



HISTORY OF THE PARK FOREST

Aulanko's history stretches back to pre-Christian times in Finland. Aulanko hill was used by the ancient Häme cult for their rituals. The fortification they built was destroyed around 1250. At about the same time the Swedes began erecting Häme Castle nearby.

The history of the actual park forest begins in 1883, when a prominent industrialist, Colonel Hugo Standertskjöld, who had acquired a great deal of wealth from the supply of arms to Russia, purchased the Karlberg manor, as it then was. He commenced to have an English-style park forest established, a task involving 150 horsemen and over 100 labourers. Swan Pond and Forest Pond pools were created, as well as new roads, a Granite castle, summer houses, panorama terraces... and to cap it all, in 1907 a 33-meter view tower was erected on the Aulanko hill.

A large number of new tree species, flowers and shrubs were planted in the park. Part of the indigenous flora vanished under this onslaught, but one of Finland's most noteworthy tourist sights was created. Best preserved are larch, silver fir and arolla pine, in addition to lime, maple and elm. There are many shrubs grown wild.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PROTECTED AREA

As Standertskjöld began to age there were fears regarding the preservation of Aulanko for posterity. The colonel expressly wished the park to remain open to everyone.

In 1930 the governor of Häme Province issued an order for the preservation of the area. In accordance with the management and use plan, further stands and clumps of exotic tree species were planted to diversify the vegetation. The well-kept park has gradually given way to a robust forest and a well-established flora. Today one can find, for example, all of Finland's broadleaf tree species there.

THE FINNISH FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE (METLA)

Metla is a research institute which was established in 1917 under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Metla researches forest oriented problems, with particular emphasis on studies on the state of health of the forest and forest biodiversity, the multiple use of forests, and the under-utilisation of timber reserves.

Metla comprises the Helsinki and Vantaa research centres, plus eight other research stations around Finland. In order to ensure the continuity of long-term research, Metla manages about 150,000 hectares (ha) of research forest, of which 70,000 ha are nature conservation areas.



Tutkimusmetsäpalvelut 1996

AULANKO CONSERVATION AREA

ENGLISH

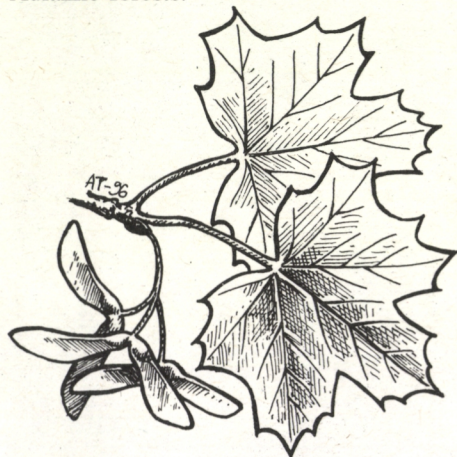


James Thurman '96

AULANKO PARK FOREST AND PROTECTED AREA

Welcome to Aulanko! Aulanko Park Forest forms part of an extensive, 152-hectare area protected under the Nature Conservation Act. Its purpose is to preserve the national landscape visible from the summit of the Aulanko hill, together with the English-style manor park and the forest connected with this.

Management of the protected area has been entrusted to the Finnish Forest Research Institute (Metla). The fifth management and use plan for the area was completed in 1995. The park forest is being managed with the aim of preserving its beautiful, flourishing park-like character. Natural state forests, covering almost one half of the park, help ensure that biodiversity is maintained in Aulanko forests.













AULANKO AS A RESEARCH LOCATION

Aulanko protected area is one of Metla's research forest areas. Aulanko's special features include stands of exotic tree species, groves of masur birch, an extensive rowan stand, and unusual forms of many tree species.

Aulanko is also an important location for research into the use of forests for recreational purposes and physical exercise. There is also a Metla research unit studying tree seed crops and flowering.

MAP SYMBOLS

	protected area
	Metla research unit
	car park
	one-way road
	trail
	shrub and tree species trail
	view tower
	Swan Pond
	Granite castle
	Bear Cave

You can find these places by following the heraldic signs (see appendix).

RULES FOR VISITORS

Aulanko nature is best observed on foot. Please leave your car only at the marked car parks.

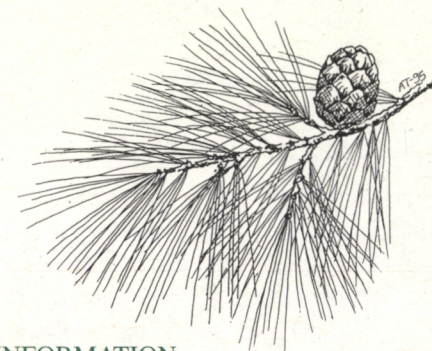
Permitted e.g.

- movement on foot or skis; cycling along the roads only
- berry- and mushroom-picking

Prohibited

- littering
- picking flowers, tree branches and other plants
- disturbing birds and other wildlife
- damaging constructions, signs, etc.

If required, the entire set of regulations can be obtained from Metla.



FURTHER INFORMATION

The Finnish Forest Research Institute (Metla)

- Aulanko Park Forest, FIN-14999 Hämeenlinna, Finland tel. +358-03-6822 791
- Vantaa Research Centre Jokiniemenkuja 1, FIN-01300 Vantaa, Finland tel. +358-(0)9-857 051