

IMATRA - FINLAND

No river in Finland matches the Vuoksi,
there where Imatra is rushing!



VUOKSI

FISHING GUIDE

Vuoksi as a fishing location

There is a long tradition of fishing trips on the Vuoksi River. The first stories of Vuoksi's plentiful and large salmon originate from as early as the start of the 1830s. English anglers were charmed by Vuoksi's landscape and the rampant salmon leaping up into the air.

The golden age of fishing tourism at Vuoksi lasted up until the 1920s. After that period, as with many other famous salmon rivers, the strong need for energy created by industrialization and the construction of power plants caused a decline in fish stocks. The reputation of Vuoksi River as a famous salmon river became a thing of the past - but only for a short while.

Luckily for us, nature is able to adapt to the prevailing conditions and Vuoksi's fish stocks began to recover; Vuoksi once again began to hold fish, including salmon fish that had migrated downstream through the power plant and new and locally increasing salmon stocks began to form. The increase in the abundance of salmon stocks was also assisted by planting activities that began during the latter half of the 1980s. These factors played a role in Vuoksi's recovery to once again be known as a salmon river.

Vuoksi was granted recreational fishing permits, services were improved and developed continuously. Its own strengthened fish stocks are still taken care of through abundant, regular planting. Vuoksi is a significant fishing location, an exciting and close to nature experience for fly-fishers, lure fishers and autumn night torch giggers, as well as the smaller fishing enthusiasts in families.

"At Vuoksi, you can fish,
surrounded by the national landscape!"



The catch in the Vuoksi River

The original stock of fish in Vuoksi has included both migrating and local fish species. Vuoksi's most important fish that are suitable for recreational fishing are trout, grayling, lavaret, vendace, salmon, perch, pike and rainbow trout.

Trout



Trout thrive in clean waters. The planting of trout in the Vuoksi River has contributed to the positive catch rates for trout. Every year, thousands of trout are caught from the Vuoksi. The best locations to catch trout are from the Tainionkoski Power Plant, to the highway 6 bridge passing over the river. The shallows of Mellonlahti are also a good spot for trout fishing.

Grayling



One of the main catches for fly-fishers is the grayling, the fishing of which has a long tradition in Vuoksi. Graylings have relatively good growth conditions, as grayling catches of more than one kilogram are not uncommon. The best spots for grayling fishing are the shallows between Sienimäki and the Industrial Workers Housing Museum, around bridges, and in the shallows of Mellonlahti.

Lavaret



Lavaret is a common catch in the Vuoksi River. It is likely that Vuoksi contains a number of different kinds of lavarets. The best locations to catch lavarets are below the Tainionkoski Power Plant, close to the town hall and along the beach near McDonald's. Lavaret is also a common fish for gigging.

Vendace



Vendace are a specialty of the Vuoksi River. They are caught in abundant numbers by net below Tainionkoski Power Plant. The best time to catch vendace is from May to September, and the catches during the day may even total some several hundreds of kilograms. Vendace swim against the river flow in large schools. The schools are caught up in the so-called "Mutteri" beach, close to the shore, where they can be caught using a landing net.

Salmon



Salmon is a noticeably less common fish to catch in the Vuoksi River. Each year, a number of salmon arrive in Vuoksi after passing through Tainionkoski Power Plant.

Rainbow trout



Rainbow trout are planted in Mellonlahti during the winter and on the side of Vuoksi in the summer. Rainbow trout have gained popularity among rainbow trout ice fishers in Mellonlahti. In Vuoksi, rainbow trout grow rapidly on a diet of vendace, and have established themselves as a popular fish to catch.

Use your phone to read the QR code next to the fish species, you will get more details and see an image of the fish!

Other species of fish

Other common fish to be caught in the Vuoksi River are pike, bream and perch. Perch and pike thrive well in Vuoksi and grow to large sizes. Perches weighing more than a kilogram are not uncommon, and it is also not unknown for pike to break the ten kilogram barrier every year. The best places to find perch are at Neitsytniemi, Linnankoski and in the bays of Varpasaari. Pikes are best captured in the shallows of Vuoksi and in backwater areas. Pike are also popular gigging fish.

