

# DISCOVER OLSJÖ CHURCH TRAIL

A trail from long ago

**Category:** 2

**Difficulty:** Red

**Approximate time:** 3 hours

**Trail markers:** Orange

WELCOME!  
ENJOY THE  
BEAUTIFUL VIEWS.

**DON'T FORGET  
TO PACK A  
PICNIC BASKET!**

**OLSJÖ  
CHURCH  
TRAIL**

**Main responsibility for the trail is**  
Grangärde Hembygdsförening.

**The trail is maintained by**  
Sunnansjö Byalag.  
[www.sunnansjobyalag.se](http://www.sunnansjobyalag.se)



## DESCRIPTION

The trail is 9 km long and goes between the old Finnish village of OLSJÖ, which is 5 km west of Saxdalen, and Broby in Sunnansjö. The height difference between the start and finish is 150 meters. You can walk the trail in either direction.



## OLD SUMMER FARMS

The trail passes through land that was used years ago for grazing dairy cows during the summer by Sunnansjö farmers. There are many small cottages where the farm hands lived during that time. The trails were used for delivering milk and other products from these summer farms.

## THE TRAIL TO CHURCH

At one time every Swedish family was required to attend church at least once a month. Even after it was no longer required, most people continued to regularly attend. Church and religion were important. This was where you christened your children, married and took farewell of life on earth. To be able to use these trails, they had to be maintained. On an agreed day in spring, men from every farm helped to clear and prepare the trails.



## OLD TRAILS

Church and work trails were important communication links between villages for hundred of years. During the summer they were used to get to the parish church, to work in the foundries and iron works as well as to lumbering in the forests.