

BRUKSLEDEN 6 KM



Difficulty: average
Markings: orange
Recommended shoes: boots

Terrain: mixed forest views, cultural history, waterways
Version: 2024-02-08

Summary

Hiking trail of 6 km (the northern trail) which connects Gruvrundan in Sunne municipality, with Finnvägen in Fredros, Arvika municipality. In both regions the iron and copper mining have had great importance in the 17th - 19th centuries. You can also choose the southern trail where you see the river Bruksälven as you go down to Fredros. This way the distance between Gruvrundan and Fredros is around 4 km. The Bruksälven was used for timber floating from around 1900 to the 1960s. You can see remains of the floatation flume at Övre Bruket and by the Old Store (Gamla affären) in Fredros. The flume is one of few still remaining in Värmland.

The trail goes along old forest roads, paths and gravel roads. At Övre Bruket there are some 15 remains of ironworks, a mill and housing. A small, shallow bathing cove lies around 200 meters from Övre Bruket at Lake Mången. It is a little off the trail, and has no designated area to sit down, but nice for a quick dip.

There are orange markings on trees or posts. A map is available for download as a separate PDF.

There is normally phone coverage throughout the trail.

Suggested starting point

Parking space for around 20 cars and information board at **Treens Camping**, WGS84 59.931162, 12.655638, from spring 2024. A connecting path of 1 km takes you to the junction of Fredros where the southern trail starts/ends.

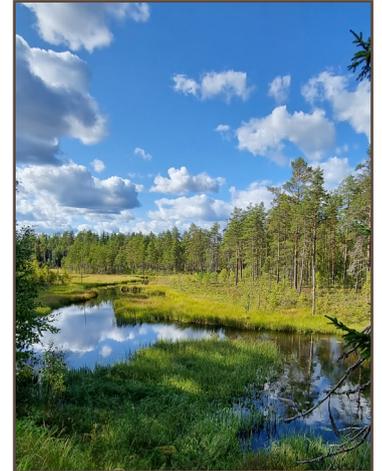
Starting at the **north point of Gruvrundan**: WGS84 59.929065, 12.723606, parking for 2-3 cars.

For a circular trail of around 8 km: **Gamla fotbollsplanen** at Övre Bruket, Fredros WGS84 59.943524, 12.685947, parking for 15-20 cars, just west of road 885.

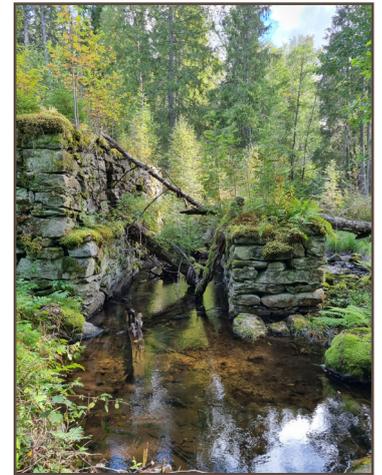
Description from south to north

Bruksleden provides beautiful nature as well as cultural history and serves as a link between two other trails. As you see from the map, you can walk from Gruvrundan in Sunne municipality via Bruksleden to get to Finnvägen, starting in Fredros in Arvika municipality.

From Gruvrundan you head west, then north west, along a flat, grassy carriage road, to hit a path after 700 meter. The path follows a ridge through mixed forest. After 1 km you exit onto a gravel road, but take off again to a path after only 100 m. Here is where you choose either the south or north way to Fredros.



Bruksälven, where timber was floated, beg. of 20th c., south trail.



Remains of a mill at Övre Bruket, north trail.



Walkway across the old timber flume at Övre Bruket.

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The **south trail** goes through spruce forest for 300 meter to a timber road. You follow it for 1,6 km to reach central Fredros (The Old Store/Gamla affären). Counting from Gruvrundan to Fredros it is 3,7 km. Along this stage you pass next to Bruksälven, close to Fredros.

If you choose the **north trail** via Övre Bruket, you will reach Finnvägen eventually. In the beginning there are some wet areas but duck boards were laid out in 2023. After crossing the gravel road a 2nd time, the terrain is drier towards Lake Mången. Where the lake exits to a small dam, Mångsjödammen the trail continues straight west to the remains of Övre Bruket. Here is a bench table if you would like a break. To get to the Old Soccer field/Gamla fotbollsplanen and further to the old mine Mörttjärnsgruvan, cross the asphalt road. Watch out for vehicles!

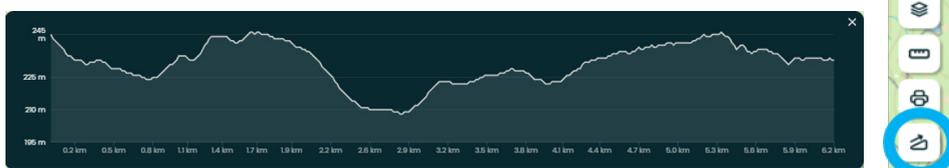
The trail continues north. There are several duck boards across ditches as the area is a bit wet at times. After about 300 meter through young spruce forest you cross the creek Mörttjärnsbäcken and follow it for 500 meter. The trail diverges to the west and you can see the three pits of Mörttjärnsgruvan from the mineral extraction in 1914-1915. The largest pit is usually filled with water, and sometimes even the smaller ones. From here you follow the timber road for 1,8 km out to road 869, where you connect to the Finnvägen trail.

Circular trail

To get to Fredros you continue south for 300 meter on road 869 and onto a carriage road east of the gravel road. There is a wooden sign for "Finnvägen". The remaining stage to Fredros leads through spruce forest and you get a glimpse of Lake Treen in the distance. For a description from Fredros to Gamla fotbollsplanen, see the descriptions of the south and north trails above.

Elevation profile for Bruksleden

The profile only shows the north trail. The connection with Gruvrundan is to the right and Finnvägen to the left. The south trail is mainly flat. For an interactive map, where you can see the altitude for different locations, look up the trail at www.naturkartan.se. Enlarge the map view by clicking the green framed symbol shown to the right. Then click the circled symbol. Move the cursor across the elevation profile to see the corresponding position on the map.



Mörttjärnsbäcken, north trail.



The largest of the three pits at Mörttjärnsgruvan.



Duck board between Övre Bruket and Gruvrundan, north trail.