

Want more nature?

Helsinki hosts a number of amazing nature sites. In addition to the Citynature.eu sites, we recommend the following:

- 📍 the shores of the Vantaa River
- 📍 Vartiosaari
- 📍 Ramsinniemi
- 📍 Isosaari
- 📍 Herttoniemi and Kivinokka
- 📍 Hallainvuori
- 📍 Suomenlinna fortress

Photos:

Pira Cousin: Pihlajasaari
Sanna Eljoki: Vanhankaupunginlahti
Jussi Helimäki: Central Park, front cover (Kallahdenniemi) and back cover (Lauttasaari), first page black woodbecker
Leena Junnila: Mustavuori
Teemu Saloriutta: Lauttasaari, Seurasaari, Vallisaari, Uutela, Kallahdenniemi
Marianne Saviaho: Harakka



Helsinki



Vanhankaupunginlahti

A bird oasis in the middle of Helsinki

The central location, natural diversity, and particularly the large number of bird species make Vanhankaupunginlahti an exceptional city nature site. An accessible duckboard path of almost one kilometre runs through the reed beds from Pornaistenniemi to Lammassaari and to the accessible bird watching platform. The area also has several bird watching towers.

From the centre 30 min

Nature is closer than you think.

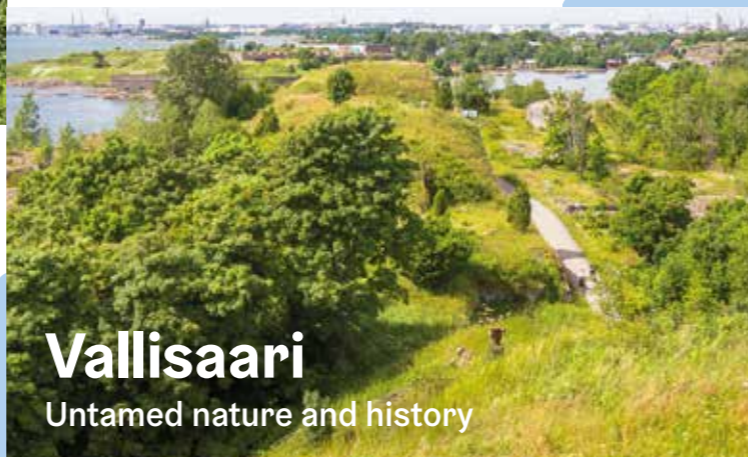


Pihlajasaari

A traditional recreational island

The diverse flora and fauna, beaches and good services of Pihlajasaari attract plenty of visitors to the former villa island during the summer months. The sea voyage from southern Helsinki to the island takes approximately 10 minutes. Pihlajasaari is accessible from May to September.

From the centre 30 min

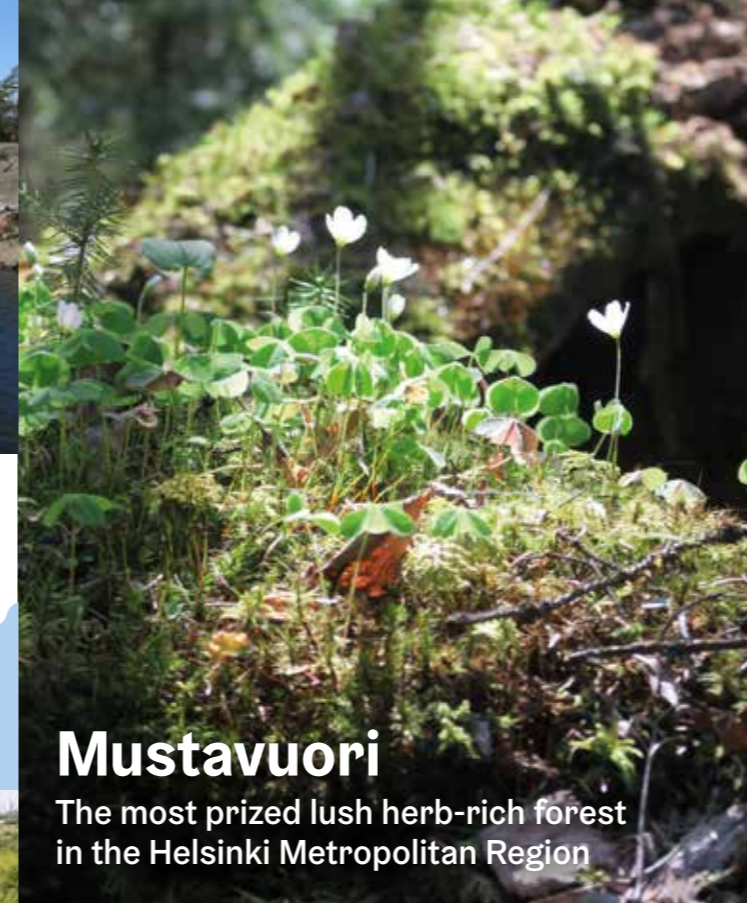


Vallisaari

Untamed nature and history

Opened to the public in May 2016 after a long military history, Vallisaari is second to none when it comes to impressive views; the island offers simply spectacular views of the sea, the neighbouring Suomenlinna sea fortress and the city of Helsinki. It is also the most versatile nature site in the Helsinki archipelago. Only marked paths are to be used in the area. Vallisaari is accessible from May to September. The sea voyage to the island takes 20 minutes.

