

SORSELE  
GARGNÄS  
AMMARNÄS

the destinations of  
SWEDISH  
LAPLAND  
YOUR ARCTIC DESTINATION

summer/autumn 

## FOLLOW THE TRAILS

Hiking in Vindelfjällen nature reserve

*A paradise  
for fishing*

A water and a fish for everyone

**Soft  
adventures**

IN FORESTS, STREAMS AND  
MOUNTAINS

*Try  
the local  
kitchen*  
HEARTY FOOD  
AND FINE DINING



*The Ephemera Vulgata or the common mayfly in Lake Svergoträsket. A symbol of the special fishing found in the destination.*



# Share our love of nature

NOT MANY THINGS DEFINE THIS PLACE more than the unconditional love for nature. In fact, the love of nature is probably why many of us once moved here. Following the changing of the seasons makes life a little richer, more sustainable and less stressful. That's probably why we are warm and welcoming. We want you to feel as good as we do.

More than half of the natural world here is protected, all because of its high value. And "high value" when it comes to nature doesn't mean that it is beautiful – even though it is. No, it means that it is rare, unique and worth protecting for future generations.

Even if the nature here in many ways is untouched and unspoilt, we rather not call it wilderness. People have lived here for six thousand years, and every hilltop, lake and mire has a name. It is brimming with history.

There's a season here for everyone, as well as a terrain for everyone. In the west there are the mountains and alpine areas. In the east there are woods, picturesque villages and green, cultivated lands. The mountains here are accessible. Easy to reach and comfortable for hiking. The forests are exciting, deep and old. And the land is veined by the rivers, streams and creeks, so clear and fresh you could drink from them.

The Vindel River, one of the four national rivers in the country, runs from the alpine area close to the Norwegian border down through the entire destination. There are however three rivers here, together with the Vindel River there are also Juktån and the Lais River. In fact, if all of the water here was divided between all of us who live here, everyone would have 1,400 meters each. It's not hard to imagine why the fishing here is considered to be world class.

The Sami presence and identity is important. There are several producers of Sami food, crafts, experiences and culture. In the Sami year there are eight different seasons. Maybe, for us, it is enough that there's a season for everything – and that the best time for momentous experiences is now, beneath the shining sun and in the bright summer night.

Maybe you are here to experience the breathtaking nature and the exciting culture. We, however, think that you will be coming back to experience our hospitality once again.

# How to explore best

## HEADING INTO VINDEFJÄLLEN NATURE RESERVE

THE VINDEFJÄLLEN NATURE RESERVE IS a unique part of the mountain range in northern Sweden, and one of the largest protected areas in Europe – twice the size of Luxembourg! The landscape was once sculpted by the inland ice sheets, and has glaciers and alpine peaks over 1,700 meters above sea level, as well as green valleys no more than 600 meters above sea level. The varied landscape makes it the perfect place for unusual and threatened species of both the plant and animal worlds to thrive. Lots of research is going on in the nature reserve, to study endangered species – there are 129 endangered species registered in the area.

Here live wild animals such as the wolverines, brown bears and lynxes. The birds found in the Vindelfjällen mountains make it an area of interest for the whole of Europe. Here grows the smallest of plants and tall mountain herbs, some of them unique for the area.

The nature reserve is also unique for its culture. There are several remnants of the indigenous Sami people, dating back thousands of years, for example arrowheads, hearths, and bone caches. The nature reserve is a cultural landscape in the midst of unspoilt nature.

### Reserve facts

**SIZE:** 5,551 square kilometres

**LOCATED IN:** Västerbotten county, Sorsele and Storuman municipalities.

**FOUNDED:** 1974, extended with three primeval forests in 1988.

**SAMI COMMUNITIES:** Ran, Gran and Ubmeje Sami communities.

**HIGHEST POINT:** Norra Sytertoppen peak, 1,767 metres above sea level.

**THE ARCTIC FOX:** The arctic fox has a natural habitat in the Vindelfjällen mountains, and is a symbol for the nature reserve.



Photo: Ingrid Pilto / Dittos goda



### START AT THE NATURUM

The Nature Visitors' Center in Ammannäs, Naturum, is a gateway to the Vindelfjällen nature reserve. The Naturum guide can tell you about appropriate trails and paths, tours and interesting sites in the mountains. There's also an exhibition, where you can smell, read, listen and feel your way into the nature and culture of the Vindelfjällen mountains.

### A WORKPLACE FOR THE SAMI

In the middle of May, reindeer cows have their calves on snow-free patches in the mountains. During summer, the reindeer herders brand their calves in the cool of the night. In the middle of November, when the reindeer need more food, they move towards the coast. The mountain area is a workplace for the Sami, particularly during the summer months. The reserve was originally founded to protect reindeer husbandry.

### YES, THERE ARE REINDEER

The area around Ammannäs is the most reindeer-dense in Sweden, so chances are you'll run into one or two of them. Remember that the reindeer is a wild animal, and it is especially sensitive to disturbances during the calving season. Try to walk around individual reindeer, without frightening them, and if you encounter a herd, sit down and wait until they have passed. Make sure to keep your dog on a leash!

### THE MOUNTAIN VILLAGE

Ammannäs mountain village is in the middle of the nature reserve of Vindelfjällen, and it is a gem for Sami culture and cultural history. Several places in Ammannäs enjoy protection as important historical sites, such as the old church town, the famous Potato Hill and the alluvial meadows where cattle graze during the summer. It's also a place where you easily can walk right into the mountains without any hassle.

## Discover Vindelfjällen

**HIKING AND TRAILRUNNING.** There are over 600 kilometres of state-kept trails in the Vindelfjällen nature reserve, one of which is the southernmost part of the King's Trail. There are also trails going into the northern and the eastern parts of the reserve, suitable for day-long tours or multiple day tours. Going through the reserve by foot makes it easy to spot the unique flora and fauna in the mountains! The rounded peaks and passable ground in these mountains are well suited for trail running.

**BOATING.** Boating and canoeing are ways of experiencing the surroundings from a different perspective. It is silent and thus a good way to watch wildlife living in and around the rivers and lakes in the area. There are even boat taxis to enable a head start into the nature reserve!

**RIDING.** The Icelandic horse has a special ability to adapt to difficult terrains, and is the go-to horse for the activity companies working with guided riding tours in the nature reserve.



Wildlife in the nature reserve.

# Follow the trails

WHERE ROADS END, ADVENTURE BEGINS



## Hiking spots to discover on your own or with a guide

There are many trails, paths and roads here, as well as places with stunning nature and cultural history. Make sure to bring good shoes – there are several fabulous day trips to experience on your own, or together with a guide. Here are a few suggestions of hikes which will take no more than one day to complete, courtesy of the guide **NordTrek**.

### **Viktorja Church to Kraddsele**

The Viktorja church was built in the middle of land with no roads, in the mid-1930's. From the Viktorja church you can hike north over Mount Guvert to Kraddsele, a hike that has everything from dwarf birch forests to alpine mountains. The trail is 24 kilometres long and moderately difficult.

### **Nalovardo round**

Start at the parking lot by the mountain Nalovardo, pass by the tranquil Lake Borgjaur and finish at the peak where you can see the Norwegian mountains. An easy hike, 11 kilometres long.

### **Vindelvaggi trail to Rävfalllet**

Hike along the Vindel River from Höbäcken to the Rävfalllet cottage, 16 kilometres in total. A detour to the waterfall Gouletsbäcken is recommended (1,6 km).

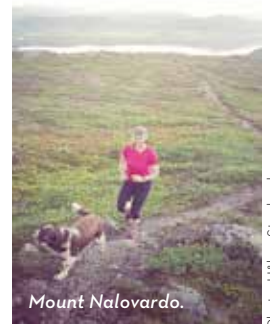
Vindelvaggi trail goes all the way to Norway, but you can go to and from Vindelkroken with comfortable distances between the cottages, about 100 kilometres in total.

### **Gimegoults**

Gimegoults is a 1.5 kilometer long canyon with cliff walls up to 25 meters high, surrounded by primeval forest. The nature reserve is 1.5 kilometres from the parking lot and an easy hike.

### **The church mountain**

The views from Kyrkberget, the church mountain, are amazing. The hike is 6 kilometres long, without a marked trail and partially demanding – go with someone who knows their way around!



Mount Nalovardo.

Photo: Håkan Stenlund



Photo: Outdoor-Ticket

HIKING IS NOT ONLY ABOUT walking around and transporting yourself from one point to another. It's all about letting yourself go. Physically, of course, at a pace that makes you feel good, taking deep breaths of clean air and refreshing yourself with crystal clear water from the pouring jokks. And mentally, by letting your mind wander as you walk, enjoying the surroundings and taking it in with all of your senses.

Your hike could be all about the stunning views in the mountains, seeing peaks powdered with snow well into the summer months and glittering lakes with biting arctic char, passing over meandering streams and through fragrant mountain meadows and mountain birch forests. It could be about the rare flora, or watching the wild-life, spotting grazing reindeer, a curious lemming and a gyrfalcon hunting high above you. Or you could be hiking through old, primeval forests with lichens hanging like beards from the trees.

