

## 28. Huskvarnafallen and Pusta kulle

**A grey wagtail may be perched on one of the rocky shelves, bobbing its long tail, before it makes its zipping call and flies off.**

Cauldron potholes in the waterfall

One of Lake Vättern's largest tributaries, the Huskvarnaån river, formerly had dramatic waterfalls where it ran through a rift valley in Vättern's fault scarp. Before the falls were dammed and regulated, they formed south Sweden's highest waterfall, with a total fall height of 116m divided into eight separate falls. Today, there is a smaller, but nevertheless even stream of water flowing through the rift valley, mainly from the Kyrkbäcken tributary. Thanks to the high humidity here, there are many animals and plants which thrive in damp conditions. The water is released once a

year, on "Fall day", which is usually at the end of the summer. Then one can again see the waterfall at its most magnificent, cascading down the steep slope.

On the slope there is deciduous woodland; oak, elm, ash, maple, lime, beech and hazel. Many of the trees are old and large. Here also is a special grove flora with species such as wood cow-wheat which flowers in June.

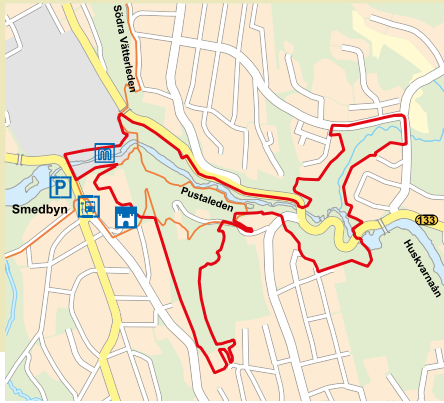
Apart from the grey wagtail, the fast-flowing watercourse has the dipper, which bobs as it sits on a stone in shallow water, and nests in the area. In the upper area of the fall, there are

several enormous potholes chiselled out from the rock.

This part of the steep slope is called Pusta kulle; it is south of the Huskvarna waterfall.

If one continues the path southwards, the slope is less steep. Here one can see meadowland, the meadow flora having been replaced by grove plants such as Solomon's seal and whorled Solomon's seal. In the forest there is also much dead wood, dry wood, old hollow trees and dead fallen trees.

Opposite Smedbyn is Slottsvillan, which was built at the end of the 19th



#### WORTH KNOWING

The Pustaleden path begins at Stampaplan next to Fabriksmuseet. Along the well-marked path are information boards and steps. The path is short, 1,7 km, but very up and very down. The Södra Vätternleden hiking trail passes the area at Turistbron over the deep valley and continues westwards.

**HOW TO GET THERE:** From Huskvarna centre a 750m walk to Fabriksmuseet (the Factory museum) and Smedbyn. Signs to Fabriksmuseet.

**PARKING:** At Smedbyn (Stampaplan).

**BUS:** From Huskvarna towards Jutaholm or Tenhult to bus stop Stampaplan.

**DIFFICULTY:** ● *Advanced*



St. John's wort



Grey wagtail

century. It was the house of the iron master, Wilhelm Tham. Above the Slottsvillan is a stand of old beech trees, some coppiced on broad bases. In the park below the Slottsvillan are three wide-crowned beech trees and a horse chestnut which are tastefully situated on the lawn. The beech trees are natural monuments and contain interesting wood fungi.



Brown knapweed



Wood cow-wheat