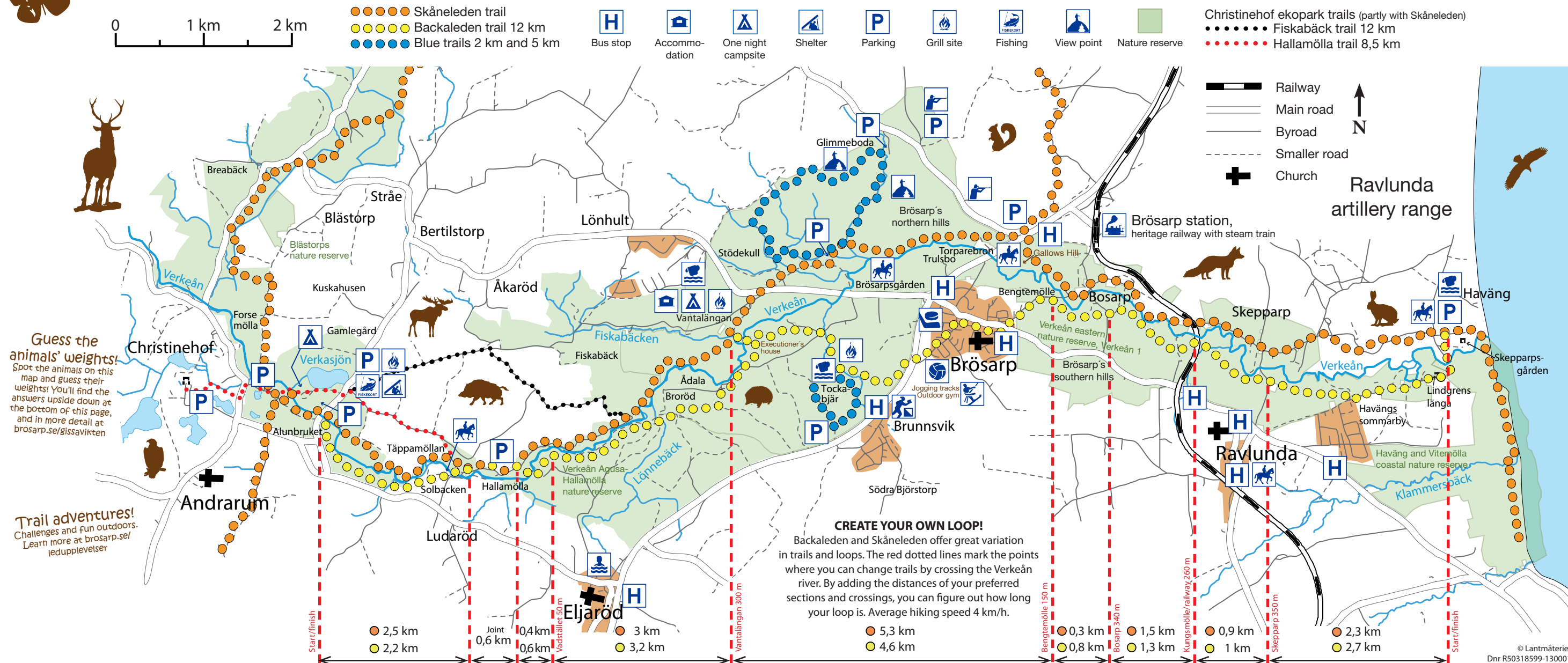


BACKALEDEN



THE BEAUTIFUL YELLOW TRAIL ALUNBRUKET - BRÖSARP - HAVÄNG



Guess the animals' weights!
Spot the animals on this map and guess their weights! You'll find the answers upside down at the bottom of this page, and in more detail at brosarp.se/gissavikten

Trail adventures!
Challenges and fun outdoors. Learn more at brosarp.se/ledupplevelser

Are you ready to walk all 19 km of the yellow Backaleden Trail between Haväng and Alunbruket in Andrarum? If not, you can choose one of the connecting trails and do a loop by returning to your point of departure via the Skåneleden Trail.

THE ALUM WORKS IN ANDRARUM

This industry began in 1637 when Jochum Beck received permission from King Christian IV to start production of alum. In 1725, Christina Piper acquired the works. The period up to her death in 1752 was the heyday of the alum works, when 900 people lived here. The alum was used for colouring yarn, tanning hides, and making glue for paper, i.e. the process that provided paper with a surface to write on.

It took enormous quantities of wood to extract the alum from the alum shale. The owners of the alum works therefore had the right to buy all timber within a 20 km radius (known as the *Verkalinjen*) from the works at a fair price. The owners of the forests were obliged to fell

any marked trees and transport the wood to the alum works.

However, this right did not include forests owned by the nobility or the church. The *Verkalinjen* was abolished in 1824. The alum barrels were transported to the harbours in Åhus and Kivik, and for a time also to a harbour at the mouth of the Verkeån river. The production ceased in 1929.

THE HYDRAULIC RAM at Tåppamöllan

– Pump water with water!

