

The flying emperor's robe

We have started a new year. What is going on? It gets lighter. The birds fly around with great energy. Do they feel changes that we cannot feel? The spring takes us by surprise and suddenly it is summertime!

OK, the time passes quickly, but not so quickly. It is January and we still must go through a few months with darkness and chilly weather. In the long evenings we must remain indoors.

But why not use the waiting time to long for sun and summer?

I remind a particular place on a nice summer day. A place with some irritating cattle that curiously follow us, but it is also a place where we can experience the emperor's robe or *kejserkåbe*, as the Danes have named it. In English the name is the silver-washed fritillary.

My place is in a small thicket on the shores of the lake Sövdesjöen in Skåne in the southern part of Sweden. In this small place, we every year experience this beautiful butterfly in the colours of the summer flying around in search of the sweet nectar of the thistles.



*Near the lake Sövdesjön,
Skåne/Scania County, Sweden,
June 2009*

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