

LULEÅ

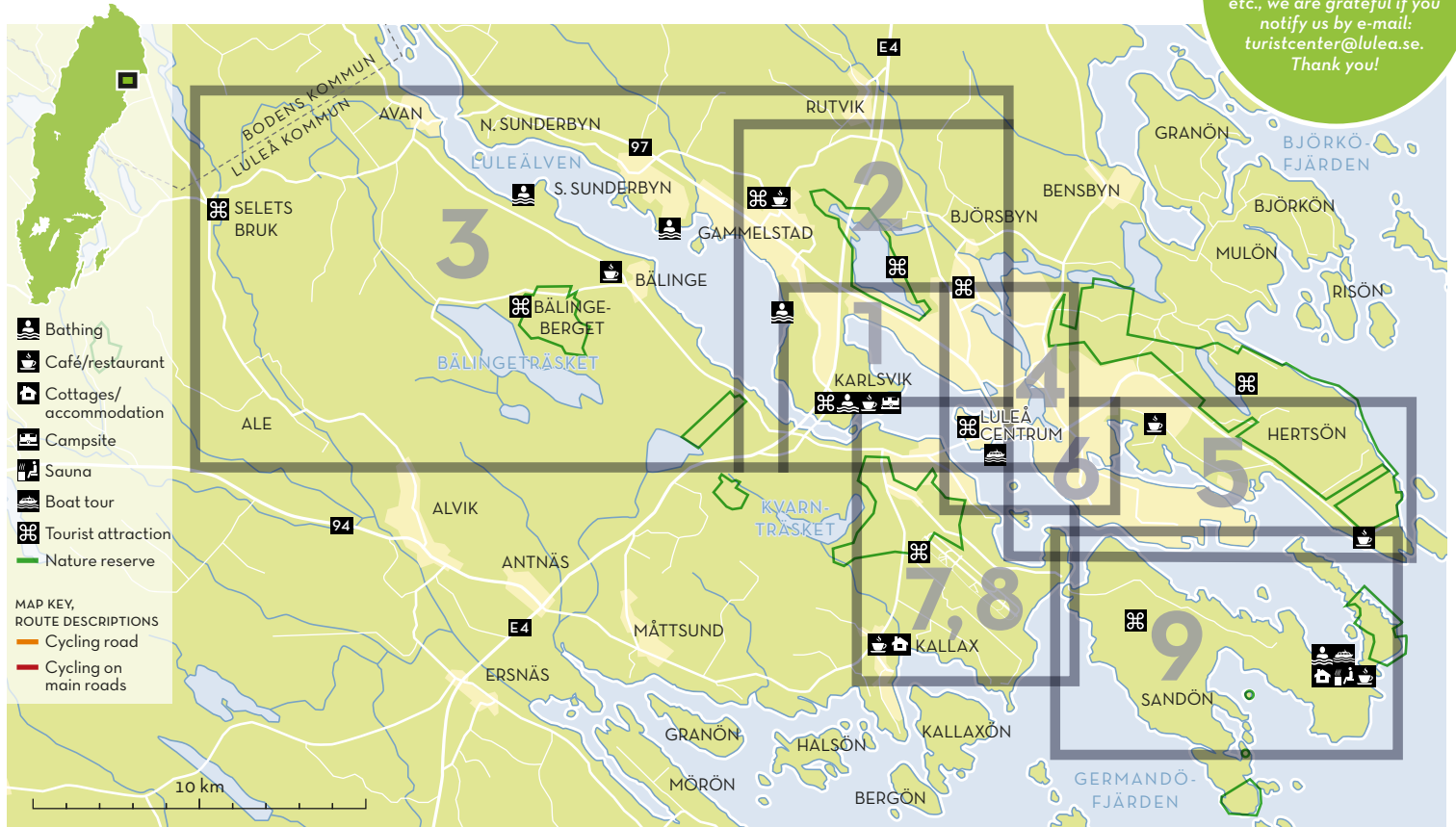
the destinations of
SWEDISH
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YOUR ARCTIC DESTINATION

Cycling in Luleå



DISCOVER LULEÅ BY BICYCLE

We care about our destinations. If you as a visitor see that a place needs repair, maintenance, etc., we are grateful if you notify us by e-mail: turistcenter@lulea.se. Thank you!



Experience Luleå on two wheels. Here you will find everything from simple routes to interesting destinations and day trips that require more time and experience. We are sure, however, that whatever your preferences, you will find a suitable route in this guide.

In Luleå, we cycle everywhere and all year round. In summer we take our bicycles no matter where we're going, no matter what time of day it is. The midnight light allows us to enjoy one of Sweden's best cycling cities 24 hours a day. As we leave the city, cycling roads turn into trails and we love navigating our beautiful surroundings on a bike. Even when the terrain gets rough or the snow and

slippery roads of winter make things more difficult, we saddle up. With studded tires and fatbikes, we get ahead – neither sea ice nor marshlands can stop a us. We cycle to work, we cycle for fun, we cycle for exercise and we cycle to discover. It's part of our everyday life here in Luleå. In order to let you participate in this fine culture, we want to share some of our best tips for those of you who wish to go cycling but might not know where to go. The aim of this guide is to let visitors and locals alike find joy in cycling around our city. Choose the type of bicycle that suits you best and go explore Luleå. If you don't have your own bike, there are several companies offering rental of various types of bikes. If you would like company and guidance, you can also hire a guide.

We welcome you to cycle in Luleå!

