



MARIESTAD

Gamla Stan

a walk in the old town



The Old Town

Get acquainted with Mariestad and the old town. With its old buildings from the 18th and 19th centuries making you catch a glimpse of manners of living in the past. Stroll around on the cobbled streets and visit old yards reminding you of past time. We suggest you go for a walk in the old town accompanied by our guide map with descriptions over the building.



Mariestad 1941

Our walk in the old town starts at the guest harbour.

1. The Youth Hostel,

owned by the SYHA since 1944, is one of the most popular in the country. Earlier this was one of the numerous tanneries of the town. The timbered house with external galleries was built after the fire in 1693.

2. Västerlånggatan no.7.

A well-preserved burgher's house in Caroline style, except for the entrance, which is Gustavian. The front is painted in light oil-colour, but the back in ruddle. Protected as a listed building since 1968.

3. Västerlånggatan no.5.

the old Town Inn, which had its kitchen on the ground floor and the dining-rooms upstairs. First mentioned in 1736.

4. The Old Market square

was the natural meeting-place for the citizens and furthermore the most distinguished buildings were to be found here. This impressive merchant's house, left undamaged by the fire of 1895, was built in the early 19th century by Göran Northman. Today the listed building contains private apartments and businesses.





5. Kyrkogatan no.4.

One of the few buildings with a touch of Art Nouveau, built in the first decade of 1900.

6. Kyrkogatan no.8.

One of the oldest burgher's houses in Mariestad. The otherwise symmetrical building has an extra chamber on one side, which is typical of the area. The upper floor was added towards the end of the last century.

7. Kyrkogatan no.16.

This is where Bror Kronstrand was born in 1875. He was a famous portrait painter, whose paintings of prominent people can be admired in many parts of the world.



8. Kyrkogatan no.18.

Berg's Hotel. Another low and plastered building, characteristic of the old part of Mariestad.

9. The building at the corner of Kyrkogatan/Prästgårdsgatan

was built in 1786 as the first grammar school of the town. The classrooms were on the ground floor and the headmaster lived upstairs. In 1854 the school was moved into a new building (no.13), north of the church.

10. Kyrkogatan no.15

This unusually long and low building, typical of the 18th century, has offered

travellers accomodation for a very long time. In the first decades of the 19th century, the Dean's wife ran a school of household-management here for the girls of the town.

11. The cathedral

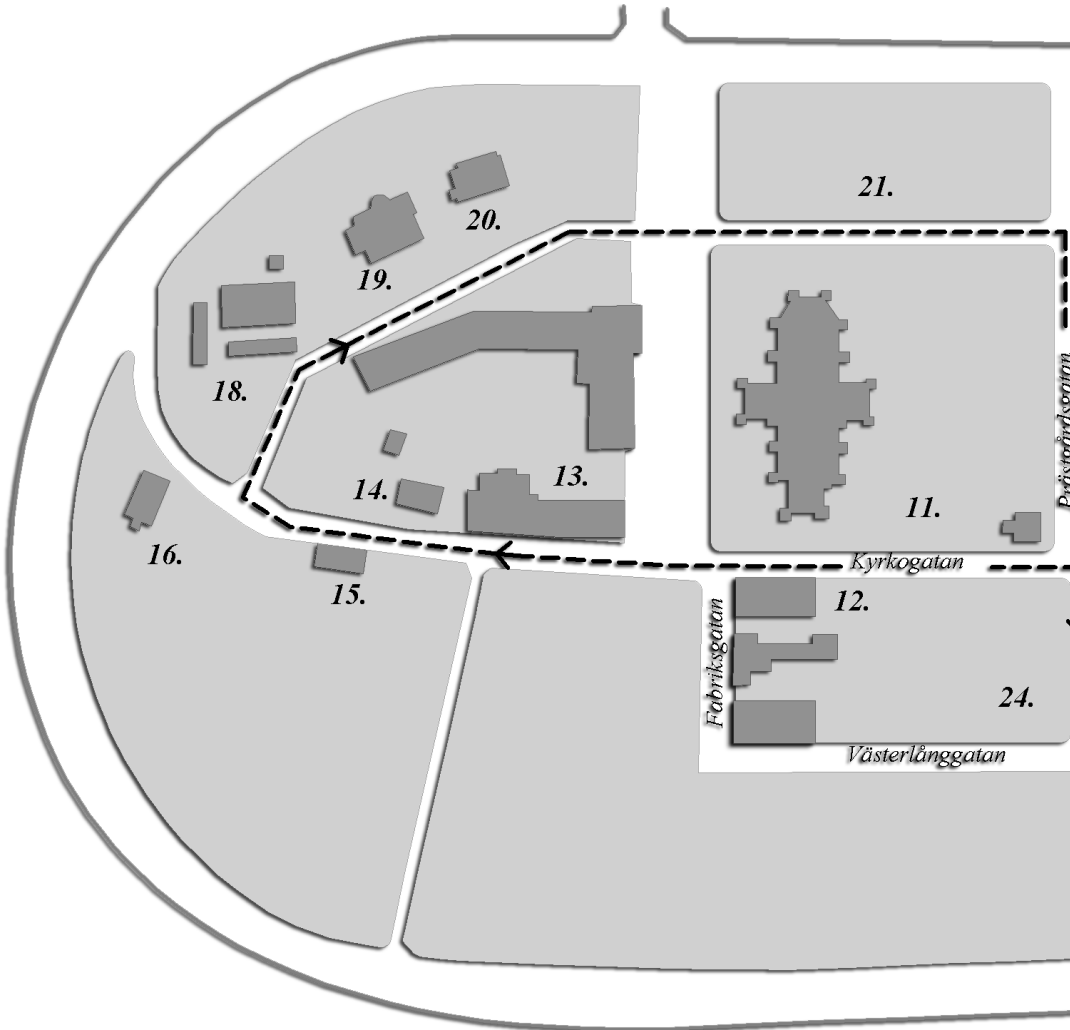
was built between 1593 and 1625, as a consequence of religious controversies between Duke Karl and his brother King Johan III. In 1580, Värmland and the northern part of Västergötland had been detached from the diocese of Skara and given a super-intendent of their own, residing in Mariestad.

