

LARV: Cultural traditions in the plains and forest
[Google Translated from Swedish by Dan Anderson, 2016]
<http://larv.se/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Larvbroschyr-2016.pdf>

Living in Larv

The settlement consists of smaller and larger farms and urban areas around the school and in the villages of Edum, Faleberg, Karlsberg, Kåryd, Malmene, Slättås, Ryd and Valeberg. There are a variety of older and newer houses and apartments to rent or buy. Home prices are low and attractive.



Larv - ny bebyggelse

Larv - new development

Cultural and social activities

Larv has a rich association and cultural life. **Community Associations** (Larv and Valeberg-Ryd), **Red Cross**, **Sports Club** (Larvs Fk), **political associations**, **sewing circles**, as well as an **association** (Hela Larv ska leva "Full Larv should live"). **Associations collaborate** to seek enhancing environmental, service, accommodation, and employment among others. This is done through the camp and theatrical activities, and marking of hiking and cycling routes. The summer gives **Scen Vara** (Scene Being) performances in Teaterladan (Theater Barn) (No. 32 on the map).

Among the various events include: **Thursday Lunch** every other Thursday during the winter months where everyone is welcome. The community association arranges the **Valborgsmäs** (May Day festival) singing where the Larv parish choir welcomes the spring at Larv's Bäsing.

The home and community organizes several courses, including weaving and a **vävstuga** (weaving workshop). A club has a **pub** which is open to members a few times a year.

The Sports Association organizes **drive-in bingo** on Thursdays during the summer besides main activities such as **football, table tennis and exercise**.

At the stadium there is a **boules court**.



Larv - äldre bebyggelse

Larv - old buildings

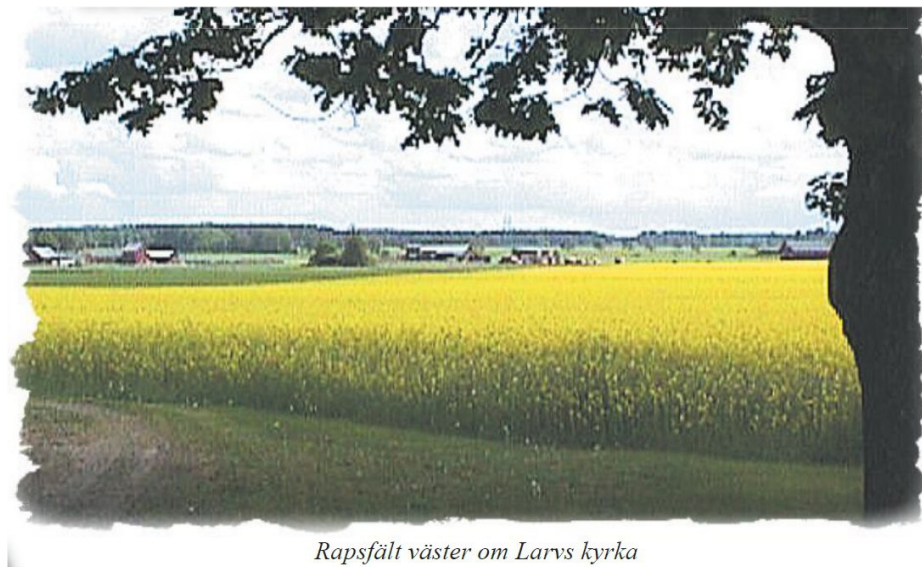
The **Sports Association**, the **Swedish Church** and **Salem** [disabilities association?] conducts a broad selection of children and youth activities.

Home care is well developed. In the parish hall is **daycare** for about 30-40 kids. A **school** is for children in grades 1-6. At school there are recreational .

Access to contractors, electricians, masons, plumbers, and carpenters is good.

Examples of activities in Larv are: garage, fleet operators, holiday rentals, antique and flea markets, art studio, honey for, deer breeding, trailer, business, carpentry, sawing, catering, music store, etc.

