

## Hiking and guidance

The national park's information centre is Heritage Centre Ukko, next to the Koli Hotel. The best way to explore the park is by hiking. There are several marked hiking trails to choose from, all starting either from Heritage Centre Ukko or from the harbour. A map of the trails can be purchased from Heritage Centre. There are several camp fire places in the area. In winter there are ski trails in the park varying in length from three to eight kilometres and supplemented by connecting ski trails from Koli to Kopravaara and Loma-Koli.

## Fauna

Wood grouse, greenish warbler, wren and the three-toed woodpecker, which is a threatened species, all thrive in old forest. Mammals regularly sighted in the park are elk, beaver, pine marten and lynx. Bears also occasionally move through the area. The endangered flying squirrel inhabits old mixed woods.

The most important, extremely threatened invertebrate species in the Koli area are *Bulgarica cana*, which is only known in Finland from Koli, and *Solva interrupta* which has only been found in one other place in Finland.

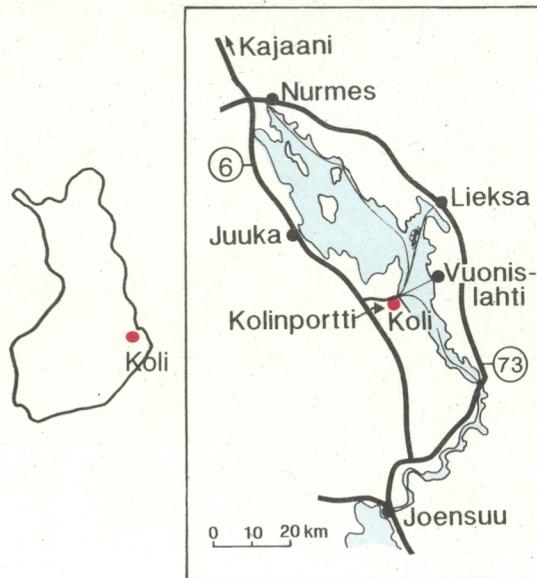


Slash-and-burn every year in the national park.

## Vegetation

The birch stands, clearings and natural meadows, relicts from the time of slash-and-burn agriculture, bring considerable variety to the nature in the area.

Verdant groves can be found along the streams running into Lake Pielinen and at the foot of steep cliffs. Less fertile sites (dry and dryish upland sites) are located on the tops and western slopes of the hills.



## Public transport

Road connections are shown on the map. There is a coach service to Koli from Joensuu and Kajaani. In summer there are boat connections from Joensuu, Lieksa, Nurmes and Vuonilahti. The ferry to Lieksa is a car ferry.

## MAPS

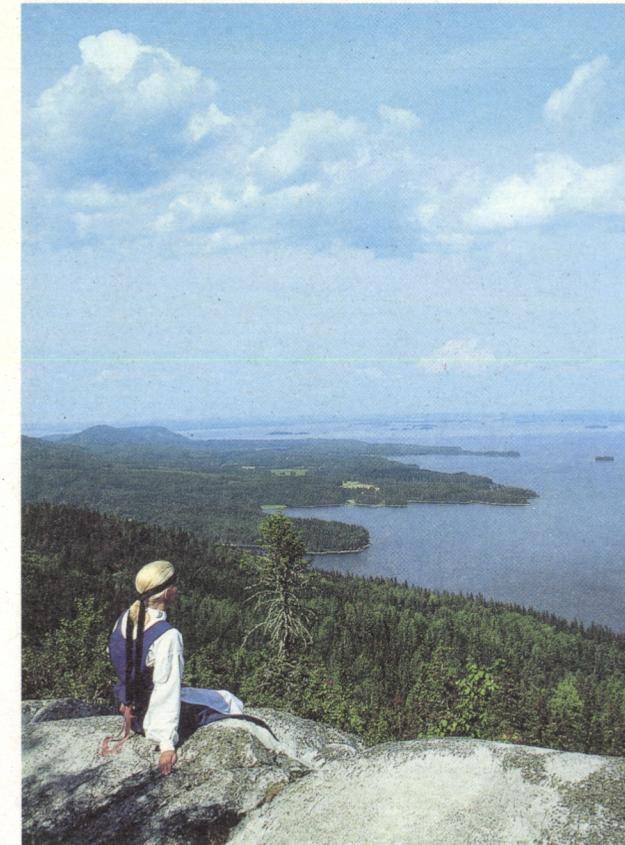
- \* Map for summer tourists Koli 1: 50 000 and 1: 20 000
- \* Basic maps n:o 4313 08-12, 1: 20 000
- \* Outdoor Map Lieksa Koli Ruunaa, 1: 30 000
- \* Tourist map of Northern Karelia, 1: 200 000
- \* Finnish Road Map GT 9, 1: 200 000

## Further information

- \* Heritage Centre Ukko
- tel. +358 13 688 8400
- fax +358 13 688 8401
- Internet: <http://koli.metla.fi>
- E-mail: [ukko@koli.inet.fi](mailto:ukko@koli.inet.fi)

- \* Finnish Forest Research Institute/Joensuu Research Centre, tel. +358 13 251 4000
- \* Hotel Koli info, tel. +358 13 688 7100
- \* Herajärvi Hiking Centre, tel. +358 13 676 220

## KOLI NATIONAL PARK



Finnish National Landscape

SUOMI

ENGLISH

DEUTSCH

РУССКОЕ

## The Koli National Park

Koli National Park is located in northern Karelia on the western shore of Lake Pielinen. The park is managed by the Finnish Forest Research Institute (Metla), and it covers almost 3000 hectares. In addition to its own research in Koli National Park, Metla conducts joint research to a great extent with other research institutes. The park's purpose is to protect the national landscape of Koli and old growth forests on the foot hills, as well as to maintain plant communities created by slash-and-burn agriculture.



## Geology and landscape

Koli's hills are the remnants of the ancient Karelidic mountain chain formed almost 2000 million years ago as continental plates collided, causing thick sandstone strata to become metamorphosed and folded. The hard quartzites have withstood Ice Age erosion and frost shattering better than their surroundings to survive today as the Koli hills.

Ukko-Koli, the highest point in the chain, and also in South Finland, rises to 347 m a.s.l. and 253 m above Lake Pielinen. The scenery around Koli is considered to be some of the most beautiful in Finland.

## Settlement and cultural history

At the turn of the 20th century the rise of national romanticism resulted in a strong Karelian movement, and the Koli landscape provided many famous writers, artists and composers with inspiration for their work. At the same time Koli also became a well known tourist attraction.



## MAP SYMBOLS

-  national park
-  hiking trail
-  information board
-  car park
-  camp fire site
-  toilet
-  landing
-  beach
-  harbour
-  hotel
-  camping site



## RULES FOR PARK USERS

### Permitted

- \* movement by foot, ski and boat on Lake Pielinen
- \* the picking of forest berries and wild mushrooms

### Restricted

- \* motor vehicles and bicycles may only be used on the roads
- \* fire-lighting is permitted only at the points indicated

### Forbidden

- \* discarding litter, damaging the soil or vegetation, disturbing the animals or carrying out any other activity likely to affect nature or damage buildings in the area
- \* camping

Detailed park regulations are available from Heritage Centre Ukko (Ylä-Kolintie 39, 83960 Koli).