



KARI HALLANTIE

### Information about the area Upthrusting

Upthrusting at the coast of Norrfjärden is so fast that it is easy to notice the changes that occur in only one human's lifetime. Upthrusting is a result of the Ice Age, when the weight of a mass of ice up to 2 to 3 km thick disappeared and caused the earth's crust to rise to its former height.

The upthrusting speed in Kristinestad is about 7 mm per year. In Norrfjärden, the actual speed is more than one meter per hundred years because of soil and other vegetation accumulates at the coast and affects the displacement of the shoreline.

The Tjock River starts from the northern part of Östermark municipality and flows to Norrfjärden. A river more than 60 km long collects the water from an area larger than 500 km<sup>2</sup>.

### Beach groves and pasture lands

The flora in Tegelbruksbacken-Norrfjärden is diverse. Nutrients that come from the river maintain the species of the beach groves. The most handsome pines in the

area grow in the grove-like old mixed spruce forest, and wilderness stretches on the Norrfjärden side. The specialties of the area are the planted noble deciduous trees, Maple and Wych elm.

For centuries, Tegelbruksbacken has been used as pasture land for the townsmen's cows and horses. Decorative, bush-like or columnar junipers are typical for old leas. The cattle don't eat junipers, which is why great leas of juniper are developed along the pasture land.

Furthermore, there are old stone walls surrounding the pasture land. These walls can be up to three meters wide, more than 1 meter high and more than 1 km long. Presumably the walls were built in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, whereas the old stone structure basement in Tegelbruksbacken originates at least from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The size of the basement is approximately 6 m x 6 m, and its thick walls consist of stone and soil masonry. It is very likely that the basement is a part of the brick factory and leisure house that operated in the area in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The clay used in the brick-making process was collected at the nearby bay called Lerviken ("Clay bay").

The pasture lands at Tegelbruksbacken are adorned by the countless number of plants that prefer the bright and open growth places. Common lea species on the dry rocky hillocks are Field Garlic, Maiden Pink, Lady's Bedstraw or Yellow Bedstraw, and Downy oat-grass. These colorful species, which have adapted to the old farming traditions, are becoming increasingly rare as cattle



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breeding ends and pasture lands are overgrowing. Pastured traditional landscapes are important especially for butterflies and many other insects. Every fifth species in these culturally affected areas, which means approximately 400 species, are endangered.

### Bird life

The coastline of the Tjock River offers sheltered nesting and feeding places for more than 50 different bird species. Wood warblers, Lesser Spotted Woodpecker and Trush Nightingale are typical bird species found in these lush forests.

During the spring and fall migration, Norrfjärden serves as a resting place for hundreds of swans, geese and other water fowls. Even birds of prey prefer this area as a part of their migration route. During the low water season, muddy sea beds are exposed and offer a great



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amount of nutrition for wading birds. At the most, there can be hundreds of wading birds enjoying the nutrition in the area. Every spring, fish that swim up to Flybäcken to spawn are a great source of nutrients for foxes, raccoon dogs and seagulls.

There have been a great number of bird rarities in Norrfjärden. During the bird's migration period, the Grey Heron is a regular visitor here, and in the winter time you might also find Bearded Reedling in the grass. Other rarities in the area are Common Kingfishers, Greater Spotted Eagles, Marsh Sandpipers, Great Egrets, Gadwalls, Little Grebes and Black Terns.



EERO MURTONIEMI



Welcome to Tegelbruksbacken-Norrfjärden nature trail!

Tegelbruksbacken-Norrfjärden is a 154-hectare versatile nature protection area administered by Forststyrelsen.

Along the nature trail, you can explore the nature and history of the area with the help of information points. This Natura-2000 area is accessible as a one-day hiking destination, or just for a couple of hours of recreation.

Forststyrelsen welcomes you to enjoy nature!