CYCLING ETIQUETTE

When cycling, you almost always have to adhere to the same rules as when driving a car. As a cyclist, you should cycle on cycle paths and if there is no cycle path you should keep to the side of the road. At pedestrian crossings, hop off and walk your bike across. If you cycle across a pedestrian crossing you have a duty to give way to both pedestrians and vehicles. Look carefully when crossing a busy main road, generally you have a duty to give way. Follow the routes in this guide at your own risk.

LAWS:

- Bicycle helmets are compulsory for everyone under the age of 15. You are recommended to always wear a helmet whilst cycling, regardless of age.
- Your bicycle must have a bell.
- Front and rear lights and reflectors must be mounted on your bicycle. A white front light and a red rear light (applies in darkness).
- Cycling on the pavement is prohibited.

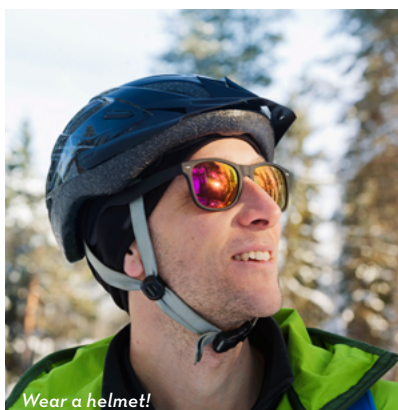


Photo: Susanne Lindholm

Wear a helmet!

TIPS

GOOD TO HAVE:

- Extra bicycle tyre inner tube and tyre lever.
- Pump or CO₂ cartridge.
- Repair kit.
- Multi-tool with hex key.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

- Check the brakes.
- Check tyre pressure.
- Check saddle height.
- Check that your handlebar is secured.

A CYCLING MAP with all cycle paths in Luleå is available to collect from the Luleå Tourist Center.

A BICYCLE PUMP can be found by the bus station at the Storgatan-Hermelinsgatan intersection.

TOUR BOATS

In summer and autumn, tour boats will take you to the largest and most popular islands in the Luleå archipelago: Sandön, Hindersön, Junkön, Kluntarna, Småskär and Brändöskär. This way you will also reach the Luleå Council cottages, Jopikgården on Hindersön and Klubbviken on Sandön. The tour boats depart from Luleå's South Harbour. Schedule and more information available online: lulea.se



Photo: Fredrik Bromar

Stella Marina will take you to Klubbviken.

1. TOUR OF THE BRIDGES • 15 km



This is a popular route that crosses the river twice, goes through Karlsvik where there's lots to see and finishes with cycling along Norra fjärden back to the city. You will be cycling on both cycle roads and main roads and there are cosy summer cafés for stops whenever you get tired.

Start by cycling across the Bergnäs Bridge, where you can follow cycle and forest paths until you reach Gäddvik and EFS Sundet ① about 5 km from central Luleå, beautifully located by the Lule River with a view of Niporna on the other side. This is a suitable place for a first stop. From EFS Sundet you must follow the road for a short distance before you reach the next bridge, the Gamla Gäddvik Bridge. If you've brought your own packed lunch you can stop and enjoy it by the small Salmon Fishing Museum ② found in a lovely location by the river. Once you reach the bridge you can cross it on a cycle path, we do recommend stopping to enjoy the view. Look downstream and you will see Gäddvik and Sundet to the right, a little to the left you can spot Gäddviksströmmen and the sandy beach at Niporna. Upstream, on the other side of the new bridge, lies Norra Gäddvik. Cycle across the bridge and follow the road for a while until you reach a sign for "First Camp/Karlsvik" - follow the sign. In the old mill town of Karlsvik there is an abundance of history. Luleå's first iron mill ③

was located here in the early 20th century. Today, not much is still left, but the remnants of the mill, the blast furnace and quays can be seen along the culture trail that starts next to First Camp. Managers' houses, rows of workers' homes and the old school, today form part of a beautiful residential area. There are a multitude of options for swimming: either at the Arcusbadet water park ④ or on a sandy beach - such as Niporna's impressive, steep sandy hills, or the beach adjacent to First Camp. You can also find your very own beach on the northern side of the cape. Snacks and food are available both at Arcusbadet and at Kolarens café ⑤ - a charming summer café housed in an old Norrbotten farm with a view of the river. In Karlsvik, Malmbanans vänner operate a railroad museum ⑥. Arcushallen ⑦ hosts exhibitions, sports and other events. Here you will also find basic mountain bike tracks ⑧ (read more under the mountain biking section). Fresh out of the water, with a belly full of food, you continue through Karlsvik towards the Storheden commercial district, turning right around Notviken and following the cycle path via Mjölkudden. Here you will also find a number of small beaches where you can take a break. The last leg of the route follows the road over Norra fjärden, taking you back into central Luleå.

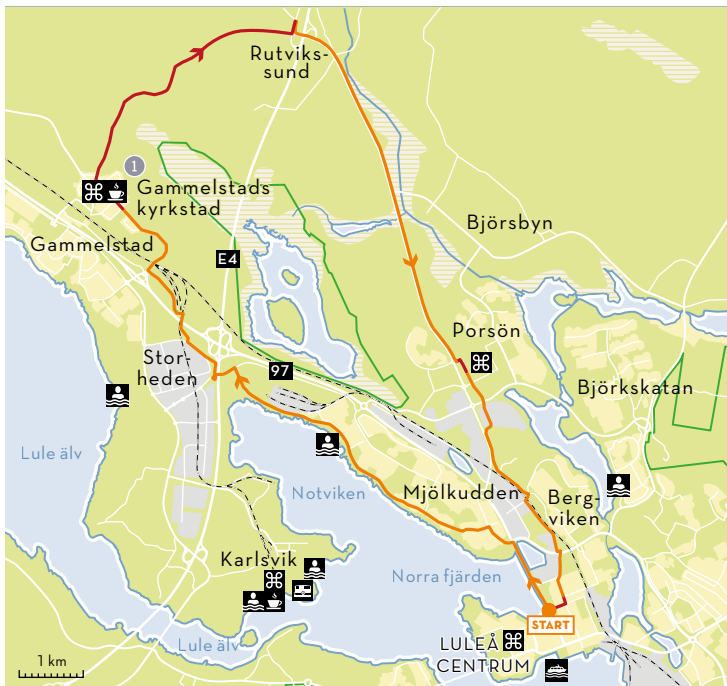
TIPS: On a nice day, it's great to round off your cycling trip at an outdoor restaurant by the North Harbour.

