



GEMS OF THE LULE RIVER VALLEY

the touring routes of
**SWEDISH
LAPLAND**
YOUR ARCTIC DESTINATION



DISCOVER THE LULE RIVER VALLEY

The Lule River valley is surrounded by colourful history, with its salmon becoming a pillar of royal might, with silver treasures and stone labyrinths, Sami culture and industrial development.

From the coast to the mountains, the Lule River guides us through fascinating history. People have lived and worked here ever since the Stone Age. The Sami, fishermen, farmers, loggers, log drivers, cooks, farm hands and maids, lords and queens ... all have shaped the cultural heritage that has brought life and livelihood to the county and the country, throughout generations. A journey along the Lule River valley is also a journey from the archipelago, pasturelands and woodlands, across the Arctic Circle and further on to the vast mountain landscapes.

FORESTS AND MOUNTAINS line the river valley, they have served, and still serve as people's livelihoods in the north. Between 1660 and 1702, silver from the mines was transported to the port of Luleå. Legend has it that one of the convicts who laboured with moving the silver hid some treasure, which remains undiscovered to this day.

In 1864, an English company initiated the construction of a unique transport route for ore, through a canal built past the Edeforsen rapids. Close to 1,500 men from all over Sweden worked on this large project, which also resulted in Sweden's first workers' revolt, where many were injured and the military were ultimately called in.

Logging and log driving provided important livelihoods for many years, and the river was a natural transportation route for timber. Logs were moved down the Lule River well into the 20th century.

FISHING on the Lule River has had an impact on all of Sweden. The salmon fishing opportunities, said to have been discovered by a Sami prisoner marooned on the islet of Laxholmen, brought considerable income over hundreds of years, to the royalty and nobility that owned the fishing rights for the Lule River. The salmon financed, among other things, the construction of Uppsala University. The fish was salted and transported on the Lule River to the coast and out into Europe.

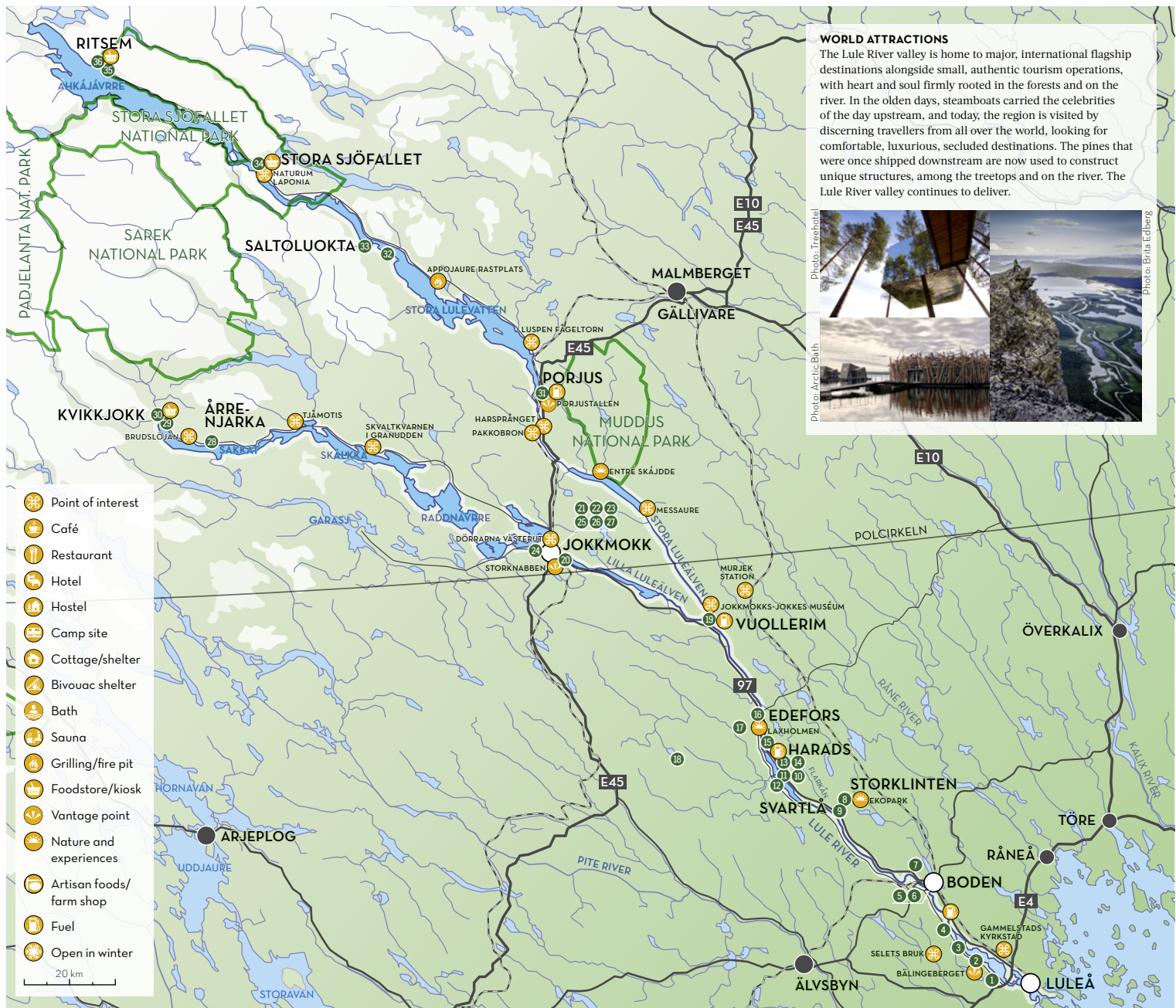
HYDROPOWER construction began on the Lule River in the early 20th century. The Lule River is the second most water rich river of Sweden (after the Göta River). Its main stream runs 461 km through the municipalities of Gällivare, Jokkmokk, Boden and Luleå. Since the late 1970's, the river has had a total of 15 hydropower stations. They have altered the character of the river but also brought jobs, extended road networks and contributed to community development and the establishment of protected areas etc.



