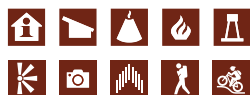


Salla

National Park



Female capercaillie

Salla National Park

- 98,8 km²
- Founded: 1.1.2022
- Location: Salla



METSÄHALLITUS taking care of the area

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Welcome to a highland wilderness of old-growth forests. The hiking trails of Salla National Park wind along ridges shaped by the ice age, mires, gorges and beside small lakes. You can admire the views towards Russia from the top of a fell. The sky of the wilderness is illuminated by the Milky Way and the Northern Lights. Crown snow load covered forests will take your breath away. This is the home of the capercaillie – in the middle of nowhere.

A snowy highland of old-growth forests

Salla National Park and its surrounding areas belong to the snow-rich Kuusamo highlands. Ridges and gorges and numerous hills make the landscape varied. The highest fell peak offers wide fell views beyond the border to Russia. There are a lot of crown snow covered forests due to the highland location, for example in Iso Pyhätunturi fell, Tunturikumpu hill, and in the nearby Ruuhitunturi fell. The best time to admire crown snow is December-February, if the weather has been favorable and it hasn't been too windy. The old mixed forests are an ideal habitat for the emblem species of the national park, the capercaillie.

Winter trails in Sallatunturi

Salla National Park winter trails introduce you to the versatile nature of the area. Visit Kaunisharju or Kolmiloukkonen on foot and ascend to Iso Pyhätunturi (Sky Reachers Journey 4.7 km) with snowshoes. The Pahakurun kierros trail (18 km) is for winter cycling. The cross-country ski trails go to Kaunisharju (12 km) and Around the fell (8.6 km). The trail variety expands outside of the national park, where in addition to shorter trails, you can go walking, winter cycling or skiing to Ruuhitunturi fell (13–21 km) or with cross-country skis to Kalliojärvi (18–23 km). Some of the trails will not open until week 7.

How to protect nature

- Respect nature and take others into consideration.
- Making a fire is only allowed on designated campfire sites.
- Hike litter free. There are no bins on the trails, carry your rubbish back with you.
- Don't remove stones or plants or disturb animals.
- Keep the pets on a leash.
- Bring your own toilet paper.
- Choose your trail according to activity, don't walk or bike on ski trails.
- Flying a drone requires a flight plan for AIS Finland (ADIZ border zone)
- Part of the national park is in the border zone, access is prohibited without a border zone permit.
- **The emergency number is 112 - note that there are places without mobile phone coverage in the Sallatunturi area!**



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Photos: Jonne vaahtera, Anniina Olkkonen, Visit Salla/Eeva Mäkinen. Illustrations: Anna Pakkanen



Ask for more comprehensive winter trail maps that are for sale.



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