



Trail Tabergs- å-leden

DISTANCE: Long-distance footpath Månsarp-Jönköping

The Tabergs-å-leden trail is a footpath close to a built-up area and offers both nature-based and cultural experiences. Enjoy leafy vegetation and rippling water, winding paths and remains of the cradle of industry. The trail is indicated by green way-marks on posts and trees, and runs between Månsarp station and Jordbron by Munksjön lake. The height loss between Vederydssjön and Munksjön lakes is approx. 143 m. At Gruvgården at the foot of Taberg, you'll find a large picnic area with places for barbecues. From here, you can also walk up to the top of Taberg, the nature reserve, and enjoy the beautiful views.

The local people in the Tabergsådalen valley wanted to get closer to the river, spruce up their surroundings and offer visitors a nature-based experience close to a built-up area – hence the Tabergs-å-leden trail. The idea was first mooted in 2011 and has been realised by local volunteers in collaboration with Jönköping municipality. The trail is approx. 18 km long. You can walk all or parts of the trail, and it is close to public transport and housing.

The dams on the Tabergsån river are links to the cultural history of the area dating back to medieval mills, the opening of ironworks in the 17th century and the large-scale expansion of power stations in the early 20th century to meet the needs of industry. The legacy of the river's rich industrial history is reflected by the remaining dams. Today, there are 12 dams/waterfalls from Masugnsdamm down to Kvarndamm by Hovslätt open-air museum.

Along the trail, you'll find signs by sights of interest giving information on the dams and what used to be produced along the river. Picnic areas and other facilities are shown on the map.

Find out more

Useful website for planning your trip:

JÖNKÖPING PUBLIC TRANSPORT – jlt.se

TABERG LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY – hembygd.se/tabergs-bergslags

NORRAHAMMAR INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM – industrimuseet.se

TABERGS TOPPEN – tabergstoppen.se and toppgolf.se

SÖDRA VÄTTERLEDEN TRAIL – jonkoping.se

TABERG NATURE RESERVE – länstyrelsen.se

TABERG MINE AND BAT CENTRE – vattern.org

TABERG MINE AND BAT CENTRE – taberg.info/gruvan

HOVSLÄTT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY – hovslatt.se/hforening (info about the Kallebäcksleden and Hassafallsleden trails)

Allemansrätten

The Right of Public Access has been enshrined in Sweden's constitution since 1994. It is best summed up by the phrase "Don't disturb – don't destroy".

The Right of Public Access allows you to walk and cycle almost everywhere. You can camp for a night, and pick flowers, berries and mushrooms. You can light a small fire if you are careful. The best place to light a fire is in a designated place for barbecues. A ban on fires may be introduced in very dry conditions.

The Right of Public Access offers great freedom but this must not be to the detriment of others – everyone must show sound judgement, take responsibility for animals and nature, and show consideration for landowners and people who live in the countryside. You can find out more about the Right of Public Access at jonkoping.se.



Naturkartan

Download the Nature Map, your guide to nature in Jönköping municipality.



REPORT ERRORS 036-105000 (Contact)

Teckenförklaring

Tabergs-å-leden

Busshållplats

Tågstation

Rastplats

Rastplats med grill

Sevärdhet

Utsiktsplats

Naturreservat

Café

Restaurang

Livsmedelsbutik

Bensinstation

Vandrarhem

Hotell

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Meter

This topographic map illustrates the Tabergs-åleden area in Sweden. A prominent red line traces a route through the region, marked with 31 numbered stops. The map includes labels for various towns and locations such as Västervik, Ulvstorp, Sanderyd, Bararp, Hovslätt, Hökhult, Huluång, Branten, Norrahammar, Spånshult, Flahult, Stenslätten, ASA, Bråten, Gärdet, Porteshult, Mansarp, Taberg, Haga, Tokarp, Kättilstorp, Hagaberg, Råslätt, Lockebo, Odensjö, Kronheden, Barna, and Ljungarum. Water bodies like Västerviksjön, Ulvstorpssjön, Sanderydsjön, Mellansjön, Sörsjön, Boerydsjön, Månsarpssjön, Tahesjön, Granarpssjön, and Lången are shown in blue. The map also features a legend (Teckenförklaring) in the bottom left corner, a compass rose, and a scale bar (0 to 1000 meters). Various icons represent different facilities and points of interest along the route.

Things to see along the trail

1 Viewpoint at Månsarpasjön lake and info-board about the trail.

2 Månsarp's derelict churchyard, the site of Månsarp's old church. The strong stone wall is still standing, although the new church was completed in 1853. There is a picnic area south of the wall.

3 Northern part of Månsarpasjön lake, with lakeside picnic area. There was previously a ford here, later a bridge. If you cross the bridge, you can see an old sunken lane.

4 Huluhammar dam was built in the 1620s using natural stone. The dam is now self-regulating but continues to transmit some power to Huluhammar power station by the water being conducted through a cast inlet channel and wooden tank.

5 Taberg mill dam is now self-regulating but there are old buildings here and brick walls between the water and the fast-flowing rapids.

6 The Oscar Stone, gilded memorial inscription made in the rock face by King Oscar II when he and Queen Sofia visited Taberg to open the Jönköping-Vaggeryd railway on 27 August 1895. It can be hard to see, as it is a little way from the trail.

7 Taberg mine and bat centre; starting point for guided tours of the mine; BBQ and shelter. At the foot of the hill, you'll also find an info-board about Taberg and its mine, and starting points for footpaths up to the nature reserve and the top of Taberg hill. The long-distance lowland Södra Väterleden trail also has an offshoot to/from Taberg.

