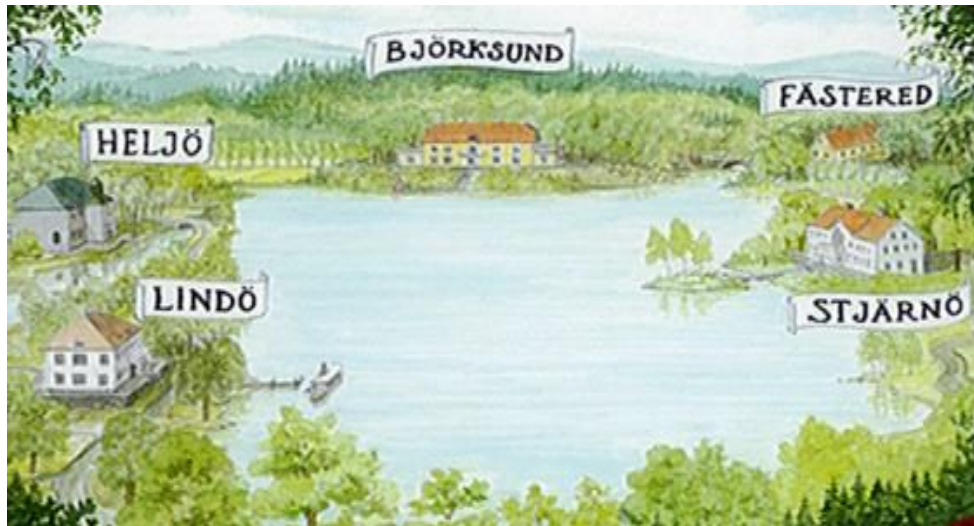


The Estates around the lake

Surrounding long, narrow Lake Åsunden - with high, spruce-clad, lowering hills to the west and open, leafy areas to the south - are the farms with their traditions, some dating far back in time.



1. Skottek.

At the battle of Åsunden in 1520, Sten Sture the Younger was said to have been wounded so severely that he later died. At Skottek today, you can see a memorial dedicated to Sten Sture. Skottek also has a bathing area, restaurant, café, camping and accommodation.

2. Sjö- Gunnarsbo was originally built as a sanatorium. The air in this region was considered to be exceptionally healthy. It sadly burned down in 2018.

3. Marbäck Church and Bredgården Manor.

Marbäck Church was built in the 12th century. It was built in its present form in 1824 and features a triumphal cross dating from the 15th century. Just north of the church Bredgården manor house can be seen. The farm was merged during the period of mass emigration to America.

4. Bäckagården is the name of the long, red building that stands on the eastern side of the road. This building was previously used as an inn house. It is privately owned.

5. Källebacka Estate. The ground floor of the main building was built in the late 1600s while the remainder was built in the mid 18th century. Much of the original interior remains intact. Källebacka is a listed building. Privately owned. Can be viewed by pre-booked groups.

6. Gällstad - Sweden's knitwear centre - is a village with a long tradition in knitwear production. In Gällstad you can shop for designer clothes, at outlet prices, every day of the week.

7. Attorp. The two white buildings were wings of a large manor house that burned down in 1780. Today, the estate includes a small agricultural museum. Privately owned. Can be viewed by pre-booked groups.

8. Vegby offers an excellent range of facilities including a grocery shop, holiday village, camping, mini-golf course and football golf in Sjöparken and a café by Lake Sämsjön.

9. Fästered is a traditional manor house that belonged for many centuries to the Ribbing family. Here, by the strait of Fästeredssund, the Fästeredsborg fortress served as a strategically important stronghold. The Ätran valley and Lake Åsunden have served since Viking times as the main route into Västergötland from the south. Fästeredssund was a narrow passage that everyone, whether friend or foe, had to pass through.

10. Högagårde (Björksund in the novels by Birgit Sparre) stands in a thickly-wooded oak park with a magnificent view of the lake. Miss Ebba Sparre of Torpa married Captain Nils Storckenfeldt in 1891 and thus became the owner for a time of Högagårde. Privately owned.

11. Åsundsholm was built in the 1920s by author Birgit Sparre's mother. At the top of the house, in a room overlooking Lake Åsunden, her daughter had her "writer's den". Today, the house offers restaurant facilities, accommodation, conference rooms, a golf course and a small exhibition about Birgit.

12. Sjöred (Stjärnö in her novels) was the childhood home of Birgit Sparre. The stylish main building was added in the mid 19th century. Privately owned.

13. The Finnekumla Estate is in a beautiful setting with views across Lake Sämsjön. The estate has been owned by the Sparre family for generations. In former days, the estate kept horses, cows and ran its own dairy. Today it has KRAV [organic] certification and a herd of approx. 50 animals in the large barn that was erected in 1911. The estate also boasts pasture-land, and energy and certified forests. Privately owned.

Finnekumla Church probably dates from the 12th century and contains an important christening font from that period. Birgit Sparre is buried in the churchyard.

14. Hofsnäs (Lindö in the novels). Following a fire in 1924, the house was rebuilt according to the original drawings. The estate, which is one of the oldest in the area, is mentioned as early as 1526. Today, it includes a restaurant, café and accommodation. **Gammelgården**, next to the main building, houses an exhibition and an arts & crafts shop during the summer months.

15. Torpa (Heljö). Torpa Stone House, one of Sweden's best preserved medieval houses, was built in the 15th and extended in the 16th century. Torpa was the ancestral home of the Stenbock family. It was here that King Gustav Vasa came for his third wife, Katarina Stenbock, in 1552. The house is now owned by Pehr Zethelius. During the summer, there

are guided tours of the house. You will also find a crafts workshop, exhibitions, café and accommodation.

