



MINING DESTINATION ÅMMEBERG & ZINKGRUVAN

INDUSTRIAL HISTORY ★ TOURIST MINE
VISITOR MAP ★ MINING MUSEUM

Take a
trip down 200
metres into
Knalla tourist
mine

1,000 YEARS OF MINING

Metals have contributed to social progress for thousands of years. And since more than a thousand years back, metals have been extracted in the areas around Åmmeberg and Zinkgruvan in southern Närke Province. The story of Åmmeberg and Zinkgruvan is one of incredible community building, of visions and hard work – in good times and bad.

Iron, copper, silver, cobalt, lead, zinc – rocks in the area hide many different minerals, which have caught human interest over the years. First came iron. Medieval iron ore mining involved keeping

a fire going by the rock wall until the rock became brittle. Using digging bars, they were then able to pry away the ore, which was transported to blast furnaces nearby where it was melted into metal. Garpa Mine and Västerby Mine are two of Sweden's most distinctive remains of iron ore mines in use since the Middle Ages. Another element that is part of the area's history is cobalt. During the 19th century, the "cobalt rush" employed over a thousand people at Vena Mining Field, east of Lake Åmmelången. A sought after, blue colour pigment, used to stain glass and porcelain, was extracted from cobalt.



ON 4 AUGUST 1857, a whole new era in the history of the area began. That's when the Belgian company Vieille Montagne came and acquired Åmmeberg and the mines nearby – in an area named Zinkgruvan. The plan was to start large-scale mining of zinc ore. German-born Otto Schwarzmann, engineer at Vieille Montagne in Belgium, was commissioned to head operations. In order to conduct operations, a plant was needed for the mining, crushing, and roasting of



Milestones in the area's history



ore. An infrastructure to enable transportation of ore from the mine all the way to the parent company in Belgium was required as well. Before Otto Schwarzmann got started, there was not even a driveable road in the area!



Otto Schwarzmann.



The company's first locomotive. The train transported ore from Zinkgruvan to Åmmeberg. It brought back coal to Zinkgruvan's steam-powered machines.

VIEILLE MONTAGNE brought Belgium to Sweden. The new-coming officials spoke German or French. The miners, however, were locals. With its own architect and mason, the company quickly built a mining community in Belgian style with timber framing, brick, and a few wine cellars. It was a grand investment! The company attracted attention through its way of taking responsibility. They built infirmaries, schools, and a nursery. Some of the newcomers stayed all their lives and have their final resting place at the Catholic cemetery in Åmmeberg.

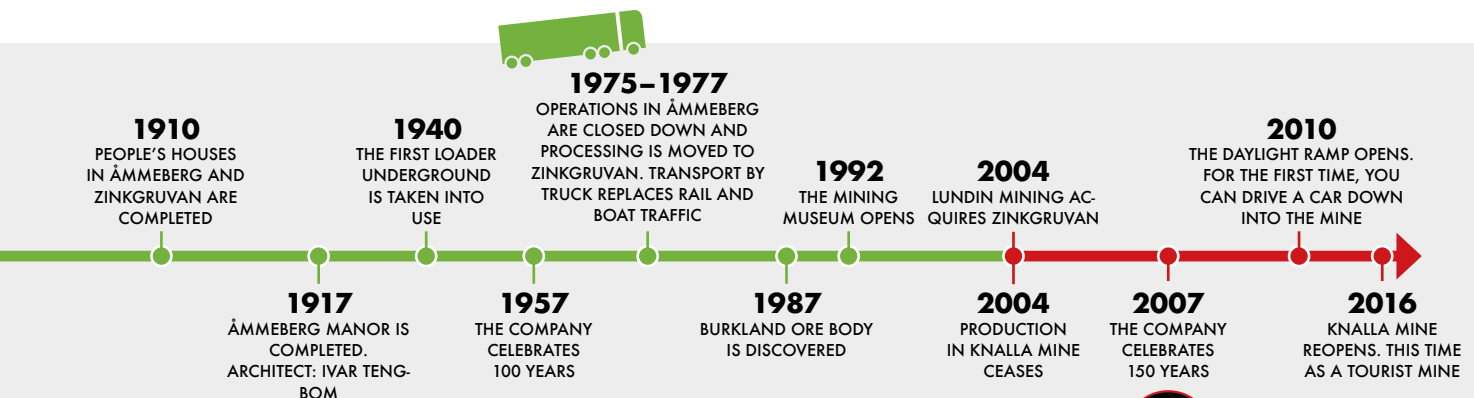
The Belgian era lasted for 132 years. After a few changes in ownership during the 1990s, Zinkgruvan was eventually acquired by Lundin Mining in 2004.



Architecture recon!

ZINKGRUVAN AND ÅMMEBERG STILL BEAR TRACES OF BELGIUM. LOOK FOR RED BRICK WITH ELEMENTS OF GREY TIMBER FRAMING.

MANY OF VIEILLE MONTAGNE'S BUILDINGS WERE DESIGNED BY BELGIAN ARCHITECT BENOIT BAILLOT AND BUILT BY MASON LOUIS MATERNE.



AREA MAP





5

LAXÅ



14

-  Åmmelången lake trail, approx. 17 km
-  The company's train ran here up until 1975.

ASKERSUND

Alsén

RV 50

INGELSBY

ÅMMEBERG

Åmmelången

Bernström

S

17.

