



Mire Reserve

Viiankiaapa



Wood
sandpiper.

Viiankiaapa is one of the most outstanding aapa mires in the Sodankylä area. A diverse mire nature and a wide range of bird species make Viiankiaapa a fascinating destination year round.

Welcome to the aapa mire!

You can explore Viiankiaapa by visiting the Viiankiaapa nature trail in the northern part of the area. The trail is a 4.3 km circular trail around Viiankiaapa and its forests. In addition, you can continue to Viiankiaapa bird watching tower and Särkikoskenmaa lean-to shelter, 2.5 km one way. Information boards along the trails describe the wildlife in Viiankiaapa: valuable rich fens and springs, and threatened plant and bird species.

The routes are mainly covered in duckboards. You can enjoy a break on the shore of Lake Viiankijärvi, there is a campfire hut, or at Särkikoskenmaa lean-to shelter. In the southern part of Viiankiaapa, **The Siurunmaa Nature Trail and bird-watching tower are closed due to their very poor condition and rot damage.**



Fairy
slipper.

Nature's rich diversity

More than half of Finland's birds nest at mires. At Viiankiaapa one may spot e.g. willow warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*), brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*) and meadow pipit (*Anthus pratensis*).

Waders greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) and wood sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*) are also common in Viiankiaapa. Please admire the birds only from afar - binoculars or telescope are a good idea for birdwatching.

There is a great diversity of plants in Viiankiaapa. In the summertime yellow marsh saxifrage (*Saxifraga hirculus*) and fairy slipper (*Calypso bulbosa*) are in bloom. Please note, that it is strictly forbidden to pick or harm the plants.

At Viiankiaapa you are in a nature conservation area. Respect the nature in everything you do.

Trail starting point

The Viiankiaapa Nature Trail is located at a 25 km distance from Sodankylä centre. There is a small parking area with space for 3-4 cars.

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• Location: Sodankylä

**Metsähallitus,
taking care of the area**

• nationalparks.fi/viiankiaapa



Hiking and Protecting Nature

- Respect nature and take other hikers into consideration.
- Make a fire only on designated fireplaces. Open fire is prohibited if the forest fire warning is in effect.
- Remember outdoor etiquette. There are no litter bins in Kivitunturi, carry your rubbish back with you.
- You can pick berries and mushrooms, but not stones or plants. Do not disturb animals.
- Keep the pets on a leash.
- Bring your own toilet paper.
- Driving motor vehicles outside official roads is prohibited.

Nationalparks.fi/viiankiaapa
➤ Instructions and rules

The emergency number is 112

Know where you are – there might be gaps in the mobile phone network.



METSÄHALLITUS

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