



1.4 km 0.5–1 h intermediate



TOP 3

1. The iconic landscape opening from Ukko-Koli
2. The rugged and charismatic Paha-Koli and its stories
3. The western views of Akka-Koli and its sunsets

Koli National Park

Huippujen kierros Trail

Dive into the landscape and join centuries of Koli visitors. The classic trail culminating at the top of Ukko-Koli reveals its various landscapes as it winds round the tops of Akka-Koli and Paha-Koli.

The very first view you will come across is the landscape on the west side of Akka-Koli, which reveals the history of Koli's earliest settlements. In the past, the idyllic hill landscape was covered in a patchwork of slash-and-burn cultivated land and pastures, a sign of the coexistence of humans and nature. At Akka-Koli, you can also find the Temple of Silence (Hiljaisuuden temppeli), which is a popular wedding venue. On a clear evening, the view from the Temple of Silence at sunset is an awe-inspiring blaze of colour.

From Akka-Koli, the trail continues towards the charismatic Paha-Koli, whose cliff ledge has been the inspi-

ration for some wild stories over the years. From Paha-Koli, you can easily extend your trail, for example, towards the Mäkrävaara hill in the south, which has inspired Karelian artists since over a hundred years ago.

Finally, the trail from Paha-Koli leads through a moss forest to the king of hills, Ukko-Koli, which is crowned by spruces with impressive snow burdens. Standing at the top of Ukko-Koli, under your feet you can feel quartzite rock almost two billion years old. When you let your eyes wander across the stretch of lake Pielinen and the islands shaped by ice age, it is easy to see yourself as a small part of something large and ancient.

AVAILABLE: In the snow-free season. The trail does not have winter maintenance, but as it is a popular trail, the path is often clear also in the winter.

STARTING POINT: Koli Nature Centre Ukko's courtyard, Ylä-Kolintie 39, Lieksa.

TRAIL MARKINGS: Yellow circles on signposts at trail junctions. The signposts have been numbered and the numbers correspond to the numbering of the Koli service and trail map (1:20 000).

RECOMMENDED GEAR: Weather-appropriate clothing and shoes suitable for varying terrain, drinks and a packed lunch, trash bag and charged phone.

SAFETY: The emergency number: 112 Koli's peaks and many other scenic viewpoints have a rough terrain and the bare rock areas are slippery when it rains. There are no handrails at the viewpoints. Visitors must leave the hilltop during a thunderstorm. Before your trip, always check for any weather warnings: en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/warnings

INSTRUCTIONS AND RULES: During a forest and grass fire warning, making a fire is not allowed at the Prime Minister's campfire site. Keep pets on a leash and stay on the trail to protect the sensitive nature of the area from erosion. Please read before your trip: nationalparks.fi/hikinginfinland/visitorguidelines nationalparks.fi/kolinp/instructionsandrules



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