

# Planning of digital nature trail

## Necessary elements

1. Nature trail, mark terrain and digital signs
2. Searching for suitable applications
3. Websites, where information about the nature trail can be saved
4. Testing the nature trail



# 1. Nature trail

**As an example in this article is the Purola nature trail.**

**At the beginning of the trail, there are normal signs indicating the beginning of the trail, and along the trail there are markings about the direction of the trail.**



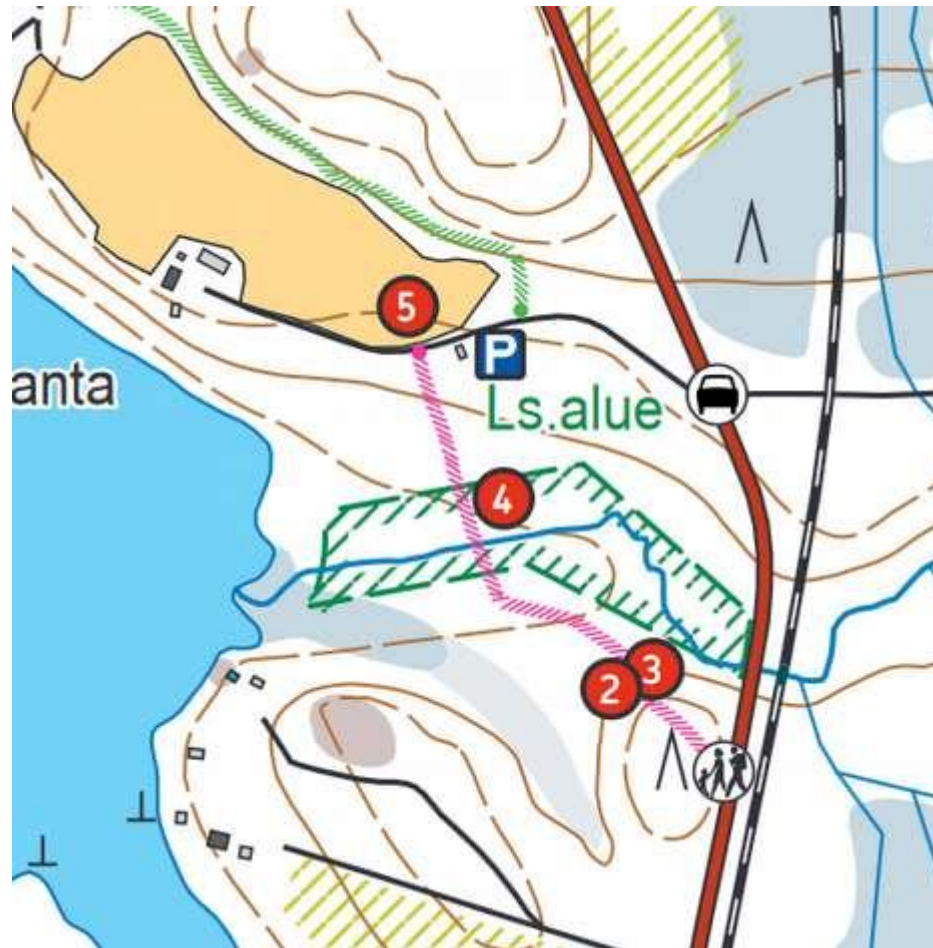
## **2. Searching for suitable applications**

### **2.1. Map programs and maps**

- In Finland, the National Land Survey of Finland maintains atlases that are freely viewable terrain maps. Planning a nature route on the basis of these maps succeeds well.**
- Google Maps provides a good general map.**



Purola nature trail - marked on the map with red and green lines.



## 2.2. Terrain marks for the nature trail

In addition to the map, the nature trail have to be marked on the terrain. At the beginning of the trail, there have to be a sign that clearly guides to the trail, and the marks along the trail must be clearly visible.





# Pihlajavesi uses stylized rowan berry bunches in signposts for terrain marks



# Information board along the path





## 2.3. The digital signs of the nature trail

Digital signs and information requires a QR code creation application, a QR reading application and a website - for example, Google's application. If necessary, place marks can also be placed on the Google map.





# 2.3.1 QR code creation - QR code generator

The use of the QR code creation application is similar for all applications.

- Start the QR application.
- Select the desired QR code type (web address, email, text, ...).
- Add the information you want to be included in the QR code.
- Select any additional functions such as color, captions, error

correction, etc.

