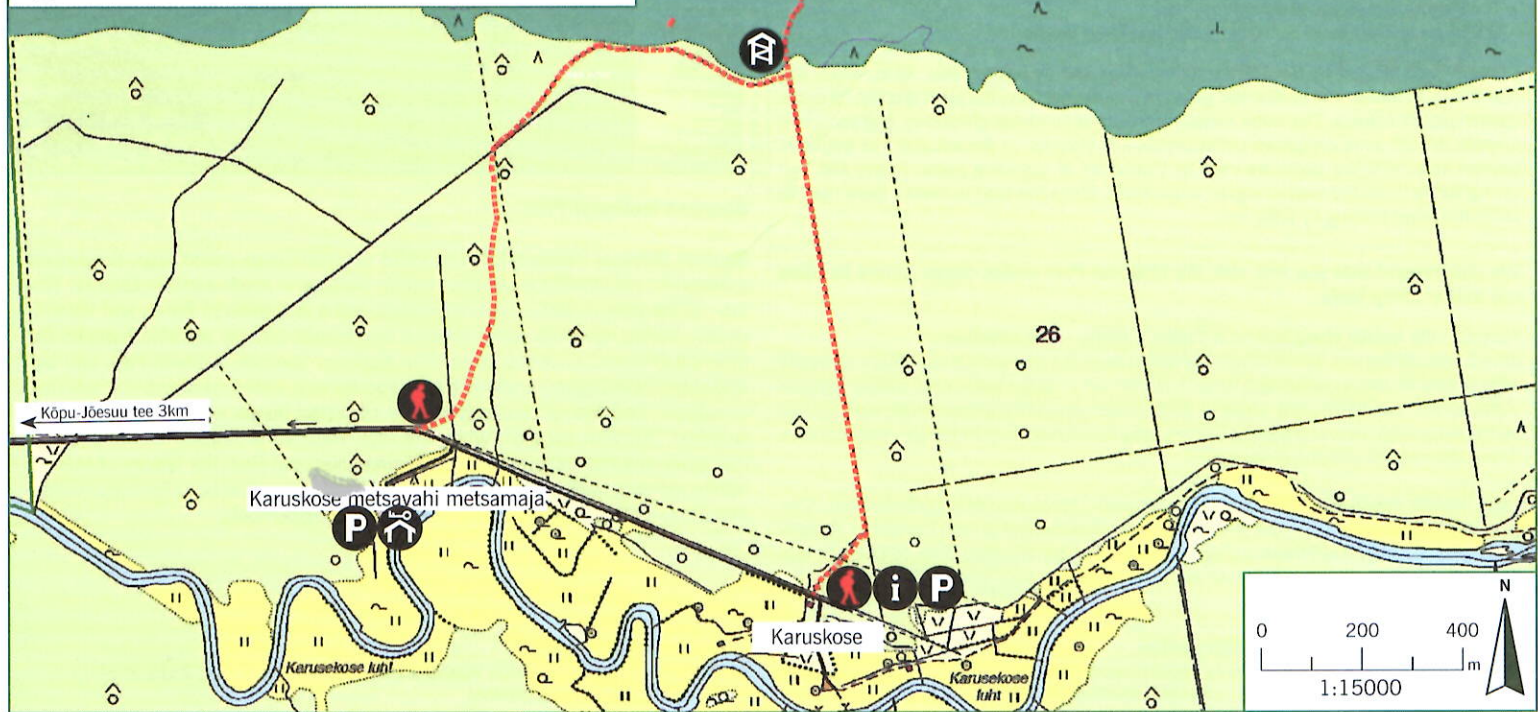


### Soomaa National Park

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| õpperaja algus; the start of a nature trail | okasmets; coniferous forest            |
| infotahvel; information board               | rohuma; meadow                         |
| parkla; parking                             | raba; raised bog                       |
| vaatetorn; looking tower                    | Ingatsi õpperada; Ingatsi nature trail |
| metsamaja; forest house                     |  |



### Ingatsi study trail

Ingatsi study trail is 4.3 km long. First part of the trail goes through wet peatland forest. Then ascend the high brink of the bog to Kuresoo. There is an observation platform erected on the brink. The boardwalk will take you on to the bog pools. There are several places to sit down on the trail where you can rest and have a nice view on Kuresoo. You can hike back through the forest or come straight along the boardwalk you already took. There are presenting information stands on the trail.

#### On Ingatsi track is worth attention:

- A man's height great pond sedge collections,
- By the boardwalk grow marsh thistle,
- The highest known bogbrink in Estonia (8m),
- Scenic views on Kuresoo and beautiful bog pools,
- The intoxicating aroma of marsh rosemary,
- Fragrance of The Lesser Butterfly Orchid and birch leaves.

Kuresoo is dominated by Deer Grass communities and by hollow sites. All common bog plants may be found. The Leatherleaf grows in pine forests here; the plant is common in the eastern part of Estonia. The water network consists of hundreds of hollows, bog pools and funnels, as well as of overgrown outlet brooks and streams. In the autumn, the extensive treeless areas and bog pools are used by thousands of migrating geese. Heavy rain and spring floods make the road to Ingatsi impassable. Since the road is narrow there may be problems when coming by a big bus.

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

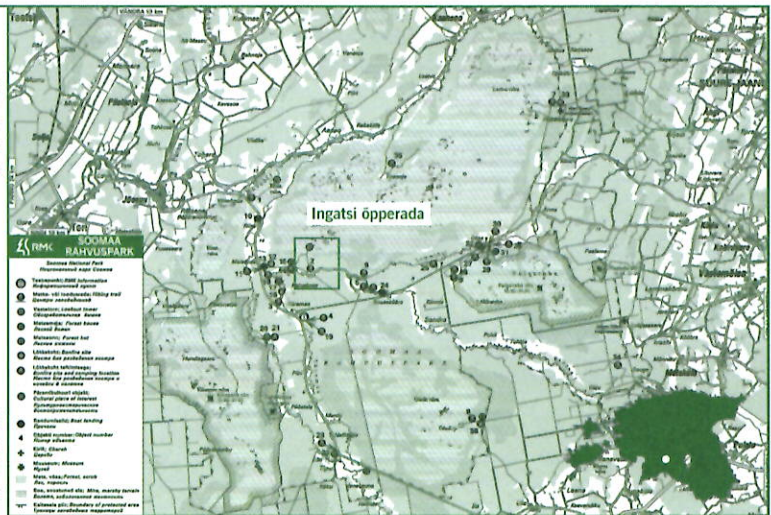
##### Access to the Ingatsi study trail from Tallinn – Pärnu – Tori direction:

drive to Tori settlement. Turn to Võlli 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. Drive to Riisa village cross the Halliste bridge drive 2,3 km by the main road there is a signpost showing to Karusekõne. Turn to the left and drive 3 more kilometers until the road ends.

**Tartu-Viljandi direction:** Drive along Tartu – Viljandi – Pärnu road to Kõpu settlement. After passing Kõpu cemetery turn to the right to Kõpu – Jõesuu road drive 27 km cross Raudna bridge. By the main road there is a signpost showing to Karusekõne. Turn to the right and drive 3 more kilometers until the road ends.

#### 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 / 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