Either way, there are hikes here to suit almost everyone, from the family with small children who wish to enjoy a few hours of walking along a well-kept, marked trail to the sporty gang who are after a week of trail running in the mountains or the experienced hiker looking for a week-long, adventurous expedition.

The King's Trail is probably the most famous trail in this area. There are also plenty of other trails to discover. Some of them are nothing more than a path leading to a waterfall, a fascinating canyon or a mountain top, whilst others are clearly marked and going for a long way – or leading straight back to the village where a relaxing sauna and a good dinner awaits.

Vindelfjällen, photo: Joachim Kaiser / NordTrek



## Along the King's Trail

The King's Trail is one of the most famous trails in the world – and considered one of the best. It has been around for over 200 years and stretches all the way through the northern Swedish mountain range, 450 kilometres, beginning in Hemavan and ending in Abisko.

Ammarnäs is one of the most common starting points, and from here you have the choice of going north to Kvikkjokk or south to Hemavan. The stretch between Kvikkjokk and Hemavan, 165 kilometres long, is the least travelled. The hiking

along this distance is more demanding. However, this particular route has a unique character compared to the rest of the King's Trail, with smaller villages and settlements along the way.

Going south to Hemavan means enjoying a hike through the Vindelfjällen nature reserve. A 78-kilometre-long, hiking friendly part of the trail with five STF cabins. The trail is surrounded by dramatic landscapes and high peaks, and even involves getting over a lake archipelago by bridges.

## A hike away from dinner

Ammarnäs aims to be the best hiking destination in northern Europe, and with all of the state-kept trails in the Vindelfjällen nature reserve – including the King's Trail – and the 200 kilometres of additional loop trails managed by Destination Ammarnäs we're onto a good start. The loop trails are of varying difficulty and several of them can be accessed straight from your accommodation in the village. You could make it a more challenging hike or a gentler one, suitable even for smaller children. With the loop trails, it's fully possible to start your hike in the morning and end up at a restaurant for a three-course dinner and a glass of wine in the evening.



Loop trails, photo: Maria Broberg



## Hiking and food with Sápmivisti

A hike with SÁPMIVISTI isn't an ordinary hike – it's a hike filled with traditional Sami food and storytelling. Sápmivisti lets the food take a central part in telling stories of the reindeer and the everyday life of the Sami, while hiking along the Vindel River upstreams from Ammarnäs. [www.sapmivisti.com](http://www.sapmivisti.com)

## A ticket outdoors

Hiking and fishing for a few days in the mountains is the combination of choice for **OUTDOOR-TICKET**. However, if you wish to hike only, that can be arranged as well. And if you want to hike on your own, they have hiking gear for rental. [www.outdoor-ticket.com](http://www.outdoor-ticket.com)



# Guides

AND OTHER THINGS NEEDED FOR HIKING

## Families and friends in Ammarnäs

With the mountains available by the loop trails in Ammarnäs, **AMMARNÄS GUIDE CENTER** is a starting point for families with children who want a guided experience in the exciting world above the tree line, as well as the adventurous friends who are looking for a trailrunning or hiking challenge – or you could drop in for a pointer on hikes to do on your own. [www.ammarnasguide.se](http://www.ammarnasguide.se)



## A versatile hiking guide

Joachim from **NORDTREK** is not only certified, he's one of the few persons who has hiked and guided his way through the entire destination – as well as many other regions in Swedish Lapland. He guides shorter and longer trips, easy hikes for beginners and demanding multi-day expeditions for advanced hikers. His favorite hiking area is the high mountains and the vast expanses in Vindelfjällen. With this guide you will go on an exciting hike, suitable for you, while learning about the landscapes and the arctic lifestyle of those who live here. [www.nordtrek.com](http://www.nordtrek.com)



## Soft hiking with huskies

Enjoy the energy and happiness of huskies in the summer – **COLD-NOSE-HUSKIES** offers guided hiking in the company of your personal husky from their kennel, hiking through the lush forests and mires, tracing wildlife and enjoying the view from a hilltop in the woodlands of Gargnäs. [www.cold-nose.se](http://www.cold-nose.se)



## Arctic fox hikes in Sápmi

Are you curious about hikes, Sami culture and wildlife? A good place to start is **GEUNJA SAMI ECOLOGUE**. Follow the guide Mikael Vinka on calmer or varied hikes in the mountain environment. Mikael is a Sami guide who can teach you all about the wildlife as well as edible and medicinal plants in the nature reserve. Mikael has worked with the arctic fox program for a long time. He is the one to go on excursions with, looking for the arctic fox and other animals, on a respectful distance. [www.geunja.com](http://www.geunja.com)





*Lush forests and hilltop views –  
a soft hike with Cold-Nose-Huskies  
and their huskies is a joy!*

# Come fly with us

## A PARADISE FOR FISHING

**NO MORE THAN ONE HOUR.** If you are standing in the middle of Sorsele, that's what it takes to reach fishing hot spots that'll give you a fishing experience to last a lifetime.

Maybe it's dangerous to call this place a paradise for fishing. We don't want to promise too much. Still, that's what it is – a paradise. Maybe not because of the fish, that can be as big as in your best stories. And maybe not because of the exclusive challenges for the expert who has been everywhere, or the sweet spots for the kids to learn how to love fishing, or the beautiful surroundings (that you might not think about, standing with your knees deep in running water, focusing on the rod, the line and the biting fish).

No, it's a fisher's paradise because it has water for everyone. Here is the mighty Vindel River, one of the four national rivers in Sweden. Here are meandering creeks, rushing streams, vast lakes and small, hideaway ponds deep in the forest.

This means that the only thing that can be guaranteed in this fishers' paradise, is the constant new opportunities. You could spend a lifetime of fishing without needing to stand in the same place twice – though chances are you'd want to come back to the same spot. You could find places where no-one has been for a decade. You could fish during night or day. You could fish in waters running or still. You could fish for salmon, perch and pike, brown trout and char. And of course the grayling, which is found all along the river. Right here, great fishing is never far away.



Maybe you would prefer to go to a place where you might be alone, or a place suitable for fishing with children? A fishing centre is a good place to start – either at **HOOK & CUP SORSELE VISITOR CENTER** or **FISHYOURDREAM AMMARNÄS**.

Photo: Andy Anderson



## Still and running waters for fly-fishing

Ammarnäs and Kraddsele are world famous when it comes to fishing – places we are proud to call our own. To get the best fishing experience possible, we recommend that you try one of the local guides, **FishYourDream** being one. **Ammarnäs GuideCenter** has a decade of experience when it comes to fly fishing for grayling and trout in the area and offers guided fly fishing, night and day.

[www.fishyourdream.com](http://www.fishyourdream.com) • [www.ammarnasguide.se](http://www.ammarnasguide.se)

Photo: Håkan Stenlund



Photo: Daniel Jonsson / V River Service

## GARGÅN AND LAIS RIVER

There are plenty of places to try fishing, if you want to try different streams. Especially if you've been coming here for a few years. Some examples of our hidden gems is Stensundsforsen in Vindel River, as well as the Lais river and Gargån. The Gargnäs area is the only place to offer salmon fishing. **V River Service** is the guide that knows fishing at its best in these parts!

[torviksele@gmail.com](mailto:torviksele@gmail.com)



## HIKING AND FISHING

There are entrepreneurs with access to exclusive fishing waters. Geunja Sami Ecolodge is one of them, and the mountain lakes located in the Vindelfjällen nature reserve are clear and clean. Hiking is the eco-friendly way of going up to the remote camping site with accommodation in *goahtis*, Sami tipis. With cooked food, mostly on site, and a fishing guide who knows plenty about Sami culture and the flora and fauna, you'll get a comfortable experience that goes beyond just fishing.

[www.geunja.com](http://www.geunja.com)

Photo: Teed Logardt / Geunja Sami Ecolodge



Photo: FishYourDream Ammannäs

## FLY-OUT FISHING

Heading from FishYourDream in Ammannäs, you can reach fresh and clear mountain water with a chance for sight fishing. The waters are filled with trout and, in season, arctic char. The trout here are feisty and in a league of their own in Sweden. To reach these waters, located far into the Vindelfjällen nature reserve, it's necessary to fly out with a helicopter, always accompanied by a guide.

[www.fishyourdream.com](http://www.fishyourdream.com)



Photo: Håkan Stenlund

## Fishing philosophy



Photo: Sorselefsketet

### Ulrik, Hook & Cup

Ulrik grew up here and knows most of the fishing waters like the palm of his hand. Growing up in Kraddsele, he finds it and Ammarnä to be the "top of the range", but there are a lot to choose from.

– There's suitable fishing for everyone, and so many different waters. From flying a helicopter to a secluded lake in the mountains to fishing for pike around Gargnäs and of course, everything in between.

– A good fishing experience is so dependent on the weather conditions. Every fly-fisher knows this. But if it's bad in one place there's usually the opportunity to go somewhere else.

– We try to work together here.

Collaborating results in a win-win situation for everyone. The community, the guests, the ecology and the fish.



Photo: Therese Lundin

### Therese, Flicksländan fishing

Therese is a fly-fisher from the coast, who lives here part time, mostly because of the fishing and the abundance of nature. She likes the fact that the waters and woods are untouched. The circumstances are good for quality fishing.

