

The Ancient Cult Sites for
Common Identity on the Baltic Sea Coast



**TOURISM ROUTE
„TOP 10 IN GÄVLEBORG”
ROUTE FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO EXPLORE THE ANCIENT
SACRED SITES
OF GÄVLEBORG AND ENJOY THE PICTURESQUE
LANDSCAPES.
DEVELOPED: 2012**

ROUTE STAGES	SIGHTS AND OBJECTS
<p>Gävle-Hillevik-Hamrånge-Söderala-Trönö-Enånger-Hög-Kuggörarna-Gnarp Total route length – 346 km</p> <p>The recommended mode of transport: car, bicycle and boat</p> <p>Route is passable in 2-3 days. Recommended time for travel: summer, spring, autumn.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lervik spring Healing spring 2. Hillevik Healing spring 3. Nyppberg iron Age graves and holy iron production site 4. Västerhäll Ancient fertility slide 5. Bergahögen Early Iron Age grave 6. Fålmobergen Cult site 7. Hedningahällan Stone age cult site 8. Högs church Runic stones, graves, funerary globes 9. Kuggörarna Labyrinth 10. Vattingsmalarna Bronze Age cairns

GENERAL ROUTE DESCRIPTION





In the beginning of our trip we are going to **Lervik spring** – an ancient spring that was rebuilt in the 18th century by the nobleman Per Ennes. Further we are going to the direction of Hillevik to visit an old healing spring, The **Hillevik healing spring**. The water contains a lot of iron and gives you strenght. Further north, we come to **Nyppberg** in Bergby, Hamrånge and visit Iron Age graves with an ancient iron production site, which was a holy place during the time it was used. The site has been excavated and dated. **Västerhäll** is an ancient fertility slide on a hillside just by the road a few kilometres to the north, just outside Bergby. From there we go to **Bergahögen** in Söderala, where we visit the local King's grave overlooking the Söderala valley. Further on, the mystical forests of Trönö and **Fälmo mountains** take us back to the time when people sacrificed metal to the gods at the foot of a mountain to gain good crops and prosperity. In Enånger, we visit the intriguing Stone age site **Hedningahällan**, where tribes around the Baltic sea met to party and to sacrifice precious battle axes. From there, we go up to Hudiksvall and the church in **Hög**, where there are runic stones, funerary globes and large grave mounds. The area was excavated 2011 and 2012 and has been a cult area since the Early Iron Age. At the island **Kuggörarna** we can enjoy the beautiful scenery and an ancient labyrinth, that was built to give the fishermen good fishing luck. The Bronze age cairns at Vattingmalarna in Gnarp in the northernmost part of the county is a beautiful, dramatic site that is also a nature reservation. If you drive the route around Midsummer you can experience the celebrations at all the local history club museums in every parish you pass.

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DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTSEEING OBJECTS

Name	Description	How to find	Practical information	Picture
Lervik spring	<i>The spring has been used for healing purposes since ancient times. The noble man Per Ennes had a stair and a wall built around the spring in the 18th century.</i>	GPS 56° 35'262; 21° 06'453 <i>Go from Gävle centre towards Gävle harbour and take a forest path to the right at Lervik.</i>	<i>N 6731388 E 619851 There is no infrastructure on the spot and just an old sign. Parking must take place on the harbor road. Accessible for disabled people.</i>	
Hillevik healing spring	<i>The spring has been used for healing purposes since ancient times. The water contains a great deal of iron and is known to be healthy. The spring has an entrance with planted trees.</i>	<i>Go to Hillevik in the east part of Hille parish. A small path to the right just before Hillevik.</i>	<i>N 6742860 E 621603 There is an old sign beside the spring. Parking must take place on the road to Hillevik.</i>	... 