INFO: The Gäddvik Bridge was finished in 1941. Before then, the Bergnäset-Luleå ferry was the only connection across the river, when it was ice free. The Bergnäs Bridge opened in 1945. At the time, the bridge, spanning 896.5 metres, was the longest in Sweden. It has a headroom of 7.3 metres when closed. The road is only 7 metres wide but separate walking and cycling paths, 3 metres wide, are found on both sides. In 1978, the New Gäddvik Bridge was built, as part of Route E4. More about Karlsvik: karlsvik.se The Railroad Museum: nbjvm.se



Niporna, one of several nice beaches in Karlsvik.

2. THE GAMMELSTAD CHURCH TOWN WORLD HERITAGE • 25 km



Combine exercise and history. Cycle out to Gammelstad Church Town and get a glimpse of Luleå's history.

Gammelstad is home to Sweden's largest and best preserved church town with more than 400 church cottages. The unique size of the church town and the fact that people still visit their church cottages to stay overnight during church weekends, contributed to the church town being listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996.

Cycle out of the city, north, crossing the road and follow the cycle path along the river until you reach Storheden. Once you have reached Storheden, turn onto the cycle bridge across Storhedsvägen and continue along the cycle path until the next exit to the right. Cycle through the Tuvåkra industrial area until you reach the bridge



Gamla Hamngatan in Gammelstad Church Town.

over the railroad tracks. Turn right, cycle across the bridge and you will soon reach the church town. In the church town square you will locate the Visitor Center where you can find all the information you need about the world heritage site. In the same building, if you are feeling a bit peckish, you might like to drop into Ulla's Café. Where the harbour was once located is now the Open-air museum Hägnan ①. There, you can get a glimpse of what life was like in the coastal villages of Norrbotten in the 19th century. The museum has buildings ranging in age from the 18th to the 20th century. Throughout the year, the museum offers an array of activities for all ages. Here you will find Kafé Fägnan, in the summer offering lunches, homemade bread and pastries. The route then continues towards Rutvik, following the signs for 'E4 Haparanda' from the church town square. Now you will be following the road for about 4 kilometres. Just before the overpass across the E4 you turn left towards Rutvik, leaving the road and continuing along the cycle path. Make a U-turn over to the cycle path that will take you all the way to Porsön. Now go past the university campus and continue along cycle paths marked "Porsösträket" back to central Luleå.

TIPS: Go on a guided tour of the church town. Tours start at the Visitor Center in the church town square. For tour schedule and more information, please visit: visitgammelstad.se

INFO: The Nederluleå Church was built in medieval times and was opened, according to tradition, by Archbishop Jakob Ulfsson in 1492. A trading site and marketplace grew around the church, eventually becoming the city of Luleå. Land uplift made the harbour too shallow and in the 17th century the city was moved to its current location. The church cottages were built by farmers in the villages that were more than 10 kilometres away from the church. People stayed overnight for church visits, parish council meetings and markets.

3. THE RURAL ROUTE, SELETS BRUK • 50 km

The destination of this route is Selets bruk (the Selet Mill), an iron mill district from the 19th century that is now a nature reserve. Plan a whole day on the bicycle and give yourself time to experience nature, culture and country life. Pack a hearty lunch and bring an extra inner tube and a pump.

Cycle across the Bergnäs Bridge and through Bergnäs and Gäddvik. Then keep going towards the Gäddvik Bridge. Before the bridge you will reach the boathouse where the little Salmon Fishing Museum is located 1. At the intersection up ahead you need to be careful! You will be crossing a 4-lane road south of the Gäddvik Bridge and then you will be out in the idyllic countryside, on a road known as Route 616. This is a scenic route stretching 33 kilometres along the south side of the Lule River between Luleå and Boden. It begins at the Gäddvik Bridge in Luleå and leads to the Dam Bridge near Boden. Here you will see farmland and cultural environments shaped by human hands throughout the centuries. Along the route you will find nature reserves, farms and a wilderness centre, Cape Wild 2. Prebooked visitors can, among many other things, meet elks and reindeer. At the farm in Bälinge 3 you can experience a real Swedish farm, buy locally produced items, enjoy fika or food in the restaurant and watch the cows being milked.

One of the nature reserves is Selets bruk, suitable for a longer stop, maybe to grill the sausage you bought at the farm in Bälinge. Selets bruk is a scenic area with many campfire sites, a lovely natural environment and history dating back to the 18th century. When it is time to continue you cycle towards the Avan ferry station and take the ferry over to Norra Sunderbyn. Follow the cycle path marked "Sunderbystråket" along the river, through Södra Sunderbyn, Gammelstad and onward to Mjölkudden and finally the city centre.



Photo: Helena Holm



Young and old discovering the old mill town.

TIPS: Route 616 has a Facebook page with information about farm shops, cafés and more. [facebook.com/rutt616](https://www.facebook.com/rutt616).

