

Welcome to Vaala

The Municipality of Oulujärvi





**Vaala is located
in Pohjois-Pohjanmaa
Province**

**The distance between
Oulu and Kajaani is 93
km and between Vaala
and Helsinki 580 km**



The centre of Vaala is located at the starting point of the River Oulujoki.



MUNICIPALITY OF VAALA



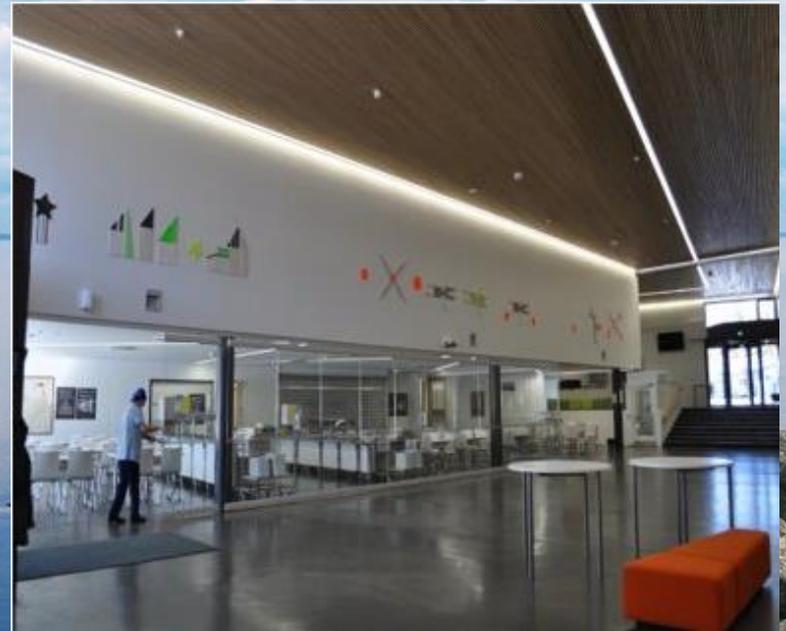
- Established 1954
- Inhabitants 2.673 (31.12.2021)
(during the summer it triples)
- Area 1 772 km²
(water area 455 km²)



