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INARIN KUNTA
PIISKUNTIE 2
99800 IVALO


INARI
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INARINKUNTA



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THE EIGHT SEASONS OF INARI

In a landscape shaped by the fells, lakes, and rivers of the North, there flourishes Finland's largest municipality.

For the people of Inari, nature is both a source of identity and livelihood. During the endless summer nights, the Midnight Sun refuses to set, and during winter's Polar Night, the sun rests while the white snow, moon, and dancing Northern Lights bring light.

nature and excellent opportunities for outdoor recreation, while others come for work or studies. In fact, the population has been steadily growing for decades in this municipality of four official languages.

WHERE CULTURES MEET

As the centre of Sámi culture and neighbour to both Norway and Russia, Inari has developed into an international hub of cultures. In addition to its location and cultural diversity, many are drawn to Inari by the pristine

INARI – STRONG BY NATURE

When we work on developing Inari for the future, great value is placed on locality, community, courage, and responsibility – as well as vitality, sustainable use of nature, Sámi culture, and the foundations of prosperity.



Inarin koulukeskus Šielä



LIFE & LEISURE IN INARI

SERVICES SECOND TO NONE

Everyday life in Inari runs on excellent basic services. Ivalo has a 24-hour health centre, and the municipality's three daycare centres and comprehensive schools provide safe early childhood education and quality primary education. Young residents can continue their studies at the local upper secondary school or the Sámi Education Institute, which offers a wide range of vocational training.

ACTIVITIES YEAR-ROUND

You can spend your free time enjoying guided sports, community college courses, or a night at the cinema. Alternatively, you can let your imagination run wild in the Ivalo main library, the Sámi Library in Inari, or the library bus. The outdoors is part of everyday

life: hunting, fishing, hiking, and skiing are common pastimes. The municipality also offers various sports facilities, skating and sports fields, and a public swimming hall.

Unforgettable experiences can also be found at local events such as Inari Weeks, the Ijahis Idja Festival of Indigenous Music, and the Skábmagovat Film Festival, along with numerous smaller events throughout the year. Sámi culture is represented by the Siida Sámi Museum and the Sajos Sámi Cultural Centre, home of the Sámi Parliament of Finland.





LIVING IN INARI

A HOME IN NATURE OR CLOSE TO SERVICES

In Inari, you can live either surrounded by nature or within easy reach of services, whether you choose to rent housing or own a property.

Inarin Vuokra-asunnot Oy offers apartments ranging from studios to family homes in Inari, Ivalo, Saariselkä, Nellim, and Sevettijärvi.

Those interested in building their own home can reserve a plot from one of the available zoning areas. Available plots can be viewed in the municipality's mapping service, and building permits are managed by the local building control services. Plots are also available from Metsähallitus and private landowners.





ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INDUSTRIES

NORTHERN ADVANTAGE

Inari's business life is active, bolstered by an encouraging operational environment. Local companies work closely together to develop their operations, and job opportunities in many fields are plentiful. The service sector is a notable employer in the region.

The municipality's business and development services support the growth of new entrepreneurs as well as established companies. Development projects further strengthen the region's business environment and industries.

A LOCOMOTIVE OF LOCAL ECONOMY

Tourism is a major year-round

employer and provides seasonal work for many during peak seasons. Local tourism is developed sustainably, with great respect for nature and culture. Traditional livelihoods, especially fishing, reindeer herding, and handicrafts, are also actively developed alongside tourism.

INSPIRED BY THE ARCTIC

Many local businesses draw their inspiration and success from the Northern environment. Artisans, producers of natural goods, and creative professionals find endless inspiration from the Arctic nature, while the demanding Northern conditions attract top experts from the cold technolo-

gies and testing industries. Ivalo, for instance, is home to world-class testing facilities for vehicles, tires, and components under icy, snowy, and cold conditions. Due to its unique nature and accessibility, Inari is also a sought-after location for audiovisual productions.

ALWAYS CONNECTED

Excellent transport connections, including an international airport, connect Inari to the world and enable international business development. Reliable data networks ensure smooth remote work and studies.



THE VILLAGES OF INARI

A MUNICIPALITY OF VIBRANT VILLAGES

The largest villages in Inari are Ivalo, Inari, and Saariselkä. There are sixteen active village associations in total.

Each village has its own distinctive character: Ivalo is the largest and serves as the administrative cen-

tre. Inari, located by the Juutua River and Otsamo Fell, is regarded as the heart of Sámi culture in Finland. Sevettijärvi is the centre of Skolt Sámi culture and cross-border trade with Norway. Saariselkä is Finland's northernmost ski resort.



Founded in 1876, the Municipality of Inari has four official languages: Finnish, Inari Sámi, Skolt Sámi, and Northern Sámi.

The coat of arms, designed by Ahti Hamari, features a silver whitefish with golden reindeer antlers, symbolising Inari's traditional livelihoods.

Inari's population has been growing steadily for years, reaching a total of 7 224 residents by the end of 2024.

The Ivalo International Airport is the northernmost in the European Union, servicing over 200 000 passengers annually.

If Inari's total area of 17 334 km² were divided among its residents, each would enjoy an impressive 2,5 km² for themselves.

Approximately 13% of the area is covered by water and over 70% is protected land, including the Urho Kekkonen and Lemmenjoki National Parks.