– There are so many pristine fishing waters found here, and the river isn't regulated. The fishing stock is natural, and furthermore, it's a good fishing stock. There's every chance of catching a trophy fish.

– She likes the diversity of the fishing.

– There's something here for everyone. Fishers have different personalities, and they like different things. They can all find something here to suit them.

– But in the end it's the stunning environment here that makes me appreciate fishing here as much as I do.



Photo: Ammarnä's GuideCenter

### Peter, Ammarnä's GuideCenter

Peter moved here for the sole purpose of enjoying the fishing. Since then, he has worked with fishing conservation and guiding in Ammarnä, Kraddsele and Övre Sandsele.

– The breadth of the fishing here is unique. If the fishing isn't good in the Vindel River, there are other streams and lakes in the mountains, only an hour of walking away.

Peter talks about the long season, that it's possible to fish for between 3 to 5 months depending on the conditions. He also mentions the quality of the fishing and work for sustainability.

– We keep it clean and tidy. The service- and knowledge levels are high. And it's possible to get really good help here.

– People want to have the same experience ten years from now.

## Stay close to the fishing waters

**AMMARNÄS GUIDE CENTER** has a genuine fishing profile and interest in fishing. Sells fishing gear. [www.ammarnasguide.se](http://www.ammarnasguide.se)

**AMMARNÄS WÄRD SHUS** is run by the FishYourDream team. Guides, fishing shop and everything from hostel to hotel rooms. [www.fishyourdream.com](http://www.fishyourdream.com)

**BERTEJAURE FISKECAMP** 10 kilometres from Ammarnäs, only reached by boat and by arrangement with the owner, who also happens to be a great storyteller. [www.bertejaure.se](http://www.bertejaure.se)

**BORGJAURE FISKECAMP** is found by a beautiful lake in the middle of the nature reserve Nalovardo. Here are a few exclusive fishing waters, a boat and one of the nicest saunas in the destination. [www.sorselefisket.se](http://www.sorselefisket.se)

**EMILS FISKECAMP** is known for the charming and caring camp owner Ingrid. She can tell you all about the best places to go in Kraddsele. [www.emilsfiskecamp.se](http://www.emilsfiskecamp.se)

**GEUNJA SAMI ECO LODGE** can give you access to exclusive fly fishing waters in the mountains. [www.geunja.com](http://www.geunja.com)

**OUTDOOR TICKET** has guides, fly fishing lessons and is found in the middle of some great fishing waters. [www.outdoor-ticket.com](http://www.outdoor-ticket.com)

**SANDSJÖGÅRDEN** is found right on the shore of Sandsjön. Sells fishing permits. [www.sandsjogarden.se](http://www.sandsjogarden.se)



One of the lodges provided by Ammarnäs GuideCenter.

Photo: Ammarnäs GuideCenter

**TROLLFORSEN** provides accommodation next to the fishing waters in Gargnäs, with the possibility of hiring a boat and some fishing equipment. [www.trollforsen.se](http://www.trollforsen.se)

**WÄCKERLINS** is also the accommodation of choice when it comes to fishing in Gargnäs. [www.aenglagard-gargnas.se](http://www.aenglagard-gargnas.se)

## The advantages of guided fishing

A feisty pike, an elusive trout or an elegant grayling. All those different lakes and rivers. Still water and rapids. The Ephemera Vulgata or the Ephemera Danica. Wet flies, dry flies and streamers. Upstream or downstream? Those choices. They never end. Places to fish in or methods to fish with. Sure, there are sellers of fishing permits, rentals and owners of fishing camps. They can all give you a few tips, and everyone has their favourite place. But if you want to get the most out of your visit here, a fast track to a great memory, you hire a guide. It gets better that way. It's not harder than any other choice you have to make – you don't ask anyone for advice. You ask the one person who can take you exactly where you want to go.

## OUR GUIDES

**AMMARNÄS GUIDE CENTER** – [www.ammarnasguide.se](http://www.ammarnasguide.se)

**FISHYOURDREAM** – [www.fishyourdream.com](http://www.fishyourdream.com)

**FLICKSLÄNDAN** – [thereselundin4@gmail.com](mailto:thereselundin4@gmail.com)

**GEUNJA SAMI ECO LODGE** – [www.geunja.com](http://www.geunja.com)

**HOOK & CUP** – [www.hookandcup.com](http://www.hookandcup.com)

**OUTDOOR-TICKET** – [www.outdoor-ticket.com](http://www.outdoor-ticket.com)

**SORSELEFISKET** – [www.sorselefisket.se](http://www.sorselefisket.se)

**V RIVER SERVICE** – [torviksele@gmail.com](mailto:torviksele@gmail.com)



Photo: Maria Broberg / Sorselefisket

Learn how to fly fish

Are you curious about how to fish with a fly? You should be. It is one of the most meditative things to do, and easier than it looks. Or are you a beginner and want to step up the game a little bit? No worries. There are guides here that can teach you how to do it. **Outdoor-Ticket** offers a two-day long crash course in fly fishing. **Sorselefisket** arranges fly fishing courses and packages for women in collaboration with **Flicksländan**, the fishing guide who engages in fishing for women. **Ammarnäs GuideCenter** can take you out on a beginner-friendly day of fishing for grayling. Furthermore, the guides at **Fishyourdream Ammarnäs** are certified fly fishing instructors!

## Sustainable fishing

Sustainable fishing is showing responsibility to future generations of fishermen to allow them to experience high quality fishing. High quality fishing means that the chances should be good of catching that trophy fish of yours, and that the fish caught has a high average weight.

Because of this, it's necessary that everyone follows the existing rules, for example rules about maximum length of the fish, catch quotas and the prohibition of using live bait in all running waters.

The fishing rules can vary between different areas, so make sure you know the rules of the area in which you are fishing.

Competent guides that know the area, and access to good information is part of our work with sustainable fishing. We encourage you to make contact with one of our guides or the fishing centres. They will help you get the best possible fishing experience.

# The great outdoors

## STUNNING NATURE EXPERIENCES



Photo: Maria Broberg / Ammarnäs GuideCenter

ADVENTURES CAN BE MANY things. It could be a small adventure to swim in a cold mountain lake. It could be an adventure to see the mosquitos gathering outside the tent, or sitting by a campfire for hours in the bright summer night until the morning mist shows and the birds commence the dawn chorus. It's a big adventure to walk on a snow crust in the mountains whilst the mountains are exploding with herbs and vegetation. It's a small adventure to cook your food and coffee on a campfire, and it's an adventure to see a beaver gathering materials and diving in front of your canoe. Whatever you might have on your bucket list, we probably have something to suit you.

We like to keep our adventures in the great outdoors – on the rivers and in the streams, in the

forests and the mountains. We're hiking, boating, fishing, cycling, bathing, running and relaxing out in the open, under the blue sky, breathing fresh air and enjoying the space.

Of course the summer is a good time to enjoy out in the open. The midnight sun gives you many hours to do whatever you wish to do. Those adventures could be something you've done before, only in a different way – like riding or running above the tree line in the mountains. Or it could be something you do for the first time ever, like spotting an arctic fox on your hike or experiencing wetlands and mires on a fatbike.

We have plenty of space and opportunities for adventures in our beautiful surroundings. Tick off a few on that bucket list of yours!



Riding with Aha Lodge.

## THREE PLACES TO GO ON A HORSE

Horses. We love them! They can go almost anywhere, if they're Icelandic they can walk in multiple ways, and they're a great companion on your outdoor adventure.

### 1. PADDLE AND SADDLE

Aha Lodge is located where you find forests, lakes and lower, rounded mountain tops. Take a riding tour in the forest, or combine your riding with fishing, foraging or just relaxing. One of the tours combine canoeing your way to their outdoor camp, and riding on a horse through the Aha mountains and forests on your way back the next day. [www.aha-lodge.com](http://www.aha-lodge.com)

### 2. MOUNTAIN EXPEDITION

Fjällhästen focuses on multi-day riding expeditions in the mountain range of Vindelfjällen. The company has a long experience of guiding riding tours in the nature reserve and the Sami cultural landscape. The six-day long expedition in the Vindelfjällen mountains takes you along 110 kilometres in the mountains, through bird protection areas and you will stay in *goahhtis* and mountain cottages. [www.fjallhasten.com](http://www.fjallhasten.com)

### 3. TWO-DAY WATERFALL TOUR

From a few hours to several days – Ammarnä's Icelandic horses can suit everyone. The two-day tour climbs up through the mountain birch forest to the bare mountain region above the tree line. From the peak of the mountain Ammar you can see mountains and endless space in every direction. One night is spent in a cottage along the Vindel River. [www.ridiamarnas.com](http://www.ridiamarnas.com)



## GO ANYWHERE ON A FATBIKE

Fatbikes are all-terrain cycles that work on unstable surfaces, like sandy beaches and wetlands. The charm of a fatbike is that it affords you great opportunities to discover, explore and experience things in another way other than by foot. Go around the immediate area of Sorsele or one of the neighbouring mountains.

**SORSELE FATBIKE TOURS** is the go-to place for fatbikes, and **SUORGE** will tell you stories about the history of Sorsele! [www.suorge.com](http://www.suorge.com) • [www.pensionatholmen.se](http://www.pensionatholmen.se)



Summer mushing with Huskyfarm Tväråträsk.

