

Travel on the Saimaa

The loveliest and most wonderful lake in Finland

The famous and beautiful tourist routes of the Saimaa:

SAVONLINNA-VUOKSENNISKA-LAPPEENRANTA (s/s Imatra II & SAVONLINNA-PUNKAHARJU-PUNKASALMI s/s Punkaharju II SAVONLINNA-VUOKALA-JOENSUU / KOLI (s/s Orivesi II & SAVONLINNA-PUUMALA-MIKKELI s/s Mikkeli



Finland

COURSE

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You pass the stately castle of Olavinlinna when leaving Savonlinna for Joensuu.

Do you want to see the most beautiful nature in Finland? Do you want to worship sun and water, do you long for rest and peace?

IF SO, TRAVEL TO THE SAIMAA!

Can you travel? Can you travel? We do not mean that you can master the puzzles of time-tables, that you know how to buy your tickets and where to change your train and bus. Almost everyone of us is that much a traveller. But can you travel so that your trip results in pleasure and recreation?

In most cases when travelling on business and for similar reasons, we cannot help sacrificing comfort to speed, but when setting out on a recreation trip during our vacation we have a chance to plan our tour and our life entirely with a view to comfort, and to see that we really can enjoy our holiday.

Is there any sense in starting out on a holiday tour to sit day after day in a stifling, close and dusty railway compartment, or to sweat in a crowded bus speeding along a dusty road? No, that is not travelling, that is not the right way to tour!

Travel by boat! The most ideal recreation trip is a journey over lakes. There the loveliest of scenery pleases your eye, you can pay your homage to sun and water; breathe the fresh lake breezes. You are not a prisoner of the narrow patch of bench which your

The white boats of the Saimaa are waiting for you in the harbour of Savonlinna.





The famous tourist-routes of the Saimaa attract. This crowd is going to embark at Vuoksenniska.

ticket entitles you to, you are free to walk around at your pleasure on board your boat, and the soft pillows of your berth carry you away into the realm of dreams.

There is no time, the boats are so slow; some people might say.

Why not time? Stay at home if your time is so scant that you cannot afford to spend a day or two on board a boat. The rhythm of modern life is so exhausting, the daily rush of our work puts such a strain on our nerves, that every minute of our short vacation should be

devoted to rest and recreation. On board a boat both your body and mind enjoy a complete and undisturbed rest. If you can spare a few summer days for boat trips, you will feel new-born after them. You will recollect the lake trip of the summer as the most impressive and wonderful experience of the season.

The Saimaa, the fairest of the beauties among the lakes of Finland. Do you want to see the most beautiful nature in Finland? Do you want to worship sun and water, do you long for rest and peace?

If so, travel to the Saimaa!

The Saimaa is the most beautiful and the most wonderful lake on earth. That is the opinion of many a world-wide traveller. And no doubt it deserves that high praise. What a unique series of views is unfolded to the traveller on the Saimaa! Such a multitude of islands, the boats now squeezing through the narrow passages between the islands, now proudly ploughing the wide open lake. All that is without parallel

You sit comfortably on the sunny deck . . .



in the world. And what a variety of landscapes! Now rugged rocks, a true feeling of wilderness and endless forests, now a shining beach, imposing villas, low cottages, a gentle Finnish landscape with birch woods, fields and farmhouses, cattle grazing on the lake-shore, a shepherd maid calling her cows, the curling smoke from fishermen's fires and the numerous rafts of timber and tugboats you pass - all is full of new surprises, something new always to see.



The voyage begins, the harbour is left behind.

The Saimaa never grows old. He who has once felt the charm of the Saimaa returns again year after year. There are today many happy persons enthralled by the charm of the Saimaa and unable to forget that lovely lake.

ome along to the Saimaa! And the tourist-boats of the Saimaa! No matter which one of them you board, each is a glad and pleasant surprise to the new-comer. Veteran Saimaa-travellers always look forward to the pleasures of the voyage.

Joins us on board the Saimaa-boats! Come on board at some of the

termini of the loveliest Saimaa-routes, at Savonlinna, Lappeenranta, Vuoksenniska, Mikkeli, Punkasalmi or Joensuu! You climb to the upper deck and you find yourself in a real floating hotel. Do you know that these boats are no small and crammed passengers abaft.

. . . or you join the contented



Dinner for two in the diningroom and coffee on deck. Thank you!

In the pleasant dining-room a magnificent dinner table is waiting for the hungry passengers. tin boxes, but commodious, modern tourist-boats, shining clean and fulfilling the highest requirements?

