

SECTION NAMES

DOWNHILL



MEN'S DOWNHILL

Ripbranten – The White Grouse Pitch

The grouse are common in the Åre region and the area around the White Grouse Pitch is well-known for being liked by these flying symbols of the Swedish mountains. This section name was already used on the original downhill course in Åre.

Gropen - The Pit

The pit is a pit, hence the name. But this isn't just any pit but one that can create quite some issues for racers with heavy compression, requiring excellent technique and precision.

Bäckfallet – The Little Waterfall

Underground in this section, there are copious streams running down Mount Åre. The men's downhill even crosses a waterfall and that's why this section is called the Little Waterfall.

Lillbranten – The Little Steep

This section name is misleading as there is nothing little about this steep. It is indeed a demanding section that challenges the racers to their limits. Make sure your edges are sharp and take a deep breath before charging down the Little Steep.

Myren - The Bog

Mount Åre has many small lakes and lots of swampland. In the summertime, this is where you can pick cloudberries while in the winter the Bog is in the middle of the men's downhill course.

VM-flyget – The Championships Launch

This section used to be called Olympic Launch, after the old lift (called Olympia) that was replaced with the new World Champs Eight-Seater (VM8:an) before Åre 2007. The concept of a launch comes from the fact that the racers accelerate rapidly when skiing down the Olympia flats and reach proper downhill race speeds at the end.

Stövelbranten – The Welly Drop

Apparently, this section's name dates from an incident that happened in this rugged and inaccessible section during slope construction. One morning, a forest worker found a boot hanging from a birch here, which gave rise to various

tales about workers who decided to walk bare-foot due to difficult terrain. It's clear however that this 69 % slope was named after a dropped welly.

Brings Brant - Bring's Steep

Bring was the last name of a slope worker who had a mysterious accident in this steep and ended up sliding down backwards until the driver ended up clamped between the skimobile and a tree. Luckily, he survived uninjured but ever since the incident, the section has been known as Bring's Steep.

Russisprung – Russi's Jump

The famous ski racer Bernhard Russi, who also designed Åre's downhill courses, is the name-giver of the slope's biggest jump which literally launches the racers to the Wolf's Pit that follows.

The Wolf's Pit

It comes as no surprise that the Wolf's Pit has been named after wolves that used to dwell here. The fauna on Mount Åre includes reindeer, moose and at least in times past, wolves. There have been no wolf sightings in recent years but the name has been kept and racers are well advised to keep their tuck in this compression that really burns in the thighs.

Kanonröret – The Cannon Barrel

The racers enter here at high speed and thanks to a relatively light compression, fly through as out of a cannon.

Galgbacken – The Gallows Hill

This is where the very first ski lift in Sweden used to run. During the construction of the downhill course, the workers found an old lift post belonging to the original lift. At the builders' closing party, an "old guy" was hoisted up the lift post and the section was gloomily named The Gallows Hill. Whether the "old guy" was human, is not known.

Tunneln/Målhoppet – The Tunnel / Finish Jump

The tunnel under the course replaced the old bridge over highway E14 just before Åre 2007, providing a new dimension to the finish jump. Aksel Lund Svindal is claimed to hold the record with his 70-meter jump during the 2007 World Ski Championships. Regardless, racers do get some great air in this final stretch to the finish line.

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LADIES DOWNHILL

Skråt – The Traverse

Traversing is never easy and this section is no exception. The ladies' downhill begins with a 58% slope which turns into a traverse.

Sápmikurvan – The Sami Turn

The name is an homage to the Sami people who have lived and whose reindeer herds have grazed on Mount Åre for thousands of years. The Sami culture and heritage were in focus in 2007, so no wonder a section was named in their honor.

Nallesvängen – Nalle's Curve

This section is named after the Åre legend Nalle Hansson, who has been part of all of the FIS World Cup events in Åre; by now there have been more than 100 of them! They say that during the Åre 2007 Championships this was Nalle's permanent position on the course, and will now always be his curve.

Hummelbranten – Hummel's Edge

The ladies' downhill and super-G courses start from the part of Mount Åre known as The Hummel. For most skiers, this is a real challenge leaning in two directions. The slope at this section features a 69% slope and is thus called Hummel's Edge.

Double Trouble

The name describes exactly what the racers face here: the two waves in this section require good technique and that the racers enter them in the right angle.

Älgkvikken – Moose Bend

It is not unusual to see wildlife on the slopes in Åre. The Moose Bend has been named after the moose that used enjoy (and perhaps still do) this slope section during course construction.

Bräckevägen – Bräcke's Way

Hardly surprisingly, the name of this section comes from the road that the slope crosses right here.

Årevägen – Åre Road

Åre Road that winds up the mountain crosses the slope here.

Lienhoppet – Lien's Jump

The name is connected with the properties of Liensgården (Lien's Courtyard) and Liensskogen (Lien's Woods).

Målhoppet – Finish Jump

The tunnel under the slope replaced the old bridge over highway E14 just before Åre 2007, providing a new dimension to the finish jump. According to some, Aksel Lund Svindal holds the record with his 70-meter jump during the 2007 World Ski Championships. Regardless, racers do get some great air in this final stretch to the finish line.