

The path is marked with a grey hexagon



Guide yourself!

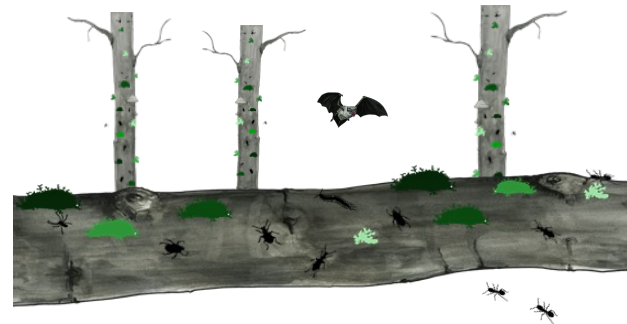
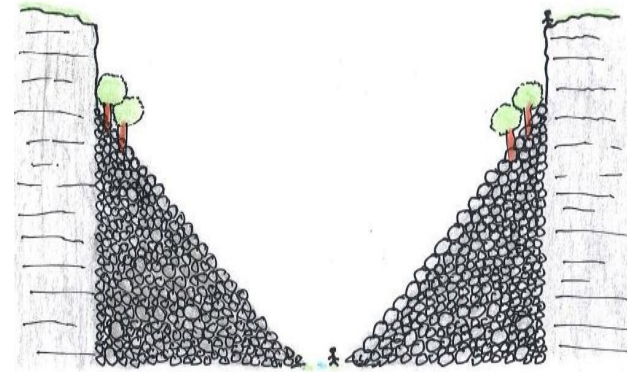


1 km

## Söderåsen

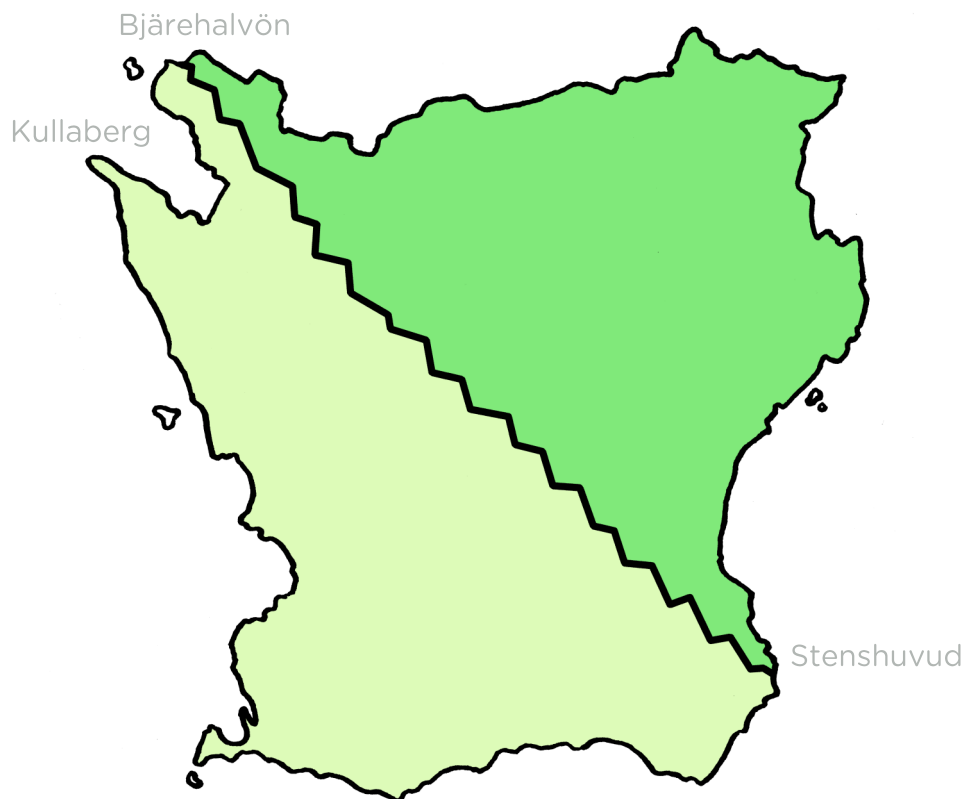


Breathtaking heights & bustling woods...