The School Centre



Day nursery, comprehensive school and upper secondary school



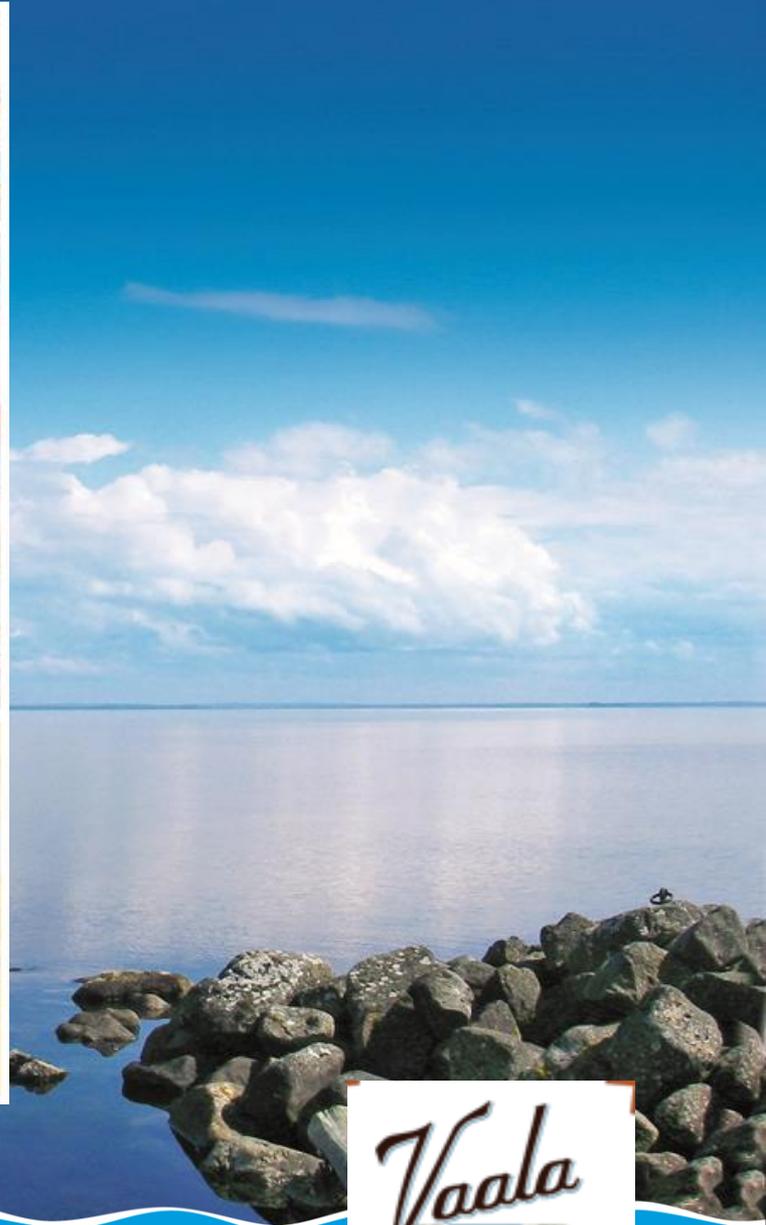


Vaala Upper Secondary School









Our headmasters

**Tapani Karhu, headmaster
and chief education officer**



**Mauno Karjalainen,
assistant headmaster**



The art of snow



SOURCE OF LIVELIHOOD

- Service field 66 %
- Industry and construction 17 %
- Agriculture and forestry 17 %
- Enterprises ca 230
- Farms ca 100

The largest employers

Public sector

- Vaala municipality
- Pohde social and health services
- Pelso Prison

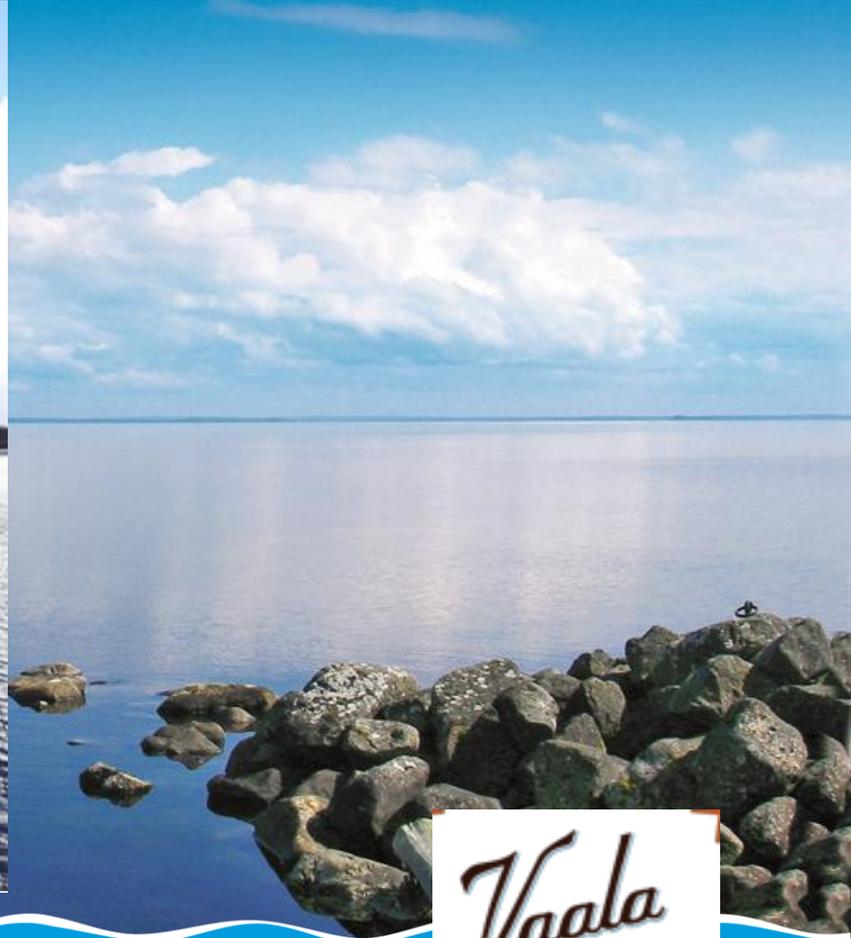
Private sector

- VB Betoni
- Vaalan Juustola
- K-Market
- S-Market
- K-Rauta



Hydroelectric power plants

Jylhämä and Nuojuua



Wind powerplants

- currently 24 turbines, plans to build up to 100 turbines



Places to visit

- Oulujoki river
- Lake Oulujärvi
- Manamansalo island
- Rokua National Park



OULUJOKI RIVER

- Oulujoki river starts from Vaala and runs through municipalities of Vaala, Utajärvi and Muhos to Oulu
- 107 km long
- Fall height 123 m
- Historical travelling route
- 7 hydroelectric power-plants



