

## **NORTHERN FOREST ROUTE (RED COLOUR)**

The whole route is about 45 km in total. If you choose to get to and from Luhrsjöbaden, you will add about 11 km back and forth from Tockarp. If you choose to cycle alternative route 2, you will add about 2 km back and forth from Tockarp.

Heavy traffic may occur when you cross road 117, pay attention when crossing this road. There are very few steep slopes, the route runs through a lot of forest and countryside, and low-traffic roads.

### **Directions starting from Hässleholm Culture Facility:**

Cycle on Järnvägsgatan south down towards the railway viaduct where you turn right to go under the railroad. Continue straight until the 2nd roundabout (at Statoil), where you turn right onto Vankivavägen. Follow the cycle path on the left side until the next roundabout, where you turn left onto Åhusvägen (about 1.6 km from the roundabout at Statoil). Take the first road to the right, towards Stjärneholmsvägen. Cycle over the small bridge and continue straight ahead about 900 m bike through the tunnel and continue straight ahead about 400 m. Continue straight through the four-way crossing.

After about 400 m you will soon pass a kindergarten and Vankiva Church on the right side. Follow Gamla Malavägen to the left (Säterivägen). You will soon pass Mala Stenar and Mala School. Follow signs Farstorp over the railroad, and then straight ahead. At road 117, cycle across the road and left and continue about 400 metres until you see the sign Farstorp on the right, turn here. (You can also get to Sparrsjön from road 117, with a bathing area, restroom, and barbecue area, see directions on the other page.) This road changes from a paved road to a gravel road after about 500 metres. Follow the road that bends to the right. At the T-junction follow the right signpost towards Farstorp. You will then reach a major road where you turn right.

After about 600 m, the road turns into a gravel road and you continue straight for about 3.7 km to a four-way crossing. Turn right towards Farstorp. Bike past Farstorp School and turn right towards Hästveda. Pass Farstorp Church and follow the sign on the right to Tockarp. The road changes after a few metres from a paved road to a gravel road. Continue for about 2.7 km and follow signs for Ballingslöv on the left. Just at the turn, there is a bus shelter. Continue straight ahead about 4.5 km.

When you enter Tockarp and see the sign Skärseröd 2 km, you can choose two alternative routes (\* see below).

If you wish to continue the regular route, then cycle straight ahead, keeping right at the sign Ballingslöv 4 km. On the left side you will bike past, among other things, the Ballingslöv Riding House. At the next T-junction turn left towards Ballingslöv. Then follow the narrow right-turn and sign towards Hässleholm. Bike through Ballingslöv centre, you will see, among other things, the bus station and the fire station on the left-hand side. After about 800 m turn right towards Vankiva. You pass Hundarnas House on the left and then Vankiva School on the right side. After about 6 km turn left and follow the signs to Hässleholm. Continue straight ahead on route 117 over the railroad. Then turn left at sign that says "kyrka" (church). You pass Vankiva Church and also a small kindergarten on the left. Continue straight ahead to the intersection, through the tunnel and then across the bridge. Turn left and then right in the roundabout and follow the signs towards the centre.

### **\* Alternative road 1, Luhrsjöbaden about 11 km round trip from Tockarp**

At Tockarp and sign Skärseröd 2 km turn left and continue straight until you reach an orange / red brick house and a narrow turn to the right, follow this road. Continue until the road divides, choose the road to the left, here you see a sign "fordonstrafik förbjuden", continue on this paved road straight ahead.

At the next T-junction follow signs Badplats / Camping to the left. Follow the cycle path down to Luhrsjobaden. You continue your route by cycling back to Tockarp and sign Skärseröd 2 km.

#### \*Alternative road 2, Sjömellet / Ballingslövsjön about 2 km round trip from Tockarp

At Tockarp and sign Skärseröd 2 km continue about 50 metres and follow signs for Norra Sandby on the left. Continue for about 300 m and drive through a narrow railway tunnel. Immediately after the tunnel turn right and keep straight ahead. After about 900 metres you will have arrived at Sjömellet. You continue your route by cycling back to Tockarp and sign Skärseröd 2 km.

### **FUN PLACES TO VISIT ON YOUR ROUTE**

These visits are a selection of the places you cycle past while on the Northern Forest Route. During the trip there are many nice places worth a stop, so a picnic basket is recommended to bring along. At Sparr Lake and Luhr Lake there are restrooms. For more information about opening hours, etc., see the websites below or contact the Municipality of Hässleholm at +46 (0) 451-26 70 00.