You can find more tips on activities in our themed guides to fishing, hiking, cycling and kayaking. Collect one at the tourist information office in Luleå or Boden, or download from visitlulea.se or upplevboden.nu.



Photo: Charlotta Lemnarsdotter



WORLD ATTRACTIONS

The Lule River valley is home to major, international flagship destinations alongside small, authentic tourism operations, with heart and soul firmly rooted in the forests and on the river. In the olden days, steamboats carried the celebrities of the day upstream, and today, the region is visited by discerning travellers from all over the world, looking for comfortable, luxurious, secluded destinations. The pines that were once shipped downstream are now used to construct unique structures, among the treetops and on the river. The Lule River valley continues to deliver.



1 CAPE WILD

The wilderness park where you will meet among other animals the domestic moose, Zigge and Zaga. You can also book dining experiences. To be pre-booked. +46 70-314 11 98 www.capewild.se



2 BONDGÅRDEN BÄLINGE

Locally produced food with love and care. Visit the farm, stay at the hotel and book dinner at the restaurant. To be pre-booked. +46 70-017 40 82 www.bondgardenbalinge.se



3 AVANS GÅRDSBUTIK

The Gotland sheep are the basic business with a focus on their wellbeing. Wool and skins are further processed and sold in the farm's shop. +46 70-396 64 46



4 SYDEJEBRUKET

Small-scale farming with old Swedish species of pigs, chickens, sausages and eggs as well as vegetables. To be pre-booked. +46 70-319 80 99



5 FÖRSVARSMUSEUM (DEFENSE MUSEUM)

Here you make a journey in Swedish defense history from the end of the 19th century until today, through peace and war, from several perspectives. +46 921-628 00



6 HAVREMAGASINET

Regional center for contemporary art, and one of Sweden's largest art halls, with 3,600 square meters in a 100 years old oats magazine. +46 921-930 41 www.havremagasinet.se



7 LAPLAND YURTS

Living in a yurt is a very pure experience. It's the perfect place to unwind. +46 72-518 01 96 www.laplandyurts.com



8 STORKLINTEN

In the winter, ski resort, and the rest of the year a nice recreation area with cottages (self-catering), forests and lakes. +46 921-138 50 www.storklinten.se



9 HIDE & SEE

Accessibility-adapted nature experiences with wildlife spotting, fishing and guided hiking tours. To be pre-booked. +46 70-575 99 73 www.hideandsee.se



10 TREEHOTEL

Guided tours of the unique hotel with designed tree rooms, guest house, restaurant, souvenir shop and accommodation. Guided tours are to be pre-booked. +46 928-103 00 www.treehotel.se



11 ARCTIC BATH

Luxuriously designed accommodation with a unique spa facility on the river, saunas, treatment rooms, swimming pool and restaurant. To be pre-booked. +46 928-70 30 40 www.arcticbath.se



12 CAFÉ LILLÅN

Summer café with a sense of Astrid Lindgren's fairytale world about old farm life. +46 73-416 39 07



13 SVANTES VILT & BÄR

Refined delicacies from reindeer and other game meat, fish, poultry and forest berries. Fabric shop. +46 928-100 50 www.svantesvilt.se



14 BODENS KÖTT & VILT

Wide range of meat. Fabric shop. +46 928-108 80



15 ARCTIC ADVENTURE

Fishing and activities in the forest land and on the Lule River. To be pre-booked. +46 921-137 00 www.arcticadventure.se



16 LAXEDE

Scenic camping next to the cultural-historical Laxholmen. +46 70-663 21 34



17 LAPLANDHUSKY

Dog sledding tours with cart, learn about dogs and how they work. To be pre-booked. +46 70-563 64 40 www.laplandhusky.com



18 LAPLAND RETREAT / STF SNESUDDEN ECO LODGE

Log cabins in the forest with the opportunity to relax and find peace and strength in nature. +46 70-292 25 37 www.lapland-retreat.com



19 MATHANTVERKET VUOLLERIM

Sweden's northernmost hard cheese curdled in the pure untreated Swedish alpine cow milk. Production of unique delicacies. +46 70-660 30 25



20 ARCTIC CAMP JOKKMOKK

Cottages and camping, temperate pools and playground next to the Lule River. Hot tub and adventure golf. +46 971-123 70



