

= Kajaani =

Kajaani (Swedish : Kajana) is a town and municipality in Finland . It is the center and capital of the Kainuu region . It is located southeast of Oulujärvi (Lake Oulu) , which drains to the Gulf of Bothnia along the Oulujoki (river Oulu) . As of 31 March 2016 , it had a population of 37 @, @ 646 inhabitants .

The town began in the 17th century , fuelled by the growth of the tar industry . It succumbed to Russian forces during the Greater Wrath of the 18th century , who ruined the Kajaani Castle in 1716 . Today , the local economy is driven by mainly the sawmill , lumber and paper industries , although UPM Kymmene 's Kajaani paper mill , the main employer from 1907 until 2008 , has now closed . Kajaani Church was built in 1896 in the Neo @-@ Gothic style by architect Jac Ahrenberg , replacing an earlier church . Kajaani Town Theatre was established in 1969 .

Kajaani is home to two football clubs , AC Kajaani and Kajaanin Haka , and ice hockey team Hokki . Kajaani University of Applied Sciences , a small university of applied sciences , was established in 1992 .

= = History = =

Kajaani was one of the cities founded in 1651 by the Swedish Governor General of Finland , Per Brahe . At that time , the Kainuu region ? as wood country ? was an important producer of tar derived from pine , and the tar trade was its major industry . In 1653 @-@ 4 the district court sessions of Kajaani and Sotkamo were responsible for authorizing a road to be built between Säräisniemi and Raahe , improving communications in the region .

During the Greater Wrath in the 18th century , Kajaani Castle was forced to surrender to Russian forces . The Russians blew the castle up in March 1716 , and it has been in ruins ever since . On 17 October 1808 , General Johan August Sandels won a key victory to the south of Kajaani near Iisalmi during the Battle of Koljonvirta of the Finnish War , when his army of just 1 @, @ 800 defeated over 6 @, @ 000 Russians . There is a monument on the east side of the river marking where the spot where Lieutenant Jakob Henrik Zidén and Major @-@ General Mikhail Petrovich Dolgorukov fell .

In early 1833 , medical doctor Elias Lönnrot , best known for compiling Kalevala , the national epic of Finland , was appointed district physician in Kajaani and was assigned to assist in dealing with the typhoid and cholera epidemic which was raging during the 1830s . Disease was difficult to treat and he soon fell ill himself with typhus at the end of February 1833 but recovered . Kajaani was severely affected by famine in 1867 @-@ 1868 which devastated much of Finland , but the town gradually recovered and by the end of the century had grown to more than 1200 inhabitants . Kajaani Town Hall was built in 1831 , the former City Library in 1852 , Kainuu 's first elementary school in 1883 , and Kajaani Church in 1896 as it grew into a notable settlement .

The paper industry took off in Kajaani in the early 20th century in particular . Kajaani Paper Mill was built in 1907 and was run by the firm Kajaani Oy , which had a capital of FMK 5 @, @ 000 @, @ 000 (£ 137 @, @ 615) in 1948 . Kajaani Oy was eventually acquired by Valmet in 1983 , and the subsidiary Kajaani Electronics was formed . Ämmäkoski power plant was built on the river in 1917 by the Kajaani Lumber Company , and underwent alterations under architect Eino Pitkänen in the 1940s .

The city 's population grew in the 1960s to 14 @, @ 600 inhabitants . Industrial development in the 1970s , and the merger of the separate rural municipality of Kajaani , Kajaanin maalaiskunta , and the city in 1977 saw the population jump to 34 @, @ 574 by 1980 . Vuolijoki was consolidated with Kajaani at the beginning of 2007 .

In 2012 , an oil spill occurred in Kajaani . 110 @, @ 000 liters of oily water leaked into a river that eventually flowed into the Oulujärvi lake .

= = Geography = =

Kajaani is situated in the heart of central Finland . By road is it 558 kilometres (347 mi) north @-@

northwest of Helsinki , 170 kilometres (110 mi) north of Kuopio , and 182 kilometres (113 mi) southeast of Oulu . Villages in the vicinity include Jormua , Koutaniemi , Kuluntalahti , Lahnasjärvi , Lehtovaara , Linnantaus , Mainua , Murtomäki and Paltaniemi . Districts of Kajaani include : Heinisuo , Hetteenmäki , Hoikankangas , Huuhkajanvaara , Katiska , Kettu , Komiaho , Kuurna , Kylmä , Kättö , Kätönlähti , Laajankangas , Lehtikangas , Lohtaja , Nakertaja , Onnela , Palokangas , Petäisenniska , Puistola , Purola , Soidinsuo , Suvantola , Teppana , Tihisenniemi , Tikkapuro , Variskangas and Yläkaupunki .

