



Göteborg & the Southwest

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Best Places to Eat

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- » Restaurang Sjöboden (p177)

Best Places to Stay

- » Utpost Hållö (p169)
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- » Salt & Sill floating hotel (p166)

Why Go?

It's not surprising that Sweden's southwest, with its five different *landskap* (regions), has a knack for diversity.

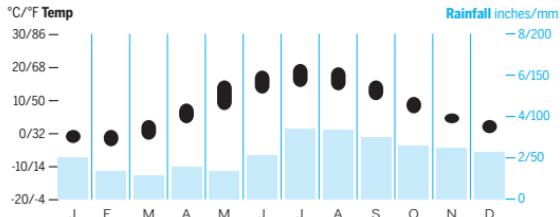
Heading the cast is Sweden's 'second city' of Göteborg and its kicking bars, cafes, museums and theme-park thrills. Just south, the Halland coast is home to sandy Blue Flag beaches and Sweden's top windsurfing. The Västergötland region is low-key and eclectic: don't miss Trollhättan, Sweden's film-production capital, or the fairy-tale Läckö Slott. Threading its way across it all is the peaceful Göta Canal.

North of Göteborg lies the beautiful Bohuslän coastline, a marvel of electric blue waters, granite islands and sparkling red-and-white fishing villages. Behind it, cocoa-coloured cliffs frame luridly green valleys, while mysterious Bronze Age rock carvings intensify the region's enigmatic air.

Further inland, Dalsland evokes a Swedish Twin Peaks with its brooding, watery landscape of silent lakes and thick, dark forests. Europe's third-largest lake, Vänern, is a canoeist's paradise.

When to Go

Göteborg



Jul & Aug
Sailboat-loving Swedes beeline to Bohuslän. Göteborg festivals run back to back.

May & Sep Ideal time for avoiding summer crowds. Pack a raincoat or windcheater.

Dec & Jan Inland lakes and canals freeze over, perfect skating and ice-fishing conditions.



Göteborg & the Southwest Highlights

- ➊ Plummet down scary roller coasters, take in counterculture art and be surprised by cutting-edge Swedish home cooking in **Göteborg** (p146)
- ➋ Feast on shrimp and archipelago views on the tiny island of **Hällö** (p168), a short ferry trip from Smögen (p168)
- ➌ Be charmed by **Fjällbacka** (p169), Ingrid Bergman's favourite summer haunt
- ➍ Pedal (or splash) your way around the dazzling **Koster Islands** (p171)
- ➎ Decode mystic Bronze Age artwork at the Unesco World Heritage Site in **Tanumshede** (p165), Bohuslän
- ➏ Glide across silent lakes and international borders from secluded **Dals-Ed** (p172)
- ➐ Listen to opera staged on the broad lawns of **Läckö Slott** (p176), north of Lidköping
- ➑ Surf at Apelviken and relax in a vintage Russian bathhouse in **Varberg** (p181)