



Växjö Tourist Guide

The four “Must See and Do’s” when visiting Växjö

- ▶ Kronobergs Castle Ruins
- ▶ Nykulla Scenic Lookout
- ▶ Cathedral
- ▶ Växjö Concert House

Municipality Facts 01

Population
78 300

Area
1 924,81 km²

Regional Center
Växjö

County
Kronoberg

More Information 02

Internet
www.vaxjo.se
www.turism.vaxjo.se

Newspapers
Växjöbladet/kronobergaren
Smålandsposten
www.smalandsposten.se
Östgöta Correspondente
www.corren.se

Växjö Tourist Bureau
City Library,
V. Esplanaden 7, Växjö
www.turism.vaxjo.se

Notes 03

Police 114 14
Country Code +46
Area Code 0470



Photo: Shutterstock

Welcome to Växjö

Växjö is almost entirely surrounded by lakes, so you are always close to the water. North of the city is the large Lake Helgasjön, northeast of the city is Lake Toftasjön, southwest is Southern Lake Bergundasjön and to the North is Lake Bergundasjön. Centrally located is Lake Växjösjön and Lake Trummen. There are also plenty of fish in the lakes as well. If you would like to try your luck, fishing licenses can be purchased at the tourist office.

Smålands Museum is found here and is Sweden's oldest rural museum. If you would like to know more about Swedish glass and it's history, then don't miss a visit here.

Växjö is residential city in Kronoberg County and one of the diocese cities, visit the cathedral which is one of the city's famous buildings.



Tourist Guide Växjö

See and Do



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City

Växjö

According to legend, the English missionary Sigfrid was the first Christian messenger to Sweden and Växjö at the end of the Viking era of 1000's. He built the city's first church, which during the 1170's was replaced by stone and the origin of today's Cathedral. Växjö received city rights in 1342 by King Magnus Eriksson.

Farmers in Småland rose up against Gustav Vasa's fiscal burdens in 1542 under the leadership of Nils Dacke. The rebellion came to be known as "Dackefejden."

Växjö has burnt down several times but always built up again. The city has a long tradition as a university, diocese and residential city. Until the early 1990's, Växjö was also a garrison city.

Now, Växjö is a city of expansion with nearly 80 000 inhabitants, a diversified economy and a growing university.

Known profiles from Växjö include scientist Carl Linnaeus, opera singer Christina Nilsson, author Elin Wägner and Nobel laureate in literature Pär Lagerkvist, songstress Charlotte Perelli, athlete Carolina Klüft, tennis player Mats Wilander, the musicians in The Ark and Melody Club.

Swimming

Medley Växjö Swimming Center

The Swimming center has adventure, motion swimming, Roman baths, fitness, massage, solarium, and much more.

Swimming Center is located along Lake Växjösjön.

0470-412 05

www.simhallen.se

Family Activities

Bergunda Medieval Church

The church was most probably built during the latter part of the 1100s as a Romanesque

church without a tower. The tower was added sometime during the 15th century and over time; the interior and exterior changes have been many. The church gained its present look when its exterior was rebuilt 1825-26. It was also then that the special pews were added for the patrons at Bergkvara.

From Växjö take Route 23 towards Malmö, after about 7 km turn left towards Bergunda. Continue for only 2 km.

Evedals Recreation Area

Evedals recreational area is located just outside Växjö at the beach along Lake Helgasjön. The area is from the 1700's, which was then a watering place and the old well is still there. Today, the societies house has a charming inn and the hotel has become a nice hostel. There are also canoe rentals, mini golf, outdoor pool, marina, campground with a restaurant, hiking and football field.

From Växjö center, take Route 23 towards Oskarshamn, at the roundel Norremark turn left towards Evedal.



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Photo: Shutterstock

Kronobergstrampen Cycle Trails

Approximately a 35 mile long cycling trail through Växjö, Alvesta, Tingsryd, Lessebo and Uppvidinge municipalities. The route consists of small roads in Småland, through villages, meadows and forests. A Map and description can be purchased at the Tourist Information Center. Shorter cycle tours maps and descriptions are also available.

