

## 38. Stadsparken



**“In Jönköping, Stadsparken (the city park) is the park of parks. If the Rådhusparken Park is the representative best room of the town, the Stadsparken Park is its living room.”**

From a Centenary publication, Jönköping’s county museum, 1996

The city park is in a natural setting with species worthy of protection and a biological cultural heritage in the form of old trees. Early in the history of the park, a bird museum was built, with all Sweden’s species of bird. Later, an arboretum was built in the northern part of the park. The park has one of Sweden’s largest spruce trees, an American coastal spruce.

At the beginning of the last century, Jönköping decided that Skjutsarehagen west of the town should become a city park. The idea was that the city’s inhabitants should have an excursion destination on a high-up place with fresh air, beautiful views and a park

where one could walk anywhere. It was a people’s health project of its time.

When the Bäckaby church was moved to Jönköping’s city park in 1902, the Northern Småland Antiquity Association started a cultural history collection. The Association collected buildings from various parts of Småland into an outdoor museum, including the 17th century cottage Ryggåsstugan. The bell tower in the city park is from the 18th century, and was donated by the Solberga parish. Gnosjö donated a fully equipped wire-drawing mill. Other examples of typical Småland buildings are a

store house, market stall and tenement soldier’s cottage.

As regards nature, the city park has large pine trees in sunny positions, and deciduous trees.

At the park entrance at Stadsparksvallen and southwards is a core area of valuable trees. The pine trees are important for species such as the long-horned beetle. There are ground fungi which live in symbiosis with oak trees, beech and hazel. Examples of unusual fungi are bitter beech bolete and butter bolete. The pine trees and large oaks are from the time when the hill was pasture for horses, owned by an inn.





### WORTH KNOWING

The city park has many attractions, extensive views over Jönköping and Vättern Lake, a large play area, bird pond, animal enclosures, bird museum and many heritage buildings from various parts of Småland. Here is one of Sweden's most beautifully located sports areas, Stadsparksvallen. In the park there is also a barbecue site, minigolf, dancing area, kiosk and outdoor restaurant.

**HOW TO GET THERE:** Dunkehallavägen, turn left at the sign Stadsparken. To the southern entrance, take the continuation of Humlevägen from Åsenvägen.

**PARKING:** At the northern and southern entrances.

**BUS:** Towards Hisingsängen/Dalvik, bus stop Stadsparken, or towards Mariebo, bus stop Tallplatsen to get to the southern entrance.

**DIFFICULTY:** ● Very easy



Fallow deer



The bird museum



Bird houses

