

## Welcome to Tjurpannan

Tjurpannan Nature Reserve is located on the southwestern part of the Havstensund peninsula. The area has no protective outer archipelago and is thus one of the most exposed parts of the Bohuslän mainland coast. Here the winds howl, and the surf is thrown high up over the rocks and islets. The waters along this coast have always been feared by seafarers. It is said that in the past, men chose to put women and children ashore, who then had to pass the most dangerous sections on foot. At the beginning of the 1900s, there were plans to build a canal to connect Edsviken, just south of the Havstensund peninsula with Sannäsfjorden. Coastal shipping declined however, and the canal never became a reality.

## An open landscape

The landscape is characterised by the harsh climate. The western part is dominated by steep cliffs, interrupted by bays with pebbles, gravel and



*Tufted sedge*

occasional sandy beaches. In many places along the coast, prominent rock sculptures and clefts in the granite bedrock can be seen.

The exposed location, in combination with grazing has shaped the open landscape with bare rock and heathland. Heather dominates the inner parts of the heathlands, but crowberry, cross-leaved heath and various grasses also grow here. Eyebright is difficult to spot but is found scattered amongst the heather. Occasional trees and small groves of pine and rowan grow here and there. In very exposed locations, the pines, and junipers creep along the bare rocks. Close to the road from the car park, the rare Swedish service tree grows. Bushes such as dog rose, blackthorn, wild privet and guelder rose also find homes in sheltered cracks and crevices. In some places, climbing honeysuckle grows: the landscape flower of Bohuslän.

*Slender blue-winged grasshopper*



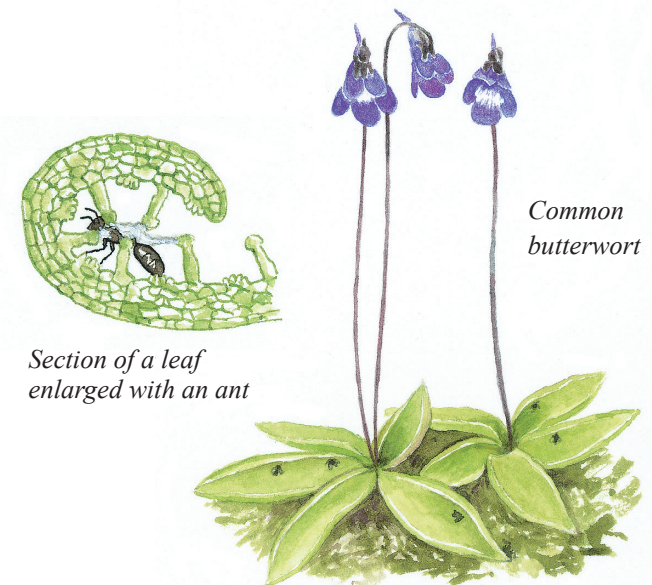
## A rich and interesting flora

Storemyr and Krabbemyrarna are nutrient-poor water bodies that are almost completely overgrown with large populations of plants such as tufted sedge. Bog asphodel and brown beak sedge are also found here. Water lobelia can be found in Tjurviktjärn, which thrives on shallow, gravel and sandy bottoms. If these become covered in bog mosses or silt, or if the nutrient level in the water increases significantly, the plant disappears. In smaller areas where the substrate is rich in shell-bearing gravels, a richer fen vegetation grows. Plants such as white-flowering fairy flax, lousewort, tawny sedge, and common butterwort thrive here. At Tjurvik, the pretty marsh lousewort flowers, with its dark pinky-red petals.

## Ravenous insectivores

Common butterwort is one of the few 'carnivorous' plants. On thin stalks it displays irregular, beautiful blue-violet flowers that emerge from soft, sticky leaf rosettes. These leaves have a very distinctive yellow-green colour, which shows that the plant does contain chlorophyll, even if the leaves also feed by catching insects. The leaves, which have slightly curled edges and are covered with thousands of fine glandular hairs, act as a veritable insect trap. When an insect lands, the hairs secrete a sticky slime which the insect gets stuck in. The leaves then roll in very slowly and dinner is served! The insect is broken down by the slime and the cells of the leaf surface can digest the nutrients. Common butterwort also makes use of other organic matter, such as pollen grains and small petals that happen to fall onto the leaves.