Kajaani lies on the Kajaani River , between the lakes of Oulujärvi , which drains to the Gulf of Bothnia along the Oulu River , and Nuasjärvi . Between Kajaani and Oulujärvi are the smaller lakes of Sokajärvi and Paltajärvi , which are frozen during winter . Paltajärvi stands between the Kajaani River and Oulujärvi . The Kajaani and Vuolijoki rivers are noted for their fishing . Cuckoo Island (Käkisaari) lies on Oulu lake to the northwest of the town and features residential houses and about 150 summer cottages and holiday apartments , and Caterpillar Island (Toukka) lies in the eastern part of the lake . Also within the municipality is the 34 @. @ 7 square kilometres (13 @. @ 4 sq mi) Laakajärvi , a lake with a maximum depth of 25 metres (82 ft) , which is a notable nesting area for Great black @- @ backed gull and ospreys .

The surrounding area is dominated by mainly conifer forest , with broad @- @ leafed birch and alder woods on some of the steeper banks and streams . An early 20th century analysis of vegetation cover in Kajaani county recorded 385 different species of vascular plants . Talaskangas Nature Reserve , with nearly pristine natural forest and about 50 different wildlife species , is in the Vieremä and Sonkajärvi local area . Logging was planned in the 1980s , but environmental activists prevented exploitation through lobbying . The reserve was formally established in 1994 .

= = = Climate = = =

Kajaani lies within the subarctic climate zone , but the proximity of the Baltic Sea and warm airflows from the Atlantic result in a much milder climate than many locations in this latitude . Summers are cool , with the hottest month usually in July with an average temperature of 20 ° C (68 ° F) , although sometimes during a heatwave highs of 31 ° C (88 ° F) can be reached in summer months between June and September . The summers also have the most rainfall , reaching a peak in August with 48 @. @ 8 mm (2 in) , but rainfall is fairly constant out the year with no dry season . Winters can be harsh , and temperatures can drop below ? 30 ° C (? 22 ° F) . The peak of the cold season on average lasts from December 11 to March 8 , with an average daily high temperature below ? 3 ° C (27 ° F) , with the greatest snowfall in January .

= = Demographics = =

As of 31 March 2016 , the municipality has a population of 37 @, @ 646 (around 34 @, @ 000 in the town itself) and covers an area of 2 @, @ 264 @. @ 01 square kilometres (874 @. @ 14 sq mi) of which 428 @. @ 94 km2 (165 @. @ 61 sq mi) is water . The population density is 20 @. @ 51 inhabitants per square kilometre (53 @. @ 1 / sq mi) .

The municipality is unilingually Finnish (only 0 @. @ 09 % of people from Kajaani speak Swedish as their first language) .

= = Government = =

The Kajaani City Council consists of 51 members and following the 2012 municipal election the seats are divided for the Centre Party (13) , the Finns Party (9) , the National Coalition Party (8) , the Left Alliance (8) , the Social Democratic Party (7) , independent (3) , the Green League (2) and the Christian Democrats (1) . The chairperson of the City Council is Jaana Sankilampi from the Finns Party . The City Government , which includes all parties with the exception of the Christian Democrats and independents , is headed by Marjatta Immonen . The Mayor , whose duty is that of a civil servant independent of the city council , is Jari Tolonen .

= = Economy = =

The budgeted income of Kajaani was FIM 930 million in 1996 . In its earlier history , Kajaani was a thriving center of the tar industry . A channel built in 1846 especially for the transportation of tar out of the town still exists today .

Today the local economy is driven by mainly the sawmill , lumber and paper industries . Kajaani paper mill , established in 1907 by Kajaani Oy (ex Kajaanin Puutavara Osakeyhtio) , was the largest private employer in Kajaani . The factories are on the river bank , at Tihisenniemi . They built a new paper machine in the town in 1980 which was projected to have an annual output of 170 @, @ 000 tons . Kajaani Oy was eventually acquired by Valmet in 1983 , and the subsidiary Kajaani Electronics was formed . Kajaani Electronics was cited as " one of the leading makers of special sensors and analyzers for the pulp and paper industry " in 1990 . When the paper mill was acquired by UPM Kymmene in 1989 it became the third @-@ largest paper company in Finland . It closed in 2008 due to lack of profitability and high energy costs , but has since continued its operations , and was sold to Pölkky Oy in 2012 .