Minigolf in Växjö

Mini golf with 2 courses with 18 holes. Approved for national games. Serving. *Spetsamossen, Växjö*

+46(0)470-177 02

www.vaxjobgk.se

Nordländer in Åby, canoeing, fishing

Along the northern part of Lake Helgasjön is the idyllic village of Åby and the Nordländer Canoe Center. This is a good place to start if you are planning to paddle the "Värendstrail" going from Lake Asasjön through Lake Helgasjön and down to Granö at the border of Blekinge municipality. There is also

Sweden's southernmost lock that is more than 100 years old. Through the hand driven locks, you can paddle a canoe. At the canoe center, you can also rent camping equipment, kayaks, fishing boats, cabins, rooms and group camps.

Nordländer is located in Åby, 25 km North of Växjö. Take Rout 23 towards Oskarshamn, at the Sandsbro bridge continue towards Åby, or take Route 30 towards Jönköping, in Öhr turn towards Åby.

Strandbjörket (Park)

A child-friendly park with playgrounds and large grassy area for play and relaxation. In the old house, coffee is served in summer. The tennis courts here have been used to train Swedish tennis stars such as Mats Wilander, Jonas Björkman and Janne Gunnarsson. The park is also a natural park with a rich bird life on and around the lake. A 4.5 km walking trail goes around the lake and through various cultural and natural environments. It is also a popular motion track as well.



Photo: Shutterstock

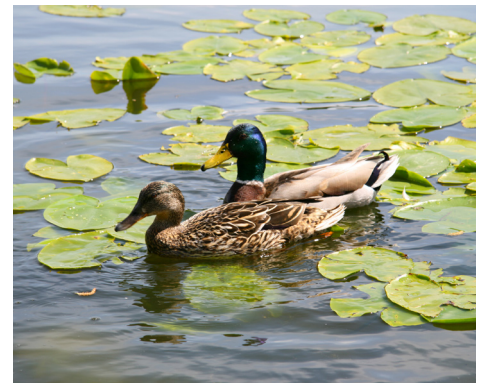


Photo: Shutterstock

Along Lake Växjösjön and adjacent to the hospital.

Värendsleden (Värendstrail) - Canoe Route

Värendsleden is a 120 km long canoe route in the Mörrumsån water system. It extends through Kronoberg County to the north and south. The route begins in Asa and goes right down to Granö at the Blekinge border. Along the route, there are about 40 simple canoe camping sites where you can stay overnight. Water access, restrooms, firewood and a fireplace. Maps can be purchased at Växjö Tourist Office.

Fishing

Fishing in Växjö Municipality

Sales and information on fishing on the lakes: Helgasjön, Trummen, Växjösjön, Barnsjön, South and North Bergundasjöarna, Helige River and Åsnen can be found at:

www.g.lst.se/kartor/fiske



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Photo: Shutterstock



Photo: Shutterstock

Museum

Psychiatric History Museum

The museum was inaugurated in March 1985. It has been built up of objects collected over a 30 year period and the collection contains approximately 3 000 objects. The exhibition shows the hospital and psychiatric history from the Middle Ages to the present. *At S:t Sigfrids hospital in Växjö.*

+46(0)470-58 64 43

Smålands Museum Sweden's Glass Museum

Sweden's oldest county museum opened in its own building in 1885, in Växjö. The museum's collections include a variety of objects. The special mint cabinet is the collections oldest on display. In the exhibitions and warehouse, there is everything from a glass hut and the opera singer Christina Nilsson emerald jewelry to a viking's silver treasure and different dragons. Each year, there are several temporary exhibitions on display. The museum's permanent exhibitions: Swedish glass for five centuries. Minnenes winds - Kronoberg 1900s. ON THE ROAD - in the late 1800s



Photo: Shutterstock

Kronoberg.
Växjö Mint Cabinet.
Södra Järnvägsgatan 2.
I Växjö centrum, söder om järnvägen.
+46(0)470-70 42 00
www.smalandsmuseum.se

The Regiment Museum I 11

The Regiment Museum I 11 shows and describes the military life in the I 11. The museum also shows the subject and history of Smålands regiments, K4, Smålands/Karlskrona grenade regiment I7, the Marine regiment and Blekinge battalion I 30. The museum also has a small technical exhibition displaying motor vehicles, parts, cannons, the horses lives in the military, carts and wagons.