The Bälinge farm is an organic farm with their own farm shop specialising in local, environmentally friendly items. You can meet the animals on the farm and old country breeds such as Lapland Goats, Linderöd Pigs, Nordland Horses, Hålsinge Sheep and Bjurholm Chickens. [facebook.com/bondgardenbalinge](https://www.facebook.com/bondgardenbalinge)

Cape Wild is a wilderness center and game enclosure with moose and reindeer. In the souvenir shop there is the opportunity to buy local and natural souvenirs. [capewild.se](https://www.capewild.se)

INFO: The Selet Mill produced primarily pig iron and wrought iron, but also nails, hinges, stovetops and separators. The mill had its glory days in the 1870's and in 1878 the Selet Mill was the largest industry and employer in all of Norrbotten County. Today, the mill is a scenic nature reserve and a very popular place to visit. Here you will find information, walking paths, rest stops, toilets and rubbish bins.

4. TOUR OF FJÄRDARNA • 12 km

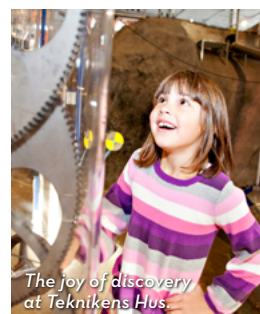
If you wish to go for a lighter cycling trip and stay close to the city centre you can cycle around Skurholmsfjärden and Björkskatafjärden. The cycling is easy and follows a cycle path.

Start at the train station and cycle across the railroad overpass, just after the bridge you turn right onto a gravel road with Malmudden to your right and Skurholmsfjärden to your left. Follow the water until you get up onto a bridge and keep left after this bridge. Cycle through the residential area and you will reach a park by the water. Follow the water until you reach another bridge, turn right and you will have the Lulsund Channel 1 to your right. Keep going under the road and turn right. On a hot day you can cool down with a swim at Lulsundsbadet. Then continue via Lulsundet towards Björkskatan. By the Björkskatan hills, turn left and cross another bridge, you will now be at Porsön. Cycle through the residential area ahead of you, turn left in between the houses and cycle down the hill under an overpass. The Porsö IP football pitch, Luleå University of Technology and Teknikens Hus 2 are now to your right. Turn left under the road and continue through the industrial area until you reach Björkskatafjärden again. Keep following the cycle path near the water. You will pass a small beach, then the Luleå Kayaking Association and then you will know where you are, back at the same place you passed on your way from Skurholmsfjärden. Cycle under the road again and keep right. On your right you will now have the Golfängen mini golf course. Continue alongside the water to Östermalm, cross the railroad tracks after the wildfowl pond and you will soon be back where you started.

Photo: Susanne Lindholm



The Skurholmsfjärden waterfront was renovated in 2017.



The joy of discovery at Teknikens Hus.



What really happens inside a blast furnace?

Photo: Jennie Pettersson

Photo: Jennie Pettersson

TIPS: Take the opportunity to visit Teknikens Hus - Luleå Science Center adjacent to the university campus. Teknikens Hus also has a restaurant, café and shop. Read more: [teknikenshus.se](https://www.teknikenshus.se). On the other side of the square you will find Unik café, offering lunch courses, snacks and coffee to go. [unikcafe.se](https://www.unikcafe.se)

INFO: Luleå University of Technology is Scandinavia's northernmost technological university. It was established on July 1, 1971, under the name Högskoleenheten i Luleå (the Luleå Higher Education Unit). It was then promoted to a university in 1997 and received its current name. LTU has approximately 19,000 students and 1,800 employees.

5. ALLOTMENT GARDENS AND A TASTE OF THE SEA • 20 km



Photo: Markus Späster

If you are looking for a longer route offering light cycling we recommend a trip to Lövsjärn, with the Lövsjärn Harbour, the gate to the Luleå archipelago, as the final destination. Among other things, you will cycle past the lush oasis Hertsö allotment gardens.

Start at the train station and cycle over the bridge across the railroad tracks. Turn left immediately after crossing the bridge, onto the cycle path that goes through Malmudden and follow the water until the path takes you onto the road. Turn left over the next bridge, keep left on the road until you reach a pedestrian crossing, cross the road and keep right until you reach a tunnel under the road. Cycle through the tunnel and turn right on the other side. Just before the large roundabout, follow the cycle path to the left. You will pass a healthcare centre and ride through a couple of residential areas until the cycle path turns right under the road. On the other side you will see the Örnäset Cemetery. Follow the cycle path to the right, north of the cemetery, cycle along the north side of the cemetery until you reach Gamla Lövsjärsvägen. You are now at the Hertsön residential area. South of Hertsön you will find allotments ① and the Hertsö Organic Farm (Miljögård). Pause for fika and enjoy the beautiful surroundings. Fire pits are available in the allotment garden area. The allotment gardens are private, so ask for permission if you want to take a closer look at someone's lot.

After this visit, you continue towards Lövsjärn. Keep cycling along Gamla Lövsjärsvägen until you reach a crossroads. There, you turn left up onto the main

road, you will pass the Emergency Services' training area and when you reach the next large road (Lövsjärsvägen) you cross it and turn right up onto the cycle path that runs along the left side of the road. This route is marked with upside down trees. There are several rest stops where you can pause. After about 5 kilometres you will arrive at the Lövsjärn Harbour, you will have to cross the road and turn right. At the harbour, you can look out at the archipelago, with the island, Altappen straight ahead. Here you will also find the summer restaurant Hamnköket where you can order good food and drinks.

INFO: The Lövsjärn Harbour is one of the largest small boat harbours in Luleå and the home port of most professional fishermen. There was a saw mill and a rolling mill on Altappen in the 19th century. At its peak, about 800 people lived here. In 1908, the whole community burned down and the island was evacuated. The industry was never rebuilt.