In the early 1970s an electronics manufacturing plant was built in Kajaani , and the firm Kajaani Automation was established in 1980 . As of 1999 the peat industry in Kajaani earned FIM 0 @. @ 5 million annually . Some 222 hectares is allocated to peat production , with private firm Vapo Oy contracted to exploit it and deliver peat to the power plant .

According to 1999 figures , Kajaani earns FIM 3 million a year by selling forestry products , and also receives a sizable income from tourist @-@ related activities from its forests . Fishing also contributes to the income of people in the town . Kajaani has three main hotels , the 191 @-@ room Scandic Kajanus Kajaani , Hotel Kajaani and Original Sokos Hotel Valjus , although the Karolineburg Manor House now also functions as a hotel with 20 rooms . The Sirius restaurant , cited as the best restaurant in the town , serves Finnish cuisine , and is housed in a former government building which hosted conferences between Leonid Brezhnev and Urho Kekkonen . Also of note is the Chinese restaurant Golden Dragon , the Torero which serves Spanish cuisine , Hospoda Kourna and Pikantti . The Central Hospital of Kainuu , which serves the wider region , is situated in Kajaani . Opened in 1968 , it has a number of specialist medical departments and works in cooperation with the Oulu University Hospital . The town also has an eye clinic .

Kainuu Brigade , a unit of the Finnish Army established in 1966 , is the third biggest employer in the city . The brigade trains around 4 @, @ 000 conscripts each year and employs 500 military personnel and 100 civilians .

= = Landmarks = =

Kajaani Castle , located on an island on the Kajaani river in the centre of the city , was originally built in 1604 and was commissioned by Charles IX of Sweden . The castle served as an administrative centre , prison , military base and a refuge for the citizens . The Town Hall of Kajaani , on the main square , Raatihuoneentori , was built to the design of Carl Engel in 1831 with a central rooftop clocktower and turret . It underwent restoration in 1990 when it was painted in a " fetching yellow ochre " color .

Kajaani Church was built in 1896 in the Neo @-@ Gothic style by architect Jac Ahrenberg . It replaced an earlier church on the spot which was originally built in 1656 and destroyed by the Russians in 1716 at the time when Kajaani castle was destroyed . The second church was built 1734 @-@ 35 which served the parish for 160 years until replaced with Ahrenberg 's new church . The church , built from wood , has three naves and features a delicate , slender bell tower . It is decorated with English Gothic style carvings . Kajaani Orthodox Church (Kajaanin ortodoksinen seurakunta) , which has a regional membership of about 1880 members is centred at Christ Church of the Transfiguration in Kajaani . The church was completed in 1959 to designs by Ilmari Ahonen . It contains murals painted by Petros Sasaki and Alkiviadis Kepolas . In the suburb of Paltaniemi is a church , originally built in 1599 , and considered to be the regional centre for the Lutheran Church .

There is a mosque in the town , which is the center of the regional Kainuu Islamic community , which in 2013 had 174 members . Eino Leno House , containing a cafe , was built in 1978 to commemorate famous poet Eino Leino , a native of the town . Keisarintalli , a wooden stable , was used as a boarding house for Tsar Alexander I of Russia during his tour of Finland in 1819 . Also of note is the Urho Kekkonen Memorial , dedicated to the first Finnish president , Urho Kekkonen . The 8 metres (26 ft) high monument was carved by sculptor Pekka Kauhanen and was unveiled on 3 September 1990 , exactly 90 years after Kekkonen 's birth .

= = Culture = =

The Kajaani Town Theatre , established in 1969 , puts on plays and concerts , typically seen by around 200 people . The Art Museum of Kajaani (Kajaanin taidemuseo) , located in a building that was a police station , which is connected to Kajaani 's former city hall. was founded in 1993 and centers on Finnish modern art . Kainuu Museum (Kainuun museo) displays information related to the tar industry , the Kalevala (the national epic of Finland) and author Elias Lönnrot and others on the ground floor , and regularly hosts temporary exhibitions upstairs .

The most notable annual cultural events in Kajaani are Kajaanin Runoviikko (The Kajaani Poetry Week) , originally known as Sana ja Sävel , and Kainuun JazzKevät (The Kainuu Jazz Spring) . Kajaani Orchestra began in the 1950s , and was expanded when the Kuopio garrison band moved to Kajaani in 1963 .

