



Julma-Ölkky

## Hossa National Park

- 110,9 km<sup>2</sup>
- Established: 2017
- Location: Suomussalmi, Kuusamo, Taivalkoski



## Metsähallitus, Area Maintenance

- Hossa Visitor Centre, Jatkonsalmentie 6, 89920 Ruhtinansalmi, Finland
- tel. +358 206 39 6041
- hossa@metsa.fi
- nationalparks.fi/hossa
- excursionmap.fi
- eraluvat.fi (fishing permits)
- hossa.fi

 Hossan kansallispuisto - Hossa National Park



*See the Ancient Värrikallio Rock Paintings and Conquer the Julma-Ölkky Canyon!*

## Värrikallion kaarros Trail 8 km Ölökyn ähkäsy Trail 10 km Ölökyn ylitys Trail 5 km

The most famous sights in the Hossa National Park are the Värrikallio Cliffs and the Julma-Ölkky Canyon Lake. To see them takes effort. There are many ascents and descents, especially along the Julma-Ölkky trails. However, the spectacular views are rewarding.

There is a 2-km connecting trail between Julma-Ölkky and the Värrikallion kaarros Trail, allowing you to visit both destinations from the same starting point. In the summer, there are daily boat tours on the Julma-Ölkky Canyon Lake.

### Driving Directions to the Värrikallio Trail

- From the visitor centre, turn to the left
- Drive along Jatkonsalmentie Road for 3 km
- Turn to the right to Pistonlehdontie Road, signposts "Pisto", "Värrikallio"
- Drive along the gravel road for about 6 km
- Turn to the right, signposts "Lihapyörre", "Värrikallio"
- There are three parking areas at the end of the road, one for buses and two for cars
- The trail starts by the information board in the third parking area

### Driving Directions to the Julma-Ölkky Trails

- From the visitor centre, turn to the right
- Drive along Jatkonsalmentie Road for 0.7 km
- Turn to the left, follow the brown signposts
- Drive along Hossantie / Kurvisentie Road for about 6 km
- Turn to the left to Julma-Ölkyntie Road, signpost "Julma-Ölkky"
- Drive along the gravel road for 4,5 km, turn to the left and drive for 4 km
- There is an info-board at the parking area
- The trails start by the wooden gate on the yard of the kiosk

