

# SYMBOLS

- Lake Vänern national cycling trail/ Vänerleden
- Roundtrip
- Biking Värmland, MT (Mountain bike trail)
- Lake Skagern roundtrip

Hiking trail



Oslo Karlstad

Nature reserve

# Scan the QR-code for Naturkartan

Stockholm Karlskoga

12

... 0550–333 33 070–748 11 68 070–321 53 53

e — Gustafsvik, p. 6-7 e Prästgård ................ os Nancy i Ölme .........

Gustafsvik — Presterud, p. 8 Strandgården .................. Hotell Marieberg .............

... 0550-800 60 ... 0550-173 40 ... 0550-153 40 ... 0550-105 50 ... 0550-122 00 ... 0550-122 00 ... 0550-173 40 ... 0550-173 813

# Riding on

Björneborg





Borrow tools for repair Locked bicycle storag

CYCLE-FRIENDLY HOST

Drying facilities for clothes

Information about public tra









Mariestad Gullspång





#### **RIGHT OF PUBLIC ACCESS**

Cycling is a wonderful way of getting around, and the right of public access allows you to cycle both on gravel roads and on paths in the forest. But you must show respect and consideration. You are not to cycle too close to private property, those who live there must not be disturbed. How close you can pass depends on how big the risk is to disturb.

#### ADJUST YOUR CHOICE OF TRAIL AND SPEED

It is possible to cycle in a way considerate to nature. Always adjust your choice of trail and speed to cause as little disturbance as possible.

#### IT IS FORBIDDEN TO RIDE A BIKE IN **CERTAIN AREAS**

It is forbidden to ride a bike in gardens, plantations, park plantations, newly planted wood areas, arable land, and areas of growing crops.

#### **KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN MIND:**

- Avoid soft trails in spring and autumn when the around is wet.
- Avoid cycling on rounded rocks, flower fields, soft bogs and marshes, for examples.
- Adjust your speed to the conditions of the ground.
- Rough tread on tires can cause damage to fragile trails.
- It is forbidden to ride a horse or bike on the exercise trails at Hultet, Presterud, Björkvallen, Ölme, Björneborg, Bäckhammar and Rudskoga.
- At Hultet you must follow the bicycle signs and it is forbidden to cross the exercise trails.
- At Presterud, it is not permitted to cycle on the 3 km track.
- It is forbidden to ride a bike on all hiking trails, unless otherwise stated.

#### ELECTRIC BICYCLES NOT ALLOWED

You may not use electric bicycles in the forests or countryside and not on trails or paths, unless landowners have specifically allowed it.





visitvarmland.com/kristinehamn/en/tips-och-qui-

der/cyklaikristinehamn/ facebook.com/visitkristinehamn @visitkristinehamn



Kristinehamn has a lot to offer to those who enjoy cycling, both for the racing enthusiast and for those who prefer a slower pace. There are bike trails along the lake, trails that pass quaint red houses, and trails that run along village streets and gravel roads in the forest. Choose between the national biking trail called Vänerleden (640 km), mountain bike trails, regular bike trails, the trail around Lake Skagern, or any of the recommended tours in this leaflet (no sians).

The national bike trail **Vänerleden** runs around the largest lake in Sweden, Lake Vänern. On pages 6-17 you'll find detailed descriptions of the 86.6 kilometres trail that go through Kristinehamn. Vänerleden is marked with red signs.

"You're only a ride away from a happy mood" - Sarah Bentley, Great Britain

"It's the unknown that leads the way" - Heinz, Germany

Mountain bike trails can be found in three locations: Björkvallen, Sättra, and Hultet. They run through varied terrain. The shortest is 3 km and the longest is 18 km. Each trail is rated by degree of difficulty and signs provide all the information you need for an enjoyable ride. Read more on pages 18-27.