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<p>Nyppberg</p>	<p><i>Gravefield and iron production site. In Gästrikland, life and death coexisted in the material environment. Iron was made and the slag was put in the graves as a sacrifice to the gods.</i></p>	<p><i>Go to Bergby school and then 400 meters to the south. The gravefield is situated near the railway.</i></p>	<p><i>N 6755761 E 610765 No infrastructure on the site.</i></p>	
<p>Västerhäll</p>	<p><i>Fertility slide that has been used for hundreds of years. When a woman wanted to get pregnant, she went down the slide. The slides are very often situated near Iron Age grave fields</i></p>	<p><i>Go on the old E4 to Bergby and further, on the way to Axmar. The cliff with the slide is just on the right hand side of the road</i></p>	<p><i>N 6756697 E 609871 A Bed & Breakfast just beside the site. Just near the old E4. No other infrastructure.</i></p>	
<p>Bergahögen</p>	<p><i>Kings mound from the Early Iron Age. The mound was overlooking a sea bay during that time.</i></p>	<p><i>Go to Söderala centre, take the road to the north towards Trönö and turn left. You see the large mound from the small road.</i></p>	<p><i>N 6796859 E 603812 The local history club has put up signs and a memory stone. Food and Bed & Breakfast in the centre of Söderala.</i></p>	




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<p>Fåльмоbergen</p>	<p><i>Cult site where people have sacrificed iron currency bars during the Early Iron Age. The iron was deposited to please the gods. The metal was buried at the foot of a mountain, in a bog or on the border between the farm and the outland.</i></p>	<p><i>From Söderhamn, go to the new church in Trönö and turn left. After Högsten, take a small road to the right. Follow that up to Fåльмоbergen.</i></p>	<p><i>N 6808681 E 595115 No infrastructure.</i></p>	
<p>Hedningahällan</p>	<p><i>Late stone age meeting point and cult site. For about 4500 years ago, the cliff was an island in the Baltic Sea. People from all around the coast met here and performed rituals. One ritual was to destroy beautiful battle axes.</i></p>	<p><i>From the centre of Enångers, take the road to Långvind. Parking space on the right hand side. A one kilometer long walk to the site.</i></p>	<p><i>N 6819276 E 607010 County museum sign. No other infrastructure.</i></p>	
<p>Hög</p>	<p><i>A whole Iron Age cult environment with grave mounds, runic stones, funerary globes and a Medieval church. Excavations have been</i></p>	<p><i>Hög church just outside Hudiksvall. Take the second road from the E4 in to Hudiksvall, take</i></p>	<p><i>N 6949845 E 607620 Church, church office facilities. County museum signs. The church will open if you talk to</i></p>	

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	<i>performed and revealed cultic activities on the spot. Medieval rune carvings in the wooden roof of the church.</i>	<i>left in the first roundabout and follow the signs to Hög.</i>	<i>the priests office at Forsa church.</i>	
Kuggörarna	<i>Labyrinth near the old harbour at Kuggörarna. Labyrinths were built to increase the fishing luck for the fishermen. Kuggörarna is an old fishing camp and is now a popular spot for summer houses.</i>	<i>Kuggörarna on Hornslandet outside Hudiksvall. Follow signs to Hornslandet and the to Kuggören</i>	<i>N 6843903 E 633034 A Country Administrative Board sign. A small kiosk near the site is open during the summer for beverages and ice cream. Large parking space.</i>	
Vattingsmalarna	<i>Ancient Bronze age cairns. The cairns were placed on the old coast line to be seen from the sea. They were also built to honor the dead and to be worshipped. This area, Vattungmalarna, is also a nature reservation.</i>	<i>Follow the E4 to Gnarp. Go out to Norrfjärden, turn south and then take the small road to Vattingen. Then a 500 meter walk.</i>	<i>N 6881798 E 628656 Nature reservation. No infrastructure.</i>	

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PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Gävle Turistbyrå

