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Follow the rock paintings in South Savo. Visit the local businesses along the road! Charming accommodation, delicious meals made of local products, handmade souvenirs by local artisans...

### Services in Ristiina region

**1. Kaidan Kiho, Tuukkalan tila** Cottage accommodation, B&B, Mäntyharjuntie 61, tel. +358 (0)50 527 8814, (0)45 634 9299, www.kaidankiho.com, www.tuukkalantila.com

**2. Ristiinan Ammattirealisointi** Outlet, tools, sweet shop, etc. Mäntyharjuntie 5, tel. +358 (0)15 455 001, www.ammattirealisointi.fi

**3. Neste (24h)**, Kouvolaantie 5-7, tel. +358 (0)15 667 125

**4. Kyyrönkaita**, Accommodation, B&B, Järvenpääntie 183, tel. +358 (0)15 667 145, (0)400 295 451, www.le-invalidit.fi/kyronkaita

**5. Löydön kartano**, Accommodation, B&B, camping, Kartanontie 151, 52320 Vitsiälä, tel. +358 (0)15 664 101, www.personal.inet.fi/yritys/kartano

**6. Hotelli Heimari** (hotel), Laitialantie 190, 52330 Heimari, tel. +358 (0)15 727 3100, www.heimari.com

**In the centre of the town 7-13:**

**7. Shell**, Filling station

**8. St1/ Cafe Katrilli**, Brahentie 1, tel. +358 (0)15 661 650

**9. Tmi Ulriikki** tel. +358 (0)400 900 923.

**10. Restaurant Sataman Valot**, Brahentie 16, tel. +358 (0)15 458 151

**11. Restaurant Martan Baari** Brahentie 42, tel. +358 (0)15 661 102

**12. Bar Vossikka** tel. +358 (0)15 458 301

**13. Ristiina Tourist Information** Cafe and Shop Wanha Martta, Brahentie 50, tel. +358 (0)15 228 545, www.wanhamartta.fi

**14. Inn Ristina**, Accommodation and rental of banqueting rooms, Ristina kitchen utensils, Suurlahdentie 1050, tel. +358 (0) 15 661 799, (0)40 540 1135, www.ristina.fi

**15. Kallioniemi**, Restaurant (open on summer), shop, boat service, Kallioniementie 106, Someenjärvi. tel. +358 (0)440 752 461, +358 (0)440 752 468, www.jp-ravintolat.fi/kallioniemi

**16. Pien-Toijolan talonpoikaismuseo** (peasant museum), open on summer, Suurlahdentie 1982, www.ristiina.fi; for more information visit: www.etelasavonmuseot.fi

### Cottage accommodation:

**Loma-Väkkärä** tel. +358 (0)15 417 615, (0)50 330 3502

**Puhakan lomamökit** tel. +358 (0)40 508 1251

**Raija ja Kauko Kontinen** tel. +358 (0)44 306 6615

**Väänäsen mökit** tel. +358 (0)400 597 805

**More accommodation choices:** www.travel.mikkeli.fi  
www.ristiina.fi  
www.matkailuristiina.net

**Raijan aitta** (not on the map), handicrafts, berries, accommodation, open during the summermonths. Kipparintie 2, Mikkeli, tel. +358 (0)15 416 440, www.raijanaitta.fi

### Services in Puumala

**17. Kirvesniemen Lomamökit** (cottage accommodation), Kyllölänsaarentie 144, tel. +358 (0)50 5844 707 www.kirvesniemi.fi

**18. Hurissalo Sale**, local market, petrol on sale, Hurissalontie 188, 52230 Hurissalo, tel. +358 (0)15 206 2230, hurissalo.sale@sok.fi

**19. Hurissalon Matto ja Tekstiili** Handmade carpets and textile, Kontilantie 95, tel. +358 (0)15 456 200, www.hurissalonkutomoto.fi

**20. Reposen Lomamökit** Cottage accommodation, Jänniementie 437, tel. +358 (0)500 651 509, http://personal.inet.fi/koti/heikki.reponen

**21. B&B Rakel Laamanen** Rokansalontie 1435, tel. +358 (0)40 820 6603 raksulaa@gmail.com

**22. BlueWhite Resorts Sahanlahti** Hotel and cottage accommodation, Lietvedentie 830, tel. +358 (0)15 468 6178, www.bluewhite.fi

**23. Koskenselän Lomakylä** Camping, hostel and cottage accommodation, Koskenseläntie 98, tel. +358 (0)15 468 1119, www.koskenselka.fi