21 AJTTE - SVENSKT FJÄLL- OCH SAMEMUSEUM

Main museum for the Sami culture and special museum for the alpine area. Shop with literature, handicrafts and souvenirs. +46 971-170 70 www.ajtte.com



22 FJÄLLBOTANISKA TRÄDGÅRDEN

Alpine garden on the shores of Lake Talvatis. Various natural milieus hosting the flora of the region. +46 971-170 70 www.ajtte.com



23 SÁPMI REN & VILT

The Länta family's game shop processes reindeer meat, also other game from Jokkmokk's area. +46 76-812 56 91



24 SKABRAM CAMPING & STUGBY

Camping with pitches and cottages (self-catering). Fishing license for sale, hiking trails and farm animals. +46 0971-107 52 www.skabram.se



25 LAPONIA ADVENTURES

Tours and expeditions within the world heritage Lapponia. Rental of outdoor equipment and personal support. To be pre-booked. +46 70-260 05 37 www.laponiaadventures.com



26 JOKKMOKKGUIDERNA

Offers canoe rentals as well as guided multi-day hiking and canoe trips. To be pre-booked. +46 70-684 22 84 www.jokkmokkguiderna.com



27 AURORA IGLOOHOTEL / NJANNJA ADVENTURES

Luxurious ecolodge in "glass igloo" by the river. Also activities. +46 70 376 40 32 airbnb.com/h/midnightsunboat



28 ÅRRENJARKA FJÄLLBY

Exclusive with lodges, hotel rooms also camping- and tent sites. Activities and hiking trails. +46 971-230 18 www.arrenjarka.com



29 FISKFLYG KVIKKJOKK

Helicopter company. Shorter tours, day trips and digital detox experiences. +46 971-210 40, Kvikkjokk www.fiskflyg.se



30 STF KVIKKJOKK FJÄLLSTATION

Traditional mountain station, perfect for the start and end of the longer mountain hike or as a base camp for day trips. +46 971-210 22 www.kvikkjokkfjallstation.se



31 THUNBORG VILTAFFÄR

Shop with nature's pantry: meat, fish, cheese and berries. Handicrafts and all sorts of things. +46 973-101 79 www.thunborgviltaffar.se



32 LANGAS CAMP - BJÖRKUDDEN

Simpler lodges with self-catering, electricity, non-running water. Fishing and hunting license for sale. Boat transport can be arranged. +46 70-340 42 72



33 STF SALTOLUOKTA FJÄLLSTATION

Starting point for day trips and longer hikes. Get here with STF's tour boat. +46 973-410 10 www.svenskaturistforeningen.se/saltoluokta



34 STORA SJÖFALLET MOUNTAIN LODGE

Well-equipped and easily accessible mountain guest house. All you need for a mountain stay. +46 973-400 70 www.storasjofallet.com



35 FISKFLYG STORA SJÖFALLET / RITSEM

Helicopter company. Shorter tours, day trips and digital detox experiences. +46 973-400 32, Stora Sjöfallet / Ritsem www.fiskflyg.se

36 STF RITSEM

One of the best starting points for hiking. Shop with food and equipment. +46 10-190 24 51 www.svenskaturistforeningen.se/boende/stf-ritsem



THE ROAD BETWEEN THE WORLD HERITAGE SITES

From the coast to the mountains, along a lush river valley. From the Gammelstad church town and its medieval church, to the majestic Lapponia. The road follows the Lule River and its richly varying landscapes of villages, pasturelands, vast forests and waters. The natural world is tangibly close.

LAPONIA Both the Gammelstad church town and Lapponia have been listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites since 1996. This means that they are covered by the UN Convention on the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage. The unbroken cultural heritage of the Lapponia area and its unique environmental values are what contributed to its designation. Here, you will find traces from millennia of human activity, and a living Sami tradition. Lapponia is also home to Europe's largest, uninterrupted natural landscape, with formations showing Earth's geological development, as well as a rich flora and fauna. Within the area, you will find not only glaciers and high mountains, but also hay meadows and woodlands. The Sarek, Badjälánnda/Padjelanta, Stuvor Muorkeke/Stora Sjöfallet and Muttos/Muddus national parks, as well as the Sjiávnja/Sjaunja and Stubbá nature reserves are part of Lapponia's land area. As it has been for generations, the area is still a site of active reindeer herding, hunting and fishing. A total of nine Sami communities are active within the 9,400 square metre area. Each Sami community is responsible for a particular geographical area, and serves to organise reindeer herding and the companies working with that. Within each area, the reindeer roam and are herded between different grazing lands. Around the turn of June-July, it is time to brand the calves. During the calf branding season, the Sami communities gather their reindeer at night, when temperatures are a bit cooler, but it is still light outside, thanks to the midnight sun. If you do not have the opportunity to travel far into the world heritage area, there are so called Lapponia Entrances, the largest of which you will find just before Stuvor Muorkeke/Stora Sjöfallet, a nature information centre in an amazing building on the river bank. www.laponia.nu

GAMMELSTADS KYRKSTAD The Gammelstad church town is the largest and best preserved medieval church town in Sweden. The World Heritage site includes not only the church cottages, but also the road network, the church, old town buildings and the many historical remnants underground. Here, you can stroll between the small church cottages, pass the old houses of the burgher town, let yourself be awe-inspired by the church and breathe in the beautiful, tranquil environment. This is the site where Luleå was once founded, and grew from being a small church and trading settlement into a real city. When Luleå later moved, due to land uplift in the 17th century, the locals began calling this place Gammelstad (literally Old Town), a name that remains to this day. You can experience the history of the area in many different ways, through exhibitions, information signs, an audio guide and booked tours. www.visitgammelstad.se