#### Bike rentals:

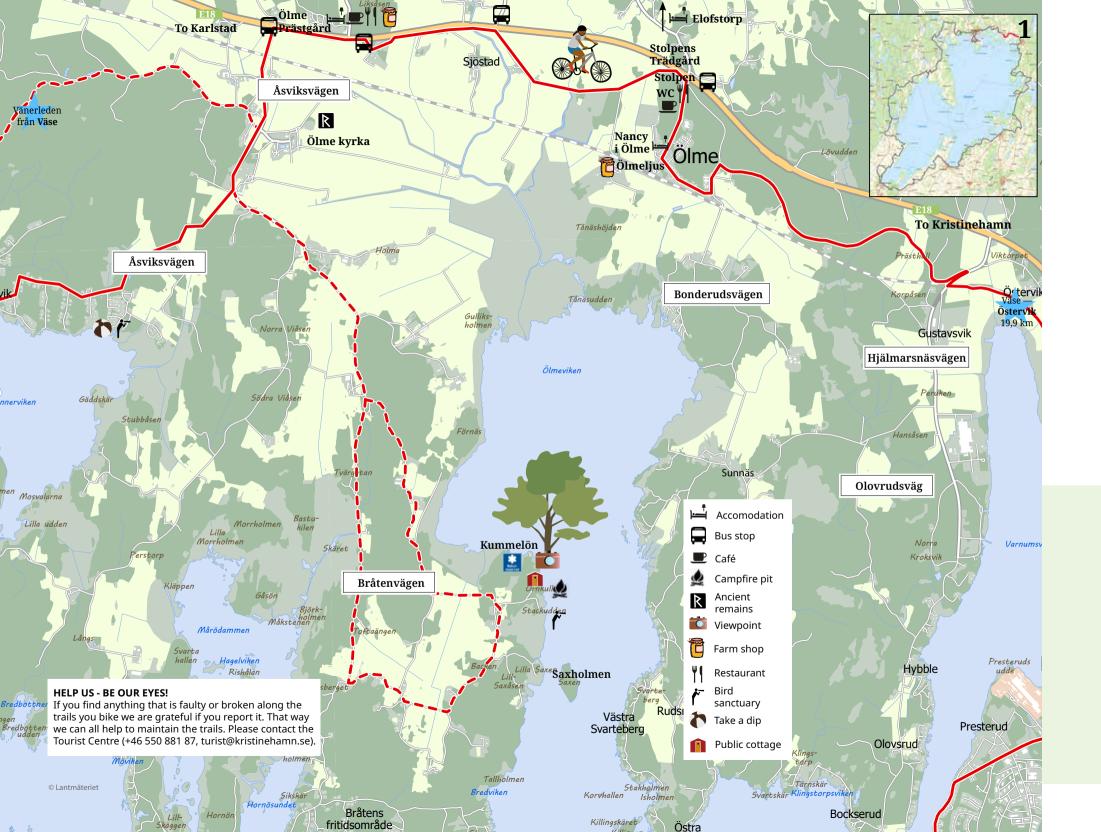
If you don't have a bike of your own, you can rent both regular and electrical bikes for a either day or a few hours.

#### Prices for 2023:

**Stadshotellet** (summer) +46 550 - 122 00. Price from: 200 SEK/dag. **Team Sportia** +46 550 - 107 01. 3 gears: price from: 250 SEK/24H. Electric: price from: 400 SEK/24H.

#### Bring your bike on public transports Some trains, buses and boats allow

you to bring your bike. The train between Degerfors and Charlottenberg is one example.





#### 1. Väse — Östervik

Follow the signs from **the village of Väse** to **Strandvik.** Strandvik is located close to lake Vänern. Find your own spot and enjoy the view or a dip in the lake.

Get back on your bike and continue along the marked trail until you reach **Ölme kyrka**. This white church is from 1788 and some of the buildings surrounding it are also very old. Just east of the church is a gravesite from the Iron Age.

Hungry? The restaurant at Ölme Prästgård Gästgiveri (on the opposite side of E18) has wonderful menus (opening hours vary over the year).

# Continue along the trail that runs paral-

19.9 km

Continue along the trail that runs parallel to E18. **Stolpens rastplats** has a small shop, toilets, and a restaurant serving homemade hamburgers (**Burger House**).

In the village om Ölme you find the shop **Ölmeljus diversehandel.** Stop here and make a journey back in time. The shop has an interior from the early 20th century. The shop also sells local crafts and homemade candles

A winding country road takes you from Ölme to Gustafsvik and Östervik where there is a lot to see.

#### Roundtrip

28,8 km

#### From Ölme Prästgård Kummelön tour

Be careful when crossing E18. Follow the trail along the road for a few 100 meters then take a left toward the church (Ölme kyrka) and the nature reserve Kummelön. At the nature reserve, you'll find old oak trees, rare plants, and a rich bird life.

Activities along this stretch can be found on page 7. Continue past Strandvik and take the second road to the right to get back to Ölme Prästgård.

#### From Nancy i Ölme East Varnum tour

17,5 km

Cycle the Vänerleden on the leafy paved road that runs nearby the E18 to Östervik's chapel.

Feel free to take a break and marvel at the exciting chapel, say hello to the animals at the city farm and check out the birdlife. More info, see page 9.

Then pedal the trail Vänerleden back to Ölme.