8 During the summer season, a café/restaurant, crazy golf and WCs are available at the top of Taberg. There are fine views all year round.

9 Bergtemplet, the hill temple, is a natural amphitheatre in the hillside. This was the site of summer mission meetings from 1925 and for several decades after. As many as 12,000 people gathered on the hill and at Masugnsplan along the Tabergsån river.

10 Sandseryd blast furnace dam was constructed in the early 17th century and remained in use until 1877. At the end of the 19th century, this was the site of the former Tabergs Maskinfabrik engineering works.

11 The blast furnace dam was built in the 1830s to power Taberg's "Herrugnen" blast furnace. Later, in 1905, the wool products factory Tabergs Yllefabrik was built here. No traces of this remain.

12 Gunpowder cellar – for storing explosives – belonged to Tabergs bruk.

13 Tabergs Bergslag local history society was formed in 1928 and owns and runs Taberg open-air museum. The mine owner's houses – Åsastugan, Benstampen and Båthuset – are just some of the old buildings at the park. You can also see traces of the inland ice which, as it melted, formed pits known as glacial kettles.

14 Jönssonadammen takes its name from the tinsmith Jönsson who lived right next to it. The dam had a 1.45 m drop but it was damaged and

demolished as early as 1898.

15 The remains of the Matteskanalen canal are clearly visible, even though it no longer contains any water. It was built at the same time as the Jönssonadammen dam to provide the Mattesdammen dam with water, which then distributed hydropower to a wood pulp factory. The canal was approx. 580 m long.

16 Magnussonsdammen was built as a retaining dam to regulate the flow in the Tabergsån river to Norrahammars bruk's power stations. It continues to serve as a retaining dam when the water is high, although the dam abutment has been removed.

17 Masmästardammen was built 1929-1933 and is 176 m above sea level. It has a drop of 3.1 m and the top of the dam is 8 m wide.

18 Tabergs Norre Hammare was built in the 1590s to operate helve and factory hammers. In 1696, it is said to have burnt down three times, but was rebuilt. It was the only remaining helve hammer in the Tabergs Bergslag mining company, and production was necessary to manufacture tools for the smelting works and mining. The facility was run as an industrial forge and plough manufactory until 1910, and demolished in 1912.

19 All that remains of Norrahammar public park is one flight of steps. The park was a popular venue for dances, theatre, political meetings, etc. from 1906 to 1968.

20 Norrahammar industrial and local museum is well worth a visit. Its excellent exhibits show how ore was mined from Taberg and how the smelting furnaces worked. A number of products manufactured at Norrahammars bruk are also on display.

21 Norrahammars bruk has its origins in an older works known as "Norre Hammare i Barnarps socken och Tweta Härad, Jönköping län". The modern ironworks was founded in 1877 by Wilhelm Spånberg and his brother Emil. The first products to leave "the works" were forged and included ploughs, jugs, coffee roasters and other household items. The first casting was carried out a few years later, and there was soon an impressive product range. The works were closed down in the early 1990s.

22 The waterfall in Massadammen was called "Brusahål", literally the "roaring hole". This name derived from the roaring and crashing of the Tabergsån river in this narrow section of the valley. Today, the dam abutment has been removed, and there is a place to barbecue food, a jetty and a fountain.

23 Hökhultsdammen was built in the 1890s (probably 1894) for the first power station to be constructed on the Tabergsån river. The dam wall was built of natural stone and named Nordhammarfallet. It was the highest projecting waterfall on the river. The dam was demolished in 2005 to protect fish stocks. Remains of the dam can be seen on both sides of the river

24 Clear remains of Åsa mill, which was built in 1865 and demolished in 1959.

25 Hulan mill was a two-storey timber building with a stone cellar floor. The mill accommodated three pairs of stones, driven by four undershot waterwheels. The dam burst in 1877 but the damage

was repaired and the mill mechanism continued to operate until the 1890s, when the mill and water rights were acquired by Norrahammars Bruk. Around the turn of the century, the site where the mill stood came to be called Hulufors.

26 Hovslätt millpond is the northernmost falls on the Tabergsån river. It is likely that a helve hammer, known locally as "Hofslets hammare", was sited here in the 17th century. There is a reference in 1630 to a hammer forge with hydraulic hammer and anvil that was used at Jönköping Castle.

27 Hovslätt open-air museum is located at the heart of Hovslätt on Dammgatan. The site dates back to the 17th century, when there was a hammer forge here. Records suggest that "Hofslets kvarn" – Hovslätt mill – was shown on a map dating from 1664. Ångsfors electric power station was installed in an adjoining building around 1910. Hovslätt local history society was formed in 1968 and took over the site. A number of old buildings have been demolished and new ones built. The open-air museum has collections of tools and machinery for agricultural, industrial and domestic use. The Hassafallsleden trail can be followed from the open-air museum.

28 Site of bridge and fishing place for Tokarp farm. Dating from the early 1900s. Crossing, old route between Tokarp and Ljungarum Church.

29 A number of fallen trees can be seen by the Tabergsån river. These may be trees that have died of natural causes but some may have been felled by beavers.

30 The Tabergsån river is home to birds attracted to both flowing and still water. You may see a grey wagtail or white-throated dipper.

31 Jordbron is an old bridging place. The old medieval country road south from Jönköping crossed the river here. The road probably has its roots in the prehistoric period with an "ancient" ford and bridge crossing.