

16. Röjeberget, Grav and Fingalstorp



Grav and Fingalstorp are two small villages side by side close to the Vätterbranten slope.

Fingalstorp is high up with extensive views of the surroundings and Lake Vättern. Grav is somewhat lower down in a depression. The motorway passes quite close below the buildings and cuts the villages off from direct contact with Lake Vättern.

If you turn off from the E4 road at Vättersmålen and drive along the winding village road towards Grav and Fingalstorp, it seems that time has stood still. The past and the present meet in a small-scale varied landscape with small fields, grazing land, lopped trees and deciduous woodland on the steep slopes.

The villages of Grav and Fingalstorp are centrally located in the Biosphere Reserve East Vättern Scarp Landscape, in a part of the province which is characterised by timber trees and mixed woodland on a steep slope environment. Both villages are Natura 2000 areas. The steep-slope woodland and grazing land at Grav is also protected as a nature reserve called Röjeberget. Their conservation value is connected to a number of species of tree and deciduous woodland which is especially valuable with many key biotypes.

The Röjeberget nature reserve is mainly wooded and stretches

alongside the fault scarp which turns away from Lake Vättern at Grav. Up on the steep rocky slope, pine trees and mixed stands of pine and spruce dominate, with sunlit areas of flat rock. On the natural steep slope below are timber trees and deciduous woodland of elm, ash, oak, Swedish white-beam, maple and birch. Many of the trees are old and there is dead wood throughout the area. Several brooks run down towards Lake Vättern through damp ravines.

In these varied environments there are many uncommon and threatened mosses, lichens, fungi, insects and



WORTH KNOWING

From Grav there is a marked woodland path up to a viewpoint in the southern part of the reserve, with a magnificent view over the slope, Lake Vättern and Visingsö.

HOW TO GET THERE: Leave the E4 road at Vättersmålen. After a couple of hundred metres towards Örserum there is a turning to the right towards Grav and Fingalstorp.

PARKING: There is a small parking area at the nature reserve of Röjeberget in Grav.

DIFFICULTY: ● *Medium*

other small creatures. During the spring, the vascular flora is of especial interest, with species such as shining cranesbill, wall whitlowgrass, Solomon's seal and wonder violet.

The grazing land at Fingalstorp is among the finest and most valuable in the Östra Vätterbranten. The dry meadow which is rich in herbaceous plants has especially many species, such as fern-leaf dropwort, quaking grass, kidney vetch, common milkwort, hoary plantain, rock rose and fairy flax.

The high conservation value is also connected to the many lopped ash, elm and maple trees. Most of these are north of the farm, at the edge of the grazing land. Here, one can see young trees which have been lopped recently and really old stumps side by side. Other old trees on the land and



Fairy flax



Wonder violet



There is a nature conservation agreement for the grazing land.

along the village road are Swedish whitebeam, oak, crab-apple, pear and juniper.



Common milkwort