THE RIGHT OF PUBLIC ACCESS

DO NOT DISTURB, DO NOT DESTROY Swedish law guarantees a right of public access, meaning that we're allowed to roam the outdoors freely, pick flowers, berries and mushrooms, swim, pitch tents, go cycling, boating, make campfires and enjoy other activities which are part of outdoor life. The right of public access is a privilege and a freedom that depends upon people acting responsibly and carefully towards the natural environment. We are not allowed to harm animals, plants or the environment and we must treat landowners and people we meet with respect.

WELCOME AS A GUEST IN THE LAND OF THE REINDEER As a visitor to the land of the reindeer, it is important to remember that an area, or a valley, can be empty one day, and home to hundreds of reindeer and a workplace for reindeer herders, the very next day. Respect the reindeer and their herders.

A couple of tips for those of you lucky enough to spot reindeer:

- Use binoculars to watch the reindeer at a distance
- Avoid moving straight towards them
- If possible - hide
- The quieter you are, the better for the reindeer
- If you are accompanied by a dog, you should always keep it on a leash
- If you are lucky enough to spot large herds of moving reindeer - sit down and enjoy the view
- If you meet reindeer on a public road, lower your speed and let them pass. Remember that honking your horn will stress the reindeer

RESTRICTIONS Naturally, you may not pick protected species. Nature reserves and national parks often have special regulations, restricting the right of public access. There may also be rules governing things such as speed limits, water skiing and leash requirements for dogs. Motor vehicles may not be driven off-road, on bare ground.

BIRD PROTECTION AREAS There are several bird protection areas with restrictions, often from May 1 to August 1. Please inform yourself of the regulations in the area you are visiting.

FISHING You are free to fish in the sea, but there are rules on how, when and what you can fish. Lakes and rivers normally require a fishing licence.

READ MORE: The Norrbotten County Administrative Board has information about nature reserves: lansstyrelsen.se

The website of the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency has more information about nature reserves: naturvardsverket.se

Information on national parks: lapponia.nu

BÄLINGE - AVAN - UNBYN



Photo: Linnea Isaksson

Route 616 will take you up the river, through the villages of Gåddvik, Bålinge, Avan and Unbyn. The villages on the fertile banks of the Lule River are linked through agriculture. Along the road, you will find a number of coastal food producers and farm shops. With the river on your right hand side and the mountains and forests on your left, the landscape offers many delightful experiences.

BÄLINGE

A small village, not far from the mouth of the river. Fertile farmland at the foot of the Bålingeberget mountain recreation area, with shingle fields and old growth forest.

AVAN

This picturesque village on the south side of the Lule River has a ferry across the water. The landscape is home to many barns, and the Åkerbäcken brook runs through the farmland, marking the border to neighbouring Unbyn.

UNBYN

Unbyn is also a place of fertile farmland, with several farmers still active in the area. Here, you will find ancient remains and old-growth forest. The village is also known to be a place where cranes congregate, attracting many bird watchers.

PLACES TO VISIT:

BÄLINGEBERGET

During the later part of the Stone Age, the mountain Bålingeberget emerged as an island in what was an archipelago at the time. As the millennia passed, the mountain was worn down by the waves of the sea, forming a shingle field, and a field of water-sorted gravel, that remains to this day. Bålingeberget is an easily accessible nature reserve, with a 6 km hiking trail, river banks and caves. Here, you will also find fire pits and a rest cabin, and from atop the mountain, you can enjoy a lovely view of Luleå and the river.

SELETS BRUK (THE SELET MILL)

A typical, Norrbotten mill environment. The mill was in operation between 1800 and 1896, being the

largest industrial mill in the county in 1877-1878. The iron ore refined here was transported from Gällivare. Today, you can see the restored dam, the manor house, the brewhouse, the ruins of the old blast furnace, slag piles and several old building foundations that were also part of the mill. In summer, you can enjoy a stroll through the rich meadow landscape and the old, beautiful mill environment. In winter, the area is great for cross-country skiing.

RÖDBERGSFÖRDET

As a part of Boden Fortress, Rödbergsfördet is one of Sweden's most lavish military secrets of all time. Daily guided tours during summer, off-season open for pre-booked groups.



Rödbergsfortet from above.

SVARTLÅ - STORKLINTEN

The Lule River calmly winds its way through the Edefors area, with villages such as Svartlå and Harads on the northern side, and Åkerby, Södra Harads and Bodträskfors to the south, before route 97 crosses the river at Edefors/Laxholmen. Along the way, you will see rugged pasturelands, vast woodlands and several lovely little villages, each with a character of its own.

SVARTLÅ

This village is beautifully framed by the Lule River, the Flarkån stream, woodlands, small forest lakes, heaths and mountains. At one of the village's entry points lies a rest stop with a nice view of the river, and a naturally occurring coldspring. In summer, the beaches of the river bank are popular, and easiest to access by boat. Svartlå is also the place where the Flarkån stream exits into the river.

