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rural ambience
in an industrial
town!

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Äänekoski – industry and nature hand in hand



Äänekoski is a town in the heart of Finland. The town is ideally located – it is easily reached by car, by boat or by plane. The town comprises of four districts on the shores of the beautiful Lake Keitele. The municipality of Äänekoski was founded in 1911 and granted a town charter in 1973.

The municipality of Konginkangas was annexed to the town in 1993. Äänekoski, Suolahti and Sumiainen were consolidated in 2007 into a new town. This new town was named Äänekoski – Noisy Rapids or the Noise of the Rapids – and it has about 20 000 inhabitants. Äänekoski is an evolving town, a family-friendly place. The employment self-sufficiency is over 100 %.



Äänekoski in a nutshell

- Inhabitants 19 635 (2015)
- Population: 17,2 % under 15, 59,7 % ages 15 to 64, 23,1 % over 64 (2015)
- Surface area, land 884,54 sq km, water 253,82 sq km
- Major centers of population Äänekoski, Suolahti, Konginkangas and Sumiainen



Did you know that the Niemelä tenant farm, the first group of buildings to be brought to the open air museum of Seurasaari in Helsinki in 1909, comes from Konginkangas?



Things to see and do!

The annual Keitele Jazz music festival is a major attraction in summer. Unlike its name suggests, it does offer blues, pop and rock, too. The energetic and nostalgic SHAKE music festival of retro guitar-driven rock music rings out every summer on the shores of Sumiainen. The ornate Äänekoski Art museum offers small, but interesting exhibitions. Village festivals and summer theaters keep the summer alive. The Wanha Asema railway station and harbour of Suolahti are well over a century old. Keitele Museo keeps three working museum trains and rents also old steamers for short lake cruises. They provide a glimpse into the history of local culture and transport. Sports enthusiasts thrive in Äänekoski. We offer e.g. well-maintained sports fields, halls, skiing trails, a downhill slope, ice arena, two swim halls, orienteering, frisbee golf routes and dozens of active sports clubs. They help you rise to the top in athletics, basketball, volleyball, ice hockey, football, boating, fishing. Äänekoski loves sports!



Did you know that a famous painting, called Lake Keitele by Akseli Gallen-Kallela, can be seen at The National Gallery in London. The real landscape of the painting you can see at Äänekoski.

Nature and landscape

All the four districts of Äänekoski are located on the shores of the crystal clear, clean Lake Keitele. In Central Finland, Lake Keitele has been voted the Regional Lake of Central Finland - for a good reason! In the heart of the Lakeland Finland water is never far away: swimming, boating, fishing, eating fish and just enjoying the lake scenery is everyday life in Äänekoski.

In Kapeenniemi, a nature park in a historical landscape, open for public, you can hike, camp, and fish in the lake or rapids. Kapeenniemi is ideal for nature trips for the whole family. The other perfect option to enjoy wild nature is the nature trail, Laulavan mörön polku, between Sumiainen and Suolahti.





Did you know that
the water in Lake Keitele is
excellent and only in some
shallow shores good. Lake Keitele
is 85 km long, 500 sq km big, and
99,5 m above the sea level.
And it's teeming with fish!



*Did you know that
in the 2015 Agritechnica agricultural
trade fair in Hanover, Germany,
the Valtra N174 received both the
“Machine of the Year 2016” award
and the “Golden Tractor
for the Design 2016” award?*

Bioeconomy ecosystem

Technology, research and industry are the key to the success of the region. Äänekoski is becoming a hub of a bioeconomy network. Wood and paper industry started here in 1896. Metsä Group started its – operations in Äänekoski in 1953 and remains a major employer to this day. Metsä Fibre, which is part of Metsä Group, builds a modern bioproduct mill in Äänekoski, that starts 2017. With a value of EUR 1.2 billion, the bioproduct mill is the largest investment in the history of the Finnish forest industry. It will create more than 2 500 jobs throughout the value chain in Finland, with 1 500 of them being new jobs.

The Äänekoski mill is the first next-generation bioproduct mill in the world. In addition to high-quality pulp, it will produce a broad range of bioproducts, such as tall oil, turpentine, lignin products, bioelectricity and wood fuel. Potential new products created from production side streams include product gas, sulphuric acid, textile fibres, biocomposites, fertilisers and biogas.





Live the life you want

Äänekoski provides attractive housing. You can find a dream house or apartment of your own in a lakeside residential area, next to the town or in the peaceful countryside - and you don't have to be a millionaire! For those who like to garden there is an allotment garden in Suolahti.

Äänekoski is located in the middle of the Keitele-Päijänne water route. These two big lakes - Lake Keitele and Lake Päijänne - are connected through several locks. You can reach Äänekoski by boat from the City of Lahti in the south or Pielavesi village in the north.

The total length of this water route is about 400 km of clear lakes, rivers, canals and locks. It is possible to experience the water route by a boat between Äänekoski and Jyväskylä.





Did you know that
there are 50 000 inhabitants
within a radius of 30 min
around Äänekoski?

Welcome to the future



Äänekoski is a town with a uniquely eclectic character - and it's neither too big nor too small. Äänekoski town is the northern cornerstone of the Jyväskylä urban region comprising the towns of Äänekoski, Jyväskylä and Jämsä. Jyväskylä is the regional capital in the heart of Central Finland.

The main lifeline in the area is the Finnish national road 4 (Nelostie) i.e. Highway E75, a well-maintained and busy road from Helsinki to Lapland. The distance between Äänekoski and Jyväskylä is only about 45 km - 45 minutes. The distance to the airport is 25 km - under 30 min.

You will find additional information about our services at the town hall, tel. +358 (0)20 6322 000 or the tourist information, matkailu@aanekoski.fi, tel. +358 (0)20 6323 257
www.aanekoski.fi