In the past, the leaves of common butterwort were used to curdle milk. The active ingredient in the plant is a special lactic acid bacterium which is also found in calves' rumen. Sundew, which also traps and digests insects, can be found on damp peaty soils.



*Common butterwort*

*Section of a leaf enlarged with an ant*





*Yellow horned  
poppy*

### ***Everlasting, snaps spice and emergency flour***

The delicate quaking grass and common milkwort, which can produce flowers that are light and dark blue, red-violet and white. The male flowers of mountain everlasting have white bracts, whilst they are red on the female flowers. Sea wormwood grows in stands and has strongly smelling grey leaves. It has sometimes been used to spice snaps. The flowers of common sea lavender can be dried just like the yellow flowers from the spiny carline thistle. The tuberous roots of dropwort, rich in carbohydrates, were in the past dried and ground in times of famine to be used to make bread.

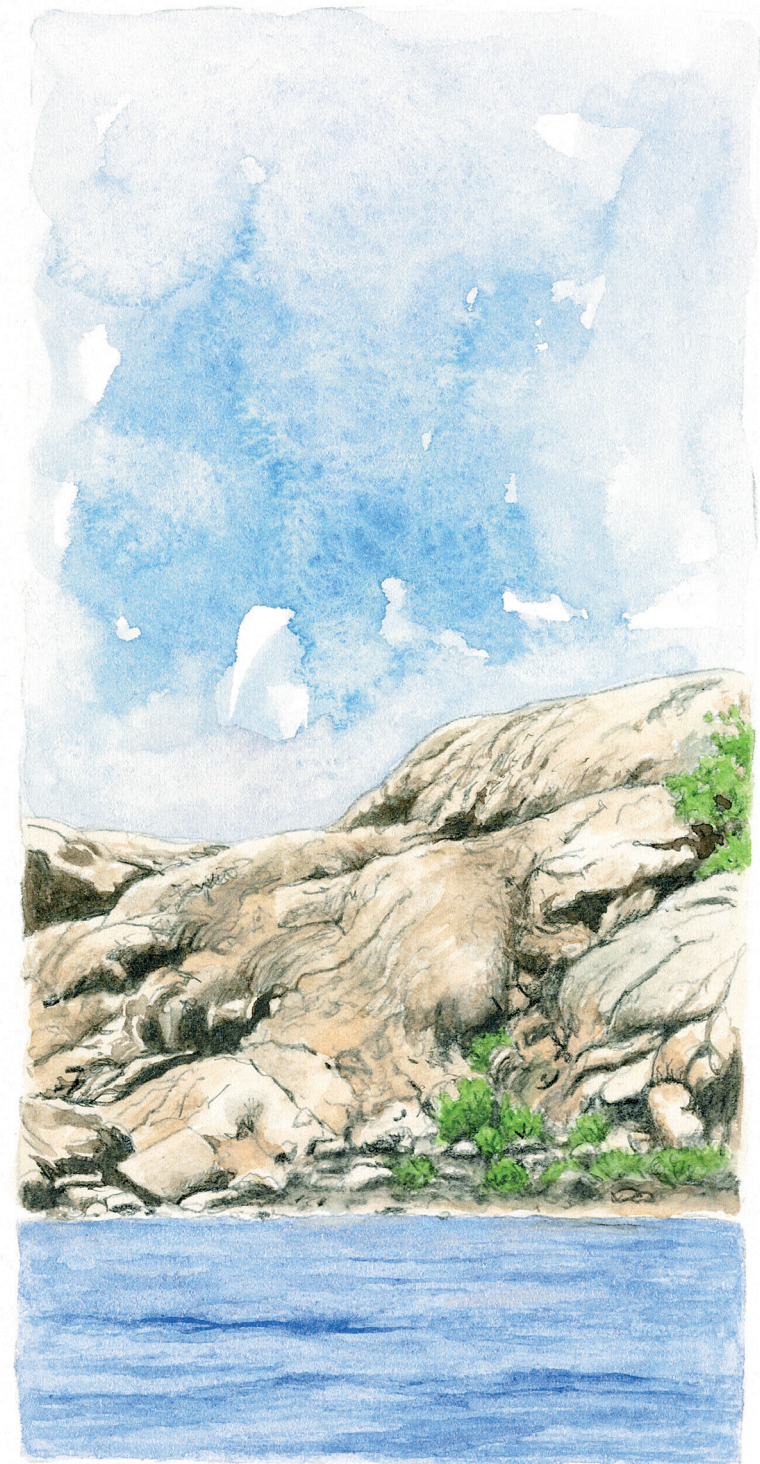
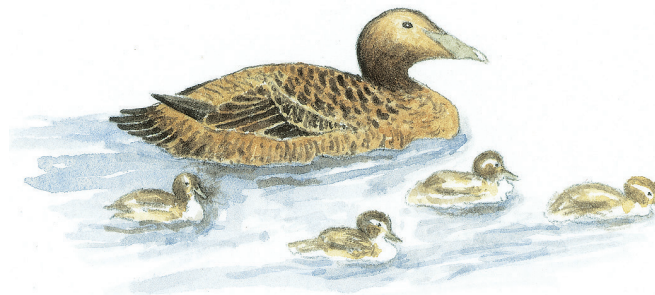
Lesser and greater yellow rattle both have flattened seed pods that resemble a coin. As the seeds ripen, the plants become dry and stiff and when the wind blows you can hear the seeds rattle inside the pod. When the seeds are released, the wind catches their wing-like edges. On damper soils, heath spotted orchid, purple loosestrife, and marsh cinquefoil, which has dark brown-red flowers, can be found.