### VÄRIKALLION KAARROS TRAIL, 8 KM

**Starting point:** Lihapyörre parking area

**Travel time:** about 3 - 4 h

**Available:** when the ground is unfrozen

**Category:** intermediate - demanding

**Trail markings:** yellow paint signs

### ÖLÖKYN ÄHKÄSY TRAIL, 10 KM

**Starting point:** Julma-Ölkky parking area, address: Julma-Ölkyntie 86, Kuusamo)

**Travel time:** about 5 - 8 h

**Available:** when the ground is unfrozen

**Category:** demanding

**Trail markings:** orange paint signs

### ÖLÖKYN YLITYS TRAIL, 5 KM

**Starting point:** Julma-Ölkky parking area, address: Julma-Ölkyntie 86, Kuusamo

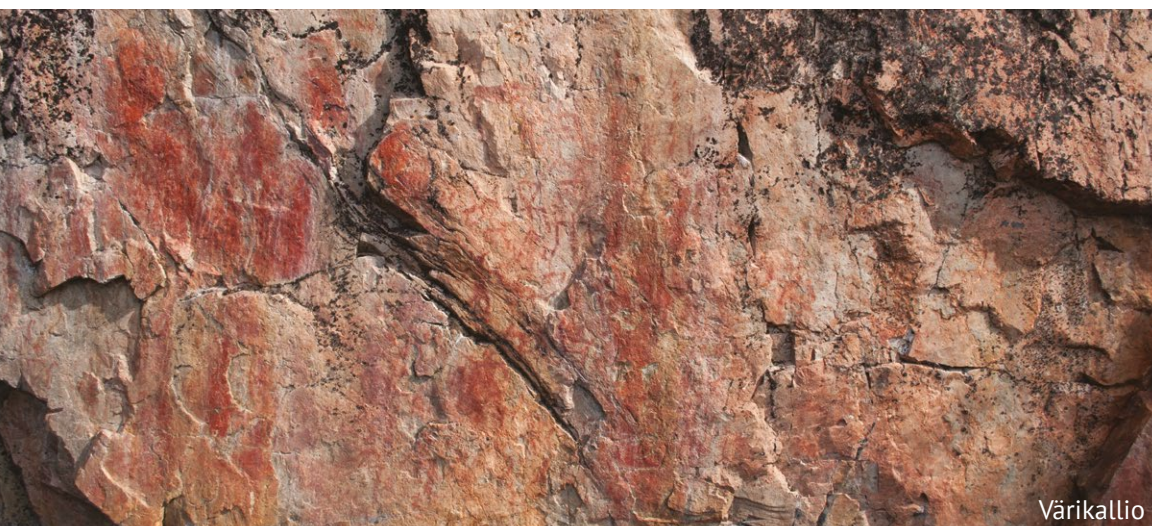
**Travel time:** about 3 - 4 h

**Available:** when the ground is unfrozen

**Category:** demanding

**Trail markings:** orange paint signs

*Please note, the Julma-Ölkky trails are not suitable to use in winter. In winter you can use the wilderness tracks, more information [nationalparks.fi/hossa](http://nationalparks.fi/hossa).*



Värrikallio

Hike without littering! Clean paper and cardboard may be burned at campfire sites, and bio waste may be left in the dry toilets. Bring other waste to the recycling points.

**The emergency services number is 112 - northern parts of the park may have poor mobile network coverage!**

METSÄHALLITUS 2019

PHOTOS: SIRKKU Kianto,

SIRKE SEPPÄNEN

TEXTS: METSÄHALLITUS

TRANSLATION: TRANSLATINKI OY



## TRAIL PROFILES AND DESCRIPTIONS

### ÖLÖKYN ÄHKÄSY TRAIL AND ÖLÖKYN YLITYS TRAIL



There are many ascents, descents and rocky terrain along the **Julma-Ölkky trails**. Some sections may be wet, despite the duckboards. It is advisable to take enough time for the hike and wear sturdy, waterproof boots. There are no railings on the cliffs, so please walk carefully. It is recommended to hike both trails *clockwise*.

It takes an effort to walk the **Ölökyn ähkäsy Trail**. It runs along the edge of the canyon, in the forest and in a low-lying mire area. At the northern end of Lake Julma-Ölkky, you will find the Ölökynperä lean-to shelter, a campfire site and a dry toilet.

In addition to the magnificent canyon, you can admire crystal-clear streams and springs and listen to the bubbling of small waterfalls.

The **Ölökyn ylitys Trail** runs along the same trail as the Ölökyn ähkäsy Trail, but it crosses the canyon along a hanging bridge. You will get to the bridge along the stone stairs, and on the opposite shore, you will ascend along the rocky slope and a spiral staircase. The views along the trail are beautiful!

There is no campfire site or dry toilet along this shorter trail. The closest site is located at Lake Ala-Ölkky, along the connecting trail.

### VÄRIKALLION KAARROS TRAIL



It is recommended to hike the **Värikallion kaarros Trail anticlockwise**. First, you will arrive at the Lihapyörre lean-to shelter, accessible to all, whereafter the trail narrows. After two kilometres, a connecting trail to Julma-Ölkky branches off from the trail. From the Ala-Ölkky lean-to shelter onwards, you will walk along River Somerjoki.

On the shore of Lake Somerjärvi, you will find a cooking shelter. From there, a short trail takes you to the Värikallio Rock Paintings.

The way back to the parking area starts by steep stairs up to Hill Mieskallionvaara. The last part consists of gentle downhill sections.

