In the centre of the town 7–13:

7. Shell, Filling station

8. St1/ Cafe Katrilli

9. Tmi Ulriikki

tel. +358 (0)15 661 650

10. Restaurant Sataman Valot

tel. +358 (0)15 458 151

11. Restaurant Martan Baari

tel. +358 (0)15 661 102

12. Bar Vossikka

tel. +358 (0)15 458 301

www.personal.inet.fi/yritys/kartano

tel. +358 (0)15 664 101,
Kartanontie, B&B, camping,
accommodation and services in

13. Ristina Tourist Information

Cafe and Shop Vanha Martta, Brahentie 50,
tel. +358 (0)15 228 545,
www.vanhamartta.fi

14. Inn Ristina

Accommodation and rental of sleeping rooms, Ristina
Alitchen utensils, Suurlahdentie 1050,
tel. +358 (0)15 661 799, (0)40 540 1135,
www.ristina.fi

15. Kallionen, Restaurant (open on summer), shop, boat service.
Kallionenkatu 106, Siomajavcij

tel. +358 (0)340 762 461,
+358 (0)440 752 468,
http://kallionen.fi/kallionen

16. Pien-Trijolan talonpokkamuseo

(landscape museum), open on summer.
Suurlahdentie 1982, www.ristina.fi,
for more information visit:
www.etelasavonmuseot.fi

17. Kirvesниемен Lomamökki

Cottage accommodation, Kallionenkatu 98,
tel. +358 (0)15 468 1119,
www.kirvesniemen.fi

Kuula-Seppö’s jewellery inspired by rock paintings

18. Kurto Seppö, Goldsmith workshop and shop, jewellery inspired by
rock paintings, Kallionenkatu 94,
tel. +358 (0)400 585 224,
www.kurtoseppoi.fi

19. Kurto Seppö, Goldsmith workshop and shop, jewellery inspired by
rock paintings, Kallionenkatu 94,
tel. +358 (0)400 585 224,
www.kurtoseppoi.fi

20. Kellonkantatalo

Cottage accommodation, Manninenkatu 437,
http://personal.inet.fi/kellonkantatalo

21. B&B Rakel Laamanen

Rakaslantie 1349,
tel. +358 (0)340 520 663,
rakkasialaa@gmail.com

22. Blue/White Resorts Sahalanliitu

Cottage accommodation, Liehenlaantie 830,
tel. +358 (0)15 488 6178,
www.bluewhitefi

23. Koskensalo Matto ja Tekstiili

Cottage accommodation, Koskensalontie 98,
tel. +358 (0)15 468 1199,
www.koskensalo.fi

24. Kuula Seppö, Goldsmith work-
shop and shop, jewellery inspired by
rock paintings, Kallionenkatu 94,
tel. +358 (0)400 585 224,
www.kurtoseppoi.fi

25. Käpeput, Local handicraft

tel. +358 (0)650 614 155

26. Laihisaaren, Souvenirs and
handicrafts, Naamankatu 1,
tel. +358 (0)15 680 333

27. Laitialantie 190, 52330 Heimari,
tel. +358 (0)15 727 3100,
www.heimari.com

28. Mäntyharjuntie 5,
Outlet, tools, sweet shop, etc.

29. Hanhiniityn Paja ja Galleria

Smile workshop and gallery,
Ylössanantie 84,
tel. +358 (0)15 741 831,
www.goosemenadore.com

30. Lietvedentie 830,
www.kalliotaideyhdistys.fi

31. Lautia-Lomamökit

Accommodation, Lautia-anturit 29,
tel. +358 (0)15 668 7199,
www.lautia-auto.net

The rock paintings have inspired many artists in South Savo.
Flax linen by Raijan Alita

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...

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.

These shores were inhabited
6000 years ago

The rock paintings are communications from the past. The
rock paintings were done by people just like us, who
chose as their canvases the rugged surfaces that were
sculptured 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!
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 hand prints, and the coloured remains 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 variability 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! One reason why some of these ancient and important paintings remained unseen until very recently 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.

The photos of the 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! One reason why some of these ancient and important paintings remained unseen until very recently 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.

Please note that the rock paintings are protected under the Antiquities Act. The photos of the paintings in this brochure have been reduced. The information presented here has been compiled from studies of the rock paintings by Juhani Grönahagen, Pekka Kowaka and Timo Jussila.

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 recognizable 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. Mysterious figures, elk, 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 Astuvansalmi site by road 4323. Boat tours to the site are organized.

C Kuutinuori

The painting is located in Kuutinuori, Miettulanlahti, around 10 km (6 ¼ miles) from Puumala to Mikkel. The painting is within eyeshot 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 is evidence of an almost disappeared painted peareed. There are no signposts to the site.

The rock paintings in Puumala

A Uittamonsalmi

The painting is located in Uittamonsalmi, Miettulanlahti, around 10 km (6 ¼ miles) from Puumala to Mikkel. The painting is within eyeshot 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.

C Kuutinuori

The painting is located in Kuutinuori, Miettulanlahti, around 10 km (6 ¼ miles) from Puumala to Mikkel. The painting is within eyeshot 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 is evidence of an almost disappeared painted figure. There are no signposts to the site.

E Sozunnimki

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 portion of the picture is missing. The painting is estimated to be 6000 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.

F Maksaasaarenlahti

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 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.

G Vetotapale

The Vetotapale 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.

H Vuorilampi

The prominent 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 Lökkiöntie. Drive 6.7 km (c. 4 ¼ miles) and turn to the right. Drive 1 km (1/2 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.

I Vetotapale

The Vetotapale 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.

J Vuorilampi

The prominent 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 Lökkiöntie. Drive 6.7 km (c. 4 ¼ miles) and turn to the right. Drive 1 km (1/2 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.

K Vetotapale

The Vetotapale 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.

L Vuorilampi

The prominent 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 Lökkiöntie. Drive 6.7 km (c. 4 ¼ miles) and turn to the right. Drive 1 km (1/2 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.