



Family
adventures
in the city
centre

KOUVOLA

TOURISM MAGAZINE 2024

THE RETURN OF THE
KIRKA MUSICAL

THE CLASSIC SPOTS
OF REPOVESI!

Tantalise your
tastebuds

Roasteries, liquorice and wood
cured ham

Kymijoki river
trail by bike

& other nature destinations



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Kouvola offers many excellent venues for both small get-togethers and major events, as well as adventures alongside them.



EDITORIAL

A city for active people



WE ARE KNOWN for the Kymijoki river, the Kouvola Security Conference, competitive house prices and our dark humour, but also for the warm welcome we give our visitors. The largest city in Southeast Finland, Kouvola has plenty of room for people, ideas and growing businesses.

We get excited, enjoy life and encourage each other. Our city is not only home to the Repovesi National Park, but also the UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Verla Groundwood and Board Mill. Its unique attractions also include the oldest and largest tree garden in Finland, Arboretum Mustila. The city boasts modern architecture, Alvar Aalto's designs and historic industrial areas, such as the Taideruukki arts hub and the Ankkapurha Culture Park with its exciting range of activities.



KOUVOLA IS a city of dozens of manor houses, hundreds of lakes and thousands of holiday cottages, with excellent summer theatres in many of its vibrant villages. Culture lovers will enjoy the Kouvola Theatre, Kymi Sinfonietta, the Poiki-lo Museums and the Pohjois-Kymi School of Music. For spectator sports, look no further than the teams Kookoo for ice hockey, KPL for pesäpallo, MyPa for football, and Kouvo and KouvoTaret for basketball – not forgetting the Kouvola Harness Race Track and the Kymi Grand Prix.

Kouvola offers plenty of opportunities to live your life to the fullest and to get your heart racing. We have 128 km of fitness trails and ski tracks, 350 km of recreational and nature trails and 292 km of cycling routes. There's an almost limitless range of sports on offer, including golf, canoeing, downhill skiing, rock climbing and skydiving. We are developing the Käyrälampi district near the city centre as a recreational area for the city's inhabitants and tourists. It has a beach with a jetty and diving tower, a challenging disc golf course, the Aquapark and a beach volleyball court. Accommodation and restaurant services are available all year round, as well as public saunas.

KOUVOLA IS city for active people, offering easy access to nature and the rest of the world. We are conveniently located where railways from different directions meet. It's just over an hour by train from Helsinki, half an hour from Lahti and 45 minutes from Lappeenranta and Kotka. The Kymenlaakso joint bus and train ticket is accepted on all VR trains and all local buses between Kouvola and Kotka. Kouvola is more than the sum of its parts. We want everyone to feel at home here and we work hard to make sure they do, both residents and visitors.

P.S. Look out for tips on accessibility in each article. You will recognise them by the accessibility icon. Everyone is welcome to explore our beautiful city!

Marita Toikka, Mayor

FIND OUT MORE: visitkouvola.fi



You will recognise accessible location tips by this icon.



Family in the city centre

The Ekberg family went on a hometown excursion and spent a summer day in the centre of Kouvola.



Mette and Nea conquer the huge climbing frame in the Hampstapuisto park.



At the Urheilupuisto park, the Ekberg family try their hand at disc golf.

WITH A home in Sarkola, Kouvola, **Petra** and **Olli** Ekberg have three daughters: **Mette**, 7, **Nea**, 10, and **Nelli**, 14.

– What we love about Kouvola is that everything in the city centre is within easy walking distance. The girls like to go cycling, and we have excellent cycling routes here, Petra says.

Mielakka Ski Resort is one of the family's favourite places to go and, in the summer, they often walk to the top of the hill. Tykkimäki is an absolute must every summer.

BUT TODAY they head towards the city centre. The water spray features on the Manski pedestrian street get the two youngest daughters excited to play. As it's a warm day, the family makes a bee line to the ice cream stall.

– We often go to various events on Manski. There's always something interesting to see on stage at the Night of the Arts or the Kouvola Magic Days.

The girls can't resist the small playground next to Lindex, but their absolute favourite in the city centre is the Hampstapuisto park. They love its big climbing frame and mini trampolines.

THEY OFTEN go shopping in the city centre and buy fresh berries and flowers at the market square. The girls' favourite place to eat out is Subway, while mum prefers the Ramin konditoria coffee shop. On date night, the parents like to go to Bistro Goutu.

On May Day, the Ekbergs go to the Jaakonpuisto park to enjoy the events there. The girls have grown out of the Children's Traffic Park; instead, the family decides to play disc golf at the Urheilupuisto sports grounds.

– We usually come here in the winter to go sledding down the Kenkäkukkula hill, Petra says.

AS CHILDREN of a railway town, the girls have fun climbing on the Kouvola sign next to the station.

– If it was up to the children, we'd probably always travel by train.



Kouvola has a convenient, compact city centre. Its small shopping centres, Hansa and Valtari, offer accessible shopping

Filling hungry stomachs at Bistro Goutu.

Cup of coffee, please

Introducing the delights of Kouvola's café scene.



 Accessible entrance

 Wide WC door

 Pets are welcome on the terrace

 Pets are welcome inside

PLEASE NOTE: The situation may change.

Allun torikahvila

A café in a tent on the market square serving fresh meat pies and doughnuts from spring to autumn.



Bar Cafe Columbia

Paulig's Juhla Mokka and specialty coffees, a wide range of home-made delicacies. Possibly the sunniest terrace in town.



Cafe Ruukitar

A café with a sun terrace to relax on during your visit to the Art Factory. Tuomon Luomu organic products are sold here.



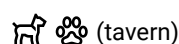
Cuppo-Celle

Located in the centre of Jaala, this is the perfect place to enjoy a cup of coffee on the sunny terrace. Soup lunches also served.



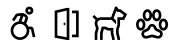
Jaalan kyläkauppa ja kievari

A cosy village shop and tavern in Hartola, Jaala, a village of energetic people.



Kahvila Kaakkuri

Located in the Vuohijärvi Nature and Culture Centre, this summer café offers freshly baked cinnamon buns and other traditional pastries.



Kymen Wiener

Café and bakery in Kellomäki, Kouvola.

Makasiinikahvila

A cosy summer café in the old Anjala Manor granary, offering freshly ground coffee, locally produced products and pastries fresh out of the oven.

Naapantuura Café Bar Kouvola

Café bar on Manski, the pedestrian street. Delicacies from our own bakery and speciality coffees.



Papulaari

A café, coffee boutique and delicatessen near the railway station that makes artisan coffee – the right way. With our own roastery downstairs.



Piika & Renki

The summer café at Mustila Arboretum serves coffee, pastries and art products in an old-world setting.



Ramin konditoria

A café and bakery that offers a wide selection of freshly baked pastries, sandwiches and filled baguettes, as well as Rami's home-made gelato.



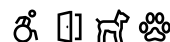
Torikuppi

A sunny café in a shipping container in the centre of Kuusankoski, serving homemade pastries.



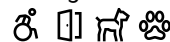
Vanha Kauppa

A distinctive, nostalgic pub restaurant, boutique and café in Kuusankoski that also serves local delicacies.



Virtakiven Sauna

Once a sauna for the Kymiyhtiö company staff, now a summer café open from the beginning of May to the end of August.



Eating out in the evening

Here are some great restaurants in Kouvola that serve food after 6 pm.



RESTAURANTS

Amarillo

A Mexican-inspired restaurant that offers shareable dishes, Tex Mex, tacos, burritos, burgers and barbecue delights.

📍 Kouvola

Angela's

A cosy restaurant with an Armenian twist for friends of mouth-watering snacks, wine and hearty meat dishes.

Bistro Goutu

Steaks and burgers made from beef raised in Kouvola, cheese products from Polven Juustola in Kouvola and sausage and meat products from Palviliha in Korja.

📍 Kouvola

Bistro Scandic

Scandic Kouvola's atmospheric restaurant serves delicious starters, main courses and desserts.

📍 Kouvola (bar)

Chon Thong

A Thai restaurant that serves delicious Thai flavours and a wide selection of Asian beers and other drinks.

Frans & Rose

French-style bistro at Kouvola's pink landmark, Original Sokos Hotel Vaakuna. French cuisine and bubbly joie de vivre.

📍 Kouvola

Gyros

A Greek restaurant with mouth-watering Mediterranean delicacies and other goodies.

Hyvinsyöntipaikka Olé

A wide range of options from seafood to steaks, with a tapas menu of tasty snacks. Seasonal specialities and theme weeks. Tastings also arranged.

📍 Kouvola

Kukkopoika

Honest and hearty food in a homely atmosphere. Delicious chicken dishes from wings to burgers, as well as stone oven pizza, steak and pita bread.

📍 Kouvola

Lamykin's Cookhouse

Fish and steaks cooked over a charcoal grill, Detroit-style pizzas straight from the oven.

📍 Kouvola

Lammenranta Kitchen & Bar

A restaurant in a scenic location at the Tykkimäki Resort. Seasonally changing food and drink menu.

📍 Kouvola

Mei Lok

Chinese restaurant in the centre of Kouvola. A wide selection of authentic Cantonese dishes.

📍 Kouvola

Mimosan Aito

A regularly changing tasting menu, with dishes that change with the seasons. The majority of our ingredients come from local producers. The only Neapolitan-style pizzas in town.

📍 Kouvola

Nimto

Nepalese cuisine on the market square in the centre of Kouvola.

📍 Kouvola

Rosso

Italian food with a Finnish twist on the pedestrian street Manski. Antipasti, pizza and pasta. Enjoy any day, but especially on Pizza Friday and Pasta Sunday.

📍 Kouvola

GRILLS

Grilli-Kipsa

A burger bar in the city centre located between the Valtari shopping centre and the former Anttila department store.

Nipan grilli

A classic spot in Tornionmäki for over fifty years, also the subject of a postage stamp. This burger bar was featured in actor Sami Hedberg's TV programme.

TIP:

Find more restaurants and lunchrooms at visitkouvola.fi



A refreshing holiday surrounded by natural beauty

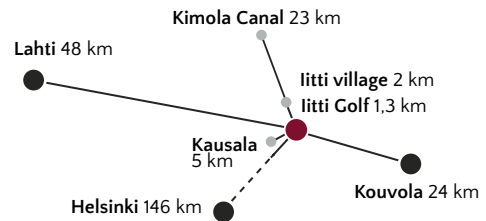
Enjoy seasonal, locally produced food with stunning lakeside views at manor house restaurant Balladi. Spend the night in our lakeside suites, manor house rooms or hotel rooms.