## THREE SLED DOG HANGOUTS

Yup, there are sled dogs here. Lots of them! And if you want to meet sled dogs, you don't have to wait until winter.

At **HUSKYFARM TVÄRÅTRÄSK** you can go with their alaskan huskies on a cart, go for a walk with them or go just play and spend time with them. [www.trails-of-lapland.de](http://www.trails-of-lapland.de)

**COLD-NOSE-HUSKIES** in Gargnäs gives you the opportunity for a guided kennel visit, meet the Swedish champion dogs and play with the sweet, endearing puppies! [www.cold-nose.se](http://www.cold-nose.se)

**OUTDOOR-TICKET** in Idbäcksheden, welcome you to meet their huskies in the kennel, maybe take part in the feeding, and learn all about the sled dog life in the winter. [www.outdoor-ticket.com](http://www.outdoor-ticket.com)



Tour with Älvkungen, the River King.

## OUT AND ABOUT ON WATER

Boats and canoes aren't just a way of getting around on water, they're also a method of seeing the surroundings in a different way. Few things are more relaxing than paddling a canoe or rowing a boat on a warm day, with nothing more than insects and fish rippling the water surface – go on a guided tour or rent a boat or a canoe and go out by yourself. If you book a special tour on the historical tour boat Älvkungen, that once serviced the route from Sorsele to the Sami chapel Gillesnuole, you can see the river turn into a fjord surrounded by dramatic cliff walls. From a boat or a canoe, you can watch the wildlife living in and around the streams and lakes of the area - one recommended place is Gargån, going on a canoe from Gargnäs to Aha, a place with plenty of wildlife. For suggestions on rentals or boat taxi, see page 27. For guided tours with canoe or boat, contact:

[www.geunja.com](http://www.geunja.com)  
[www.cold-nose.se](http://www.cold-nose.se)  
[www.aha-lodge.com](http://www.aha-lodge.com)  
[www.alvkungen.com](http://www.alvkungen.com)

Wild adventures in the open



*Calm water, surrounded by woods and hilltops – that's what it all is about in the southern part of the destination. Why not discover the Vindel River with a canoe?*







#### WHAT IS A SAMI COMMUNITY?

A *sameby*, literally translated to a *Sami village*, is an administrative and economical union for reindeer husbandry. The members of the Sami community are entitled to keep reindeers in the geographical area that the Sami community manages. There are two Sami communities in Sorsele municipality, Ran and Gran.

# Sami culture

## PAST AND PRESENT

DATING BACK THOUSANDS OF YEARS, Sami people have lived in this area. This is a part of Sápmi, the Sami country that stretches across the northern parts of Scandinavia and Russia. In fact, the flag of Sápmi was inspired by a poem, *Päiven pardne* or the Sons of the Sun, written by Anders Fjellner, a Sami priest from Sorsele. His “thinker’s tree” is still to be found by the church in Sorsele.

There are tracks from those earliest inhabitants all over the area – some of them only visible to the trained eye, others more apparent. There are hunting pits, hearths and dwellings. It was during this time, the Sami culture, the arts and crafts, religion and lifestyle, developed. The young reindeer herders of today are nomadic and live close to their reindeer, just as before, only with modern technology to help them. The strong tradition of story-

telling and knowledge transfer from generation to generation has kept the Sami culture and lifestyle alive, making it possible for us to take part in traditions that date back thousands of years.

From buying a piece of dried reindeer at Fjällvilt, listening to a joik from the singer Sara Ajnnak from Gargnäs, or listening to a story by the fireplace in the *goahhti* at the Sami church town in Ammarnäs, you’ll be swept away by the Sami traditions and storytelling. It works the same way when you visit the Sami artisan Margareta Grahm and learn about the different patterns on a bracelet embroidered with tin thread – they speak about the difference between man and woman, water and mountain. All of the are also seen in the eight Sami seasons. Those contrasts, and eye for detail, are found in a story worth telling, over and over again.



## SUMMER AND FALL IN SÁPMI

The Sami have eight different seasons and the bare ground seasons are four. It all starts with *gijrragiessie*, the season in between late spring and early summer, with bright but cold nights and a nature that is busy to get going. *Giesse*, summer, is the longer and warmest period in the Sami calendar. During *giesse* the reindeer calves are marked and the reindeer develop their antlers. The reindeer thrive in the mountains, with plenty of food and without any stubborn mosquitos. *Tjakttjagiessie* is the time between summer and autumn, a time for foraging, picking mushrooms and berries. It's also the time to gather the reindeer for slaughter. This is also an intense period for the Sami. With *tjakakta*, autumn, a new part of the nomadic lifestyle enters. The reindeer are gathering and preparing for the long migration. It's time to move from their summer grazing lands in the mountains, along the Vindel River, to their winter pastures by the coast.



## GEUNJA SAMI ECOLOGE, A SAMI EXPERIENCE

Visiting the Geunja Sami Ecolodge is an experience. A fulfilling, learning and harmonious experience that will give you memories for life. As a guest there, you're invited to stay with a Sami family in a traditional Sami settlement, inside the Vindelfjällen nature reserve. You are invited to the Vinka family dinner table, in the main log building or by the fire in the *goahti*, the Sami teepee. The host and guide at Geunja, Mikael Vinka, is one generation of many who have lived here. He is deeply rooted in the Sami culture and reindeer husbandry. He hunts, fishes and uses his knowledge of the surrounding landscapes and natural environment in mammal inventories, for research projects, and mountain rescue – and that is some knowledge which he will share with you in the activities offered her. [www.geunja.com](http://www.geunja.com)



## SAMI STORYTELLERS

The Sami have no history of written stories. Traditionally they were passed down by storytellers. The oral tradition of the Sami is still strong and the stories can revolve around anything seemingly important, both little and large.

Like food. Some of our best storytellers build their stories around the food they serve and its natural source. Like **SAPMIVISTI**, who tell stories on their guided hiking tours that revolve around the mountains, the eight seasons of the reindeer and traditional Sami food.

**MIKAEL VINKA** from Geunja Sami Ecolodge is a storyteller who can tell you

about almost all things Sami – like beliefs, values and customs or the Sami history.

Another one is **ANDERS SKUM** and his **FJÄLLVILT**. He can supply a good story to go with the *gurpi* burger he serves.

Regardless of whether you go to a Sami craftsperson, boat taxi operator or artisan food maker, they'll probably throw a great story in the bargain.

Keep an eye open for the arrangements made by the **SAMI ASSOCIATION** of Ammannäs – they can treat you to a story in the *goahti* at the Sami church town.

[www.sapmivisti.com](http://www.sapmivisti.com) • [www.geunja.com](http://www.geunja.com)  
[www.fjallvilt.se](http://www.fjallvilt.se)

## Margareta – a unique artisan

The Sami have been creating items using roots since the 16th century, mostly molds for making cheese. Today, creating objects with roots is a threatened form of Sami handicraft. Margareta Grahne from Ammannäs is one of the few Sami artisans who knows how to work roots, and an accomplished one at that. Her work has been in exhibitions all over the world.

Margareta has been an artisan all of her life. When Margareta and her sister were children their mother passed on her knowledge to them. They started their studio in Ammannäs together, and soon became famous for their work.

Margareta does mostly needlework today. Crafting in roots is hard on the hands. The roots are picked in the autumn, before the elk hunting season. The roots are tougher in the autumn than in the springtime. After that, the roots are prepared by being scraped and dried.

Margareta's studio is found in Ammannäs and stays open occasionally, or by agreement.



# The taste of nature

FOOD FROM THE FORESTS, MOUNTAINS AND LAKES



Photo: Maria Broberg / Geunja Sami Ecolodge



Photo: Håkan Stenlund



Photo: Lars Hoffmann / Cold-Nose-Huskies

**WE ENJOY FOOD FROM THE NATURE'S OWN ORGANIC PANTRY.** We enjoy food from the surrounding rivers, forests and mountains, and those feed us very well: the vibrant yellow cloudberries from the mires, the arctic char from crystal clear mountain lakes, beef from cattle grazing the banks of the Vindel River. The birds and berries from the forests and mountains, and the reindeer and elk. All with a taste of the wild and natural.

The food traditions here are age-old and delicious. Tapping into those traditions also means tapping into Sami preserving methods like curing, drying and smoking, intriguing herbs and spices and any other delicacies that can be picked outdoors.

You'll find Sami specialties like gurpi on the menu in some of our restaurants, or the traditional potato bun palt that gathers plenty of locals for lunch. Or maybe you'll be treated to suovas, lightly smoked reindeer cooked over open fire.

Once you come here, you'll realize that how the food is prepared can be as important as what is actually served, and that those cooking methods will add that extra spice to your food and your stay here. However, the food here is not only about old traditions, it's also about taking things to the next level. The innovation and raw material refinement of our award-winning artisan food makers, and the skill of talented chefs, does that.

The food you are served here is as genuine as the people you meet. It is not overly fancy, it is hearty and delicious and cooked with care. Those who live here have a shared love of good food and will proudly invite you to share a meal with us.



