

Ancient remains in the town of Falköping

There are many preserved ancient monuments in Falköping. Many of them are 5000 year old passage graves but you will also find gallery graves, flat cairns and burial mounds. You will find more information on the signs by the sites.

- 1 Passage grave Westerbergsgatan in a private garden, show consideration.
- 2 Burial mound Karl Botvids kulle from the Bronze- or Iron Age. It's located in the middle of the block, but is clearly visible from Botvidsgatan.
- 3 Lusthushögen passage grave got its name from the gazebo that once stood on top of the mound. Until the end of the 19th century, two gallery graves were situated southwest of the passage grave.
- 4 Ängshögen north passage grave on Torstensongatan is located in a private garden, show consideration.
- 5 Ängshögen south passage grave is located at the intersection Scheele-gatan/Torstensongatan. The city of Falköping wanted to remove the grave in 1909, but the National Heritage Board said no. The streets had to go around.
- 6 Trädgården passage grave in a private garden, show consideration.
- 7 Ancient remains in King Ran's park
A. Gallery grave från the Neolithic Stone Age. B. Ängskullen passage grave. C. Flat cairn from the Iron Age. D. Flat cairn from the Iron Age. E. Gallery grave från the Neolithic Stone Age.
- 8 Kung Rans väg flat cairn, from the Iron Age.
- 9 Passage grave Kung Björn's hög. Note the unusual flat roof block, compared to e.g. the passage graves of Ättagården and Hjelmarsrör.
- 10 Danska vägen gallery grave from the Neolithic Stone Age.
- 11 Kapellgården passage grave in a private garden, show consideration.
- 12 Stone signpost from 1918. Moved from its original place.
- 13 Passage grave Kyrkerör clearly shows the construction of the tomb.
- 14 Ballersten with cup marks, a kind of rock carving from the Bronze Age.
- 15 Raised stone Plantis moved from Vilske Kleva. Similar raised stones there are e.g. on Ekornavallen and is a tomb marking from the Iron Age.
- 16 Stone setting Vasagatan from the Bronze- or the Iron Age.
- 17 The Bestorp dolmen is contemporary to the passages graves but is constructed in a different way. Near a private garden, show consideration.
- 18 Passage grave Drakarör is located in a large stone setting, about 25 m in diameter with visible walkways and roof blocks.
- 19 Fredriksberg gallery grave was excavated in 1973. A 4000 year old bone flute was found here. Next to the gallery grave is a flat cairn.
- 20 Ättagården passage grave is built with large rounded roof blocks.
- 21 Passage grave Hjelmarsrör is similar to Ättagården's grave. Over a hundred amber beads were found here, the largest find in Västergötland
- 22 Burial mound Trinnöja is a tomb from the Bronze- or Iron Age.
- 23 Tingshögen burial mound from the Iron Age. The name indicates that it was also used as a thingstead. An Iron Age sword was found here.
- 24 Gallery grave Rangatan from the Neolithic Stone Age.
- 25 Rangatan flat cairn from the Bronze- or Iron Age.
- 26 Ekebacken burial mound is located on Brogårdesgatan.
- 27 Skeleton find site of two beheaded men from the Viking Age.

Ancient remains in Falköping town



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Falbygdens Ancient monuments

Follow the map!



An exciting journey through Falbygdens unique cultural heritage and beautiful landscapes

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The unique cultural heritage

Falbygden is an area dense with ancient remains from the Stone-, Bronze- and Iron Ages. Perhaps it is the megalithic tombs of the Stone Age, mainly the passage graves, that are most noticeable in the landscape. As you walk in Falköping or drive through Falbygdens countryside you will see that there is much more to discover.

All ancient monuments on the map have information signs located next to them with a short explanation in English.



Falbygdens megalithic tombs are part of the European cultural route Megalithic Routes. Together with Denmark, England, Germany, the Netherlands and Spain, a common history is highlighted. By making the ancient remains accessible as unique places to visit, the network works to ensure that they are preserved.

10 000 B.C.

Timeline

Ice Age

The Mesolithic Stone Age

4 000 B.C.

The Neolithic Stone Age

1 800 B.C.

The Bronze Age

500 B.C.

The Iron Age

1 000 A.D.

The Historical Centuries

2 000 A.D.