**24. Kulta-Seppo**, Goldsmith workshop and shop. Jewellery inspired by rock paintings. Keskustie 5, tel. +358 (0)400 585 224, www.kultaseppo.fi

**25. Käspuoti**, Local handicraft tel. +358 (0)500 654 155

**26. LasiRuusu**, Souvenirs and handicrafts, Niementie 1, tel. +358 (0)15 680 333

**27. Okkolan Lomamökit**, Cottage accommodation, Ylössaarentie 35, Niinisaari, tel. +358 (0)500 259 378, www.okkola.fi

**28. Temolan Viinitila**, Vineyard, currant wines and liqueurs, Ylössaarentie 65, tel. +358 (0)40 543 7353, www.temola.fi

**29. Hanhiniityn Paja ja Galleria** Smiths workshop and gallery, Ylössaarentie 84, tel. +358 (0)40 7401 831 www.goosemeadow.fi

**30. Liehtalanneimen museotila** Museum, visitor's quay, nature reserve, nature path, tel. +358 (0)15 888 9288, www.puumala.fi

**31. Loma-Aution Lomamökit** Cottage accommodation, Loma-autiontie 29, tel. +358 (0)15 668 7199, www.loma-autio.net

The rock paintings have inspired many artisans in South Savo.

Flax linen by Raijan Aitta



### Cruises to Astuvansalmi

M/S Jaarli, Inquiries: www.msjaarli.com

Muinaismatkat Oy, tel. +358 (0)45 128 1781 www.muinaismatkat.fi

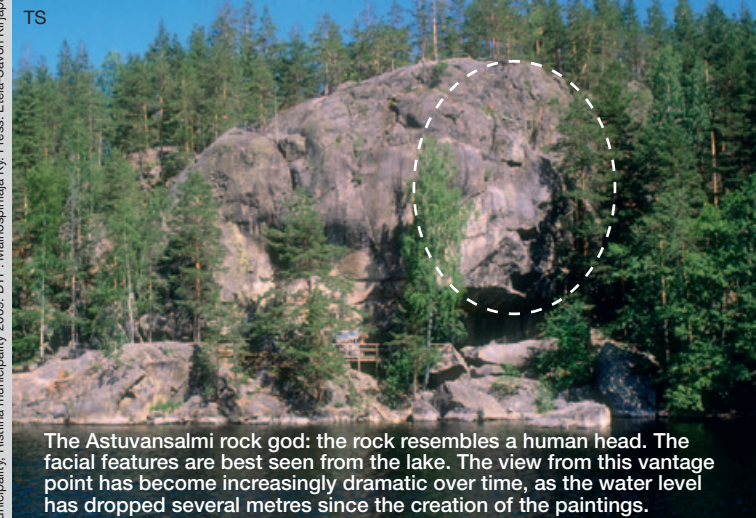
### These shores were inhabited 6000 years ago

The rock paintings are communiqués from the past. The rock paintings were done by people just like us, who chose as their canvases the rugged surfaces that were sculpted by the elements through countless millennia. The reddish colour has endured the passage of time for us to see. What signs of today will still be evident 6000 years from now? What can we know of these ancient messages? Encounter the past along these ancestral shores!



Messages from a lost world

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The Astuvansalmi rock god: the rock resembles a human head. The facial features are best seen from the lake. The view from this vantage point has become increasingly dramatic over time, as the water level has dropped several metres since the creation of the paintings.

Ristiina municipality  
tel. +358 (0)15 888 9800  
ristiinan.kunta@ristiina.fi, www.ristiina.fi  
Ristiina Tourist Information, Wanha Martta  
Brahentie 50, tel. +358 (0)15 228 545

Puumala Tourist Information  
Keskustie 14, tel. 015 888 9286  
puumalan.matkailu@puumala.fi, www.puumala.fi

Finnish Rock Art ry  
52300 Ristiina  
www.kalliotaideyhdistys.fi

The rock paintings in Ristiina and Puumala

## History for the finding!

Most of Finland's Stone Age rock paintings are situated on the shores of large lakes in the Saimaa and Kymenlaakso regions. So far, only seven large series consisting of more than fifteen paintings have been found. One of the most prominent series is at Astuvansalmi in Ristiina.

During the Stone Age, the inhabitants of what is now Finland lived by hunting and fishing. The paintings depict boats, human figures, and prey such as elk. There are also painted handprints, and the coloured remnants of some pictures that have long since faded away.