### ***Amongst pebbles and stones***

Amongst the pebbles on the beach, there are several interesting and rare plants. Sea pea has violet-blue flowers and greeny-blue leaves. The pod turns brown and the round peas float in water, helping the plant to find new places to grow. The stems of the oyster plant lie along the ground and have fleshy blue-green leaves. The flowers are pink at first, but later turn blue. The flowers of the yellow horned poppy are just over five centimetres in size and are pure sunshine yellow, and the plant later develops a long, narrow seed pod. The end of it looks, in a funny way, like a small trunk. The plant is known to be fickle and unpredictable and can disappear for a long time before reappearing again. Both oyster plant and yellow horned poppy are protected throughout Sweden.

### ***The bird life***

It is primarily eiders and gulls that make their mark on the bird life of the coast and archipelago. The herring gull is the most common of Bohuslän's gulls. The upper parts of the wings are grey on this large bird and it has a conspicuous red spot on its powerful yellow beak. The common gull has similar plumage to the herring gull, but it is smaller, slimmer, and slightly darker. During the summer the black-headed gull has a dark chocolate brown head and white neck, but in its winter plumage, only a diffuse 'comma' marking is visible behind the eye.



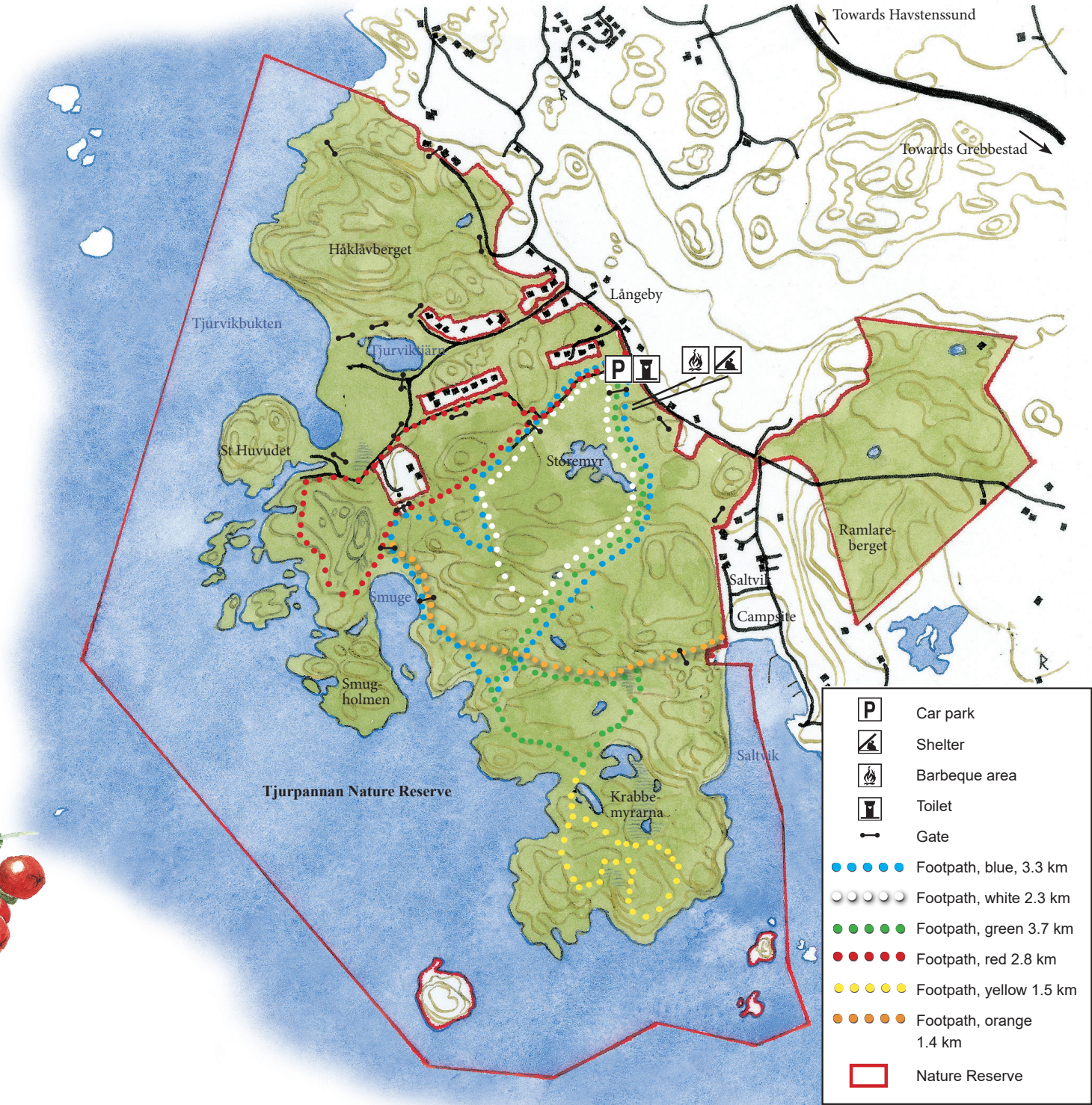


The female eider duck incubates her eggs alone in her nest, which is sometimes completely exposed. Once the young have hatched, it is common for several females to form small flocks with their chicks, that swim around along the shore. The black and white males are easy to spot even from a distance. After breeding, they gather in large flocks off the coast. The redshank is often seen wading through shallow water where they catch crustaceans, molluscs and bristleworms. If you get too close to the chicks, they give out a loud, persistent, hammering warning call.

Amongst the bushes and scrub you can hear the call of the whitethroat. The bird often perches at the top of a bush or takes off on a short song flight. The light-coloured throat and the red-brown wings are good distinguishing features. With a good deal of luck, you may also spot the much rarer and rather shy barred warbler. The white underside with grey bars has given the bird its name.