From the centre 30 min



Mustavuori

The most prized lush herb-rich forest in the Helsinki Metropolitan Region

Mustavuori is at its most beautiful in spring. The valuable grove is home to yellow anemone, common hepatica, wood anemone, and spring vetch. The bedrock in the centre of Mustavuori features First World War era earthwork fortifications. The Mustavuori area hosts a wide range of paths, and in snowy winters, the City of Helsinki maintains ski tracks in the area.

From the centre 45 min

Spending time in nature promotes well-being.



Uutela

The largest outdoor recreational area in eastern Helsinki

The largest and most diverse outdoor recreational area in eastern Helsinki, Uutela features sea shores, forests, swamps and meadows, all of which are ideal for hiking. The area offers striking landscapes, particularly from the tip of Skatanniemi. The area also houses an allotment garden, Skata Farm and several old villas. At Skata Farm there is also a hut with a fireplace, which visitors are free to use at weekends.

From the centre 45 min



Kallahdenniemi

An esker peninsula and underwater

Kallahdenniemi is an esker peninsula in Vuosaari, Eastern Helsinki, which continues to the sea as an underwater sandbank. The sandy esker's tree layer consists of impressive, old and tall pine woods, and the esker is bordered on both sides by the sea, offering spectacular views of the kind that you cannot find anywhere else in Helsinki. There are also some old residential villas in Kallahdenniemi, as well as two beaches.

From the centre 40 min

Explore Helsinki nature

Helsinki

10 nature sites near you



citynature.eu/helsinki

10

nature sites in Helsinki near you

The Citynature.eu website is a mobile guide to ten nature sites in Helsinki. Find out about the sites through this brochure, pick your favourite, and explore nature! Citynature.eu guides you.



The Citynature.eu website

- guides you to the site
- provides information on the nature, history and services in the area
- helps you to identify the plants and animals in the area



Harakka

Genuine archipelago atmosphere

Even though the island is close to the mainland, Harakka offers a genuine archipelago atmosphere. The former military island was opened to the public in 1989. It is rich in habitats and has an extremely wide range of organisms. There is an observation platform located in the middle of the island, from where you can admire the spectacular view of the sea. The island is home to the Harakka Nature Centre. Harakka is open from spring to autumn. The sea voyage to the island takes approximately 5 minutes.

From the centre 30 min

15 minutes in nature lowers your blood pressure.



An island on the Baltic Sea
The archipelago off the coast of Helsinki is unique

- instructs you to the routes when you reach the site
- shows your location on the map.



Central Park

The central forest running the length of Helsinki

Central Park is a nearly ten-kilometre-long green space running the length of Helsinki from south to north, starting near the city centre in Laakso and ending at the city's northern border in Haltiala and the Vantaa River. Central Park has a number of nature trails, and it is a popular recreational area throughout the year. The Citynature.eu website offers three route suggestions.

From the centre 20 min / 30 min / 45 min



Breathe fresh air!

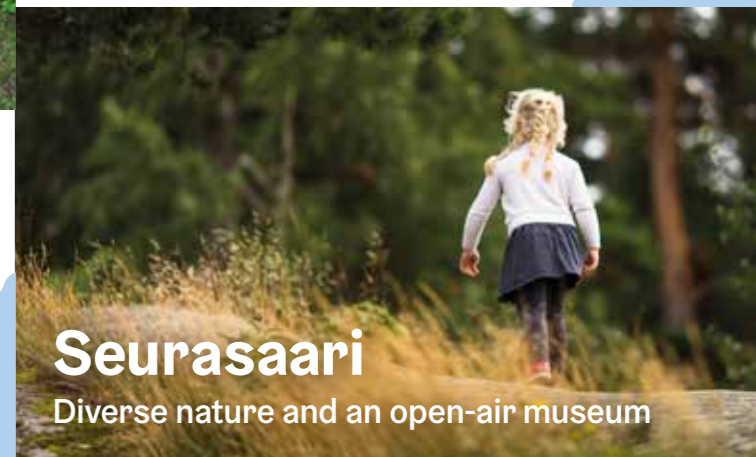


Lauttasaari

A city district bordered by spectacular shores

Lauttasaari is a maritime district of Helsinki, known for its spectacular, natural shores which consist of large, smooth rocks, extensive shallows and rocky islets, as well as meadows and lush, herb-rich common alder forests. The bird watching tower atop Myllykallio offers a good view of the surrounding sea areas. There are plenty of paths that allow you to circle the entire island.

From the centre 10 min



Seurasaari

Diverse nature and an open-air museum

Seurasaari is a popular recreational area where a folk park was established in 1889, and an open-air museum in 1909. The island of Seurasaari features diverse habitats, including natural coastal forests, herb-rich forests with valuable flora, ponds, and smooth rocks. The place is known for its midsummer festivities.

From the centre 30 min