

The Iijoki River rowboat event

IJOKISOUTU®



4. – 9.7.2016

TAIVALKOSKI – PUDASJÄRVI



www.iijokisoutu.net/11

A summer adventure!

Between the 4th and the 9th of July, we will be rowing down the picturesque Iijoki River in traditional wooden boats.

The Iijoki River Rowing event was born in 1983 as a protest against the plans to further dam the river and to build a reservoir that would drown large areas of local wilderness and tradition. While the future of the river remains uncertain even today, work is now being done to return the river's own population of migratory salmon back to the waters of their ancestors.

While we row in support of the freedom of the river and the return of the salmon, the Iijoki Rowing event has grown to be not just a protest, but also a cultural travel event for people looking to take a break from routine, get some fresh air, experience the local tradition, fresh waters, campfires and festivities of Northern Finland during the most beautiful time of the summer.

No prior experience is needed, and you can choose how long to stay: sign up and reserve a seat in one of our boats. Come row with us!

– Pudasjärven luonnonsuojeluyhdistys ry



Suomen luonnonsuojeluliitto
www.sll.fi

More info about lodging,
local businesses, etc:

www.saija.fi
www.hotelliherkko.fi
www.hotelliruska.fi
www.jalavankauppa.fi
www.niemitalonjuustola.fi
www.taivalkoski.fi
www.pudasjarvi.fi
www.iijoki.fi



Iijokisoutu® schedule 2016



Timeslots of the stops and breaks are rough estimates. The real schedule may depend on factors such as the water situation or the weather.

Sign up at www.ijokisoutu.net/lomake.html?id=1 (see next page for details) preferably by the **29th of June 2016**, if you don't have your own boat.



You may **reserve a seat** in one of our boats, OR bring your own boat, canoe or kayak. Because our boats can carry 3 or 4 people on top of the coxswain, we cannot promise that a group of five or more people would fit into the same boat. We have reliable, experienced coxswains in each of our boats.

The Ijokisoutu event is organized by **Pudasjärven luonnonsuojeluyhdistys ry**. More information at <http://www.ijokisoutu.net/11> OR **Pirkko-Liisa Luhta (+358400 293 023)** OR info@ijokisoutu.net

Participation fees in 2016

Adult:

Boat seat:

1 day: 30€

whole event: 90€

In your own boat / canoe / kayak:

1 day: 15€

whole event: 60€

Child under 15:

Boat seat:

1 day: 5€

whole event: 30€

With your own boat / canoe / kayak:

1 day: 5€

whole event: 15€

Bus travel for retrieving your car: 5€. **Only** for the driver, valid all week. For those who leave their car at the launch site in the morning, a bus is arranged to go back so they can retrieve their cars.

Payments in advance: Pudasjärven luonnonsuojeluyhdistys ry **FI15 5360 0420 0911 60**

OR on the spot at the accounting caravan (which is usually crowded, it's easier to pay in advance).

Food: We've arranged food services with local businesses, from breakfast to dinner. The prices may vary depending on the location, so we cannot be sure of those in advance. You may check the food availability at different breaks and stops from the schedule. You only need to **have your own food** at Röpättävä (Thursday) and Varpuvirrat (Saturday). In most places, the most common **special diets** can be arranged. Please inform us of any serious allergies or other dietary requirements in advance, while you sign up.

Lodging of different types is available, depending on the location. You may bring your own tent or trailer, or rent rooms from hotels, hostels, or such. Please ask for more information if you're uncertain, we can most likely arrange something for you. Every place where we stay overnight has a **sauna** available.

Things you'll need for the boat journey: a life jacket (bring your own or rent from us), a sitting cushion, a hat or such, probably sunglasses, something long-sleeved but light to protect from sunburn without getting hot, something warm, a water bottle, gloves to protect your hands while rowing, sunscreen lotion, a raincoat or such, and practical shoes such as sneakers or sport sandals (which you don't mind getting wet). Rubber boots are impractical, as they can get filled with water. You might want to bring some snacks or pack a lunch, if you don't think you'll last between the stops where food can be bought. Take as few possessions as you can into the boat, a small bag should be enough.

