

SAMPLE CASE STUDY PREPARED BY CE4RT – Vesj'kansan tarinarasti (Stories of the Water People)- FINLAND

Finland: Sustainable Good Practice

Type of Business: Activity – Preserving unique culture and heritage

Business Name: Vesj'kansan tarinarasti (Stories of the Water People)

Description

On the shores of city centre of Savonlinna there are 13 story boxes which encourage the visitor to stop for a moment and take a breath and explore the beautiful scenery of the Saimaa Lake and its' stories. While enjoying the scenery the visitor can listen to small stories about the past days told by Vesj'kansa people loaded through QR-ticks. People who live on Pihlajavesi (part of Lake Saimaa) archipelago are called *Vesj'kansa* (Vesj'=water, kansa=people). You can find the story boards and signs along the shores of the city centre and also [from Google Map](#) . The story boards are placed as accessible as possible. The QR-codes can be found in the main library *Joel* and also on library webpage. The stories were collected through interviews from elder people during 2019-2020 carried out by the Vesj'kansa -project and funded by the EU.

Sustainable and Regenerative Practices

- The stories of the elder people are important to collect and save as social heritage and local culture.
- The story boards are available in the places where people walk by daily.
- The stories can also be found from Soundcloud and Spotify in podcast format which makes the stories accessible
- Presenting local history is crucial for understanding the culture of the Lakeland area especially for young people and tourists.
- The Riihisaari – Museum of Savonlinna also has a photo exhibition presenting the lifestyle of the archipelago of Pihlajavesi in Saimaa lake

Image



References and further readings

<https://www.savonlinna.fi/kirjasto/asiakkaana-kirjastossa/vesjkansan-tarinarastit/>
<https://soundcloud.com/tarinoitasaimaalta>
https://www.savonlinna.fi/riihisaari/en/main_page/