



Bothnian Bay National Park

- Location: Kemi, Torneå
- Area: 157 km², of which land approx. 2.5 km²
- Founded: 1991



Metsähallitus, national park management

- Customer service: Liminka Bay Visitor Centre, Rantakurvi 6, 91900 Liminka tel. 0206 39 6059, liminganlahti@metsa.fi
- nationalparks.fi/liminkabayvisitorcentre
- facebook.com/peramerenkansallispuisto



National Park

Bothnian Bay

In the Bothnian Bay National Park, the sea is present everywhere. The traditional cultural landscapes tell you their story of the co-existence of nature and people that has lasted for centuries. On the islands, you can admire the meadows, heaths and sparsely wooded pastures. The valuable landscapes can only flourish if they are managed. In this way, they are kept open, offering a feast for the eye and delicious treats, such as wild strawberries and arctic brambles.

The Bothnian Bay National Park is located in the Kemi and Tornio outer archipelago, in the vast open waters of the sea. The first island of the national park emerged from the sea – due to a land uplift – one thousand years ago. Today, there are thirty low-lying islands and islets, and their number is increasing. The stony islets, blooming seaside meadows and juniper heaths provide good nesting places for the rich birdlife. Fishing and seal hunting have been carried out in the area for centuries. There were fishermen in local fishing villages from the 16th century to the early 20th century. They arrived in the villages in early summer, and they chiefly caught salmon and Baltic herring. You can visit the well preserved fishing bases on the islands of Selkä-Sarvi and Pensaskari. The national park's emblem bird is the Arctic tern

and the emblem plant Siberian primrose.

Day Trip or an Overnight Stay

Selkä-Sarvi Island boasts an excursion harbour, sauna, cooking shelter, tent area and the Selkä-Sarven Vartio Rental Hut. From the harbour runs a one-kilometre nature trail to the other end of the island, where you will find Kalla Wilderness Hut, Kokko Rental Hut and sauna, as well as the Ailinpietti fishing hut.

Pensaskari Island is an excellent day trip destination, which can also be reached by canoe. At Pensaskari harbour, there is a jetty for day trip visitors. The other side of the jetty has been reserved for the mooring of cruise vessels and taxi boats. Pensaskari jetty may not be used for overnight stays. Close to Pensaskari harbour, you will find a campfire site and a fascinating yard of a fishing base.

Areas with Restricted Access

In order to protect the nesting birds, boat landing and movement closer to the shores than 100 metres, without a permit from Metsähallitus, are forbidden from between 1 May to 31 July in the following areas: the islands of Keilakrunni, Pauha, the two Pitkäletto Islands, the islands of Riekonhöyhen, Pohjois-Kraaseli, Sarvenkrunni, Savukrunni, as well as parts of the islands of Maa-Sarvi and Selkä-Sarvi. The islands of Nokikrunni, Pensaskarikrunni, Lounakari, Kemin Kiikkara, Lehtikarikrunni, Pöllä, Välikrunninkari and Ylikrunnimatala, as well as part of Pensaskari Island.

The following is forbidden without a permit from Metsähallitus: moving closer than at a distance of half a nautical mile (i.e. at a distance of 926 metres) from Möyly Island, and, from between 1 February to 15 June, at a distance of one nautical mile (i.e. 1,852 metres).

The **Vähä-Huituri** landing spot is a shallow natural shore. There is a rental hut and a sauna on the island, as well as a campfire site that is available for use under the everyman's rights.

The huts in the national park can be booked via the address: eraluvat.fi/en/

Cruises and Equipment Rentals

The partner companies of the Bothnian Bay National Park provide cruises, taxi boat and guest harbour services, guiding, accommodation and kayak rentals. The departure points for cruises and taxi boats are Kemi's inner harbour, the Letto, Toranda and Puotikari boat harbours, as well as Simonniemi boat harbour in Simo.

Further Information: nationalparks.fi/bothnianbaynp/services

Nature-friendly Outdoor Activities

- Landing on and moving in the bird sanctuaries are forbidden from between 1 May to 31 July in order to protect the nesting birds.
- Moving in the Möyly seal protection area is forbidden in accordance with the Government Decree.
- Always keep pets on a leash.
- Camping and lighting a campfire are only allowed at designated sites. When a forest fire warning is in effect, lighting a campfire is forbidden everywhere.
- You may go angling and ice fishing, but separate permits are required for all other forms of fishing.
- You may pick berries and mushrooms, but not stones or plants.
- There are no wells on the islands. Bring any drinking water with you.

Leave No Trace

- Always take any waste away with you, even the waste produced by other people.
- Only burn clean paper and cardboard at a campfire site.

Safe Boating

- Take into account other boaters. Follow the harbour rules.
- When heading to the outer archipelago, the boat must be seaworthy and suitable for the demanding conditions.
- The waters in the national park can be very shallow and rocky.

Nationalparks.fi/bothnianbaynp > Instructions and rules

Emergency number 112

Pay attention where you are phoning from – mobile phone coverage is not available in all parts of the national park!

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PHOTO: MAARIT VAAHTERANOKSA

ILLUSTRATION: GRETA SALONEN



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