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Climbing in the ARCTIC MOUNTAINS.

6 short routes from Liinahamari
Tourist Inn.

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Hardly any of Finland's northern tourist stations gives the footwandering enthusiast so many possibilities as Liinahamari on the Arctic coast. Up to the present Liinahamari has, in the general consciousness, been only a destination and a turning point. Here the great road to the Arctic Ocean ends, and from here a pleasant trip can be made by m. s. Jäämeri on the Arctic Ocean to the islands Heinäsaaret and to Pummanki.

One spends one day there, at the most two. The stern, grim, naked mountains which surround the bay of Liinahamari do not seem to invite one to get better acquainted with them. So one catches them in a hasty, sweeping glance from the nearest heights, bestows on them a look of quiet admiration, blended with awe, from a distance, eats one's dinner hastily and wends one's way southward. Thereby one misses something of the most stately that Finland can offer in the way of walks.

For those interested I wish hereby to recommend some routes. They are all conveniently situated within a one day radius. They are not intended to be any dogmas. Together they only form a sort of route skeleton around which one can embroider according to one's interest, endurance and liking.

The figures in the text can be found on the topographical map of Petsamo in the scale of 1:20.000, the sheet «Liinahamari». For the tour No. 6 one needs the sheet «Karkkuri» besides.

1 Climbing of Siebruoaiivi.

The ascent follows a marked out path. The River Liinahamarinjoki's steep, birch-grown glen: the brook forms innumerable small rapids and falls. The mountain Neitiniemitunturi's western plateau: a view of the Lake Kääntöjärvi and the groups of mountains in the background, a harmonious monumental scene. Close behind the watershed the way turns to Siebruoaiivi. The main path continues to Nurmensätti. After the mountain lake at 228 a steep rise; the way goes through a sterile and wild Dantesque stone inferno with deep ravines and fantastic block formations. The last short distance up to the summit is easy. The sea, the islands Heinäsaaret and the peninsula Kalastajasaarento can be seen. An unforgettable brilliancy of colours.

The descent in the beginning keeps to the marked out way. At the lake 228 the wanderer turns to the left and follows the glen downwards. Sky-high, steep mountain walls with cascades after rain. During the spring when the snow is melting the brook forms grand waterfalls with curious step formations. The wanderer leaves the glen somewhere near the telephone line and tries to find his way home over the mountain Neititunturi's rocky, eastern slopes.

An excursion to the top of the mountain or to 113 is recommended.

Liinahamari—Siebruoaiivi—Liinahamari = abt. 10 kms.

2 Nurmensätti.

A marked out path all the way. To the turning to Siebruoaiivi as above. On the other side of the watershed the landscape becomes wild and rugged with steep gorges, dark lakes and poor vegetation. The path runs along the steep shores of the crater-like mountain lake 132. Then the Lake Haukka-järvi with Siebruoaiivi's precipitous mountain walls in the background. The path follows the mountain Kukshinoaiivi's eastern slope. Before the steep descent towards the seashore begins, there is a beautiful view from the highest top, Paalu-

tunturi, over the romantic lakes Romanovinjärvet, partly framed in steep mountain walls.

An excursion to these lakes is really worth while. Romanovinmukka: A smiling, verdant shore-dell. Beautiful beach. The Tourist Association's idyllic turf cabin. From Romanovinmukka a little more than 1 km to Nurmensätti, a summer fishing place. From the hill 44,7 an excellent view over the whole interesting peninsula. Nurmensätti is one of the most remarkable sights in the neighbourhood of Liinahamari. Return the same way.

Liinahamari—Nurmensätti—Liinahamari = abt. 20 kms.

3 Lake Patajärvi.

At the beginning the wanderer follows the main road along the shore of the Lake Purojärvi to the Lake Trifonajärvi. From here along the road which goes along the Lake Trifonajärvi's northern shore. From the summit 83 one has a splendid view of the lake with the mountain Tyyristunturi in the background. The Ahvenjoki glen, rich in foliage, with a deep indented rivulet groove. During the ascent to the strange glacial plateau of Patajärvi one will notice several sea-walls from the period, when the sea reached up till here and the Lake Trifonajärvi was part of the old gulf. On the plateau the crater-shaped Lake Patajärvi and several other partly water-filled crater-shaped indentations in the ground. They are supposed to have been formed during the great glacial thaw. Here an isolated piece of the large inland-ice remained for a long time. The Patajärvi plateau and its craters and sea-walls belong to the most interesting natural phenomena in the neighbourhood of Liinahamari. The outlet of the lake is subterranean. The difference between the high-water and the low-water level is up to 16 meters! From Pata unturi there is a magnificent view over this queer moonlike landscape.

