

GALLBERGET HIKING TRAIL 5 KM



Terrain: easy/average, partly hilly, rocks, roots

Markings: orange

Recommended shoes: trainers

Nature: viewpoints, pine, spruce, mixed forest, streams, tarn.

Uppdaterad: 2023-03-21

Summary

A 5 km circular hiking trail which starts at the Jösse Cabin (Jössestugan) in Rackstad. The trail passes through coniferous forests, partly old pine forest, and along streams and a tarn. The climb to the top of Gallberget has some steep parts, but is overall gradual. The terrain is mostly forest paths with some duck boards. In the lower areas there are a good deal of rocks and roots. The path is well visible and marked with orange on trees or signs. A map is available in a separate PDF under Documents.

There is normally cell phone coverage throughout the trail.

Recommended starting point

Jössestugan, latitud 59.692706, longitud 12.679481

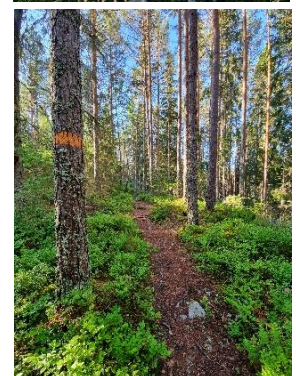
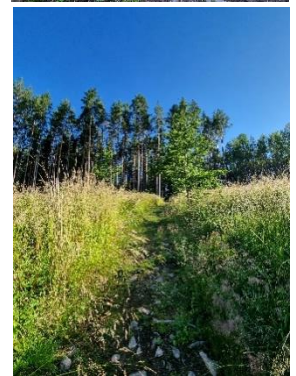
There is a spacious parking lot, but you can also go by bus. The connection 111 Arvika-Perserud passes by the stop "Myren/Rackstadskogens naturreservat" at around 8 km from the Arvika bus station. Check out the time tables at [Varmlandstrafik \(varmlandstrafik.se\)](http://Varmlandstrafik.se). Taxi fee, oneway, approximately 250 SEK (July 2022).

Trail description, counterclockwise direction

The parking lot is a common start for all three trails, Gallbergsleden, Djupdalsleden and Sotar Blixtleden. After walking up the first hill, markings and signs will guide you. Colour markings for Gallbergsleden are recently updated and well visible. The signs indicate counterclockwise direction and start off to south east, across a somewhat rocky and rooty area. The high spruce forest does not let much light through and gives the feeling of a room, where you hear the quiet rippling of small streams. Duck boards facilitate your passage across wet areas and streams, and also help keeping them intact. As altitude increases, the spruces are gradually outnumbered by pines and needle covered paths.

Making a Z-shaped stretch, the path takes you to its easternmost turn and you connect with Djupdalsleden, which shares the same way back as Gallbergsleden to Jössestugan. You continue north to reach the top of Gallberget, where tall, old pines surround you and blueberries (ripe in July-August) cover the ground. At the highest peak there is a picnic bench with a view over Lake Racken and its surroundings.

The trail winds back west, down the mountain side to Hartjärnet (Tarn of hares), where white water lilies bloom in June-July. The path continues down to Jössestugan in somewhat rocky terrain and lush vegetation.



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Photos:

1. First stretch among spruces and streams,
2. Climb through a grassy hill side,
3. At higher altitude in pine forest,
4. Picnic table at the top of Gallberget,
5. Hartjärnet (Tarn of hares).