

RÖTTLE

The village Röttle is located three kilometres south of Gränna. Visitors encounter a genuine cultural and historical environment with wooden buildings from the 18th and 19th centuries and a range of industrial remains along the ravine of the Röttle river. This is a dramatic and beautiful landscape. The river Röttle has lent its name to the village. In the Middle Ages, this stretch of the river was known as “rytlofors” (roaring rapids). The oldest evidence of the name and mills on the river is from 1279. The river is more than 12 kilometres long and constitutes the natural discharge of the lakes Ören and Bunn, with a drop of 108 metres. In the last four kilometers, the drop is 74 metres. A power station, built in Gränna in 1923, decreased the river flow.

In the Middle Ages, there were several flour mills here. Some were owned by Nydala Abbey. Count Per Brahe the Younger became the owner of Röttle in 1641. He invested in the expansion of hydropower, and an industrial village with a number of workshops, including a weapons forge, grew up along the river. A clothing mill, powder mill, trip hammer, polishing mill and boring works were set up. A paper mill was established, which operated from 1646 to 1879.

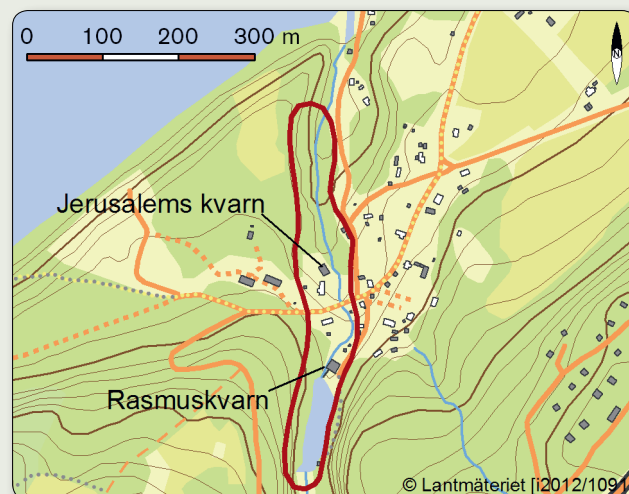
In the ravine you find traces of old building foundations and dams. Two mills still remain. On the western side of the river is the mill Jerusalem kvarn, which is probably partly medieval. Some 150 metres upstream is the mill Rasmus kvarn. The mid-17th century building was a boring works for making muskets, but was rebuilt as a flour mill around 1700. The mill was restored in 1977 and is powered by a water wheel. The dwellings comprise old-style, red, one and two room timber cottages with either one or two storeys from the 18th and 19th centuries.

By the mouth of the river at Lake Vättern you find the harbour of Röttle and a jetty where steam boats moored until the 1930s.

For a guided tour of the mill, contact Gränna museums. Picnic areas available. Footpath through Röttle. Nature reserve and walking trails.



Röttle. The older buildings were previously inhabited by craftsmen from the industries. Photo: Jönköping County Museum.



HIDDEN GEM 81



HOW TO GET HERE

From Gränna: Take the lower route/Skiftesvägen southwards and follow signs for “Röttle”. Or take the upper route/Jönköping Road and follow signs for “Röttle”. Parking available in the village, by the bridge across the river Röttle, or on the western side of the river.

Coordinates:
N 6428370/E 466370
(SWEREF 99 TM). WGS84:
N 57 59 43.35 E 14 25
54.00



The mill Jerusalem kvarn by the river Röttle waterfall. Photo: Jönköping County Museum.

JÖNKÖPINGS LÄNS
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HIDDEN GEMS

There are so many things to discover in the countryside! Here, Jönköping County Museum presents some of the cultural environment and heritage attractions in the county.

They include well-known cultural monuments such as Habo Church and the Smålandsstenar Stone Circles, but also lesser known gems such as log-driving remains in the river Valån and Stengårdshult Church. Around the county you can find evidence of how people lived and worked in the past, everything from castles and manors to abandoned embankments and clearance cairns in forest areas.

The idea with Hidden Gems is to tempt you to make excursions in the cultural landscape – here you find our history, revealed in different ways in the physical environment. This heritage is worth experiencing and protecting. Bit by bit, we will be adding more sights under the heading Hidden Gems, both for people living in the county and visitors from further away. The more people who discover these gems, the better chance that they will be preserved for the future.

FACTS

In Jönköping County there are more than 4 000 registered ancient remains, 87 cultural environments of national interest, close to 130 listed buildings, around 150 churches, some 100 rural community centres with old settlements, a large number of industrial heritage sites, and two cultural reserves. There are also a large number of cultural environments with buildings worthy of conservation. More information about the sites can be found on the websites of the County Administrative Board, the municipalities and the local heritage societies.

GOOD TO KNOW

Access to the Hidden Gems varies. Some sites are well signposted, with easy access and proper parking facilities, etc. Others are more challenging to reach. Visitors may have to walk some distance, sometimes through scrubby forest, only to be met by a broken sign (if there ever was one) when they reach the site. All the sites, however, have an exciting and interesting history.

Please note that many of the cultural heritage buildings are privately owned and can only be viewed from the outside. Also, please respect private land. Many churches are open in the summer. During other times of the year, the churchwarden may be able to open the church for you.