The area optical fiber wide-area network is being expanded.



Rapsfält väster om Larvs kyrka
Rapeseed west of Larv's church



• Tjejla
get tar
paus

Girls team takes a break



Minnessten vid Onsjö tingshus

Monument stone at Onsjö Courthouse



Valborgsfirande vid Larvs Bäring
May Day celebration at Larv's Bäring

Experience Larv

About 800 people live and work in Larv. They believe in their region and its future. The environment is calm and pleasant. Here is quality of life for young and old as well as excellent opportunities for a good accommodation.

Larv is located in Vara Municipality, Västra Götaland County. The area is an old cultural district on the border between the plains and forests. Here, open, fertile plains with its rolling fields enters into a wooded area. Meandering rivers with their valleys and deciduous forests provide an appealing and varied countryside.

Burial mounds, stone circles, standing stones, rune stones, ancient fields, meadows and pastures are evidence that we are in a district marked by man for thousands of years

Larv's Nature

Fields dominate north of Larv.

Agriculture is the main reason why pastures have become a rare habitat.

Natural deciduous forest groves are in Jultorp, and examples of meadows and pastures are in Ranahult.

In Edsmärens kronopark (Edsmärens crown park) is a deciduous forest reserve that is free of development.

Forests in the park are dominated by spruce and fir. The most common land type is bog. For example, Finnamosse.

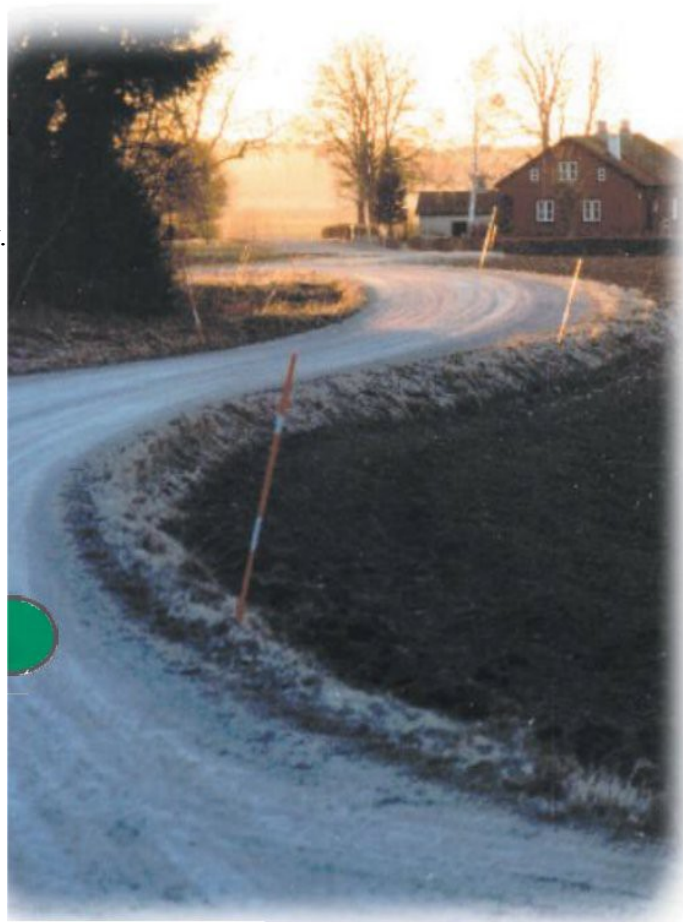
Here are species characteristic of bogs including cloudberries, cranberries and carnivorous plants. It is an important habitat for birds. In spring and autumn are cranes staying during their travel north or south, respectively.