LAKE OULUJÄRVI – THE SEA OF KAINUU

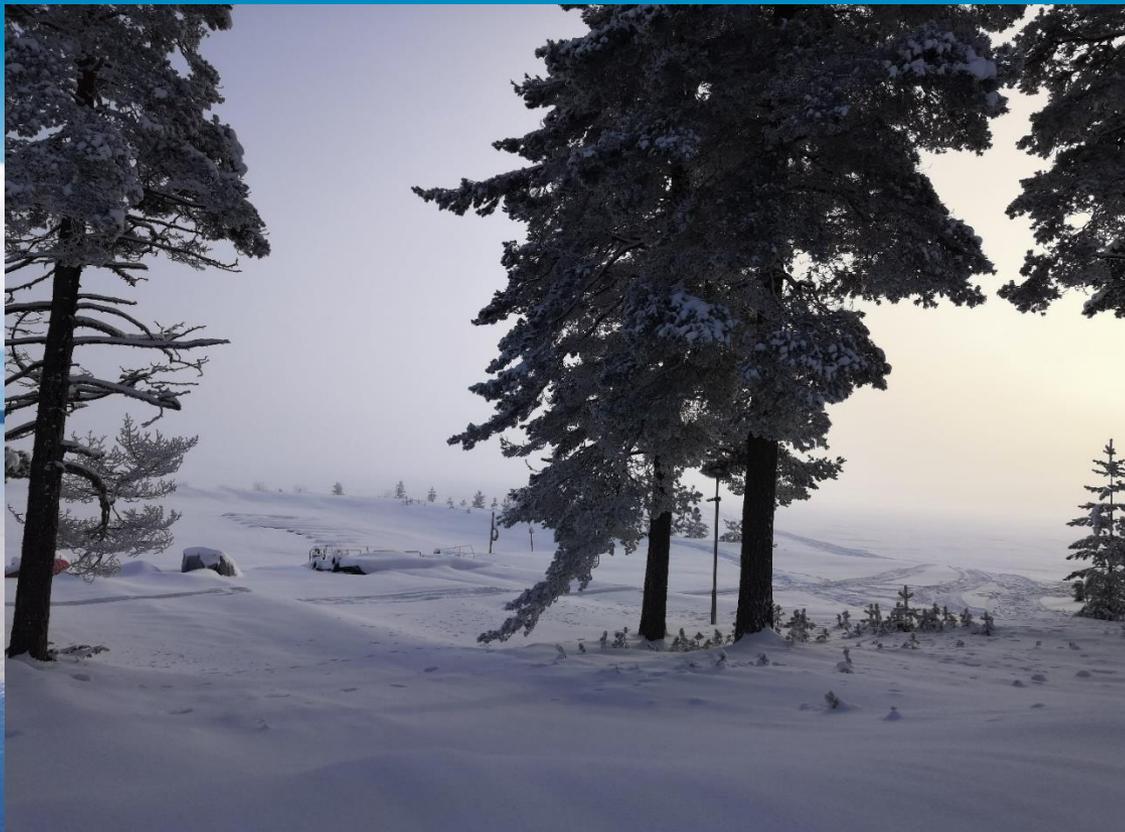
- The fifth largest lake in Finland (920 km²)
- Typical for Oulujärvi
 - open waters and few islands
 - prominent sandy deposits and kilometres of sandy beaches
- The Oulujärvi Hiking area



