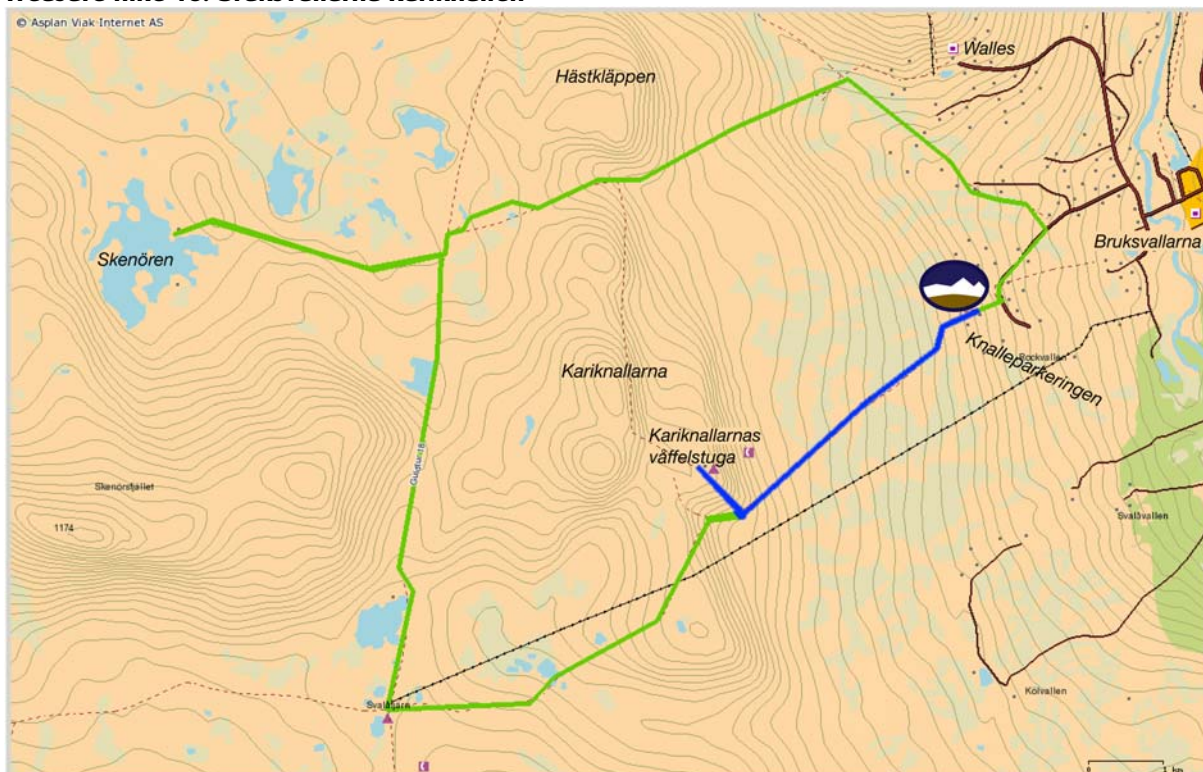


Treasure hike 18: Bruksvallarna Kariknallen



A very nice, short hike, 3 km one way up to the summit café of Kariknallen at 1,050 m.

A hike suitable for all the members of the family, with easy walking initially, through the birch forest, and from the treeline you can choose between the steep and shorter route and the slightly longer but less steep path to the shelter. The path is well-marked and usually nice and dry. You can normally wear sneakers, unless it is /has been raining.

On the road uphill you will pass a small brook, a popular playground for the children, and benches to rest the legs. Along the path are nice grassy bogs and in the peak of summer, large amounts of alpine flowers.

Once at the top you are rewarded with fabulous views; the village Bruksvallarna at your feet, and to the east Funäsdalen village and Mount Funäsdalsberget; to the south rises Mount Storskarven at 1,260 m and in the west you will see Mount Hästkläppen and a bit further away the grand Mount Skarsfjället with an altitude of 1,594 m.

If you look a bit farther to the north you will also see Mittäkläppen, possibly the most famous range in the area, with its special profile. The history of the Kariknallen top shelter began in 1957, when an old cow-house was moved up here. After refurbishment, it opened in 1959 as a café. In those days, just like today, the freshly made waffles with cloudberry jam are the visitors' favourite.

The café is open during both the summer and winter seasons. In the winter you can ski-jore by snowcat up to the café. Please call for opening hours, tel. +46-(0) 684 20056. A brief detour will take you to the summit of Mount Beritkläppen, within a stone's throw of the café.

Extending the hike:

Rating: Blue, 13 km, if you also include Skenören, in all 17 km of great hiking. For these hikes you need hiking boots or similar.

After passing the treeline on your way up, choose the left, less steep route towards Kariknallen. After a short bit you will reach a grove of birch trees, and when you have passed it, the main path turns to the right up towards Kariknallen. There you continue straight ahead, past the sign showing Tännaldalen and a hiking symbol.

The summer trail is not always well-marked, but not difficult to find up to the tarn Svalåttjärn. After a few hundred metres, at the summit of Svalåkläppen, the trail runs below the telephone line. After just over 1 km you will pass the River Svalån. The path has footbridges and is marked orange up to the cottage Svalåttjärnsstugan (where also the telephone line runs).

Turn right in the crossing at the cottage Raststugan, the sign points towards Ramundberget and the trail runs northbound on the eastern slopes of Mount Skenörsfjället. The summer trail with orange markings runs to the left of the cross-marked winter trail. Great views await you on your way down to the next crossing at Hästkläppen.

When you come to the crossing, you can make a small detour straight west along a fine path to Lake Skenören, ca 1.5 km from the crossing. The lake is embedded at the foot of Mount Skenörsfjället, a great place for a picnic and possibly a dip on a hot summer's day.

Back at the crossing; choose the trail down towards Bruksvallarna, between Hästkläppen and Kariknallarna, straight down towards the birch forest and across the River Össjöån. Here is a four-way crossing called 'Wallestorget'. Turn right on the cross-marked trail down to Bruksvallarna, using the winter cross-country track.

After ca 1 km you will again pass the River Össjöån. Just upstream the passage of the river is a natural pool, often with high temperature and a small waterfall to supply the fresh water. Continue to Rockvällsvägen, which leads to the Kariknallen tour carpark.

Near the carpark is Fjällbäcken, offering good lunches and refreshments a few days every week. Please check the opening hours, tel. +46-(0) 684 20321.