



Bergslagsleden

STAGE

2

Gillersklack – Stjärnfors 17 km

Örebro County



Gillersklack

Gillersklack is about 6 km north of Kopparberg. Follow signs from highway 50. Camping available. Other Gillersklack accommodations include cabins, a hostel, food, coffee and swimming. Information: tel. +46 580-125 00 or the tourist office in Kopparberg, tel. +46 580-805 55, www.ljusnarsberg.se.

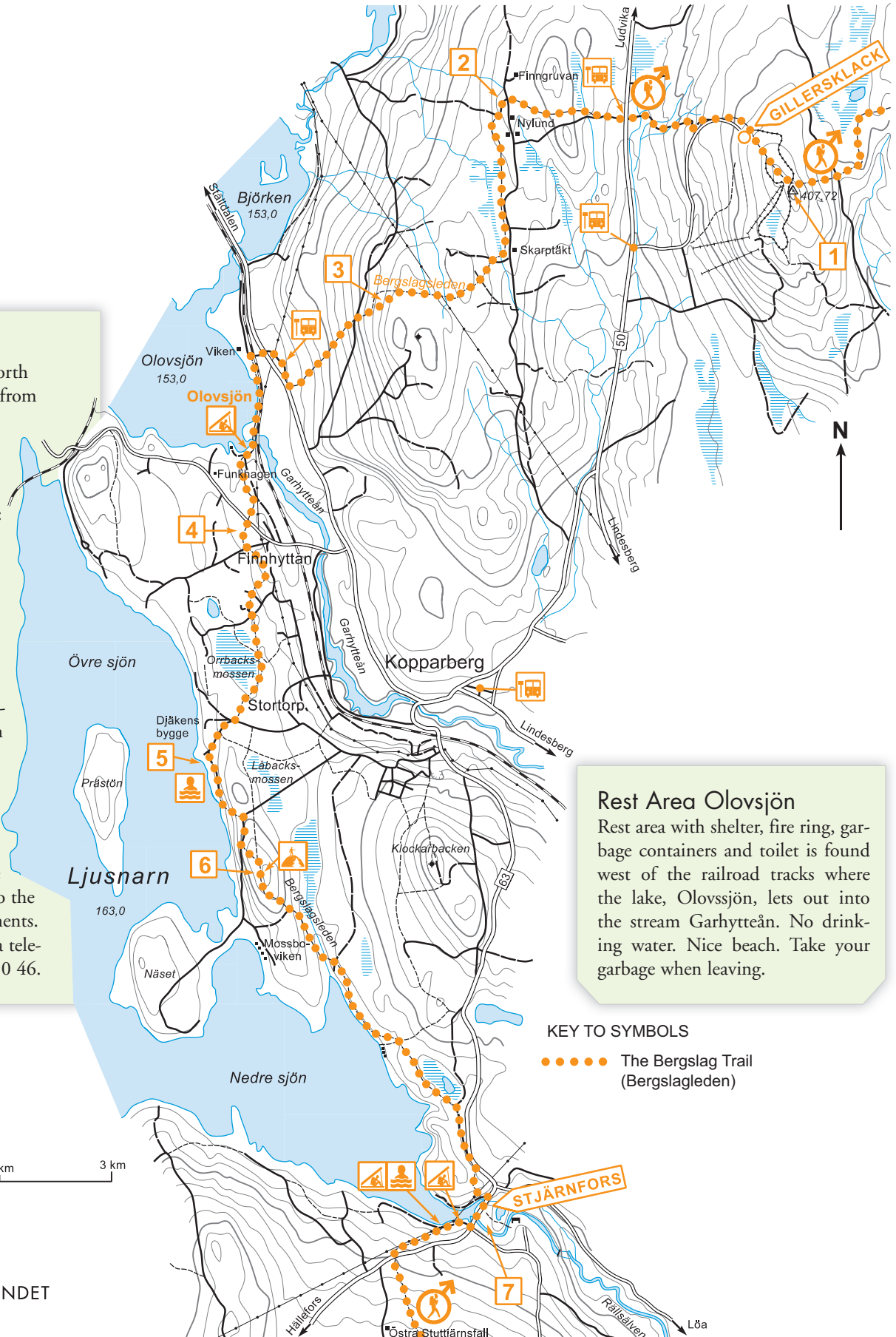
Stjärnfors

The café near highway 63 is open during the summer season. Near this checkpoint on the trail is Stjärnfors Manor and homestead museum. Parking is located between the highway and the lake. Swimming area with shelter. Lodging available during the summer in the cabins next to the café or in self-catered apartments. Information and booking via telephone: +46 580-410 20, -410 46.

Rest Area Olovsjön

Rest area with shelter, fire ring, garbage containers and toilet is found west of the railroad tracks where the lake, Olovsjön, lets out into the stream Garhytteån. No drinking water. Nice beach. Take your garbage when leaving.

0 1 km 2 km 3 km
Scale 1: 50 000



KEY TO SYMBOLS

- The Bergslag Trail (Bergslagsleden)

What to See Along the Way

1. Gillersklack's Great Outdoors

North of Kopparberg and east of highway 50, Gillersklack sits on a plateau, its highest point at 407 meters above sea level. The trail's Gillersklack checkpoint is found high on the western slope. From the top, one enjoys a wide view over the Ljusnarsberg area. The conditions provide for good slalom and cross-country skiing.

