



Flax Cabin, 7km

An easily walked, slightly hilly route on both surfaced and unsurfaced, lightly trafficked roads. The area has been farmed since the stone age and flint tools are often found out in the fields. Today's farmers tend to have another source of income on the side. But farmers are incredibly important for the countryside's beauty. We still see a varied, well taken-care-of landscape with grazing animals. Rocky juniper meadows, typical of the area and dry stone walls separate the fields. The walk stops and starts in Kölleröd where there is a design store, café and the possibilities of staying overnight (www.kollerod.se, www.gamlaskolan.se).

1 Bjorkhaga Garden Gallery. Walk from Kölleröd's old school towards Bessinge. A sign shows 'Frännarp 3'. After about 2km you will see the gallery on the left hand side. The owners focus on artistic experiences in conjunction with nature. There are both permanent exhibits and visiting artists (www.bjorkhagatradgardsgalleri.se).

2 Bessinge Flax Cabin. Take the footpath in the direction the sign points and you will find a building which, as recently as the beginning of the 20th Century, was used to prepare flax. This type of building could be found in every small village, quite close to one another. This particular one is owned and managed by Bessinge Village Association and has been restored in the old style. There is not a nail in the entire building. Inside the space, some of the tools are on show. The processing of the flax gave young men and women cause to work and have fun together. On the door there is information about how the cabin was used. Please stay outside, because some roofstones are loose.

3 The Murder at Bessinge. There is a sign telling you that you are about to leave Bessinge. At this place was the croft of Per Sjöstedt who was convicted of being an accessory to murder. He was employed at a farm where he fell in love with the farmer's wife, Else Månsson, who returned his affections. Together they hatched a plan that Sjöstedt's penniless uncle, Jakob Hård, would kill Ola Månsson the farmer. This happened on 28th November 1888. The murderers appeared in court where the woman was sentenced to death. Else did not wait to hear the result of an appeal and instead hanged herself. Both accessories received lifetime sentences but were pardoned after 26 years. Per the farmhand and a timid housekeeper lived here until the 1940's. Else and her husband had a 12-year-old daughter at the time of the murder who got on well in life despite the trauma she had experienced. Ola Månsson's headstone can be found at the graveyard in Östra Sallerup with the text 'Died at the hands of a murderer'. A memorial stone in the church's wall explains where Else's skull is. It was buried in 2009 after having been stored in a box at the Museum of Malmö.