STORKLINTEN

A mountain offering miles and miles of views, near Svartlå. Also the namesake of an eco park and one of the largest inland winter sport facilities in the area. The natural environment is rich in variety and offers plenty of outdoor activities and places to hike.



Summer evening at Svartlå.

Photo: Charlotta Lennartsdotter



Top Tour reward: a breathtaking view.

YOU MUSTN'T MISS:

THE COLD SPRING babbling softly near the rest stop at Svartlå's south entrance, is an amazing, natural thirst-quencher.

THE STORKLINTEN ECO PARK

The eco park is home to snake-branched Norway spruce, giant aspen trees, old mining pits and trapping pits. Bring a map and you can hike through a variety of flora and fauna cultured forests and untouched, old-growth forest.

PLACES TO VISIT:

FLARKÅN

Flarkån is a scenic body of water, home to tranquil sections, thundering rapids, pouring brooks and natural pools. Here, you can enjoy nature from a canoe, an off-road bicycle or on foot, picking berries etc.

THE SUMMIT OF STORKLINTEN

Following a light hike up the ski slopes, or along a road that turns into a trail, you will reach the summit of the Storklinton mountain. From here, you will have an amazing view of the forest landscape and the river valley.

Photo: Hide & seek

HARADS - EDEFORS



The tree rooms at Treehotel offer beautiful views and tranquility.

Harads is an inviting little village, at the top of many a world traveller's bucket list. An international destination, side by side with the charm of a village. There is also a strong cultural presence here. Edeborg in Harads is the home stage of the Harads revue, and Edefors is home to one of the most beautiful outdoor stages in the area, with the river as its backdrop, playing host to a singer-songwriter festival in summer.

HARADS

This "international metropolis" offers tranquility and seclusion in a flourishing, rural environment. People travel here from all over the world to enjoy the peace and quiet, the river and the forests, and to experience unique accommodation. Here, you will find a wide variety of guided activities but also vast opportunities to explore the area on your own. The Lule River offers beautiful views and bathing opportunities, peaceful kayaking or canoeing, or fishing in the bright midnight light of summer. The Edefors church is a sight to see - its exterior is simple, but its interior is beautifully painted and ornate.

EDEFORS

Laxholmen in Edefors is a place with history dating all the way back to the 14th century. Visiting Laxholmen is a must: its old, well-preserved fishing camp, an authentic salmon trap, a replica of what they looked like at a time when fishing here financed both cathedrals and universities all the way down to Uppsala. Here, you will find a nature trail and an information platform detailing the history of the place through text and images, and a stone labyrinth unique in that it lies so far inland from the coast. The area also hosts natural campsites, small forest lakes, and the English Canal, the site of Sweden's first worker's revolt, which eventually saw the military called in.

YOU MUSTN'T MISS:

THE SOFT ICE CREAM at Rolles mack (gas station) in Harads.

THE SHOP MASKIN & FRITID in central Harads offers everything from Sami crafts and gifts to fishing and outdoor living equipment.

SUMMER CAFÉ AT LAXHOLMEN When the summer café at Laxholmen is open, their lovely salmon sandwiches and wide selection of local crafts offer experiences for all senses.

PLACES TO VISIT:

KLÄPPGÅRDEN

Kläppgården in Harads is home to a local history museum and exhibitions, in a scenic location near the Lule River. Book your visit through the Service Point: +46 928-560 02.

THE HARADS MOTOR MUSEUM

A true trip down memory lane for fans of old mopeds, motorcycles and other motor vehicle memorabilia. Pre-booked visits only. +46 70-648 59 57

HARAD'S BEACH

A child-friendly, sandy beach in a beautiful location, near the arch bridge across the river. Here, you can also barbecue, so long as you do it responsibly, taking any fire hazards into consideration.

FORSUDDEN

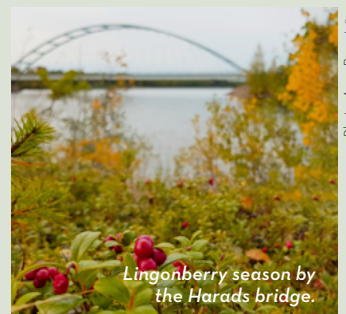
By the exit to Laxholmen, on the opposite side of route 97, lies the Forsudden recreation area. Here, you will find a natural campsite, fire pits, and a cottage for rent. Booking and information: the Service Point +46 928-560 02.

EDEFORSTJÄRNARNA

Three small forest lakes with footbridges between them, and wind shelters with fire pits, for grilling. The lakes are on the same side as Laxholmen, coming from route 97. Signs along route 97 show the way.

LAXHOLMEN

Scenic cultural area where you can roam wherever you like. Bring a picnic basket and enjoy the surroundings, look at historical buildings and the stone labyrinth, among other things.



Lingonberry season by the Harads bridge.

VUOLLERIM - JOKKMOKK



Ájtte - Museum of Sami Culture and the alpine area.



Photo: Margareta Dahl Sandling

At Vuollerim, the river splits, and you will now follow the Lilla Lule älv towards Jokkmokk. Along the way, you will be crossing the Arctic Circle. Make sure to stop and take a picture, there is a simple rest stop and some information about the Arctic Circle.