## Going out to dinner

The crackling of a campfire, fresh air and the aroma of burning wood makes food taste a little extra savoury. Sami food, like suovas and the smoked meat bundle called gurpi, is easy to carry in a rucksack and cook over an open fire. Why not enjoy a dish in the open whilst enjoying a guided tour? For example, **COLD-NOSE-HUSKIES**, **BJÖRK EXPERIENCE** and **AMMARNÄS GUIDECENTER** all have local food cooked outdoors as a part of some of their activities. **ANDERS SKUM**

**FJÄLLVILT** is the outdoor caterer to go to. For that little extra touch when it comes to combining food and activity, try **SAPMIVISTI**. They combine hikes with traditional Sami food, and some special food at that. Try fish, meat and herbs in entirely new ways. With **GEUNJA SAMI ECOLODGE** you can be involved in everything from catching the fish, to preparing, cooking and eating it. Enjoy!

## Welcome to the table

**ÄNGLAGÅRD RESTAURANT** - The restaurant in Gargnäs has hearty food cooked with care. The menu offers Swiss and Swedish specialties alike, all using local produce.

**SANDSJÖGÅRDEN** - Asian fusion, Grill n' Chill, buffets and a la carte. Regardless, Sandsjögården delivers exciting, fine dining with a local flavour.

**SORSELE HEMBYGDSGÅRD** - The place to go to for traditional fine food in a relaxing atmosphere.

**SORSELE RIVER HOTEL** - To eat with the locals, try going to Sorsele River Hotel for their appreciated lunches, or a Friday evening for an after work buffet.

**AMMARNÄSGÅRDEN** - À la carte with local flavors and produce.

**AMMARNÄS GUIDECENTER** - For a reindeer burger and a trendy ale from one of the micro-breweries in Swedish Lapland, this is the bistro to go to.

**AMMARNÄS WÄRDSHUS** - Some of the finest dining available in the destination, when it comes to à la carte.



Photo: Ammarnäs Wärdshus

## Food philosophy



### Tim, chef at Ammarnäs Wärdshus

Tim is a chef who thrives on nature. What he can find growing wild that's useful in the kitchen, he feels compelled to use. In this particular area's local flora, that would mean herbs and plants like archangolica, spruce shoots and mountain sorrel.

- My fundamental food philosophy is that the food I make should represent the surroundings. I want all of my guests, in every bite they take, to feel that they taste Lapland, he explains.

Tim cares deeply for sustainable development. For him, that means caring for the community and buying locally.

- I want as many as possible of the raw materials I use to be locally produced, he explains.

- I'd love to see the potatoes grown on Potato Hill here in Ammarnäs used in the restaurant.



### Caroline, owner of Sandsjögården

Caroline is the restaurant owner and a Swiss expat with an Asian heritage, who wants to develop local produce and food culture into something that represents her and her background.

- I've always tried to make food with materials that are found around me, and food that is straightforward, but imaginative. Often with a fusion twist!

Caroline sees herself as a bridge-builder between the Nordic food culture and international guests. She mentions the older Nordic ways of cooking.

- There's a fantastic food culture here, but not much of a restaurant culture and that's a difference.

- I've had the opportunity to learn a lot about how to use and preserve our raw materials. Not just berries, fish and elk, there's the traditional home-cooked food and cooking methods as well.



### Ingrid Pilto, artisan food creator

Ingrid Pilto is Sami artisan chef and Sápmi slow food creator who cares about Sami food tradition alongside good taste and a keen care for quality and detail.

- I never wanted to work in a big hotel. Food should be a small scale, quality business and not industrial, she explains.

- The Sami tradition has always been about taking care of as much as possible of the animal. Industrial handling of food is unethical to the animal.

Ingrid likes to develop the traditional Sami ways of preparing food. One of her award winning products is a salted, smoked mountain fish that she preserves in oil, just like Italian anchovies. A visit to Ingrid can result in a treat of tea, a jam you probably never heard of and biscuits made from bark.

- I'm most proud of my knowledge about traditional Sami cooking, though.

# Our sustainable experiences

## WHY CARING IS NECESSARY

**WE CARE ABOUT THIS PLACE.** Our destination is one with high ecological and cultural value, in part because of the unique flora and fauna, landscape and the cultural heritage in the area. Because of this, we try to work strategically with preserving those values and developing the destination in a sustainable way. We think it's important because we want your children, and your children's children, to be able to enjoy this nature and culture in the very same way in which you want to enjoy it.

Sustainability and sustainable development can be seen from many different perspectives: economical, ecological and social. We try to work with those perspectives in mind to strengthen the area.

The municipality and the companies here have a long tradition of working with sustainable development. There are companies here who have worked with Nature's Best for many years, and many other companies work with sustainability without certification. The municipality has also come a long way in areas such as ecological fishing conservation, renewable energy and responsible agriculture. An example is the natural pastures along the Vindel River, something that gives us ecological food as well as contributing to the open landscapes and the biological diversity along the river.



Photo: Calle Bredberg / Fjällhästen

## Quick facts about the destination

- The destination has eleven nature reserves, the largest being Vindelfjällen nature reserve and one of the smallest is the ice age canyon of Gimegolts.
- About fifty percent of the area in the destination is protected as nature reserves, free to enjoy in a responsible way.
- The Vindel River is one of the four national rivers in Sweden, protected from being regulated. It is of national interest for outdoor life and activities.
- It was one of the first eco-municipalities in Sweden.
- The residents, municipalities and companies along the Vindel River Valley work together to find strategies for sustainable development under the name Vindelälven-Juhtatdahka. Juhtatdahka is the Sami word for a reindeer migration route. The frozen river is used to move reindeer to and from the winter grazing lands along the coast.



Looking for wildlife with Geunja Sami Ecolodge.

Photo: Maria Broberg / Geunja Sami Ecolodge

## Five ways to travel responsibly

**READ ABOUT THE DESTINATION.** It's easier to be considerate of the local culture and traditions if you know them beforehand. Ask for tips on literature!

**MAKE AN ACTIVE CHOICE.** Make contact with a Nature's Best certified company or ask the companies you wish to visit how they work with sustainability.

**ASK FOR HELP.** If you wonder about local rules or recommendations around protected areas, how to handle waste or anything else, ask!

**SHOP LOCALLY.** When you shop groceries or arts & crafts locally, you contribute to the local economy, the destination and the people who live here.

**RENT AND BORROW EQUIPMENT.** Perhaps you think you need plenty of equipment or special clothes to visit here? Don't! There's a good chance you can borrow or rent clothes and equipment, if you need it. Check with your guide!



## Nature's Best and Eco tourism

Eco tourism is responsible tourism – a way to enjoy the surrounding nature and culture, without wearing it out.

The Nature's Best label is the national quality label of the Swedish Ecotourism Association and Visit Sweden. It was designed to make sure that visitors enjoy a high-quality nature experience.

The Nature's Best certification combines responsible nature and culture conservation with environmentally friendly ways of travelling with care for the local community and economy. In practice, that involves mapping and analysing the area in which the operators work, buying locally and using environmentally friendly methods and practically or economically contributing to nature- or culture conservation.



**NATURE'S BEST** is the quality label used for sustainable nature experiences in Sweden.  
[www.naturesbestsweden.com](http://www.naturesbestsweden.com)



Photo: Lars Hoffmann / Cold-Nose-Huskies

Support the arctic fox while on vacation.

## Four TIPS FOR THE ECO INTERESTED VISITOR

### FISHYOURDREAM AMMARNÄS

Engagement and care for the local community, protection of the fish stock and the quality of the fishing experience characterises Fishyourdream Ammarnäs.  
[www.fishyourdream.com](http://www.fishyourdream.com)

### GEUNJA SAMI ECOLODGE

Professionalism, quality, authenticity and respect are the hallmarks of Geunja Sami Ecolodge, a company that makes Sami culture come alive.  
[www.geunja.com](http://www.geunja.com)

### FJÄLLHÄSTEN

There is a deep and important Sami dimension in the exclusive riding tours offered by Fjällhästen.  
[www.fjallhasten.com](http://www.fjallhasten.com)

### AMMARNÄSFJÄLLENS ISLANDSHÄSTAR

Ammarnäs Islandshästar has a wide selection of riding tours, and works actively with culture preservation.  
[www.ridiamarnas.com](http://www.ridiamarnas.com)



Photo: Joachim Kaiser / NordTrek

Snuggle up at NordTrek lodge in Bjärakken.

# Land of the lodges

PERSONAL, SMALL-SCALE AND COSY

THERE ARE NO HUGE HOTELS HERE. But we do have something else. Welcome to a place where the accommodations are plentyful, small-scale, individual and with a personality entirely of their own. This is a place where you can find a secluded lodge without any other visitors around, or another one where you could have your vacation together with family and friends.

There are still plenty of options, though. Either you want to stay in soft beds with crispy sheets in a newly renovated hotel room, in a Sami *goahti* on reindeer hides surrounded by the fragrance of birch trees, in a cosy northern timber lodge or under the bright summer night sky, you'll find something to suit your preferences here.

Wherever you choose to go, you can be sure to have an accommodation close to nature and all

the adventures and activities waiting there. Some of the accommodations will give you a view over the Vindel River – even in the middle of Sorsele – and some of them are hidden away in a clearing somewhere. In Ammarnäs, you'll be staying near the mountains and the possibility to hike straight from your accommodation into unspoilt nature.