Bus for those who left their own cars at the launch site. At the end of every day's rowing, a bus is waiting. It will get the car drivers back to the day's starting point, so they can get their cars from there.

An office car travels with the event. If you don't have a car, it can haul your extra luggage (such as a tent, extra clothes, also wheelchairs etc. if needed).

Insurance: We have a liability insurance, which will compensate if we make a mistake. However, it does not compensate you dropping your phone, glasses or wallet into the river, so you'll want to have your own insurance for such things.

Safety: The event has a safety and rescue plan. Oulunseudun Melojat ry and experienced paddlers are responsible for safety and guiding on the river. We have a first aid team. **Life jackets are compulsory.** You may also rent them from us (2€/day), although we have a limited supply of children's sizes.

More information

- The Iijoki Rowing is **not a competition**, but a journey to enjoy nature and the landscapes, which include local countryside and wilderness.
- The rowing comprises 160 kilometers (100 miles) along of river (about 30 kilometers each day).
- There are over 100 rapids; however, they're mostly small and beginner-friendly, no prior experience is required. **We will go down bigger rapids (Kipinä, Toho) at the end of the last day of the event (Saturday, 9th of July)**, but you'll be forewarned, and can opt out if you wish. There is a stop before the Kipinä rapids, where boats will be emptied of any luggage that might get wet or fall into the river. The Kipinä rapids are also not recommended for small children, especially not without a caretaker in the same boat. The boats go down the Kipinä rapids one at a time. While you wait for your turn, you can watch this from the shores or the bridge.
- **Previous experience is not required**, and **people of all ages can join** the event. Our boats have experienced coxswains who know how to steer the boats in rapids or other difficult parts, so you'll be safe.
- **Don't bring all your possessions into the boat**, only take what you need on the river. If you want, **you can leave your extra luggage with the event's office car**, which moves along with the event.
- You may bring a sleeping bag, camping mattress, and possibly a tent if you wish to stay overnight. Many places also offer possibilities to rent rooms from hotels, hostels or such, although you may still need a sleeping bag or your own blanket. Call or email us (info@ijokisoutu.net) if you're uncertain.
- You need to have an accident insurance taken in the country you left to this trip (home country) for this kind of events, and one for lost property (insurance for the baggage).
- **Even if the sign-up deadline has passed, we will not turn away last-minute participants if we happen to still have free seats in the boats.**

Sign-up translation help

As you may have noticed, the sign-up sheet at www.ijokisoutu.net/lomake.html?id=1 is in Finnish. Here's how to fill it (write your answers on the empty rows after each question. You can write them in English, we'll understand it).

- 1) The name(s) of the participant(s). If someone is under 15 years old, please mention this. You can also mention if you don't speak Finnish.
- 2) Your address.
- 3) Do you not have your own boat? If so, tell us that you're reserving a seat or seats in our boats. Tell us how many seats you need.
- 4) Do you actually have your own boat/canoe/kayak? If so, tell us here.
- 5) Which day(s) will you be present? List all the days when you'll be there.
- 6) If you require a special diet, explain it here. Which day(s) do you need it?
- 7) Are there any small children who need to be looked after? Inform us.

Every participant/group must also sign up in person, on location, when you enter the event. There you will be given your ticket plate(s), and you can get the car retrieval bus ticket. You will also be informed of the rules of the event.

In the fields below, "Nimi" = your name, "Puhelin" = your phone number (please use the international form), and "Sähköposti" = your email address. When you're finished filling the form, click "Lähetä ilmoittautuminen". Congratulations, you've signed up for the event!

If possible, **please sign up BEFORE THE 29th OF JUNE if you need seating in our boats** (AKA if you didn't bring your own boat).

See you at the river!