



### Öördi study trail

The length of the trail is about 2.4 km. Öördi bog is the only bog in Soomaa NP where from former big ice lake a relic lake has remained. Thickness of the peat bog is up to 9.5 m. The bog originated from lake marshing, later the low-lying swamp that surrounds it originated from the water that ran down from the marsh area and the mineral soil became marshy. Swamp covers an area of 7154 ha. It is relatively young swamp, with almost no bog-pools. The middle part is jointed flat bog with many small bog-pools. The southern part is relatively dry, with some bog-pools and changes to wet pine forest. In the middle of the marsh grow nutrient-demanding fen plants, which indicates to the afflux of subsoil water through the layer of peat. Occurrence of marshlands and reed-beds is typical by the marsh edge, elsewhere they have mainly destroyed by drainage. Öördi lake is on eastern edge of Öördi bog, covering an area of 4.4 ha. Emanating ditch from the lake has probably lowered the water level in the lake, here and there the former lake shore is clearly visible. The bog is known as one of Estonia's richest regions of cranberries.

**We recommend that you first visit the National Park visitor center before heading out to the hiking trails.**

Access to the Öördi study trail and campfire site from **Tallinn – Pärnu – Tori direction:** drive to Tori settlement. Turn to Völli road which bounds for national park, thence along the Jõesuu road to Jõesuu settlement (6 km). Before reaching the settlement Jõesuu signpost indicates the road to the right. To reach the destination must drive through the National Park (30 km) and the lia village 600 m towards Kõpu to the intersection where signpost guiding to Öördi, turn left, drive 5.7 km along the forest road until the parking lot and the campfire site.

**Tartu – Viljandi direction:** Drive along Tartu – Viljandi – Pärnu road to Kõpu settlement. After passing Kõpu cemetery turn to the right to Kõpu – Jõesuu road. To reach the destination must drive about 6-7 km to the intersection where signpost guiding to Öördi, turn left, drive 5.7 km along the forest road until the parking lot and the campfire site.

**By public transport** from Viljandi with a bus No. 55. View more: [www.peatus.ee](http://www.peatus.ee). Buy a ticket to lia, and from there move on foot by following guidelines.

### RMK Soomaa National Park visitor centre:

Tipu village, Kõpu parish, Viljandi county. Phone number: +37 2526 1924 or +37 2435 7164 e-mail: [soomaa.teabepunkt@rmk.ee](mailto:soomaa.teabepunkt@rmk.ee) / [soomaa.looduskeskus@rmk.ee](mailto:soomaa.looduskeskus@rmk.ee)



### Soomaa National Park

Soomaa National Park is created in 1993 to protect large raised bogs, flood-plain grasslands, paludified forests and cultural heritage in south-western Estonia. The area of the park is 396 square kilometers and it is located in Pärnu and Viljandi county border. Soomaa park's diverse landscapes provide suitable habitats for different bird and animal species. The sights in Soomaa National Park are: big and virgin peat-bogs, numerous rivers, species-rich water meadows and wooded meadows. Soomaa is characterized by recurring floods every year. The flood is called "the fifth season", when the high water-level floats over the potamic meadows and floodplain forests. In Soomaa National Park the history of human habitation goes back to the Stone Age. Numerous stone and bone findings in Riisa and Sandra villages bear witness to the ancient settlements.

### RMK Aimla visitor centre:

Aimla village, Suure-Jaani parish, Viljandi county. Phone number: +37 2513 2994 e-post: [aimla.looduskeskus@rmk.ee](mailto:aimla.looduskeskus@rmk.ee)