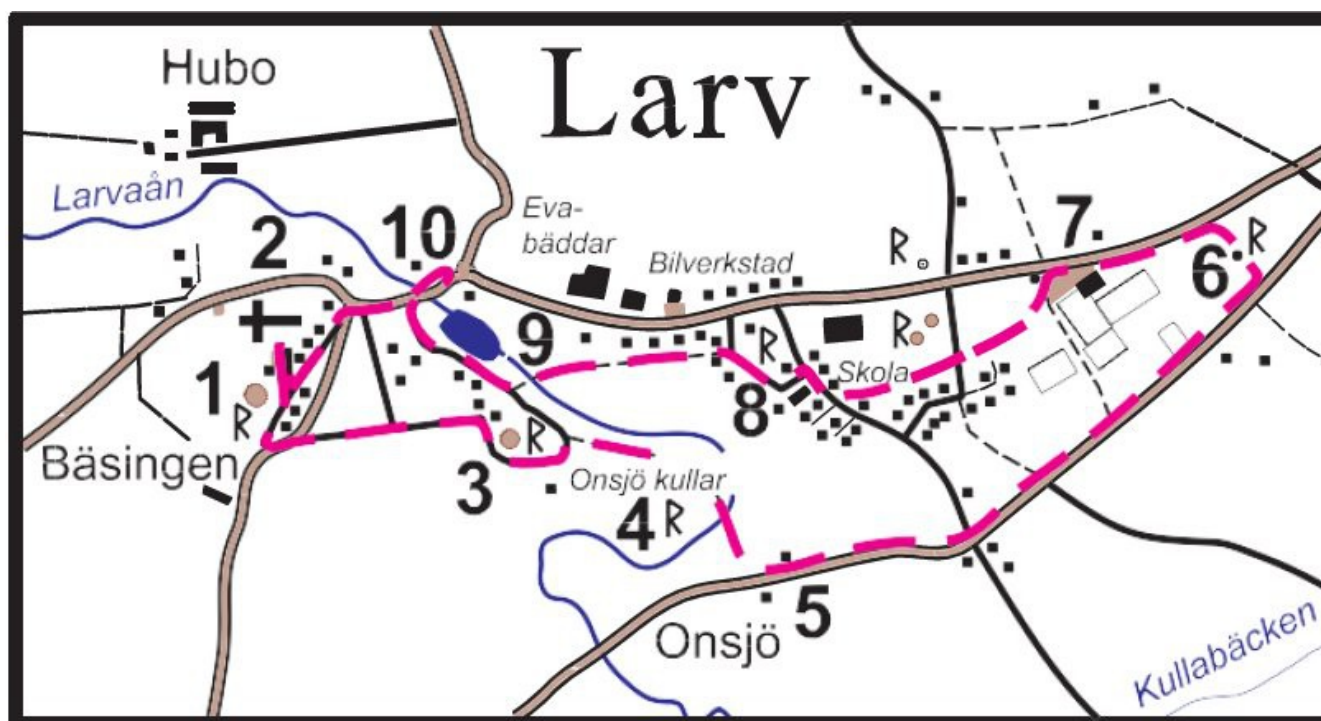
Find Larv

In Larv many roads meet, including from Sjuhärads and Falbygden. The old trail between Lodose at the Göta River and the Bishop's diocese capital at Skara also passed through Larv.

Larv can be reached from the north via Route 47 (Falköping - Trollhättan). From Borga at Lidan follow the old Skara-Lodosevägen Road to Larv. From E20 (Gothenburg - Skara) reach Larv via Vedum. From the municipal seat of Vara you can reach Larv along several smaller roads.



