Something to do and see

There are lots of spare-time opportunities in this lively tourist town. A variety of sports services from a spa to a golf centre help you enjoy your stay. The skiing-centre close by the icehall also provides sports fun. See more about activities in the Ähtäri area at www.ahtarizoo.fi.

City of Ähtäri
tel. +358 6 2525 6000
kirjaamo@ahtari.fi, www.ahtari.fi

Ähtäri Zoo
tel. +358 30 621 50
info@ahtarizoo.fi, www.ahtarizoo.fi

Ähtäri Zoo and domestic animal park
Get to know several endangered wild animal species in their natural environment. In the domestic animal park you can care for the animals and take part in the usual farm chores. Ähtäri Zoo is open every day of the year.

Golf in Ähtäri
The fairways of Ähtäri’s 18-hole course are located in beautiful scenery. The course is well suited to everyone from beginners to more experienced players. FamilyGolf is a park course open to everyone, and it has 6 par 3 fairways and a frisbee golf track.

Flowpark
Flowpark is an ecological adventure amusement park next to the Zoo.

Mesikämmen - spa
Relaxing spa experience for every taste. Jacuzi, water-massage pool and childrens’ pool.

Wellness services
Versatile peat treatments, natural treatments and beauty treatments.

A setting for outdoor activities in summer and winter
We have a brilliant environment for outdoor activities in the Ähtäri area, lit skiing tracks and marked snowmobile and hiking routes. While paddling you will experience the clean environment surrounding you and the empowering essence of the element of water.

#BeLikePanda
Come to Ähtäri!

ahtari.fi
Ähtäri Zoo – Finland’s first zoo in a natural setting

- Established in 1973
- One of Finland’s most popular tourist attractions for families
- More than 65 animal species
- Species of the Scandinavian forest zone and Asia
- Total park area about 200 ha
- 160,000 visitors every year
- Significant international animal protection work

Strength from nature

- Hundreds of kilometres of nature trails for hiking, skiing and cycling
- Lakes, rivers, rapids for rowing, canoeing, kayaking and fishing
- Excellent rest areas with campfire sites and lean-to’s
- Silence, safety and the sounds of the wilderness

Diverse cultural offering

- Professor-sculptor Eero Hironen, master of stainless steel – works of art around the world, including Auckland Art Museum, North Carolina and Museum of Contemporary Art, San Juan, Puerto Rico, USA, an outdoor sculpture in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
- Musicals, theatre – an active amateur group. Productions include the Sound of Music, Rockville and a host of Finnish productions, musicals, plays etc.
- Strong local cultural identity. Museums, events and studies into local history.

High-standard education

- 656 students in pre-primary and primary education
- Around 500 students in secondary education
- 12 different lines of vocational education Including qualification in the forestry sector
- Ähtäri Secondary High specialises in visual arts and in tourism, through cooperation with Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences
- Ähtäri Secondary High ranked the 10th best secondary high in Finland

Energy for the future

- 64,000 ha of forest
- Forest energy potential 79 GWh/year
- Forest bioproduct plant in Äänekoski, only 85 km from Ähtäri
- The largest ever forest industry investment in Finland, totalling EUR 1.2 billion
- The most significant employment impacts expected in the forest industry and transports.
- Forestry education in Ähtäri

Excellent health care and social welfare services

- From 1 January 2016, Kuusiolinna Terveys Oy, a health care consortium of four municipalities and Pihlajalinna Oy as the service provider, provides high quality economical health care and social welfare services for the region
- Specialist medical services provided by the Seinäjoki Central Hospital (about 80 km away)

Strong industry

- Home of Europe’s leading manufacturers of aluminium boats (Buster, Silver)
- Tankki Oy – stainless steel tanks for various industrial applications.
- Muuvilami Oy – specialist LAMI GRP doors since 1966, has delivered more than 190,000 door sets worldwide. 50 % of production exported e.g. to the UK, Sweden, Norway, Russia and Estonia
- Remu Oy – screening technology & amphibious excavators, exports worldwide, incl. USA
- Tehcopeat – 100 % natural, additive-free therapeutic peat. Peat therapies and products. Exports to Japan

Ähtäri in a nutshell

Ähtäri combines history, the present and the future in a rich way. Ideas well up, which are further refined given the strengths of Ähtäri, now and in the future, in business, education and free time. An active people and a magnificent environment are essential features of the history, the present and the future. In Ähtäri, the beauty of nature, its calmness, and the activity and dynamism of its people are ever-present. It is not self-evident that these words apply to the same town. Maybe these words don’t seem to belong together. That these words do apply to the same town implies a good balance for its inhabitants. A person needs both activity and rest. Activity leads to rest, and rest is a preparation for activity. Ähtäri has excellent potential for both.

Population 6,200
169 lakes
Forest area 64,000 ha
Services 62 %
Industry 28 %
Primary production 10 %