

## Natura 2000- area Tiilitehtaanmäki-Pohjoislahti

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Located beside the city centre of Kristiinankaupunki is Tiilitehtaanmäki-Pohjoislahti Natura 2000area, where you can enjoy the river Tiukanjoki's lush bankside forests and restored pastures and grazing lands with diverse species.

Tiilitehtaanmäki-Pohjoislahti area has a 5 km long nature trail that is marked with blue symbols on the terrain. The nature trail is partly surfaced with gravel which makes it easy to access. Other trails of varying difficulty marked with red symbols merge with this main route. Along the main route there is a 55-metre steel suspension bridge that crosses the river Tiukanjoki. At the quiet rest areas you can enjoy your packed lunch and listen to nature's sounds. By reading the information boards about nature and history, you get to know the 154 hectares of diverse conservation area managed by Metsähallitus. The area has rapid land uplift, which together with the accumulating soil makes the riverbanks shift over time. The most noteworthy plants in the area are the species in the herb-rich forests and meadow plants which are dependent on grazing. Tiilitehtaanmäki-Pohjoislahti is also important for birds, and approximately 50 species nest there. You can observe birds from the observation tower located on the shore of the Pohjoislahti bay.

The coastline of the river Tiukanjoki offers sheltered nesting and feeding places Wood warblers, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker and Trush Nightingale are typical bird species found in these lush forests.

During the spring and fall migration, Norrfjärden serves as a resting place for hundreds of swans, geese and other water fowls. Even birds of prey prefer this area as a part of their migration route.

During the low water season, muddy sea beds are exposed and offer a great amount of nutrition for wading birds. Every spring, fish that swim up to Flybäcken to spawn are a great source of nutrients for foxes, raccoon dogs and seagulls.

There have been a great number of bird rarities in Norrfjärden. During the bird's migration period, the Grey Heron is a regular visitor here, and in the winter time you might also find Bearded Reedling in the grass. Other rarities in the area are Common Kingfishers, Greater Spotted Eagles, Marsh Sandpipers, Great Egrets, Gadwalls, Little Grebes and Black Terns. **Tiilitehtaanmäki** -Pohjoislahti Established 1998 Area 1,5 km<sup>2</sup> Natura 2000 -area



The park's trails and facilities are managed by Metsähallitus, Parks & Wildlife Finland

Metsähallitus Parks & Wildlife Finland merenkurkku @metsa.fi

Kristinestad tourist office Telephone: +358 40 740 2311 www.visitkristinestad.fi

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR HIKERS

- The Everyman's Right applies in the area.
- Use only marked routes to avoid unnecessary erosion of the environment.
- It is prohibited to use motor vehicles in the area without the landowner's permission.
- Fires are only allowed at the campfire sites. During grass or forest fire warnings, it is absolutely prohibited to light a fire.
- Do not take firewood from the forest. Use only fire wood from the woodshed.
- There is no waste disposal in the area, so follow the principles of camping without waste – and take your litter with you when you leave the area. Pack it in, pack it out!
- Do not disturb the animals e.g. Observe them from a safe distance, using binoculars for example.
- Dogs are welcome but must be leashed. Unleashed dogs might scare other hikers and grazing animals.

**Take care of the environment** Keep the area free of litter.

Emergency number 112 – know where you are calling from – some parts of the nature reserve have no mobile phone reception.

PHOTOS: TUIJA WARÉN METSÄHALLITUS 7/2020, OULU, PUNAMUSTA OY, 500 copies

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