When you come home from your outdoor adventure, you'll be taken care of by your hosts in the best way imaginable. For us, hospitality means something more than just being service-minded. When you come here, you can be sure to expect a personal welcoming and being treated like family. Many of those who come here, want to come back to see their hosts again, besides enjoying the grand nature. Welcome to the land of the lodges and warm hospitality!



Some  
charming  
places  
to stay

## THE WOODY LODGE

Seen in the picture on the left is the wooden lodge of **NORDTREK**. Designed to be comfortable, snug and warm, this lodge is one of those romantic getaways for couples, young or old alike, or a small family. You could either stay inside the lodge, keeping cosy in the warmth of a crackling fire, or taking advantage of one of the activities possible on the farm – rent a boat or a bicycle, or go for a guided hike with the owner.

## THE SECLUDED LODGE

**OUTDOOR-TICKET** is located in Idbäcksheden, a slightly longer biking distance from the central village of Sorsele. The lodges are found in a secluded place, close to nature and right by the Vindel River, with their own beach. All three lodges are newly renovated, to a high standard – and they are bright, fresh and have well-equipped kitchens and nice bathrooms. The private location gives you the opportunity to relax and enjoy the silence!



Photo: Outdoor-Ticket



Photo: FishYourDream Ammarnäs

## THE LUXURIOUS LODGE

Newly built, seventy square meters, three bedrooms, a nice living room with a view, a fully equipped kitchen and a sun terrace overlooking the pond in Ammarnäs – that's the Lynx Lodge, the place to choose if you're a larger company or need a little extra room. Plus it's close to the sauna! Of course, there are nice and newly renovated hotel rooms at **AMMARNÄS VÅRDSHUS** as well if you prefer that. Perfect for the fly fishing enthusiast.



Photo: Wackerlins Bed & Breakfast

## BETWEEN WATER AND SKY

Gargnäs is beautifully located on a peninsula surrounded by water. The village is small, but with plenty of things to do, and you'll be treated as one of their own while living here. Live in the charming old vicarage, the main building of **WÄCKERLIN'S BED & BREAKFAST**, or in one of their nice lodges. Another nice place to stay in Gargnäs is in a guesthouse, a small cottage or the camping of **TROLLFORSEN**. Either way, you'll be cared for.



Photo: Sandsjögården

## THE LODGES WITH LAKEVIEW

**SANDSJÖGÅRDEN** is a charming resort sitting in the middle of a clearing surrounded by pine trees, right by the shores of the breath-taking lake Sandsjön. In the traditional and fresh wooden cabins – some of them newly renovated – you'll find the perfect getaway for a romantic holiday, a group of friends going on a wellness getaway or for a family vacation filled with different activities. Make sure you try their sauna with a view to die for!



Photo: Holmen Bed & Breakfast

## THE CHARMING B&B

**HOLMEN BED & BREAKFAST** is run by Janet and Dennis, a couple who decided to stay after coming here on their motorcycles on vacation. They run their Bed & Breakfast with lots of love and care for their guests and with a passion for developing activities in the area – their fatbike activities being one. They are ranked high on social media. The finest example of their popularity, however, is that many of their guests choose to return.

# Our hidden gems

THERE ARE A FEW PLACES that we keep closer to the heart than others. You are most welcome to get to know our destination a little better. Maybe you'll come to love this place as much as we do. Here are a couple of tips to get started.



Photo: Wackerlins Best & Breakfast

## GARGNÄS

Gargnäs is a village surrounded by water. The villagers themselves call it a place “between water and sky”, alluding to the village's position on a narrow peninsula between Lake Hemsjön and the stream, Gargån.

For a small village it has a lot going for it - a store, a mini golf course, an outdoor swimming pool for families and charming places for meeting up. The pizza evenings at Trollforsen Camping are popular amongst the villagers.

There aren't many kept and marked trails around here, but there are paths - like the ones used by the log drivers in the early 20th century.

As with other villages here, it is an active community who take a pride in their hospitality. One reason to gather in Gargnäs is the Röda Ulven Open - a surströmming festival that attracts visitors from near and far.

## BLATTNICKSELE

The village of Blattnicksele is, like Gargnäs, one of the small villages with a lot going for them. A place well-known for their outdoor activities and inclusive atmosphere.

Besides the activities arranged by the community and a small gym, the camping site in Blattnicksele has an outdoor swimming pool that attracts villagers and visitors alike.



Photo: Pontus Holmgård / Älvkungens vänner

## THE RIVER KING

Älvkungen, or the River King, started using the Vindel River in 1921, to ship mail, goods, animals and food. The tour boat operated for a duration of 18 years, until enough roads were built. Today it's possible to take a tour on the replica, going once or twice along the original stretch to Gillesnuole, and alternatively to other gems like the sand beaches of Skibbikken and just around the island of Sorsele.

## OPEN-AIR MUSEUM

The open-air museum in Sorsele gathers old buildings as a traditional farm, and additional buildings scattered around a pond. Walk around and look at settler and Sami buildings such as the *njalla*.



Photo: Maria Broberg

## MUSEUM OF INLANDSBANAN

The museum of Inlandsbanan tells the stories of how the Inland Line railroad was built in the early 20th century. There are pictures, movies and exhibitions of objects in the railroad station in Sorsele.

## GIMEGOULTS

Gimegoult is the smallest nature reserve in the municipality. It is a canyon, formed during the ice age by stones and grit in glacial rivers. The canyon is 1,500 meters long and 30 meters deep. It has vertical cliff walls and is surrounded by primeval forests, making it a fascinating landscape. Chances are you might see a soaring bird of prey while walking here.

## VIEWPOINTS

Besides being a beautiful waterfall, **Brudslöjan** along route 363 has nice views over the Vindel River. **Tjulträsket** - the place where the road literally ends - is a frequently used viewpoint in Ammarnäs, offering views over the snow-capped mountains. From **Mount Nalovardo** it's possible to see the Norwegian mountain range. From the viewpoint at **Potato Hill** in Ammarnäs there's a pleasant view over Ammarnäs.

### View from the Potato Hill



Photo: Håkan Stenlund



## THE JUKTÅ RIVER VALLEY

The river Juktån runs from the Vindelfjällen nature reserve. The river valley is also one with high natural and cultural values, probably one of the places with the highest natural values - and good fishing in running water.

Few people live here, and it is one of the river valleys in the mountains that is, to greater extent, inhabited.

The unregulated Lake Överst Juktan is found at the far end of the river valley. By the shores of the lake is the Viktoria church, a church built in the middle of roadless land in the 1930's.

The Juktå river valley has primeval forests close to the mountain area, and unique and productive lowland forests. There are a few old and odd settlements in the area, making the area unspoiled and preserving its old character. One of those is Åkernäs, a preserved Sami settlement by the Överst Juktan lake.



Photo: Oskar Linder



## AMMARNÄS CHURCH TOWN

Ammarnäs was founded by settlers in the 19th century. Before that, it was an important place for the Sami people of the area – Gávtjávrrie. Remnants of the Sami and the settlers are seen in and around the village. One of them is the old church town, used by the nomadic Sami for their compulsory church visits in the village. They are some of the best preserved church cabins in Västerbotten county.



Photo: Kristin Borjesson

## A FEW EVENTS

There are some recurring events each summer – races, dances and homecoming events, and they are all good opportunities to meet the locals. Here are a few examples.

- The Sami weekend in Ammarnäs
- Homecoming weekends in Blattnicksele, Ammarnäs and Sorsele – the latter known as Holmen Gungar
- Surströmming festival, Röda Ulven Open in Gargnäs
- Ammarnäs Ultra Trail
- Sorsele Fishing Festival
- Couples dancing to live music at Talludden
- Farmer's Market in Sandsele

Calender at [sorseleunited.se](http://sorseleunited.se)

# Accommodation

## Hotels

### SORSELE RIVER HOTEL

Hotellgatan 2, Sorsele  
+46 (0)952-121 50  
www.sorseleliverhotel.se

### AMMARNÄS WÄRDSHUS

Nolsivägen 6, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-602 00  
www.ammarnaswardshus.se

### AMMARNÄSGÅRDEN

Tjulträskvägen 1, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-600 03  
www.ammarnasgarden.se

## Lodges and cabin villages



Photo: Aha Lodge

### AHA LODGE

Aha 106, Sorsele  
+46(0)73-802 27 21  
www.aha-lodge.com

*Beautifully located lodge at a horse farm in the picturesque village Aha.*



Photo: Ammarnäs fjällens Islandshästar

### AMMARNÄSFJÄLLENS ISLANDSHÄSTAR

Nolsivägen 100, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-243 20 47  
www.ridiammarnas.com

*Maybe the finest views in Ammarnäs. Charming and simple cottages!*

### BORGJAUR HUNTING & FISHING CAMP

Nalovardo, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-217 71 38  
www.sorselefisket.se

### GEUNJA SAMI ECOLODGE

Geunja, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-602 90  
www.geunja.com

*From hostel type accommodation in a Sami tent – a wooden teepee – to full pension in a Sami lodge with activities around the corner all year.*

### GRUNDSTRÖMS STUGBY

Blomsterdalsvägen 5, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-390 50 26  
www.grundstromsstugby.se

