



# IN THE WAKE OF EBBE SKAMMELSON



## Joy for the eye...

Liljenäs offers a beautiful view over the shallow bay of Lake Bolmen at its northern-most end. Small waves ripple at the shores which are surrounded by lush stands of ash trees, oak and lime trees.



## Stay and fish

Liljenäs Natur och Fritid offers fishing experiences of different kinds. Boats, canoes as well as fishing gear can be rented and fishing permits are sold. The catch can be prepared at the barbecue place at the lake. There are also possibilities for accommodation.

## Take a swim

There is a great place for a swim very near Liljenäs. It is well arranged with an extensive

lawn and playing ground for the kids. The beach is shelved with a sandy bottom. A raft floats on the water.

## Coastal meadows with birds

Many visitors come to study the bird life. For those interested in birds, a visit to Lake Draven is recommended. It is located about 10 km northwest of Liljenäs. The National Park Store Mosse is also nearby.

## Further reading

About the bird life: [www.forening.westbo.se/vfk/vfk.lokaler.bolmen.htm](http://www.forening.westbo.se/vfk/vfk.lokaler.bolmen.htm)

About Liljenäs Natur och Fritid: [www.visit-varnamo.com/svenska/vmotur.html](http://www.visit-varnamo.com/svenska/vmotur.html) see under "medlemmar": Liljenäs Natur och Fritid.

## How to get there?

From the road between Unnaryd and Bredaryd/Reftele, turn towards Dannäs at Tallberga (22 km from Unnaryd). Liljenäs is about 6 km from Tallberga. Just before Liljenäs is the junction for the narrow gravel road to the bathing beach. It is of course also possible to reach Liljenäs by boat on Lake Bolmen.

1. "The King's Way".
2. Wooded grazing land with old trees.
3. Former Stone Age settlement.
4. Hammargården.
5. Iron Age cemetery.
6. Rock with inscription to commemorate the lowering of the water level.
7. Wooded grazing land with oaks.
8. Bird watching tower.
9. The built-up area at Liljenäs