On the other side of the island you will find another small boat harbour, Hindersöstallarna. The residents of Hindersön used to come here by horse and sleigh in winter, the horses were then left to rest in the stables whilst the owners took the bus into the city. Now, there is a snowmobile garage here and in winter, the ice roads out into the archipelago begin here at "Stallarna".

6. SVARTÖSTADEN AND THE ICEBREAKERS • 12 km



This route is an easy one where you cycle around the city peninsula, part of the Örnäset residential area with its skatepark and the old workers' residential area of Svartöstadén, originally built to house the dockworkers of the old ore harbour. The old ore harbour is now the home port of the Swedish Maritime Administration's icebreakers.

Start at the train station and cycle across the bridge over the railway tracks. Turn left immediately after crossing the bridge, onto a cycle path going through Malmudden and follow the water. When you reach the road, turn left and cross another bridge. Follow the road for about 100 metres until you reach a pedestrian crossing, cross the road and continue on the right side of the road until you reach a tunnel going under the road. Cycle through the tunnel and turn right on the other side, continue through the roundabout and onto the cycle path on the other side. Soon, you will have Luleå's skatepark "Steel Park" ① to your left. The Steel Park was designed by Janne Saario, who found inspiration from the nearby SSAB steel mill, amongst other places. Its design reflects its surroundings and the history of the area, with the steel mill in the background. Continue along the cycle path going past the skatepark and once you reach the road you go through the tunnel under the road, over to the other side where the cycle path continues. Turn left after the tunnel, going up a hill onto the bridge

over the railroad tracks. Now might be a good time to pause on the bridge and if you look down you might see trains transporting large blocks of steel, so called slabs, that are shipped to SSAB in Borlänge. To your left you will see parts of the SSAB industrial area ②, closest to you is the blast furnace that is fed with coke and ore, which is then melted to liquid iron. Once you have caught your breath it's time to continue. Cycle down the hill and cross the road, to your right you will have a building with a sign saying "Friskvårdscentrum", pass it and turn right onto Bältesgatan. You are now in Svartöstadén, take some time to stop and look at the old wooden houses found here. From Bältesgatan, turn left onto Laxgatan and at the end of that street, turn right onto Båthamngatan, then continue down to the water. You will now have the fairway leading into Luleå - and out into the archipelago and the rest of the world - right in front of you. Here you will also find a small beach if you feel like taking a break. Then continue to Kajgatan and onto Sjöfartsgatan, down the hill and on to the old ore storage hall. From here, you can now see the icebreakers in all their glory ③. Go past them and continue along the road until you reach an intersection. Keep going straight ahead until you reach a pedestrian crossing, cross it and you will soon have the South Harbour to your left. Follow the water's edge all the way around the peninsula. You will cycle under the Bergnäs Bridge and after that you follow the cycle path until it turns left, keep going until it reaches a small section of forest, meaning you have arrived at Gultauudden. Here you will find a nice bathing beach and a picnic area. In the 19th century, this was the location of a large shipyard, founded by Christian Gultau in 1830. There also used to be a saw mill, a smokehouse, a restaurant and a cold bath here. Maybe you will stay here and swim for the rest of the day, or you can continue around the cape and pass the North Harbour on the way back.



Photo: Helena Hölm

TIPS: The tour boats to the Luleå archipelago depart from the South Harbour. How about planning a trip to Luleå's amazing archipelago? Timetables and information can be found on the quay and online at lulea.se/skargard

INFO: The Steel Park in Luleå is Sweden's northernmost concrete park for skateboarding, BMX cycling and more. The park is suitable for both beginners and more experienced riders alike. The park is open around the clock during the summer months. SSAB have contributed iron and steel constructions, everything from H-beams serving as lighting installations, to a gigantic "bucket" used for transporting liquid steel. The Swedish Maritime Administration is responsible for icebreaking in Sweden. Five of Sweden's eight state-owned icebreakers (Ale, Atle, Frej, Oden and Ymer) have been stationed in Luleå since 2003. Oden, however, is often rented out to polar research expeditions. The ice breaking season normally lasts from January until May.

7. KALLAX BY, GÅRDSBUTIKEN AND KALLAXHEDEN • 18 km

Kallax by and Kallax gårdsbutik (farm shop) are the destinations of this route. Leave the city for a while, take a trip into the countryside and enjoy fika at the Kallax farm shop. Kallax is out in the countryside, yet still close to the city.

Cycle over the Bergnäs Bridge on the left side. Once you have crossed the bridge, turn left onto Östra Villavägen, follow it until the Solnavägen/Trollnäsavägen intersection where you cycle up on Granuddsvägen. Follow Granuddsvägen for about 500 metres and turn right towards Trolltjärn, a popular bathing lake where the water gets warm earlier than most other lakes. Follow the road around the bend, you will have Trolltjärn on your right-hand side, and just before the car park you will see a cycling trail in the forest on the other side. The cycling trail will take you through the forest which is in the Kallaxheden Nature Reserve ① and after about one kilometre you will pass through a tunnel under the road to Luleå Airport. On the other side of the tunnel the cycling trail splits, keep right and after a while you will have the airport runway on



your left-hand side. Follow the cycling trail until an old road crosses it and then follow that to the right until you reach the cycling road which follows the car road to Kallax (Kallaxvägen). Once you reach Kallaxvägen you can either turn left and cycle straight to Kallax by or turn left at the intersection and make a detour to the F21 Air Wing and the Aviation Museum. If you have an all-terrain bike there are many forest trails good for cycling ②. Once you arrive in Kallax you will have the Kallax gårdsbutik on your left side, as you enter the village. There, you can enjoy homemade pastries and sandwiches and also look at items both new and antique in their shop.