The rock paintings have survived the ravages of time partly because of the transparent protective layer of silica that has gradually formed on the paintings. The visibility of the paintings is affected by weather and seasonal conditions, which may be one reason why some of these ancient and important paintings remained unseen until very recently.

This brochure introduces the known rock paintings in Ristiina and Puumala regions. Some are fairly easy to reach. It pays to keep your eyes peeled at all times: there are bound to be some undiscovered paintings in the forests!

## The rock paintings in Ristiina

### A Uittamonsalmi

In the shore of Uittamonsalmi, high above the water level, are four paintings. The paintings display many easily recognisable figures such as legless elk, boats and human figures. Also, some figures and patches of colour can be distinguished from the rock surface. There are no signposts to the site.



### B Astuvansalmi

The national shrine, Astuvansalmi, is one of the biggest rock painting sites in the Nordic countries.

The paintings are on steep bedrock approximately 10 metres above the current water level.

The paintings are between 6000 and 4500 years old. The age is estimated from the water level. Mystic figures, elks, human figures and handprints are displayed on the rock. This impressive site in Yövesi is watched over by a "rock god", a rock that resembles a human head.

A signposted path leads to the site.

Astuvansalmi site by road 4323. Boat tours to the site are organized.

## The rock paintings in Puumala

### C Kuutinvuori

The painting is located in Kuutinvuori, Miettulanlahti, around 10 km (6 ¼ miles) from Puumala to Mikkeli. The painting is within eyesight of the main road 62. The figure is approximately 6.5 to 7 metres above the current water level. (In the winter when the lake is safely frozen over the site can be reached on foot, but at other times a boat is needed). Figures estimated age is 4500 years. The painting came to widespread attention only in 2005, although it was known of locally before that. There are no signposts to the site.

### D Kaitajärvi

The red traces on this rock are evidence of an almost-disappeared painting. There are no signposts to the site.

### E Souzunniemi

A single, around 23 cm. high figure is located on this 200-metre rock-face. A triangular-headed human figure stands with his hands on his hips. The lower bottom of the picture is missing. The painting is estimated to be 5000 years old, an age calculated from the height of the location. The painting, discovered in 2004, is similar to the Uittamonsalmi rock painting in Ristiina. Signposts lead to the site.

### G Maksasaarenselkä

This remote painting was found in 1981. The site is surrounded by natural lake views. Most of the painting has been eroded, but a magnificent rock wall with a projecting rock makes this site well worth the effort. The easiest route to the site is by boat. Forest roads suitable for driving lead to within 1.5 km (1 mile) of the rocky wall. There are no signposts to the site.



### F Syrjäsalmi

There are two paintings in Syrjäsalmi. The first has been dated to 3200-2200 BCE. About 5.5 metres above water level lie two painted human figures, one larger than the other. Both have broad shoulders and stick legs. The other painting at Syrjäsalmi paintings is mainly red markings that have been dated to 4000-1500 BCE. Signposts lead to the site.



### H Vetotaipale

The Vetotaipale site was discovered in 1992, and is over 4 metres high. Although the paintings are small and fairly faint, recognizable figures include an elk, a boat, a human figure and a handprint. There are no signposts to the site.

### I Vuorilampi

The most recent find in Puumala was made public in the summer of 2007. A single female figure, approximately 32 cm. high, is impressively situated in a cave under a projecting rock. What makes the site exceptional is that the painting is located on dry land far from the lakeshore. Follow these instructions to reach the site by car: from road 438 turn west onto Lökköntie. Drive 6.7 km (c. 4 ¼ miles) and then turn to the right. Drive 1 km (3/5 mile) on the forest road, and you will find parking space to your left. A path leads to the site. The terrain is challenging, and the site is unmarked.



Please note that the rock paintings are protected under the Antiquities Act.

The photos of the paintings in this brochure have been retouched. The information presented here has been compiled from studies of the rock paintings by Juhani Grönhagen, Pekka Kivikäs and Timo Jussila.

1 Circled numbers: location of a company. The listing is on the reverse side of the brochure.

## Related sites:

- J Rakokivet** (boulders) (signposted)
- K** A Stone Age place of residence: Signposts 8.2km (c. 5 miles) from Ristiina, on the right.

A Seppo Reponen stencil of an ancient ornament found in 1996. The ornament itself is approximately 1000 years old.



## Rock painting timeline

10 000 BCE The Ice Age in the area of Finland

Approx. 8500 BCE First inhabitants in the area of Finland

4000 BCE The South Savo rock paintings

2000 BCE

year 0

ancient ornament

year 2000 CE

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