SÖDERÅSENS  
NATIONALPARK

## Skåne cracks



*The fractured zone runs straight through Skåne,*

400 million years ago

## Contact us at the Visitor center—naturum

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Söderåsen

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More information:

[www.sverigesnationalparker.se/soderasen](http://www.sverigesnationalparker.se/soderasen)



## Good to know

**TOILETS** are available by naturum Söderåsen, at the view point Kopparhatten, by the rest areas Liagården and Dahlberg and in the Nackarpsdalen valley.

**WATER** is available by the Visitor centre (naturum Söderåsen) in Skäralid. (water in the wells by the rest areas/camp sites is not tested)

**PLACES TO BBQ** are available in Skäralid by the Skärdammen pond, in Nackarpsdalen valley in Röstånga and by the rest areas at Liagården and Dahlbergs. Firewood is available. It is not possible to book a fire place/BBQ grill.

**TABLES & BENCHES** are available at all BBQ sites, by the view point Kopparhatten and in the Nackarpsdalen valley in Röstånga.

**OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION** is allowed and possible only in our rest areas / camp sites.

**Liagården:** situated along the blue trail; In the garden you can pitch your tent or use the shelters. Toilets, water, fire place and wood is available.

**Dahlbergs:** Along the orange trail; In the garden you can pitch your tent. Toilets, water, fire place and wood is available. Both free of charge but please keep it tidy and clean.

**Killahuset:** near Naturum, must be booked at +46(0)435-44 21 20 or [naturum.soderasen@lansstyrelsen.se](mailto:naturum.soderasen@lansstyrelsen.se). 6 bunk beds and a sleeping loft for about 20. Toilets, water, fire place and wood is available. Costs 500 SEK per day. Please keep it tidy and clean.

*Note that the Swedish "Right of Public Access" is limited in the National Park. Fires and fire places are permitted at prepared sites only.*



# 1

## Skåne cracked - from edge to edge

*Stop at the pond Skärdammen*

In a prehistoric collision in the Earth's crust, the continental plates of Africa and Europe collided with "our" plate Baltica, Skåne took the impact.

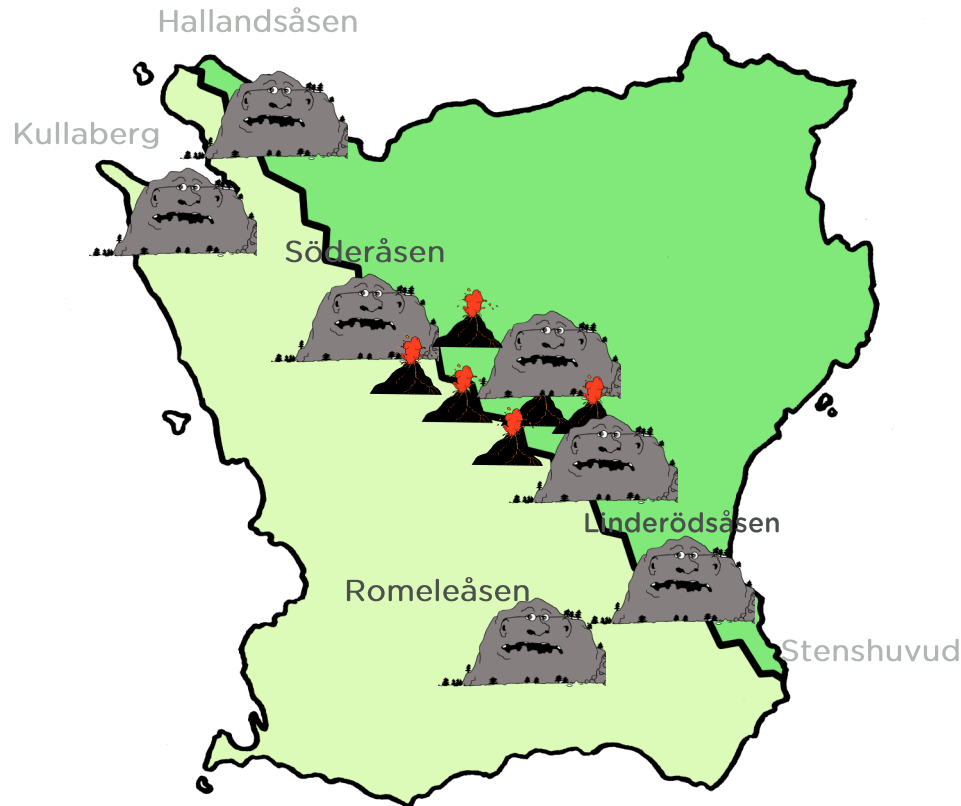


Skåne fractured from Kullaberg & Bjäre in the northwest all the way down to Stenshuvud in the southeast. This diagonal is called the Skåne fault line and is several miles wide.



