



Mire Reserve

Viiankiaapa



Wood sandpiper.

Viiankiaapa is one of the most outstanding aapa mires in the Sodankylä area. A diverse mire nature and a wide range of bird species make Viiankiaapa a fascinating destination year round.

Welcome to the aapa mire!

You can hike the 4,3 kilometres long **Viiankiaapa Nature Trail**, located at the northern part of Viiankiaapa mire. Most parts of the trail is covered in duckboards. Information boards along the trails describe the wildlife in Viiankiaapa: valuable rich fens and springs, and threatened plant and bird species.

Viiankijärvi campfire hut, on the Viiankiaapa Nature Trail, is a good location for a lunch break. At the start of the trail and at Viiankijärvi campfire hut there are also dry toilets available.

One can visit the southern part of Viiankiaapa on the **Viiankiaapa Siurunmaa Nature Trail**. The 1,7 km long one-way trail has a nature observation tower and a lean-to shelter in the end of the trail. The duckboards on the trail are in very poor condition.



Fairy slipper.

Nature's rich diversity

More than half of Finland's birds nest at mires. At Viiankiaapa one may spot e.g. willow warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*), brambling (*Fringill montifringilla*) and meadow pipit (*Anthus pratensis*).

Waders greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) and wood sandpiper (*Tringa glareola*) are also common in Viiankiaapa. Please admire the birds only from afar - binoculars or telescope are a good idea for birdwatching.

There is a great diversity of plants in Viiankiaapa. In the summertime yellow marsh saxifrage (*Saxifraga hirculus*) and fairy slipper (*Calypso bulbosa*) are in bloom. Please note, that it is strictly forbidden to pick or harm the plants.

At Viiankiaapa you are in a nature conservation area. Respect the nature in everything you do.

Trail starting point

The Kersilö Nature Trail is located at a 25 km distance from Sodankylä centre. There is a small parking area with space for 3-4 cars.

There are guideposts to **Siurunmaa Nature Trail** from the Savukoski-Tanhua road.

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• Location: Sodankylä

Metsähallitus, taking care of the area

• **Visitor Centre Naava**,
Luontotie 1, 98530 Pyhänturi,
tel. +358 20 639 7302,
pyhaluosto@metsa.fi

• **Savukoski Visitor Centre
Korvatunturi**, Samperintie
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savukoski@metsa.fi

• nationalparks.fi/viiankiaapa



Hiking and Protecting Nature

- Respect nature and take other hikers into consideration.
- Make a fire only on designated fireplaces. Open fire is prohibited if the forest fire warning is in effect.
- Remember outdoor etiquette. There are no litter bins in Kivitunturi, carry your rubbish back with you.
- You can pick berries and mushrooms, but not stones or plants. Do not disturb animals.
- Keep the pets on a leash.
- Bring your own toilet paper.
- Driving motor vehicles outside official roads is prohibited.

Nationalparks.fi/viiankiaapa
➤ **Instructions and rules**

The emergency number is 112

**Know where you are – there
might be gaps in the mobile
phone network.**



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