Inside I11:s old kasern area.

Toy Museum, Gemla

Sweden's first toy factory started in 1866, in Gemla. Since then, there has been toys manufactured by different enterprises throughout the district. The Toy Museum is located in "undantagsstugan" (cottage) at Öja Hembygdsgård. On display are wooden toys made during the past 100 years and 90% of the toys were manufactured in the

district. Photo exhibit from the toy factory. In Hembygdsgården, there is also the Lagerqvisttrummet (The Lagerqvist Room) with documents from Nobel laureate Pär Lagerqvist, with childhood roots in Gemla. There are also photo documentation and archives pertaining to the Gemla paper production history from 1745 -1979 (among other things, the Gransholms Paper mill). *From Växjö take route 23 towards Malmö, after about 7 km. turn right towards Gemla. At the roundel, take the way towards "Öja" och "Gransholm", drive about 50 m. Sign on the right "Hembygdsgård"*

Utvandrarnas Hus (Emigration House)

Utvandrarnas House (Emigration House) in central Växjö reminiscent of the great emigration epoch during 1850-1930, when 1.2 million Swedes emigrated to America. Exhibitions include "The dream of America" and "The Vilhelm Moberg-Room," genealogy, archives and libraries. Cafeteria and shop.

+46(0)470-201 20

www.utvandrarnashus.se

www.vaxjo.se/tillganglighetsguide



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Photo: Shutterstock

Nature

Braås Culture Trails

Culture trails (hiking, or a cycle route) approximately 10 km, Braås-Böksholm-Braås. Start at Örken's southern coast of Braås or Böksholm. Around 30 descriptive signs in English and German located along the route. Maps also at Hembygdsparken (Park).

Braås is located about 30 km Northeast of Växjö

Hiking Trails at Kronobergshalvön

Protected areas, with three walks: 1.8 km and 4.5 km and 7 km. Along the way, you experience nature in both culture and history. The paths are well marked and follow gravel roads and other manmade trails. Follow along Lake Helgasjön beaches, across meadows and into the beech forest. Experience everything that Kronobergshalvön has to offer.

Kronobergshalvön is located about 5 km north of Växjö center.

Singoallas Cave

Under the cliff called Hultaklint, at Lädja (north of the mountains), the Singoalla Cave can be found along the mountain side which slopes down to a 20 meter deep lake. The mountain has a view in three directions and up to a 5 mile range. It played out the tragic end of Victor Rydbergs novel about a love story between the Knight Erland Månesköld and gypsy chief's daughter, Singoalla. At a young age, Rydberg was a publicist at Bergs Herrgård and was fascinated by the romantic cave

From Växjö take Route 30 towards Lammhult, at Bredhult turn right towards Lädja. Follow the signs.



+46(0)472-751 13

www.bergsocken.nu

Skårtaryds Urskog Nature Reserve

A couple of kilometers south of Skårtaryds village, you can reach the Skårtaryds Urskog (primeval) forest. On the terrain grows a coniferous forest estimated to be 150-200 years old. A quarter of the trees are dead and are in various biological stages. The land and rocks are covered with lichen along with the trees which have plenty of hanging lichen. To the South are traces of the large Furubybranden (fire) in 1868. It is unusual that the land can take care of itself, so that it has almost a jungle-like appearance.