Red line about 5 km Walking route

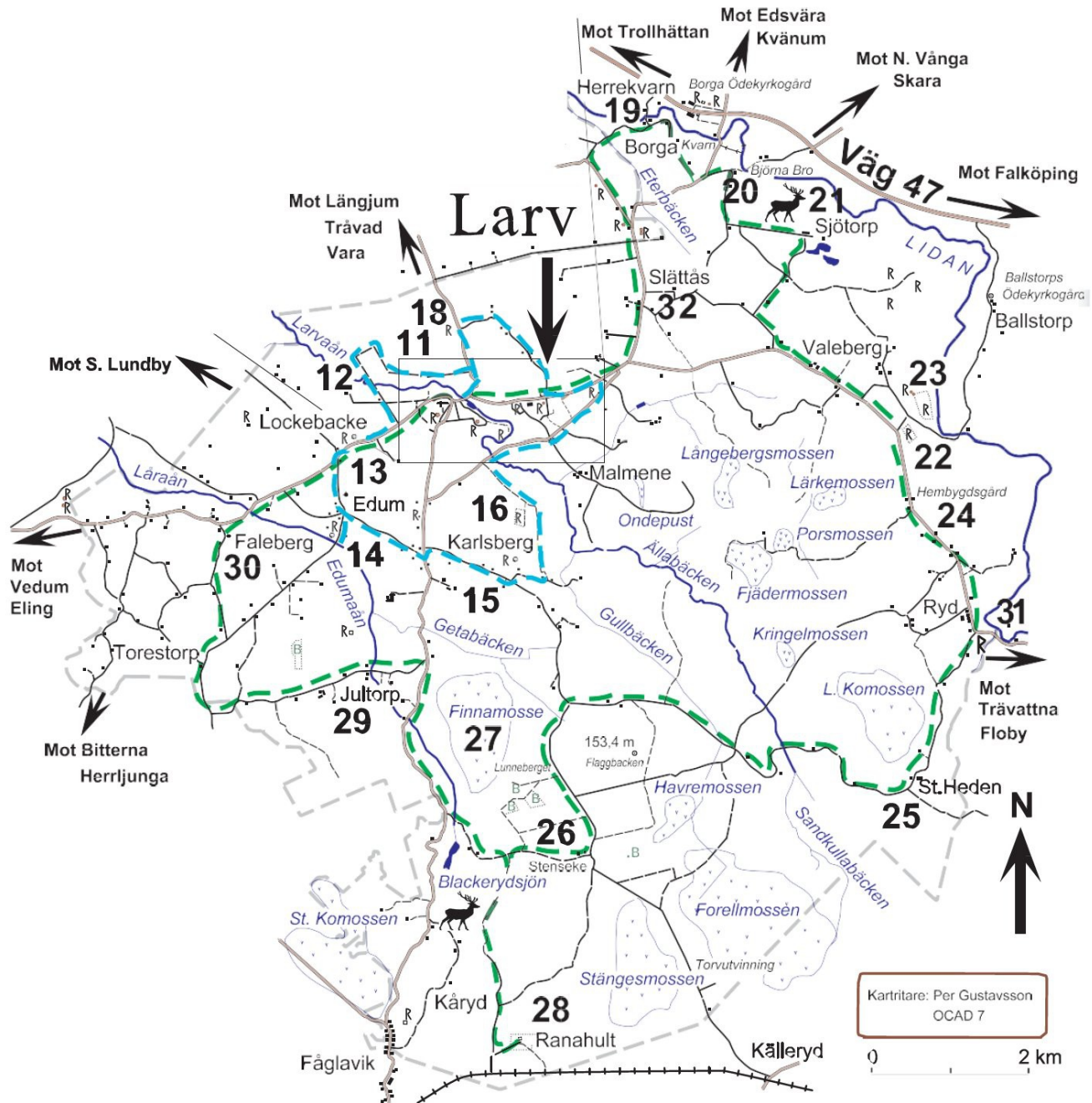


Tour Map of Larv

Red line about 5 km Walking route

Blue line about 10 km Bicycle route

Green line about 30 km Bicycle or Automobile route



Welcome to the track and enjoy the beautiful surroundings!

Excursions and sights

Red Route

Walking route, about 5 km

Start: parking lot below the church.

1. Larv Bäsing One of Västergötlands largest burial mounds that are part of a larger burial ground. The mound has not been investigated. A Viking or Bronze Age chieftain may lie buried here. It could have also been used for burial during different eras in pre-Christian times. This bäsing is mentioned in the older Västergötland Law from the 1200s.

