

Vaala

Veikka, Moona, Oskari ja Teemu

Basics

- Population: 2679 in June 2022
- Area: 1 763,57 km²
- Inland water 461,19 km²
- Land 1302,38 km²
- Population density: 2,06 population km²
- Mayor: Miira Raiskila
- Founded in 1954: was called Säräisniemi before that



Geography

- Located by Lake Oulujärvi
- Situated in the middle of Finland in Ostrobothnia
- Neighboring municipalities are:
Kajaani, Paltamo, Muhos, Puolanka, Utajärvi,
Liminka, Siikalatva





Sources of livelihood

Primary industries:

- Farming
- Services

Employers:

- Pelso prison (moving to Vaala later)
- Vaala municipality
- Vaalan juustola (cheese factory) (makes only bread cheese)
- Vaalan betoni (makes concrete elements)
- Karjalainen & Laukkanen Forest company
- Shops (K-market, S-market)

Vaala prison construction site





Municipality house and the Mayor of Vaala



**Vaalan Betoni (Makes
Concrete elements)**



Karjalainen & Laukkanen Oy

Puunkorjuupalvelut



S-market of Vaala
"Sillankorva"



ABC of Vaala (Petrol station and fast food)



Vaala sports

- There are many ways to do sports in Vaala:
 - Frisbee golf
 - Running tracks
 - Multitask field
 - Finnish baseball field
 - Outdoor ice –rink in winter
 - Ski tracks in winter
 - Great lake for swimming



Sights of Vaala



Gneiss-rock

- The oldest gneiss rocks in the Lake Oulujärvi area were born 2,700 to 2,600 million years ago. At that time, there was not much oxygen in the Earth's atmosphere, and life had evolved to the level of primitive cyanobacteria. The long history of gneisses can be seen in their appearance as stripes and strong folds, which are caused by movements of the earth's crust, such as collisions between continental plates.



Manamansalo

- Manamansalo is the fifth largest island of Finland's inland waters. Its 80-meter coastline is largely sandy. Manamansalo is known for its sand ridges.



Beach in Manamansalo

Granaries at Lamminaho



Lamminaho is a part of the Finnish peasant culture, which shows history of Finland



Hydroelectric power-plant of Jylhämä

One of the eight power-
plants that are by the
River Oulujoki

Säräisniemen kirkko

- Säräisniemi church is an idyllic and beautiful wooden church built between 1779 and 1781. It was built near Säräisniemi to replace the Manamansalo church, which was destroyed during the Rappa wars in the 16th century.



Church of Säräisniemi



Sahanranta harbour

Sahanranta beach in the winter





Sahanranta beach



Kurikkavaara ski lodge



Tiedon aukio "The square of knowledge"

- Library, day nursery and comprehensive school are located around the square.



Vaala day nursery



Railroad bridge in Vaala



The road
which goes
through
Vaala,
Vaalantie



Uitto

- An area in Vaala that has a dock and a paddling center for example.



Last year's Nordplus
project group at
Säräisniemi museum

- Vaala's local museum that covers the whole Vaala and its history. Mostly just Säräisniemi though.

- Pictures:
- Marjaana Laukkanen
- Veikka Konttinen
- Vaalan lukio
- Riitta Olsbo
- Oskari Maaninka