Barred warbler





## Peat hollows

Peat used to be a very important resource in Bohuslän; a region suffering from a severe lack of woodland. This fossil fuel was used both for heating and as building material, and peat was often an important part of the local economy. Peat harvesting was usually carried out in the autumn, after which a long drying process began, which could take up to a year. During the herring fishing boom in the 1700s, peat was the main fuel used in the many fish oil factories in Bohuslän. Later, in the 19th Century, the resource became so important to control, that in some places, the Lantmäteriet (land registry) carried out special land divisions to distribute the peat bogs among the farmers in the area. Taking peat without permission often led to severe penalties. At Tjurpannan, peat harvesting is carefully regulated in legislation dating from the mid-1800s.

Several of the facilities once used in relation to peat harvesting and drying can be seen in the area. The remains of the old roads used to transport the dried peat can also be seen.



*Barnacle*

## Small creatures and beach treasures

Searching for things on the beach is fun for young and old alike. Most people may recognise blue mussels, which have shells made up of two equal halves. Other examples of those with two shells include the common cockle which has white to brownish ribbed shells, and the razor shell which is a recent immigrant. Razor shells can grow to be around ten centimetres long and resemble an old-fashioned razor. Other types of shellfish have only a single spiral shell. The common periwinkle often sits in groups on rocks by the water's edge

*Common periwinkle*



*Blue mussel*



*Razorshell*

Other 'treasures' that are fun to study are the shells and legs of common shore crabs, the papery egg cases from common whelks, and barnacles which look like tiny volcanic craters. They attach themselves to the rocks and stones and there is a small crustacean living within each crater.

Those interested in insects and other small creatures can also make discoveries in the Reserve. The slender blue-winged grasshopper can be seen on the lichen-covered rocks, and on its short flights, it lives up to its name. The rest of its colouring blends well with the surroundings. Other interesting insects such as diving beetles, weevils and ground beetles have also been found in the site.

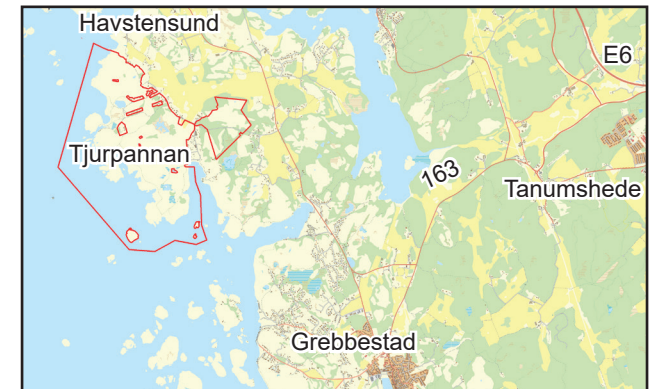
## Magnificent view

It is easy to wander through the Nature Reserve and from several of the hills you have a magnificent view of the sea. The rocky beaches offer many opportunities to try your luck at fishing, and for those who want to have a swim, there are shallow bays in the shelter of Stora Huvudet and Smugholmen.



You are welcome to wander in the lovely countryside, but please show consideration and take your rubbish home with you. Within the Nature Reserve it is forbidden to:

- camp;
- drive a motor vehicle other than to and from the parking places;
- break branches, pick flowers or dig up plants;
- light a fire;
- bring a dog not on a lead;
- injure or disturb the wildlife;
- leave rubbish such as metal, glass, paper, plastic or other waste.



## Location

From the E6, turn off towards Grebbestad. On the road between Grebbestad and Havstensund, there is a turn-off towards Saltvik Campsite. After passing the campsite, you will see the large car park at Långeby.



Länsstyrelsen  
Västra Götaland



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Naturvård & Friluftsliv

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Production: Väst kuststiftelsen, revised 2021.  
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