To avoid having to carry water uphill, the owner of Solbacken farm in Ludaröd acquired a hydraulic ram (vädur) in the late 1800s. Its purpose was to pump water 30 meters up from the Verkeån river to the farmhouse. The water was used for both the household and animals. The hydraulic ram at Tåppamöllan was in operation until 1964. It pumped water automatically, using nothing but the energy in the flowing water. It is an amazing invention from the late 1700s. The ram was renovated in 1945, and extended to the version you can see today.

BRÖSARPS STATION – Steam trains on a heritage railway

Parts of the old railway between Kristianstad and Ystad are preserved here. At Brösarp station, you can visit the old engine shed, goods depot, turntable, wagon shed and station building. During the summer and at Christmas, steam trains service the railway between Brösarp and St. Olof.

BENGTEMÖLLA

Records from 1408 A.D. mention the mill, which is part of a larger farm dating from the mid 1700s. The present mill is probably from around 1850, and it was operated by a water wheel up until 1917.

LINDGRENS LÄNGA is a former forest worker's house. The building has been restored and is now a museum. Here you can see, among many other things, fishing gear, used for catching trout in the stream nearby. The house was used as location for the filming of Fritiof Nilsson Piraten's debut novel "Bombi Bitt and I" (a 1968 TV series).

ÖRADEKAREN – THE TROUT CAISSONS

A fish trap in the Verkeån stream that was used for catching sea trout. The fish trap dates back to the 17th century, and consists of eight stone filled caissons, or vats, with small height differences. The fish swim upstream and jump through the eight caissons. When you block their way with a plank, the fish hit the plank and tumble down in a chute, from where they can easily be picked up. The fish trap was restored in 2010, when a new chute was dug. The present fish trap gives eel and trout free passage, even when the water level is low.

SKEPPARPSGÅRDEN has been a youth hostel since 1952, when it was opened by the UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld. It is a classic timbered farm, dating from about 1750. The farm was moved to its present location before the opening of the Ravlunda artillery range.

You can find more information on accommodation, restaurants and local services at www.brosarp.se.

ANSWERS: DEER: 200 kg (up to 300 kg), hind half of that, stag 200 kg (up to 300 kg), ELK: 250–300 kg (up to 300 kg), BULL: 380–540 kg (up to 700 kg), COW: 270–360 kg, WILD BOAR: 150–200 kg, BOAR: 150–200 kg, WILD RABBIT: 1.3–2.3 kg, RABBIT: 1.3–2.3 kg, WILD CAT: 4–7 kg, CAT: 4–7 kg, WILD DOG: 15–25 kg, DOG: 15–25 kg, WILD HORSE: 400–600 kg, HORSE: 400–600 kg, WILD BIRD: 10–20 kg, BIRD: 10–20 kg, WILD FISH: 1–2 kg, FISH: 1–2 kg, WILD INSECT: 1–2 g, INSECT: 1–2 g, WILD PLANT: 1–2 g, PLANT: 1–2 g, WILD ROCK: 1–2 g, ROCK: 1–2 g, WILD STONE: 1–2 g, STONE: 1–2 g, WILD METAL: 1–2 g, METAL: 1–2 g, WILD GLASS: 1–2 g, GLASS: 1–2 g, WILD PAPER: 1–2 g, PAPER: 1–2 g, WILD LEATHER: 1–2 g, LEATHER: 1–2 g, WILD WOOD: 1–2 g, WOOD: 1–2 g, WILD SOAP: 1–2 g, SOAP: 1–2 g, WILD CLOTH: 1–2 g, CLOTH: 1–2 g, WILD SHOE: 1–2 g, SHOE: 1–2 g, WILD HAT: 1–2 g, HAT: 1–2 g, WILD GLOVE: 1–2 g, GLOVE: 1–2 g, WILD SCARF: 1–2 g, SCARF: 1–2 g, WILD JACKET: 1–2 g, JACKET: 1–2 g, WILD COAT: 1–2 g, COAT: 1–2 g, WILD DRESS: 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Backaleden follows the winding Verkeån to the sea

THE TOCKABJÄR SPRING

On the south side of the Brunnsvik creak ravine is a cold spring with a water flow of circa 7°C and 0.5 to 3 litres/sec. The water tastes fresh and clean, but you drink at your own risk, as no water testing has been done. The bedrock here consists of "Killehuskvartsit", a coarse-grained quartz interspersed with pieces of mica. If you look into the spring through the clear water you can see the "glimmering" bright pebbles of quartzite on the ground.

Source: SGU, Sveriges Geologiska Undersökning.

TAKE A BREAK IN VANTALÄNGAN

If you turn off the yellow Backaleden trail, you will reach Vantalängen after 300 m. It is an old barn from the 19th century by Verkeån, and a popular place to rest for hikers. Here you can stay the night or wait for the rain to stop. On the meadow, there is a tent site, grills, well water and toilets. Vantalängen is on the orange Skåneleden trail. The building was a private house until the turn of the century. The man who lived here came from Vantaröd and was called "Vanten" (the glove).