Vä

D

Nec

IN ÅMMEBERG

1. People's House/Klippan
2. Locomotive shed
3. Old thermal bath house
4. Old infirmary/nursery
5. Water tower
6. Hotel Montagne/Casino
7. Skittle alley
8. Old processing plant
9. Mill
10. Åmmeberg Manor
11. Lake warehouse
12. Roasting foundry
13. Warehouse

OUTSIDE THE TOWNS

14. The Catholic Cemetery
15. Johannesborg
16. Vena Mining Field
17. Garpa Mine
18. Västerby Mine

MOTALA



6



Vättern

RÖNNESHYTTA

16



Bengtstorp
Folketorp
Knutstorp

- IN ZINKGRUVAN**
- 19. Knalla Nature Reserve ❄️
 - 20. Mining Museum
 - 21. People's House/Berget
 - 22. Zinkgruvan Mining Headquarters
 - 23. P1 headframe
 - 24. Processing plant
 - 25. P2 headframe

Dunsjö

MARIEDAMM

Vikasjön



22.

23.

21.

Trysjön

24.

25.



20.

19.



Lunthyttan

18.

Isåsen

Österängen

ZINKGRUVAN

TIPS!
YOU CAN LEARN MORE FROM THE INFORMATION BOARDS AT THE VARIOUS SIGHTS!

sterby

Dalby

dre Knalla

N. Skalltorp

GODEGÅRD

Anderstorp

Viksjön





ZINKGRUVAN MINING MUSEUM & KNALLA MINE

IN THE MUSEUM

In the mining museum, you can learn more about the mine as well as the local history. You'll find photos, newspaper clippings, and information showing how the mine has changed and, consequently, the community. There is also old equipment from Vieille Montagne's laboratory in Åmmeberg, as well as old tools and objects used in the mine or the homes. In the geology room, you'll find rock samples and a model of the mine that is continuously updated. The

exhibition hall right next to the museum houses vehicles previously used in Zinkgruvan, including the old mine ambulance. You'll also have the opportunity to purchase wrought iron crafts, made in the area's smithy by the guide Rickard Muckenhirn.

OUTDOORS

There is plenty to see outside the museum as well, including a hoisting machine that has been in operation since 1917. Lots of noise is generated from air legs,

compressed air equipment, and overhead loaders. The guides will happily tell you how mining was done back in the day. They'll even start up the old machines on request. You can also take a ride on the railway through Tomteberget. Old mining equipment is placed along the tracks as well as a few surprises for the kids. Are you travelling in an RV? RV parking is available, but there is only one spot, so first come, first served.



Get walking!



KNALLA NATURE RESERVE STARTS JUST BEHIND THE MUSEUM AND STRETCHES ALONG THE SHORES OF LAKE VIKSJÖN. HERE, YOU'LL FIND A WALKING PATH IN VARIED NATURE, RICH IN SPECIES.



"DID YOU KNOW THAT WE HAVE OUR VERY OWN MINE GHOST?"

RICKARD MUCKENHIRN WORKED IN THE MINE FOR MANY YEARS BEFORE BECOMING A GUIDE AT THE MINING MUSEUM.

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN ON A MINING ELEVATOR?

The mining elevator takes you 200 metres below ground.

On the way down, you'll pass the older galleries. Once you're 200 metres underground, your guide will take you on a thrilling and educational guided tour of an old mining environment. Most guides have worked in the Knalla Mine and can thus give you a unique and entertaining tour and answer any questions you may have.



Opening hours & tickets

ABOVE GROUND (JUNE 6–AUG 9)
MONDAY–FRIDAY: 10 AM–4 PM

BELOW GROUND
IF YOU WANT TO VISIT OUR TOURIST MINE BELOW GROUND, BOOK YOUR ADMISSION TICKETS AT ASKERSUNDS TURIST- & EVENEMANGSBYRÅ.

Learn more!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT KNALLA TOURIST MINE IN ZINKGRUVAN, VISIT WWW.KNALLAGRUVA.SE. YOU CAN ALSO FOLLOW KNALLA GRUVA ON FACEBOOK!



2019

Selected events

13/6 NOSTALGIA REUNION
Casinoparken, Åmmeberg.
Car Show. 6 pm–8 pm

21/6 MIDSUMMER
Björkvallen, Åmmeberg,
2–6 pm, sing-along, en-
tertainment, dancing and
games, Admission: SEK 50
for adults, children free of
charge. Arr: Zinkgruvans IF,
Åmmebergs IF. Chief spon-
sor: Zinkgruvan Mining AB

23/6 HAYMAKING FEAST
Kvarndalen, Åmmeberg.
11 am–1 pm.

30/6 ANTIQUES MARKET
Industrial area, Åmmeberg.
9 am–5 pm, Free admission.
Arr: Askersund Auction
House

10/7 CAR BOOT SALE
The Mill in Åmmeberg,
3 pm–6 pm. Info & sign up:
Jan-Erik Mogren,
+46 (0)70-224 88 50.

24/7 CONCERT IN GARPA MINE

27/7 LIVEMUSIC IN KNALLA

7/9 RUN OF MINE
Start and finish at Knalla
mine. The run goes down
to 350 metres and then up
again. 6 or 10 km.

**15/9 GUIDED WALK THROUGH
ÅMMEBERG**
Locomotive shed, 1 pm.
Bring picnic basket.



**Zinkgruvan
Mining**

a subsidiary of **lundin mining**

**THE MINING MUSEUM,
KNALLA TOURIST MINE
& ZINKGRUVAN
LOCAL ASSOCIATION**

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Photo, front: Sven Torell was Vieille Montagnes head of operations between 1946 and 1976.
Photo, Back: Run of Mine.