Skåne is pressed together

8



*Volcanoes erupt and rocky ridges (horsts) are pressed up along the diagonal. Söderåsen is formed!*

## Dead trees teeming with life!

*Stop at the slope with dead trees*

In this dramatic nature the trees have been able to live their lives — to age, and die — without human intervention. Take a look around, are there old or dead trees? Imagine that plenty of bugs live inside them...

The decaying wood inside is soft and humid. A perfect habitat for insect larvae, woodlice, spiders and worms. They chew & eat, crawl & sleep, and grow bigger and bigger...

When the larva-stage is completed they will turn into fully-formed beetles and butterflies. They will then leave the forest trees in search for nectar packed flowers, which grow on the edges of the forests and in the meadows.



# 2

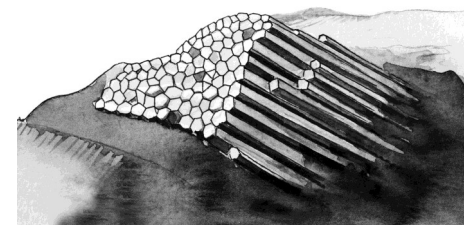
## From the fuming abyss - Söderåsen rose up

*Stop when the path turns to the left*

About 200 million years ago there was a new collision, as the African and European plates made a new advance.

Small mountains (horsts) shot upwards, while the surrounding land along the Skåne fault line sank. Söderåsen and the other rocky ridges (horsts) of Skåne were born!

At that time about 100 volcanoes were active in Skåne. One of them is Rallaté in this National Park!



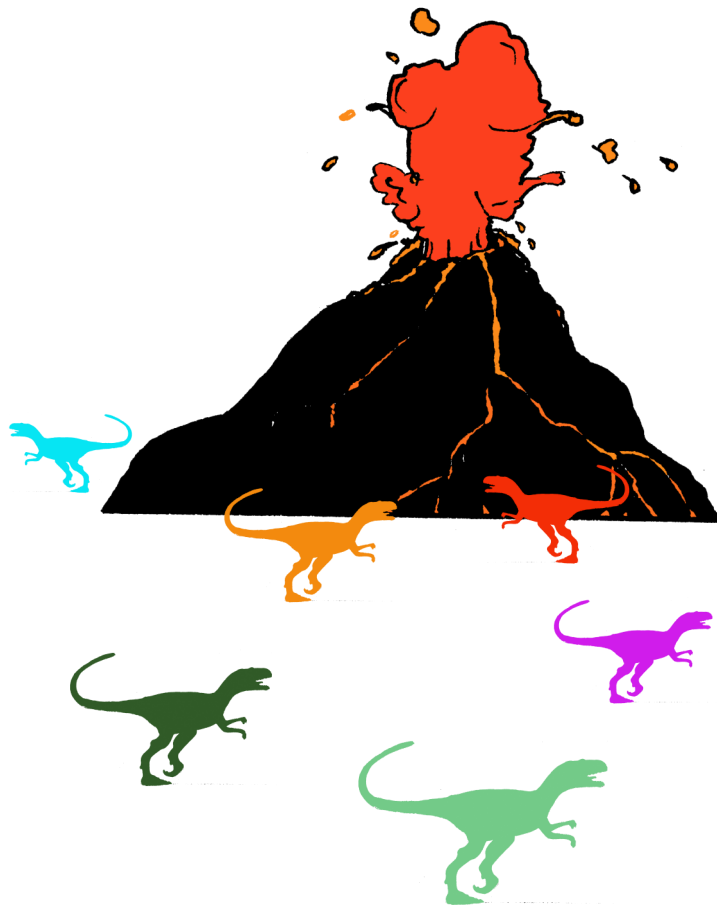
*The volcano at Rallaté. The lava that has cooled in the crater of the volcano creates a basalt plug. You can see this today as a small hill by the road just south of Skärälid.*



*Old trees & dead trees are bustling with life! Mosses, lichens & tree fungi can be seen on stems and trunks. Inside the trees spiders and a great variety of beetle larvae and butterfly larvae are hiding.*

## Volcanoes & dinosaurs on Söderåsen!

# 7



### Meadows & pastures here?

*Stop at the stone wall where the path goes to the right*

Most of the National Park, including the slopes, is former grazing land...

