



LEPPÄVIRTA

Yrittämisen virtuaa

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Sights and cultural attractions in Leppävirta

1. Leppävirta church

The Leppävirta church, designed by the famous architect Carl Ludvig Engel and built from granite in neoclassicist style, is a long church with a west tower. The church was built in 1846 and it hosts 2 200 seats. The altarpiece of the church was painted by Samuel Elmgren. During the summer, the church serves as a road church and is open from 11.00 to 17.00.

2. Memorial for the people who remained in Karelia

Designed by architect Juhani Nylund in 1965.

3. The old graveyard

- A memorial for the shipwreck of the Steamboat Louhi. It was designed by Tauno Gröndahl in 1964 and erected in 1968. The shipwreck took place on 15th of May 1934 on Lake Suvasvesi. 30 people drowned, of which 22 were from Leppävirta.
- A memorial for the people who died in the famine of 1867-1868.

4. The statue of folk poet Olli Kymäläinen

Recorded poems by Olli Kymäläinen are on display in the library of Leppävirta. The statue was made by sculptor Veikko Nuutinen in 1969, based on a plaster sculpture made by C. E. Sjöstrand in 1894.

5. The statue of Ori Eino, a famous Finnhorse from Leppävirta

The statue was designed by artist Herman Joutsen and it was donated by the Friends of Horses organization of Leppävirta in 1990.

6. The museum of Leppävirta

The museum is located in a granary built in the 19th century, which was converted into a museum in 1962. The museum hosts over 3 000 showpieces and is open during the summer, Tuesday-Sunday from 12-15. Guided tours are available on other occasions.

7. Memorial for Tilda Löthman-Koponen (1874-1962)

She was an educator of the youth, a longtime teacher and leader of the folk high school of Pohjois-Savo and the first Member of Parliament from Leppävirta. She received the title of financial councillor in 1947. The plaque is attached into a stone brought from the Pohjois-Savo Opisto on the 350th anniversary of the municipality of Leppävirta in 1989. The text in the plaque is the third verse from a poem by Unto Kupiainen dedicated to Tilda Löthman-Koponen.



8. The memorial for Johan David Alopaeus (1711-1767)

Alopaeus was a collector of folk poetry and worked as the vicar of Leppävirta in 1744-67. The school and granary of Leppävirta were built during his time as the vicar. The plaque is attached to a stone brought from the Konnus canal area on the anniversary of Kalevala in 1985.

9. Joutsentukat (free translation The Swanhaired People)

A bronze sculpture by Taru Mäntynen won the competition in honor of the 350th anniversary of Leppävirta in 1989. Four bronze figures on a black granite base depict different time periods and an empty spot is saved for the future.

10. The graveyard for people fallen in war

- The first graveyard of Leppävirta was established here after the municipality of Leppävirta was founded in 1639.
- The statue for heroes, by Heikki Konttinen. 1966
- The memorial of "The Freedom War", erected by the White Guard of Leppävirta in 1921.

11. The graveyard of the parish of Leppävirta

A memorial designed by Pentti Kervinen in 1971 for those who died because of their beliefs in 1918.

12. The memorial for the battle of Kalmalahti (11.3.1808)

The battle of Kalmalahti was the first confrontation of the Finnish War on the Savo battlefield. The memorial, designed by architect J. Nykänen, was erected by the White Guard of Leppävirta in 1933. The memorial was assembled by Otto Thure and Hannes Pursiainen on the foundations of a basement.

13. The bridge of Leppävirta

Built in 1963-1965, the Leppävirta Bridge is still one of the largest arch bridges in Finland. It was designed by professor Herman Hannelius. The bridge is 210 meters long, 10 meters wide and the clearance is 26 meters.

Leppävirta Tourist Information

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