

THE HANKAVESI ROUTE, 3 km

Start & Finish:

Törmälä Holiday and Course Centre, Konnekoskentie 552, Rautalampi (www.retkikartta.fi). Törmälä is one of the gates into the Southern Konnevesi National Park, and also a starting point of 1 of 3 outdoor swimming routes.

Co-ordinates:

Euref-Fin (~ WGS84) lat: 62° 36.0726' lon: 26° 43.1598' ETRSTM35FIN

N: 6941190 E:485590

The routes have not been marked on the terrain/water.

Difficulty:

challenging

Suitability:

the route is intended for experienced open water swimmers.

- To get to the starting point of the swim requires a longer hike or paddling or a water taxi.
- On the Southern Konnevesi Lake the wind may blow hard on large open waters. Keep your eye on the weather which may change rapidly.
- Try to arrange your swim on days with calmer weather.

Please also note that if on the way out the wind blows from behind, it will most likely be against you when you swim back, so it will make swimming much harder.

- This is wilderness, and there are natural rocks, shoals, shallows and underwater trunks.
- There are also cottages, people moving with boats and large cruise ships, so please observe particular caution.
- As a swimmer, you may not be so visible in the water even with the compulsory swimming buoy.
- People may have fishing nets in the water as well.
- Never swim alone!

Mandatory equipment:

- wetsuit
- goggles
- swimming buoy
- map of the area and route
- for longer trips: drinking bottle, energy snacks, shoes, towel, clothes, phone, medication if needed (e.g. asthma inhaler)
- Finnish Swimming Association checklist: urly.fi/13Eh (only in Finnish)

The routes have been planned so that you can shorten your trip by turning back earlier or walking back on land. The routes have not been marked on the terrain/water. All the open water swimming routes are intended for experienced swimmers. The routes have been also planned so that you can combine your swimming visit to the National Park with other activities such as hiking, paddling or mountain biking.

The round-trip length of the Hankavesi Route is 3 km. You can cut some of the distance by turning back earlier.

The route starts from the pier, following the shoreline. First point of reference is a small island with a cape about 200 m away. Go around the island and continue your swim following the shoreline. You will swim past few piers (3 in the summer of 2018), and if you turn back when you reach the last pier, your total swimming distance will be 1.5 km.

If you decide to go further, take a turn along the shoreline to the left and use a rocky edge of a cape about 400 m away as a reference point. At this stage you might find that there is a shallow. If you turn back at the spit, you will have swum about 2.2 km round-trip.

The total length of the Hankavesi Route is 3 km. You can achieve that by continuing onwards to your right along the shoreline and about 400 m to a point where there will be an island on your left called Niittysaari. When you turn back at this point and traverse your route back to Törmälä, by the time you reach the pier in Törmälä, you will have swum roughly 3 kilometres.

There is no path along the shoreline to walk back. If you, however, have to come ashore, you can reach the Konnekoskentie Road by walking directly about 500 m through the forest, and reach Törmälä by following the road. Please note that the forest is dense.

You can book a sauna and accommodation from Törmälä. Please make your reservation in good time ahead. There is also a restaurant that serves lunch and a café. Check www.tormala.fi for open hours.

SOUTHERN KONNEVESI NATIONAL PARK (luontoon.fi):



urly.fi/15fx

HIKING MAP BY METSÄHALLITUS:



urly.fi/15fy

STORY MAP BY RAUTALAMPI MUSEUM:



urly.fi/XRK

Please remember that during a forest fire warning, making fire is strictly prohibited.

You can use a camping stove provided that you observe special caution.