/We wish you a pleasant trip!

#### **Vankiva church**

A medieval church from the end of the 12th century. Extensions have been built during different periods, groin vaults were made at the end of the Middle Ages and in the 1850s the western part of the church was elevated and a low tower was built. The most important inventory of the Church is a triumphal crucifix from the end of the Middle Ages, representing Jesus as the victorious king. The grand clock in the tower has been in use since the 13th century.

[Vankiva kyrka - Svenska kyrkan i Norra Åkarp, Vankiva och Farstorp](#)

#### **Mala Stenar**

The Iron Age burial field Mala Stenar is situated at an elevated oak-covered site in the hilly landscape between Vankiva and Northern Åkarp. In the grave there are more than 50 features in the form of shipwrecks, raised stones, and stone settlements. Throughout the area there is also a system of whole roads. The richness of these features points to a vast settlement of farming in the early Iron Age. In addition to the purely archaeological value, the area is also interesting as a landscape scenery.

[www.lansstyrelsen.se](#)

#### **Sparr lake**

After Mala, on road 117, continue straight across the road toward sign Jeppatorp. After about 1 km you will reach the parking lot. Sparrsjön is one of the most visited lakes in the municipality for swimming. Here is a dock that forms a swimming pool, and also a restroom and barbecue area. You have the option to choose grass or sand to lie on.

[www.hassleholm.se/badplatser.se](#)

#### **Farstorp church**

One of the best preserved medieval churches in the municipality. The cross vaults are decorated with paintings by "Everlövmästaren". The motif is scenes from Jesus' life. Altar and pulpit are in the Skåne Renaissance style from the 1590s. There are also paintings on the altarpiece and the stand detailing by "counterfeiter" Jesper Fritz.

[www.svenskakyrkan.se/bjarnumspastorat/farstorps-kyrka1](#)

## **Hästveda/Luhrsö bath**

The place named Hästveda is composed of the ancient words for horse and forest. Hästveda was thus the forest where the horses were put to pasture. About four kilometres from Hästveda's Centre is one of Skåne's nicest bathing lakes, Luhr Lake.

The lake is one of Skåne's cleanest lakes and has been classified as an EU bath since 2020. The bathing area is handicapped accessible and there are several different jetties and jumping towers. The surface is both grass and sand and there is a toilet in one of the buildings that is cleaned regularly. If restlessness creeps in after sunbathing, there are great hiking opportunities along the Lursjöleden, fishing and canoeing. You can also play mini golf, football or volleyball on the grass.

In the kiosk there is ice cream and simple meals and at the seasonal campsite you can spend the night in a tent, caravan or simple camping cabin.

[Badplatser - Hässleholms kommun \(hassleholm.se\)](http://Badplatser - Hässleholms kommun (hassleholm.se))  
[lursjonscamping.com](http://lursjonscamping.com)

In central Hästveda, located in Hembygdsparken, lies the hostel of Hästveda. In the Hästveda church from the 12th century there are paintings from the 1200s and 1500s. Each year, Hästveda Market, one of Skåne's largest markets is held. The market is always held on the second Wednesday and Thursday in July, with a pre-market on Wednesday and an animal market early on Thursday morning.

[Hästveda Hembygdsförening](http://Hästveda Hembygdsförening)  
[Hästveda vandrahem \(hassleholmsgardensvandrарhem.se\)](http://Hästveda vandrahem (hassleholmsgardensvandrарhem.se))

## **Sjömellet**

At Sjömellet, the Ballingslöv and Ottarp lakes are connected by a canal. The Ottarp Lake is accessed through the walkway along the eastern side of the canal. At the lake there is a nice swimming area with a pier and barbecue area.

[www.hassleholm.se/badplatser](http://www.hassleholm.se/badplatser)

## **Madrix Café**

End or start the tour with a stop at the cozy Café Madrix, located in central Hässleholm. Here you can enjoy sandwiches, salads, pastries and more. Choose from 80 different teas, chocolate, coffee and other goodies. Book chocolate, tea and licorice tastings, chocolate o noon or afternoon tea. At Madrix you can also rent a bicycle with a picnic basket.

[www.madrix.se](http://www.madrix.se)

More tips on cafes and restaurants you will find here

[Eat - Hässleholm Tourist Center \(hassleholm.se\)](http://Eat - Hässleholm Tourist Center (hassleholm.se))