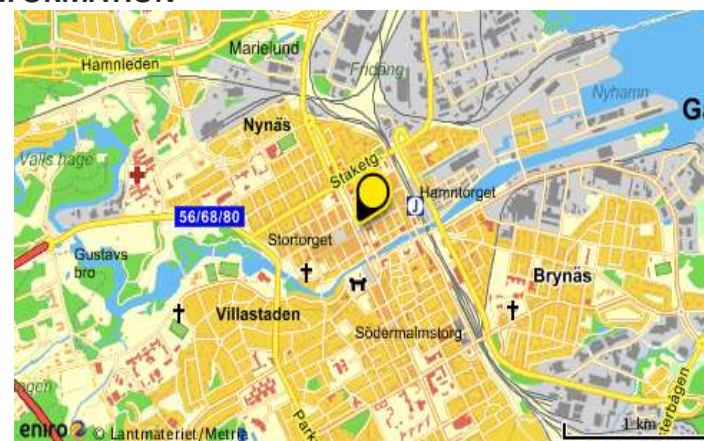
Drottninggatan 22

Tel.: +4626177117

www.gavle.se/Uppleva--gora/

Turistbyrå/

turist@gavle.se



Söderhamns Turistbyrå

Resecentrum

826 40 Söderhamn

Tel: 0270-753 53

www.soderhamn.se/turism

turism@soderhamn.se



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Hudiksvalls Turistbyrå

Storgatan 33
824 30 Hudiksvall
Tel. +4665019100
Fax. +4665038175
www.halsingland.com/index.asp/id/30





Nordanstigs Turistbyrå

Landsvägen 1
820 76 Jättendal
Tel: +46652161 75
Fax: +46652160 85
Mobil: +4670670 78 78
info@upplevnordanstig.se
www.upplevnordanstig.se

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACCOMMODATION

Name	Address	GPS	Picture
Gävle Bed & Breakfast	Gävle Bed & Breakfast Växthusgatan 2 803 25 Gävle Telefon +4670338 48 00 Contact: Susanne Metz info@gavlebedandbreakfast.se	N 6728881 E 616338	
Gävle hostel Gamla Gefle	STF Vandrarhem Gamla Gefle Södra Rådmansgatan 1 802 51 Gävle Telefon 026-62 17 45, fax 026-61 59 90 E-post stf.vandrarhem@telia.com	N 6728135 E 617385	

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<p>Holmsundsallén Gävle</p>	<p>AB Gävlebukten Bed & Breakfast and Boat fares E-mail: prag@gavlebukten.se</p> <p>+4626192050 Holmsundsallén 29 804 29 Gävle</p> <p>+46730650299 Peter Prag</p> <p>+46768258071 Birgitta Prag</p>	<p>N 6728977 E 621798</p>	
<p>Knutpunkten Bergby</p>	<p>Knutpunkten +46297-101 06 (Mon-Thurs 13-17) Mobile +4676780 76 48 (other hours) or info@knutpunkten.org</p>	<p>N 6756539 E 610695</p>	

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<p>Sörgården Bo på Lantgård (Stay on a farm)</p>	<p>Sockenvägen 37 82661 SÖDERALA +4627028 70 16 Mobile +4670355 15 84 karin.hager@soderhamn.com www.karinhager.nu</p>	<p>N 6795914 E 604387</p>	
<p>Gramersgården Myskje</p>	<p>Myskje 922 826 92Söderala +46270425043 www.bokahalsingland.se/AccommodationGuide/View/B_B-Bo_pa_Lantgard/Gramersgarden_152233</p>	<p>N 6795544 E 598731</p>	

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<p>B&B 35, Hudiksvall</p>	<p>Västra Tullgatan 16, 824 30,Hudiksvall www.vlpab.com bb35@vlpab.com Reception +4665012620 Booking: +4665012620</p>	<p>N 6845905 E 610884</p>	
<p>Kungsgården Långvind</p>	<p>Kungsgården, Långvindsbruk , 825 96 Enånger Tel: +46(0)650-82233 Mobile: +46(0)706-605560 Contact: Jörgen Bengtsson info@kungsgardenlangvind.se www.kungsgardenlangvind.se</p>	<p>N 6815906 E 613251</p>	

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Två Tanter Bed & Breakfast, Rogsta Old Vicary	Ingsta 5 824 93 Hudiksvall Tel 076-850 35 82 info@tvatanter.se Två Tanter Catering HB 969724-6487	N 6850076 E 615650	
17 rum och kök	820 75 Harmånger Tel +46652301 30 fax.+46652301 61 kontakta@17rok.se www.17rok.se	N 6868280 E 616343	