The boats on the main tourist-routes of the Saimaa, Imatra II, Savonlinna, Orivesi I, Orivesi II, Punkaharju II and Mikkeli are all first-class tourist-boats that exceed the expectations of every traveller, be he ever so particular about his comfort.

Let us embark on one of these boats. On the upper deck you meet the friendly captain of the boat who speaks several languages, and the polite stewardess shows you to a roomy cabin. There are even cabins for five, if you happen to be travelling with your whole family. There is a soft sofa, transformed into a spotless white bed at night, a table, curtains on the windows, a mirror, and a carpet on the floor, that make you feel quite at home. You leave your things



in the cabin, you wash the dust of terra firma off your face and hands, and, peace in your mind, you step out on to the deck.

A walk around the deck just to get acquainted with your whereabouts, then a comfortable seat in some sheltered corner. You sink into your deckchair, or a comfortable arm-chair, and expose yourself to the envigorating rays of the sun. The lake trip has soon enchanted you. A sweet, fresh breath of wind caresses your face, you bask in the warm sun and you look into the dazzling vault of the blue sky arching above you. Soon you slumber in sweet daydreams.

A politely attentive waitress, often a university student, appears, inquiring whether you would like to have dinner. Of course you would, meals on these boats being far-famed, and dinners like these being served only in the best restaurants. It is only 2 p.m. and dinner is served at 5. Consequently you order a pot of coffee to your comfortable seat on the deck. There are small tables scattered around and soon the delicious odour of good coffee attracts your attention. Here in the fresh lake air it tastes better than anywhere else.

We arrive at a jetty. Quite an experience in itself. There you see genuine peasant types. There stands the Savo farmer, a long-stemmed pipe hanging from the corner of his mouth; the smoke from his pipe is accompanied by a true philosophy of life spiced with clean humour (provided you are one of the chosen few who understand the dialect).

Above: There are telephones in the cabins, so that you can let the pantry know your wishes.

Middle: Coffee in bed in the morning tastes excellent.

Down: You can listen to the radio in the dining-room, or in the *smoker.*









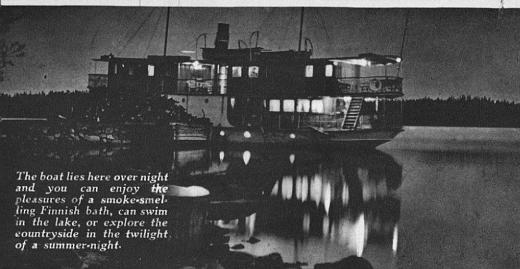
The commodious smoking-room where there are newspapers and periodicals, and also a bookstore at your disposal.

You meet the same types on their way to or from the town, merrily chatting, if you descend to the lower deck. And if you venture still lower to the third-class smoker you will become the witness, and perchance also the object, of many a joke.

The dinner gong sounds already. In the dining-room of the boat you find a splendid dinner table laid, and with the captain sitting at the upper end of the table as their host, the numerous

passengers that crowd the table fall to their meal merrily. The endless variety of the appetizing cold dishes of the famous Finnish ssmörgåsbords (hors d'oeuvres) served on these boats is surprising. Foreigners are amazed at the numerous dishes of various sorts of meat and sau sages, the many salads, fish and other dishes. An entrée, a soup, lovely pike-perch of the Saimaa, delicious roast beef, a sweet and coffee — there seems to be no end, and the dinner is like a feast. Several languages are heard at the table, and the captain exchanges a friendly word with his neighbours. The effect of this dinner on board a Saimaa boat is more festive, and the dishes tastier, than even those of the best banquet in a city restaurant. There is hardly a passenger who does not unreservedly appreciate these high spots of the trip. There is not a passenger who fails to commend the fresh taste of the dishes and the excellent cooking.

After dinner we feel that a cigar or a cigarette would be the right thing, and we retire to the comfortable smoke room. Meanwhile we glance



at a newspaper and perhaps switch on the radio. Someone has ordered his coffee here, or sips a glass of wine.

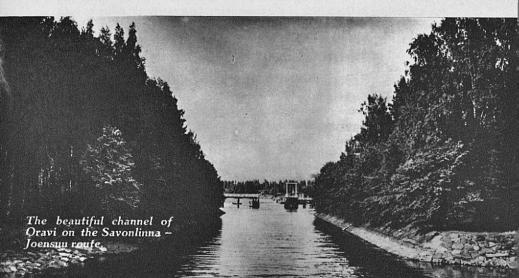
And then a nap in the cabin, a half hour or so, and we are ready to enjoy the night on the Saimaa. The calm night on these waters is a unique experience. Nowhere can nature be in more lyrical a tune. It reminds one the mellow notes of a Finnish folk song. Now one understands why so many Finnish songs are in the minor key. They must of necessity be sweet and gentle, to blend with the summery waters of the Saimaa and its thousands of islands.



