



Kolarleden

DISTANCE: Bottnaryd trail

Bottnaryd's local history society works both to preserve and develop the local area, and has created a circular trail offering both nature-based and cultural experiences. The trail begins at the southern end of Stråken lake. You can walk around the circular trail in either direction, but we recommend that you start by heading northwards to the site of the former cement works (no. 1 on the map). Walking along by the lake and then through forest and glades, it is hard to imagine the level of activity that once went on here. Charcoal-burners lived in the charcoal-burner's hut here periodically to make charcoal in charcoal stacks. Part of the Kolarleden trail follows the old railway embankment once used by the trains between Borås and Jönköping. Four steamboats plied the lake to transport wood to power the locomotives. Today, visitors can enjoy the quiet and peaceful environment while learning about times past courtesy of the information signs provided by the local history society. Reveln open-air museum.

Bottnaryd's open-air museum – Reveln – lies on the promontory between Gårdssjön and Västersjön lakes, immediately west of Bottnaryd village and church. In 1944, the church district gave the society an old cottage open to the roof that stood in Lilla Klerebo. It was moved to Reveln open-air museum. A few years later, the former Swedish Forest Service donated a two-storey storage shed. This stood at Lilla Älgåsen and was also moved to Reveln. The third building moved here was a dovetailed cottage from Bäckanäs. When Storm Per (2007) brought down pine trees close to the local history society, the idea of building their own 10 m church vessel was born. The official opening was held with great pomp and ceremony in 2008, and the boat is now on display at the open-air museum. The society has built jetties on Västersjön lake by the open-air museum and on Gårdssjön lake by Bottnaryd church. The boat is used for ceremonies such as confirmations and marriages.

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 – lansstyrelsen.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

Laden Sie die Naturkarte herunter
– das ist Ihr Reiseführer durch die
Natur in der Gemeinde Jönköping.



Meldung von Fehlern 036-105000 (Kontakt)



Stråken

Busstrofogen

P

12 11

Botnaryds
urskog



0 meter 200 meter

Things to see along the trail

- 1** Cement works. Domej from Tolabo established the cement works by the shores of Stråken lake in 1947. Gravel, the raw material required for cement, was provided by the gravel ridge close to the works, and water was taken from the lake. The factory produced hollow bricks for house foundations. Production ceased in the early 1950s.
- 2** Charcoal burning and iron production. Charcoal was produced by heating wood with a limited supply of air in charcoal pits or stacks. It took 10-12 days to produce the charcoal, after which it had to cool for a few days. The charcoal-burner stayed in the charcoal-burner's hut at this time, as the stack had to be monitored day and night. Here you can see the remains of a charcoal stack.
- 3** Charcoal-burner's hut. This was where the charcoal burner stayed during the charcoal-making process. The remains of a charcoal pit normally take the form of a u-shaped mound, as the walls were usually covered with earth. Here there is a newly built charcoal-burner's hut you can go into, plus a place to barbecue outside.
- 4** Tar boiling. Wood tar was used to impregnate and protect various kinds of wooden structures that were exposed to the wind and weather, e.g. the hulls of boats and jetties. Tar boiling is an old technique dating back to Ancient Greece. The boiling took place in funnel-shaped pits dug into the ground or in tar piles, which are long and narrow ditches at an incline.
- 5** Bottnaryd primeval forest. The nature reserve Bottnaryd primeval forest is a very old coniferous forest, shaped by age and the prevailing winds. Standing deadwood and fallen trees lie undisturbed, testimony to the forces of nature. In one long valley is a small glistening bog, which provides variation and serves as a watering hole for animals.
- 6** The Ulricehamn line ("Pinebobanan"). Here you are walking along the Ulricehamn line, which was part of the Borås – Ulricehamn – Jönköping railway. Construction began in 1928 and lasted for 12 years. It was part of a scheme of the time to provide work for the long-term unemployed. This was the last railway in Sweden to be built by hand by genuine navvies. Services stopped running in 1960, and the rails were removed 1965-66.
- 7** Stone pit. Construction of the Ulricehamn line required blocks of stone to edge the railway embankment and for culverts to conduct water away in certain places. These small stone pits were common but are difficult to find today. Places where stone was quarried can be recognised from fractures in the rock or cut blocks that were left behind during the work.
- 8** Flax-drying pit. Flax is one of the most important cultivated plants and one of the oldest materials used to make textiles. Flax has been grown in Sweden since the 8th century BC. To ensure the flax straw was sufficiently dry after retting, it was dried in heated flax-drying pits.
- 9** Paths and roads. Horses became increasingly common during the Iron Age, with villages linked by a network of bridleways. Today, we can follow the journeys of priests, kings and others in the landscape thanks to the many sunken lanes that reveal the course of the old bridleways. These are particularly easy to see on sloping terrain where the erosion has been most severe.
- 10** Budsbron. We can see the remains of the old Budsbron cottage, which was first lived in by Hans and Ingeborg Andersson in the 1750s. It was occupied until the new cottage was built up on the hill around 1900. The first part of the name – Bud – probably derives from the old postal system based on messengers (Swedish: bud).
- 11** Klosterbacken stone circle. During the Iron Age, there were special places that were particularly holy. This may have been a grave or a memorial to someone who died. We don't actually know whether this stone circle is a grave...
- 12** Abandoned field. There are abandoned fields in this area comprising three terraced areas along the hillside. Abandoned fields are also known as "old fields" or "fossilised fields", and are evidence of earlier cultivation. The traces visible here can be dated as far back as the Bronze Age and right up to the 19th century.
- 13** Charcoal barn. Remains of a barn for storing charcoal. The charcoal was produced in charcoal stacks and transported on Stråken lake to locations such as Ryfors bruk works and Taberg blast furnace to be used in the manufacture of iron.