The Araby Nature Reserve

The area around Araby has a pastoral beauty with large oaks. The Golf course surrounds the area and includes part of an area that was formerly the Araby Estate, but since 1971 it is a nature reserve. The reserve stretches out into a part of Lake Helgasjön called Öjabyviken, which has beautiful trees such as, beech and oak along with interesting marshes. The reserve has very unusual plants and flowers. There is a rich bird life in Araby nature reserve, as well.

The Bokhultet Nature Reserve

Bokhultet is in the southwestern part of Växjö city, next to Bergundasjöarna (Lakes) and consists of a wide variety of soil types, with the emphasis on old deciduous forests and rich urban vegetation. The area has always had a strong appeal to the nature lovers. In particular, it is the old beech forests with its gossamer green in the spring; coolness under the shaded trees in the summer and all the fascinating plants, birds and other animals. Large parts of the forest are



protected from development so the very old oaks and beech offer a variety of mosses, lichens and mushrooms. Bokhultet is very diverse and accessible. An information center is located next to the car park at Bäckaslövsfältet. Three marked trails make it easier for visitors: Kulturstigen (Culture Trail), 5 km, Västra naturstigen (Western nature trail), 4.5 km, Östra naturstigen (Eastern nature trail) 3.5 km.

The Kronoberg Nature Reserve

When traveling from Växjö to Kronoberg, you can find on the left side a well-kept burial ground with about 75 graves from the early Iron Age. There is also an ancient grave mound from the Bronze Age. From the burial grounds and down to the cultivated land at Kronoberg Kungsgård. extends an older mixed forest dominated by coniferous trees. The large old oaks and pines provide an element of dead wood which provides the reserve with a valuable environment. The reserve covers 11.1 hectares.

The Sjöås Äng (Meadow) Nature Reserve

Together with Hembygdsparken (park) and the medieval church in Braås, constitutes Sjöås meadow and provides interesting excursions. To the South and East of the church lies the former hay meadows with both wet and dry fields. The area has a long cultivation history, and was possibly sowed already back in the Iron Age with several recorded cultivation's. The meadows belonged to the vicarage and the priest. In the meadows and pastures (which are marked on maps from the 1600s), are old linden and oak trees. There is also a wealth of herbs, with over 250 vascular plants, 100 moss species and 80 lichens.



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Photo: Shutterstock



Photo: Shutterstock



Photo: Shutterstock

Parks

Linnéparken (Linné Park)

Linnéparken is divided into three parts; the formal church room, the English park with winding paths and large trees, and the new part with open grassy areas, play area and water. The new viaduct over the railway opens Linnéparken to Lake Växjösjön and binds together the thoroughfare around Lake Växjösjön with the park and the city. An important theme is Carl Linnaeus. In a section of the park, there are carefully formed and native vegetation - that even for Linnaeus was "at home" with and in another section are formed and exotic exotic vegetation, which connected Linnaeus, "with the rest of the world."

Worth Seeing

Backstuga, Singlastugan (Historical Cabin)

This is perhaps the most famous cabin in Kronoberg County. The cabin is about 15 square meters inside. The climate is cellar like and partially built into a hill. Signhild Erika Persdotter lived here until the 1910s. She came to Backstugan since her husband, a former Navy sailor disappeared. Signhild Persdotter moved into the cottage as a single mother with four children. (The cottage is built in miniature at Utvandarnas House in Växjö).

From Växjö go south through Teleborg towards Tåvelsås, after 8 km exit towards Vederslöv. In Vederslöv continue about 4 km, turn left towards Valeryd. After about 1,5 km the cabin is on the left hand side.

Bergkvara Estate Ruins

Bergkvara ruins is an old manor built in the 1470's. Bergkvara is one of the largest estates which had been present in the Nordic region. Around 1500, there were up to 1,500 farms belonging to the manor, of which 400 farms were in Varend only. During Dackefejden (fued) there was a violent conflict

in Bergkvara. The main building was built around 1780 and is surrounded by a park, lake and trees. A map showing permitted walkways can be found along the avenue.

