

Iron Curtain Trail and cycling touring in Finland

ICT Awareness-raising Workshop

- 19th November 2009, Warsaw,
Hotel Sofitel Victoria

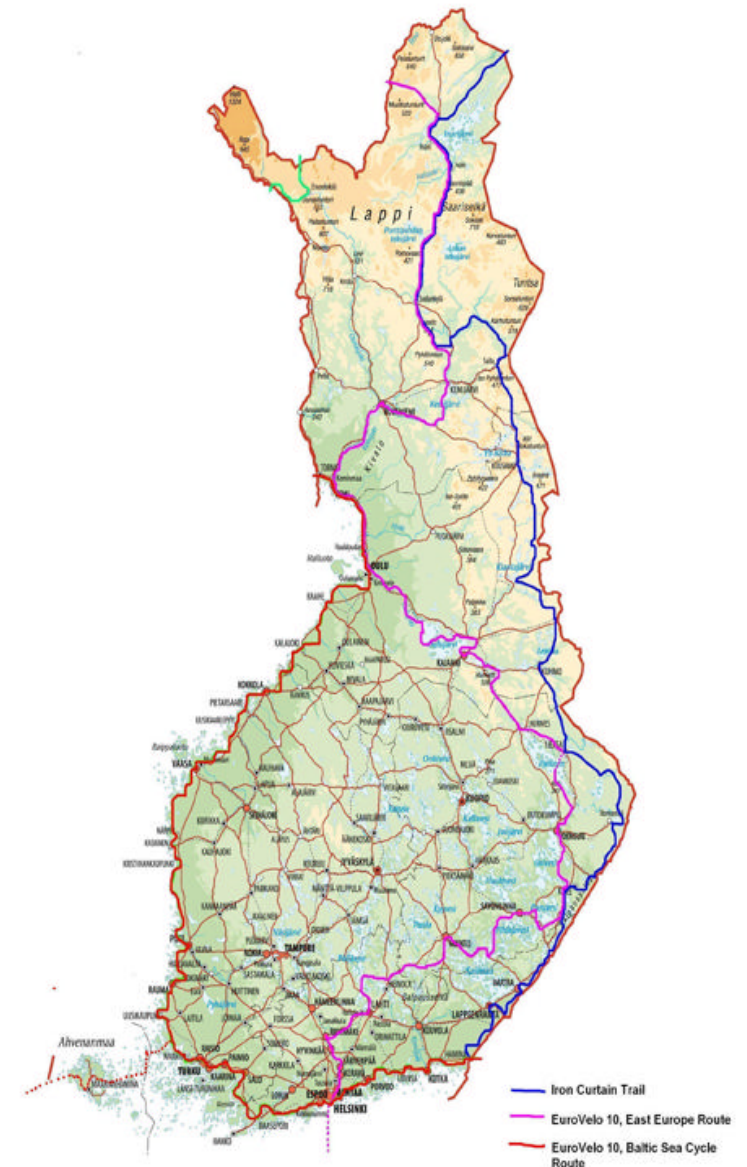
Network of Finnish Cycling Municipalities

Matti Hirvonen

Executive Director

matti.hirvonen@poljin.fi

www.cyclinginfinland.fi



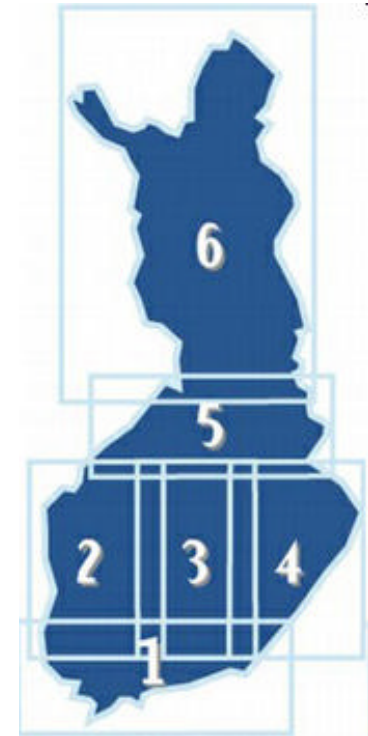
Cycling tourism in Finland

- Finland offers great possibilities for bicycle touring.
- The national cycle network covers more than 20 000 km
 - The routes are marked on the GT Cycling Maps.
 - Cycle lanes roughly 15 per cent
- Everyman's rights are very broad
 - free access by bike nearly everywhere
 - including private roads
 - right to camping, swim,
- The national routes (72 routes, in total) will take cyclist to the most beautiful parts of Finland.
 - The most significant national parks and national landscapes



