

Saint Henry's Way – Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow

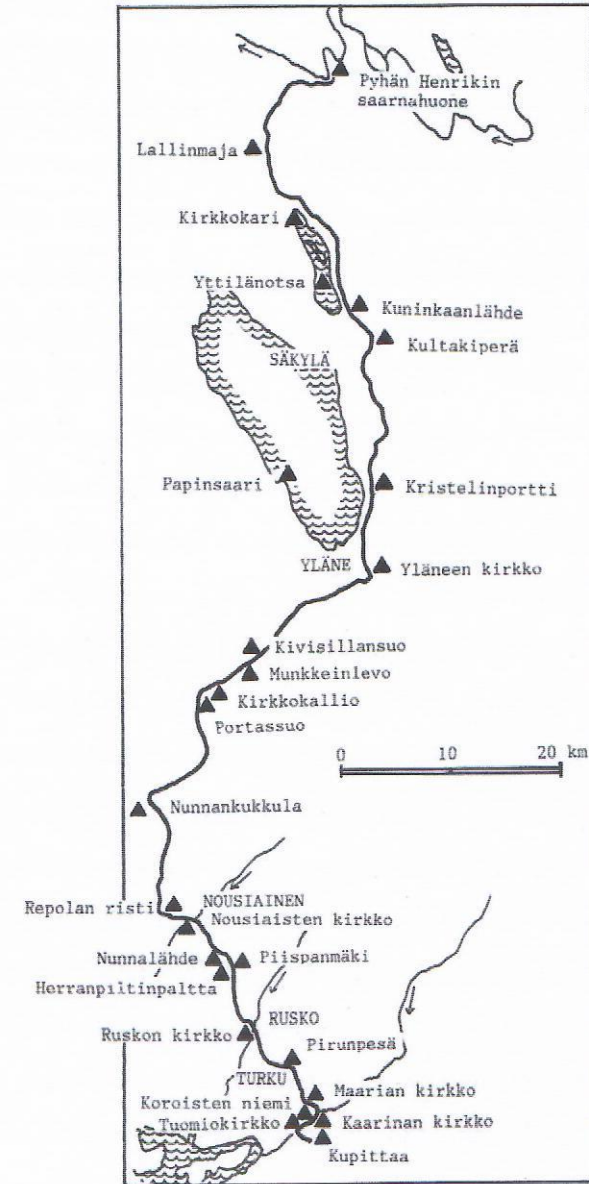
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Saint Henry's Pilgrimage Association



What is St Henry's Way?

- Pilgrimage route related to the life and memory of martyr bishop Henry, patron saint of Finland (d. 1156)
- The oldest known pilgrimage route in Finland
- 140 km from Kokemäki (Kumo) to Turku (Åbo)
- Two provinces, eight municipalities
- Consists of three parts:
 - Nun's Path (Turku – Nousiainen)
 - Saint Henry's Way (Nousiainen – Köyliö)
 - Trooper's Way (Köyliö – Kokemäki)



New life of St Henry's Way

- Catholics of Finland gathering annually at Kirkkokari in Köyliö (Kjulo) since 1951
- Painter Väinö Nummisto and the first committee
- St Henry's Way re-opened 1979
- Catholic youth pilgrimages from Yläne to Köyliö since 1980
- Ecumenical pilgrimages since 1983 (once every third year)
- Bicycle pilgrimage 'Tour de Henrik' for youth
- St Henry's Pilgrimage Association 1999



Not only one goal – major sights on the route

- Place of St Henry's last overnight stay in Kokemäki
- Place of his martyrdom in Köyliö
- Medieval church in Nousiainen with unique sarcophagus
- Cathedral of Turku dedicated to St Henry
- Kurjenrahka National Park
- Cultural landscapes



Popularity of pilgrimages today

- "Revival movement" of our time, combines spiritual, mental and bodily
- Connection to nature and cultural heritage of past centuries
- Ecological tourism (Green Pilgrimage)
- Not only to Rome or Santiago de Compostela
- National and regional pilgrim centres, this year also Turku.



Expectations for a pilgrimage route

- Spirituality, freedom, slowness, sharing, no need to worry, silence and simplicity
- Possibility of making a pilgrimage without heavy burdens
- Inexpensive accommodation
- Simple but nourishing food
- Safe and clearly marked
- As achievable as possible
- Open churches



'More life to St Henry's Way'

- main objectives of the project

- The route which can be taken at any time and by everyone
- Together with local operators creating possibilities for accommodation, eating, laundry etc. immediately by the route.
- Making signs in the terrain more functional and sustainable and finding new solutions
- Creating a mobile app, which makes hiking safer
- When infrastructure is ready, marketing, more networking and making good practices continuous
- Later a guide book, until then material online



Tack! Kiitos! Thank you!



Euroopan maaseudun
kehittämisen maatalousrahasto:
Eurooppa investoi maaseutualueisiin