Climbing of Tyyristunturi is also recommended.

From the Patajärvi plateau 147, the white summit, is easily reached. From here there is a striking view of the wide valley of Peuravuono with its lakes, birch groves and mighty mountain walls. Descent into the valley and the way back along the River Ahvenjoki and the marked out path. The Laplanders' turf huts by the brook to be noticed.

Liinahamari—Patajärvi—147—Liinahamari = abt. 15 kms.

4 The mountain Isokiventunturi.

From the hotel to the summit 124. Over the treeless high plateau round the south point of Lake Hihnajärvi and then along the dell with the mountain stream up to the lake 95. Typical mountain lake with steep shores. Hihnattunturi's bastionlike massive in the background. Through the ravine between the two summits over the watershed to the lake 136 surrounded by birches. Charming view over the dell towards Lake Kääntöjärvi. To the lake 138. Then over the bare high plateaus via the summit 327 and the lakes at 310 towards the top of Isokiventunturi. The last ascent is rather steep. The landscape wild and rugged with fantastic bastionlike rocks. A true alpine scenery. From the summit a magnificent view far and wide over the whole surrounding world of mountains. In the south the mountains of Petsamo, in the west the Pasaritunturi's mighty steeps, in the east Tscherdekaise and in the north the endless sea. Return via Lake Sorsajärvi. Beautiful halting-place on the strip of land with a view over the two lakes and the mighty mass of Isokiventunturi in the background. Through the steep gorge to the lake 136. Beautiful mountain rapids.

A grand waterfall below the lake 136. Descent along the pretty Kääntöjärvi glen. At the outlet of the lake a fine rapid. Over the River Liinahamarinjoki to the Nurmensätti path and home.

Liinahamari—Isokiventunturi—Liinahamari = abt. 17 kms.
This route can be varied in several ways.

5 The mountain Koddapahta.

By rowing-boat from the landing-stage of the hotel to the bay Troinikanmukka. (Notice: Tide!) A walk along the northern shore of the promontory Ristiniemi. Lovely beaches and sea-side meadows. Turf hut most towards east by the bay. Climbing of Ristiniemitunturi with a view over the bay and the whole fjord in its longitudinal direction recommended. By rowing-boat further to the bottom of the bay Kuivamukka. The western shore of the fjord consists of steep unapproachable mountain walls. To the ravine Vääräkuru along Kuivamukantunturi's western slope. Magnificent cascades and waterfalls by the outlet of the stream into the sea. From Vääräkuru to the mouth of the River Peurajoki. This undertaking is a great venture. Inexperienced climbers should not attempt it. By the mouth of the River Peurajoki a cascade, which is over 25 meters high. Koddapahta is the most inaccessible and wild romantic country within one day's radius from Liinahamari. The route requires skilfulness above the average.

Liinahamari—Troinikanmukka—Kuivamukka—Koddapahta—Kuivamukka—Liinahamari = abt. 10 kms.

6 The village Vuononkylä, Trifona.

From the hotel up the ravine between the summits 170 and 163. The two lakes and the rock formations north of 163 form a remarkable mountain landscape. Along the valley on the mountain to the village Vuononkylä by the shore of the fjord. The way to Trifona goes along the slope with a lovely view over the fjord. From the village of Trifona back along the main road to Liinahamari. An ascent of Trifonavaara with a charming view over the Lake Trifonajärvi towards the mountain Tyyristunturi is recommended.

Liinahamari—Trifona—Liinahamari = abt. 15 kms.

The route is easy and pleasant walking.

All of these six routes can be varied in several ways. A smart walker can thus instead of returning from Nurmensätti the same way he came, find his way back via the ravine Talvitienkuru and the Lake Kukshinjärvi. The Patajärvi excursionist can return over the mountains to the Lake Hihnajärvi and the Trifona excursion can be made with advantage instead of along the shore, along the ridges of the mountain Purojärvitunturi. All this, however, within the one day radius. If longer expeditions are considered the alternatives will be multiplied. The country round about Liinahamari is for the hiking enthusiast a veritable paradise with almost unlimited possibilities. I only wish to mention some names, which I commend to the reader's remembrance: Pasaritunturi, Peuravuono, Tscherdékaise, Rasvatunturi, Kernovaaginkuru, Saarijärvi, Pasarijärvi, Sisäjärvi, Sielukkakuru. Every single one of these is a key to an adventure.

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