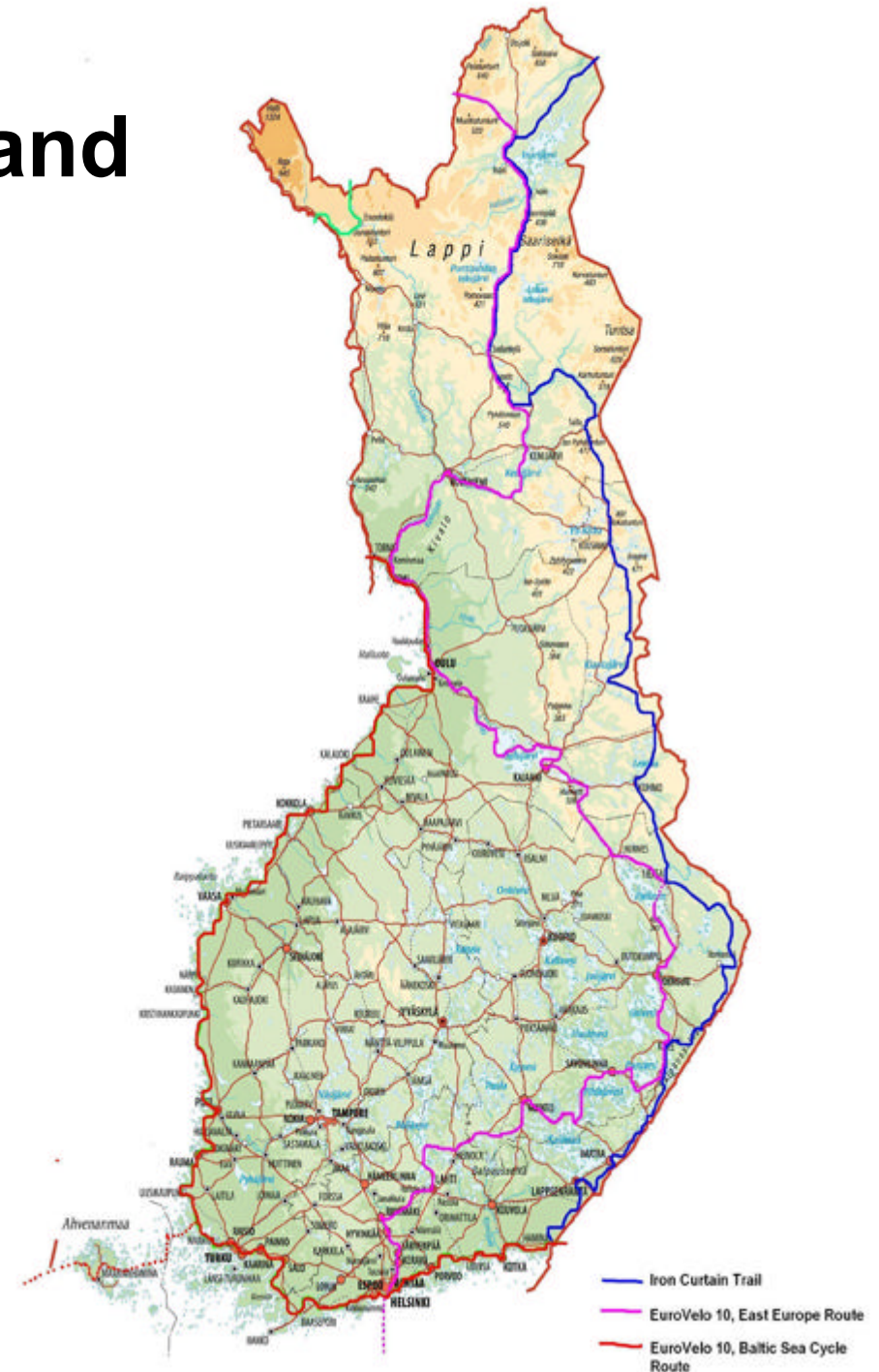
Cycling tourism in Finland

- GT Cycling Maps
 - Finland is divided into six parts and the scale used is 1:200,000.
 - The map for Lapland has a scale of 1:400,000.
 - National routes, regional routes, local routes
 - The national routes are signposted with signs bearing a white bicycle symbol and route number on a brown background.
 - In addition: hiking and canoe routes, general information on bicycle touring.
 - Updating for every 2-4 years