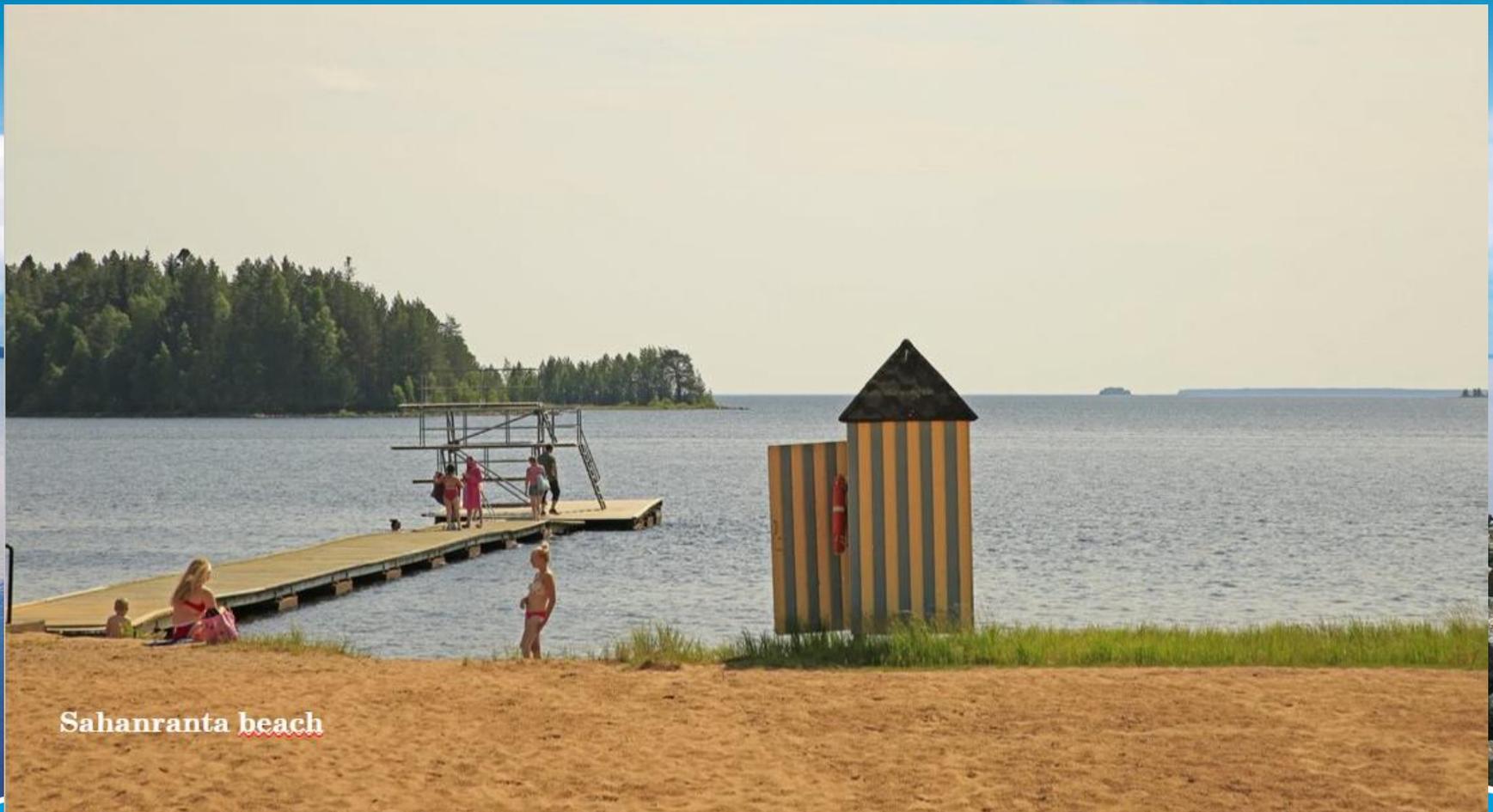
Sahanranta harbour



Martinlahti harbour in the winter



Sahanranta beach



Sahanranta beach

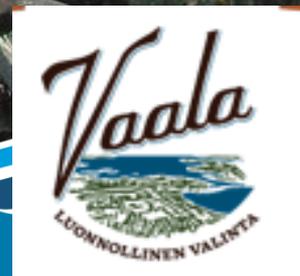
Sahanranta beach in the winter



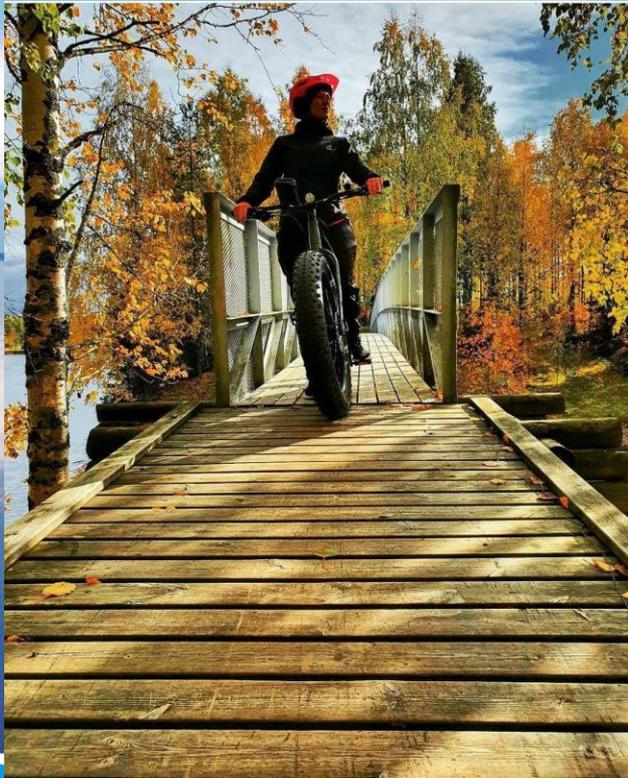
Uitto harbour and ice swimming location

