



Canoe Route

Nittälven

Rest Areas

Rest areas along the canoe route offer shelters, fire rings and outhouses. Firewood is usually available, but can be depleted due to heavy usage. If possible, bring your own wood. It is of great help to the management if you take your rubbish with you when you leave the rest area.

Uvbergsbron. Rest area with two shelters, fire ring and outhouses. Parking.

Eskils koja. Fire hut with fire ring and outhouse

Dansarbacken. Rest area is next to the old meadow Dansarbacken. Good tenting.

Havsjömossen. Rest area is on one of the many small sand peninsulas. Limited tenting along the shore, but a large meadow is 100 m up from the shore.

Nittbo. Limited tenting

Stjärnfors. Good tenting next to swim area by route 63

Olovsjön. Rest area with no shelter. Limited tenting.

Land Transport

To mark the transport of canoes by land, signs have been posted at the launch and take-out.

The path for land transport is marked with blue or orange arrows. Trolleys should be used along Arbogaån. Please follow the posted signs and respect private property.

Laxbäcksforsen. 100 m with low water level. Towing possible.

Kolbron. 50 m. Take-out west bank before bridge. Launch east bank downstream of bridge. Parking, outhouse, and tenting.

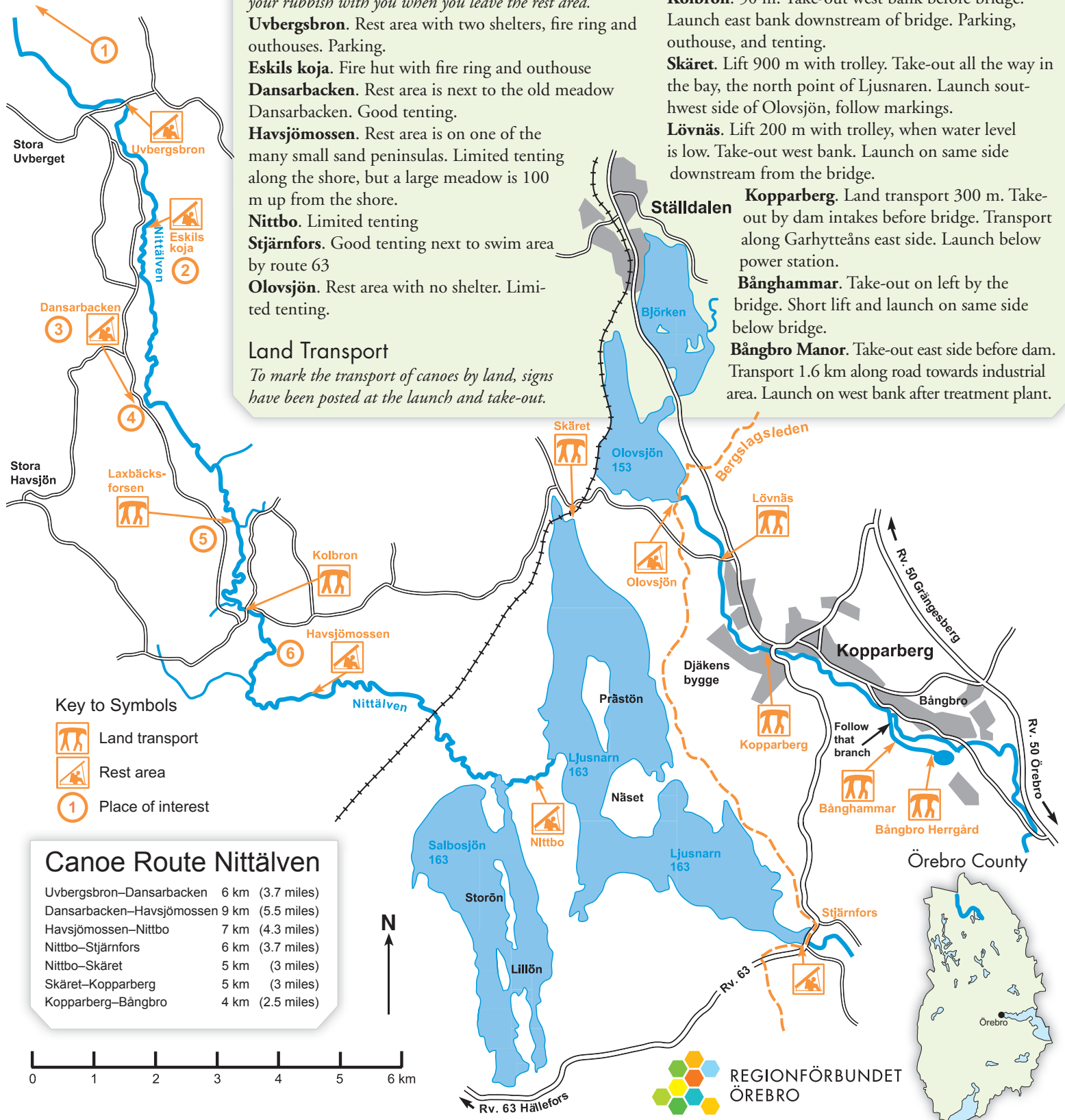
Skäret. Lift 900 m with trolley. Take-out all the way in the bay, the north point of Ljusnaren. Launch southwest side of Olovsjön, follow markings.