#### Roundtrip

**Guest harbor** 27 km **Guest Marina tour** 

**Start at the marina** (Gästhamnen) and follow the cycle trail Vänerleden (direction Karlstad) to **Gustafsvik**. From Gustafsvik continue south on Hjälmarsnäsvägen along the dotted route described on page 6.

After visiting the **village of Ölme** you return to the marina by following the signs for Vänerleden.

#### 2. Östervik — Presterud

If you want to check out the rich bird life, there are several options. You have a bird tower at **Gustafsvik**, down towards the water and another one at the other side of the bay at Östervik. There is also a nice rest area amongst the trees on the eastern side of the bay. For a funfulled experience, try go-karting on the other side of E18 (opening hours vary over the year).

Follow the signs for Vänerleden, direction Kristinehamn (east). Soon you'll see an old chapel (Österviks kapell). This was once the home of the famous sculptor and artist Eric Rafael Rådberg. The chapel is open during summer and has a fascinating garden and a nice view. Stadsbondgården next to the chapel is a public farm. Meet the animals and use

the campfire pit all year round. Café with limited opening hours.

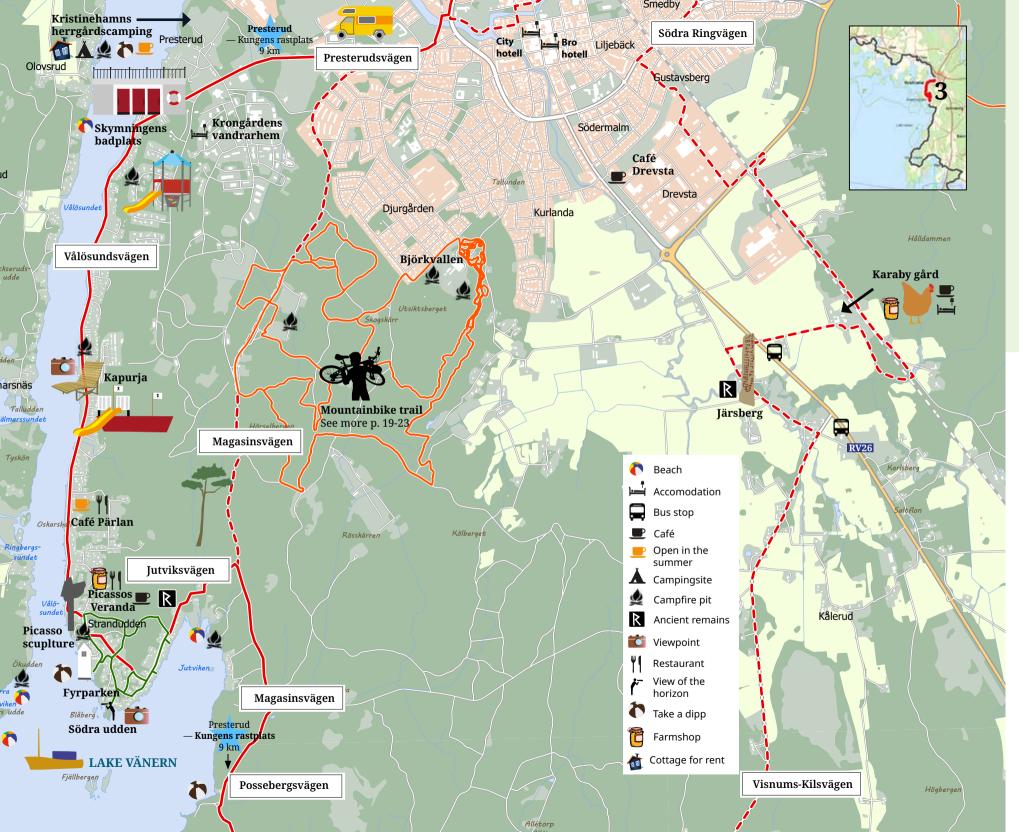
In the beautiful old hospital area of **Marieberg**, built in 1883, you'll find the Art Museum – **Kristinehamns konstmuseum**. The museum specialises in modern art and has an Italian restaurant serving lunch, coffee and dinner and a small shop. In the area you also find a playground, a large park, and a Second-hand store. The park was created by the patients, gardeners, and overseers of the hospital. Don't miss the Pavilion at the pond (Svandammen).

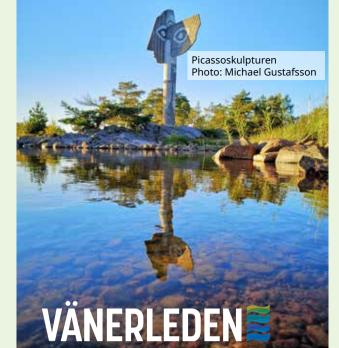
Cycle along the water and residential areas to get to **Kristinehamns Gästhamn/ Guest marina** which has a guest marina, motorhome parking and miniature golf.