### HUSKYFARM TVÄRÅTRÄSK

Tväråträsk 189, Blattnickelse  
+46 (0)72-704 48 52  
www.trails-of-lapland.de

### NORDTREK LODGE

Bjårdakken 152, Sorsele  
+46 (0)952-105 11  
www.nordtrek.com

*The luxurious lodge of NordTrek is a place to enjoy to the fullest.*

### SANDSJÖGÅRDEN HOLIDAY RESORT

Sandsjö 122, Blattnickelse  
+46 (0)76-103 85 75  
www.sandsjogarden.se

*The holiday resort Sandsjögården is beautifully located by lake Sandsjön, and offers lots of nearby activities, good food and comfortable cabins.*



Photo: Outdoor Ticket

### OUTDOOR-TICKET

Idbäcksheden 10, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-314 88 18  
www.outdoor-ticket.com

*Outdoor-Ticket has high-standard, private lodges just outside Sorsele, and plenty of activities to offer at that.*

### VINDELÅFORSENS STUGBY

Nolsivägen 47, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-611 03 01  
www.berthejaure.se



Photo: Geunja Sami EcoLodge



Photo: Wäckerlin's B&B

### WÄCKERLIN'S B&B

Märshvägen 3, Gargnäs  
+46 (0)70-250 45 77  
www.aenglagard-gargnas.se

*Wäckerlin's in Gargnäs is a romantic place made for active rest.*



Photo: NordTrek



Photo: Sandsjögården



Photo: Maria Broberg / Holmen B&B

### HOLMEN BED & BREAKFAST

Strandvägen 33, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-333 26 41  
www.pensionatholmen.se

*A light and airy Bed & Breakfast with a contemporary feel. The hosts are well-known for their generosity and service!*

## Camping

### EMILS FISHING CAMP

Kraddsele 172  
+46 (0)70-699 64 97  
www.emilsfiskecamping.se

### SORSELE CAMPING

Fritidsvägen 10, Sorsele  
+46 (0)952-101 24  
www.sorselecamping.se

### NALOVARDO CAMPING

Nalovardo, Sorsele  
+46 (0)952-310 41  
www.laplandskatan.nu



Photo: Trollforsen

### TROLLFORSEN CAMPING

Byvägen 47, Gargnäs  
+46 (0)73-823 03 21  
www.trollforsen.de

*Camping, cabins and multiple activities available – from the camping as well as in the neighbourhood.*

## Hostels

### AMMARNÄS GUIDECENTER

Tjulträskvägen 2, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-695 41 92  
www.ammarnasguide.se

### AMMARNÄS WÄRDSHUS

Nolsivägen 6, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-602 00  
www.ammarnaswardshus.se



Photo: Sanne Brämström / Re-Wild Consulting

### FJÄLLHÅSTEN

Televägen 2, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-603 00  
www.fjallhastan.com

*Hostel accommodation in the middle of Ammarnäs.*

### SORSELE CAMPING

Fritidsvägen 10, Sorsele  
+46(0)952-101 24  
www.sorselecamping.se

## Restaurants / Cafés

Whether you choose a reindeer burger at one of the bistros, drop in for a chill n' grill at Sandsjögården or a three course meal at Ammarnäs Wårdshus, you can be sure to enjoy food made from local ingredients.

### Restaurants



Photo: Ammarnäs Wårdshus

**AMMARNÄS WÄRDSHUS**  
Nolsivägen 6, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-602 00  
www.ammarnaswardshus.se

*A place where food matters. Fine dining made with care and local flavours.*

**AMMARNÄSGÅRDEN**  
Tjulträskvägen 1, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-600 03  
www.ammarnasgarden.se

*Have your choice of starters, entrees and desserts made with local produce.*

**SORSELE RIVER HOTEL**  
Hotellgatan 2, Sorsele  
+46 (0)952-121 50  
www.sorseleriverhotel.se

*Sorsele River Hotel is a popular place for locals and visitors to have a well-cooked buffet lunch. Here you can try palt every wednesday!*



Photo: Sandsjögården

**SANDSJÖGÅRDEN HOLIDAY RESORT**  
Sandsjö 122, Blattnicksele  
+46 (0)76-103 85 75  
www.sandsjogarden.se

*At Sandsjögården you can eat your treat and coffee, a buffé dinner or a three course meal – mixing tradition and innovation.*



Photo: Wäckelins B&B

**ÄNGLAGÅRD RESTAURANT**  
Mårschvägen 3, Gargnäs  
www.aenglagard-gargnas.se  
+46 (0)70-250 45 77

*Änglagård serves local food with a touch of Switzerland. Have a cup of coffee or a hearty dinner!*

### Bistros and cafés

**AMMARNÄS GUIDECENTER**  
Tjulträskvägen 2, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-695 41 92  
www.ammarnasguide.se

*Lighter à la carte courses, coffee and treats for lunch or dinner.*

**HOOK & CUP SORSELE VISITOR CENTER**  
Stationsgatan 19, Sorsele  
+46 (0)76-106 07 80

*Sandwiches with local flavour, tasty coffee and cakes, in the railroad museum of Sorsele.*

**PRINCESS BAKERY**  
Södra Esplanaden 6, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-275 13 63  
www.princess-sorsele.se

*The popular local bakery with a small outdoor café.*

**SORSELE HEMBYGDSGÅRD**  
Fritidsvägen 3, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-271 05 00

*A meeting place in the middle of Sorsele. Good food, fika and a cosy atmosphere.*

**TROLLFORSEN CAMPING**

Byvägen 47, Gargnäs  
+46 (0)73-823 03 21  
www.trollforsen.de

*Pizza evenings on Fridays and Saturdays.*

### Catering

**ANDERS SKUM FJÄLLVILT**  
Liftvägen 1, Ammarnäs  
www.fjallvilt.se  
+46 (0)70-600 60 27

*Occasional serving outside the store and outdoor catering.*

**PILTOS GODA**  
Nolsivägen 3A, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-302 31 81

*Pre-order packed lunches to go from the artisan food maker Ingrid, or buy a tasty souvenir.*



Photo: Håkan Stenlund

**i** There are companies with food cooked outdoors as a part of their offer. See suggestions on p. 15.

## Shopping

**AMMARNÄS GUIDECENTER**  
Tjulträskvägen 2, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-695 41 92  
www.ammarnasguide.se

*Fishing gear and outdoor products.*

**ANDERS SKUM FJÄLLVILT**  
Liftvägen 1, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-600 60 27  
www.fjallvilt.se

*Sells his own refined reindeer, moose and fish products.*

**ELDMARK**  
Strandvägen 15, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-230 47 59  
www.eldmark.se

*Manufactures and sells high-quality products for outdoor adventure seekers.*

**EMILS FISHING CAMP**  
Kraddele 172  
+46 (0)70-699 64 97  
www.emilsfiskecamping.se

*Makes and sells embroidered jewellery like bracelets and earrings.*

**FISHYOURDREAM AMMARNÄS**  
Nolsivägen 6, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-602 00  
www.fishyourdream.com

*Well equipped store with fishing gear.*

**HOOK & CUP SORSELE VISITOR CENTER**  
Stationsgatan 19, Sorsele  
+46 (0)76-106 07 80  
www.hookandcup.com

*Local souvenirs and fishing gear for sale and rental.*

**LJUNG HUDVÅRD**  
Strandvägen 26, Sorsele  
+46 (0)952-109 34  
www.ljunghudvard.se

*Makes and sells their own organic skin care line. Ecoshop and facial treatments.*

**PILTOS GODA**  
Nolsivägen 3A, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-302 31 81

*Sami crafts and artisan food souvenirs.*

# Activities / Culture

## Outdoor adventure

### AHA LODGE

Aha 106, Sorsele  
+46-(0)73-802 27 21  
www.aha-lodge.com  
info@aha-lodge.com

Offers icelandic horse riding, canoeing and a combination of them in the parts of the municipality, with forests and hilltops.



Photo: Aha Lodge

### AMMARNÄS GUIDE CENTER

Tjulträskvägen 2, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-695 41 92  
info@ammarnasguide.se  
www.ammarnasguide.se

Guided hiking and MTB tours in the Vindelfjällen nature reserve.

### FJÄLLHÄSTEN

Televägen 2, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-603 00  
info@fjallhasten.se  
www.fjallhasten.com

Icelandic horse riding with a Sami flavour, focusing on multi day tours, in the Vindelfjällen nature reserve. Fjällhästen has Nature's Best certified tours.

### GEUNJA SAMI ECO LODGE

Geunja, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-602 90  
www.geunja.com

Mikael Vinka is a versatile guide, always with a twist towards wildlife and soft adventures. Geunja is Nature's Best certified.

### HELI LAPLAND

Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-333 50 80  
info@ammarnasstugby.com

Fishing, hunting or hiking – Heli Lapland can take you to remote places in the nature reserve with a helicopter and a guide, or on your own if you prefer that.

### AMMARNÄSFJÄLLENS ISLANDSHÄSTAR

Nolsivägen 100, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-243 20 47  
info@ridiammarnas.com  
www.ridiammarnas.com

Icelandic horse riding in the Vindelfjällen nature reserve. Nature's Best certified.