16. Forsa Mill. From this dam in the river Ätran, the water level in Lake Åsunden is regulated.

17. Dannike Church. The church has both a tower and set of bells and dates from the 13th century.

18. Hulu. Hulu is where the road divides, leading north towards Ulricehamn and in a south-easterly direction to Gällstad. To get to Rude Kulle, you can take a minor road that passes between the two - Rudevägen.

19. Majblommegården. Majblomman's local committee worked here from the 1930s to the 1980s providing community activities for children from deprived backgrounds. It was subsequently turned into a camp site and, since 2005, has operated as a conference and accommodation centre.

20. Rude Kulle. Hilltop outlook with fantastic views. Turn on to a road that rises steeply to the east. The viewpoint is 100 metres from the parking area.

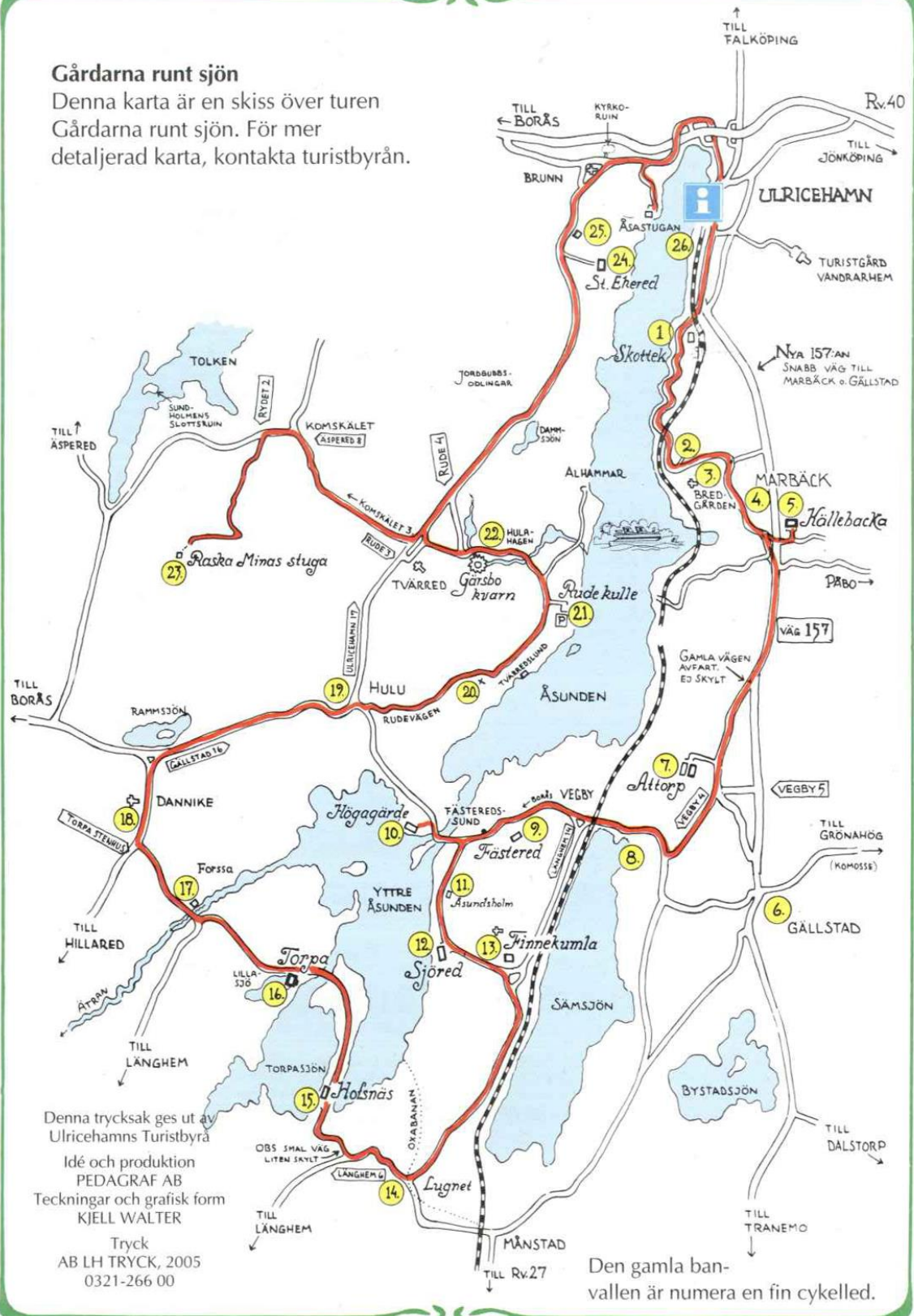
21. Gärsbo Mill was built in 1823 and renovated in 1970-85 by the Tvärred local history society. Viewings by arrangement. From the mill, you can follow a 4 kilometre long footpath to Hulahagen Nature Reserve.

22. Raska Mina's Cottage is a beautifully restored 19th century crofter's cottage. The small house with its authentic interior is open to visitors every day.

23. Brunnsnås Estate dates back to the 16th century. The present buildings were built at the beginning of the 1770s. Down the ages, the estate has been occupied by townspeople as well as the nobility. Birgit Sparre spent her final years in one of the wings of the house. Today, the estate offers conference and accommodation facilities.

Gårdarna runt sjön

Denna karta är en skiss över turen Gårdarna runt sjön. För mer detaljerad karta, kontakta turistbyrån.



Ulricehamns Turistbyrå
Järnvägstorget 2, 523 30 Ulricehamn
+46(0)321-59 59 59
turist@nuab.eu www.ulricehamnsturistbyra.se