ENQUIRIES AND BOOKINGS

info@radallaresort.fi tel. +358 44 066 7053

Uimarantie 1, 47400 litti www.radallaresort.fi



Meetings and events in our two event houses Kouvolan tapahtumatalot

The Kouvotalo, with its verdant parks and central location in the middle of town, and Kuusankoskitalo in a naturally beautiful milieu on the Kymijoki waterfront welcome guests for different occasions and events. Both venues offer a variety of programmes – from concerts to exhibitions and from theatre to stand-up comedy.

Check out our premises and programmes at www.kouvolantapahtumatalot.fi

The sales office for Kouvolan tapahtumatalot is open weekdays 9 am–3 pm.
Tel. +358 (0)20 615 1414
E-mail: myyntipalvelu@kouvola.fi.

KOUVOLAN TAPAHTUMATALOT

KOUVOLA



+358 400 711 607



Freshest Liquorice in the Universe

Welcome to the Kouvolan Lakritsi factory outlet in the centre of Kouvola! Here, you will also find our liquorice shop and the world's best liquorice in various forms: pieces, laces, powder and sauce! We also make special batches and related merchandise.

Lunch restaurant Ruokala 57

Cosy Ruokala 57 is located on the street level next to the factory outlet. Visit Ruokala 57 for a delicious lunch as well as sweet and savoury snacks — with a liquorice twist, naturally.

Meetings in the linger of liquorice

The liquorice factory is also a meeting venue with two large auditoriums, a conference room, a lobby and a lunch restaurant for companies and groups.

Ask about our meeting packages.



Just a 10-
minute walk
from the railway
station!



FACTORY OUTLET & LUNCH RESTAURANT
Salpausselänkatu 57, 45100 Kouvola | kouvolanlakritsi.fi

VENUE ENQUIRIES AND OTHER QUESTIONS
tapahtumatilat@kouvolanlakritsi.fi



Tasting and shopping

Head to Kouvola for coffee, liquorice and other treats.

LET'S GET COFFEE!

THE STORY OF THE PAPULAARI coffee shop began with Kouvola coffee, which was only sold at summer events until the signature café was opened.

Today, coffee beans are roasted at the Paahtimo Papulaari roastery, which was launched with the help of master barista **Jarno Peräkylä**. Dark roast Sysi-Kymi is one of Papulaari's coffee classics.

THE KAPU ROASTERY and shop are located in the Taideruukki Art Factory. The roastery's newest dark roast is called KAPU Myrsky (storm). Other popular coffees include the light medium roast KAPU Sulo, medium roast KAPU Oiva, decaffeinated KAPU Rauha and gentle KAPU Lempi.

The roastery organises cupping events for both business and consumer customers. Cupping is like wine tasting, but instead of wine, tasters explore the rich flavours of coffee. During the event, tasters learn about the coffee's journey from the grower to the cup and taste 6–7 different coffees. **Henri Leskinen** of KAPU Roastery recommends cupping events.

The "father" of Papulaari, Kimmo Kero, can often be seen serving tables with a smile.



MUSTILA FOR WINE

Manor White, Redcap, Daylight and Trollfoot. These are just some of the wonderful wine names you'll hear at Mustila Viini's liqueur and wine tastings. In addition to wine made from locally grown fruit, soft drinks, jam and jelly are also sold at the shop next door to the vineyard.

Koppelon Kujerrus and Kartanon Vaalea (Manor White) won the title of 2023 Finnish Social Wine of the Year. The Mustan Everstin Kosto (Dark Colonel's Revenge) wine is one of the long-standing favourites at Mustila Viini.

MORE INFO: mustilaviini.fi



KNITTER'S PARADISE

Novita factory outlet at the ABC store in Korja is a knitters' paradise, with a wide range of wool yarns and knitting equipment.

FOR CHEESE LOVERS

Polven Juustola in Sippola makes all kinds of traditional Finnish cheese: curd baked in the oven, cheese made with eggs, creamy farmer's cheese and Emmental.





Timo Nisula exports liquorice all over the world.

THE CAPITAL OF LIQUORICE

Timo Nisula, local liquorice manufacturer, has declared Kouvola the liquorice capital of the world. Kouvolan Lakritsi is available everywhere in Kouvola, all over Finland, and is even exported to Sweden, Denmark, Germany and Canada.

Lakumesta is another producer in the liquorice capital that has fans all over the country.

Kouvolan Lakritsi factory outlet,

Salpausselänkatu 57.

Lakumesta factory outlet,

Hemmintie 3.

DELICIOUS CURED MEAT

Palviliha Oy's modern factory outlet is located in the heart of Korja. The factory was established in 1975, and its first products were traditional wood cured ham, ribs and sirloin. They are still made using the same method, by burning alder wood in a special curing oven.

Over the years, the product family has grown, and Palviliha also sells special sausages, cold cuts and seasonal products. The pièce de résistance is still the traditional cured ham.

MORE INFO: palviliha.fi

FLEA MARKET FINDS

Grab a bargain at the Salvation Army or Fida flea markets in the town centre. With 200 stalls, the Centtilä family flea market in Kellomäki is one of the largest in Kouvola. The nearby Goodwill recycling shop carries everything from home appliances and interior decorating items to clothes.

Other flea markets include Kuusaan Kirppis in Kuusankoski, and in Myllykoski, Lähetyskirpputori and Finntori can be found next door to each other. The sprawling Sisätori in Valkeala has tables selling everything under the sun, but you can also buy lunch there.

In the centre of Elimäki, you will find Ullan Kirppis and the Lähetyskirpputori flea market, which is open during events. Kouvola's newest flea market is Ihana Kirppis in Katajajarju.

BAKERY TREATS

For delicious rye bread, head to the Korja or Risto Peltola bakery shops or Tuomon Luomu organic shop at Café Ruukitar. Bakery giant Vaasan also has its own store stocked with its products.

Koppanen bakery produces a wide range of delicious baked goods and has a shop in its bakery and another in the city centre. Kymen Wiener's cakes and pastries are available at its own café and lunch restaurant.

Korian Leipomo, Leipurimestarintie 2.

Risto Peltolan Leipomo, Alakyläntie 11.

Leipomo Koppanen, Kouvolaankatu 24 and Teollisuustie 10.

Tuomon Luomu, Kyminväylä 2.

Vaasan bakery shop

Katajajarjunkaari 3.

Kymen Wiener,

Laturinkatu 2.



A POTTER FROM KUUSANKOSKI

Ceramicist **Anu Pentik's** father worked for the Kymi Group. On Fridays, as an employment benefit, he would bring home a roll of paper, which she would draw full of pictures.

The artist's story began in Kuusankoski, which is where she wanted to set up a factory outlet, although by then she was living in Posio, Lapland. Pentik Outlet is located in the Pavilion, which was designed with travellers in mind, and opened in 1990 at the intersection of Highways 12 and 6 near the Kymi River.

MORE INFO: kymenpaviljonki.fi

BEER ENTHUSIAST'S KOUVOLA

A beer lover's visit to Kouvola includes a pint or two at a brewpub, music and beverages at the Beer Festival and a tour of local pubs.

KYMIJOKI BEER FESTIVAL is a two-day summer event focusing on Finnish brewing expertise. It has been going on for more than ten years.

There are dozens of types of beer and cider on offer. The beverages are served by the breweries' own staff, which means that you can meet the makers and chat with them.

There are several food vendors too, giving you the chance to enjoy various culinary delights with your beverage. Live bands add to the festival vibe.

Since 2013, the Kymijoki Beer Festival has been held at the beginning of August at the Kallioniemi dance pavilion by the Kymijoki river.

– The event will almost certainly take place again this year, but we are considering a new venue and date, says Event Producer **Sanna Solkinen**.

VANHA KAUPPA is a nostalgic brewpub and shop in Kuusankoski. It is also the taproom of the Hoppa Brewery located in the same building. The brewery's own beers flow from eight taps. Why not try the best pilsner in Finland (award winner in 2022)?

The environment and interior design reflect the building's long history as a trading house. This cozy Europe-

an-style pub also organises atmospheric live music gigs and events.

In addition to Hoppa craft beers, the pub offers a collection of local delicacies as well as cider and soft drinks. The brewery was established in the TT Ford Truck (Hoppa in Finnish) garage in the backyard of the commercial building built in 1925, which gave it its name.

AS WELL AS the taproom of Hoppa Brewery, beer enthusiasts will also want to visit the welcoming Czech pub Hospoda Papirna in the centre of Kuusankoski. Its range includes around 40 beers from lagers to stouts and its menu includes delicious burgers as well as many types of snack.

The drinks menu at Gastropub Betony, the living room of Kouvola city centre, is largely built around beers from microbreweries and speciality beers. The delicious food is made on site from authentic ingredients. You can check the ever-changing list of beverages on the app

untappd.com.


The Irish Pub Old Tom, which has served customers since 1995, is a great place to watch sports in an Irish atmosphere. It has a wide and varied beer selection, with three taps of special beers that change regularly.




At the Kymijoki Beer Festival, we have always tried to ensure that the area is wheelchair accessible and that there are separate toilet facilities or portaloos for people with reduced mobility.



Emotions
for monotony.



Adventure
for the everyday.



KOUVOLAN TEATTERI



Warmth
in the rain.



Music
in silence.



CHECK OUT THE PROGRAMME:


www.kouvolanteatteri.fi




Comedy
for sadness.



Drama
for boredom.



Thoughts
in the void.



Joy
in melancholy.



Established in 1960, Kouvola Teatteri is a professional theatre offering adventure, energy, a breakaway from the everyday, current viewpoints, food for thought and artistic expertise, especially in musical theatre.

Kouvola Teatteri will delight you with its warm atmosphere and artistic caliber — well worth a visit, even from afar!

SALPAUSSELÄNKATU 38, 45100 KOUVOLA

GET TICKETS ONLINE OR AT THE BOX OFFICE. TEL. +358 5 740 0330, TUE-SAT 11 AM-3 PM AND 3 H BEFORE THE EVENING PERFORMANCE

Culture city

Theatre, architecture, concerts, art.
Kouvola has a rich mix of culture.

THE RETURN OF KIRKA

The musical *Kirka's* season was shortened by the coronavirus, but this autumn will see the return of this audience favourite.

MIKAEL SAARI played the musician Kirka Babitzin in autumn 2020 when Kirka – *Surun pyyhit silmistäni* premiered on the big stage of Kouvola Theatre.

Saari will also play Kirka in autumn 2024 when the musical is revived.