Now you are close to the center where you can find restaurants, bakeries and coffee shops. Take a break and visit e.g. **Krukmakeri hemjord (1)**, the **Historical Museum (2)** and the **Lev Vackert shop (3)**. In the city center there are unique shops, old houses, historical signs, a digital quest, bridges and parks. Join **Mrs. Nordenfeldt** on a city walk back to the 18th century. You will find more tips on what you can do at visitkristinehamn.se or Kristinehamn's tourist office.

6.7 km

Leave the town center and follow the signs for Vänerleden leading south.





## Roundtrip

Photo: Martin Sandmark

**Picasso sculpture tour** 12,1 km Start: Guest marina. Follow Vänerleden to the Picasso sculpture and spend some time in the park. Follow Jutviksvägen, take left at Magasinsvägen. Follow the dotted route on the map.

#### 3. Presterud — Kungens rastplats

9 km

Presterud is the name of the area next to the popular campsite **Kristinehamn Herrgårdscamping och stugor**.

Take a right turn at the exit to the campsite and you will have the beautiful manor called **Presteruds Herrgård** right in front of you. Lead your bike along the side of the lawn and enjoy the view of **Vålösundet**, which is part of lake Vänern. Continue towards the Picasso sculpture, one of the most beutiful stretches of Vänerleden. The trail runs along the water for almost 4,5 km and offers several chances to admire the horizon. Enjoy ice-cream, coffee or dinner along the way.

At the world's highest monumental sculpture by Pablo Picasso, you should take the opportunity to park your bike. Visit both viewpoints - they give a completely different impression of the sculpture. Make sure to see it from the lake side, looking towards

the horizon. In summer there is a Tourist info point here. Do you want to get active but are tired of the bike saddle? Jacqueline's nature trail, 2.5 km, starts near the Picasso sculpture. It is a pleasant walk with several nice viewpoints.

After the Picasso sculpture, the bike trail continues through an area of houses. Take a right turn to **Fyrparken** for a dip in the lake or to enjoy your picnic. Follow the trail and turn right on **Magasinsvägen.** The first road to the right takes you to a beach with a great view and outdoor toilet.

The trail follows **Magasinsvägen** that becomes **Possebergsvägen**. This takes you through a forest where you might find wild berries or mushrooms. You pass roads that lead to 2 viewpoints: Värnanäs and Kungens rastplats. At Kungens rastplats there's a campfire pit and wind protection.



Visnums-Kilsvägen

#### Roundtrip

**Experience Lake Vänern and the rune stone** 26,8 km Start: Guest marina. Follow Vänerleden to Visnums-kilsvägen. Take a left turn and leave the trail. Follow Visnums-kilsvägen in direction north along the dotted route on the map. The map continues on page 10. Just before road 26 you take a left turn onto a small road. On one of the fields you can admire the runestone at **Järsberg** with inscriptions from the sixth century. From Järsberg on the other side of road 26 there's a small farm shop called **Karaby** with local produce and café open some days of the week. They also offer accomodation. Be careful when you cross the road 26. Continue past the small farm and go under the railway. Turn left and follow the small road until you come across road 26 again (opposite Beijer and STC). Pass road 26 and follow Vegavägen, turn right onto Hantverksgatan that later becomes Gustavsbergsvägen. On the Drevsta area you can make a stop at Café Drevsta. When Gustavsbergsvägen comes to Södra Ringvägen turn right.

Now can look on the map at page 8. At the roundabout by ICA Maxi take a left turn and continue to the folk museum/ Hembygdsgården. This is a nice place for a rest and a cup of coffee. You can also play a game of pétanque or stroll around the old red wooden houses and listen to the rippling brook. Continue along Bjurtjärnsgatan to Östra Ringvägen and then make a left turn onto Prästgatan. Enjoy the old wooden houses and take an extra look at the red house with white ornamentation on the right side just before the left curve. This is "Wallnerska villan" a copy of a house from the World Fair in Paris 1889. Cross the railroad and take an immediate right.

Continued on page 13.

### 4. Kungens rastplats — Brattsand

**Kungens Rastplats** 

Photo: Marie-Louise Blomqvist

Continue going south. You will get to Visnums-kilsvägen where you take a right turn. The road is paved, and you now pass through a rural area with fields, forests, and houses. After 2 km your reach an exit to the left leading to a camp site called **Reysands familie**camping. This is a spot perfect for a rest, a dip in the lake and a picnic. The view is wonderful. Another lake view is 1,5 km further south.