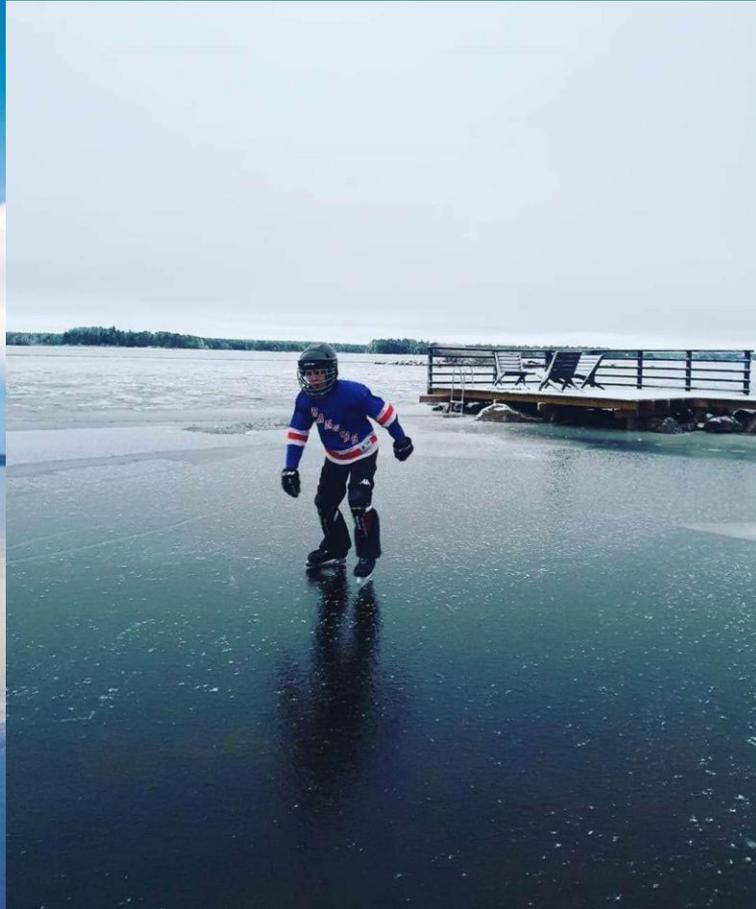


Paddling and canoeing



Mountain biking and frisbee golf facilities





SÄRÄISNIEMI VILLAGE

A historical village and a cultural scenery

- wooden church from the 18th century
- museum of local heritage
- 2 camping / caravan sites
- restaurant