– I'm excited to see how much of the script I still remember and what needs rehearsing, says Saari and describes Matti Laine's script as brilliant.

The lyrics, he believes, are deeply embedded in his mind.

– They are definitely in a different part of the brain than the lines.

SOME OF HIS COSTARS will be the same as last time. Tommi Kekarainen has changed jobs and Nina Petelius-Lehto, who played the mother, has sadly passed away.

An absolute must-see for Kirka fans, wrote critic Ulla-Maija Järvi-Herlevi in the Kouvolan Sanomat newspaper. She described the feelings the musical finale evoked as far-reaching.

According to Järvi-Herlevi, Saari has a rich, mellow voice but he doesn't try to imitate Kirka's raspiness.

– I don't try to imitate Kirka's singing voice, because I don't want my role to become a caricature. I want it to be a tribute to him, says Saari.

– But I try to carefully work a little of Kirka's characteristic nasal tones into my interpretation.

SAARI HAS portrayed other well-known singers too. He has spent several years touring Finland in his role as Freddie Mercury in Show Must Go On.

Musicals are nothing without the audience and their reactions. During coronavirus, theatre halls were only half full.

– There were restrictions and the instructions changed all the time. I think a sold-out show in Kouvola at that time was a little over a hundred viewers.

This autumn, Saari as Kirka will give his very best in front of a packed audience.



Access to the theatre is barrier-free. You can book a wheelchair seat and a ticket for an assistant at the theatre ticket office. Lobby staff will help wheelchair users into the auditorium.

KOUVOLA THEATRE'S SPRING



KUUMIA AALTOJA

Anne Prokofjeff's musical comedy about karaoke, hot flushes, grown-up women and the gift of screwing up. Viewers are welcome to sing along.



ELLA JA KAVERIT – PATEROCK

A play for children and adults, based on **Timo Parvela's** book and adapted and composed by **Katriina Honkanen**.



AINA JOKU EKSYY

Reko Lundán's tragicomedy about family and losing it, the difficulty of forgiveness, being alone and finding oneself.



CABARET

A musical classic set in 1930s Berlin where fun and frolicking give way to war and army uniforms.



ÄLÄ PUKEUDU PÄIVÄLLISELLE

Don't Dress for Dinner is a world-famous French farce about two married couples, two singles and two secret affairs.

THEATRE RESTAURANT REPLIIKKI

By ordering your interval drinks and snacks in advance, you can go straight to your pre-set table without queuing. You can also prebook a meal for a group for before or after the show.

repliikki.fi

INTRIGUING TAIDERUUKKI ART FACTORY

Located in the Kymin Ruukki mill milieu, the Taideruukki Art Factory in Kuusankoski is known for its Pato Klubi club, art galleries, handcrafter workshops and shops.

The building is like a labyrinth, a typical feature of old buildings. While wandering around the building, don't be afraid to peek around every corner – you may find a handcrafter at work.

Temporary art exhibitions and various cultural events, such as the riveting Sunday Club, are organised at Pato Klubi. Finland's foremost artists gladly perform here due to its unique atmosphere.

Pato Areena and Klubin Vintti are excellent venues for preparty and VIP events. Vintti has provided a setting for seminars, fashion shows, wine fairs, the Beer Festival, LP fairs, Christmas markets, Christmas parties and weddings.

A mural by **Anetta Lukjanova** and **Taneli Stenberg** welcomes visitors to the Kymin Ruukki mill.

MORE INFO taideruukki.fi



Poikilo Art Museum

Temporary Setting

Hanna Peräkylä, Visual Artist of the City of Kouvola

1.2.–28.4.2024

Rest of Us, Kino-Poikilo

Leena Kela

1.2.–28.4.2024

Whirls and Currents

Jenni Tieaho

23.5.–1.9.2024

Superbubbles

The Many Forms of Contemporary Comics

26.9.2024–5.1.2025

On the Edge of Time

Hanneriina Moisseinen
and E.L. Karhu

26.9.2024–5.1.2025



Jenni Tieaho,
Myrrys 3, 2023.
Photo Tomi Pohja



Hanna Peräkylä,
Perspective Study, 2023.
Photo Hanna Peräkylä



Leena Kela, Rest of Time, 2021
Photo Jussi Virkkumaa



Pauliina Mäkelä,
Oculotopia 1, 2022.
Photo Pauliina Mäkelä



Hanneriina Moisseinen
and E.L. Karhu,
On the Edge of Time 2020,
Photo Hanna Koikkalainen.

Poikilo City Museum

What is Kouvola Made of?
Until 13 Oct 2024

Our Changing City
28 Nov 2024 – 11 Oct 2026

Mistä
Kouvola
on tehty?



Harsi Oy 1967. Photo Eero Suikki

Welcome!
poikilo.fi



Varuskuntakatu 11, Kouvolutalo **Open** Tue–Fri, 11 am–6 pm, Sat–Sun 12 pm–5 pm, Closed on Mondays
Entrance 11 / 8€, under 18 yrs. free. Free entrance Fridays 5 pm–6 pm. Remember your Museum Card!



YOUR KOUVOLA

The City Museum Poikilo's exhibition *What is Kouvola Made of?* (until 13 October 2024) displays nostalgic objects, films and photographs from the area of today's Kouvola. It covers the different stages of life, from school to home and from work to leisure.

The exhibition invites visitors to reflect on their own relationship with their home region. At the same time, the museum collects visitors' memories for its collections.

– Even the smallest memory is valuable to museums, says Museum Curator **Minna Isopahkala**.

The aim is to make the museum's work to record history visible to visitors and highlight the fact that the museum is also interested in simple everyday life.

Visitors are encouraged to reminisce along a memory trail the size of a small exhibition hall. It is a game you can play on your own or with friends.

– The idea is to ask visitors what their Kouvola is made of and what their most important place in the city is. It could be their favourite fishing spot or a park they used to hang out in when they were young. We are collecting information for our next exhibition.



The old Inkeroinen board mill (1965), windmill in Elimäki (2011, Johannes Wiehn), Kimmo Pyykkö's Kolmoiskosket sculpture in Kuusankoski (1971, Eero Suikki), E. Paavolainen's shop in Jaala in the early 1980s (Raimo Sävilä), the Urheilupuisto swimming hall in Kouvola in the 1970s (Raimo Sävilä) and the Repovesi suspension bridge in Valkeala in the 1980s (Osmo Pykälä).

FROM DAIRY TO ART CENTRE

Finland's first Emmental cheese was made in the Sippola Manor dairy in 1856. The dairy is now home to Antares Art Centre, where artists work and live in residence. From June to August, Antares opens its doors to visitors Tue–Sun 12 noon to 6 pm.

MORE INFO: galleriaantares.fi

Performance artist **Aino Johansson** delighted the audience at the Live Art day in 2023. >>>



ECHOES OF AALTO

The Tervalinja terraced houses, Tehtaanmäki residential area and the Tehtaanmäki school in Inkeroinen. Nine Puutalo Oy house types, a public sauna and laundry building, a cooperative shop and a pumping station.

The world-famous architect made his mark in Kouvola, which is a part of the Alvar Aalto Cities network. **Alvar Aalto** designed three Arava buildings for the paper mill office staff. The blocks of flats range from studios to large family apartments with a fireplace, balcony and maid's room.

Aalto's architectural firm also drew up the plans for the teachers' dormitory and factory area in Inkeroinen which served as the basis for the paper mill factory, warehouse and production buildings.

Kouvola's architectural guides to Alvar Aalto buildings and the centre of Kouvola:

kouvola.fi/arkkitehtuuriopas



Photo: Aava Antinen

5 X TINY MUSEUM TREATS

1. FASCINATING TRAINS

At the model train museum Semaforo Trenorama, you can admire the progress of the miniature trains through an idyllic landscape. Onkapannu café in the museum delights the senses with freshly ground coffee and pastries straight from the oven.

pienoisrautatiemuseo.fi

2. ATMOSPHERE AND ELECTRONICS

In the Museum Quarter, near the city centre, idyllic wooden buildings and small boutiques nestle next to the Home and Radio Museum. Discover the interiors and atmosphere of different decades and, of course, old-time electronics.

putkiradiomuseo.fi

3. A SHOP LIKE A COLOURFUL SWEET

The original Pokki trading company building now houses the Shop Museum, which tells the story of buying and selling. The museum also hosts temporary exhibitions and events during the summer. The lively Valkeala summer theatre is next door.

valkealanmuseo.fi

4. THE JEWEL OF LOG ARCHITECTURE

The Local Heritage Museum building in the Kettumäki public recreation park is a great attraction in itself. From May to September, the Kuusankoski Society organises exhibitions and events such as a May Day concert and Midsummer Eve celebration in the magnificent log building designed by architect Lars Sonck.

kuusankoskiseura.fi

5. LIVING INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

The Ankkapurha Industrial Museum illustrates the working and living conditions of the factory's staff and industrial development over a period of 150 years. The heart of the museum is the first continuously operated board machine in Finland dating back to 1897. There is also a photo exhibition on the impact of the Finnish Civil War in 1918 on the Inkeroinen factory community.

ankkapurha.fi/en/genuine-experiences/living-industrial-heritage/



A TRIBUTE TO A MASTER

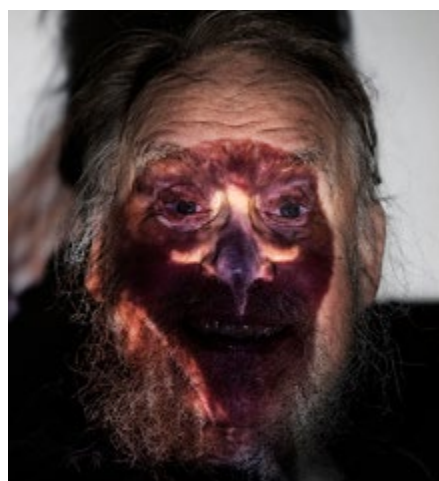
The Vuohijärvi Nature and Culture Centre presents the **Hannu Hautala** memorial exhibition Golden Eagle and White Swan III from 8 June to 11 August 2024. It is an extensive collection of works from the master photographer's golden age.

The exhibition showcases about a hundred photographs by the best-known Finnish nature photographer of all time. Hautala, who preserved his entire career on film, died last year.

– This seems like an appropriate way to honour him, as we started our operations with an exhibition of Hannu's work in 2015, says **Tuomas Hoikkala**, who runs the Nature and Culture Centre.

There will also be an exhibition by photographer **Juha Metso** entitled Nature Photographer Hannu Hautala – the Legacy of a Legend and a film of the same name. Hautala sits shirtless in front of the camera and talks about what it feels like when life – and perhaps humanity – are coming to an end.