The Duke had the new cathedral built mainly according to plans made by the Dutchman Willelm Boy for the church of Saint Clara in Stockholm, thus freely copying his brother's most important church building in the capital. The nave gives a most remarkable impression of unbroken unity, following the traditions of the late Middle Ages, vigorous vaults span a considerable width without supporting pillars.

The present day appearance of the cathedral was brought about in a restauration 1903-1905 by the architect Folke Zettervall, who removed the roughcast and gave the spire its present height.



17. Café Holmen



Nygatan





12. Kyrkogatan no. 21.

The first general hospital in Mariestad, built in 1760 as the third in Sweden. General hospitals used to be located in diocesan capitals or monasteries and as early as in 1588 Duke Karl had established a hospital in Mariestad.

13. Kyrkogatan no. 22.

Earlier a grammar school, nowadays a technical school for students aged 16 to 18. The building was built 1852-1854 to replace the one mentioned in no. 9. It was rebuilt and enlarged 1909-1911. Bror Kronstrand embellished the assemblyhall in 1913 with his painting "Athletics".

14. Kyrkogatan no. 24.

This timbered cottage is called "Aron's house" and can be classified as "a burgher's house from the 17th century". The small houses on Näset were the only ones to survive the fire in 1693.



15. Kyrkogatan no. 31.

Towards the end of the 16th century Duke Karl took the initiative in creating the first hospital here, comprising a combined poor-house and hospital, a house for a preacher and various outhouses.

16. Kyrkogatan no. 37.

This house used to be widely known as Café Näset but its former functions have now been passed on to...

17. Café Holmen,

which is beautifully situated on the shore of Lake Vänern.

18. Östergården

on the very edge of the ridge, is very characteristic of the 18th century and with its old outbuildings it is one of the few properties within the area that still keep their rural character.

19. Villa Österlid

dates from the turn of the century, when Swiss ideals were predominant: large eaves, frontispiece and rich fretsaw ornamentations.

20. Villa Fjällnäs

is from the same period as no. 19. It has got its name from the stylized scales on the upper part of the house

21. The green open space on the slope along Nygatan

used to be the eastern border of the town. Every property had its own garden on this slope. East of Nygatan the town had its barns and the area now occupied by the railway was called Kyrkgärdet (the Churchfield).





22. Prästgårdsgatan no. 10.

With its large and verdant grounds and its outhouses the Vicarage forms the boundary between the old and the new parts of the town.

23. Prästgårdsgatan no. 6.

This building has its origin in the old timbered churchstables, which in 1914 were transformed into a dwelling-house by means of an upper floor.

24. The building at the corner

Västerlånggatan/Prästgårdsgatan, has its roots in the 18th century, while the other buildings in this block were built 1992-1993. Earlier the Town Fire-brigade had its location here with a stable and a fire-hose tower. The inner yard is embellished with a sculpture called "The fire fiend", made by Wanja Håkansson, Lidköping.



25. Västerlånggatan no. 23.

Frökenhuset (The House of the Misses) is a building from the 19th century, originally one-storeyed but given its present form in the following century by the addition of an upper floor, which shows the characteristic features of classicism.

26. Västerlånggatan no. 21.

This little house is peculiar, both with regard to its position, the gable facing the street, and its construction. The

part visible from the street has been roughcasted whereas the rest is ruddled and only partly boarded. Moreover, the dwelling has been joined to a row of outhouses.

27. Västerlånggatan no. 12.

This combination of stable, carriage house and storehouse is a remnant from the days when courtyards surrounded by buildings were customary.

28. Västerlånggatan no. 10.

the building is of the same type as no. 6 and is supposed to have been built shortly after the fire of 1693. Around 1900, there was a bakery in the northern part of the building.

29. Västerlånggatan no. 11.

the Curate's (or the Chaplain's) House was donated to the church in 1695.

30. Rådhusgatan no.3.

Known as the Cavaliers' Wing and used as a lodging house for the guests of the Town Inn (no. 3).

31. The corner of Rådhusgatan/ Hamngatan.

These warehouses are all that is left of the numerous wooden buildings that used to stand along the harbour, and are therefore a valuable element of the old part of Mariestad.





Photo:

Mariestads Bildarkiv, Stefan Svensson, Elisabet Johansson, Björn Nordén, Mariestads turism



MARIESTAD

Tourist information
+46 501-75 58 50
visitmariestad@mariestad.se
www.turism.mariestad.se

