



# SALPA LINE MUSEUM

in Miehikkälä

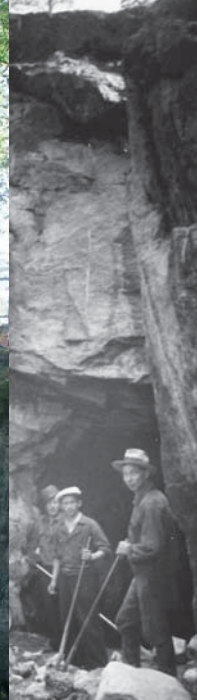


# BUNKER MUSEUM

in Virolahti



# SALPA Trail



SOUTHEAST135°

# SALPA LINE

The Salpa Line was built after the Winter War during the Interim Peace in 1940-41, in order to secure Finland's new Eastern border. The construction works on the unfinished defence line were begun again in the summer of 1944, when the Soviet Union launched a massive offensive through the Carelian Isthmus. Even though the battlefront never reached the Salpa Line, it still had its own indirect impact on the events in the end of the Continuation War.

The 1200 km long Salpa Line is one the strongest and best preserved lines of fortifications in Europe built during the Second World War. The most heavily fortified part of the Salpa Line is situated in between the Gulf of Finland and Lake Saimaa, where also the Museums of Miehikkälä and Virolahti are located.

# SALPA CENTRE

The Salpa Centre develops extensive co-operation in order to improve information exchange and tourism involving the Salpa Line. Its aim is to build an international centre for fortification historical museums, surrounding nature and tourism. Information regarding exhibitions and other museum services may be acquired from the web site [www.salpakeskus.fi](http://www.salpakeskus.fi).

The Salpa Centre consists of:

- Salpa Line Museum in Miehikkälä
- Bunker Museum in Virolahti
- Salpa Trail
- Salpa Line Tradition Association



# SALPA TRAIL

*hiking route*



The Salpa Trail is a hiking route approximately 50 km long in Virolahti and Miehikkälä. On the trail it is possible to get acquainted with the Finnish war history by visiting numerous dug-outs and other fortifications and museums.

The Salpa Trail meanders in the middle of typical cultural and natural surroundings of South-Eastern Finland, roughly following the Salpa Line. Along the trail there are 13 rest areas for overnight accommodation as well as four saunas available by reservation.

Hiking maps may be bought at the Municipal Halls of Miehikkälä and Virolahti or at the Salpa Centre museums. You may also order maps at [www.salpakeskus.fi](http://www.salpakeskus.fi).

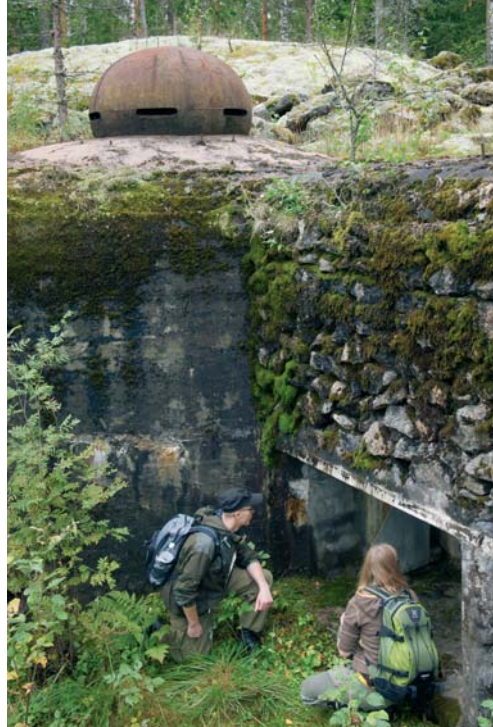
Come on hiking!





# SALPA LINE MUSEUM IN MIEHIKKÄLÄ

Several hectares wide heavily fortified museum area has originally been meant to serve as a defence centre for a company. You may examine the fortification works on guided tours in magnificent landscapes of forest and rock.



There is a café serving the visitors in the public serving area. The museum boutique offers for sale a wide variety of related literature and handiworks.



”The Lock of The Borderline – Salpa Line in Miehikkälä from 1940 to 1944” exhibition displays fortification works and everyday life of fortification builders during the Interim Peace.

# BUNKER MUSEUM IN VIROLAHTI

The fortification sites and guided hiking route of this outdoor museum are situated in easily accessible heath landscape.

“Salpa Line starts from Virolahti” exhibition displays, for instance, the special features of fortification works in Virolahti. The exhibition contains extensive photographic material about the construction phase of

the defensive line. The current situation, 70 years after the construction, can be examined from the photographs, which show items such as ferroconcrete bunkers and caves.

The museum boutique in the public service area offers for sale Salpa Line related literature, among other articles. A museum café is open during the museum opening hours.

## Salpa Line Museum and Bunker Museum offers:

- A short movie show, which presents the Salpa Line as part of the history of the Second World War in the beginning of the museum tour
- Exhibitions on the Salpa Line
- Guided tours to the fortifications of outdoor museums usually begin on the hour. There are various gun and accommodation dug-outs, battle and communication trenches, stone anti-tank obstacles, antitank cannon and barbed wire obstacles etc.







## Salpa Line Museum in Miehkälä

+358 (0)5 74 901 / Miehkälä Municipality  
+358 (0)44 383 5091 / Museum  
(May 1 – Sep 30)

[www.salpalinjamuseo.fi](http://www.salpalinjamuseo.fi)  
[www.miehkala.fi](http://www.miehkala.fi)

May Wed-Sun 10.00 am - 6.00 pm  
June-August Mon-Sun 10.00 am - 6.00 pm  
September Wed-Sun 10.00 am - 6.00 pm  
Open for groups by reservation all year round.

## Bunker Museum in Virolahti

+358 (0)5 74 912 / Virolahti Municipality  
+358 (0)40 710 7340 / Museum  
(June 1 – Aug 31)

[www.bunkkerimuseo.fi](http://www.bunkkerimuseo.fi)  
[www.virolahti.fi](http://www.virolahti.fi)

June-August Mon-Sun 10.00 am - 6.00 pm  
Open for groups by reservation all year round.

## Salpa Trail

+358 (0)400 926 921 / Miehkälä  
+358 (0)50 3892126 / Virolahti  
[www.salpakeskus.fi](http://www.salpakeskus.fi)

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