

GOOD TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR VISIT TO OULANKA (AND PAANAJÄRVI) NATIONAL PARK

WEATHER

The weather in early June in Kuusamo area can vary from +2 to +20 degrees so look for the weather reports before packing your luggage. Since it's early summer there should not be too many mosquitos. And notice that June is also the time of the famous Midnight Sun phenomenon, so there is 23 hours of sunlight each day!

ACCOMMODATION

This meeting was much more popular than expected and there are not enough rooms for the participants at the original venue at Basecamp Oulanka. We have had to put some of those wishing for a single room to a double room. I hope that does not cause too much inconvenience. Some will also stay in another accommodation in the nearby area.

ARRIVAL

Those arriving by plane to Kuusamo on Tuesday.

There will be a bus at the Airport with a sign "TransParcNet Meeting" and it will take you to Basecamp Oulanka.

Those arriving by plane to Oulu and by bus to Kuusamo

We will pick you up from the Kuusamo Bus Station and take you to Basecamp Oulanka. Please once more confirm us what time your bus will arrive, also when you are on the way to Kuusamo tel. +358408014044/Sari.

Those arriving by car to Kuusamo

The address of Basecamp Oulanka is Myllykoskentie 30, KUUSAMO.

FIELDTRIP ON THURSDAY THE 13th

We will do a canoeing trip of 25 kilometers along the River Oulankajoki. 25 kilometers sounds like a lot, but this route is very easy and suitable for all ages and for both novice and experienced paddlers alike. There are no motors; you and the stream of the river will be the power of your canoe.

Canoeing in the River Oulankajoki is truly wonderful way to experience the beauty of the National Park. In this route there are no rapids, most of the time the water streams very calmly. The river meanders in the river valley surrounded by lush forest and high sand banks. You might see reindeers resting on the sandy beaches or eagles flying above.

On the way we will hear about and see examples of ecological restoration of alluvial meadows in Oulanka National Park, Finnish-Russian cooperation on migratory brown trout populations in the Oulanka River system and pros and cons of tourism in Oulanka-Paanajärvi Area. We will eat packed lunch on the way.

Here are some tips for your trip:

- The weather and temperatures in Oulankajoki river vary. The air in the river valley may be cool and weather can be rainy. Take waterproof clothes and shoes with you and some spare clothes.
- Put sensitive equipment, such as phones and cameras in waterproof bags. Also pack a change of clothes in the same way. We will provide you a dry sack and also a life jacket.

If 25 kilometers feels too much, there is a possibility to paddle only the first 8 kilometres and finish your trip to Nurmisaarenniemi but we'd advice you to give it a try to paddle the whole 25 k. The most wonderful sceneries and biggest sand beaches becomes after Nurmisaarenniemi. Those in an average physical condition have no difficulties canoeing the whole route. The trip will end very close to the border zone of Finland and Russia. We will be picked up by a bus but the river will run through to border to Paanajärvi NP.

If for physical or other reasons you cannot participate the canoeing trip please let us know asap. We will organize an alternative activity suitable for you together with you.

BRINGING SOME TASTING?

It has been a habit to bring something taste, to eat or drink, from your own country or region. To the meeting. Please do so this this time too! Let's have tasting them before dinner on Wednesday evening.

ALCOHOL POLICY

Finland has very strict alcohol serving laws. So for example in restaurants you are not allowed to drink your own alcohol beverages.

<https://www.facebook.com/veryFinnishproblems/videos/990378211102766/?v=990378211102766>

Alcohol is not included in our meals but in the restaurant you can buy the drinks you wish.

See you soon in Oulanka National Park!