In his works, Metso sets Hannu Hautala's own nature photos to dance on his skin, elevating the nature photographer to the status of an artist and rock star. The exhibition is open every day from 11 am to 6 pm, including Midsummer.



Kymi Sinfonietta's artistic partner Topi Lehtipuu will conduct two concerts in Kouvola this spring.

JUBILEE YEAR PROGRAMME

Kymi Sinfonietta turns 25 this year and once again shows its versatility in concerts.

BAROQUE AND JAZZ. Soundtracks and children's concerts. Modern and classical music. The Kymi Sinfonietta's repertoire is extensive year after year.

– I don't think the orchestra realise just how good they are, says **Topi Lehtipuu**, artistic partner and singer-conductor of the Kymi Sinfonietta. Lehtipuu, who has lived abroad for a long time and worked with numerous orchestras, marvels at the skill and humility of the Kymi Sinfonietta.

– They serve their audience in Kymi-laakso in a very diverse way.

LEHTIPUU WILL be conducting a concert in Kuusankoski on the 1st of February. Its theme is Vienna's rich musical history. The soloist is top French soprano **Sandrine Piau**.

Around Easter, **George Frideric Handel's** *La Resurrezione* will be performed by five masterly soloists.

– It's one of Handel's greatest pieces. A rarely heard gem, more intimate than his *Messiah*.

Lehtipuu also recommends the jazz concert (14 February) during which another partner of the orchestra, Jukka Perko, will bring great jazz and big band classics to life with the Kymi Sinfonietta.

LEHTIPUU IS one of the most internationally renowned Finnish singers of classical music. He is also pursuing a career as a conductor.

In addition to vocal music, he is interested in baroque and older music and is working on some such pieces with the Kymi Sinfonietta.

– Lehtipuu brings us top international singers. Thanks to his singing career, he has a very extensive global network, says **Reetaliina Marin**, Kymi Sinfonietta's Communications and Public Relations Manager.

THE JUBILEE YEAR culminates in the final concerts of the V International Uuno Klami Composition Competition in November 2024. It is one of the most popular international composition competitions.

The jury includes **Kalevi Aho**, **Magnus Lindberg**, **Mats Larsson Gothe** and **Lotta Wennäkoski**, who are among the leading composers and music influencers of their generation. The jury will also include Conductor **Anna-Maria Helsing** who will conduct the final concerts in Kouvola and Kotka.

– The jury will observe the final concerts and the orchestras' rehearsals and will not make their final decision until the last orchestra has performed, says Marin.



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COMPETITION

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Kapellimestari / Conductor
Anna-Maria Helsing
Tuomaristo / Jury
Kalevi Aho – Magnus Lindberg –
Mats Larsson Gothe –
Lotta Wennäkoski

KYMI SINFONIETTA KOTKA KOUVOLA
KYMENLÄSKEN SÄVELLYSSEURAT
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www.klamicompetition.fi

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kymisinfonietta.fi

KOUVOLA'S MUSEUM TRIO



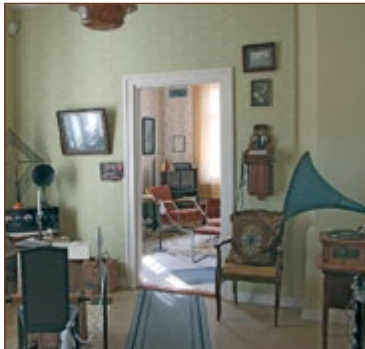
**KOUVOLAN
KOTIMUSEO**



The museums maintained by the Kouvola Putkiradiomuseosäätiö foundation depict the life and development of technology from the 920s to the 1960s.

Historic home museum

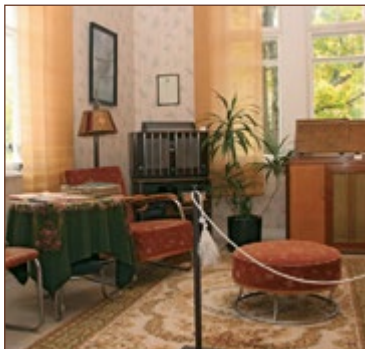
Radio and military radio museum



Room from the 1920s



Radio museum



Room from the 1930s



Military radio museum

Pajaraitti 1, 45100 Kouvola, Phone + 358 20 615 6157
www.putkiradiomuseo.fi

Email: museokolmikko@gmail.com (visitor surveys),
museo@putkiradiomuseo.fi (administration)

FB: Kouvola Putkiradiomuseo, Kotimuseo,
Radiomuseo, Sotilasradiomuseo

Instagram: Putkiradiomuseo



The Shop Museum in Valkeala vividly tells the story of buying and selling.

Barn café and special shop for children where they can play with the products.

Our exhibition includes temporary displays that change every year, for the same entrance fee.

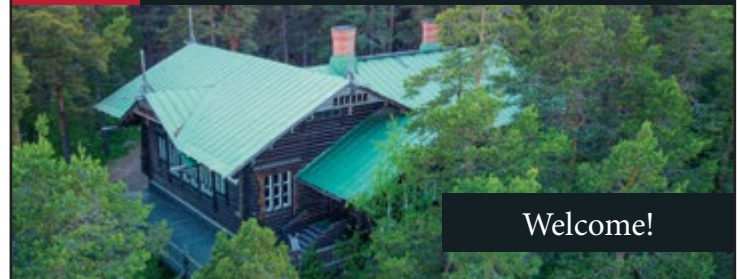
The museum is open during the summer season, to find out more go to:

WWW.VALKEALANMUSEO.FI

Vanhatie 22, 45370 Valkeala



Kuusankoski-Seura



Welcome!

The heritage building was designed by the renowned Finnish architect, Professor Lars Sonck (1870–1956). His works include Ainola (the home of Jean Sibelius), Tampere Cathedral and the summer residence of the President of Finland, Kultaranta. **Between May and September, Kuusankoski-Seura ry organises several temporary exhibitions and various events, such as the May Day concert and the Midsummer Night's Eve Celebration.**

Kotiseututie 12, 45700 Ksnk • 044 792 1870 • www.kuusankoskiseura.fi

Warm summer days in the culture park

Ankkapurha Culture Park is a great place to spend a day – or two! To get the most out of your trip, try these tips.

- 1 Escape room and art exhibition**
Anjala Manor hosts art exhibitions in the summer. Upstairs you will find an escape room that will take you back to the 1700s. Guided tours of the manor house are organised regularly during the summer.
- 2 Lunch in the stone barn**
Ankkapurha restaurant is all about local flavours. The new restaurant, located in the old stone barn of the manor house, seats 170 guests.
- 3 Golf and more**
Ankkapurha DiscGolfPark is a 20-hole frisbee golf course. You can rent a disc set from the café, as well as other sports equipment and even bicycles.
- 4 Coffee!**
Makasiinikahvila, a cosy café in the manor's old granary, serves summer visitors freshly ground coffee, local produce and fresh pastries straight out of the oven.
- 5 Where to stay**
Ankkapurha offers comfortable accommodation in cosy 3 or 4 bedroom apartments.

- 6 A riverside hike**
The nature trail at nearby Känkkäränmäki meanders through the beautiful river landscape. There are handrails and steps to ease the hike along the most challenging parts of the cliff.
- 7 Grilling and chilling**
Ankkapurha is perfect for doing nothing! Guests are welcome to use the hammocks and the barbecue in the picnic area.
- 8 Ghost**
Activate videos with your smartphone to bring the history of Anjala Manor to life. Do you dare to face the **Wrede** family ghost, the Grey Lady? If you do, download the SALMI AR app.
- 9 Concerts**
An early summer evening, a stately setting, good friends and the Kymi River glistening in the sun. Enjoy live music on the Ankkapurha lakeside stage in the summer.



Not all of the Känkkärä Nature Trail is accessible, but there is a barrier-free route to the Känkkärä lean-to shelter.

What is Ankkapurha?

Ankkapurha Culture Park is located in Anjala, Kouvola. At the heart of the park stands Anjala Manor. The Ankkapurha Industrial Museum is located on the opposite shore. The nearby buildings are textbook examples of architect Alvar Aalto's designs.

MORE INFO: ankkapurha.fi



1



2



3



4



5



6

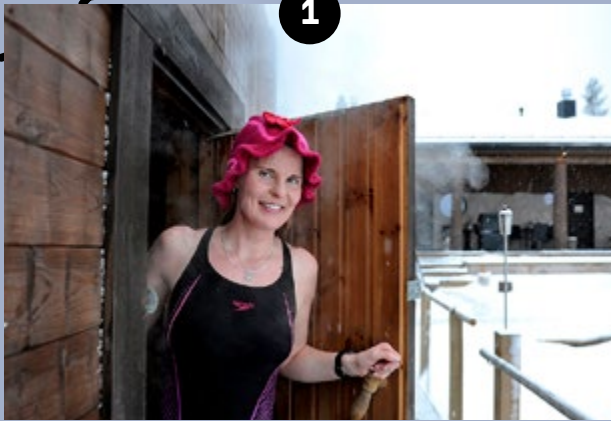


The jewels of Käyrälampi

Käyrälampi is the beating heart of Kouvola's outdoor life. On its shores, you will find a water park, bars and beach volleyball courts. There are saunas, the Tykkimäki Resort and equipment rental available all year round.



The Käyrälampi nature trail meets the Finnish standard for an accessible public facility. In certain places, a wheelchair user may need an assistant due to the sloping terrain and the surface material.



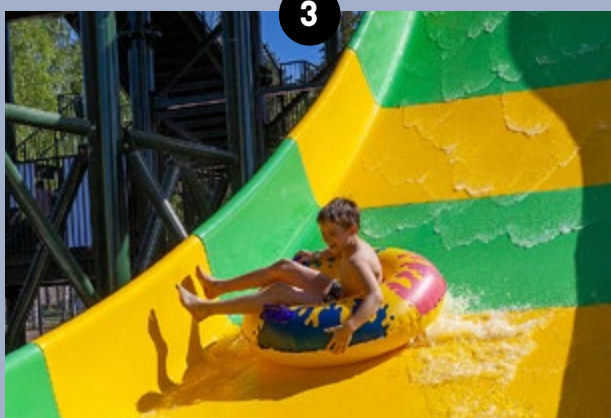
1

TYKKIMÄEN SAUNA is open year-round. In addition to the main sauna, you can try out the wood-burning sauna and the floating sauna on the lake. In winter, take a dip in the icy water in the light of outdoor candles. In summer, the beer garden expands to cover the entire cove.