2. Church Built 1864-65. The old church was demolished. Stone from this and from the ruins of Edums church were used in the construction. Outcrops of an unusual coffin from the Middle Ages are in the porch. Stones from the Kafles family tomb stands at the church's outer wall. Magnificent views from here of the plains.

3. Väderkullen (Weather hill) One of Larv's many large mounds, 23 m in diameter. Artifacts date from the 600s AD--one hill has a bronze belt buckle that was made in connection to the mound.

4. Afzelius grave Family grave of Arvid Afzelius, priest in Larv 1745-89. Priest, member of parliament and grave farmhouse holder. Would reportedly "awning with the king" and therefore had to find his own burial.

5. Onsjö Courthouse District Courthouse with jail, the so-called District coffin. This place has existed since the Middle Ages, with the courthouse and marketplace and inn, until 1887. A memorial was erected in 1965.

6. Larvs hed rune stone Larvs hed is an old venue. Västgöta gentlemen in 1529 tried, with Judge Runstenen, Ture Jönsson (Three Roses), and the Bishop of Skara Magnus Haraldsson spearheaded inciting West Gotlanders to rebellion against King Gustav Vasa. Here is a rune stone from the 1000's with a Christian cross. The text reads "Ölver and Åskatla raised this stone after Gunnar, Sigtrygg's son, a good young man. Lord God keep his soul."

7. Hedenborg Larvs FK's sports stadium. Several football fields and a community center. Milestone School from 1707.

8. Småkulla An extensive burial ground with 24 mounds and a residual stone.

9. Bridges A walkway leads to a bridge over the river which was built in 1997--a symbol of how local initiatives positively affect our environment. The remains of an old arched bridge is at the fork and the parking lot below the church.

10. Prästgården

Originally a farm for priests built in 1839, later rebuilt to modern style. Beautifully situated next to Larvån River. King's meadow lily together with other spring and summer flowers grow along the river.



Vitsippor vid skogsäck

Wood anemones in forest stream

Blue Route

Bicycle route, about 10 km
Start: parking lot below the church.

10. **Prästgården** See **Red route**.

11. **Hubo Manor** The Hubo manor farm history is well-known from the 1500s. It was included in Larv's village until a major shift during 1793-95. The main building is made of oak with a mansard (curb) roof and red-colored walls is a well preserved example of 1700s-era mansions.

12. **Larvåns dalgång (Larv River Valley)** Natural Beauty in valley protected valley.

13. **Lockbacke** Ancient burial ground with a stone circle.

14. **Edum** Former parish with church until the mid -1500s . This probably was burned by the Danish Cavalry in 1566.

15. **Karlsberg** Until the big shift in 1858 a village with a combined settlement was located within the common Edsveden. Several of the farms were military residences.

16. Ancient fields Clearly-shrunken fields, now planted with spruce. Probably dates from the early Middle Ages when the fifth wheel plow was introduced.

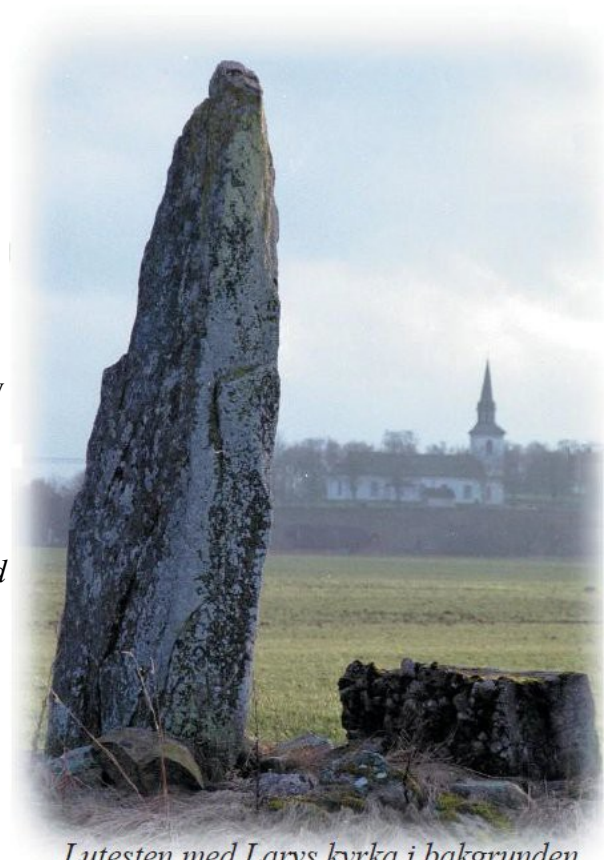
5. Onsjö Courthouse. See [red route](#).

