LINKS TO THE FORSSA NATIONAL URBAN PARK MERCHANDISE:

www.antinkonditoria.fi

www.erarenki.fi/kaupunkipuisto.html

www.forssansalama.fi

www.hotelfabrik.fi

www.hotellimaakunta.fi

www.piipputerassi.fi

www.vihreattassut.fi

We, the residents of Forssa, live and work in the middle of a national urban park. This recognition reflects our town's respect towards its cultural scenery, rich nature and the valuable urban landscape. The national urban park of Forssa was founded on 30 March 2015 upon a decision from the Ministry of the Environment. The park spans about 849 hectares. The urban national park of Forssa tells the story of the rapid change from centuries of agricultural environment into an industrial hub and into a beautiful and living town of parks. Let our urban park take you in and soothe your soul.

Forssa National Urban Park

Forssa National Urban Park is an experience for all the senses. The park offers the peace and quiet of nature in the middle of the city, which means long, refreshing walks, beauty, wonder and spending time with others. The Urban Park is our pride and joy.

Forssa

City of Forssa | Turuntie 18, PL 62 | 30101 Forssa, Finland
tel. 03 41 411 | kirjaamo@forssa.fi | **www.forssa.fi**

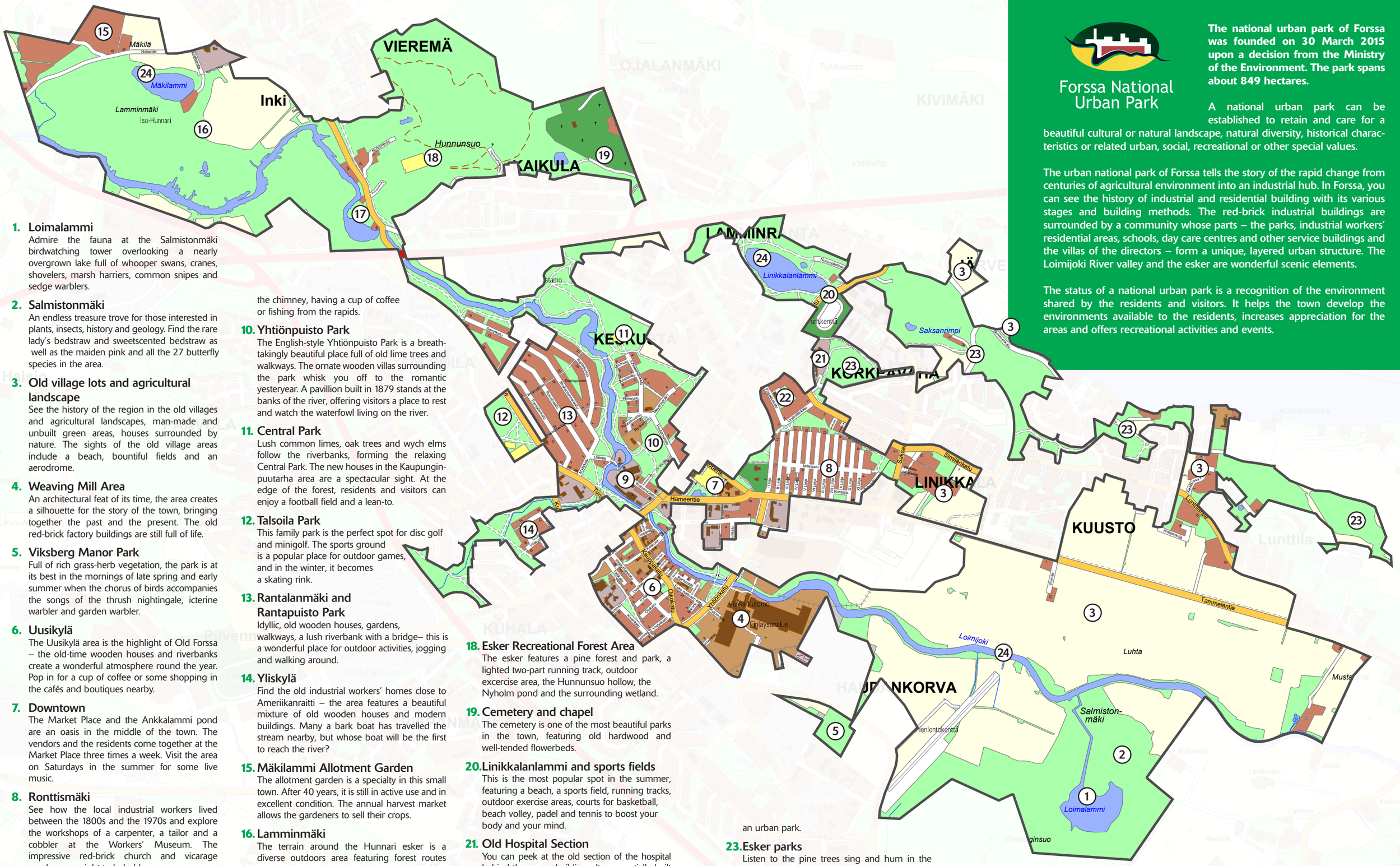
Forssa National Urban Park

The national urban park of Forssa was founded on 30 March 2015 upon a decision from the Ministry of the Environment. The park spans about 849 hectares.

A national urban park can be established to retain and care for a beautiful cultural or natural landscape, natural diversity, historical characteristics or related urban, social, recreational or other special values.