But the valley bottom has been used for hay production in older days. The stone walls kept the grazing sheep & cows on the "right" side!

The flowers contain valuable nectar for the adult beetles & butterflies. Even love flourishes, here the insects will find their partners.

Today only the meadow Kopparhatts-ängen is left. It's located on the left side of the brook, about 1 km into the valley.

The insect larvae live a couple of years in old or dead trees, but as adult they return to the meadow.

# 3

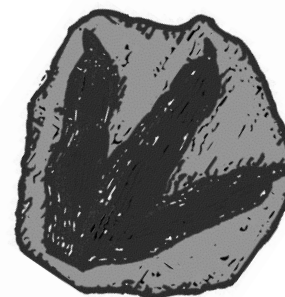
## Volcanoes & dinosaurs— on Söderåsen

*Stop at the first stony scree slope*

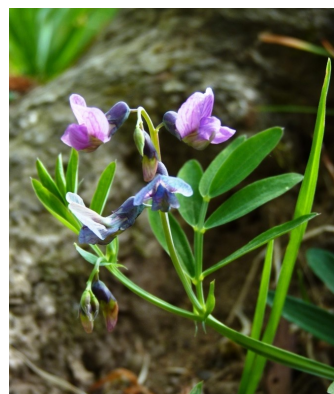
Dinosaurs lived in Skåne during this dramatic period. The big meat eater, *Grallator*, as well as the peaceful plant eater, *Plateosaurus*.

A fossil footprint from a baby dinosaur can be seen in the exhibition in Naturum.

Did this dinosaur experience a volcano eruption during its life here on Söderåsen?



*The fossil footprint from a dinosaur in the visitor centre Naturum Söderåsen.*

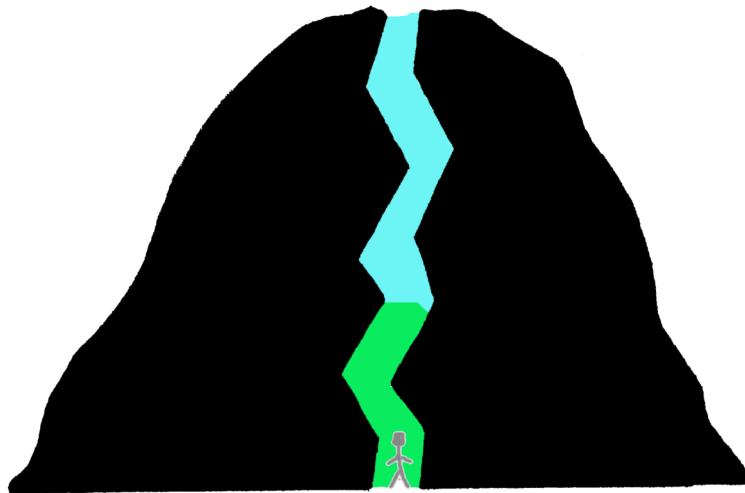


*The meadow flowers are important for the adult insects. Here are some of the species that can be found on the meadow Kopparhattssängen.*

Spotted longhorn (*Rutpela maculata*), Harebell (*Campanula rotundifolia*), Black-headed Cardinal beetle (*Pyrochroa coccinea*), various butterflies, Heath pea (*Lathyrus linifolius*), Noble chafer (*Gnorimus nobilis*), Bee beetle (*Trichius fasciatus*).

# 6

The horst Söderåsen bursts -  
and the joint valleys are formed!



*The joint valley Skäralidsdalen is one of several at Söderåsen.  
Imagine that this valley at the beginning was a deep crack  
with vertical cliff walls inside the horst!*

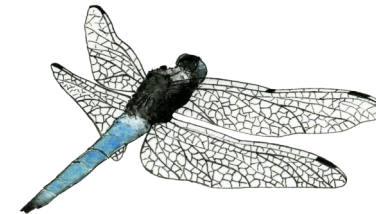
## Clean water due to springs

*Stop at the bridge*

The fractured bedrock contains a lot of small crevices. Through these ground water reach the surface as springs.