2

KÄYRÄLAMPPI BEACH has a 90-metre jetty with swimming lanes and a diving tower, 12 beach volleyball courts, changing stalls, WCs, the Lammenranta Kitchen & Bar with a terrace, and SUP boards and other sports equipment for rent.



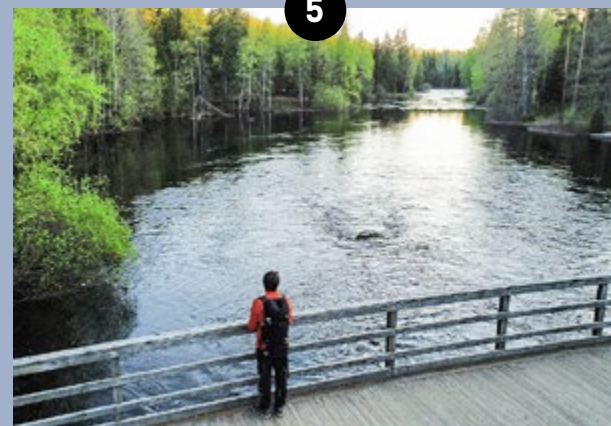
3

TYKKIMÄKI AQUAPARK features long water slides, saunas, a 25-metre swimming pool and a Water Play pool with exciting adventure areas. The little ones in the family will enjoy Spray Park and its wading pools.



4

TYKKIMÄKI RESORT'S Laawu is perfect for those who enjoy glamping. You can also stay in a log villa, cottage or park your caravan in the caravan area. Active travellers can choose tennis, padel, badminton, mini-golf and guided activities.



5

KÄYRÄLAMPPI NATURE TRAIL goes all the way round the lake, thanks to the new bridge across the Käyräjoki river. Along the way, there are stunning riverside views and places to rest and light a campfire. You can also hike there in winter or ski along the ski trails by the shore.



6

TYKKIMÄKI AMUSEMENT PARK can be reached by crossing a bridge. There are lots of rides for small children. Older children and those looking for a thrill should try Loop Fighter and Trombi. Finland's top stars take to the stage at evening concerts.



Accessibility has been taken into account in the design of the amusement park. The wide walkways are easy to navigate, and you can get almost everywhere with a pram or wheelchair. The staff are happy to help you get on the rides when needed.

Three parks, one wristband

Tykkimäki Amusement Park, Aquapark and Actionpark form the holy trinity of fun and entertainment, all accessible with the Park Hopper wristband.

THE IMPROVED ACTIONPARK will open in February in Kouvola's Prismakeskus.

– It's in a new location and will offer more digital games than before, says Pilvi Serola, Operations Manager at Tykkimäki.

As Actionpark was designed to encourage children to exercise more, the games get them moving. For example, in front of the trampoline games there are screens you can watch yourself on. You can play alone or with a friend who is on a trampoline next to you.

– In the high-ropes game, the game is projected onto the climbing wall. There are several types of games to choose from.

Actionpark has four different areas: Ninja Course, Skyscraper area and its games, the trampoline area and an area for young children with the popular Upside Down House. For the sought-after birthday parties, there are three rooms on offer, two of which can be combined to make one large space.

– The Park Hopper wristband is a real summer hit. It gives you access to three parks: Actionpark, Aquapark and the Tykkimäki Amusement Park.

THE TYKKIMÄKI AMUSEMENT

PARK has 28 rides. Get a bird's eye view of the area over the top of the pine trees on the 72-metre high Star Flyer. In the 2024 season, a new device will replace Taifun. Modernised last year, the Seikkailu high ropes park has 10 courses, some of which are sure to provide even the most experienced enthusiast a thrilling experience.

– Seikkailu can also be booked outside the amusement park season, says Serola.

The amusement park has a lot to offer the little folk in the family too, with a wide range of rides for visitors under 90 cm. Young children can play to their hearts' content in the outdoor playground. Indoors, the Mukkanis Makkelis playground delights children with its bouncy castles, trampolines and slides.

As well as exciting rides, the amusement park has a minigolf course and a mini farm where you can pet pigs, bunnies and goats. You can refuel at Kusti Burger, Ravintola Raveliini's buffet for pizza and home food, Hodari for hotdogs and Grilli for BBQ food.

– To make your day even sweeter, visit the cheerful pink sweet shop Karkkimaa or one of the park's many kiosks, such as Kertun Café, which serves super donuts and delicious bubble tea.

THERE IS a footbridge from the amusement park to Aquapark. You can use the same Park Hopper wristband there as at Tykkimäki and Actionpark. The shallow water at Spray Park is ideal for children to splash around in. The big wading pool has a range of exciting jet sprays and water cannons. Water Play has a range of water slides and an adventure area. Parents can bask in the sun in pool chairs, and experienced water devils can dip into the park's 25-metre pool.

And of course, there are saunas and water slides, the wildest one being the 70-metre Thunder Tunnel. Lammenranta Kitchen & Bar serves water park visitors indoors and on the terrace.

The best fun of the summer

Come to Tykkimäki for the best fun of the summer! Make your unforgettable day at the amusement park even better by staying at the Tykkimäki Resort or Original Sokos Hotel Vaakuna.

Opening hours and tickets:
tykkimaki.fi



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Menu and table reservations: raflaamo.fi

VAAKUNA KOUVOLA
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Frans & Rose
Kouvola tourism magazine 2024

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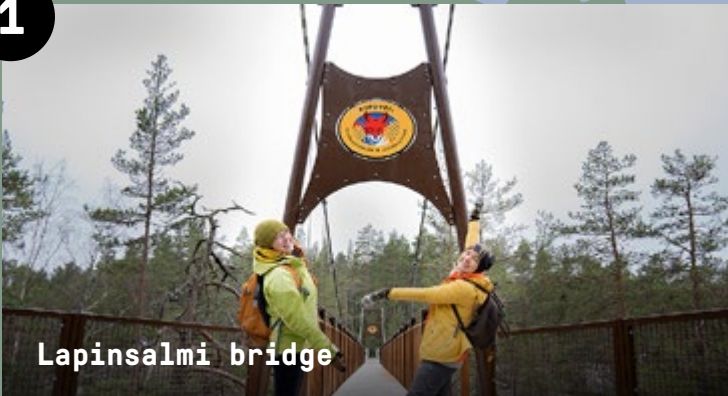
Explore Repovesi

If you're not familiar with the picturesque Repovesi National Park, you're missing out. Here are some tips on how to get to the most iconic spots in this beautiful park.

TIP: You can find maps of Repovesi at nationalparks.fi/repovesinp/maps

MORE INFO: visitrepovesi.fi/en

1



Lapinsalmi bridge

Opened in November 2019, this 55-metre pylon bridge spans Lapinsalmi at a height of more than 12 metres. The campfire site by the Lapinsalmi bridge is popular all year round. As well as a campfire with seating, there is a cooking shelter and barbecue hut, where you can also light a fire during a forest fire alert.

From the Lapinsalmi car park it is half a kilometre to the bridge if you go north on the Ketunlenkki trail.
COORDINATES (WGS84): 61.16486, 26.83580

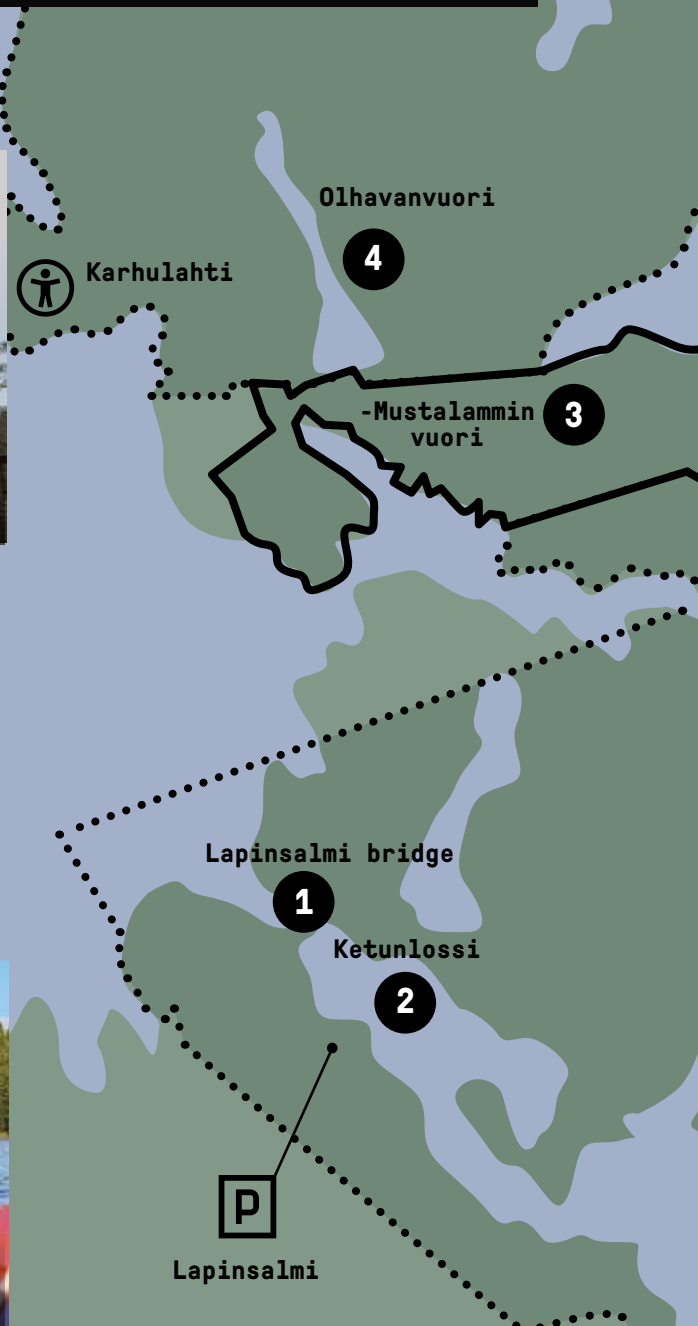
2



Ketunlossi ferry

You can cross the Kapiavesi lake on a hand-drawn cable ferry. You can operate it on your own, but it takes strength and perseverance. The ferry is available from spring to autumn.

From the Lapinsalmi car park it is about half a kilometre to the ferry, if you follow the Ketunlenkki trail in a southerly direction.
COORDINATES (WGS84): 61.15849, 26.84479



REPOVESI
NATIONAL PARK

.....
AARNIKOTKA FOREST
NATURE RESERVE



3



Mustalamminvuori

The hill and the observation tower on top of it offer stunning views of Kuutinlahti, the heart of the national park. You can see many scenes typical of Repovesi all at once: rocky cliffs, barren forests on rocky terrain and lichen formations.