The moonshine of a summer-night tempts you to stay on deck for hours.

Twilight falls, provided it does so at all, and the boat arrives at the quay where she is going to lie over night. You have a chance to explore the neighbourhood, you can experience the unique sensation of a bath in a Finnish bathhouse deliciously smelling of smoke, you can swim in the lake, or sit in your deck-chair and admire the northern summer night. The clear melodies of a thrush are heard far away, the cow-bells clang now and then from the near-by lake-shore, and a wonderfully deep peace prevails everywhere. Your mind becomes attuned to the harmony of nature. — A glass of tea and then to bed. If you still want to add a good book to your pleasures you can very well do so and turn on the electric light in your cabin, or light the candle at your bedside, if that better suits your mood. You have ordered your coffee to be served at 7. Or perhaps you have asked the staff to knock on your door at sunrise? A telephone in your cabin connects you with the pantry and your wishes are readily fulfilled.

Such is life on Saimaa-boats, and it is a life full of pleasure and rest.





On the jetties and quays you can buy the fresh berries of our forests and gardens.

The principal tourist-routes of the Saimaa. Savonlinna—Puumala - Vuoksenniska - Labpeenranta. This is the most important of all the waterroutes of the Saimaa, from the other terminus of which. at Lappeenranta or Vuoksenniska, most visitors to the Saimaa set out. It is a route that charms foreigners. Inspired passages in superlative in the passengers' log-books and in their letters and diaries bear eloquent witness to this.

After leaving Lappeen-

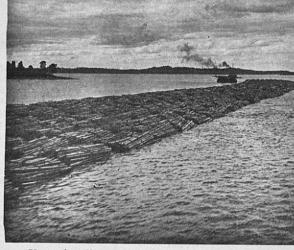
ranta big industrial establishments can be seen; the boat passes the entrance of the Saimaa-canal, Lauritsala, and then she is already boldly breasting the wide waters of the Main-Saimaa. Those who have been visiting Imatra embark at Vuoksenniska, and even on board the boat you have a good view of the famous industrial centre in the valley of the river Vuoksi, and you can admire the magnificent buildings of the modern paper-mill of Kaukopää. The long narrow winding straits of Kurevirta, Karoniemi and Vuosalmi delight the eyes of the passenger, and on arriving at the channel of Kutvele you feel a desire to go ashore, so enticing is the landscape. By and by you reach the lovely straits of Puumala and, ever varying, the voyage continues. Narrow channels, hardly boat-wide, appear now and then, with open lake between.

A route full of variety and pleasant surprises.

Savonlinna—Vuokala—Joensuu (Koli). This route arouses an almost solemn feeling in the minds of the passengers. One rarely experiences such an atmosphere of wilderness, such quietness of back-woods, as is produced by the sterness of the rocky shores and by the endless woods. When the boat is ploughing the wide waters of this route — Haukivesi, Paasvesi, Orivesi, and Pyhäselkä, — and the eyes of the passenger are wonderingly following the shore-line in the horizon, one seems to be aware of the presence of something great and powerful. Neither on this route do you miss the labyrinths of the narrow passages among the islands and the delightful coves at the corners of the bays, where the boat touches, taking and leaving goods and passengers. Time after time your eye detects delicate details in the scenery.

The channel of Oravi fringed with lime trees is the beginning of the narrow waters of this route. The boat puts in at Enonkoski and Savonranta, and, admiring the wonders of sunset among the islands, we arrive at the end of the bay of Puhos. Puhos is noted as an old industrial site, but especially as a place where through the initiative of N. L. Arppe, an outstanding industrial leader of the locality, the first steamer in Finland,

(Ilmarinen), was built. Every second trip the boat lies over night at Voiniemi in Rääkkylä, and leaving in the morning passes the channel of Kivisalmi and touches at the quay of the Rääkkylä village. Then the boat puts in at the big timber-sorting places. Tikka and Suursaari, and after crossing the wide main of Pyhäselkä, arrives at the harbour of Ioensuu, the beautiful terminus of the Savonlinna-Joensuu route.



Huge bundles of pitprops and rafts of timber are floated down the Saimaa.

