



4.1 km

2–3 h

intermediate



## TOP 3

1. Culturally and historically valuable landscapes
2. Farm animals grazing in the summer
3. Koli's harbour with its services

### Koli National Park

# Kasken kierros Trail

The Kasken kierros Trail (Slash-and-burn Trail) takes you through many traditional landscapes in the idyllic Koli where farmyard animals welcome you in the summer. If you're lucky, you might see farmers at work on the slash-and-burn sites.

The trail first runs along the village road past the Ollila farm towards the traditional Mattila farmhouse. The sides of the road are dotted with slash-and-burn cultivation sites from different years and birch forests growing out of them – at Koli, forest is still burned every other year for agricultural purposes. Mattila's summer café is located in one of the oldest farmhouses in Koli. There you can take a break with house-baked treats and friendly farmyard animals. From the farm, the trail continues uphill to an atmospheric spruce forest leading towards the Koli Harbour.

Soon the trail starts going downhill and before the harbour, it turns

sharply right to the Ipatinvaara slope where the oldest forest of the national park grows. Hiking uphill, you'll soon reach the Vaarala farm and the idyllic Vaaralanaho campfire site where you can take a break and enjoy your packed lunch.

From Vaarala, continue towards the Turula traditional environment. There, the charming views offer glimpses of hilly pastures and silhouettes of far-away fells. Farmers are not the only ones taking care of the landscaping here – in the summer, the indigenous Kyyttö cattle also helps. In Turula, you'll also find a campfire and camping site; behind the pastures, you can already see the familiar Ollila farm.

**AVAILABLE:** In the snow-free season.

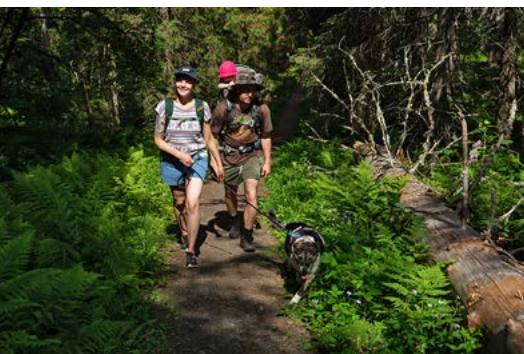
**STARTING POINT:** Ollila parking area, Ylä-Kolintie 12, Lieksa (or Koli Harbour parking area, Rantatie 12, Lieksa).

**TRAIL MARKINGS:** Green 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, lunch, fire-making tools, toilet paper, rubbish bag, first aid kit, charged phone and map.

**SAFETY: The emergency number: 112**  
You may encounter snakes in the meadows and rocky areas of the trail as well as ticks in high grass so stay on the marked trail. Before your trip, always check for any weather warnings: [en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/warnings](https://en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/warnings)

**INSTRUCTIONS AND RULES:**  
During a forest and grass fire warning, making a fire is not allowed at the Kasken kierros Trail campfire sites. 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](https://nationalparks.fi/hikinginfinland/visitorguidelines) [nationalparks.fi/kolinp/instructionsandrules](https://nationalparks.fi/kolinp/instructionsandrules)



METSÄHALLITUS 12/2022. PHOTOS: SAARA LAVI.

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