MANAMANSALO

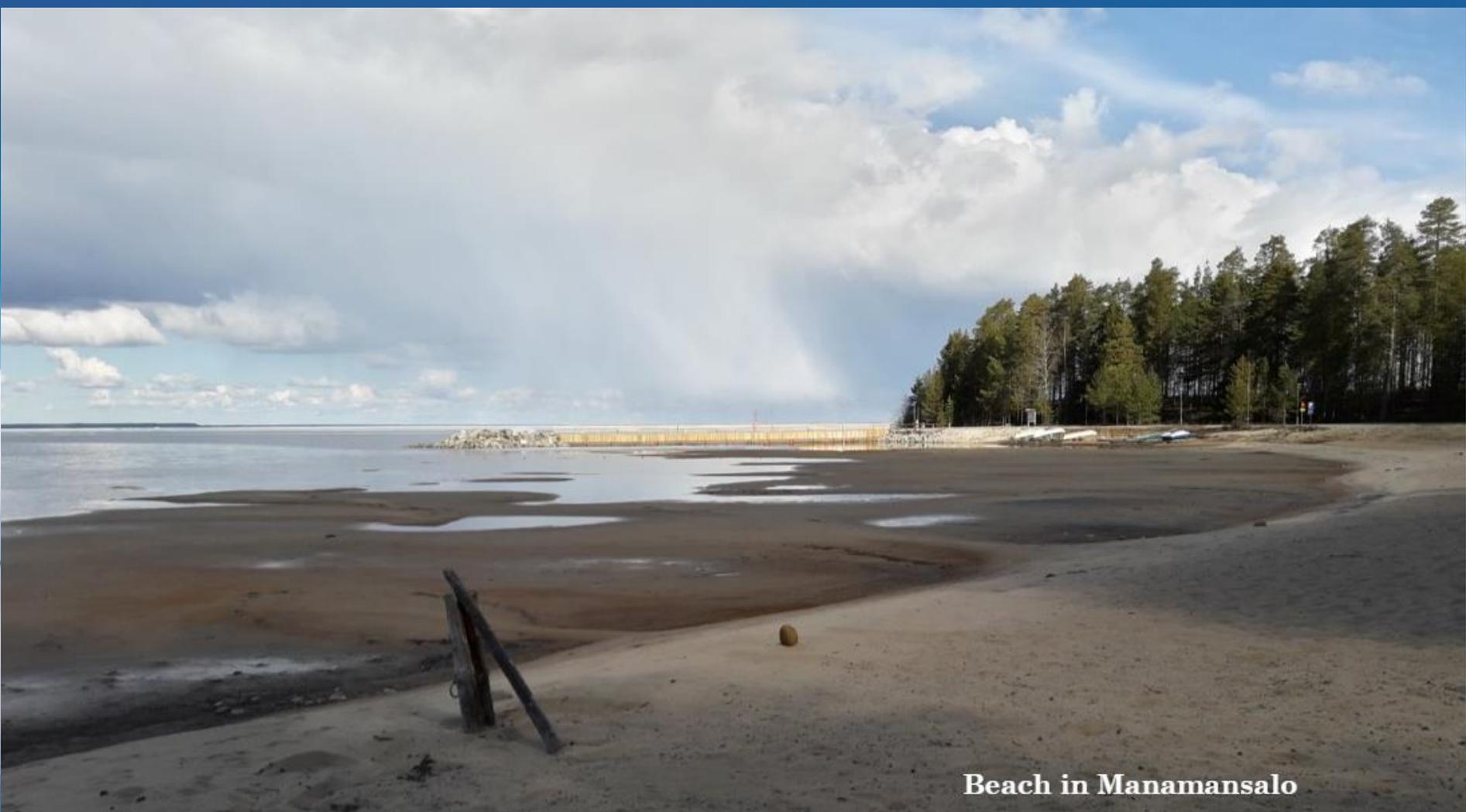
- Manamansalo is an island in the middle of Lake Oulujärvi
- Divides Lake Oulujärvi into two halves – Ärjänselkä and Niskanselkä
- 5th largest island in Finland, 76 km²
- Population ca.150
- 350 summer cottages





© Hannu Rönty





Beach in Manamansalo



Gneiss-rock

The oldest gneiss rocks in the Lake Oulujärvi were created 2.600 to 2.700 million years ago



ROKUA NATIONAL PARK

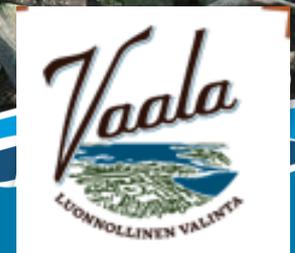
- Established in 1956
- Area 8,8 km²
- Protects the natural lichen heathlands and unusual geological features of Rokua
- The landscape was formed during the latest ice age 10.000 years ago





GEOPARK ROKUA

- **Rokua Geopark** consists of three different land areas: the Oulujoki River Valley, Lake Oulujärvi and the ridge and dune area of Rokua.
- Geopark-area forms a geological passage following esker ridges from the Muhos formation following Oulujoki River all the way to Lake Oulujärvi and Manamansalo island.
- Geopark combines the geological, natural and cultural history from ice age to present



Welcome to Vaala!

Enjoy nature – culture - sports

