



0 0,5 1 2 Kilometers

1:35 000

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ÅMMEÅNGEN RUNT, 28 km

Difficulty level: **Green**

Estimated time: 1,5-3h

Altitude: 210 m

About half of the route is asphalted and the rest is gravel roads. The stretch of road between Askersund and Åmmeberg is narrow and winding, and quite busy.

1. Åmme caves: approx. 50 – 100 metres from the road.

2. Vena caves: One of the most remarkable mining fields in Lerbäck's mining district. The site of cobalt and copper ore mining. Cobalt is used in the china and paper industries for blue dye. Ore was discovered here in the 1770s. Some 860 people worked here at its height. The deepest mine is 70 metres. Mining operations ceased completely in the 1880s. Today you can see a large number of pits filled with clear and green-coloured water, as well as several slag heaps.

3. Garpa Mine: Garpa was a mining site, as was Västerby mine, back in medieval times. Germans were involved in the mine right from the start. In the 1600s, there were disputes between the miners in Hammar and foundry owner Anton von Boij regarding mining rights in Garpa. The leptite in the area was rich in the zinc ore sphalerite and the lead ore mineral galena. During prospecting work, the zinc content was found to be 9 percent and lead, 6 percent. When metal prices were high, it could be worth mining. There has been no other mining other than for iron ore at Garpa Mine. Mining operations continued here on and off for several centuries, before ceasing in 1877. The mine supplied ore to the blast furnaces at Dalby, Forsa, Rönne, Dammen (Mariedamm), Slåte and Västra Å. The entrance is at a depth of 30 metres. A shaft descends a further 24 metres. A gallery continues 22 metres into the rock.

4. Catholic churchyard: The zinc mine employees came mainly from Belgium, France and Southern Germany. They brought with them their Catholic faith and built their own churchyard. The churchyard is situated on the headland that juts out into Åmmelången lake. Follow the lit trail past the old bathing area up to the churchyard.

5. Flygarmonumentet: is a 3-metre tall obelisk that was raised in memory of Elsa Andersson, Sweden's first female aviator. She died here during a parachute jump display over the frozen lake Alsen in 1922.