Lövnäs. Lift 200 m with trolley, when water level is low. Take-out west bank. Launch on same side downstream from the bridge.

Kopparberg. Land transport 300 m. Take-out by dam intakes before bridge. Transport along Garhytteåns east side. Launch below power station.

Bånghammar. Take-out on left by the bridge. Short lift and launch on same side below bridge.

Bångbro Manor. Take-out east side before dam. Transport 1.6 km along road towards industrial area. Launch on west bank after treatment plant.



Canoe Route Information

Nittälven (Nitt River) is a small, crooked river that runs from a sandy heath area with predominantly pine forest. It is always working to dig a new path in the loose sand, causing the kinds of hooks in the river that one soon expects to see after every turn. Several places there are so-called “sausage lakes,” where the river has broken through and goes straight, instead of in its crooked fashion.

There are also several stony, small rapids. These are generally passable in high water. With low water, it is best to wade or carry through.

There are no built-up areas on the river. A popular two-day tour starts at Uvbergsbron and ends at Djäkens bygge or Stjärnfors. It is suitable to camp at Havsjömossen or Nittbo. For a longer trip, one can continue via Skäret in northern Ljusnarn towards Kopparberg, continuing south towards Lindesberg. For this trip, a trolley is needed.

Nittälven is not regulated, which means that the best time to travel is April-May, when there is plenty of water in the river. At normal water level, it is best to start at Kolbron. From Havsjömossen the course can always be paddled. Here, even upstream paddling is possible.

Plant Life

Nittälven runs through old mining areas. The smelting houses and mines needed so much wood and coal in the 1600s and 1700s, so that the forests were nearly totally destroyed. Log driving went on into the 1950s. Coniferous forest dominates the area.

Along the river is a small border of birch, grey alder, buckthorn, myrica gale and poplar. In the low vegetation, moor grass, moss, burnt orchids, meadowsweet, butterworts, and more are found. The banks on both

sides of the river were earlier used as hay meadows, as evidenced by the occasional barn.

Animal Life

The area is rich with animal life. There are plenty of moose and deer. Lynx, bears, wolves and pine martens have been seen. Beavers are common in the south river.

Cranes and ospreys nest in the bogs. Grouse and black grouse are fairly common. Others to mention are ravens, goshawks, three-toed woodpeckers and Tengmalm's owls.

Sandpipers are seen along the entire route. They often fly close to the water's surface or stand nervously teetering on a stone along the bank. You recognize them by the brown back coloring, white under parts and their urgent sounding chirp.

Arctic Loons are protective of their nests. Do not paddle too close. Watch for ospreys as Nittälven nears Ljusnaren. Stay away from nesting areas, but be sure to admire the bird's gallant fishing.

Nittälven Nature Reserves

The canoe route passes through the Nittälvsbrännan and Kaljoxadalen Nature Reserves. Nittälvsbrännan became a nature reserve in 2000, after a forest fire ravaged the area. The 700 hectares of Kaljoxadalen make it one of the largest protected areas in Örebro County. The reserve varies dramatically, offering mountain and forest as well as heath and swampland.

Map

Topographic map 615 Hällefors, 616 Lindesberg, 627 Fredriksberg.

Fishing

Fishing licenses for Nittälven are needed and are sold at several local places. The Kop-

parberg Tourist Office has more information: +46 (0)580-805 55.

Canoe Routes in Örebro County

Järleån is 1 of 6 canoe routes. Others are Svartån, Arbogaån, Rastälven, Järleån and Svartälven. Regionförbundet Örebro is responsible for the canoe routes.

Canoe Rentals

A list of rental agencies can be found at www.regionorebro.se/naturochfriluftsliv.

More Information

Kopparbergs Tourist Office, +46 (0)580-805 55, www.ljusnarsberg.se; Hällefors Tourist Office, +46 (0)591-120 01, www.hellefors.se; Örebro County, +46 (0)19-602 63 00, www.regionorebro.se.

The Great Outdoors Online

More information on outdoor activities in Örebro County can be found at www.regionorebro.se/naturochfriluftsliv. Here you will find updated information on overnight camping along the canoe routes and the Bergslag Trail. You can even download stage routes and read tips and follow useful links to activities and places of interest.

Places of Interest ¹ (see map)

1. Brattforsen and Mördarheden Nature Reserves
2. Nittälvsbrännan Nature Reserve
3. Kaljoxadalen Nature Reserve
4. Dansarbacken hay meadows
5. Ice Age craters
6. Meandering “sausage lakes”



Uvbergsbron.



Dansarbacken.



Nittälven twists its way through northern Örebro County. Foto: Roger Lundberg.