



The Southeast & Gotland

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Best Places to Eat

- ➡ Surfers (p240)
- ➡ Bröd & Sovel (p221)
- ➡ Saltmagasinet (p229)
- ➡ Krakas Krog (p244)
- ➡ Café Berget (p212)

Best Places to Stay

- ➡ Villa Sol (p232)
- ➡ Kosta Boda Art Hotel (p225)
- ➡ Hotell Västanå Slott (p218)
- ➡ Clarion Collection Hotel Packhuset (p223)
- ➡ Clarion Hotel Wisby (p239)

Why Go?

Southeastern Sweden is a treasure trove of stoic castles, story-book towns and magical islands.

Carved by the epic Göta Canal, Östergötland boasts lovable, lakeside Vadstena: St Birgitta's terrestrial stomping ground and home to a hulking Renaissance castle.

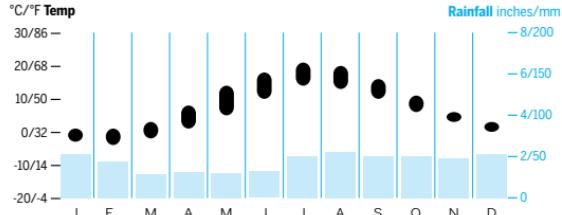
Further south, Småland sparkles with its ethereal forests, preserved pastel towns and show-off Kalmar castle. Snoop through Astrid Lindgren's childhood home in Vimmerby, pig out on peppermint rock in sweet-smelling Gränna or blow glass in the world-renowned Glasriket (Kingdom of Crystal).

Öland has a beguiling mix of beaches, windswept fields, windmills, ring forts and Iron Age burial sites. Unsurprisingly, much of the island sits on the Unesco World Heritage list.

Yet the real ace of spades is the island of Gotland. It's a mesmerising spectacle of rune stone-scattered landscapes, hauntingly beautiful medieval churches and the walled Hanseatic town of Visby.

When to Go

Visby



Jun–Aug Visitors drawn by warm days, canal boat trips and Gotland's medieval week.

May & Sep Less predictable weather but often as nice as summer. Easier to find places to stay.

Dec Christmas markets abound across Småland.



The Southeast & Gotland Highlights

- ➊ Observing captains at **Bergs Slussar** (p213).
- ➋ Getting literary at **Astrid Lindgrens Näs** (p230) or **Astrid Lindgrens Värld** (p230).
- ➌ Browsing and also blowing glass at **Kosta Boda** (p225).
- ➍ Visiting the grave fields of **Mysinge & Gettlinge** (p235).
- ➎ Exploring Visby's **medieval churches** (p237).
- ➏ Following in pilgrims' footsteps at the **Sancta Birgitta Klostermuseum** (p214).
- ➐ Exploring the history of the wooden town of Eksjö at the **Fornmin-nesgårdens Museum** (p219).
- ➑ Watching traditional sweet-makers at Gränna's **Grenna Polkagriskokeri** (p217).
- ➒ Smelling the roses in the royal gardens of **Solliden Palace** (p232).
- ➓ Attending a concert in the evocative surroundings of the **Sankta Maria kyrka** (p237).