The walk from the Saarijärvi parking lot is about 3 km and a little more from the Tervajärvi parking area. Mustalamminvuori is along the longest hiking trail in the Repovesi Park, the Kaakkurinkierros trail. COORDINATES (WGS84): 61.17953, 26.84859

4



Olhavanvuori

This majestic rock face is the most popular rock climbing destination in Finland. It rises vertically to a height of more than 50 metres in places. Olhavanvuori has over a hundred climbing routes of varying levels, many of them starting from the pitch-black waters of Olhavanlampi. In calm weather, you can see the reflection of the cliff in the pond.

It is just over 3 km from the Saarijärvi parking area to Olhavanvuori. The quickest way to get there is along the dirt road. Coordinates (WGS84): 61.18361, 26.83825



Accessible toilets are provided at all Repovesi car parks and some of the campfire sites. The Karhulahti and Kuutinkanava areas are suitable for wheelchairs if you have someone to assist you.

15 reasons to be outdoors

Kouvola has 13 great nature trails, as well as the Kymijoki river and Käyrälampi hiking trails.

1

Alakylä

The route from Korja Bridge follows the Kymi River through an old forest. Duckboards keep your toes dry. Part of the Kymijoki River Trail.

2

Heisanharju

The route passes through a stunning local beauty spot formed at the end of the Ice Age, surrounded by clear-water lakes. Suitable for the whole family.

3

Huikkeinlenkki

An easily accessible route along the shores of the Lapalanjärvi lake near the bird-watching tower. No steep sections or difficult terrain.

4

Kalalampi

A duckboard path around a clear-water pond. Walkers may spot goldeneye ducks, northern goshawks or treecreepers.

5

Kammarmäki

A wilderness-like nature trail, with challenging terrain in places and ropes to support hikers on the steepest climbs. The rocky outcrop between Vuorilampi and Sammakkolampi serves as a good lookout point.

6

Karhulampi

An easy nature trail with a magnificent giant's cauldron and a lean-to when you want a break. The landscape varies from different kinds of forests to shoreline.

7

Kimola

A challenging trail with magnificent forest views and steep climbs. In places, the trail follows old cow paths and is great for spotting plants and birds.

8

Kirkkovuori

Challenging climbs and descents. As "king of the castle" you have a fine view down over the Ankkapurha estate. From this point, Gustav III is said to have watched a battle below in the late 1700s.

9

Kokkokallio

Climbing up a fine rocky outcrop, the path is right next to the Verla Mill Museum and rock painting. A fascinating destination for anyone interested in rocks.

10

Känkkärä

A wooded nature trail in Anjala. From the top of the cliff, you have a magnificent view of the Kymijoki river and the factory landscape on the opposite bank. Handrails and steps have been built on the most challenging climbs.

11

Myllypuro

The path along the millstream runs mainly through a nature reserve and is well supplied with info boards, duckboards and bridges. You may spot deer, otters and foxes here.

12

Niivermäki

The trail through rapakivi granite cliffs culminates at an observation tower. Handsome firs grow along the natural stream. The info boards include a section for children about Kaarne the Raven.

13

Pioneerimetsä

A network of paths whose most spectacular section is the forest trail along the banks of the Kymijoki river, descending to Ahkoja. These riverbanks and the Ahkoja grove are part of the Natura 2000 network.

14

Kymijoki river hiking trail

The route runs mainly on duckboards along a steep riverbank, with exceptional views of the Kymijoki river. There are dedicated sections for cyclists.

15

Käyrälampi hiking trail

The trail around Käyrälampi takes you from the beach to the wild nature of the Jyräänjoki river. You cross the Käyräjoki river along a newly-built bridge. Along the route are three rest spots with the possibility to make a campfire.



The Käyrälampi hiking trail and the Kalalampi nature trail are accessible sites. The Kymijoki river hiking trail and the Pioneerimetsä trails have some accessible sections.

MORE INFO:
kouvola.fi/luontopolut



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www.kettumaenkansanpuisto.fi

KETTUMÄKI
KETTUMÄEN KANSANPUISTO RY

Cycling by the beautiful Kymijoki river

A family explores the new Kymijoki river trail by bike.

TEXT AND PHOTOS Johanna Kleemola / Retkipaikka

STANDING IN front of the Kouvola Travel Centre, you'd never guess that this is where the Kymijoki river trail begins, with its stunning scenery, duckboards and numerous rest stops.

We are going cycling as a family, heading north towards Sääksniemi. Urban views and roadworks dominate the first part of the journey, but soon we see a signpost that directs us into the woods. City life gives way to peaceful scenes, asphalt turns into a path strewn with autumn leaves. We are pedalling along a winding route. The river sparkles behind the trees and we stop at a rest spot to take a breather.



WE CONTINUE along the cycle path towards the Kymmin Ruukki and Kuusankoski bridges, then stop to read a signpost. Our youngest, at 9 years old, is fascinated by the quest presented on it. The sign informs us about the Kymmin Ruukki mill and area, the Rapakoski bridge and villas in Koskenranta. Who can guess the height of the Kymmin Ruukki chimney-stack? The trail follows the Ekholm bridge to the north of the Kymijoki river. It's a good idea to follow the signposts. The bridges glisten in the sparkling sunlight. The well-tended flower beds are delightful and the sound of the water flowing is enchanting. The landscapes become more and more spectacular.

AFTER CROSSING the big bridges, we cycle through a residential area and reach a point where the cycle and pe-



destrian paths diverge. We continue along the cycle path. If you want to see the impressive duckboard paths, small bridges and shoreside campfires, head for the walking trail. You can also cycle on the walking trail but will need to walk your bike by the long, steep steps.

THE RAUHANHARJU area is easily accessible by bike and pushchair, and there is a car park next to it. Here you can light a campfire and admire the river flowing by. If you set off along the footpath by the riverbank, you will come across splendid stretches of duckboard. Our children pedal excitedly down the wooden path. They practise their skills in the fairytale forest and enjoy the extra challenge the duckboards bring. At times, the ground is covered in moss, and the sun's magical rays glint through the autumn trees.

SOON WE reach a wider trail again, followed by a stretch of cycling on the side of the road. We come to a sign pointing hikers towards Aholanmäki. The upward slope makes our thighs burn and we're getting tired, but even our 9-year-old keeps pedalling, because we know there are new nature trail signposts, duckboards and ever more impressive bridges waiting for us. The next rest and campfire site is high up on a hill. We take a short break. Next, we come to some steep metal steps down to Keltinranta. The Kymijoki river trail continues through a nature reserve and some fields. If you're not too tired, we recommend you visit the Ruotsula Redoubt.



Kymijoki River Trail

- About 25 kilometres long, this trail is a circular route from the centre of Kouvola to the Kymijoki river and back along its banks. There are several signposts and info boards along the way, as well as numerous rest stops.
- You can start from anywhere and travel clockwise or anti-clockwise. Or you can make small excursions on parts of the route. You can cycle or hike, but the cycling and walking trails diverge at a couple of points.

Information about self-service city bikes for hire: kaakau.fi

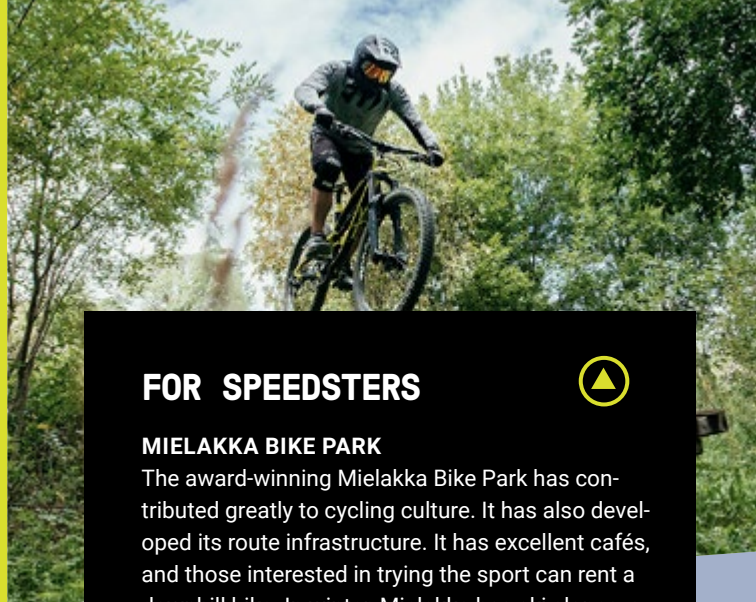


THE ALAKYLÄ nature trail starts near the Korja bridges and is a great day trip destination. This 3.5-kilometre circular route offers a variety of stunning landscapes and habitats. It is also a part of the Kymijoki river trail. We choose a stretch that goes under the bridges and continues to the campfire site on the shore. The trail is full of beauty, gorgeous colours and stunning views. The side boards on the steps make it easy to walk the bike up. High on the hill is a lean-to shelter and a view of the impressive bridge below.

WE HAVE been travelling for about five hours. Twilight is setting in. We cycle past a sheepfold, some hay bales and the idyllic Alakylä village. We marvel at the setting sun as it disappears behind the fields. It's been a great trip, but we're happy to see the signposts pointing us towards the city centre. It doesn't take us long to get there. We have cycled more than 30 kilometres. As cliché as it may sound, we're tired but happy. It's time to strap the bikes to the car and say goodbye to the darkening city. We're definitely coming back to Kouvola!



Many sections of the trail include steps, but the Sääksniemi circular route, for example, is accessible by pushchair, wheelchair and bike.



FOR SPEEDSTERS



MIELAKKA BIKE PARK

The award-winning Mielakka Bike Park has contributed greatly to cycling culture. It has also developed its route infrastructure. It has excellent cafés, and those interested in trying the sport can rent a downhill bike. In winter, Mielakka has ski slopes, a Minipark, Lastenmaa for children, the acclaimed Snowpark and a floodlit ski trail.

FIND OUT MORE: mielakka.fi/en/home

5 X CYCLING ROUTE

SOUTH BY CYCLE

This bikepacking route (550 km) starts in Kouvola and takes you all the way to Hanko. The Kouvola section of this route includes gravel roads, rapids and rural landscapes, as well as the Ankkapurha Culture Park. The ideal route for a one or two-day bike ride is the Kouvola circular route (95 km).

