

TASK 1. Description of the surrounding area

### KALAJOKI

Team Finland

#### Little facts from our region

Kalajoki is located in Northern Ostrobothnia, which is situated in the middle of Finland.
Kalajoki is mostly known for it's beautiful nature, for example beaches and nature trails. Many Finns spend their summer vacation in Kalajoki, it is our own summer paradise with natural sand beaches!

Population: 12 428

Total area: 2391,29 km<sup>2</sup>

Area without the sea: 931,03 km<sup>2</sup>

Sea area: 1460,26 km<sup>2</sup>



#### Distances to the biggest cities near Kalajoki:

Kalajoki is located on the countryside but there are few big cities close by. Most of the people living in the countryside have their own cars so it is easy to travel from one place to another.

- ★ Oulu 132km (closest airport)
- ★ Ylivieska 41km (closest railway station)
- ★ Kokkola 68km
- ★ Vaasa 188km
- ★ Helsinki-Vantaa airport 539km
  - Helsinki is also the capital of Finland





#### Agriculture is very important to the

area. In the history of the region, owning kettle and farming anything from potatoes to grain has been one of the most important sources of livelihood. People used to make everything by hand and then swap things in the market during the 1800s and the first half of 1900s.

Now the most important industry in Kalajoki is tourism.

#### Kalajoki's culture sites:

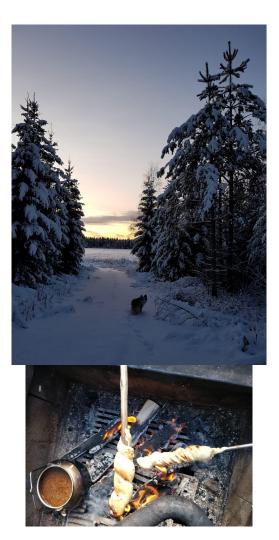
Kalajoki has few cultural places since Finns have always built with wood and wooden houses don't really last that long because of the harsh winters and strong sea winds.

The sea has been very important to Kalajoki and some of the most beautiful places can be found for example in Maakalla island. Maakalla has lovely old fishermen houses that are painted with the traditional red paint called punamulta.



# Other lovely places that mean a lot to people from Kalajoki

- ★ Plassi is the old town of Kalajoki. There are a lot of old beautiful wooden houses and an old market place that still has a big traditional market event every year.
- ★ Rahja's archipelago
- ★ Kallankarit consist of two islands that have had autonomy since 1771 when Swedish king gave it to the fishermen living on the islands.
- ★ Ventelä's house
- ★ Kalajoki's churches, Kalajoki many churches. The one in the Kalajoki city centre has been renovated recently since it was built in 1870s. Pictures of the churches



Rahja's archipelago, where you can go canooing!  $\rightarrow$ 

Many Finns like to spend time outside. We have four seasons which makes the weather always interesting and new. In the winter there is not much sun but in the summer the sun does not set at all!



## Go and check out a video from Kalajoki!

://youtu.be/6Z20RI0eNr8