When you cycle back you can continue on the cycling road until you reach a tunnel that goes under the main road, keep going straight ahead and into the industrial area. Follow Norrsågsvägen until it ends and you reach a cycling road. The cycling road continues a short distance and then you have to get back onto the main road for about 200 m. At the pizzeria, on your right hand side you turn back onto the cycling road, which will take you across the Bergnäs Bridge and back to the city.

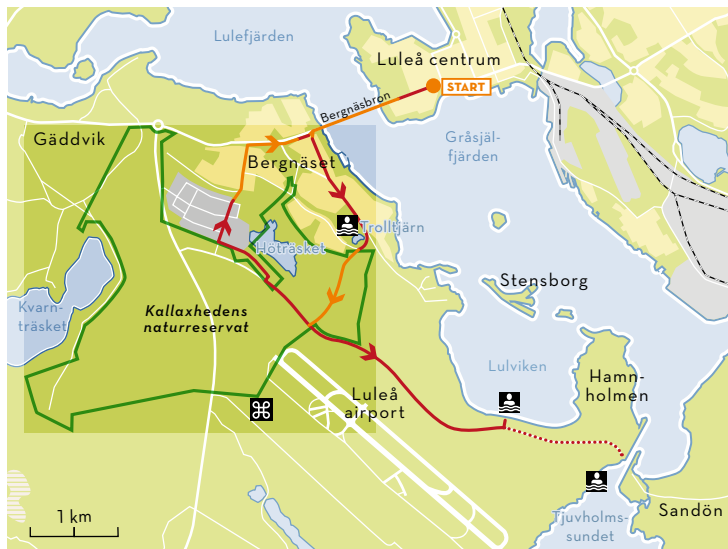


On soft trails across Kallaxheden.

TIPS: Along the way you will pass the exit to the F21 Air Wing, where there is an aviation museum well worth a visit. flygmuseetf21.se

INFO: Opening hours of the farm shop: kallaxgardsbbutik.se. Kallax by lies by the sea and has a small boat harbour as well as a harbour for professional fishermen. From the harbour you can see Kallaxön and Bergön and south of the village there are many summer cottages and holiday homes. Kallviken and Jaktviken have been classic summer destinations since the 19th century. In Kallax they make their own surströmming (fermented Baltic herring) called "Grand Kallax" and every year at the surströmming premiere, a grand feast is held with many Swedish celebrities attending. In 2017, Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Löfven was one such guest.

8. GOING FOR A SWIM IN LULVIKEN • 12 km



There are many beaches in and around Luleå. If you have tried all that are within walking distance of the city you might want to hop on your bicycle and widen your horizon.

Pack a lunch for a day on the beach and pedal away. Lulviken is a bathing beach popular amongst the locals and it is well worth a visit. From the beach you can see the ice breakers and the Ore Harbour on the other side. Part of the beach is designated for naturist bathing. Cycle across the Bergnäs Bridge on the left side. Once you have crossed the bridge, turn left onto Östra Villavägen, follow it until the Solnavägen/Trollnäsavägen intersection where you cycle up onto Granuddsvägen. Follow Granuddsvägen for about 500 metres and turn right towards Trolltjärn, a popular bathing lake where the water gets warm earlier than most other lakes. Follow the road around the bend, you will have Trolltjärn on your right-hand side, and just before the car park you will see a cycling trail in the forest on the other side. The cycling trail will take you through the forest which is in the Kallaxheden Nature Reserve and after about one kilometre you will pass through a tunnel under the road to Luleå Airport. Here you have to turn up and keep cycling along the main road. Go past the airport

(on your right), continue for about 1 km and you will have Lulviken to your left. If you feel like cycling a little further you can continue along the road for another 2 km. You will then reach the end of the road, Tjuvholmssundet and the Luleå archipelago. Straight ahead, you can see Sandön, the closest and largest island in the archipelago. To your right is a small beach where you can go swimming or sit and watch ships passing by. On your way back you can follow Lulviksvägen for about 3 km, turn right onto Nordkalottvägen and follow that until you reach Norrsågsvägen. The cycling road continues a short distance and then you have to get back onto the main road for about 200 m. At the pizzeria on your right-hand side you turn back onto the cycling road, which will take you across the Bergnäs Bridge and back to the city.



A day on the beach...

TIPS: The Sandön-route starts at Tjuvholmssundet. If you have borrowed the key for the council rowboat you can take your bikes onboard, row over to Sandön and continue your journey from there (see nr. 9 Adventures on Sandön).

INFO: Tjuvholmssundet used to be the main fairway into Luleå. It has been straightened out and dredged numerous times from the late 18th century up until 1945. Iron ore from the mines up north was shipped out on ever larger ships and Tjuvholmssundet finally became too narrow, despite dredging. This necessitated the construction of a completely new fairway. Consequently, a canal was built at Klubbviken in the 1960's. Before then, Likskär was part of Sandön, but it subsequently became a separate island.

9. ARCHIPELAGO ADVENTURES ON SANDÖN • 25 km/5 km



Sandön offers endless opportunities for cycling. With a fatbike you can cycle both on the beaches and in the woods. It's a really fun experience – give it a try if you have the opportunity! Plan for a full day or two in the archipelago.

