



# Skåle



View from the hill "Skåle klint". Photo: Länsstyrelsen

Skåle hill offers a fine view, 95 metres above sea level. Skåle is part of the fault scarp that forms the southern shore of Lake Tisaren. Here the rock forms an impressive area where deep, humid rift valleys cut through the area from several directions. In the middle of the nature reserve is Skåle Farm, a beautiful spot at the foot of the hill.

## Ironland and farm landscape

The local rock is red gneiss, one of the most common ancient rock types. Incorporated in the gneiss is iron ore, hence the many former mines in the area. In the winter, the iron ore was transported to the ironworks at Å in Skogaholm. Skåle Farm was a working farm into the 1960s. Some parts were soon planted with forest but by the time the area became a nature reserve, the remaining farmland had reverted to pasture. In recent years, spruce has been extracted from the plantations down towards the lake and the area has become pastureland. The farm has regained much of its open landscape.

## Plantlife

The partly south-facing slopes with their varying nutrient-rich soil and the moist valley floors promote a rich flora. The coniferous forest also contains birch, aspen, hazel, guelder rose, fly honeysuckle and meze-reum. Herb species include many species whose main distribution is further south in the country. On the landslip areas and cliff ledges, southerly species grow, such as bloody cranesbill, sheep's bit, black pea, narrow-leaved everlasting pea and



The agricultural landscape around Skåle farm. Photo: Länsstyrelsen

copse bindweed. On the damper valley floors, sanicle, alternate-leaved golden saxifrage, common butterwort and Alpine enchanter's nightshade thrive. Arnica and globeflower grow in the fields around Skåle Farm. In the Skålesänkan hollow, the birch field at the foot of Skåle hill is particularly interesting, containing plants such as arnica. Many species of moss with northerly and westerly distribution thrive in the damp conditions in the fault valleys.

## Geology

When the ice sheet melted around 10,000 years ago, the land surface was pressed under the Yoldia Sea, which later became the Baltic Sea. Since then the land surface has risen approximately 140 metres. The beach formations that were created by the waves of the Yoldia Sea are now this height above the sea and 40 metres above Lake Tisaren. These formations can be seen most clearly on the northern slope of Skåle hill, where they appear as broad, treeless embankments of stone, cobblefields. All finer-grained material was washed out to sea – gravel was deposited further down the slope and sand was deposited on the beaches of Lake Tisaren. At Jättaberget, west of the nature reserve, there is one of Närke's most remarkable ancient forts, built during the Younger Iron Age (400–050 A.D.).

### Facts

Established: 1979

Are: 103 hektar

Landowner: Sveaskog

Natura 2000: the area is part of the EU network Natura 2000

Managed by: Örebro County Administrative Board (Länsstyrelsen)





#### In the nature reserve it is forbidden to:

- damage ground or vegetation, for example by digging up or picking flowers
- drive motor vehicles anywhere except on the main thoroughfare and into the two parking lots
- park car, caravan/mobile home except in designated parkingareas, maximum 2 nights in a row
- pitch a tent except in designated area, maximum 2 nights in a row
- light fires except in designated areas
- ride

- place signs, boards or similar

- disturb other visitors with radios, stereo systems or similar

#### How to get there

The nature reserve lies approximately 10 km southeast of Hallsberg and 10 km west of Svennevad. From road 51 in Svennevad, turn off towards Skogaholm. After Skogaholm, follow signs to the nature reserve. Skåle can also be reached from Hallsberg and Pålshoda.