



# LEPPÄJÄRVI

*The self-directed people of Leppäjärvi have made their village vibrant and lively. The vast fell scenery invites you to visit this village that has always gotten its livelihood from fishing, berry picking and reindeer husbandry. The people of Leppäjärvi are known for their craftsmanship. If you are in search of a new boat or sledge, you will find one here. The village is also known for the local healer J.H.A. Alamattila "Mattilan Äijä". According to the stories, he is the reason the village was saved from destruction during the war in Lapland. This is why today, there are still old buildings and habitats left to admire in Leppäjärvi. Take a walk in the open landscapes of Leppäjärvi and let the village heal you!*

## LOCATION

Leppäjärvi is located about 19 km from the village of Hetta, north of Ruijantie, which turns towards Norway.

## POPULATION

About 125

## ATTRACTIONS

### Liankivaara hill:

Near the village, great views

### The pinetree border:

The guide board put down by President Martti Ahtisaari on the TVL circulation, north of the village.

### Leppäjärvi – Kultima-trail

The route is an old postal trail about 25 km long. It is easy to navigate and is partly marked with kilometer markers. The route is mostly dry forest, but in places, there are also wetlands, which do not have wooden pathways to cross over with. About 1 km north of the trail, there is also the beautiful clear-water Pahtajärvi, surrounded by rock walls.

## SERVICES

Leppäjärvi village has accommodation services. Leppäjärvi has its own village association.

**THE VILLAGE OF LEPPÄJÄRVI** is located by Liankivaara around Leppäjärvi along the Hetta-Kautokeino highway, about 19 kilometers north of Hetta. There are extensive dry quicksand fields around Leppäjärvi. The village is next to a pine forest and also the northern border of the forest line. The village of Leppäjärvi survived the ravages of the Lapland War in its entirety. The local people believed that the village witch Alamattila protected the village from the enemy by witchery.

The village's first estate, Leppärova, was founded on 21.9.1762. Olof Olofinpoika Kihlanki, who came from Palojoensuu in Suonttavaara, together with his wife Regina Heikintytär, settled in Leppäjärvi and changed their last name to Leppäjärvi as well. Their place of residence is nowadays known as Vanha Törmä.

Like many other villages, Leppäjärvi entered the history books in 1799 after Italian lawyer Giuseppe Acerbi and Swedish soldier and statesman Anders Fredrik Skjöldebrand visited the village on their way to Nordkapp. Both wrote a book about their trip.

Reindeer farming as an industry is a newcomer: it was only in the 1960s and 1970s that reindeer herding started as it is today. In general, reindeer had been used in the as "jutoporo", so called "bull reindeer" for pulling. The village got its livelihood from livestock farming: at its best, there could be 18 cattle in the barn. The Lapland cow was used as livestock, which the EU has recognized as native cattle.

The journey from Leppäjärvi to the municipal center takes less than a quarter of an hour by car. Leppäjärvi is located along the busy route to Norway, which enlivens the village and offers opportunities for livelihoods. Leppäjärvi is a beautiful village and in an excellent location, which makes it a good choice for travellers and migrants.



**ENONTEKIÖ** – Son rohki soma paikka ellää