Take a right turn and follow the signs for **Hults sommarhem** (700 m) which has a beach, secondhand shop and a café open in the summer. Instead of a right turn for Hults sommarhem you can choose to make a left turn and go to Vike, a small countryside village with active farmers. In Vike you get a feeling of traveling back in history The road winds crookedly along the houses and buildings clustered on the ridge. In the past, farmers could not possibly imagine building a house on good farming land. The name Vike means bay, because a bay from the lake once went all the way up here. The small farm shop **Sörgården** has limited opening hours. Say hi to the hens and buy some local produce for vour barbeque.

Stay on Visnums-Kilsvägen until you get to Brattsand and another glimpse of the lake.

Continued from page 12: Cross the bridge and take left onto Fabriksgatan. Cross Norra Staketgatan and take a right onto Trädgårdsgatan. You are now in Kristinehamn's city center and on a road from the 19th century. Cross Kungsgatan and take a left turn at Väs**terlånggatan** to cross the bridge. Admire the yellow wooden house (Wahlundsgården) on your right-hand side. This was built around 1805. Choose to make a left turn and visit the city center (recommendations on p 8). You can also take a right turn and visit the small shop **Retrovågen** (2). This is a deli with local produce and retro products. Continue on Hovslagaregatan past the old wooden houses and before the bridge, to the left, is a shop with interior decorations Lev Vackert (3). It is housed in a building from the 16th century once moved here. Cross the bridge and go straight through the park and underneath the road. You are back at the **Guest marina**/ Kristinehamns Gästhamn.

# **VÄNERLEDEN**

10.7 km





#### 5. Brattsand - Hygn

Continue south on **Visnums-kilsvägen** for another 6 km. If you are in a hurry, and cycle a longer stretch of Vänerleden, you can take a shortcut and continue Visnums-Kilsvägen straight until you reach **Kilsvägen.** 

Vänerleden passes by **Medhamn** and the old fishing port (you need to leave the trail to see it). After Medhamn you can take a hiking detour to **Dyrön** (5 km), a nature reserve with a wonderful view, or go for a hike at **Nötön-Åråsviken**. Three short quality marked hiking trails with nice views of the lake.

Continue and you will pass the village Visnums-Kil with dwellings from the Iron Age. Four old graveyards and several manor houses date back to the 16th and 17th century when the area belonged to the wealthy monastery at Riseberga.

Dyrön Photo: Visit Kristinehamn The stone **church at Visnums-Kil** was built in 1756 and has a tall steeple. A Madonna from the 11th century and an altar piece from the 15th century are preserved and remain. On summer Sundays coffee and cakes are served in the **folk museum**.

Hiking trails **Prästön and Linsön** (Nötön-Åråsviken) are located east of Visnums-Kil. Stay for a hike or spend the night, a small cottage can give shelter. Continue by passing the crossroad at Ed, **Kilsvägen.** This is where the shortcut joins the Vänerleden trail again.

The area on the right-hand side is renowned for its rich bird life. A bird tower is located a few hundred meters from the road, follow the signs.

The deer in the fields belong to the farm Hygns gård, and you can buy deer meat and other wild meat in their shop **Hygns Vilt Gårdsbutik**.





Read more about hiking in Kristinehamn



#### 6. Hygn — Gullspång

Continue for 1,5 km before turning right onto Säbyvägen, to Sund. If you want to take a swim take a left and follow signs for "Bengtsgårds badplats" with campfire pit, outdoor toilet, bathing jetty and nice grass.

There is an alternative route along Kilsvägen and the oak avenue leading up to **Värmlands Säby.** Enjoy a picnic or a walk in the park surrounding the magnificent manor building from the 18th century. Summertime the park is open, and you may enjoy your picnic here, providing you don't disturb.

The village of Nybble has a grocery store, ICA Nära Nybble, in case you need to fill up with food or drink (approximately 1,5 km one way). To continue to Frosterud you need to cross the RV26. Be careful when you cross, it is a busy road. You will soon get to a nice and calm bike trail.

On the other side follow the road to Frosterud. You pass through forests and fields. After 3 km turn toward **Frosterud**.

At Frosterud follow signs for **Rudskoga Kyrka**, a church from the 16th century. Cross the road 204 with caution, it's very busy! Continue straight towards the church, after 150 meters take a right onto the bike trail.

#### Time to take a break?

Continue to the church, Rudskoga kyrka, by the lake. It has a magnificent view, a peaceful atmosphere and a public toilet.

