



Beaver path

Hiking trail begins next to Soomaa nature center and it is accessible to transport all-year. Winter and spring floods can inundate most of the boardwalk. The hiking trail is 1,8 km circle. The trail is covered with wood chips, in most wettest places helps you boardwalk. Beaver trail takes you through the different types of forest-dim spruce-wood, light fern-birch grove, wet peatland forest to Mardu creek where beavers have established themselves as a family and you can take a closer look of beavers vital activity traces. Going along the creekbank there are information boards, in order to draw attention to interesting natural objects and architectural achievements of the beavers. To peer over the creek opens a beautiful view to the landscape increasingly rare bottom-land meadow which beauty is enjoyable in early summer, the time of blooming meadow plants. On trunks of trees and shrubs you can see many receptacles, lichens, and other interesting organisms. Brookside trail is lined with fallen trees, and stumps. The marks of beavers activity are seen everywhere. Heap of chips can be seen under the trees. Trees with coarser bark is eaten on the spot, the branches and the finer stuff is carried to feeding burrow.

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

Access to the Beaver path 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. To the National Park Nature Center and the Beaver path remains 14,4 km.

Tartu – Viljandi direction: Drive along Tartu – Viljandi – Pärnu road to Kõpu settlement. After passing Kõpu cemetery turn to the right to Kõpu – Jõesuu road. Beaver Trail and National Park Visitor Centre is another 24 kilometers.



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 Soomaa National Park visitor centre:

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