Nature Protection Area

# Tegelbruksbacken-Norrfjärden

English



# Tegelbruksbacken-Norrjärdens naturstig

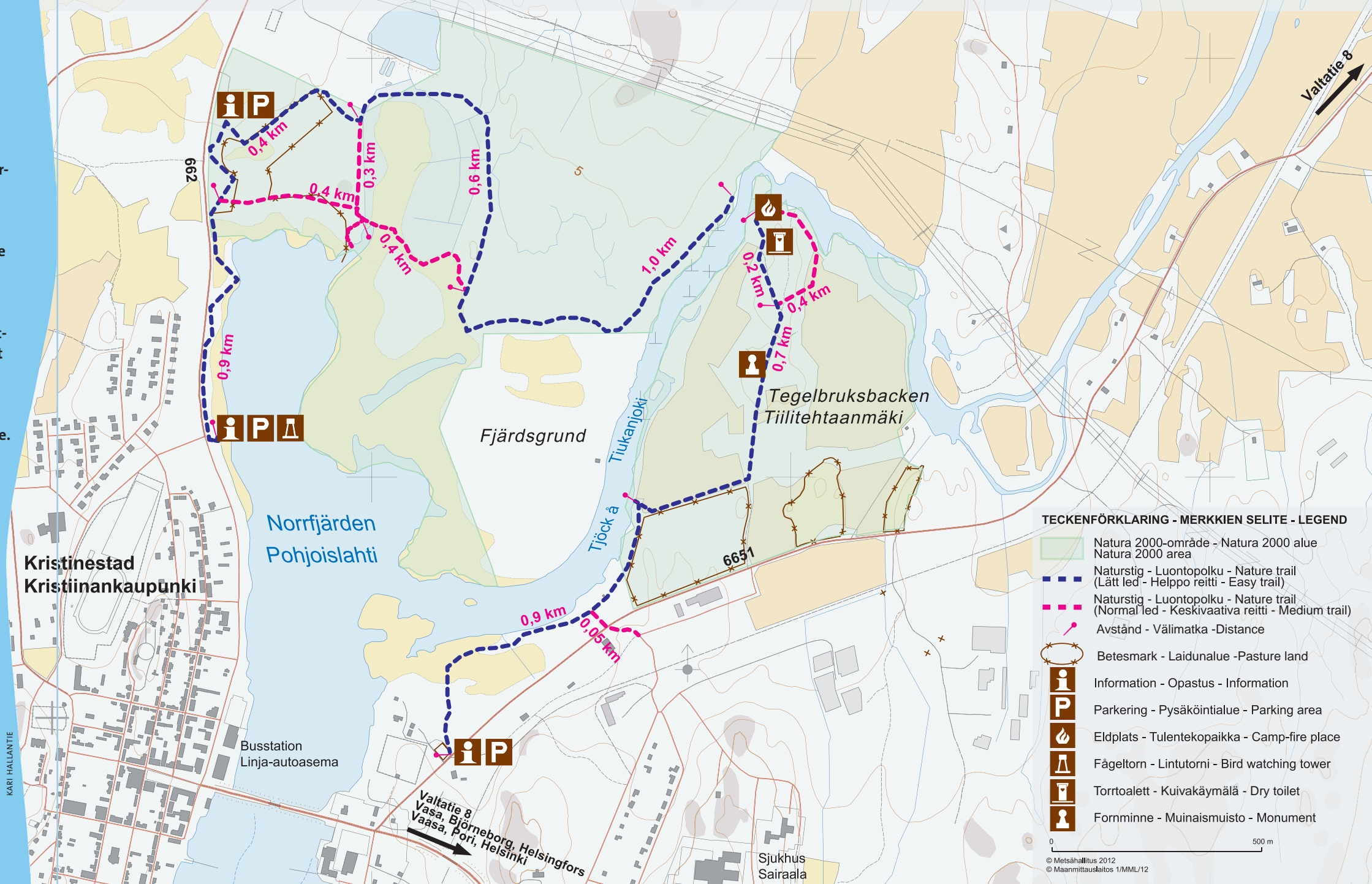
## Tiilitehtaanmäen-Pohjoislahden luontopolku – Tegelbruksbacken-Norrjärdens nature trail

### Instructions for hikers

- The Everyman's Right applies in the area.
- Use only marked routes to avoid unnecessary erosion of the environment. It is prohibited to use motor vehicles in the area without the landowner's permission.
- Fires are only allowed at the campfire sites. During forest fire warnings, it is absolutely prohibited to light a fire.
- Do not take firewood from the forest. Use ready-made fire wood from the woodshed.
- There is no waste disposal in the area, so follow the principles of camping without waste – and take your litter with you when you leave the area. Pack it in, pack it out!
- Do not disturb the animals or their young. Observe them from a safe distance, using binoculars for example.
- Dogs are welcome but must be leashed. Unleashed dogs might scare other hikers and grazing cattle.



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### Trails:

#### Blue trail

This partly gritted route is easy to walk and follow because of its blue paint marks on the terrain. In addition to interesting nature information, you can also find quiet resting places along the trail.

On the Norrjärden side, you can start hiking from two different points. The first point is at the bird-watching tower and leads to the rapids of the Tjock River. Back and forth the walking distance is 5,8 km. Another possible starting point is a parking place a bit north.

On the Tegelbruksbacken side, the starting point of the trail is at the parking place next to the Tjockvägen road. The trail ends at the Tjock River. The distance back and forth is 3,6 km.

#### Red trails

Routes marked with red paint are alternative trails related to the blue main trail. The difficulty level varies.



### Contact Details

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