6. Larvs hed rune stone See red trail.

7. Stone Circle Stone Circle, burial mounds.

18. Lute stone Storied, mentioned in a story about Larv Bäsing. Could be a tombstone.

Lutesten with Larv's church in the background



Lutesten med Larvs kyrka i bakgrunden

Green Route

Bicycle or automobile route, about 30 km

Start: parking lot below the church.

6. Larvs hed See [red route](#).

19. Herrekvarn Highest part of the Lidån River. Beautiful setting.

20. Björnabro Mentioned already in the 1100s as a bridge over the Lidån River. The Skara-Lödöse Road came past here. The bridge had two lanes, 10 and 8 meters long, respectively. Now there is a pedestrian bridge that rests on the old bases.

21. Sjötorps manor Old manor with historical ties. In 1529 it was owned by the squire and sheriff Matt Kafle, who was partially loyal to King Gustav Vasa in the Västgöta uprising. Karl XI visited Sjötorp in 1685. The buildings and surroundings, including with a double avenue, is a beautiful country estate. The agricultural land is currently used for deer breeding.

22. Valeberg A large burial ground with a big pile (Hill City), 37 stone circles, seven judges rings, five standing stones, stone circle and a square of four tridents. Traces of ancient fields are visible on the burial ground.

23. Ekeberga Beautiful oak forest with ancient fields and burial mounds.

24. Valeberg-Ryd Hembygdsgård (Community Center) Homestead with lovingly-preserved log cabin and authentic decor.

Edsveden-Edsmären Covers much of southern and southeastern Larv. Edsveden is an old common that is mentioned in Vastergotland Law from the 1200s. In the 1500s, Gustav Vasa made claims to the forest. During the 1600s Edsveden's borders were marked with pipes, stone slabs and natural stones. The impoverished forest portfolio and plantations were established at the end of the 1800s. Edsmären currently owned is by Assidomän. Several bogs are partly peat.

31. Finnestorp Excavation of a sacrificial site from 400-600 A.D. (700 years before King Arn). The size testifies that the location was important and affected a wide area. Many interesting objects found.

32. Teaterladan Scene Varas permanent theater in a renovated barn.

25. Stora Heden Large former manor and situated within Edsveden. The house is timbered up the old style of oak; later built.

26. Stenseke A homestead from the beginning of the 1800s, former hunter's residence rental. A shop in the Old Norse style today is an interesting feature. Was a royal hunting lodge of King Oscar II and Gustav Vasa.

27. Finnamosse A bog with characteristic and native vegetation. Resting and breeding place for cranes.

28. Ranahult Nature Reserve with old restored meadows and pastures with, for example, pollarded (topped off) trees and rare plants.

29. Jultorp Jultorp Ranch with Western Riding horseback riding.

30. Faleberg Beautifully situated farmhouse. Formerly famous Ardennes stud.

13. Lockbacke See [blue route](#).

Details about Larv can be obtained from:

- **website :** www.larv.se

Guided tours can be ordered via:

- **Hasse Lundmark Tel. 0512-420 21**

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Associations in collaboration:

- Community Associations in Larv and Valeberg/Ryd
- Larvs Fk
- Larv associations
 - LRF
 - Salem
 - Scen Vara
 - Red Cross