

CALENDAR OF FESTIVALS (Northern Karelia)

Season/ month of the staging	Title of the festival	Place of the festival staging (community)	Frequency of the staging	Summary	Festival web resources
WINTER January	International Jazz music festival "Koli Jazz"	Lieksa, village Koli, Finland	Annually	The artistic profile is of a high standard of good mood mainstream jazz at Hotel Koli. In addition, in the church of Koli village, a church concert with a slightly more serious touch. The objective is to bring diversity to the cultural life of the area and increase tourism in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • jazzkerho-76.fi • sokoshotels.fi/fi/koli/sokos-hotel-koli • facebook.com/jazzkerho • instagram.com/explore/tags/jazzkerho76 • twitter.com/jazzkerho76
February	International music festival "Joensuu Winter Music Festival"	Joensuu, Finland	Annually	Joensuu Winter Music Festival offers a wide range of music styles in cooperation with Joensuu music actors. There is classical and jazz music, a symphony and an opera, as well as musical performances by children and young people. Concerts are held in different parts of Joensuu: in the concert hall, museum, library, clubs. Joensuu Winter Music Festival is scheduled for the winter holidays. This makes it possible to combine winter sports and art for tourists. The aim is to collaborate with local music operators and provide diverse music.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • joensuu.fi/musiikkitalvi • facebook.com/Joensuun-musiikkitalvi-341851653249268 • instagram.com/musiikkitalvi
SPIRING May	Festival for Karelian language, culture and music "Pajot Folk"	Kontiolahti, Finland	Annually	A two-day unique festival in the only Karelian language in Finland where the sauna and hot tubs are heated for guests. In the evenings Friday and Saturday, we will enjoy new folk music, possibly in Karelian, Sámi, Finnish, Estonian and Russian. On Saturdays, a field day, cottage concerts, machine work demonstrations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pajot.fi • facebook.com/pajotfolk • instagram.com/pajotfolk

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SUMMER June	National "Heinävesi Music Festival"	Heinävesi, Finland	Annually	The body of the five-day festival consists of three symphony concerts in Heinävesi Church. The program always includes orthodox church music, which is performed in the church of Valamo Monastery. The program of the afternoon concert at the monastery's cultural center consists of classical songs by Finnish composers. In addition to classical music concerts, the festival organizes e.g. a market concert, stage dances, a music cruise, an evening club and a music workshop for children. During the five days, 2500-3500 visitors will take part in the event.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • heinavesimusic.fi • facebook.com/heinavesimusic • instagram.com/heinavesimusic
	National dancefestival "Skis crossed at the Wolf Border"	Nurmes, Finland	Annually between June and July	Skis Crossed at the Wolf Border has established itself as one of the most significant and unique camps in the country that teaches the art of dance and its friendship. The camp is aimed at professional artists and students of all ages, as well as art enthusiasts from different contexts. Skis Crossed at the Wolf Border offers a way of looking at feminist and free art for studying dance and sister art while listening to the current trends in performing and performing arts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • kaivosfestivaali.fi • facebook.com/kaivosfestivaali • instagram.com/kaivosfestivaali/?hl=fi
July	"Finnish Stone Sculpture Competition"	Juuka, Finland	Annually in the Summer	Finland's first stone sculpture competitions. The sculpture stone is a small soapstone, which is suitable for carving due to its properties. The Finnish Stone Carving Championship is a nationwide, free event for the whole family, and will be held from 2 to 4 July 2021 in Juuka Church Village Central Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • juuankivenveisto.fi • facebook.com/kivenveistonSM2021Juuka • instagram.com/kivenveistonSM2021Juuka
	International "Kitee International Music and Art Festival"	Kitee, Finland	Annually	Finn-Ugric Folk Culture festival "Kanteletar" holds very special place. It is held annually in Kostomuksha since 2000. Karelian people have saved, taken care, and kept unique traces of their national identity, history and culture till our time.	kitee-festival.com

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July	International music festival "Monola festival"	Lieksa, Joensuu, Nurmes, Finland	Annually	The program of the Monola Festival includes orchestral visits, choirs, premieres of contemporary music and chamber music ensembles. Concerts are also held outside the concert halls, e.g. Monola's barn and village club houses, as well as lunch and dinner concerts. Guided storytelling boat trips to the Monola fence are included in the standard offer for the festive weeks. During the festive weeks, you have also been able to enjoy films, lectures and Kalevala poetry related to the topic.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monola.fi • fi-fi.facebook.com/monolaforum
	International "Nurmes Summer Academy and Summer Concerts"	Nurmes, Finland	Annually	The event brings to Nurmes top open-minded artists and students in their field from the province, elsewhere in Finland and abroad. The diverse and interdisciplinary program of the concert series and the young energy of the Summer Academy create a unique space for encounters, synergy and the awakening of hope. The aim is to be one of the most significant cultural events in North Karelia, to promote tourism in the Nurmes region, to offer the province's most diverse summer training event for young musicians and to bring a high-quality and open-minded concert series to the public.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nurmesmusicacademy.fi • facebook.com/nuorimusiikki
August	International festival for wood carvers "Ilomantsi Bear Festival"	Ilomantsi, Finland	Annually	Ilomantsi Bear Festival is the easternmost cultural festival in Finland. The event promotes handicrafts, folklore and honors the Finnish national animal, the bear, with the help of sculptors. The core area of the Bear Festival, ie. the landscapes of Bear Areena, the National House and the Katri Vala Cultural Center, is a year-round destination for tourists, the Bear Forest. The goal is to build the Land of the Thousand Bears, which will spread along the Ilomantsi track. Now there are three hundred finished sculptures of bears.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • karhufestivaali.fi • facebook.com/karhufestivaali • instagram.com/karhufestivaali
	National gospel music festival "Joensuu Gospel Festival"	Joensuu, Finland	Annually	The festival is held at various concert venues in Joensuu, on open-air stages (e.g. Joensuu Market Place, Ilosaari, etc.) and churches. The festival consists of 6-8 different concerts performed by trubadours, novice musicians, home-like gospel music professionals, choirs and bands. In connection with a few concerts, there are small catering or accompanying programmes for children and families, for example. Some concerts are aimed at young people, some at children and families, most of them at all audiences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gospelfestarit.fi • facebook.com/Gospelfestarit