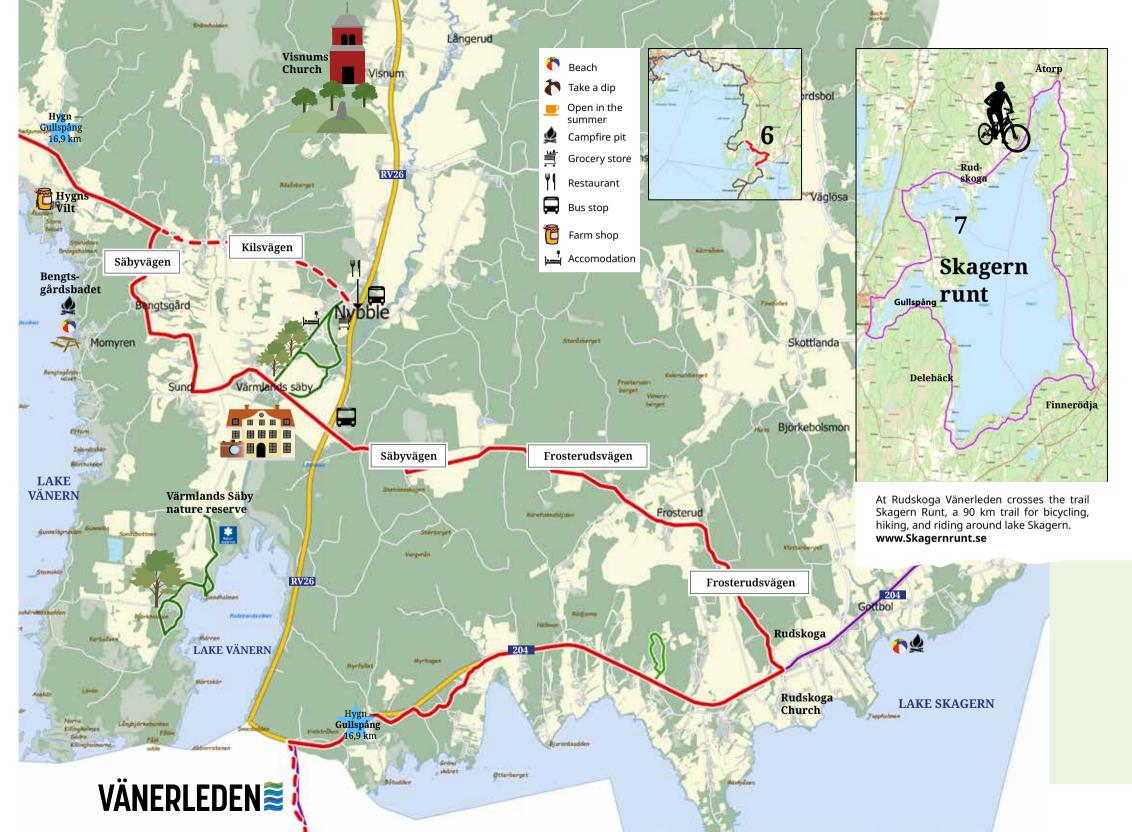
Follow the bike trail to the east and the **lovely beach of Gottbol** (3 km from the church). You will follow a part of the Skagen Runt trail. The beach is 400 meters of soft sand in a southern location. Playground and a campfire pit.

Continue west and pass **Ö Bjurvik** and V Bjurvik, then follow the forest road. At the first crossroads take a right on Håkannäs byväg and follow road 204 to Södra Råda/Gullspång. Continue along Vänerleden or on Skagern Runt.

#### 7. SKAGERN RUNT 90 km

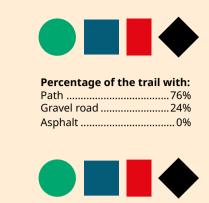
**The bike trail around Lake Skagern** runs through a beautiful and varied landscape with forests and pastures. A brochure with detailed information about the trail, points of interest, history and tales can be bought at Kristinehamn tourist office or ordered online.

You might make it all the way round the lake in one day, but most will want to spend 2-3 days.









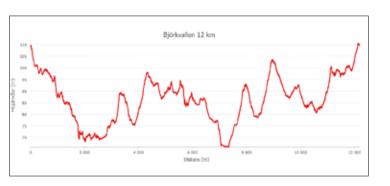


# **8. BJÖRKVALLEN** 12 km

#### Björkvallen sports area is located at the end of Djurgårdsvägen and Almvägen.

Björkvallen sports area has three Mountain bike trails (MTBtrails) that follow gravel roads and forest paths in the old military area.