VUOLLERIEBME / VUOLLERIM

A community of some 680 residents, initially built around the construction of the nearby hydropower plant, but also home to farmland, with grazing mountain cattle. From here, the fifteen power plants along the river are remotely controlled. There is also a Stone Age excavation site, revealing dwellings more than 6,000 years old.

JÅHKMÅHKKE / JOKKMOKK

A town of 3,000 residents, perhaps best known for its annual market, held in February, attracting visitors from near and far. In Jokkmokk, there is a lot to see, do and shop for, and if you are looking for Sami culture and crafts, you have come to the right place. Jokkmokk is an important home to Sami culture, and a hub for it, within the greater Sápmi area.

YOU MUSTN'T MISS:

ALL NICE SHOPS and sights in Jokkmokk. Jokkmokks Tenn, the Sami sculpture park, Pirak Decor & Design, Hantverksbutiken, C/O Gerd, Sámi Duodji and Stoorstálka are just a few well worth a visit.

PLACES TO VISIT:

VUOLLERIM

KARTING RING The world's northernmost race track for go-kart with competition activities, go-kart school and rental, also of vehicles adapted and accessible to all.

THE JOKKMOKKS-JOKKE MUSEUM IN PORSI

A gem of cultural history, showcasing one of Sweden's most popular artists in the 1960's-80's.

MURJEK STATION

By the main railway line, about 18 kilometres from Vuollerim. Here, you will find a local history museum and a school museum, detailing the history of the teacher training school that operated here in the years 1901-1934.

STORKNABBen

A mountain in Jokkmokk offering a breathtaking view. A perfect place to see both the midnight sun and the northern lights. Walk along Jokkmokks-Jokkes väg for about 2 kilometres. Bring something tasty for the open fire. Fire pits available.

HIKING TRAILS AND PATHS

There are 6 different hiking trails of varying length, near central Jokkmokk. At the info centre, you can pick up a brochure on Jokkmokk hiking trails, containing more information.



Fjällträdgården (The alpine garden) next to the Ájtte museum.

Photo: David Björken

ÅRRENJARKA - KVIKKJOKK



View over the mountain Gasskájvvo from Kvikkjokk.

Photo: Margareta Dahl Sandling

This entire section offers beautiful scenery along the Lilla Luleälv. With some luck, you may spot both reindeer and elk. Bring a picnic basket and make a stop along the route.

OARRENJÁRGGA / ÅRRENJARKA

Årrenjarka was a homestead founded in 1811. The name has its roots in the Lule Sami language and means 'Squirrel Point'. Since the 1820's, the Mannberg family has engaged in small-scale farming in Årrenjarka.

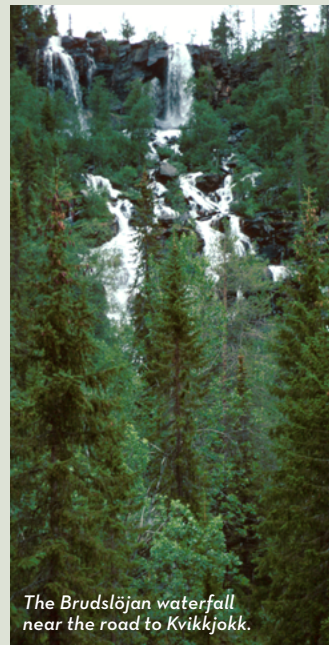
HUHTTÁN / KVIKKJOKK

Located at the end of the road, marking the edge of the mountain world and the Laponia World Heritage site, with the large national parks Padjelanta and Sarek. In the 17th century, a smelter was built in Kvikkjokk, to process silver ore from the Alka-vare mines. Carl Linnaeus travelled here, and was moved by the beauty of the place, as he collected and classified the local flora. This beautiful mountain village is home to the Kvikkjokk Mountain Station, by the Kamajokk rapids, and a beautiful wooden church from the early 20th century. Kvikkjokk is a natural starting point for hikes, on foot or by helicopter. Kvikkjokk is home to about a dozen residents, but in early spring and summer, visitors multiply the population. Helicopter operator Fiskflyg has a base in Kvikkjokk, for those of you looking to experience the mountains from above.

PLACES TO VISIT:

UVSSAT DAVÁS/ THE GATES TO THE WEST

The Akkats power station lies right at the gates of "the great lakes" and the Laponia World Heritage Site. Here, you will find monumental paintings by artists Lars Pirak, Bengt Lindström and Lars J:son Nutti.



The Brudslöjan waterfall near the road to Kvikkjokk.

THE GRANUDDEN WATER MILL

The mill was built by homesteaders in Granudden and Björkholmen 150 years ago. It was used to mill grains into flour and is still fully functional. A nice place to visit, where you can feel the wings of history beating.

THE SAMI SHEDS IN TJÄMOTIS

Tjämotis was founded as a homestead in 1699. The sheds visible from the road, just after the bridge, were used by nomadic Sami to store food and equipment in winter.

BRUDSLÖJAN

The Brudslöjan waterfall makes a precipitous drop over the cliffs, down into Lake Saggat. The fall is formed by the brook Kådtjökä, and in the cliffs you can clearly see the eastern-most part of the mountain bedrock, that winds its way all along the mountain range, from north to south.

