Snowshoeing in Soft Whiteness

The winter snow cover evens out holes and rocky areas – much to the delight of snowshoers.

If you can walk, you will also easily get the hang of snowshoeing and be able to enjoy the magic of nature in the winter. Treading across the snow, the choice of route is up to you, and you can also let your mind roam free. Differences in altitude, snow conditions, and travelling speed offer you the opportunity to customise your challenges according to your own preferences and goals.

In winters with ample snow, the forests and rocks of Repovesi offer plenty of terrain to explore on snowshoes. You can utilise marked trails, and it is also nice to snowshoe on the terrain beyond the trails. The snow cover protects the vegetation slumbering beneath it, and a topographic map and compass take care of the snowshoer on top.

In winter, the most popular trails in Repomäki, particularly those in the surrounds of Lapinsalmi, are often also accessible on foot. With snowshoes, however, trekkers can avail themselves of the entire national park. From the tops of cliffs, you can admire the wintry views, with a cup of coffee brewed on a campfire to keep you warm. However, you should not venture on the ice covering waterways even on snowshoes, unless you are absolutely sure the ice can carry your weight.

Moving in the snow can feel hard at first, so make sure that you bring enough snacks and energy for the trek back as well. Enjoy the wintry magic of the park!

Tips on Getting about in the Park:

- Repovesi is a litter-free hiking area, so please take everything that you bring to the park with you back out of the park.
- The marked trails are highlighted in the terrain with orange paint.
- If you venture off the trails, please keep away from the no-access zone. Planning your route, a map and compass, as well as map reading skills are also necessary.
- Please pay attention to your safety when moving beyond the marked trails, especially in the vicinity of steep hillsides and cliffs.
- Things to see and experience: The wintry silence. New flakes slowly falling on the snow cover. The clapping sounds of the winter freeze in the frosty trees.

Equipment to Bring Along:

- Weather-appropriate hiking gear and snowshoes, topographic map, compass, toilet paper. A kit for lighting a fire.
- Many kinds of snowshoes are available. The most important feature is the surface area of the shoe in relation to the size of the person wearing it. Another good feature are small spikes, or claws, attached to the soles of the shoes, to ensure the shoes have good traction.
- Snowshoes are strapped onto your regular shoes, which should be warm and sturdy. You should also make sure that your regular shoe fits well into the snowshoe straps.
- You can also bring sticks to assist you on your snowshoeing trip. They make your movement more efficient and provide support.
- Snowshoeing is a very easy activity to take up. Learning the technique and preparing the equipment do not require much time or special skills.

Repovesi National Park
For more information and ideas on planning your trip and news updates:
www.nationalparks.fi/en/repovesinpark

Repovesi virtual guide:
www.visitrepovesi.fi/en