The Björkvallen trail on page 19 and the MTB-trail on page 23 starts along the same route. After a while the Björkvallen trail continues on paths and is a technical blue trail of medium difficulty. The Björkvallen trail runs on gravel roads/trailer roads for some stretches.



### A Biking Värmland trail is quality assured



Which means it complies to the following criteria: contracts with landowners, well visible signs in English and Swedish, gradings, full maintenance plan with consideration of nature and cultural environments.

The trails often pass over land owned by private landowners who on a voluntary basis allow the public right of Please show respect and consideration for all who live and work in the areas that you pass. Do not disturb, do not destroy!

#### www.naturvardsverket.se/en

You may only light a fire on designated campfire pits and only if there is no current fire ban. For information about fire bans please call the answering machine on 054-15 50 15.

### **43%**



**VERY EASY** 

Trail without

difficulties,

roads and

flat, wide

paths.

mostly gravel





**EASY** Mainly easy bike trails. A technical and somewhat steeper than a green trail.

MEDIUM Many technical parts like roots and sto nes. Steeper than a blue trail.

**30%** 



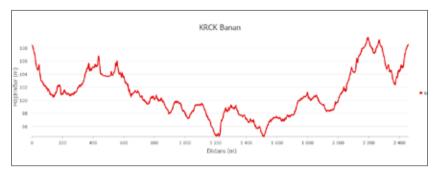


## 9. KRCK-BANAN 3km

#### Björkvallen sports area is located at the end of Djurgårdsvägen and Älmvägen.

This track has several drops and berms and a part on natural paths. The drops can be avoided by using an easier passage. Some short parts of the trail are more difficult, but these can be avoided by choosing an easier route.

Björkvallen sports area also has an indoor ice hockey rink and during winter sometimes an outdoor rink for hockey, bandy and skating. Outdoor padel courts and disc golf course with 18 well planned holes.





#### How to cycle safely

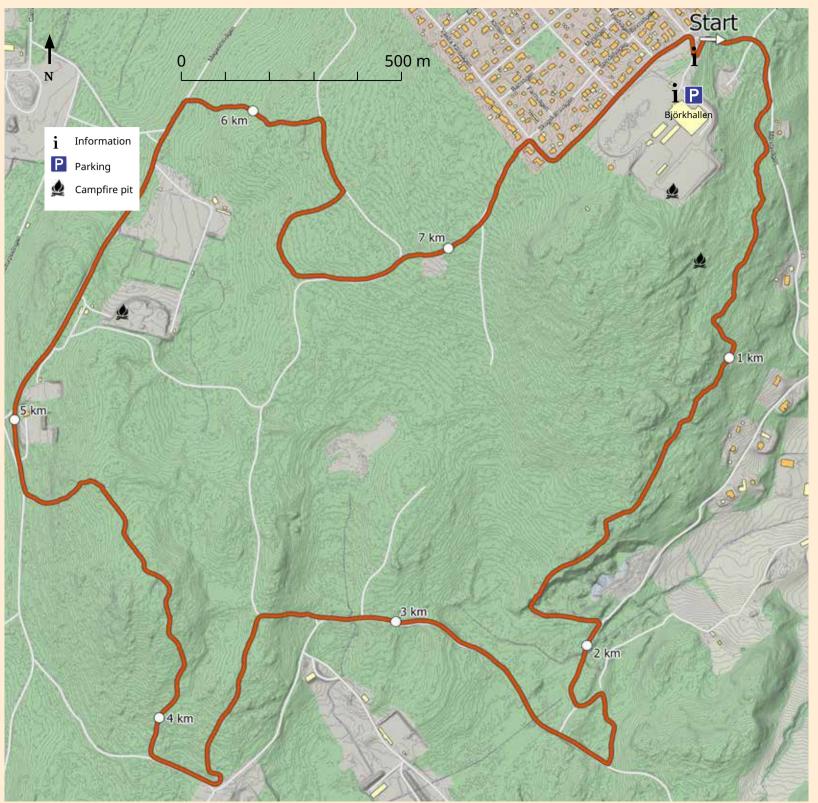
- \* Always use a helmet and gloves.
- \* Be realistic as to your own capacity and condition.
- \* Choose a trail that suits your abilities.
- \* Get acquainted with the
- \* Adjust your speed according to weather and ground conditions.
- \* Always have a map of the trail and a phone with you.

















#### Björkvallen sports area is located at the end of Djurgårdsvägen and Almvägen.

The original trail was built in 2008. It is somewhat shorter today but, to a large extent, it follows the same route. This is a technical blue trail with some medium hard slopes mixed with longer stretches on gravel road.

