

# TUNARP CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

**T**unarp, approx. 3 kilometres south-east of Sandhem, was established as a seat farm in the 1630s. The manor environment, however, is younger with a mansion from 1932 in a somewhat retrospective style. The garden was created around 1920 and was designed by one of the most prominent architects of the time – Lars Israel Wahlman. On the other side of the road are the farm buildings with a pleasing gate building with a clock. In front of this building is a standing stone with the inscriptions “Tunarp 1889” and “Hunared Sörg.”. The village Hunared and Sörgården are located approx. 3 kilometres west of Tunarp. Today, Tunarp is an equestrian centre with riding camps and horse breeding.

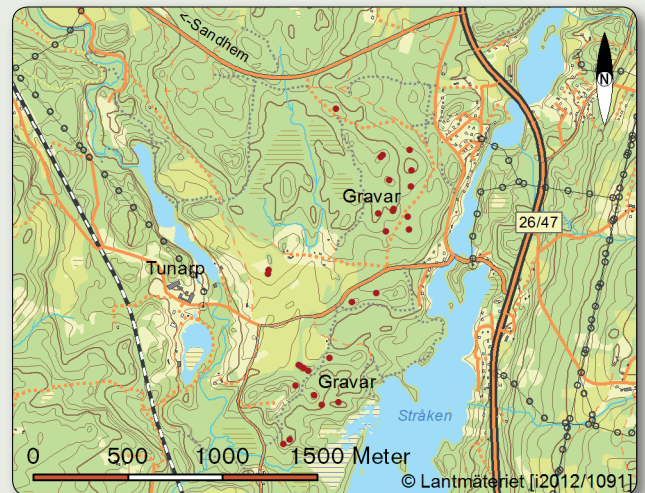
From Tunarp, going east towards Lake Stråken and the river Tidan, are some 30 burial cairns and stone settings. Many of these are probably from the Bronze Age, between 3 000 and 4 000 years ago. With around 20 metres in diameter, several are of an impressive size. Prominent places on plateaus in an open landscape and close to water courses were preferred by those building graves. Grave sites were meant to be seen and also worked as territorial markings. Human settlements are harder to find, but the graves bear witness to their presence in the area. It will be left to future archaeologists to find traces of dwellings and farms.

Many surface finds from the Stone Age have been unearthed. Humans often remained close to water. Lakes and watercourses were favourable for hunting, but also important shipping lanes. Many paths pass by the scattered graves, which helps if you want to visit the area. To the south of the burial area is the wet meadow and bird protection area Tunarps mader.

While you are in the area, take the opportunity to visit the sunken lanes of the Eriksgatuleden Trail, north of Sandhem: Hidden Gem No 23.



Parts of the farm buildings at Tunarp. The inscribed stone stands along the road. Photo: Jönköping County Museum.



## HIDDEN GEM 67



### HOW TO GET HERE

Tunarp is located south-east of Sandhem. From Jönköping: Drive on Road 26/47 and turn left just north of Lake Stråken. Tunarp, which is signposted, is situated along the road after approx. 2 km.

Coordinates:

N 6426125 / E 429226  
(SWEREF 99 TM) // N 57°  
58' 16.16", E 13° 48' 12.91"  
(WGS84)



One of the many burial cairns on the plateaus to the west of Lake Stråken. Photo: Jönköping County Museum.

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## HIDDEN GEMS

There are so many things to discover in the countryside! Here, Jönköping County Museum presents some of the cultural environment and heritage attractions in the county.

They include well-known cultural monuments such as Habo Church and the Smålandsstenar Stone Circles, but also lesser known gems such as log-driving remains in the river Valån and Stengårdshult Church. Around the county you can find evidence of how people lived and worked in the past, everything from castles and manors to abandoned embankments and clearance cairns in forest areas.

The idea with Hidden Gems is to tempt you to make excursions in the cultural landscape – here you find our history, revealed in different ways in the physical environment. This heritage is worth experiencing and protecting. Bit by bit, we will be adding more sights under the heading Hidden Gems, both for people living in the county and visitors from further away. The more people who discover these gems, the better chance that they will be preserved for the future.

### FACTS

In Jönköping County there are more than 4 000 registered ancient remains, 87 cultural environments of national interest, close to 130 listed buildings, around 150 churches, some 100 rural community centres with old settlements, a large number of industrial heritage sites, and two cultural reserves. There are also a large number of cultural environments with buildings worthy of conservation. More information about the sites can be found on the websites of the County Administrative Board, the municipalities and the local heritage societies.

### GOOD TO KNOW

Access to the Hidden Gems varies. Some sites are well signposted, with easy access and proper parking facilities, etc. Others are more challenging to reach. Visitors may have to walk some distance, sometimes through scrubby forest, only to be met by a broken sign (if there ever was one) when they reach the site. All the sites, however, have an exciting and interesting history.

Please note that many of the cultural heritage buildings are privately owned and can only be viewed from the outside. Also, please respect private land. Many churches are open in the summer. During other times of the year, the churchwarden may be able to open the church for you.