In this valley, Skäralidsdalen, there are many springs that contribute to the clean water in the brook Skärån.

Many fish and water living insects that are sensitive to pollutants enjoy the pure water.



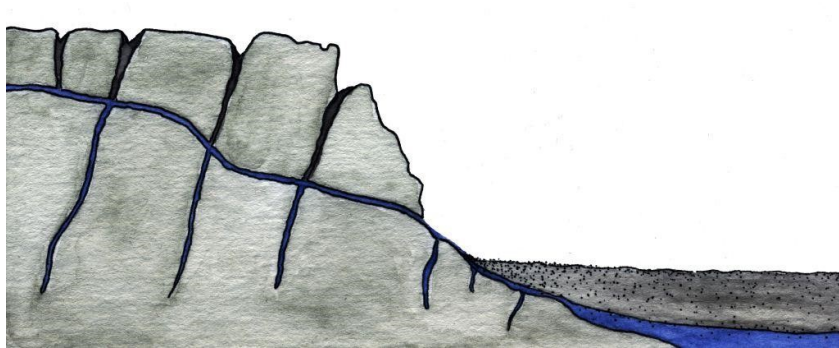
*The adult dragonfly lives for a few months,  
but for several years as a larva in water.*



# 4

## The horst that cracked

*Stop at the path when the scree slope ends*



*Ground water that finds its way up through cracks in the ground are known as springs. There are many in this valley Skärалidsdalen. They provide clean water to the brook Skärån.*



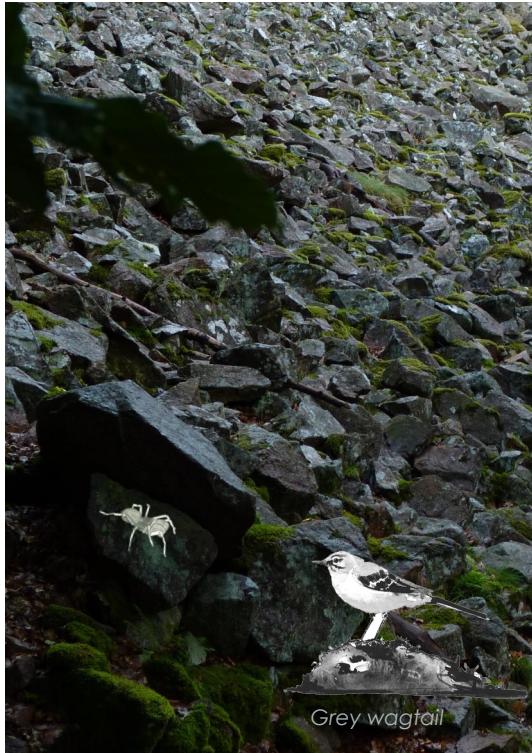
*Stoneflies need this clean water for the larvae to develop. But they have to watch out — both the white-throated dipper and the brown trout are searching for food in the clear water.*

A third collision occurred about 80 million years ago. The crash was very powerful. The Alps were created and Skånes horsts reached their present heights.

The horsts—Hallandsåsen, Kullaberg, Söderåsen, Romeleåsen & Linderödsåsen — are all small cousins to the Alps!

Söderåsen was severely damaged in this crash. This horst cracked open and the joint valleys were born. Right now you are standing in one of them— Skärалidsdalen!

Stones break loose from cliff walls due to ice



*The stony scree slopes beneath the cliffs are dangerous for humans but provide good habitats for lichens and mosses. Grey wagtail and purse-web spiders thrive here.*



# 5

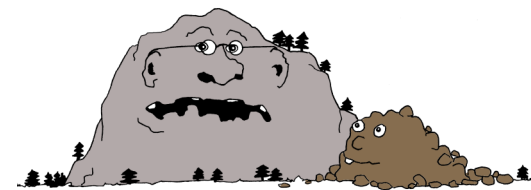
## The ice ages gave us the scree slopes & gravel ridges

*Stop at the spring Rårödspågens källa*

Initially the valley walls were almost vertical cliffs; today they are edged by enormous scree slopes. A result from several ice ages during the last 2 million years.

With the aid of frost, the stone blocks have broken loose from the rock face and tumbled down to the ground below. You can still see the cliffs in the upper part of the slopes!

Small gravel ridges and rounded pits across the landscape are also the work of the ice.



*The big old horst Söderåsen and a small young gravel ridge.*