KVIKKJOKK DAY TOURS

For those of you who wish to just try the mountains out, or simply do not have time for a longer hike, there are lovely day tours to Prinskulen, Snjerak, Nammatj or Kaskaivo. Local guides offer tours of the winding Kvikkjokk delta.

PORJUS - STORA SJÖFALLET - RITSEM



Naturum Laponia, the gate to the World Heritage Site at Stuvor Mourkke.

Photo: Carl-Johan Utai

Vägen Västerut (the Westward Road) is no official name, but came into use in 1965, when it was built to support the construction of the Vietas power station. The road provides access to the Laponia World Heritage Site and its three national parks Sarek, Badjelánnda/Padjelanta and Stuvor Muorkke/Stora Sjöfallet. A private road begins at the end of the public one, leading to the Suorva Dam, Vakkotavare and Ritsem.

BÄRJÅS / PORJUS

The cradle of hydropower production. All of this neat and beautiful community is a piece of Swedish industrial history. Here, pioneers built the first hydropower plant on the river in the early 20th century, to provide electricity for the Iron Ore Railway. The stately old power plant is now a museum, also housing the Porjus Expo. Porjus is still an active community, a rare occurrence for hydropower communities, which were often demolished after completion of the plant. There are many sights to see, for those interested in art or technology. By the monument Kraft ("Power"), lies a display of historical, industrial environments called Kraftbygggarland. Porjus is also home to a golf course, a picturesque wild game shop, and one of four entrances to the Laponia World Heritage Site. The community has around 240 residents.

STUOR MUORKKE / STORA SJÖFALLET

Once home to an amazing waterfall, of which there is now only minimal remains. Here, you can stay overnight, or stop for a meal, at the facility that remained when power plant construction had been completed.

RITJEM / RITSEM

Here, many people cross Stora Lulevatten, by boat or helicopter, to begin their mountain hike.

PLACES TO VISIT:

THE PORJUS PINE

At the top of the Porjusberget mountain stands what is thought to be one of Sweden's oldest pines, at about 700-800 years old, with an impressive circumference of 3.81 metres. Nice hiking trails and a beautiful view from its southern peak, where you can see the snow-clad peaks of the Sarek massif.

THE POWER STATION IN PORJUS

Pionjärverket is the Lule River's first hydropower plant and was built in 1910-1914. Photo exhibition and guided tours during summer.

THE LAPONIA ENTRANCE

An architect-designed building in Porjus that will resemble Skierfeklippan in Sarek. Don't miss the exhibition about Laponia's blue winter lights and northern lights. www.laponia.nu

PAKKO BRIDGE

Sweden's largest natural stone arch bridge for railway traffic. It came into being when the inland railroad was built between Jokkmokk and Porjus in 1916-1927. This wonderfully scenic place is popular with photographers.

MUDDUS NATIONALPARK

A national park that is perfect for hiking. Muttos/Muddus lies in the woodland, with a road reaching the border of the national park. Here you will find old-growth forests, mires, deep ravines and the beautiful Muddusfallet

waterfall. Hiking trails are well organised, clearly marked, and there are simple cabins for overnight stays along the way. www.laponia.nu

RALLARDALEN IN PORJUS

At Rallardalen, you will find a mini power plant for children, with a dam and waterways allowing them to playfully explore how water is turned into electricity.

LUSPEN BIRD WATCHING TOWER

The tower is located close to the river in the old community of Luspen, and from it you can spot many different species of aquatic and other birds.

APPOJAURE REST STOP

A scenic rest stop close to the river, with a fire pit and an outhouse. Old Sami hearth remains.

NATURUM LAPONIA

The gate to the World Heritage Site. The Naturum entrance to Laponia at Stuvor Muorkke/Stora Sjöfallet, is an inspiring source of knowledge. Learn more about its geology, flora and fauna, Sami culture, reindeer herding and the eight seasons. Every part of its interior, with their characteristic Sami design, carries a story. You will also find a café and a shop here. www.laponia.nu

RITSEM CHAPEL

A charming, old wooden chapel at the centre of the village Ritsem.

HIKING, KAYAKING AND FISHING



Photo: Charlotta Lemnartsdotter

Saltoluokta - easily accessible mountain environment in roadless country

The Lule River valley is perfect for outdoor activities such as hiking, fishing and canoe tours. Keep in mind that having the right equipment will make your journey that much more enjoyable. Bring a map and a compass, mosquito repellent, enough food, appropriate clothing, a water bottle and a cup. Go online for tips on equipment if you are uncertain, and remember to pack lightly. There are hikes lasting anywhere from hours to weeks, so be sure to read up before you head out.

In the Lule River valley, there are fishing opportunities on lakes both small and large, brooks, and of course on the Lule River itself. Regardless of whether you are an avid fly fisher or would like to troll from a boat, you have come to the right place. Remember that there is a multitude of different fishing licences, both those covering large areas, such as "Jokkmokskortet" for waters above the "Odlingsgränsen" line, but also licences for local waters, for which you may need to visit a facility, or someone's home to purchase, or purchase online through www.fiskekort.se. Many waters are also suitable for canoe trips. On large lakes, winds can quickly take a turn for the worse, so we do recommend that you stay close to shore. Each part of the river valley has its own specialties - visit the nearest tourism or local information office to learn more about local gems.