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<p>Mellanfjärdens Pensionat</p>	<p>Malångsvägen 13 820 76 Jättendal Tel +46652160 75 Karin Weiåker +46705665077 www.mellanfjardenspensionat.se</p>	<p>N 6871727 E 622627</p>	
<p>Berggården Inn Bed & Breakfast</p>	<p>Armévägen 3 820 77 GNARP +4665220287 info@berggarden.nu www.berggarden.nu</p>	<p>N 6881776 E 617516</p>	

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR GOURMET

Name	Address	Working hours	Picture
Matildas	Timmermansgatan 23 802 52 Gävle +4626625349	Tue-Sat from 17.00	
Valbostreet Food Club	Valbovägen 170 Valbo Location varies Locally produced food peter@valbostreet.se +46702440794	Call and make an appointment	

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<p>Furuviks brygga havsgastro</p>	<p>Gösta Nygrens väg 1 814 91 Furuvik +462698003</p>	<p>Varies Check in advance</p>	
<p>Högbo bruk</p>	<p>Hans Hiertas väg 20 811 22 Sandviken Tel: +462624 52 00 Fax: +462624 52 09 info@hogbobrukshotell.se www.hogbobrukshotell.se</p>	<p>Recommended by the restaurant guide White Guide. Opening hours: please see the website</p>	


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<p>Axmar brygga havskrog</p>	<p>Boskär 817 94 Axmarbruk +4629732000</p>	<p>12-22</p>	
<p>Restaurang Albertina, Skärså</p>	<p>Skärså 443 826 91 Söderhamn www.albertina.se Tel +4627032010 Fax +4627032344 Talk to Mats or Ingela</p>	<p>17th of May – 6th of August Call for opening hours</p>	

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<p>Medelhavs- källaren, Hudiksvall</p>	<p>Norra Kyrkogatan 9 824 30 Hudiksvall Tel. +4665012718 www.restaurangportal.se/restaurang/medelhavskallaren</p>	<p>Call for opening hours</p>	
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INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER SIGHTSEEING OBJECTS / OPTIONS WITHIN THE ROUTE

Website	Description	Focus on
www.raa.se/fornsok	A site with a database and map with every known ancient site and historic site in the country	Ancient sites
www.raa.se	The Swedish National Heritage Boards own website	Cultural history and environment in Sweden
www.gastrikland.com	A site that presents all information about Gästrikland	Tourism in Gästrikland
www.jarnriket.com	A site about the iron land of Gästrikland and a lot of places to visit	Iron history and tourism in Gästrikland
www.hembygdsforbund.x.se	A site about all the history clubs in the county and how to visit their old beautiful history parks	Cultural history and environment
www.avenyrarna.se	A site about adventure and fishing tours in Gästrikland	Adventure and fishing
www.furuvik.se	A site with everything about the large zoo and theme park Furuvik outside Gävle	Entertainment and adventure
www.lansmuseetgavleborg.se	The county museums own website about things to see at the museum in Gävle and in the county	Art, cultural history, ancient sites and cultural environment
www.halsinglandsmuseum.se	The Hälsinglands museums website about what to see at the museum in Hudiksvall and in Hälsingland	Cultural and coherent history in Hälsingland
www.halsingland.se	Tourism website with booking facilities etc.	Tourism in Hälsingland

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www.halsingegardar.se	Website of the Hälsingland world heritage farms	Tourism and cultural environment
www.lansstyrelse.gavleborg.se	County administrative board's site about fishing, cultural environment, culture reservations and nature reservations in the county	Culture and nature in Gävleborg county
www.gavle.se	Information site about the Gävle area; tourism, facilities etc.	Practical info about Gävle area
www.soderhamn.se	Information site about the Söderhamn area; tourism, facilities etc.	Practical info about Söderhamn area
www.hudiksvall.se	Information site about the Hudiksvall area; tourism, facilities etc.	Practical info about Hudiksvall area
www.nordanstig.se	Information site about the Nordanstig area; tourism, facilities etc.	Practical info about the Nordanstig area
www.naturvardsverket.se	Site about nature in Sweden. Advice about how to behave in a nature reservation	Nature

More information about natural ancient sacred sites in Latvia, Estonia and Sweden - www.ancientsites.eu