From Växjö take Route 23 towards Malmö, after about 6 km turn right towards Bergkvara.

Dädesjö Historical Church

Church from the 1100's in the Romanesque style with unique ceiling paintings from the 1200s.

From Växjö take Route 23 towards Oskarshamn. After about 20 km turn right towards Dädesjö. Follow the signs.

Hemmesjö Historical Church

A Romanesque church from the 1100's, built in stone. Residues of lime stone paintings, rich metal doors, late Middle Ages altar with the image of St. Sigfrid.

Route 25 Växjö-Kalmar, after about 6 km take the road to Hemmesjö.



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Photo: Shutterstock

Kronobergs Castle Ruins

Kronobergs bishops castle was built during the 1300's. It gradually developed to a castle of wood and stone. In 1542, Kronoberg was overtaken by Nils Dacke and his rebels. After Dackefejden (fued) in 1543, the King took over Kronoberg. Gustav Vasa had built the castle to a strong fort with many guns. The purpose was mainly to give the monarchy a consolidated point in Småland to prevent more uprisings. However, the palace gradually became a part of the national defense and was besieged a few times by the Danes. In 1658 and peace in Roskilde, Kronoberg lost its military significance and continued to fall. At the ruin is Ryttnästaregårdens Cafe and it is also the home port for the steamer S /S Thor, which is one of Smålands museums. Come along on a fantastic journey among the islands in lake Helgasjön.

From Växjö center drive north towards Kronoberg.

www.smalandsmuseum.se

Nykulla Scenic Lookout Tower

Nykulla Scenic Lookout Tower is the only tower in Kronoberg County and is well worth a visit just for its views. On clear days, you can see ten churches in the area. There is also a district museum.

From Växjö take route 23 towards Oskarshamn. At Sandsbro bridge, turn left towards Äby/Rottne. Follow the signs to Äby, just before Äby turn right towards

Tjureda. The sign for the lookout is about 2 km north of Tjureda church.

+46(0)470-941 48

www.nykulla.se

Teleborgs Castle

South of the city and along Lake Trummen, rises Teleborgs Castle, a medieval castle and modeled after the German medieval castles. The castle was completed in 1900 and built by Count Bonde Fredrik of Björnö as a gift to his wife Anna Koskull. After the couples death, from 1920 to 1930, the castle was used as a hotel for young girls and general accommodation. Today the castle is used for concerts, representation, conferences and weddings. Open to the public on certain days.

+46(0)470-77 86 60, +46(0)470-72 33 00

www.teleborgsslott.com

Växjö Cathedral

The Cathedral is built on the same site that St Sigfrid had built their wooden church. The oldest parts are from the 1100's. The church has changed appearance several times over the years because of lightning and war. In 1995, the church's interior was restored. During the renovation, a number of new artworks were added.

In September, a new altar was inaugurated created by the artist Bertil Vallien. The creation is five meters high, colorful and made of glass, gold leafs and forging.



Photo: Shutterstock

Scenes from both old and new Testament are depicted in sand cast glass. Hope, light and love is the artists' message.

There is no handicap parking within 25 meters of the entrance and the doors are not automatic. The alter is not accessible by wheelchair users, only stairs are available. The handicapped restroom is too small for wheelchairs.

www.svenskakyrkanivaxjo.se

Äby Locks

Sweden's southernmost functioning locks surrounded by a wonderful nature environment between lakes Helgasjön and Skavenäassjön. It was built in 1887. The locks made a major impact on transportation and trade between Växjö and the district north of Äby, right up to Asa. In Asa, was a brickyard and a sawmill.

From Växjö take Route 23 towards Oskarshamn, at Sandsbro bridge, turn left towards Äby/Rottne.

+46(0)470-414 10, 0708-39 31 51

SOURCES

www.turism.vaxjo.se

www.vaxjo.se

www.kommunernaskalender.com

www.eurotourism.com

www.dagspress.se

Med reservation för eventuella ändringar



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