FINNLEDEN VÄSTRA 9 KM

Difficulty: average Markings: orange Recommended shoes: boots **Terrain:** carriage roads, tarn, mires, views, coniferous forest, cultural history, access roads. **Updated:** 2024-02-26

Summary

Finnleden is a system of trails in Mangskog of around 30 km, with three different starting points - in Slobyn (VÄSTRA), Tobyn (MELLERSTA) and at the Mangskog church (ÖSTRA). From the north west at Bråtarna there is an access road of 1,2 km which at the Finn croft Porna connects to the stage starting in Slobyn. In the north the trails meet in one, continuing north to the Sunne border and the next trail system at Ängen. Via Tiskaretjärnsleden, Tischasslingan and Gruvrundan it is possible to continue into Arvika again, crossing the municipality border to Gunnarskog via Bruksleden.

The area is characterized by wilderness spirit and beautiful nature. There are remains of Finn culture and historical forestry work.

VÄSTRA/WESTERN TRAIL (9 km) – beautiful nature along this trail, starting in the small village Slobyn at 165 masl and ending in the wilderness at 300 masl. Varied terrin with mires, tarns and croft remains. The trail crosses a small stone bridge by the tarn Fågeltjärnet.

PLEASE NOTE! Colour markings will be updated on VÄSTRA in fall of 2024, and till then a map and GPS are recommended. So far signs have been put up at the trickiest junctions, but there are currently no markings by the asphalt road from the parking at the Local Heritage Centre Neragata, to the gravel road taking off towards the trail.

MELLERSTA/MIDDLE TRAIL (5 km) – nice walk through forests on wide paths and carriage roads. About halfways you can see the tarn Gravtjärnet a bit from the trail.

ÖSTRA/EASTERN TRAIL (18 km) – beautiful nature and wilderness spirit in varied and hilly terrain. View over lake Lången and heights, spruce and pine forests, mires, carriage roads, forest paths and croft remains. Shorter stages on timber roads.

Phone coverage varies. Mostly bad coverage on the western trail, somewhat better on the Middle and Eastern trail.

Finnleden Östra is marked in orange on trees or posts. A PDF map is available for download.

Suggested starting point

Mangskog Local Heritage Centre Neragata, WGS84: 59.753906, 12.799520. Here is a spaceous parking lot. To access the trail, follow the asphalt road north for 1,2 km and turn east onto the gravel road through the residential area. The trail starts at the end of the gravel road where there unfortunately is no parking space, which is the reason for the extra walk from the heritage centre.



Slight uphill, southern stage.



Carriage road through spruce forest.



Cotton grass blooming in May.



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Description from south to north

Slobyn – Fågeltjärnet 3 km

After the gravel road through the residential area, a carriage way starts off north. A section of mixed forest is followed by a cutting area and then another stage of forest. The trail passes west of the mire Slobymossen, where you may hear the cuckoo in May. The peatland has its outlet in the tarn Fågeltjärnet around 500 meters north. A small stone bridge across a creek indicates that you are approaching.

Fågeltjärnet - Röstorp 1,5 km

The surface along the tarn is soft and needle covered from pines. A section of duck boards takes you across a somewhat wet area. The carriage way is replaced by a short stage of timber road, and you shortly reach the remains of Tjärnstorpet, inhabited until 1896.

A slight hill is followed by a tiny creek with duck boards. After crossing a cutting area, the trail climbs steeply to the old Finn croft Röstorp. The farm was probably the last one in Värmland to hold cattle grazing freely in the forest till 1987. Just before the houses you take off north and hit a carriage trail, leading uphill next to a ravine. From around 300 masl you have quite a view of the surroundings.

Röstorp - Porna 1,9 km

The carriage way continues north. After I km you pass the croft remains of Pilterud. The terrain grows drier and produces more heather and pine. You hit a timber road and the path continues a few tens of meters to your east. After crossing a cutting area you reach duck boards as the terrain passes into spruce forest. When you reach an enclosure built in stone, the trail turns east. If you want to take a peak at the Finn croft Porna (privately owned) you have to make a detour north of 100 meter along the access road, signposted Porna. There are orange marks in several directions around the Porna estate, so make sure you go back to the stone enclosure to continue on the trail.

Porna - the end of Finnleden Västra 2,8 km

To the east along the stone built enclosure, a carriage road passes the peatland Pornamossen, first through spruce, then pine forest and heather. Reaching a timber road, you follow it north east around 500 meters. In a t-junction with another timber road, you cross it and continue on a path past the croft Nytorp (privately owned).

The path makes a bend south and then east uphill. Heading north again you reach Fågelkullen. Here are the remains of two crofts and stone walls about 40 meters north, slightly off the trail. A south and east bend again takes you to the timber road where the three Finn trails meet.

Stone bridge close to Fågeltjärnet.



Nesting house at Fågeltjärnet.







Coniferous path along Fågeltjärnet.

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More details about crofts and other cultural heritage can be found through the app Fornsök from the Swedish National Heritage Board: https://app.raa.se/open/fornsok/

Elevation profile for Finnleden Västra

The profile shows the southern part of the trail to the left and the northern part to the right. For an interactive map, where you can see the height of different positions, look up www.naturkartan.se. Enlarge the map view by clicking on the green framed symbol shown to the right. Then click on the circled symbol. Move the cursor over the elevation profile to see the corresponding position on the map.







Stone built enclosure at Porna.

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Heather and pine along the peatland Pornamossen.



Croft remains at Fågelkullen, 40 m north off the trail.

