to shelter, where you can pause for a moment, enjoy the atmosphere and natural beauty of the site and have your picnic.

The gravel-surfaced, wide path of Napapiirin nopia is suitable for wheelchair and rollator users as well as those with buggies. On this accessible trail you can experience the first section of the legendary Karhunkierros hiking trail. The trail is half a kilometre in length and leads you through a light-filled pine forest, offers you a glimpse

of mire scenery, and takes you to the Rytiniva campfire shelter. This rest stop is an atmospheric place for having your picnic and resting your gaze on the eddies of Koutajoki River beside the stop. On a hot summer's day, the bravest visitors can cool their toes in the refreshing waters of Koutajoki or take a dip in the river.



**OPEN:** Available when the ground is unfrozen.

**TRAVEL TIME:** 30 min - 1 h.

**CHALLENGE LEVEL:** Easy accessible trail.  
This easy trail is highly suitable for visitors using wheelchairs or buggies. The terrain is mainly flat: there are no holes, obstacles or major gradients on the trail. The length of the trail and the rough crushed rock surface of the path make travelling alone difficult for wheelchair users, which is why they need an assistant.

**START AND FINISH:**  
Karhunkierros Trail starting point (Hautajärventie 414, 98995 Hautajärvi).

**MARKING OF THE TRAIL:**  
orange paint signs.

**EQUIPMENT:**  
On an easy trail, you will be fine in runners, sandals or sneakers. Dress for the weather and bring additional clothing, a picnic and a drink if necessary as well as a map, a phone, a first aid kit and a rubbish bag. To light a fire: matches and a knife. Bring your own toilet paper.

**SAFETY:**

- In case of emergency, call 112.
- More information about hiking in Finland: [nationalparks.fi/hikinginfinland](https://nationalparks.fi/hikinginfinland)

**RULES AND GUIDELINES:**

- There are no waste containers and no waste management at the national park. Food waste can be placed in the outdoor toilets. More information: [nationalparks.fi/hikinginfinland/visitorguidelines/litter](https://nationalparks.fi/hikinginfinland/visitorguidelines/litter)
- Lighting fires is only allowed on the marked, official campfire sites. When a forest fire warning is in operation, lighting campfires is prohibited.
- Pets must always be kept on a leash and under control in the national park.

Instructions and rules of the national park: [nationalparks.fi/en/oulankanp/instructionsandrules](https://nationalparks.fi/en/oulankanp/instructionsandrules)

# Accessible Trail: Napapiirin nopia