The prices of Vuoksi's licences:

- Day license 12 €
- Week license 24 €
- Calendar year license 70 €
- Power trolling 24 € day/100 € year (separate area)
- Gigging license 15 € (1.8. -31.12. for Vuoksi Fishing Park only)
- Company license 60 € (at least 5 pieces, only from Imatra Base Camp)
- Youth License for 12 - 18 years of age - 50 % of the normal license price

License sales points

- Vuoksi Fishing Park , Kotipolku 4, Tel. +358 5 4323123
- Imatra Base Camp (business licences), Tel. +358 20 617 7011
- Public swimming pool reception, Kotipolku 2, Tel. +358 20 617 7294
- Imatra City Libraries
- Urheilu-Koskimies, Ratakatu 37-39, Lappeenranta, Tel. +358 5 612 9013
- www.kalaluvat-etelakarjala.fi

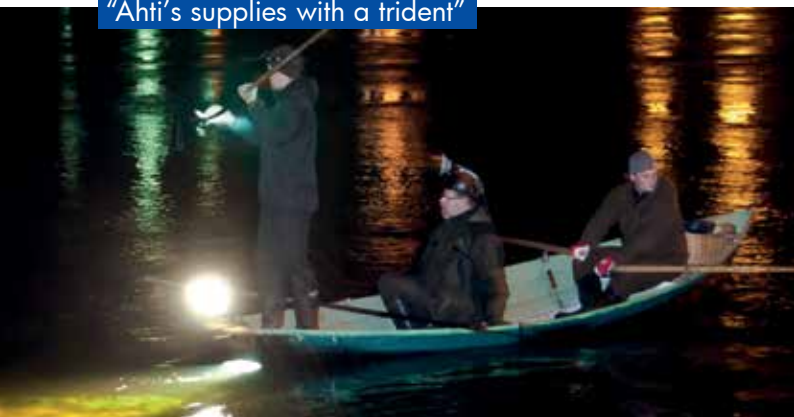
Fishing permits can also be paid directly to a bank or at a payment terminal. Payments can also be completed via on-line banking. In this case, the payment receipt will become the equivalent to a fishing permit.

Payments can be made into the following account:
EKOP FI3950940010000178.

A necessary condition for the validity of the license is that the deposit slip contains the following information:

- Which license it is, for example, Vuoksi fishing license/ day-licenses
- Account Number (EKOP FI3950940010000178)
- On which day the authorization has been taken

"Ahti's supplies with a trident"



Terms and conditions of the Vuoksi fishing license

The fishing zone comprises the area of Vuoksi and Mellonlahti, according to the map on page 6. Prohibited areas are marked in the terrain by signs. Fishing with a provincial lure card is not permitted.

Vuoksi's fishing license is personal and provides the right for luring and spinning. Children aged under 12 years old can lure and spin free of charge, when accompanied by a license holder. A license for 12 - 18 year olds is half the price of a normal license.

Hook and line fishing and ice fishing is permitted without a Vuoksi license. An exception is the Mellonlahti special fishing area, where a Vuoksi fishing license is also required for hook and line fishing and ice fishing. Fishing for Crayfish is also permitted in Mellonlahti, with a separate license.

Luring and spinning is permitted all year round, with the exception of a local closed game area in the section between the Mansikkala railway bridge and the Vuoksi upstream to the lake Saimaa during the period 15.10.- 15.11.

Two (2) rods can stand erect on a boat or beach at the same time. Similarly, two (2) rods, at most, can be used for angling and jigging. The use of a motor when luring is not permitted. The exception is a separate power trolling area between the Kyyrönkoski-border zone. A power trolling license is personal and justifies fishing with up to four (4) rods per boat.

Static erect gears, such as a spring loaded fish hooks or equivalent equipment is prohibited.

The license entitles the holder to fish a total of two (2) salmon fish a day (species: trout, salmon, grayling). Lake salmon is allowed to fish for only one (1) fish per day.

Every fisher aged 18-64 year old, with a license for angling on the Vuoksi River, must also pay a state fishing management fee. A fishing management fee is not required for just hook and line and ice fishing. A Vuoksi license and state fishing management fee is required for the netting of vendace.

Torch gigging requires a special license between the period, 1.8 to 31.12. The prohibited fish species when gigging are trout, salmon, rainbow trout and grayling.