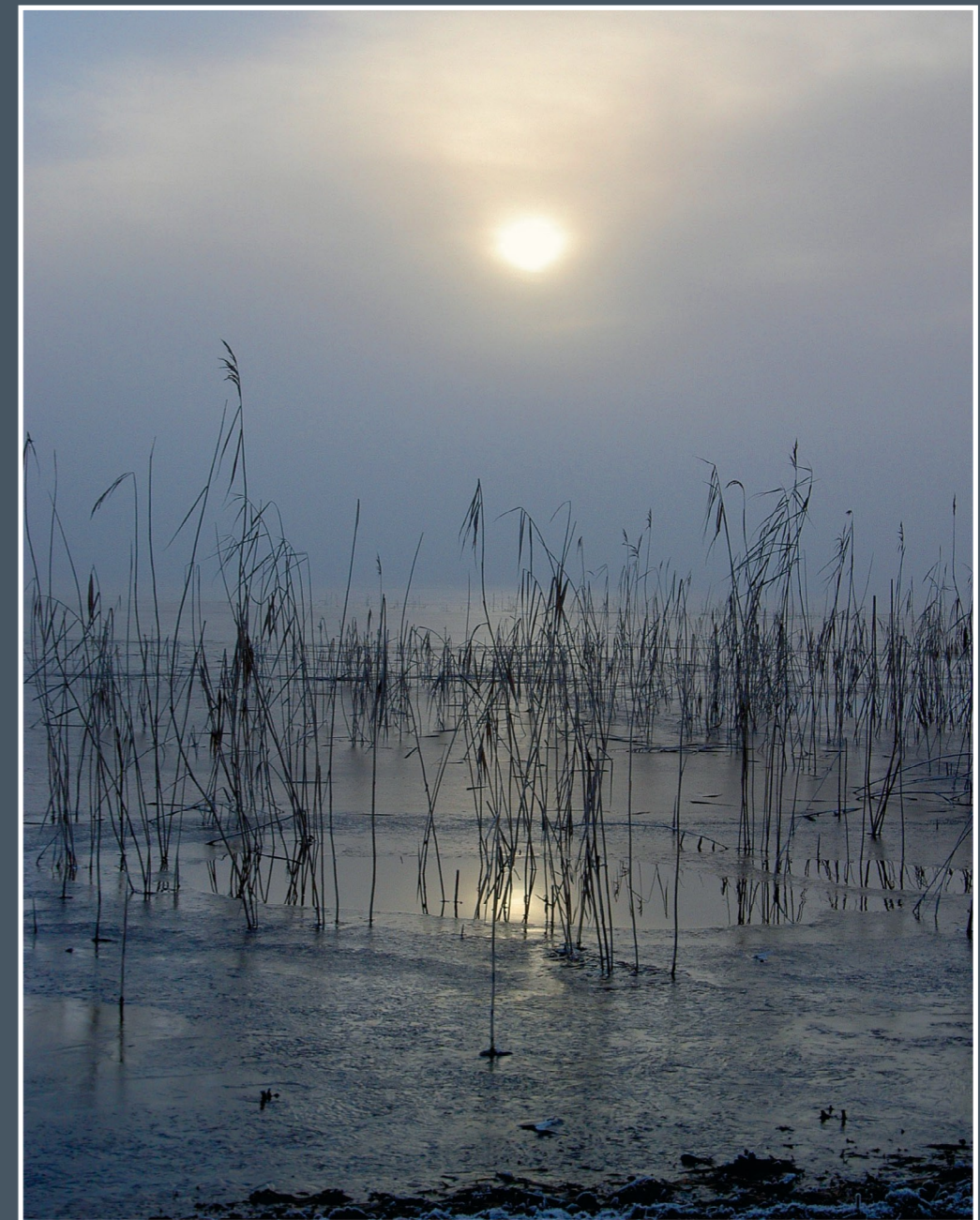


GPS (RT 90 2.5 gon V) Liljenäs: 1376300 E, 6330126 N The beach: 1375750 E, 6329950 N

Remnants of a Stone Age settlement: 1376575 E, 6330240 N The Iron Age cemetery: 1375240 E, 6329636 N

**Illustration on cover:** Sunset at the shore of Lake Bolmen near Liljenäs. Photo: Bo Tengnäs. **Main sources of information:** "Lillienbergiska fideikommissen och ätten von Heijne" by Kurt G. Trägårdh; "Sägner och verklighet kring Nordiska sjuårskriget i Finnveden" by Per-Olof Orrhede, published in "Finnveden förr". Värnamo Hembygdsförening; Christian Iversen, Liljenäs. **Research:** Malin Ekwall. **Text:** Karin Tengnäs. **Photo where there is no other indication:** Bo and Karin Tengnäs. **Logotype:** Lars Lidman. **Design:** Tecknargården/Willy Lindström. **Production:** Naturbruk AB/Bo Tengnäs. **Project coordination:** Bitte Rosén Nilsson, Hylte kommun. **Copyright:** Naturbruk AB. **Year:** 2006.

The brochures "In the Wake of Ebbe Skammelson" are available on [www.unnaryd.com](http://www.unnaryd.com) and [www.hylte.se](http://www.hylte.se)



"I call you, all people on the farm  
and I serve as the voice of God's will  
who invested all the struggle here

although times are passing never will we forget  
our noble master, Count Lillienberg."

Translation of the inscription of the Liljenäs' farm bell.

# Liljenäs



The Liljenäs Bay (Liljenäsviken) a late-autumn evening.

## A gift to the Monastery of Vadstena during medieval time

Traces of a Stone Age settlement show that the area around the northern tip of Lake Bolmen was inhabited in ancient times. A handle-hole axe from this period has been found near the lake shore. Other items found dating back to pre-history include a pendant ornament made of bronze. However, relatively little is known about the people living in the area in prehistory and onwards until the 14th century AD. At this time the present-day farms of Liljenäs and Hammargården were part of one landholding known as Hammar. Ulf Niels-son was the first known owner of Hammar. He donated the property some time in the 14th century as a “morning gift” to his wife Ingeborg Larsdotter Sture. After Ulf Nielsson died Ingeborg married the son of St. Bridget’s daughter, Arvid Sigvidsson Ribbing. Arvid came from the County of Halland where his father, (St. Bridget’s son-in-law), was known to be involved in piracy along the coast. Soon after St. Bridget had founded Vadstena Monastery, Hammar was donated and became the property of the Monastery in the 1370s.