FALBYGDENS MUSEUM

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Ancient monuments of Falbygden

- Ekornavallen** is a large and impressive ancient area. At the site there are graves from the three main prehistoric eras, the Stone-, Bronze- and Iron Ages. Ekornavallen has been used as a burial ground for more than 4000 years.
- Bronze Age graves at Lilla Ingatorp** Here are two large tombs. One is a cairn 38 meters in diameter. The other is a mound that is 35 meters in diameter.
- Torestorp Runestone** The stone is mentioned in a letter by King Magnus Ladulås 1287. It is the oldest written source where a runestone is mentioned.
- Passage grave** located in a 28 meters wide and 1.5 meters high mound.
- Rössberga Passage grave** is one of the most well-excavated passage graves in Falbygden. In the grave were found i.a. skeletons from 131 men, women and children. Next to it is a **gallery grave**.
- The Iron Age at Forentorp meadows** In the beautiful nature reserve there is a 2.4 km long hiking trail through the landscape. Signposted from the road.
- Mösseberg hill fort** is one of Sweden's largest hill forts, more than one kilometer in circumference. The inner and outer wall defended the castle against enemies. There is a walking path around the fort. Signposted from the road.
- Runestones and graves at Gudhem's monastery ruin** In the porch of the church there are parts of two runestones. One tells: Ölver and Torgils made the stone for Toste, their father. Could it be the same Torgil that is mentioned at Kata farm in Varnhem? The burial ground is dated to Viking times.
- Raised stone Kung Rånes grave** is located at the entrance to Gudhem's community, visible from the road. It marks a tomb from the Iron Age.
- Passage grave Gudhem** is located in a mound that was once about 35 meters large. Located just outside Gudhem on the road to Torbjörntorp.