2. Finngruvan

A kilometer west of the highway, the trail passes through the copper mining region of Finngruvan. In the area, there are 12 large and small mining holes and a number of mining mounds.

Ore deposits were discovered in the late 1600s and were extracted in large scale during the 1700s, after which the ore began to run out. The mining ended in the mid-1800s.

In several of the mines, the smooth sides of the walls show that the mining occurred without the use of gunpowder, but with a process that used burning wood and water casting.

Mining in Finngruvan led to the building of copper smelting houses at Högfors and Born. For a while, a 1700-meter long system of horizontal shafts ran from Högforsälven to Born and drove the pumps in the mine.

The mining district gives wide views over the area. The mining mounds that can be seen have been responsible for the drainage of poisons that still exist in the mounds. The poisons follow the surface and ground waters down the slopes and then damage or destroy vegetation. Just west of the mining area, the trail passes a nearly vegetation free environment, caused by the poisoned water.

3. Björkberg

East of Olovssjön the trail passes over majestic heights and then down the slope, giving limited views of the region around Ljusnarn. The fact that both the valleys and the

higher areas have been used for agriculture is possible due to the impressive walls of stone in the forest along the path at Björkberget.

On the ground that slopes down to Olovssjön, the trail passes several small mining holes. While these holes are said to have been test holes, they show the amount of work that was done to find ore deposits in this copper mountain district.

4. Finnshyttehedarna

After passing Garhytteån, a source of Arbogaån, the trail emerges into a heath of pine. Ridges dominate the area north of the highway towards Skäret, while the area to the south is dominated by shifting sand dunes. Ice rivers and the melting of inland ice created the streams and the "dead ice" craters. The sand dunes were created later, but before vegetation could grow in the cold, windy tundra climate.

5. Djäkens bygge

The trail makes its way down to the lake Ljusnarn to the community swimming area, Djäkens bygge. There is a parking area and, during the summer, access to toilets.

6. Ljusnarsbergen

South of Djäkens bygge, the trail follows Ljusnarn to the stage's finish at Stjärnfors. Of the many fine lake views, the best is experienced from Ljusnarsbergen, 2 km south of Djäkens bygge. On the other side of the lake, Nittälven flows, known for its backwoods character and for being one of the county's most exciting canoe routes.

7. Stjärnfors

As the Rällsälven flows out of the Ljusnarn, the presence of ore and the possibility of hydropower created a natural center for regional industry.

Unlike the other industrial communities in Kopparberg's mountain district, the focus

here was not on copper, but on the rich occurrences of iron ore.

The privilege of starting an iron forge was given to Stjärnfors in 1676. Stjärnfors later grew to be a center for the refinement of iron from the smelt houses of the area, even using Bessemer converters.

Production was ended in 1905, but the flowing water is still used by a power station, which means that the dams and canals have been preserved. The Stjärnfors Manor has also been kept, whereas the surrounding fields are primarily used as a golf course.

Important to know

- Make fires only where designated fire rings/circles are present.
- Make sure that your fire is completely out before you continue hiking.
- Refrain from starting fires during the dry periods of summer when risk of forest fire is high.
- Do not break off limbs or branches from living trees.
- You may pitch tents along the trail, but preferably near the rest areas and not more than one night in the same place.
- Do not stray from the trail when near built-up areas, cultivated fields or planted forests.
- Do not litter.
- If hiking with a dog, be aware that you must always have the dog on a lead/leash in the forests/fields during the period from March 1 - August 20.
- So as to avoid conflicting with moose hunting season, you shouldn't use the trail during the most intensive hunting period - the second week in October and several weeks forward.

Facts about the Bergslag Trail (Bergslagsleden)

The Bergslag Trail is a 280 km hiking trail passing through the entire county of Örebro. It is divided into 17 stages. The agency responsible for the trail is Regionförbundet Örebro. The Bergslag Trail is identified by orange markings on trees or on posts. At road crossings or when the trail branches, directional arrows with the Bergslag Trail symbol appear. The Bergslag Trail forms part of European walking route E1, which extends from southern Italy to the Swedish mountains. (www.stfturist.se)

Bus Connections

When school is in session, buses run between Kopparberg and Grängesberg. It is a couple kilometers to Gillersklack from the stop on highway 50. No bus service to Stjärnfors. Bus schedule information: +46 771-22 40 00, www.lanstrafiken.se.

Suggested reading (Swedish)

Esbjörnsson, Estrid, Värt att se i Örebro Län;
Lindstén Carl Anders, Sevärt i Södra Kilsbergen;
Hellström, Lena, Utsikt från Bergslagsleden.

For further information

Kopparberg Tourist Office: +46 580-805 55, www.ljusnarsberg.se; Örebro County Regional

Development Council, +46 (0)19-602 63 00, www.regionorebro.se.

Home page for outdoor life

At www.regionorebro.se you can find a collection of information on nature and outdoor life in the Örebro region. It contains current information on places to stay along the Bergslag Trail. You can download pages on trail stages and get suggestions for other activities. The home page also has information on fishing opportunities, canoe rentals and links to activity organisers.