Minimum sizes of catches:

- Grayling 35 cm, fully protected during the interim period 1.4.-31.5.
- Lake trout 50 cm, when adipose fin cuted, with the adipose fin fully protected.
- Lake salmon 60 cm, when adipose fin cuted, with the adipose fin fully protected.
- Pike-perch 42 cm (fishing area's recommendation 45 cm)



"Vuoksi's grayling are beautiful"

Vuoksen kalastusalueet



- 1. Fishing Park
- 2. Trailer incline
- 3. Power boat area
- 4. Mellonlahti
- 5. Fishing pier and fireplace
- 6. WC door code 1973
- Prohibited fishing area

The fishing areas of the Vuoksi river

The basin between power plants

The basin between the power plants is one of the most important fishing areas on the Vuoksi River. Most of the planting of fish is expressly carried out in these areas.

The fishing area is diverse and is suitable for all kinds of rod fishing, such as trolling and shore fishing. Shore fishing is made easier with fishing piers that have been built between the power plants. The piers of Ritikanranta, Neitsytneimi and the Fishing Park are also suitable for people with reduced mobility. The area does not freeze completely, even in winter, so the rod fishing season can continue throughout the year.

The area includes two large bays: the bays of Neitsytneimi and Varpasaari, which are popular ice fishing locations in the winter. Due to its shallow waters, the area is highly suitable for torch giggering. The upper section of the area, just below the Tainionkoski Power Plant, contains a special netting location for vendace, which has suitable landings built for the purpose.

“Vendace netting in the summer night”



Fishing areas

The area in the lower half of Imatrankoski

The water area in the lower half of Imatrankoski is first like a river, later changing to become like a lake. The upper section of the area holds the “so-called” Mellonlahti shallows, which is the most popular fishing spot in the area. The shallows are also popular among fly-fishers, as a result of their fords. The shallows in question also contain gravel that is suitable for the spawning of salmon fishes.

The lower part of the area, which is limited by the border zone, is quiet, slow-flowing and the deepest section of the area (33 m). The only power boat area of Vuoksi is also located there. The lower section is the “wildest” of Vuoksi’s fishing destinations.

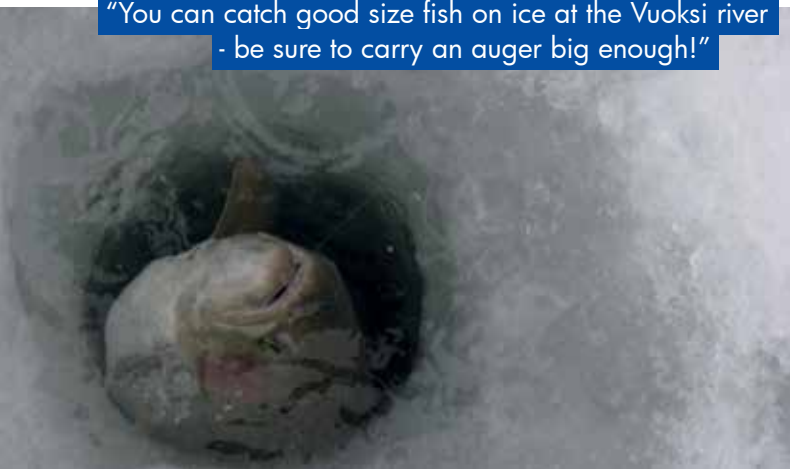
Mellonlahti

Mellonlahti’s special fishing area is located at the southern end of Imatra’s old rapids river channel. Mellonlahti was separated from Vuoksi, by a separate dam road, built at the start of the 1980s; the size of the bay is about two hectares. Mellonlahti’s water is mostly derived from ground sources.

Mellonlahti’s fish stocks are abundant. In addition, each year, rainbow trout adequate for catching are planted in Mellonlahti for recreational fishing needs. Mellonlahti has a fishing pier and shelter with fireplaces that are suitable for disabled persons. Mellonlahti is especially popular in the winter as a trout ice fishing location and most of the plantings are carried out under the ice during the winter.

Mellonlahti also has a thriving stock of signal crayfish, which can be caught with a separate license. In addition, carp and pike-perch have been planted in Mellonlahti and these have been successful and have grown well. All fishing in the area requires a Vuoksi fishing license. Rowing boat use is permitted and access is easy as a road leads right up to the beach. On the other side of the dam road, if desired, lake trout can be caught, as well as vendace and grayling.