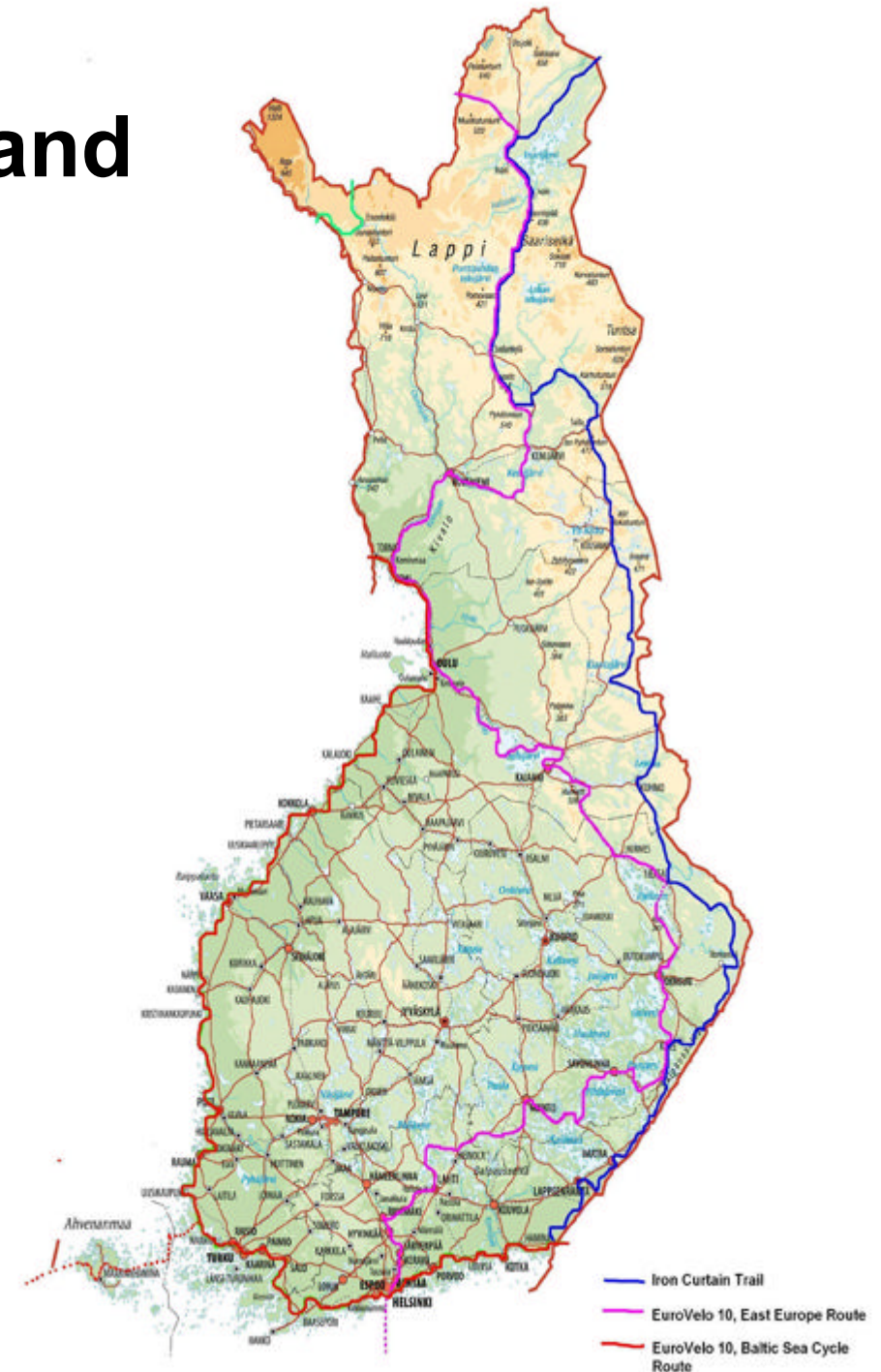
Iron Curtain Trail in Finland

- 1550 km
 - from Norwegian border to the coast of Gulf of Finland (next to Russian border)
- Cycling tourism promoters in Finland:
 - “creative example of branding a cycling route”
- Strength
 - Part of the international route
 - Marketing channel already exists
 - Excellent route book and map
 - Detailed information and historical background
 - pure nature, wilderness, silent roads and landscapes to enjoy