### BJÖRK EXPERIENCE

Nolsivägen 6, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)73-376 18 97  
info@bjorkexperience.com  
www.bjorkexperience.com

Offers "Ammarnäs adventures" – among other things guided hiking.



### COLD NOSE HUSKIES

Jonsudden 13, Gargnäs  
+46 (0)70-287 85 02  
info@cold-nose.se  
www.cold-nose.se

Meet the puppies and Swedish champions at the huskyfarm in Gargnäs. Or go on a husky hike or a guided canoe trip.

### HUSKYFARM TVÄRÄTRÄSK

Tväräträsk 198, Blattnicksele  
+46 (0)72-704 48 52  
info@trails-of-lapland.de  
www.trails-of-lapland.de

Hang out with huskies, or take them for a walk, at Huskyfarm Tväräträsk.



Photo: Joachim Kaiser / NordTrek

### NORDTREK

Bjårdakken 152, Sorsele  
+46 (0)76-135 54 36  
info@nordtrek.com  
www.nordtrek.com

Joachim at NordTrek is our most versatile hiking guide around. A well trained and certified guide that knows the whole destination and offers everything from shorter tours to challenging treks over several days.

### OUTDOOR-TICKET

Idbäcksheden 10, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-314 88 18  
info@outdoor-ticket.com  
www.outdoor-ticket.com

Besides meeting the huskies, Outdoor-Ticket offers a wide selection of activities, like guided hiking and fishing.

### SAPMIVISTI

Nolsivägen 3A, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-302 31 81  
info@sapmivisti.se  
www.sapmivisti.com

Hiking guide with a twist – with SapmiVisti you'll get some storytelling and good food to go with the hike.



Photo: Pontus Holmgård / Suorge

### SORSELE FATBIKE TOURS

Strandvägen 33, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-333 26 41  
info@pensionatholmen.se  
www.pensionatholmen.se

Going from Holmen Bed & Breakfast, Sorsele Fatbike Tours offers guided cycling tours on fatbikes in and around Sorsele. Works closely with Suorge.

### SUORGE

Strandvägen 5B, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-692 29 97  
info@suorge.com  
www.suorge.com

Suorge is the biking guide who can tell you plenty of things about the culture in and around Sorsele.

## Fishing

### AMMARNÄS GUIDE CENTER

Tjulträskvägen 2, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-695 41 92  
info@ammarnasguide.se  
www.ammarnasguide.se

Fishing guide specialized on grayling and the Ammarnäs trout, with long experience of the area.



Photo: FishYourDream Ammarnäs

### FISHYOURDREAM AMMARNÄS

Nolsivägen 6, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)73-376 18 97  
info@fishyourdream.com  
www.fishyourdream.com

Fishyourdream Ammarnäs focuses on quality and sustainability. Has a fishing center, exclusive fishing products and guided fishing in the river and mountain region.

### Flicksländan Fishing

Sorsele  
+46 (0)73-806 76 06  
thereaselundin4@gmail.com

Focuses on teaching fly-fishing to women.

## Activities / Culture

### Fishing

#### GEUNJA SAMI ECOLOGE

Geunja, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-602 90  
info@lapplandsafari.se  
www.geunja.com

Exclusive fishing in private mountain lakes.

#### HELI LAPLAND

Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-333 50 80  
info@ammarnasstugby.com

Fly out fishing in the mountains.

#### HOOK & CUP SORSELE VISITOR CENTER

Stationsgatan 19, Sorsele  
+46 (0)76-106 07 80  
info@hookandcup.com

Visitor's and fishing center – the first place to go to plan your fishing trip in Sorsele.



Photo: Outdoor-Ticket

#### OUTDOOR-TICKET

Ibbäcksheden 10, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-314 88 18  
info@outdoor-ticket.com  
www.outdoor-ticket.com

Guiding and fly fishing courses for the beginner.

#### SORSELEFISKET

Rankbäcken 36, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-217 71 38  
info@sorselefisket.se  
www.sorselefisket.se

Exclusive fishing waters and accommodation.

#### V RIVER SERVICE

Torviksele 172, Blattnicksele  
+46 (0)70-248 42 11  
torviksele@gmail.com

Fishing guide specialized on fishing in Gargnäs and Juktådalen to name a few.



Photo: Pontus Holmgård

### Culture



#### GEUNJA SAMI ECOLOGE

Geunja, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-602 90  
info@lapplandsafari.se  
www.geunja.com

Sami settlement. Showing of Sami objects and storytelling.

#### INLANDSBANEMUSEUM

Stationsgatan 19, Sorsele

The museum of the historical railroad exhibits the building and history of the railroad. Has a café.

#### SAMI CHURCH TOWN & SAMEGÅRDEN

Lapplassvågen, Ammarnäs  
ammarnassameforening@hotmail.com

Right by the Sami church town is Samegården, that arranges activities for villagers and visitors during summer.

#### SKULPTURUM

Nolsivågen 47, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-611 03 01  
reception@bertejahre.se  
www.skulpturum.se

Art exhibition from the accomplished sculptor Marita Norin.



Photo: Mirja Brygg

#### SORSELE HEMBYGDSGÅRD

Fritidsvågen 3, Sorsele

The nice outdoor museum gathers old buildings from the history of Sorsele municipality. There's a café in the main building.

#### ÄLVKUNGEN

Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-229 90 55  
info@alvkungen.com

Älvkungen, or the River king, is a historical tour boat that does tours regularly on the Vindelälven river – or chart the whole boat.

## Rentals

#### AHA LODGE

Aha 106, Sorsele  
+46 (0)73-802 27 21  
www.aha-lodge.com

Canoes and fishing gear.

#### AMMARNÄS GUIDECENTER

Tjulträskvägen 2, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-695 41 92  
www.ammarnasguide.se

Fly-fishing gear.

#### GEUNJA SAMI ECOLOGE

Geunja, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-602 90  
www.geunja.com

Canoes and other equipment.

#### GRUNDSTRÖMS STUGBY

Blomsterdalsvägen 5, Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-390 50 26  
www.grundstromsstugby.se

Boat rentals.

#### HOOK & CUP SORSELE VISITOR CENTER

Stationsgatan 19, Sorsele  
+46 (0)76-106 07 80  
www.hookandcup.com

Fly-fishing gear for rental.

#### NORDTREK

Bjårdakken 152, Sorsele  
+46 (0)76-135 54 36  
info@nordtrek.com  
www.nordtrek.com

Most things needed for outdoor camping. Boat & cycles.

#### OUTDOOR-TICKET

Ibbäcksheden 10, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-314 88 18  
info@outdoor-ticket.com  
www.outdoor-ticket.com

Canoes and life jackets, boat with motor and camping gear like tents and portable kitchens.

#### SANDSJÖGÅRDEN HOLIDAY RESORT

Sandsjö 122, Blattnicksele  
+46 (0)76-103 85 75  
www.sandsjogarden.se

Rent a boat, a stand up paddle or the floating bridge in lake Sandsjön, perfect to have a private picknick on.

#### SORSELE FAT BIKE TOURS

Strandvägen 33, Sorsele  
+46 (0)70-333 26 41  
www.pensionatholmen.se

Fatbike rental.



Photo: Trollforsen

#### TROLLFORSEN CAMPING

Byvägen 47, Gargnäs  
+46 (0)73-823 03 21  
www.trollforsen.de

Boat and fishing gear.

## Communications

#### BUS AND TAXI

##### SORSELE BUSS & TAXI

+46 (0)952-120 00  
www.sorselebusse.se

#### HIRE CARS

##### KARLSSON'S BILSERVICE

+46 (0)952-121 30

#### HELICOPTER

##### HELI LAPLAND

Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-333 50 80  
info@ammarnasstugby.com

#### BOAT TRANSPORT

##### AMMARNÄS BÅTTAXI

Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)70-682 09 71  
www.ammarnasbattaxi.se

##### HANS FRANSSON

Juktådalen  
+46 (0)70-629 05 06  
hans.fransson120@gmail.com

##### GEUNJA SAMI ECOLOGE

Ammarnäs  
+46 (0)952-602 90  
www.geunja.com

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO GET HERE AND WHAT TO DO:

www.visitindelalven.org  
turist@sorsele.se

# Map of

MIDNIGHT SUN  
IN THE SUMMER

# Swedish Lapland



## Welcome to Sweden's arctic destination!

In Swedish Lapland you will find unique arctic experiences. Thanks to the warm Gulf Stream, here high up by the Arctic Circle, you can experience seasons with great contrasts between polar nights with sparkling northern lights in a white winter landscape and warm summers filled with swimming and hundred days without night under the midnight sun. In the east – a 300-km coastal stretch facing the Bay of Bothnia – the world's largest brackish water archipelago, with thousands of islands. Sandy beaches, fishing camps and unique produce. In the west – vast mountains, brooks with water so clean you can drink from them and lots of adventures around the corner. In between the quiet, enigmatic, open-handed forest and river valleys from Skellefte River in the south to Torne River in the north-east, all with their unique distinctive characteristics to offer. Traditions and cultures are strong here, and love of nature is even stronger. This is our everyday-life, and we invite you to share it with us.

[www.swedishlapland.com](http://www.swedishlapland.com)



DISCOVER MORE:

[www.visitvindelalven.org](http://www.visitvindelalven.org)



EUROPEAN UNION  
European Regional Development Fund