In Android phones there are a whole range of QR code generator programs, for example:

**QR Code Generator**



## 2.3.2. Reading QR code

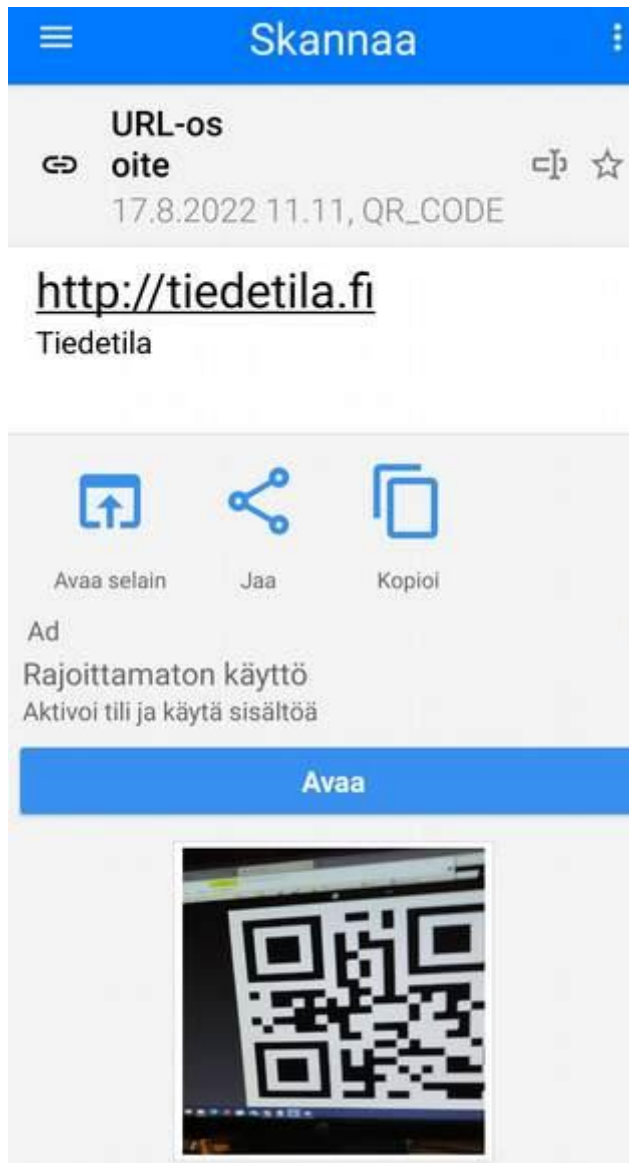
In some systems, QR code reading is a standard application - in others, you have to get it from the app store. Reading the QR code is based on the application's interpretation of the photo taken from the code.

Android phones have several QR code reading apps. For example:

### **QR & Barcode Scanner**

This app can read barcodes in addition to QR codes.





## Scanning of QR code

← Code interpreted  
- in this case, the web address was saved in the code

← Question – what to do next  
- is opened in the browser  
- share - send to a friend, for example  
- copied for further use

← Image obtained from the QR code with the application



## 2.3.3. The content of the QR code

The QR code needs a file of images or text. This is the additional information that the QR code is supposed to provide.

From the user's point of view, the process usually goes as follows:

The QR code is read → the result is the website address, which is redirected automatically or by the user to the website containing the information. The information on the page is now readable.





# 3. Making a website with Google tools

An existing Google username and password is required. Google e-mail usernames also work for creating websites. Otherwise you have to create user account.

Making a web page

1. Open the Google website creation page:

[sites.google.com](https://sites.google.com)

2. Start a page: click the (+) button in the lower right corner of the page



# Page title

3. Name the page. The name of the page is written in the upper left corner of the window. This is the name by which the page is known in internet. For example, the page 'Pihlajaveden toimijoita' (Operators of Pihlajavesi) can be seen at:

<https://sites.google.com/view/pihlajavedentoimijoita>



# Text frames and image frames

## 4. Text and images of Internet pages

### Text frames

- select from the menu on the right
- fill the frames either by writing or copy-paste -method.

### Image frames

- select from the menu on the right
- the titles in the image selection are a bit misleading because  
Select means that images already exist in the internet, Google Drive, etc. and  
Send refers to images in your computer.  
Embedding means adding data from a finished website, etc., to your own website that is in progress.



# Publishing

5. Publishing. When the page is ready - click the publish button at the top of the window.

Select who can view the page - choose public, because the purpose is to show the page to everyone.

The address of the page: is generated during publication and have to be saved for later use, for example with the copy-paste-method (CTRL and C - CTRL and V). With the help of the address, the page can be displayed from another website, or it can be used as a QR code link.





# Purola nature trail



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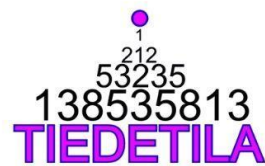


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