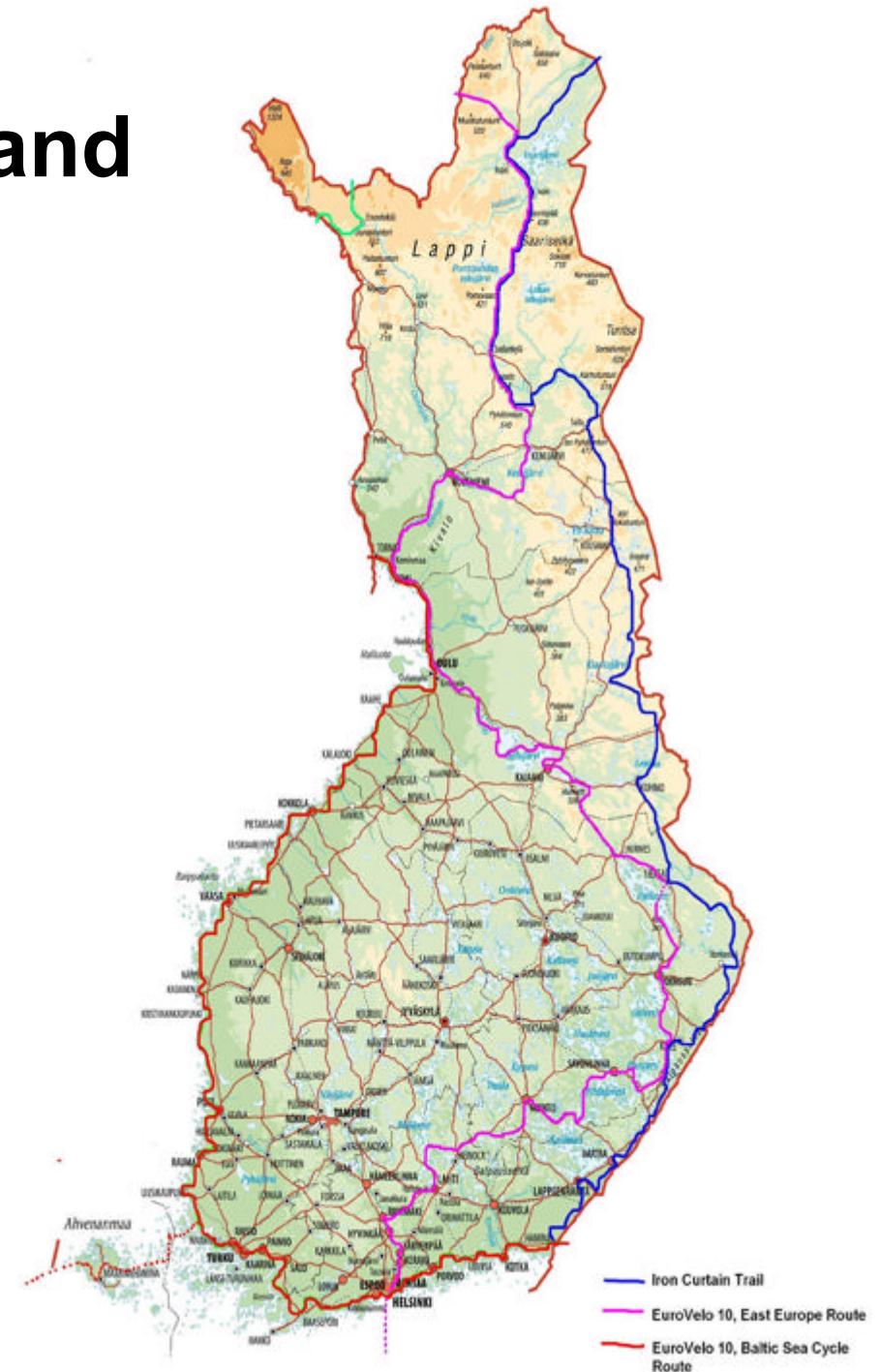
Iron Curtain Trail in Finland

- Challenges
 - some parts of the ICT goes through very sparsely populated areas with limited supply of services.
 - Matching with new recommendations to cycle tourism products and routes
 - Made by Finnish Tourist Board
 - e.g. distance between accommodation max. 30-50 km
 - Surface and condition of some roads along ICT
 - Not yet signposted



Iron Curtain Trail in Finland

- Opportunities
 - Updating and upgrading signposting of national routes
 - signposting of EuroVelo routes and ICT as a pilot?
 - Negotiations with Finnish Road administration have started
 - Synergy and benefits of marketing and developing EuroVelo routes and Iron Curtain Trail (partly) together
 - Aligning of ICT-route
 - Some small changes might be useful





Cycling in Finland

Best cycle routes
Maps and guides
Destinations



Homepage

- Homepage
- Bicycle touring routes
- Maps and guides
- Tourism services
- Travel tips

Cycling in Finland

Finland is a great place for bicycle touring. It provides varying landscapes for culture and nature-lovers alike.

These pages mainly contain information on what Finland has to offer for bicycle tourists. You can also find tips for planning and taking a trip.

We have put together lists of services and service providers for bicycle tourists by region. Check these out to see what kinds of services are offered for cyclists in each part of Finland.

There are also a large number of suitable maps and guides available.

New!

Iron Curtain Trail in Finland - experiencing the history of Europe by cycling. New [route book and map](#) published with detailed maps and information. ICT part 1 covers 1550 km route in Finland. Read more about this European country connecting...



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www.cyclinginfinland.fi

www.visitfinland.fi