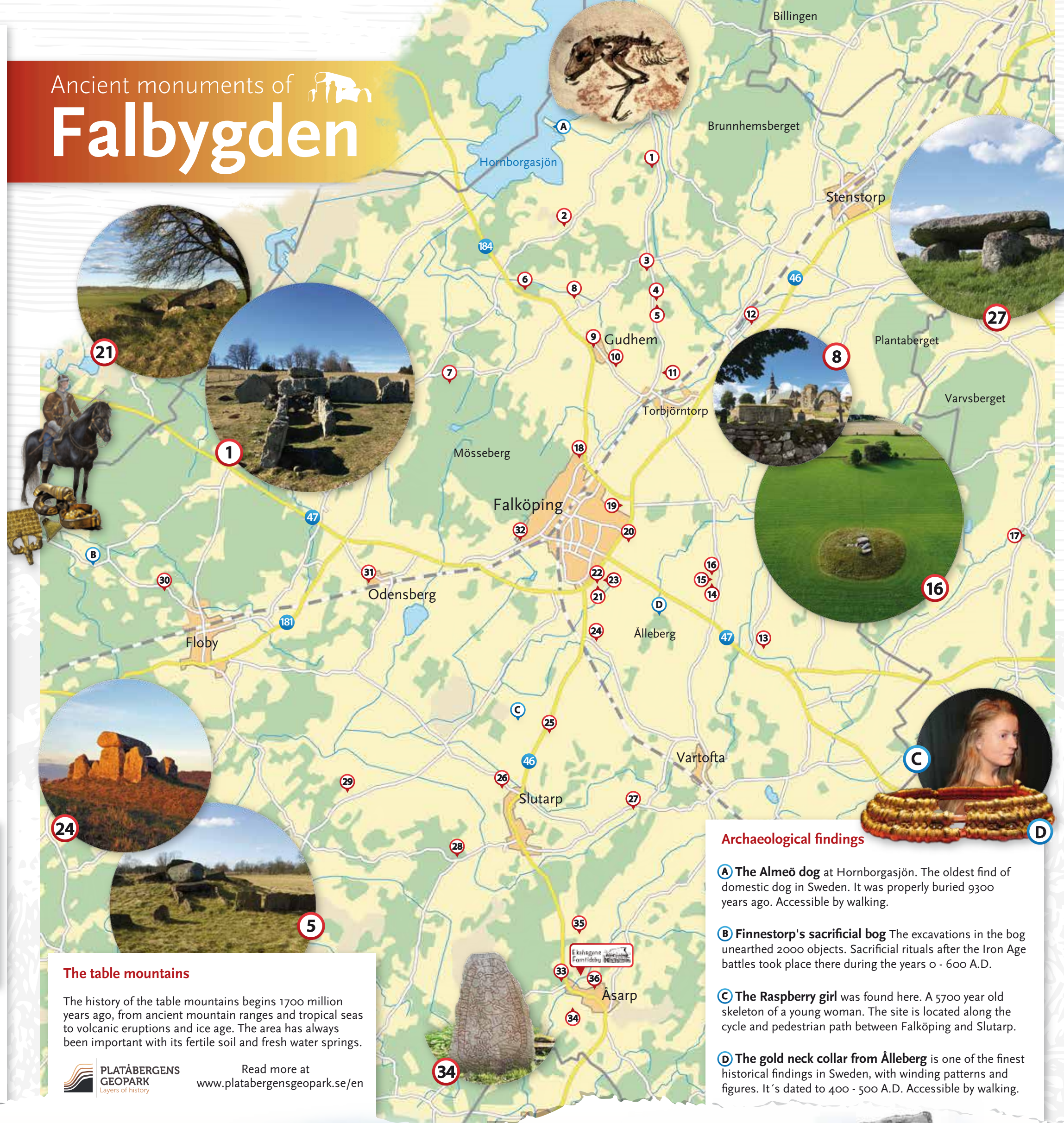


- Passage grave Torbjörntorp** is visible along the road.
- Passage grave and gallery grave Segerstad** is located in a steppe meadow.
- Passage grave Bunkahall** is located in a mound that is 20 meters large. The chamber is almost round. The grave is located along the Falekvarna hiking trail.

Karleby stone age landscape Along 3 km of the village road there are 11 passage graves. On the other side of the road are the Stone Age settlements.

- Klövagården passage grave** excavated in 1872. Pearls, flint, ceramic fragments, animal bones and skeletal parts from about 80 people were found.
- Ragvald's passage grave** The Nordic region's largest passage grave. The chamber is 16 meters long and 2,5 meters wide. It has not been excavated.
- Logård hill** The passage grave was examined in 1874. It was left open and collapsed. The chamber and the corridor were filled with pebbles as support.
- Dimbo burial field** is Västergötland's largest Iron Age burial ground. There are a total of 241 mounds, 43 round flat cairns, 11 three-pointed flat cairns.
- Bie rör** The remains of a big burial cairn from the Bronze Age.

Ancient monuments of Falbygden



The table mountains

The history of the table mountains begins 1700 million years ago, from ancient mountain ranges and tropical seas to volcanic eruptions and ice age. The area has always been important with its fertile soil and fresh water springs.



Read more at www.platabergensgeopark.se/en

Archaeological findings

- The Almeo dog** at Hornborgasjön. The oldest find of domestic dog in Sweden. It was properly buried 9300 years ago. Accessible by walking.
- Finnestorp's sacrificial bog** The excavations in the bog unearthed 2000 objects. Sacrificial rituals after the Iron Age battles took place there during the years 0 - 600 A.D.
- The Raspberry girl** was found here. A 5700 year old skeleton of a young woman. The site is located along the cycle and pedestrian path between Falköping and Slutarp.
- The gold neck collar from Älleberg** is one of the finest historical findings in Sweden, with winding patterns and figures. It's dated to 400 - 500 A.D. Accessible by walking.

Ancient monuments in the landscape

Passage grave



The graves of the Stone Age
The passage graves were built by the first Stone Age farmers 3300-3000 BC. The gallery graves were built until 1800 BC. They are sometimes called megalithic tombs. The graves are skeletal graves. They can contain over 100 men, women and children and are probably family graves. The sites has often been used for funerals throughout ancient times.

Gallery grave



The graves of the Bronze Age
During the Bronze Age 1800-500 BC. cairns, flat cairns or mounds were built as a resting place for the dead. The flat cairns are usually round but can also be triangular or square. During the latter part of the period, the dead were cremated. The ashes were placed together with grave goods in a ceramic vessel, in a stone coffin or directly on the ground.

Flat cairn



Burial mound



Raised stone

The graves of the Iron Age
From the Iron Age 500 B.C.-1050 A.D. you find graves in the form of mounds, flat cairns and raised stones in different shapes. They lie either as single graves or gathered on burial grounds. The cremation of the dead ceased when Christianity reached Falbygden. The dead were then buried in the cemetery instead.



Rune stone



Visit Ekehagen's prehistoric village, an archeological open-air museum, with a restaurant and shop. 18 km south of Falköping. www.ekehagen.se

Listen to storytellings about Falbygden's history on Storyspot



- Passage grave Ormarör in Odensberg** is located on the edge of the community in a green area between the railway and Hulegårdsvägen.
- Nästegården passage grave** Across the road lies a **gallery grave**.
- Raised stones Åsarp** The stones are placed in the shape of a ship and mark a 1500 year old tomb. It is located at a rest area next to the river Ätran. Numbers 33-36 are located along the walking path Smuleleden.
- Runestone Olsbrostenen** is a beautiful runestone with rich decor. The text says: Guve erected this stone after Olav, his son, a very capable young man. He was killed in Estonia. Håvard cut the stone.
- Hög runestone** The text reads: Sluta raised this stone after Åsbjörn, her partner, and made this bridge. Located between Hög and the old railway.
- Grave field from the Iron Age** with 20 flat cairns. Located at the water tower in Åsarp, Västgötatagen.



Runestones are memorial stones for dead relatives but also an expression of power. They tell the names of some Vikings, what they believed in and where they traveled.