## The leaseholder Arvid Svan is condemned as a traitor

According to the Monastery records, the leaseholder in 1427 was Arvid Svan. It is recorded that he was by then the leaseholder for his lifetime. Arvid Svan was a powerful judge in the region. However, life became insecure at Hammar during the fierce wars between Sweden and Denmark in the 15th century. Prospects appeared bleak when the Fort Piksborg in the southern end of the lake was burnt in

1434. In 1453 Sweden had no control of the southern parts of the lake. Possibly it was out of fear for the fall of Hammar to the Danes that made Arvid Svan join the Danish side. He was condemned as a traitor and from then on his fate is unknown.

In connection with King Gustav Vasa’s nationalisation of church property, the so-called “Reduction”, Vadstena Monastery lost Hammar. The property was divided into two land holdings. The current Hammargården was called Hammar while the current Liljenäs was known as Ryd. Both properties were nationalised and then became the personal property of the King, later to be inherited by his son and subsequent King, Erik XIV.

## Revolt against the King’s appointee

In the 1530s, the King’s appointee Jören Jönsson looked after the property and collected tax from the farmers in the area. He had got far-reaching rights from the Crown as the King badly needed money. Jönsson ruled with cruelty and collected high taxes. He was strongly disliked locally. The farmers revolted. Jönsson was transferred and possibly killed. But the anger remained among the farmers and Hammar was burnt during a revolt lead by the farmer Nils Dacke in 1542. The following year the King’s appointee on Kungsholmen at the northern end of Lake Unnen was killed. It was not good times for the King’s men! However, Hammar was rebuilt and in 1552 the King merged the two landholdings to become the only Royal Farm in this region, now named Hammargården.

Liljenäs manor.

## Danish troops set Hammargården on fire

During the seven-year Nordic War, 1563–70, the legendary Danish warrior Daniel Rantzau got permission from the Danish King Fredrik to advance towards Hammargården. The farm was plundered and burnt once again. Rantzau learnt that Swedish troops lead by Governor Charles de Mornay were in the neighbourhood. The Swedes had managed to mobilise a small contingent consisting of 1,000 farmers, 200 robbers and some cavaliers. Rantzau was not fearful so he sent an army unit led by Fredrik von Dohna to track the Swedes and attack them from behind. But unexpectedly, the Danes met the Swedes face to face. It was a very warm day and hardly any of the Danes had kept their suits of armour on. But the Swedes had to admit defeat in spite of the poor state of the Danes. Charles de Mornay had to leave his horse and equipment and run away as fast as he could. Old guns, bullets, swords, bits and other items have been found in the soil around Liljenäs. They are reminders of the area’s turbulent history.

## Hammar becomes Bolmsnäs manor and then Lillienäs Entailed Estate

The regional judge in Västbo Jurisdictional District, Göran Månsson Stierna, obtained the land holdings Hammar and Ryd in 1594 in exchange for other



property. He formed the manor Bolmsnäs. Towards the end of the 17th century the manor was mortgaged when the owner needed to borrow money from the tax collector in the area, Daniel Danielsson Dreffling, later ennobled with the name Lillienberg. Lillienberg gradually gained control over the property as the owner faced increasing financial difficulties. According to tradition, it was possible to forecast the arrival of Daniel Lillienberg as his transport was always preceded by a wagon pulled by horses and accompanied with two black dogs with fire in their gaping jaws.



The outdoor bath.

Lillienberg’s sons bought the holding in 1764. They converted it to an entailed estate with the name Lillienäs. An entailed estate is a property that follows certain rules when inherited. Lillienäs entailed estate had to be jointly managed by the brothers during their life time and thereafter it was to be inherited by their sons in the next generation. Daughters were only to be beneficiaries in case there were no sons. Tenant in tail Erland Georg von Heijne-Lillienberg became, after succession within the family Lillienberg, the last tenant in tail of Lillienäs Entailed Estate. He sold the farm in 1928.

## The current buildings

The current main residential building at Liljenäs was built 1766–1770 originally as a side building to another main residential building that burnt down around 200 years ago. There is another house opposite the main building. It has served as a dairy and warehouse in the early 1900s. A farm bell survives from the early days of the Lillienberg era. It was used to call all the farm labourers for their meals. It was cast in 1797 by Jonas Magnus Fries in Jönköping, an uncle to the famous botanist Elias Fries.