Radio Kajaani , one of Finland 's oldest local radios , began operations in Kajaani in 1989 , and remains one of the few completely independent radio stations in Finland . Kainuu Radio , which belongs to the Yle , broadcasts Monday to Friday from 6 @. @ 30 to 17 @. @ 00 .

= = Education = =

The town is served by the Kajaani University of Applied Sciences , a small university of applied sciences which was established in 1992 . It provides courses in Activity Tourism , Information Systems , Nursing and Healthcare , Mechanical and Mining Engineering and Business and Innovations , and offers 8 Bachelor 's degree programmes and 5 Master programmes delivered in Finnish . The Research Center for Developmental Teaching and Learning at Kajaani University Consortium is associated with the University of Oulu . There is also a polytechnical institute in Kajaani , which had an enrollment of 653 students in the mid 1990s .

The government @-@ run Kainuu Music Institute was founded in 1957 , and is part of the Kaukametsä Congress and Culture Centre . It is one of the largest musical institutes in Finland , with an enrollment of about 900 from the wider Kainuu region . Kainuu Music dance department Ballet Kaukametsä teaches dance to dancers of different ages . The public library of Kajaani is situated on Kauppakatu street and has free Internet access , and there is also a mobile library service . The Kajaani Journal has been publishing since at least 1919 .

= = Sports = =

Kajaani has two football clubs , AC Kajaani and Kajaanin Haka . AC Kajaani was formed in 2006 after the merger of FC Tarmo and Kajaanin Palloilijat (KaPa) , and plays their home games at the Kajaanin Liikuntapuisto . The men 's football first team currently plays in the Kakkonen (Division 2) . Kajaanin Haka was formed in 1953 and plays at the Kajaanin liikuntapuisto stadium . The men 's football first team currently plays in the Kolmonen (Division 3) . The local ice hockey team , Hokki , plays in the Mestis league . Kajaani ice rink (Kajaanin jäähalli) was inaugurated in 1989 and accommodates for 2372 spectators , 781 in seating and 1591 in standing . There is a race course (Kajaanin ravirata) about 9 miles (14 km) to the north of the centre of Kajaani in Kuluntalahden , which hosts competitions only during the summer season . The track was completed in 2008 with a new café @-@ restaurant .

Kajaani has hiking paths , skiing tracks , gyms , and sports grounds within the municipality .

Pölyvaara and the Vimpeli Hills are notable local ski areas , frequented by tourists during the winter months . Fishing is popular along the banks of the river . Kajaani also has a golf course , and there are also several dancing pavilions in the town .

= = Transport = =

There is a daily bus service operating between Kajaani , Oulu , Kemijärvi and Rukatunturi , and Bus No.4 runs hourly during weekdays from Pohjolankatu in Kajaani to Paltaniemi . During the summer months there is a cruise service operating between Joensuu and Nurmes . Kajaani railway station opened in 1905 when the railway from Iisalmi to Kajaani was completed as an extension to the Savonia railroad . The station building was designed by Gustaf Nyström . The Kajaani station trackyard underwent significant upgrading and repair work in 2005 , when the railway from Iisalmi to Kontiomäki was electrified . Four trains arrive daily from Helsinki via Kouvola and Kuopio , with the journey taking 7 ? 10 hours to Helsinki depending on the train . There are also daily trains from Joensuu , and connecting trains between Nurmes and Kajaani .

Kajaani Airport , approximately 7 kilometres (4 mi) northwest of Kajaani in the Paltaniemi area , is the main local airport . It is operated by Finavia , and also serves needs of non @-@ commercial general aviation . Construction of the airport began in 1939 with the runway being completed in the autumn , but due to World War it was not fully opened until 22 June 1956 . Aegean Airlines and Flybe Nordic provides flights to Chania and Helsinki . The Finnair connection to Helsinki operates during the summer twice daily and three times a day during the winter schedule period . In 2013 the airport served 74 @,@ 558 passengers .

= = Notable people = =

Antti Halonen , ice hockey player
Eino Leino , poet and journalist
Henrik Flöjt , biathlon athlete
Jorma Korhonen , judoka
Jouko Karjalainen , skier
Marko Kemppainen , skeet shooter
Matti Heikkinen , skier
Olli Malmivaara , ice hockey player
Pekka Suorsa , ski jumper
Riku Nieminen , actor and dancer
Sakari Kukko , musician
Tommi Leinonen , ice hockey player
Urho Kekkonen , 8th President of Finland
Kasper Heikkinen , Guitar player

= = International relations = =

= = = Twin towns ? Sister cities = = =

Kajaani is twinned with :