“You can catch good size fish on ice at the Vuoksi river - be sure to carry an auger big enough!”



The fishing spots at Neitsytmiemi and Mutterinranta

Neitsytmiemi and Mutterinranta are the locations for Vuoksi’s most recently built fishing spots. For fishing enthusiasts, fishing piers and campfire spots have been built, as well as a location for the processing of fish in the Neitsytmiemi area. Neitsytmiemi fishing pier is also suitable for fishers with reduced mobility and dock access is also possible for wheelchair users.

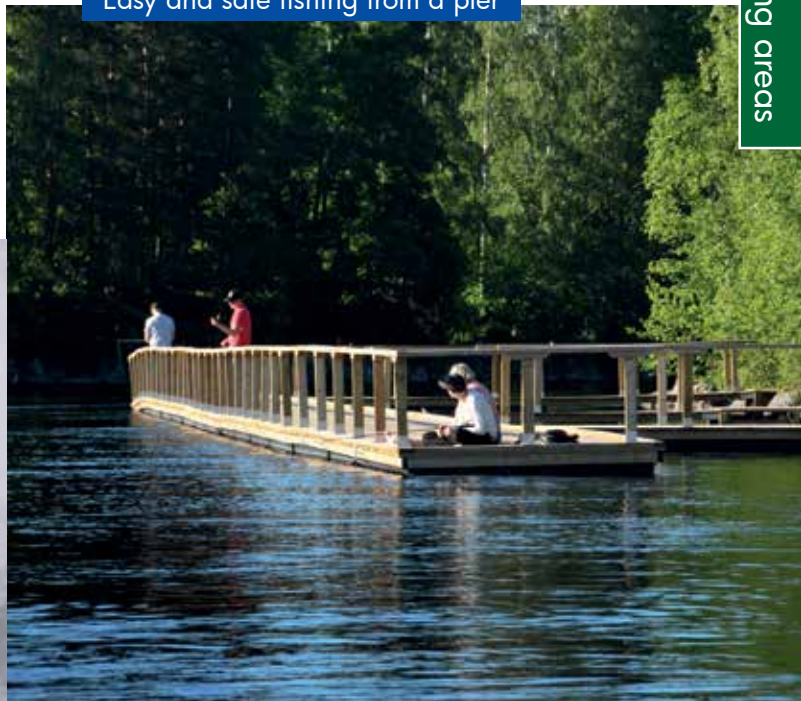
There is a car park located in close proximity to Neitsytmiemi fishing pier for private vehicles, also with a toilet.

The fishing pier is accessible only to fishing enthusiasts. Campfire sites are generally for the use of all hikers. Everyone should take care of the cleanliness of the area and take garbage and fish waste to the locations provided.

Neitsytmiemi fishing pier is reserved primarily for active fishing with fishing poles. Fishing spots cannot be reserved for passive fishing method, ie. “so called” - lazy fishing. This type of passive fishing is not prohibited on the pier, but it should not interfere with other fishing on the pier.

Otherwise, it’s good to remember gentleman fishing rules and not ruin the fishing of others through one’s own fishing practices. If the pier is crowded, be sure to circulate!

“Easy and safe fishing from a pier”



Vuoksi Fishing Park

- Fish treats brought along, or on the spot!

- Restaurant and café Wanha Virveli
- Cruises on Vuoksi
- Fishing services on Vuoksi and Saimaa
- Fishing licenses: Vuoksi and Saimaa
- Private sauna Rähän Kuohu
- A pleasant campsite
- Cabin accommodation
- Program services for companies and individuals
- Open in the summer 1.4.-30.9, at other times by appointment

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Kotipolku 4, 55120 Imatra
Tel. +358 5 432 3123
vuoksi.kalastuspuisto@co.inet.fi

Toni, Tel. +358 40 556 0121
Teemu, Tel. +358 50 384 9998
Taisto, Tel. +358 400 655 848

“The Fishing Park is located in a central location!”





"Vuoksi offers wonderful experiences throughout the year, for active sports fishermen, as well as families on holiday. The spell of Vuoksi has to be experienced personally."



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