## The nature around Liljenäs

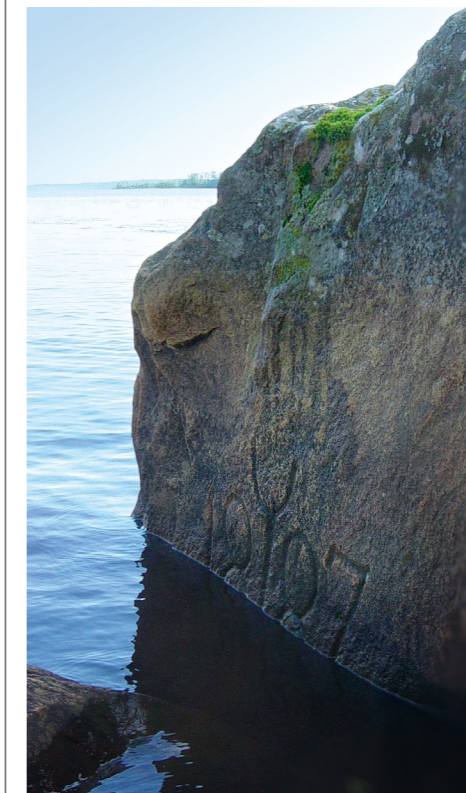
Liljenäs is a veritable paradise for bird watchers. The shallow bay at Liljenäs is

one of the best resting places for waders, mainly during the autumn migration. Dunlin and ringed plover are common in the autumns. There is a small reed patch in the south-eastern part of the bay, where occasionally more rare species like bittern, bearded tit and bluethroat may be observed. In late April and early May, there are chances to see species of duck that usually live on the sea, for example eider, scaup, common scoter, velvet scoter and long-tailed duck. The shores along the Liljenäs bay also serve as a resting place for cranes and geese. In the spring, snow-free fields around Liljenäs attract early migrating birds like geese, lapwings, golden plovers and starlings. Golden eagles and sea eagles are occasionally seen during the winter.

There is a biologically rich wooded grazing ground northwest of the built-up area at Liljenäs. The so called “Kings Way”, an old entry route, can still be traced through the old oak and lime trees. Another interesting area is the point south of Liljenäs which has old oak trees and a beautiful view of Lake Bolmen. At the tip of the point is a jetty that once served as a dock for steam ships.

## Indications of the lowering of the water level of Lake Bolmen

In the water near Liljenäs is a rock with a horizontal line and the year 1887 engraved on it. The inscription was made to commemorate one of the lake regulations.



**The Stone Age** is a collective word for the longest part of prehistory. In the Nordic countries, it is commonly divided into an earlier part and a latter part. The earlier part started in the Nordic countries more than 12,000 years ago. The latter part is about 4300–1800 B.C.

**The Iron Age** and the Viking Era. In the Nordic countries the Iron Age started around 500 B.C. and lasted until 1050 A.D. The latter part of the Iron Age is 400–1050 A.D. The Viking Era is the last period of the Iron Age around 800–1050 A.D.

**Västbo** Jurisdictional District is located in the western part of the Province of Småland. A Jurisdictional District represents an old administrative division and it used to be the larger unit comprising several parishes. A parish is an area where people belong to the same church.

**A morning gift** is a gift that the bridegroom gives to the bride in the morning the day after the wedding.

**St. Bridget** (about 1303–1373) was married to Judge Ulf Gudmarsson who she had eight children with. After the demise of her husband, her relationship with King Magnus Eriksson deteriorated and she left Sweden in 1349 to spend most of her remaining life in Rome. She was buried in Vadstena Monastery and later canonised in 1391.

**The Dacke Revolt** is one of the most widespread farmer-revolts in the Swedish history. It took place 1542–1543 and was named after its leader, the Smålandic farmer Nils Dacke. The revolt was a reaction to King Gustav Vasa’s politics that resulted in a strong central power at the expense of the freedom that the provinces had enjoyed earlier. Measures by the state lead to manifold increases of the tax burden in some parts of the Province of Småland. Initially the revolt was very successful. The King had to agree on a cease fire and allow Dacke to rule the Province of Småland. But later the King organised more troops and defeated and killed Dacke.