Those bound for Koli should definitely choose this route where the impressive beauty of Saimaa reaches its climax.

Savonlinna—Punkaharju—Punkasalmi. If you intend to visit Punkaharju — and that is something no one voluntarily misses — you should take this route. Punkaharju ought to be seen from the lake on a boat, and this route is as an exhibition of the specimens of all the beauty Saimaa can display.

Savonlinna—Puumala—Mikkeli. This is the most changing route of the Saimaa. This gigantic labyrinth of islands is without parallel in the world. The passengers follow with amazement the movements of the boat dodging the islands, trying to guess which way she will turn next. This route is something no one should miss, for the twisting and turning of the boat in that fairyland of islands is certainly a matchless experience.

For a while after leaving Mikkeli there is cultivation on both sides. The boat winds her way through a number of narrow sounds like Surmansalmi, after which the stately white manor of Kyyhkylä, the home of invalids of the War of Independence, becomes visible on your right. Soon you pass the monument raised on the scene of the famous battle of Porrassalmi, then you enter the beautiful Siikasalmi straits and, passing the sawmill of Löytö, you arrive at the channel of Juurisalmi where the swing bridge over the channel is already drawn open. On the left shore the buildings of the estate of Kosoniemi are seen. Then the boat must find her way through the straits of Pyöräsalmi, Väärämönsalmi, etc. and about four hours after learing Mikkeli she puts in at the quay under the church of Anttola. The journey from Anttola to Puumala and from there further to Lohikoski, where the boat lies over night, is impressive with the desolate beauty of the rugged rocky shores falling steep into the lake.

Early in the morning the boat reaches Vekara channel from where she enters the fascinating route through the islands of Sääminki, and also touches the island of Kesamo famed for its attractive nature. One more hour and the boat is moored at the enticing Savonlinna, "The Happy Isles."

• Savonlinna is the centre of the Saimaa tourist-routes.

Savonlinna, the Island Town, the Pearl of the Saimaa, etc., is the tourist-centre of Finland. There is hardly a trip planned that does not also touch Savonlinna. The pride of the town, the magnificent castle of Olavinlinna, stands majestically on its solid rock cut off on all sides from the mainland by the currents of the Kyrönsalmi. It has stood there for more than 450 years, and it is the best preserved and the most beautiful of the mediaeval castles in Finland. Sulosaaret, the site of the modern health resort of Savonlinna, is surprisingly fascinating and well deserves the name *The Happy Isles*.

The modern stone buildings in the centre of the town, and the idyllic wooden houses surrounded by their gardens and trees provide a pleasant variety, and the stifling atmosphere of the city is chased away by the glittering, blue waters of the Saimaa. The harbour itself provides many interesting sights, and the traveller can supply all his wants in the town's many well-stocked shops.

• Joensuu, the northern terminus of the Saimaa touristroutes:

is a lively country town with numerous schools and flourishing businesses, being the junction of several highways and of two important railways. Situated at the mouth of Lake Pielinen — so important for timber-floating — saw-mills and the timber-trade in general give their special colouring to the town and its harbour. Joensuu is the centre of the cultural and economic life of the extensive region of North Carelia.

Joensuu offers many an interesting item to the tourist. The stylish Town Hall, the wide market place with a market hall and a bus-station, the stately castle of Pielisjoki, the many modern business buildings and schools, the boldly rising sight-seeing tower of Niinivaara, the canal of Pielisjoki, and the harbour, are all places worth seeing. The restaurants, hotels and shops of the town can successfully cope with the demands of travellers.

The wonderful Kesamo archipelago on the Sovonlinna—Mikkeli roule.



Savonlinna, the Pearl of the Saimaa, is a real Finnish tourist centre.



Bridge over to the *Happy Isles.* The *Casino* of Savonlinna.



Joensuu is the northern terminus of the routes of the Saimaa. The imposing Town Hall, designed by Prof. Eliel Saarinen.



Time-tables 1938

SAVONLINNA-PUUMALA-VUOKSENNISKA-LAPPEENRANTA

s/s SAVONLINNA and s/s IMATRA II.