ALT. 1, TJUVHOLMSSUNDET – KLUBBVIKEN ROUND TRIP: Pack a lunch and plan for a long cycling trip. This is the route to choose if you wish to cycle for slightly longer and row across Tjuvholmssundet. If you follow the map and the description you will be cycling on the island's main roads, with a wealth of opportunities for adventure on detours along various forest trails. You are never far away from the main road. To cross Tjuvholmssundet you need to borrow the key for one of the council rowboats, which you can do at the Tourist Center. Leave a boat on either side of the sound. Once you are across, follow the gravel road and start pedalling. Pass a power line corridor, turn right and you will reach Lappmyrberget and Stenåkern. Get off your bike and take a short walk down to Stenåkern, Sandön's largest shingle field. Here you will also find a crossroads where you can choose whether you want to follow a longer or shorter route. If you keep going straight ahead you will have a shorter route and if you wish to cycle longer, take the road to the right. If you choose the longer route it will split a number of times, keep left until the road turns right. You

will have the sea and a large house in front of you when the road turns. If you choose the shorter route at Lappmyrberget, you will pass a simple rest cabin ① to the right of the forest road. Stay on the same road until you reach buildings in the form of larger houses, Sandögårdarna, with the sea below. Follow the road as it turns right. Regardless of which route you chose you will now have the sea to your left and you are to follow the road until you reach Klubbviken. As you near your destination you will see signs for Klubbviken. You can choose to follow them and go through the forest to arrive behind Klubbviken, or you can turn left when you see the beach and the restaurant building. Time to rest. Hang out on the beach and eat your packed lunch or buy something to eat and drink in the Klubbviken restaurant (open during the summer season). Going back, you will first follow the road on which you came. At Sandögårdarna, keep going straight ahead. Turn left at the next intersection and follow the road until you are back at Tjuvholmssundet.

ALT. 2, SANDÖKLUBBEN

Pack swimwear, sunscreen and a picnic lunch or eat at the Klubbviken restaurant (open during the summer season). This route is suitable for those of you looking to have fun on your bicycles, riding off-road on forest trails and beaches. For a small fee you can bring your bicycle on the tour boat from Södra hamnplan. Check availability: laponia.se. Hop off at the Klubbviken sea bath and choose between following the waterline around the cape or start by exploring the various trails that will take you to the other side. There is a lot to explore here! For this route, fatbikes are preferred as there are many sandy sections.



On a fatbike, you can go anywhere on Sandön.

TIPS: If you don't have a fatbike, you can make it work with a mountain bike, cyclocross or any other bicycle with slightly wider tires. It is possible to cycle on the island by following the main (gravel) roads. Visit lulea.se has current information on bicycle rentals and guided tours.

INFO: Sandön is the largest island in the Luleå archipelago at 26 square kilometres and as its name will tell you, it consists mostly of sand. There are of course other environments on this huge island in the Luleå archipelago. The mighty Stenåkern, a 1,400 metre long and 300 metre wide shingle field, is found on the island's mountain, Lappmyrberget. Do not cycle over reindeer lichen or peat moss. They grow very slowly and if damaged they take many years to recover.

10. MOUNTAINBIKE TRAILS



If you are a fan of mountain biking, head out to Ormberget or Karlsvik where signed trails will take you out into the terrain. Choose between trails of varying length and difficulty.

On Ormberget you will find the bike trails Skogsfrun and Hagadalsleden, marked with arrows. They start and finish by the disc golf course along Bodbergsvägen (Gamla Hagaviksvägen). The trails vary between cycling on gravel roads, running trails and paths. About 1 km of the Hagadalsleden trail is more technically demanding. Ormberget also has Snoken, a downhill track. The trails in Karlsvik are called Bruksleden, Malmliden and Slipledén and also marked with arrows. They start and finish on the west end of the Arcushallen car park. All three trails follow rolling forest trails and are suitable for beginners. At the top of Ormbergsbacken you will find a lunch restaurant and in Karlsvik there are several bathing beaches, a water park, summer café, railroad museum and more. See route 1 "Tour of the Bridges".



TIPS: The Måttsund ski slope 10 km south of Luleå has three downhill tracks. The ski lift is not in operation, you will have to walk up – a great workout. Contact Cykelstallet or Luleå terrängcyklister for more information. cykelstallet.com luleaterrangcyklister.com visitlulea.se



11. THE ART ROUTE



Experience Luleå's public art from the bike. You get a wonderful tour around central Luleå. You can pick up a map and start from at The art gallery's reception or at Luleå Tourist Center in Kulturens hus.

Photo: Fredrik Broman

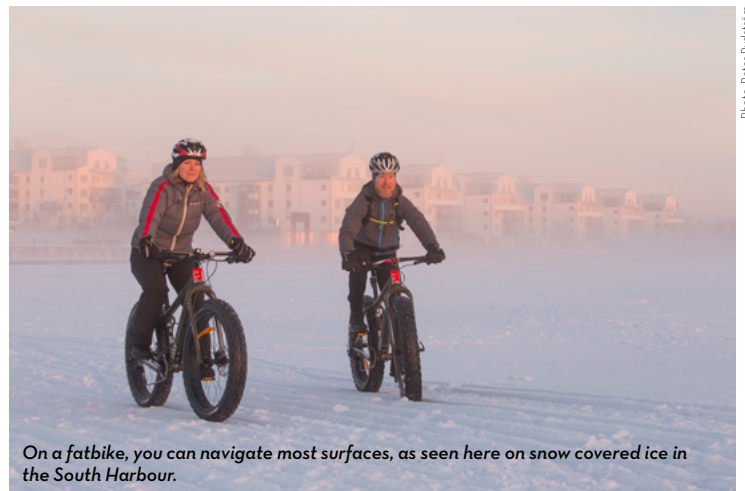


This work is called Silverträdet, but where is it located?