The urban national park of Forssa tells the story of the rapid change from centuries of agricultural environment into an industrial hub. In Forssa, you can see the history of industrial and residential building with its various stages and building methods. The red-brick industrial buildings are surrounded by a community whose parts – the parks, industrial workers' residential areas, schools, day care centres and other service buildings and the villas of the directors – form a unique, layered urban structure. The Loimijoki River valley and the esker are wonderful scenic elements.

The status of a national urban park is a recognition of the environment shared by the residents and visitors. It helps the town develop the environments available to the residents, increases appreciation for the areas and offers recreational activities and events.



1. **Loimalammi**
Admire the fauna at the Salmistonmäki birdwatching tower overlooking a nearly overgrown lake full of whooper swans, cranes, shovelers, marsh harriers, common snipes and sedge warblers.

2. **Salmistonmäki**
An endless treasure trove for those interested in plants, insects, history and geology. Find the rare lady's bedstraw and sweetscented bedstraw as well as the maiden pink and all the 27 butterfly species in the area.

3. **Old village lots and agricultural landscape**
See the history of the region in the old villages and agricultural landscapes, man-made and unbuilt green areas, houses surrounded by nature. The sights of the old village areas include a beach, bountiful fields and an aerodrome.

4. **Weaving Mill Area**
An architectural feat of its time, the area creates a silhouette for the story of the town, bringing together the past and the present. The old red-brick factory buildings are still full of life.

5. **Viksberg Manor Park**
Full of rich grass-herb vegetation, the park is at its best in the mornings of late spring and early summer when the chorus of birds accompanies the songs of the thrush nightingale, icterine warbler and garden warbler.

6. **Uusikylä**
The Uusikylä area is the highlight of Old Forssa – the old-time wooden houses and riverbanks create a wonderful atmosphere round the year. Pop in for a cup of coffee or some shopping in the cafés and boutiques nearby.

7. **Downtown**
The Market Place and the Ankkalammi pond are an oasis in the middle of the town. The vendors and the residents come together at the Market Place three times a week. Visit the area on Saturdays in the summer for some live music.

8. **Ronttismäki**
See how the local industrial workers lived between the 1800s and the 1970s and explore the workshops of a carpenter, a tailor and a cobbler at the Workers' Museum. The impressive red-brick church and vicarage nearby are a sight to behold.

9. **Spinning Mill Area**
Here is where the story of Forssa and the modern industrial town started – the raging rapids and the spinning mill. The mill has now been restored to its previous glory and serves as a cultural and educational hub. Enjoy the unique atmosphere in the shade of the chimney, having a cup of coffee or fishing from the rapids.

10. **Yhtiönpuisto Park**
The English-style Yhtiönpuisto Park is a breath-takingly beautiful place full of old lime trees and walkways. The ornate wooden villas surrounding the park whisk you off to the romantic yesteryear. A pavillion built in 1879 stands at the banks of the river, offering visitors a place to rest and watch the waterfowl living on the river.

11. **Central Park**
Lush common limes, oak trees and wych elms follow the riverbanks, forming the relaxing Central Park. The new houses in the Kaupungin-puutarha area are a spectacular sight. At the edge of the forest, residents and visitors can enjoy a football field and a lean-to.

12. **Talsoila Park**
This family park is the perfect spot for disc golf and minigolf. The sports ground is a popular place for outdoor games, and in the winter, it becomes a skating rink.

13. **Rantalanmäki and Rantapuisto Park**
Idyllic, old wooden houses, gardens, walkways, a lush riverbank with a bridge– this is a wonderful place for outdoor activities, jogging and walking around.

14. **Yliskylä**
Find the old industrial workers' homes close to Ameriikanraitti – the area features a beautiful mixture of old wooden houses and modern buildings. Many a bark boat has travelled the stream nearby, but whose boat will be the first to reach the river?

15. **Mäkilammi Allotment Garden**
The allotment garden is a specialty in this small town. After 40 years, it is still in active use and in excellent condition. The annual harvest market allows the gardeners to sell their crops.

16. **Lamminmäki**
The terrain around the Hunnari esker is a diverse outdoors area featuring forest routes running up and down the esker, a competitive disc golf course, a beach and a lean-to. In the winter, the esker challenges you to a wild sled ride.

17. **Vieremä Mill Area**
The old brick mill and the roaring waters invite fishers from near and far. Here, time stand stills and your mind finds rest.

18. **Esker Recreational Forest Area**
The esker features a pine forest and park, a lighted two-part running track, outdoor excercise area, the Hunnunsuo hollow, the Nyholm pond and the surrounding wetland.

19. **Cemetery and chapel**
The cemetery is one of the most beautiful parks in the town, featuring old hardwood and well-tended flowerbeds.

20. **Linikkalanlammi and sports fields**
This is the most popular spot in the summer, featuring a beach, a sports field, running tracks, outdoor exercise areas, courts for basketball, beach volley, padel and tennis to boost your body and your mind.

21. **Old Hospital Section**
You can peek at the old section of the hospital behind the newer buildings. It was partially built into the slope leading to the wooded recreational area of Korkeavaha.

22. **Korkeavaha Residential Area**
This area of apartment buildings was the first element-based residential area accepted for a national urban park in Finland. The spacious block structure creates the cozy atmosphere of an urban park.

23. **Esker parks**
Listen to the pine trees sing and hum in the wind in downtown Forssa, next to the hospital. Paths surrounded by bilberries and lily of the valley run up and down the steep esker.

24. **Loimijoki River and ponds**
Slowly twisting and turning its way through the town, the Loimijoki River once brought life into the town and still forms a large part of its identity.

Forssa