

26. Huskvarnabergen with Brunstorp

At the rocky plateau, the view over southern Vättern and Jönköping and surrounding area is enchanting. There are many viewpoints alongside the paths which wind up the slope and on the steep slopes above.

Close to Huskvarna is the Huskvarnabergen nature reserve, a popular, open-air recreation area with many activities, paths and jogging tracks.

Geologically, the Huskvarnabergen hill is on a so-called greenstone massif which stretches from Tenhult in the south to Vista kulle in the north. The height differences are considerable, and the highest parts are over 200m above the surface of Lake Vättern. Up on the hill are the farms of Vassarp, Stibbarp and Smedstorp. A small-scale agricultural landscape broadens out with meadow and grazing land, small fields, uncultivated patches, deciduous woodland marsh, mixed deciduous woodland and spruce woodland. The very varied environments, together

with the differences in altitude and the greenstone which is rich in lime, support a great diversity of plant and animal life.

The steep slopes are dominated by deciduous timber woodland. Below the steep slopes and in the many damp brook areas are elm and ash trees with some maple and grey alder. Here also is a rich flora of herbaceous plants with yellow wood anemone, dog's mercury, wonder violet and spring vetchling.

On the rocky meadows above Brunstorp, there are species such as crimson crane's-bill, angular Solomon's seal and German catchfly, and also wild basil and oregano. On the ground below the IHKP hut are fine meadows with melancholy thistle,

lesser butterfly orchid, harebell, saw-wort and viper's-grass. On a sunny summer day one can see many species of butterfly here. In Strutsabacken, is Småland's densest population of the rare eyebright flower.

Old oaks, dead wood and old hollow trees are common in the Huskvarnabergen slope woodland. Here are species worthy of protection, including lichens such as tree lungwort and the rare *Pyrenula nitidella*. The environment is also favourable for several species of moss; including *Dicranum viride*, *Apometzgeria pubescens* and *Neckera pennata*. This environment with its diversity of species also has many small creatures; the six spot Burnet moth on the meadow, the tree-living bast bark beetle on



WORTH KNOWING

Running tracks, paths and skiing tracks begin at the IKHP hut, including the John Bauerleden and Södra Vätterleden paths. There are picnic areas at the “Kaffeängarna” north-west of the IKHP hut and at the Brunstorpsberget. There is also a riding path. Brunstorps gård has a summer café.

HOW TO GET THERE

To Huskvarnabergen: From the E4 road turn off towards Aneby. Take the Ådalsvägen and turn left to Egna hem. After the buildings, 500m to the southern edge of the reserve. From Ådalsvägen one can also follow the signs to IKHP.

To Brunstorp: From the E4 turn off towards Kaxholmen/Skärstad. After 500m, turn right at the Brunstorps gård sign.

PARKING: There is parking at the IKHP hut, Vassarp and Brunstorps gård.

BUS: From Huskvarna towards Egna hem to the Stjärnstigen bus stop, then walk 1.5 km northwards and bus towards Kaxholmen to Brunstorps gård bus stop.

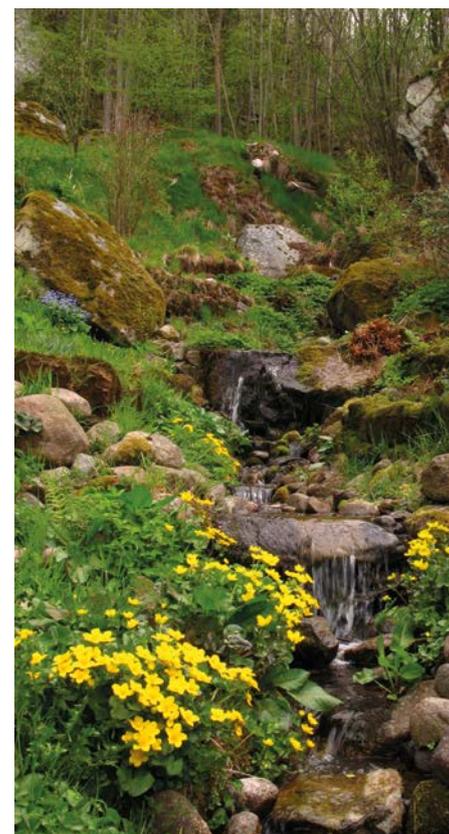
DIFFICULTY: ● *Medium*



Melancholy thistle and six spot Burnet moth



Common blue



the steep rocky slope, and along the brooks in the ravine valleys several species of land snail.



Eyebright