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August	National circus and theater performing arts festival for children and young people “Pilke!”	Joensuu, Finland	Annually, between August and September	Pilke! is a performing arts festival offering a quality program for children and young people. The festival will be held at the Circus Supiainen “STAGE” Theater in Joensuu. With this festival, we want to bring out and promote children's culture, inspire the people around us and be building a better, communal and eventful North Karelia. The festival program consists of circus and theater performances by professionals for children and young people. There are also workshops during the festival.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supiainen.com/tapahtumat-2/pilke-esittavan-taiteen-festivaali-lapsille-ja-nuorille • facebook.com/events/621329515171981
AUTUMN September	International festival of different arts “Kaivos-festival”	Outokumpu Old Copper Mine, Finland	Annually	Kaivos-festival is a weekend of exciting and surprising encounters and experiences. In the premises of the Old Copper Mine, both architecturally and acoustically unique, you can encounter the echoes of both the electronic soundscape and Renaissance singing, be confused by new ideas, contemporary dance, visual arts, be silenced by rarities and specialties. The festival is built precisely in its surroundings, during the weekend guests can share a common intimate and intense experiential path.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • kaivosfestivaali.fi • facebook.com/kaivosfestivaali • instagram.com/kaivosfestivaali/?hl=fi
October	International Ethnographic Film Festival “Viscult”	Joensuu, Finland	Annually	Documentary film festival, lectures, workshops for film directors, producers, researchers. The aim is to support anthropological and ethnographic documentary film.	viscult.net
November	International “Alone in the Rain -Joensuu Contemporary Dance Festival”	Joensuu, Finland	Annually	Alone in the rain - The Joensuu Contemporary Dance Festival creates the desired splash of colour for darkening November evenings. During the long weekend, the festival will showcase topical and international contemporary dance art in Joensuu.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • itak.fi/yksinsateessa-festivaali • facebook.com/yksinsateessa • instagram.com/yksinsateessa
	National concerts and events during Christmas time “Nurmes Christmas Music”	Nurmes, Finland	Annually, between November and December	An event dedicated to Christmas music, where all genres of music are present. Event consists of concerts and events where the audience can enjoy shared musical moments and high-quality art experiences. The aim of the event is also to offer the opportunity to create and present new Christmas music. The values of Christmas music are accessibility, equality, diversity and inclusion. Christmas music has room for both traditions and new phenomena. Nurmes Christmas music is the result of cooperation. We collaborate extensively on local cultural activities and create new forms of Christmas music with artistic partners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nurmeksenjoulumusiikki.fi • facebook.com/NurmeksenJoulumusiikki • instagram.com/nurmeksenjoulumusiikki

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WINTER December	Regional Children's storytelling review "Story Star Competition"	Joensuu region, Finland	Every other year	A story telling competition for children. Children are allowed to present their own stories.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sanaratas.net/leirit/tarinatahti-2020-kilpailu • facebook.com/sanaratas • instagram.com/sanaratas
	Local Drama Performance "Nurmes Immanuel -Christmas Drama"	Nurmes, Finland	Annually	Performs as a Christmas present (free of charge) a Christmas drama written by Eeva Vainio and Rauha Kejonen and composed by Baron Seppo Paakkunainen in Nurmes Church Park. The performance is Finland's oldest winter street theatre event, which has been performed continuously annually.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • immanuel.fi • facebook.com/immanueljouludrama
	A mix of festivals and mediation events "Art Karelia"	Joensuu, Finland	Annually, the time varies	Art Karelia is a mix of festivals and mediation events. The main purpose is to highlight professional visual artists from Northern Karelia, their work, and to sell their works of art. As side events, various events have been organized inside Art Karelia, such as concerts, dance works, seminars, webinars, demonstrations, performance performances, etc. Art Karelia has been held annually, eight times so far. The duration of the event has varied from one week to almost two months, and the venue has varied in the Joensuu city center area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • artkarelia.fi • joensuuntaiteilijaseura.fi (<i>web site of the organizer</i>) • facebook.com/Joensuuntaiteilijaseura • facebook.com/TaidekeskusAhjo