KOUVOLA'S 3 BIKE TOURING ROUTES

Embark on a journey to the Kimola canal and discover the enchanting beauty of the Kymijoki river and litti. The cultural route along the Kymijoki river leads you through the vibrant greenery of Arboretum Mustila. The Verla World Heritage Site is along the route to Mäntyharju.

SOUTH-EAST BY CYCLE

Gravel in Southeast Finland! This circular route (400 km) on the gravel roads of Kymenlaakso and South Karelia leads you on an exploration of natural and cultural treasures and the mysticism of the border region.

THE ROUTE OF RUSHING RAPIDS

This cycling route (300 km) along a string of rivers and lakes affords stunning views of beautiful rapids from Saimaa via the Kymijoki river to the Gulf of Finland. Discover freely flowing and restored rapids and their use for log floating and industry.

FORTRESS TOUR OF SOUTHEAST FINLAND

A journey through time to the border region between two countries. This route (350 km) through Southeast Finland offers rich experiences for cyclists of all levels, from the pleasure-seeker to the adventurer.

TIP: More cycling and other routes in Kouvola outdooractive.fi



MUSTILA VIINI VIN

Mustilanpuistotie 21, Elimäki

Mustila's award-winning wine
and MariaMamma's treats
from Viinipuoti shop



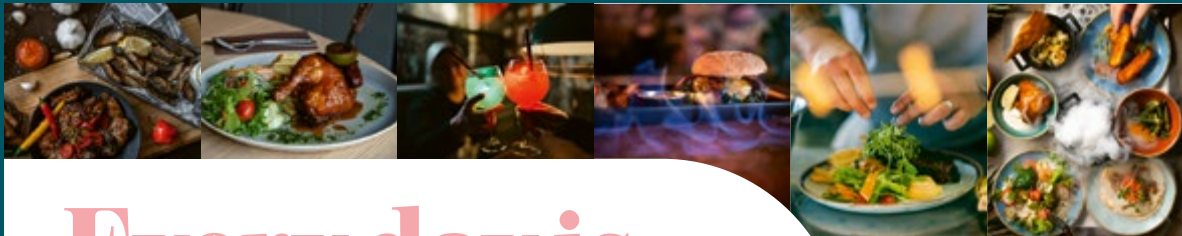
www.mustilaviini.fi

Sauna Virtakivi

www.virtakivensauna.fi



Marina facilities
at the southern end
of Kimola Canal



Every day is a celebration

- just the way you like it



Eat, drink and celebrate in Kouvola!
See restaurant menus and opening hours:

raflaamo.fi/en/kouvola



raflaamo.fi



Enchanting trees

At Mustila, Finland's largest and oldest arboretum, there's lots to see from spring to October.

RHODODENDRON FLOWERING season, from May to June, is when the parking spaces at Mustila fill up.

But the Rhododendron Valley is only a small part of the 120-hectare tree park, which is dominated by evergreen conifer woodland with hemlock, western red cedar and Pacific silver fir. In addition to the exotic plantations, there is a forest church, a wood carving gallery and a nature trail for children.

There are more than 250 tree species at the arboretum. If you want to try out new tree species in your own forest or garden, we recommend a visit to the Mustila seed and plant shop.

ARBORETUM MUSTILA was founded by **A. F. Tigerstedt** on a hill to the west of Mustila Manor.

The first trees were planted in 1902. The aim was to study whether foreign conifers would thrive in Finland. Tigerstedt was also interested in trees from an aesthetic point of view, and his experiments quickly expanded to include deciduous trees and ornamental shrubs.

His son, **C. G. Tigerstedt**, assisted his father and then continued his work. He established new areas in the arboretum, such as the Rhododendron Valley, an experimental area for horticultural art.

SINCE 1984 Arboretum Mustila has been managed and maintained by the Mustila Foundation. Under their care, the experiments have blossomed and the arboretum has been opened to the public.

During your visit to the park, have a coffee at the atmospheric summer café, Piika & Renki, and a glass of wine at Viinitupa.

The fruit wines and liqueurs produced by **Maria Tigerstedt's** Mustila Viini are made from pure Finnish ingredients. Half of these come from local contract farmers, the rest from home gardens and Mother Earth. The recipes were handed down by the family's grandmothers.

Always open!

The arboretum is open every day of the year. The opening hours from the beginning of April to the end of October are from 8 am to 9 pm and from the beginning of November to the end of March 8 am to 7 pm. During the winter months, visitors pay for their tickets to the Mustila bank account.

Exceptions to opening hours: The opening hours on May Day and Ascension Day are 10 am to 4 pm, and on Midsummer Eve and Midsummer Day from 11 am to 4 pm.

MORE INFO: mustila.fi/en



The park has a new wheelchair-accessible trail. It is about 1 km or 400 metres long, depending on the route you choose.



Opening hours of the Mill Museum

Verla May Day on 1 May marks the opening of the museum's summer season.

Open 2 May–23 June Tue–Sun 11 am–4 pm, 24 June–15 August every day 10 am–6 pm and 16 August–29 September Tue–Sun 11 am–4 pm. The last guided tour of the day starts at 4 or 6 pm.

Closed on Midsummer Eve and during the winter season.

Tours in Finnish at the UPM Verla Mill Museum begin every hour on the hour. Tours in other languages by appointment only.

BOOK A TOUR:
verla.fi/en

Verla's ABC

It's a good idea to reserve a full day to visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site. If that's not enough, you can also stay the night.

A

Accommodation. Visitors can stay in the former homes of the mill workers, cottages dating back to the 1800s. The Railli-Kaarina cottages take you back to the 1960s, and there are also lodgings in the woods.

D

Day-to-day history. The vivid stories you hear on the tours of the Verla Mill Museum bring the mill back to life. Get your tickets at verla.fi

E

Eco-accommodation and activities. Cabin and eco-accommodation, services and activities in the stunning surroundings and waterways of Verla and Repovesi, implemented by Verlan Suma, verlansuma.fi/en_US

F

Forestry trail. This trail of approximately two kilometres introduces you to the forest in various stages of growth as well as to valuable biodiversity sites.

G

Gardener's tours. Groups have the opportunity to take a tour of the mill owner's charming park and garden. By reservation only.

H

History trail. Feel free to explore the trail independently. Take a stroll down the signposted history trail near the mill and learn about the history of the World Heritage Site. The path starts at the prehistoric rock paintings and goes around the entire mill area.

I

Images. See the fascinating exhibitions about log driving in Verla, the mill's fire-fighting team and the lives of the workers. A timeline of the mill's 150-year history is also on display. The UPM exhibition displays everyday bio-innovations.

M

Maria Mattsson. The footprints you will see on the floor on the mill tour will astound you. They were made by **Maria Mattsson** whose job it was to weigh cardboard.

P

Paper master. Dressed in costume, **Bruno Altmeier**, a fictional German paper master, takes you back to 1921. "I came to Verla from Germany to work and found true love, so I stayed!"
By reservation only.

R

Rock paintings. A series of red rock paintings located at the head of the Verlanoski rapids, painted about 7,000 years ago.

S

Shopping. Pop into the handcrafters' boutiques. You will find clothes, accessories, jewellery, interior decorating and household items, as well as metal and wood products.

T

Tervarumpu Ecocamp Verla. This is a unique and ecologically sustainable adventure for friends, couples and families. Why not spend a night in a tree? A stay in the tent grounds includes the use of a forest sauna, SUP board, canoe, kickbike and rowing boat.

U

UNESCO. The Verla Groundwood and Board Mill became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1996.

V

Verla waffles. The Ravintola Verla restaurant serves delicious sweet and savoury waffles. They also serve salmon soup and other delicacies.



The Mill Museum is not an accessible site, but a person with reduced mobility can join the rest of the group on a half-tour. It includes a documentary about Verla and, if possible, a visit to the upper floor of the mill. The half-tour can also be booked separately for the entire group.



Boating to Kouvola

Former log driving canal, Kimola, takes boaters from the Päijänne lake to Kouvola.

THE KIMOLA CANAL connects Päijänne lake to the Kymijoki river, along which you can reach Kouvola by boat from as far north as Pielavesi (400 km).

Open from May to October, the canal features a unique 70-metre rock tunnel and an exceptionally deep 12-metre lock. The maximum boat length permitted through the lock is around 30 metres.

Two new bridges with headroom for boats of 4.8 metres cross the canal. The Kimolanlahti bridge at the eastern end of the canal has an overhead clearance of 4 metres, limiting boat size.

The canal route starts at the Virtakivi marina in Voikkaa. Boaters can fuel up, empty their bilges and septic tanks, stock up on water and use shore power in the marina. You will also find a campfire site, WC and waste recycling point. Take some time to gaze out over the water from the Pakanavuori observation platform.

After boating, go for some refreshments at the Virtakiven Sauna summer café. If you wish to visit the centre of Kouvola, you can rent an e-bike at the marina or take a bus from the bus stop about 400 metres away.

MORE INFO: kimolankanava.fi



10 FACTS about Kouvola

1 LOCATION. location, location. Just over an hour from Helsinki, just over 30 minutes from Lappeenranta.

What should everyone know about Kouvola?



2 WATER. Kouvola has 494 lakes and the fast-flowing Kymi River running through it to Lake Päijänne via the Kimola canal. With its 7,700 summer cottages, Kouvola is Finland's seventh largest locality for summer homes.



5 TIME. Do you want an annual holiday's worth – 30 days – of more free time? When you live in Kouvola you are just 10 minutes away from everything you need.



8 CULTURE. For those with a thirst for culture, we offer the Kymi Sinfonietta, Kouvola Theatre, the Poikilo museums and many more.



3 ARCHITECTURE. In addition to the modern city centre, Kouvola is home to some magnificent architecture by Alvar Aalto, numerous beautiful manors and other historical buildings.



6 ATTRACTIONS. Repovesi National Park, Arboretum Mustila, Tykkimäki Amusement Park and the UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Verla Groundwood and Board Mill.



9 MORNING ROLL CALL. Kouvola is the largest garrison city in Finland. The Karelia Brigade and the Utti Jaeger Regiment train more than 4,000 conscripts a year.



4 SPACE. For the price of a one-bedroom apartment in Helsinki, you can buy a detached house and a summer cottage in Kouvola. About half the city's residents live in single-family houses.



7 ROCK. Many successful Finnish bands, such as Peer Günt, Viikate and Tuure Kilpeläinen, have learned their trade at the band facilities in the old city hall. Pato Arena has climbed to the top of the ranking list for top artists' gig venues.