WINTER CYCLING

THE ICE TRACK, CENTRAL LULEÅ Every year, Luleå Council prepares an ice track that surrounds the city peninsula, from harbour to harbour with detours to Mjölkudden and Bergnäset. Its size varies slightly from year to year, depending on weather and ice quality. Here you can also travel on skates, skis, by kicksled or on foot. The total length is approximately 10 km and offers cycling with no difficulties. It is easy to reach the ice track as it is found in central Luleå and you can begin and end your journey at four different locations on the city peninsula: the South Harbour, Oskarsvarv, Hålsans Hus and the North Harbour. Along the track there are several rest stops and campfire sites where you can stop to enjoy a picnic. If you start at the South Harbour, you go out onto the ice track by the large harbour crane. Looking south, you can see the island of Gråsjälören a couple of hundred metres out. There, you will find toilets and campfire sites. If you're visiting during the weekend, you will find fika, snacks, pastries and beverages for sale. If the flag is hoisted, it's open. The Lions Club sells sandwiches, hot dogs, waffles and coffee and it is a popular place amongst the locals. The ice track continues underneath the Bergnäs Bridge and around Gultzauden to the North Harbour.

CYCLING ON ICE ROADS IN THE LULEÅ ARCHIPELAGO For those of you who wish to cycle a longer distance out on the ice, you can cycle on one of the ice roads in the Luleå archipelago, that, depending on the quality of the ice, will be open for cars every winter. Ice roads are prepared to the islands of Hindersön, Storbrändön, Sandön and Junkön. On the islands Kluntarna, Smäskär and Brändöskär däremot, you will find cottages available for hire all year round. Contact the Luleå Tourist Center or one of the local guiding companies for more information on the ice roads. The guiding companies can also, under the right weather conditions, offer you winter adventures beyond the ice roads. For information about the ice roads and the cottages on the islands: lulea.se



On a fatbike, you can navigate most surfaces, as seen here on snow covered ice in the South Harbour.



A cycling trip on sea ice in the midwinter sun is an unforgettable experience.



Many locals cycle all year round.

Photo: Peter Dystrom

Photo: Peter Dystrom

Photo: Susanne Lindholm

THE RIGHT OF PUBLIC ACCESS

DO NOT DISTURB, DO NOT DAMAGE In Sweden, we are allowed to move freely in our natural environments. We are allowed to pick flowers, berries, and mushrooms. We are allowed to bathe, pitch tents, hike, cycle, travel by boat, set up campfires and do all other things that are part of outdoor living. The right of public access (Allemansrätten) is a privilege and a freedom that relies upon us being careful and treating our natural surroundings with respect. Causing harm to animals, plants or the environment is prohibited and we must treat landowners and other people who are enjoying our great outdoors with respect.

SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS Naturally, you may not pick protected plant species. Nature reserves and national parks often have special restrictions which limit the right of public access. There may also be regulations governing, for instance speed limits, water skiing and leashing of dogs. Motorised vehicles may not be used on bare ground, off-road.

BIRD PROTECTION AREAS In the archipelago there are bird protection areas where disembarkation is prohibited during part of the year, normally between May 1 and August 1.

FISHING The sea is open to fishing but there are rules on how, when and what you are allowed to fish. Lakes and rivers require fishing licenses.



Feel free to pick wild strawberries and other berries.



Red-throated Diver and its chick.

READ MORE:

Nature reserves: lansstyrelsen.se

The right of public access: naturvardsverket.se

Fishing rules: fiskekort.se

LULEÅ - A CYCLING CITY

Luleå has plenty of cycling routes along the river and its inlets.



CYCLING FRIENDLY Luleå is considered one of the ten most cycling friendly places in all of Sweden. When it comes to traditional, urban cycling there is a well-developed network of routes that will take you around the city and to most places you might want to visit. The city has about 170 km of cycling routes. Luleå is also a part of the network, Svenska Cykelstäder (Swedish Cycling Cities), a network working to promote cycling in Swedish cities and towns. Here, we would like to give you inspiration on where to cycle and show you nice places to visit, both near and a bit farther away. We recommend a visit to the Luleå Tourist Center, they can provide you with even more tips and advice. There, you can also pick up the Luleå Cycling Map that will show you all the cycling routes in the city. A cycle pump can be found at the Storgatan-Hermelinsgatan intersection and it is naturally free to use.

FATBIKE Luleå is known as a paradise for fatbike enthusiasts. The fatbike is an all-terrain bicycle with extremely wide tyres that allow it to easily navigate rough terrain. A mire or a large stone field is no match for a fatbike.

MOUNTAIN BIKE Tracks for off-road cycling are found on Ormberget, in Karlsvik and in Måttund. There are trails for both beginners and experienced cyclists alike.



Tips on more experiences and sights in Luleå can be found in our guides and on our website.

You can pick up the guides at our tourist information offices and infopoints. Pdfs for download at visitlulea.se.

GUIDED TOURS & BICYCLE RENTALS

Information on companies that offer guided tours and equipment rental can be found at visitlulea.se

TOURIST INFORMATION

LULEÅ TOURIST CENTER

Kulturens Hus
+46(0)920-45 70 00
turistcenter@lulea.se

GAMMELSTADS VISITOR CENTER

Kyrkorget 1
+46(0)920-45 70 10
gammelstad@lulea.se

INFOPOINTS are available at a number of places in Luleå and the surrounding area. For more information, see visitlulea.se

We strive to inspire and give you as current tips as possible about things to see and do during your stay, but since our world is constantly changing, we reserve the right to make information in this guide obsolete. The guide is a complement to visitlulea.se.

READ MORE ABOUT LULEÅ:
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