

10

THINGS YOU SHOULD NOT MISS WHEN...

...you want to experience the cultural treasures of Dalsland. Creativity abounds in our landscape. Perhaps it is the tranquility and the beautiful nature that inspires. How about innovative opera in an authentic industrial environment, blues rhythms next to Lake Vänern, cool retro flea markets, stylish vintage motorbikes, well preserved industrial environments, imaginative crafts, high class design, author readings, art walks or why not try blowing glass?



1 OPEN-AIR HERITAGE MUSEUM

Situated high above Bengtsfors on Majberget with breathtaking lake views is the open-air heritage Museum Gammelgården. Here there are some 20 authentic buildings which have been relocated into this cultural environment. Then, as today, rural areas were often brimming with life and this collection of houses shows us how people lived and worked in the past. These include everything from the well-off farmer's red Dalsland house to the crofter's timber cottage with a dirt floor. The oldest building is the miller's cottage from the late 18th century and a unique building is the press house for straw hats – straw still being highly relevant to Majberget today. At Gammelgården is Scandinavia's only straw craft museum, Halmens Hus. Everything is however not just connected to folklore, Gammelgården is eminently a living museum with a variety of activities for the whole family. The Midsummer celebration at Majberget is magical. At Handicraft Day you can learn everything from plaiting straw, to the making of red paint and tar burning.

2 FOR MC FANS

If you are interested in motors and motorbikes then Ed's MC and Motor museum is the museum to visit. In an area of about 1000 square meters a collection of 1050 vintage motorcycles, mopeds and moped motors from several different countries is displayed. It is worth mentioning that among the motorcycles there is a complete and rare collection of Swedish Rex from 1923-1953. There are also foreign rarities such as Wanderer 1912, Cleveland 1919, Indian Scout 1927, Raleigh 1929, ... The list goes on! The museum also displays a little over 70 chain saws, 50 boat engines, 300 radios and a small collection of antique sewing-machines.



3 VISIT OUR ARTISTS

Look out for this little square folder. Here presents itself a colourful collection of artists and craftsmen who would like a visit from you. They open their workshops and studios to visitors. Some have generous opening hours; others prefer a call before a visit. One thing you can be sure of – you will receive a warm welcome! Galleries and art locations are also presented in the folder.



4 ÅMÅL'S INDUSTRY MUSEUM

C.W. Thorstensions Mekaniska Verkstad gives you a unique opportunity to see how a family lived and worked in the early 20th century. The workshop is largely preserved since it was founded in 1918. Production has been built on a combination of handicraft and early industrial technology. The Thorstenson family lived in a modest apartment in the same building and there is even a small office.



5 ART WALK

Annually, on Ascension Day holiday weekend an Art Walk is arranged whereby artisans open their homes, workshops and galleries to the public. View their works and listen to the artists describing what inspires them and what thoughts they want to convey. Traditionally the Art walk starts with the opening of an exhibition where all artists are represented. This year the exhibition is at Åmåls Konsthall.



6 LÄSTVIKS SÄTERI & GALLERY

The manor is an old Dalsland forest farm house outside of Dals Långed which has belonged to the same family for generations. The love of art is evident throughout the entire farm, and its many activities. In the manor farmhouse one finds for example a function room with its unique murals from 1858 designed by the rural painter C F Pagander. Lästviks Gallery is housed in the beautiful old grain warehouse, located close to the manor farmhouse. Here you will find exciting art of cultural enrichment. In the downstairs gallery there is a craft shop that sells high quality fancy arts and crafts. A lot of different artists and handicraft artists are represented with their jewellery, pottery and glassware, textiles, sculptures and paintings. In the vintage store Birgit's Wardrobe you can find everything from exclusive designer garments to items from today's clothing chains such as shoes, jewellery and other accessories.



7 LITERATURE DAYS

Bokdagarna i Dalsland (Literature Days), has been arranged since 2001. The event attracts visitors from all over the country. It offers author readings, exhibitions, seminars, books sales and more. During the year, other opportunities are also organised for readers and authors to meet. Since the beginning of Bokdagarna there have been an impressive number of well known authors as book festival guests. Björn Ranelid has participated, as well as Märta Tikkanen, Birgitta Stenberg. Ernst Brunner, Jan Guillou and Håkan Nesser. Read more at www.bokdagaridalsland.se.



8 STENEBY

Steneby is a creative, educational center that has combined craftsmanship and materials for nearly 100 years. As host to Stenebyskolan and Gothenburg University it offers training at various levels in design and the arts with special focus on practical learning. In total there are 170 students, the majority of whom work mainly with wood, metal and textiles. Steneby has an active, vibrant art gallery with a broad exhibition spectrum all year round, a library focusing on art and a gallery shop where former Steneby students sell their works.



9 ÅMÅL'S BLUES FESTIVAL

Åmåls Blues Festival is Sweden's largest blues festival. It is always held on the second weekend in July but actually continues during the entire week. Following tradition, the festival begins with blues from different scenes throughout the city, on streets, in stores and cafés and in the clubs. Blues music is heard everywhere this week in the summer town of Åmål, even at the horse racecourse! The blues festival attracts a happy, loyal and faithful crowd who truly love music and the feeling it delivers. For current information see www.bluesfest.net.

10 DALSLANDS GLASHYTTA I HÄVERUD

Strategically situated, right next to Dalsland Canal in Häverud is Dalsland Glasshytta and Aqueduct Shop run by Johnny Persson, the province's only glass blower, and his wife Ingrid. The workshop is integrated with the spacious boutique so that visitors can study at close range how Johnny turns glowing molten glass into beautiful utility and decorative glass. Visitors can even try glass blowing under Johnny's guidance – a very exciting experience, especially for kids. NOTE! This must be booked in advance. The Aqueduct Shop contains an attractive selection of glass wares and other crafts such as wrought iron, textiles, food specialties of Dalsland and souvenirs. Here you can browse for a while and after shopping avail yourself of the sightseeing possibilities in Häverud.