10 SPORTS. For spectator sports, KooKoo, Kouvot, KPL and MyPa. More than 110 clubs and sports organisations. 110 km of floodlit ski trails, 292 km of bicycle paths and 350 km of nature trails.

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the largest shopping centre in South-Eastern Finland

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The Paja co-working space allows you to immerse yourself fully in your work or simply pop in to answer an email while you shop.



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Find our best offers, mobile vouchers, lunch menus and other current news on the free Veturi mobile app.

Experience Veturi's irresistible shops and services and its lively atmosphere; along Highway 6 in Kouvola!

Veturi's nearly 70 stores include both well-known international chains and local shops, making it easy for you to find everything you need from clothing to sports and from leisure to interior design. The enticing range of services and the convenience of shopping at Veturi are guaranteed by department stores such as K-Citymarket and K-Rauta, a modern cinema, delicious restaurants and cafés, as well as a wide range of events and other services both inside the shopping centre and in its outdoor area.

The outdoor facilities include free parking, charging points for electric cars, RINKI eco-point, a water point for motor homes and comfortable, lockable boxes for pets, so you don't need to leave your pet in the car. Pets are also welcome inside the shopping centre.

Inside, visitors have access to free Wi-Fi, withdrawal & deposit ATMs, a childcare area and a play area. On the upper floor of the shopping centre you will find Paja, a workspace open to all, where you can take care of business in a peaceful and comfortable environment.

Veturi's operations are based on energy efficiency and environmental responsibility. As proof of this, Veturi has been rated Excellent in the BREEAM certification of sustainable construction, thanks to its use of geo-energy and solar energy, local green hydroelectricity, LED lighting and a 100% waste recovery rate, among others. In 2018, we were awarded the Safe Retail Destination certificate as proof that at Veturi, we comply with international safety standards.



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Veturi

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VETURI SHOPPING CENTRE

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45720 KUUSANKOSKI



2024

COURSES

Intaglio printmaking 11–15 June
Bronze casting 16–21 July
Painting 1–4 Aug
International Kantele Course and concert 6–11 Aug

EXHIBITIONS Tue–Sun 12–6 p.m.

Cultural Association Antares
 30 Apr–5 May
Wood Talk 21 May–2 June
Dairy Forest 7 June–1 Sept (24h)
Taivaallinen akatemia and Piirustusluokka -groups
 6 June–18 Aug
Lux Sippola III 17 Dec 2024–14 Jan 2025

EVENTS

2 June Celebration of Tree
 2–5 p.m.:
 Kytömäki, Juntti, Väkevä,
 Keto-Tokoi, discussion
 Minna Raskinen, kantele

24 July MeNaiset and Tuultenpesä,
 concert

14 Aug Vilma Jää and Sähköpaimen,
 concert

Antares Art Centre
 Pien-Liikkalantie 6, Sippola
 tel. +358 44 981 9506
www.galleriaantares.fi



Photo: Aava Anttinen



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WIIPURINTIE
 MEDIEVAL FESTIVAL

Kasarminmäki, Kouvola, 3 August 2024

Kouvola for events and meetings

Kouvola offers many excellent venues for both small get-togethers and major events, as well as adventures alongside them.



KOUVOLA IS a city for active people, with several theatres and an orchestra of its own. A garrison city. A city of Alvar Aalto architecture.

A city of unique festivals. A city of rock music.

Kouvola is also a city of liquorice, coffee roasteries and rye bread.

A city of microbreweries. A city of many museums. A skiing and snowboarding city.

WHETHER YOU are hosting a small gathering or a major event, Kouvola offers many unique venues for an unforgettable experience.

You have a choice of traditional conference and seminar facilities, magnificent manor houses, cultural venues, outdoor event areas for large-scale events and other special venues.

Travelling to Kouvola is easy! Whether you're coming by train or car, the trip takes an hour or less from Lahti, Mikkeli or Lappeenranta. From Helsinki, it's just over an hour.

PLANNING A MEETING, a team day out, a wellness day, or an even bigger event?

Do you need help planning your event? The VisitKouvola free meet-

ing and event planning service will help you arrange your event in Kouvola.

Because we really know our local network, we can recommend everything you need to host a successful event. We arrange conference facilities and accommodation, restaurants, transport, recreation programmes and additional services. Our service saves you time and effort. Don't hesitate to contact us!

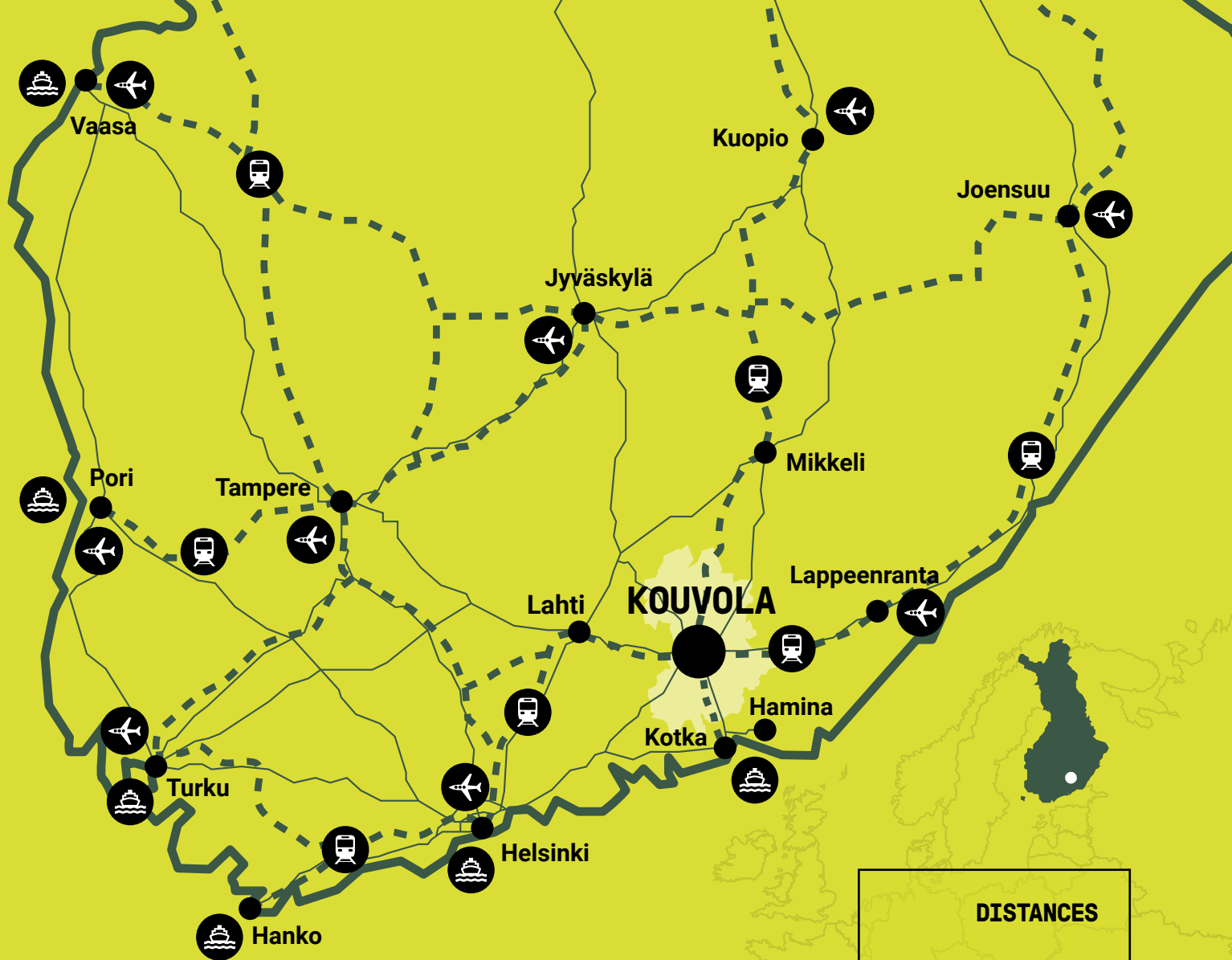
FOR MORE INFORMATION:
charissa.mccarron@kouvola.fi
Tel. +358 20 615 7518

Sing Karaoke	Travel on a local bus	Attend a local event	Relax in the forest picking berries	Enjoy an exhibition at Poikilo Museum
Cross the Lapinsalmi bridge at Repovesi National Park	Walk around the pedestrian street Manski	Ride around town by renting a city bike or an e-scooter	Eat the famous local liquorice "Kouvolan Lakritsi"	Spend a fun summer day at Tykkimäki Amusement Park
Spend money at Veturi shopping centre	Support a local sports team (f. e. ice hockey KooKoo, basketball Kouvolat)	Enjoy a cup of coffee in the city centre	Take a train from Kouvola railway station	Visit the Unesco World Heritage Site Verla
Take a selfie in front of the Kouvola sign at the railway station	Hike on one of the nature trails of Kouvola	Swim in one of the 494 lakes of Kouvola	Go to the shores of Finland's 7th longest river Kymijoki	Swing on a swing at the top of Mielakka Bikepark & Ski Resort
Visit Taideruukki art and handicraft center	Admire the Kaunisnurmi Museum Quarter	Climb the Palomäki outdoor stairs	Buy groceries at the market place	Dance or have a drink at a bar

Kouvola ♥ BINGO

Check the box once you have completed the task. When you get 1 full line (vertical, horizontal or diagonal), you are a winner and a true Kouvola dweller!

Share your bingo on social media with **#visitkouvola** and **#kouvola** and tag us with **@visitkouvola** and **@kouvola**



DISTANCES	
Kotka	56 km
Lappeenranta	87 km
Lahti	62 km
Mikkeli	106 km
Helsinki	136 km
Tampere	191 km

KOUVOLA - the centre of Southeast Finland

Area: **2,558 km²**, Southern Finland's largest municipal area
 Farms: **810**, more than any other municipality in Finland
 Summer cottage paradise: **494** lakes, more than **7,500** cottages
 Household-dwellings: more than **42,800**
 Urban residents: **74%**
 Rural residents: **25%**
 Families with children: **6,840**
 Students: about **8,300**

Publisher: City of Kouvola | Communications and VisitKouvola

Editor: Raija Sierman

VisitKouvola.fi

Texts: Wirke / Layout: Mainostoimisto Sepeteus

Translation: Kielipalvelu Kauriin Kääntöpiiri Oy

Tel. +358 20 615 5295, tourism@kouvola.fi

Printed by: PunaMusta

Print run: Finnish 25,000, English 6,000

f #visitkouvola

Changes to schedules etc. are possible.