THE ARCTIC CIRCLE & THE MIDNIGHT SUN



Photo: Fredrik Bröman

Summer night north of the Arctic Circle.

The Arctic Circle marks the furthest distance from the North Pole at which the sun does not set on the day of the summer solstice, and does not rise on the day of the winter solstice. When travelling the road along the Lule River, route 97, you will pass the Arctic Circle near Vuollerim. Here you will find an information portal and a simple rest stop.

The summer solstice makes high summer an amazing season, with sunlight all of the hours of the day. Why not go swimming, kayaking or fishing in the light of the midnight sun. The term midnight sun literally means that you can still see the centre of the sun, even at midnight. In the days surrounding midsummer, you can also experience midnight sun a bit further down the coast, because of how Earth's atmosphere refracts the light. We have chosen to call this phenomenon midnight light. So, regardless of where you are in Swedish Lapland, you will experience bright, high summer nights.

CULINARY CULTURE AND UNIQUE INGREDIENTS

What are the flavours of the Lule River valley? The answer to this question is: amazing! Here in the north, we are spoiled with top quality ingredients from the coast, the mountains and the woodlands, and we know just how to prepare and refine nature's delicacies, with its pantry on our doorstep. Locally grown vegetables, wild game and fowl, fish caught in mountain rivers, berries, mushrooms and herbs. The clear air and clean water gives us high-grade ingredients, bursting with flavour. Good animal welfare, and meat provided by Sami communities and local Lule River valley farms, also means quality second to none. Many of the ingredients are part of Sami culture and tradition. Reindeer jerky is a must on your mountain hike. Suovas, lightly smoked reindeer roast, is true slow food, produced on a small scale through a traditional smoking process, in a Sami hut. Cured or smoked arctic char is a delicacy, preferably enjoyed with the Sami bread gáhkku, perfect for your backpack.

Local food inspirators are opening the eyes of more and more people to the ingredients that grow wild. Treat yourself to meals and delicacies rooted in nature's own pantry, produced with a focus on sustainability. As far away from processed foods as you will ever get. The midnight sun, and the many hours of sunlight that it brings, makes vegetables, berries and everything else that grows, especially flavourful and nutritious.

Look for local specialties on restaurant menus. Collect flavour memories. The best souvenir is one you can eat. Local grocery shops also offer locally produced treats. Buy something tasty to take home with you. Savour the flavour of the Lule River valley.

Gurpi - a Sami delicacy made of cold smoked, ground reindeer meat.



Photo: Carl-Johan Ulai

VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE TRACKS

There are places you do not normally visit. Maybe at first glance, there is nothing to see. Sometimes it is possible to sense subtle traces of societies that have completely disappeared, even though they were alive just a few decades ago. Harsprånget and Messaure are exactly such places. Modern societies were built there and then completely disappeared when another power plant in the Lule River was completed.

NJOAMMELSASSKAM / HARSPRÅNGET

Between the years 1945-1952, the Lule River's second hydropower plant, Harsprånget, was built. Next to the power plant construction, a community grew up, with, among other things, shops, Folkets hus, hospitals, a police station and leisure facilities. At most 2,000 people lived in Harsprånget. When the construction was completed, the whole community was dismantled. Today there is only one information board left. Take a walk along the path to the canyon-like Harsprångsfallet - one of all waterfalls that have fallen silent to supply Sweden with more electricity.

MESSÁVRRE / MESSAURE

Here, Vattenfall built another temporary community for about 3,000 people in connection with the construction of the dam and hydropower plant in Messaure. Today, only an information board remains where the lively square once stood. The impressive power plant dam became Vattenfall's largest dam construction. The filling material corresponds to four Cheops pyramids. Feel free to watch the movie "The Memory of Messaure" on Youtube before your visit. Messaure is one of Vattenfall's protected areas for biological diversity. The area is one of the country's richest habitats for bomb morels and several red-listed species of mushrooms, lichens and vascular plants. There are also several red-listed beetle species. The area is part of the EU network for valuable nature - Natura 2000.



Harsprånget's drained riverbed after the dam construction.



Photo: Anna Bergström



Photo: Carl-Johan Utsi



Photo: Jokkmokksguiderna

TOURIST INFORMATION AND SERVICE

BODENS TOURIST CENTER

+46 921-624 10
turistcenter@bodenturism.se

JOKKMOKK INFO CENTER

+46 971-222 50
infocenter@jokkmokk.se

LULEÅ TOURIST CENTER

+46 920-45 70 00
turistcenter@lulea.se

SERVICEPUNKTEN UNBYN

INFO POINT
+46 73-093 72 63
info@unek.se

SERVICEPUNKTEN HARADS

INFO POINT
+46 928-560 02
servicepunkten@edeforsbygden.se



Photo: Carl-Johan Utsi

IN SWEDISH LAPLAND

BODEN

EDEK
SEDFORSBYGGENS SK. FÖRENING

JOKKMOKK

READ MORE:

www.bodeninswedishlapland.se | www.jokkmokk.se/turism | www.visitlulea.se
SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE: #bodeninswedishlapland #jokkmokk #visitlulea