Trek in the rolling hills of Brösarp, drink from the springs at Tockabjär, or run through the pastures to the beaches of Haväng. The countryside around Brösarp offers more than 100 km of beautiful hiking trails, most of them in the Verkeåns nature reserve. Backaleden alone is one fifth of the marked trails. Enjoy our beaches, the highest waterfall in Skåne och a winter ski trip in our famous hills. Here is Österlen's most diverse landscape. Welcome to our magnificent nature!

LINGET

"They danced the night away"

In the 1950s, Linget was the place where the youth of Brösarp went to party. At first, they had to do without a dance floor and danced directly on the grass. At the opening night the fiddler Folke Johansson stood by an oak tree, sheltered from rain and mosquitoes by a small tarpaulin. The oak is still there today. By the mid-1950s a real dance pavilion was built complete with coffee shop, shooting range, restaurant and football field. The annual dances continued up until 1975.

LINDSKOGEN

An ancient forest with hornbeam, oak, basswood and beech trees. In the Verkeån nature reserve the forest can grow freely without interference. When the trees die and rot, they become both a feast and a shelter for birds, insects and other creepy-crawlies. The woodpecker thrives on the loose wood of the basswood, where they find forage and hack out their nests.

"WILL-O'-THE-WISP" (*ignis fatuus*)

The phenomenon "Will-o'-the-wisp" can be sighted along the Verkeån. It looks like flames that hover and move above the ground. Many supernatural explanations have been made. "Will-o'-the-wisp", or *ignis fatuus* as they are called, are found in swamps where swamp gas, formed through decomposition, may self-ignite.

THE EXECUTIONER'S HOUSE – Truth or myth?

The last person to live in Backstugan, or the Executioner's house as it was called, was a woman named Kerstin. She made whisks, which she sold in the village. If an executioner ever lived in the house is unclear, but he could have. Just 2 km away, along Skåneleden, lies the gallows hill, a place of execution, which was in use up until the early 1800s.



HALLAMÖLLA

The waterfall by Hallamölla is the highest in Skåne, with a total height of 23 meter. The mill is from the 1400s, and was in use up until 1948. It still works, and you can get a tour on Sundays during the summer, where you can also see all the old tools. If you are lucky, you might see the kingfisher, the dipper or the grey wagtail by the falls.

Plant and animal life in the Verkeån nature reserve

BUTTERBUR

The butterbur is a common sight along the Verkeån. The leaves can be up to 75 cm in diameter, as large as an umbrella. The plant was introduced as a medicinal plant, as the root contains an odorous, but ephemeral oil, which was thought to be able to cure the plague.



Photo: Anders Grönlund, Ströphoto

KINGFISHER – the blue lightning

The kingfisher flies quickly and low over the water, stopping and diving for small fish. A blue- green back and head, rust red belly. The call is sharp and piercing. Resident and migratory bird.

DIPPER

Dives to collect larvae in the water. Swims and runs under water. Black-brown with a white throat. Resident bird, but migrates if the stream freezes.



Ren Knight, Sussebilder

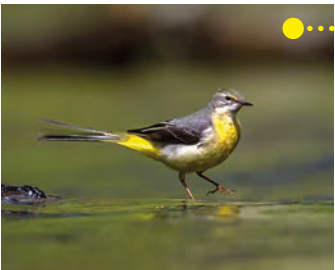


Photo: Anders Grönlund, Ströphoto

GREY WAGTAIL

Is found primarily along rushing water. Looks like the white wagtail, but is yellow under its long tail. Breeds near flowing water in southern and mid-Sweden. Migratory bird.



Photo: Staffan Eliot, www.svenskanunstnarnet

BLUE HERON

This long-legged wader often fishes in the stream. It stands still like a statue – until it suddenly makes an attack and catches a fish. When it flies, it has a crooked neck, the legs are hanging and it flies with slow wing beats. The plume is grey with black and white streaks. Mainly a migratory bird, but some stay for the winter.



Photo: Per-Erik Tell

IMPORTANT!

Nature reserves have specific rules that limit the Allemansrätten, the right to go and stay where you want in Swedish nature. Read more about Allemansrätten at www.swedishepa.se. In the reserves on the map, you may only pitch your tent on designated sites. Your dog must be on a leash, and in most places, you may not pick flowers. In some reserves you are forbidden to light a fire, and in others only at designated sites. All reserves have information signs, where you can read the local rules, and you can find information on all nature reserves on the internet. The trails sometimes cross fields used for grazing, so please keep a distance from the livestock. They may be aggressive towards dogs, so never go near the grazing animals if you have a dog with you. Instead, take a detour around the field. Overnight accommodation is available at three places within the map. Vantalängen has free accommodation in the barn for hikers for one night, in a shared room. You will need your own sleeping bag and sleeping pad.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BRÖSARP

www.brosarp.se, www.visittomelilla.se, www.skaneleden.se
www.christinehofsekopark.se, www.alboharadshembygdsfor.se and
www.lansstyrelsen.se/skane/naturreservat

The map is made by Leaderprojektet Backaleden in cooperation with Länsstyrelsen Skåne, 2015. The map and the text are partially based on information from Länsstyrelsens folder *Vandningsleder vid Verkeån*.



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www.backaleden.se