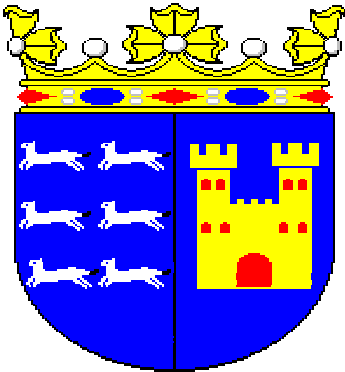
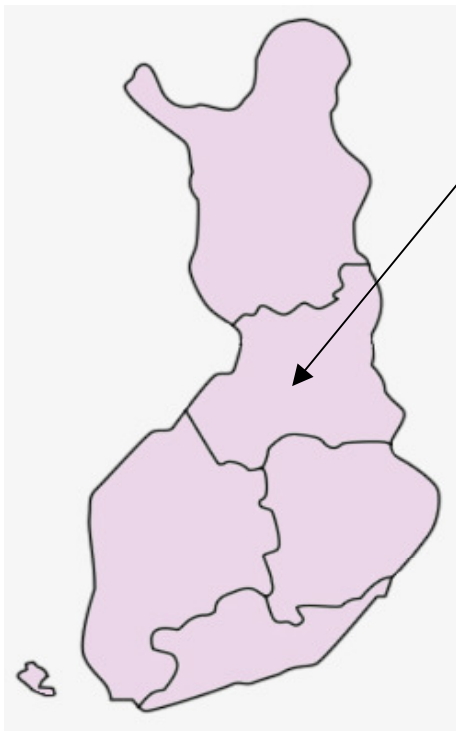


Our Region- the County of Oulu



Capital	Oulu
Governor	Eino Siuruainen
Area	56 739,45 km ²
Population	469 304



The County of Oulu

The biggest municipalities in the county of Oulu are : [Oulu](#), [Kajaani](#), [Raahe](#) and [Haukipudas](#). The other 43 municipalities are: [Alavieska](#), Haapajärvi, Haapavesi, Hailuoto, Haukipudas, Hyrynsalmi, Ii, Kajaani, Kalajoki, Kempele, Kiiminki, Kuhmo, Kuusamo, Kärsämäki, Liminka, Lumijoki, **Merijärvi**, Muhos, Nivala, Oulainen, Oulu, Oulunsalo, Paltamo, Pudasjärvi, Puolanka, Pyhäjoki, Pyhäjärvi, Pyhäntä, Raahe, Reisjärvi, Ristijärvi, Sievi, Siikajoki, Siikalatva, Sotkamo, Suomussalmi, Taivalkoski, Tyrnävä, Utajärvi, Vaala, Vihanti, Yli-Ii and Ylivieska.

The area of the county of Oulu is very large; it stretches from the west coast, where Merijärvi lies, to the east coast of Finland. So, there is quite big variation in the landscape, too. The landscape on the west coast is rather flat because it's old sea bottom, and there you can see wide, open field areas. But in the eastern and northern part of the county you can see many smaller and bigger hills or mountains. Many of them are popular winter

sport resorts, for example Vuokatti in Sotkamo and Syöte in Pudasjärvi. Many people travel there on holiday to do some downhill skiing or cross-country skiing. Even the climate can be different so that on the west coast there is sometimes hardly any snow, whereas in the east there can be much snow.

The main sources of livelihood in the area are primary production(9%), industry(28%) and services(63%).

Oulu is the biggest city in the county of Oulu. The population of Oulu is about 136 000. Oulu is the administrative and educational centre of the area. In Oulu you can find University which is a popular place to study. There is 17 000 of students.

Sights in Oulu:



Oulu's cathedral



Oulu's Rotuaari



Oulu's "Toripolliisi"

The university of Oulu



Biggest municipalities near Merijärvi are Kalajoki, Oulainen and Ylivieska. Kalajoki is famous for its sand beaches, and lots of tourists come there on their summer holiday every year.

Many people go shopping in Oulainen and Ylivieska



Kalajoki is famous for its sand.



Oulainen



Ylivieska

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