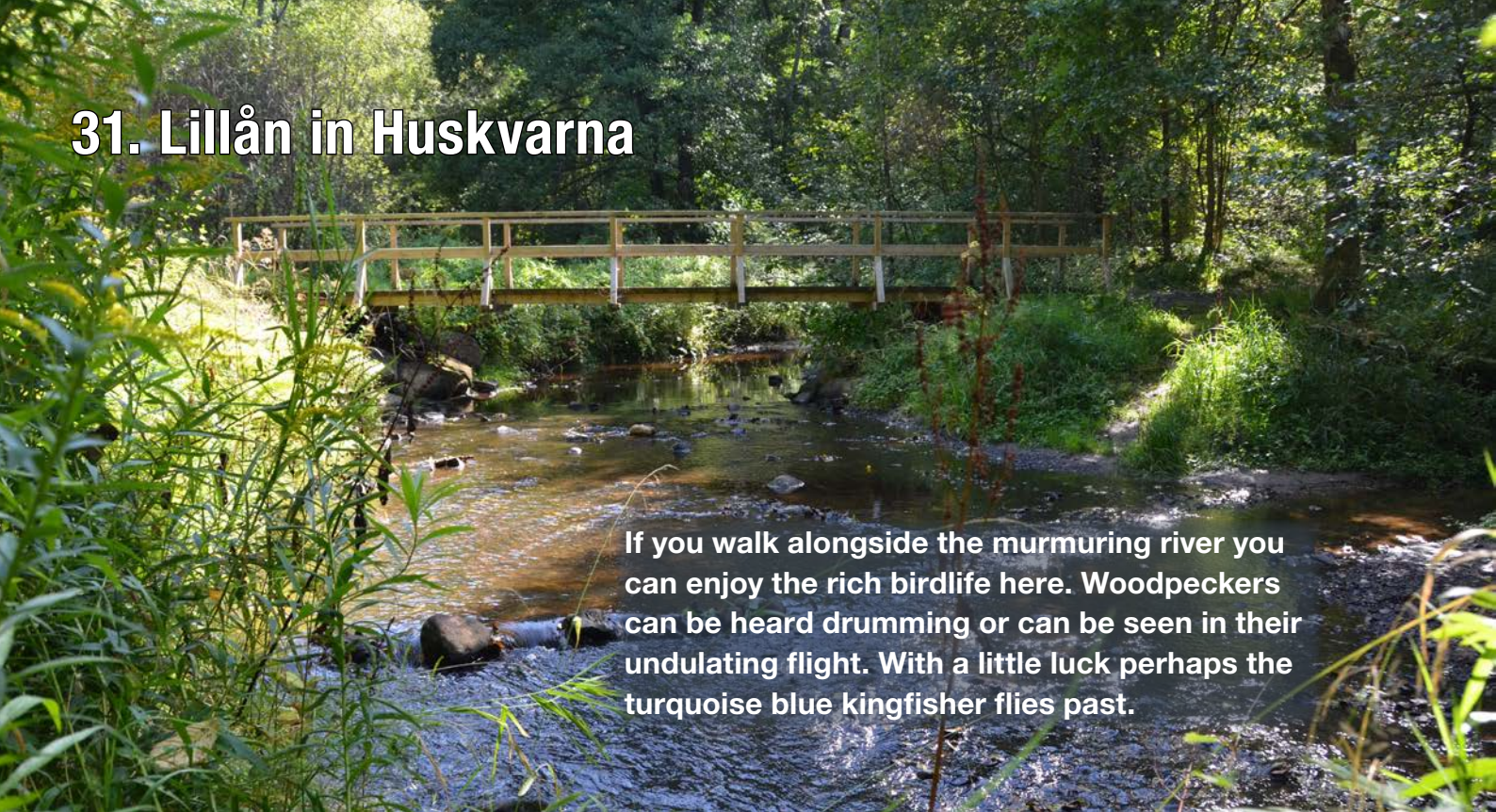


## 31. Lillån in Huskvarna



**If you walk alongside the murmuring river you can enjoy the rich birdlife here. Woodpeckers can be heard drumming or can be seen in their undulating flight. With a little luck perhaps the turquoise blue kingfisher flies past.**

The Lillån river runs from Huskvarnadalen below Vätterbranterna, which adjoins the long valley in the east. After the Huskvarna waterfall, the Lillån river joins the Huskvarnaån river. Below the residential areas of Tormenås and Bråneryd, the Lillån winds through the deciduous forest, through a long valley.

The earth is fertile here, and the woodland is rich in trees such as enormous oaks with broad crowns. Here and there are apple trees left over from former times, and the small-leaved lime grows on the steep slopes

in the south-west. Closest to the river is wet wooded pasture. Otherwise, the woodland is mainly deciduous. Where the trees grow close together and the ground is in shadow, grove flora abounds with plants such as ostrich fern, balsam, dog's mercury and wood stitchwort. In sunlit glades, light-loving species are found, such as stinging nettles and raspberry plants.

The high level of humidity and dead wood provide an interesting flora and fauna with various mosses, fungi, insects and snails. Birds to listen for are green woodpecker, hawfinch and

wood warbler, which are in the wood by the river.

The Lillån river is important for salmon trout and other fish, for example, river lamprey. The County Administrative Board regularly takes fish on a test basis from the Vättern tributaries to check that their environment is satisfactory. This is important for salmon trout which swim up the brooks for courtship during the autumn. If you want to see them, move carefully. If the fish are actively courting they can be clearly seen. Otherwise they can be motionless in



#### WORTH KNOWING

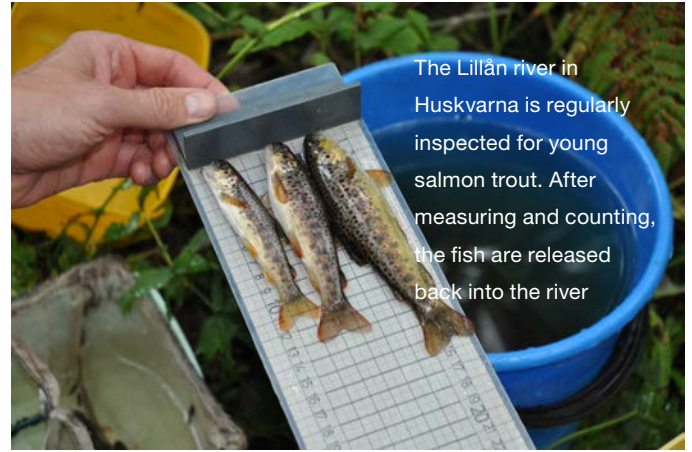
The Lillån river is close to the urban area of Huskvarna Söder, with paths, and some roads close to the river. A cycle path follows the Lillån river in the north, and the Lillåvågen road goes south. At the Bråneryd chapel there are paths to the river and a gravel road on the other side.

**HOW TO GET THERE:** Drive from Huskvarna Centre towards Tenhult, the Lillån river runs parallel to Tenhultsvägen.

**PARKING:** At Smedbyn, Vapenvallen and Bråneryd's kyrkogård (churchyard).

**BUS:** Bus from Huskvarna towards Tenhult, bus stop Bråneryd's kyrkogård.

**DIFFICULTY:** ● Easy



a backwater by a large rock. Below Bråneryds churchyard there are suitable stretches with gravelly bottom where, with luck, one can see the fish swimming, jumping and splashing.

When the salmon trout fry subsequently emerge in the spring, they remain in the river for two years before they migrate down to Lake Vättern.



Balsam



Kingfisher