1/6-31/8.		before 1/6 and after 31/8.		
 X 10,00 ← Lappeenranta X 12,40 → Vuoksenniska 13,00 ← Vuoksenniska 17,00 → Puumala 	→ 4,45×	$%10,00 \leftarrow \text{Lappeenrant}$ $%12,40 \rightarrow \text{Vuoksennisk}$ $13,00 \leftarrow \text{Vuoksennisk}$ $17,00 \rightarrow \text{Puumala}$ $17,05 \leftarrow \text{Puumala}$	a ← 7,45 X a → 4,45 X	
Sulkava Sulkava	→ 14,55 ← 14,50 → 12,15	20,15 → Sulkava 5,00 ← Sulkava 7,45 → Savonlinna	→ 14,55 ← 14,50 → 12,15	

VUOKSENNISKA-MIKKELI

Combines with Puumala—Mikkeli Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; with Puumala—Vuoksenniska Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Fares Fmk.:

(II class a) = cabin incl.; II class b) = without cabin)

Savonlinna

I	class	40:-				
II	» a	25: -				
		15:-				
III	*	10:-	Sulkava.			
I	class	50:				
		35:				
II	» b	30: -	15:			
III	*	19:-	10: —	Puumala.		
I	class	95: —	75: —	50: —		
II	» a	75:	55:	35:		
II	» b	60: —	45: —	25: —		
III	*	38: —	30: —	19:	Vuoksenniska.	
I	class	95: —	75: —	50: —		
		75:-	55: —	40:		
II	» b	60:	50: —	30: -	15: —	
III	*	38: —	30:	20: —	10: —	Lappeenranta

SAIMAAN HÖYRYLAIVA OY.

Savonlinna. Telephone 245.

a.

SAVONLINNA-MIKKELI

s/s MIKKELI 15/5-20/9.

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← ↑ Tu. Th. Sa.

→ ↑ Tu. Th. Sa.
Tu. Th. Sa.
Tu. Th. Sa.
                                                         7,00
             11,00 

← Mikkeli
                                            Tu. Th. Sa.
             14,45
                      → Anttola
                                      -
                                                           3,00
Tu. Th. Sa.
                                                 W. F.
                      ← Anttola
                                      +
                                            M.
             14,50
                                                          22.15
Tu. Th. Sa.
                      → Puumala
                                     -
                                            M. W. F.
              17,40
                                                          19,30
Tu. Th. Sa.
Tu. Th. Sa.
                      ← Puumala ← → Lohikoski →
                                                    F.
                                            M.
                                                 W.
             17,50
                                      +
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                                                 W.
                                                    F.
                                            M.
              20,00
                                                          17,30
Su. W.
         F.
                      ← Lohikoski ←
                                            M.
                                                 W.
                                                     F.
               3,00
                                                          17,15
Su. W.
         F.
               7,30 \ → Savonlinna → \ M.
                                                 W. F.
                                                          12,30
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Fares Fmk.: I class 70: — cabin incl. II class 60: — cabin incl. III class 30: — without cabin

MIKKELI-VUOKSENNISKA

N. B. See above!

SAVONLINNA-JOENSUU

s/s ORIVESI I & s/s ORIVESI II 10/5-31/8.

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Savonlinna
         13,00 ₩ ←
                                 + 4
                                       7,00
                     Oravi
         15,35
                                 -
                                       4,30
                     Enonkoski
         16,30
                 ->
                                       3,00
                                 ->
                                      Su. Tu. W. F. 20,00
         16,35
                 ← Enonkoski
                                 +
                                      M. Th. Sa.
                                                   0,30
                                      M. Th. Sa.
         18,00
                 → Vuokala
                                                   23,05
                                      Su. Tu. W. F.
M. Th. Sa.
                 ← Vuokala
         18,05
                                                   18,35
Su. W. F. 21,00
                 → Puhos
                                 ->
                                                   20,05
M.Th.Sa. 1,15
                                      M. Th. Sa.
                 ← Puhos
                                 +
                                                   20,00
M. Tu. Sa. 19,30
                 → Voiniemi
                                      17,10
                                 -
                 ← Voiniemi
          4,15
     Th. 20,00
                → Hypönniemi
                                      F. 17,00
                ← Hypönniemi
          3,45
                 ← Rääkkylä
          5,15
                                      16,15
          7,45 ♥ → Joensuu
                                 → 黄 13,45
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Fares Fmk.: I class 95: — cabin incl. II class 75: — cabin incl. II class 60: — without cabin III class 38: — without cabin From 1/9 Savonlinna 12.00 Joensuu 12.30

SAVONLINNA-PUNKAHARJU-PUNKASALMI

s/s PUNKAHARJU II 28/5-14/6 20/8-15/9.

15/6-19/8.

Fares Fmk.: I class 17: —. III class 10: — Return. I class 30: —, III class 18: —

HÖYRYVENHE OSAKEYHTIÖ KERTTU Savonlinna. Telephone 494.