The area Björkvallen has a total of three trails, 3 km (p 21), 8 km (p 23) and 12 km (p 19). They all start from **Björkvallen** sports area.



Mountainbike leden

Distans (m)

Trail without difficulties, mostly gravel wide paths.



**EASY** Mainly easy bike trails. A little more technical and somewhat steeper than

a green trail.

27%



MEDIUM Many techni-cal parts like

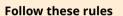
roots and stones. Steeper than a blue

> \* Please respect that the trails may be closed due to weather, felling of trees



Percentage of the trail	with
Path	509
Gravel road	509



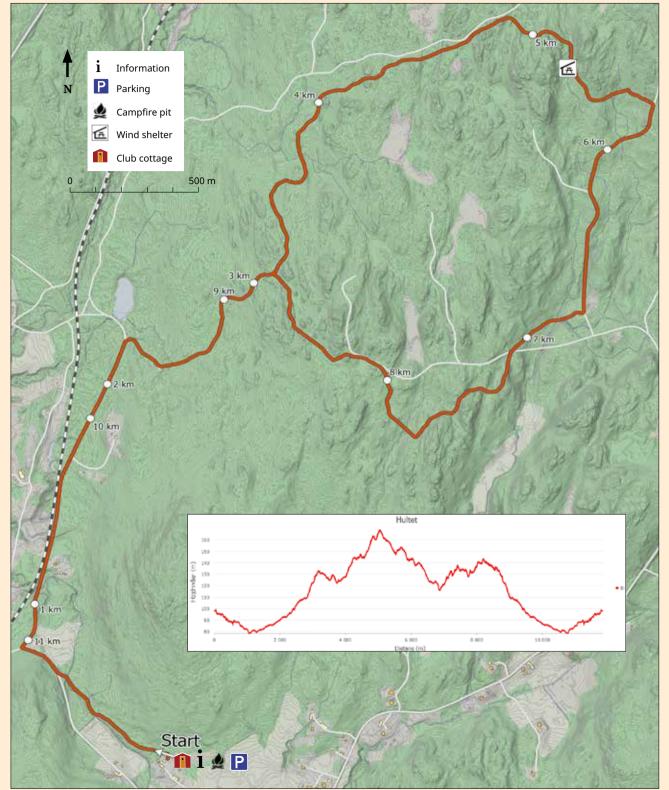


- \* Always greet those you meet!
- \* Show respect and consideration.
- \* Make yourself heard, slow down and make room.
- \* Never scare animals. If you meet animals, tame or wild, give them time and space. Sudden movements and loud noise scare animals, if you do not want to see them, make yourself seen and heard.
- \* Never litter. Bring back whatever you have bought with you. Leave no trace.
- or hunting.











# **11. HULTET** 12 km

#### Hultet outdoor area is located along the road to Heden/Anneberg.

The Mountain bike trail at Hultet outdoor area is a pacy trail. It runs on gravel roads up to the hill Hulthöjden and to the forest of Långmarken. The trail is a blue trail with some green parts and a few more difficult technical parts classified as red.

HUltet is the official orienteering club of Kristinehamn and has changing rooms, sauna, parking, toboggan slope, campfire pits and jogging tracks 1-10 km long. 5 km lit jogging tracks. Wintertime there are cross country skiing tracks with natural or artificial snow.

**5**%





















#### Percentage of the trail with:

Path	100%
Gravel road	0%
Asphalt	0%



#### Ride your bike responsibly

Show respect for nature, landowners, and other bikers. Keeping to these rules will make bicycling a sustainable and secure its existence in the future

#### Recommendation!

- Take a photo of the map at the start of the trail.
- Make sure your bike is functioning properly.
- Pack spare parts and tools. For long bicycle rides make sure to bring water, food, and extra clothes.
- Listen to the weather forecast and be aware that weather can change.
- Do not use trails during autumn hunting season!
- Many trails run through farmland, show respect for those who work and live there.







# **12. SÄTTRA** 18 km

Find the MTB-trail at Sättra by driving toward Bodalsvägen and then follow the signs.

The trails around Sättrastugan runs along paths and gravel roads. One part runs on a walking trail which means you must show respect for pedestrians. During winters you find cross country skiing tracks here.

## **36%**





**59%** 



#### VERY EASY Trail without difficulties, mostly gravel roads and flat, wide paths.

**EASY** Mainly easy bike trails. A little more technical and somewhat steeper than a green trail.

# MEDIUM

Many technical parts like roots and stones. Steeper than a blue

# Percentage of the trail with:

Gravel road ...... 24%

Asphalt ...... 0%



During the elk hunting season, and other hunting seasons, you must be careful and alert when you're in the forest.

















