

# Ruokolahti Church

Address: Ukonsalmentie 5, 56100 Ruokolahti

WGS84-coordinates: 61.2844° N, 28.83° E



*Photo: Ruokolahti Parish*

The wooden cruciform church was built in 1854, at the break of empire and neo-gothic eras. It is the fourth church on the same hill and seats 1200 people. The roof is made of black iron plates and no more of shingle as in the older churches.

Architect Ernst Lohrmann is mentioned to have designed the church,

although famous artist Albert Edelfelt, who visited and painted on the church-hill in 1887 and whose monument is on the S-E corner of the church, has claimed that his father C. A. Edelfelt is the true designer. The claim might be founded, because C. A. Edelfelt worked and later run the same Intendent Office as Lohrmann.

The wooden chandeliers were specially made for this church and the church-textiles are made by Hanna Korvela Design, in 2007. The altarpiece is called Christ on the Cross and was painted by Alexandra Frosterus-Såltin in 1915. She painted fifty altarpieces, this being the last one. Most of the other church objects are donations. Councillor of Commerce Savander's heirs could not come to an agreement as to who gets the beautiful crystal chandelier, so they donated it to their church in 1873.

The holy water font was forged and donated by Ruokolahti-born copper artist Jaakko Äikäs. The brazen chandelier close to the altar is the oldest item and was donated by Staphan Sikiö and his wife Johanna in 1730, when Staphan was released from a Russian war prison.

The church was extensively renovated in 1914 as it turned 60 and has undergone many renovations since. In 1937 the roof got its copper finish, which was renewed in 2002. The interior of the church was repainted with the original colour scheme in 1993. The current 2216-pipe mechanic Baroque church organ is made in 1986, following the church's first (1915) organ, which served the church-goers for 70 years.



*Photo: Jouko Siitonen*

# Ruokolahti Kirche

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Foto: Ruokolahti Versammelte Gemeinde

Die heutige Kirche ist die vierte an gleichen Stelle und wurde 1854 gebaut. Der Entwurf stammt von dem Architekten Ernst Lohrmann. An einigen Stellen der Kirche sind neugotische Elemente erkennbar.

Die Kirche hat ca. 1200 Sitzplätze und wurde in den 60er Jahren dieses 20. Jahrhunderts renoviert, wobei man auch eine Zentralheizung installierte. Die Kirche wurde im Jahr 1993 in den ursprünglichen Farben restauriert.

Im Laufe der Jahrhunderte schenkten Standespersonen der Gemeinde Gemälde, Kronleuchter, Abendmahlskelche Textilien sowie Schmuck- und Gebrauchsgegenstände. Der älteste Gegenstand in der Kirche ist ein Kronleuchter aus Messing. Der Besitzer eines Sattelguts namens Staphan Sikiö schenkte ihn Gott zum Danke für die Freilassung aus langjähriger Gefangenschaft in Russland.

Das Altargemälde "Christus am Kreuz" ist von Aleksandra Frosterus-Sältin. Es ist das letzte von etwa fünfzig Altarbildern aus dem Jahr 1915. Nahe dem rechten Eingang der Kirche hängt das gemalte Ölgemälde "Das Heilige Abendmahl" von Petter Lang aus dem Jahr 1747.

Die heutige Barock Orgel aus dem Jahr 1986 hat 30 Register. Sie wurde von Musikdirektor Asko Rautionaho geplant und von Orgelbauer Hans Heinrich verfertigt.



Foto: Jouko Siitonen