

Welcome to Sund



Photo: Mari Stefansdotter



Sund's Municipal Council



Along the roads of Sund, leading through all times, leading as far as one can go.



The map of Sund is a route map for a journey through a summer idyll, with powerful draughts of culture's wing-beat.

One road begins at Grytverksnäset in Sibby. Here, ship graves from the Bronze Age sail over the hills. Three thousand years ago they sailed toward the sun with dead chieftains onboard. Now they sail over rocky outcrops, with blueberry bushes foaming at their bows.

The road leads on to Sveldsberget in Brändbolstad. Here, in the purple shade of Skälberget's fault line, huddles an Iron Age hill fort. One thousand years ago the enemy could come sailing past the church and land just where the fields in Skolvikdal now spread themselves out.

After this the road winds its way along the water's edge to the peninsula between Östra Kyrksundet and Västra Kyrksundet. There, bedded down in the greenery of candelabra-like birches and orchids, lies Sund's church, Åland's largest. Sometime, around 800 years ago, the thick walls began to be raised and the stone church was decorated with a never before witnessed glory. The 15th century triptych is unique, similarly, the more than five metre high crucifix, for the construction of which timber was felled in the region of Lübeck in the mid-13th century.

Waterways are also highways and over the glittering waves of Västra Kyrksundet it is not far from the church to Kastelholm Castle. When the castle was founded, sometime in the middle of the 12th century, it stood on an island. But for the last thousand years the land has been rising and today it is possible to cross the dried up moat on foot. It is rather pleasant in the shadow of the castle and there is lots to do for those who will. The open-air museum of Jan Karlsgården lies nearby, side by side with the prison museum, Vita Björn, from 1784. On the western side of the water lies the King's Farm, where today a golf course attracts thousands of people to play.

The old Post Route goes through Sund. From 1638 until 1910 both post and passengers from Sweden and Finland travelled this way. And everything was arranged for the travellers' comfort, with wayside inns, horses and ferries. From Bomarsund the traveller continued by boat to Vårdö.

Many roads lead from far-off places to Sund. When the Russian tsar, Nicholas I, in the year 1830 gave the order to build a fortress at Bomarsund, people from the vast Russian Empire came along the roads leading to Sund in order to build, trade and fight here. A little community grew up beside the fortress, which was destroyed by French and British forces in 1854. Today, the granite-red remains of the Main Fort and defensive towers stand and glow on the hills.

The roads in Sund run through a cultural environment, where there is a happy symbiosis of memory and the present. At Jan Karlsgården various cultural activities are arranged, and a market is held at Bomarsund. Kastelholm Castle and the fortress of Bomarsund are among the most visited attractions on Åland, and to the golf course come almost thirty-thousand players every year. Cultural tourism flourishes in this municipality, which in 1993 was chosen as one of Finland's 27, and Åland's only, national regions.



Photo: Sonja Berglund

Photo: Günther Pengel



Carina Karlsson

Sund's Church – dedicated to St John the Baptist it is Åland's largest church.

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The church lies in a picturesque spot beside Västra Kyrksundet, which was a long, narrow inlet of the sea when the church was built. It consists of nave, a tower to the west, vestry to the north, and porch to the south.

The first phase of building work, which included the nave, took place around the end of the 13th century.

In the church is an impressive triumphal crucifix. With a cross that measures 5.07 metres in height, the crucifix, which was once a so-called ring-cross, is the largest in a parish church. The crucifix has recently been restored.

The church in Sund was equipped in the year 1672 with Åland's first, and the country's second, church organ. The organ gallery was originally built against the nave's west wall but was moved to the tower in the 1920s. The paintings on the organ gallery are by Abraham Myra. The present organ, with its 21 pipes, was installed in 1973 and was built by the Kangasala organ works.

The church's decorations and furnishings were damaged during the Great Northern War, between 1714 and 1721. The church has also been damaged by fires in 1678 and 1921. Both times the church bells were melted by the heat. The present bells were cast in 1900 and were donated to Sund by the state following the fire of 1921.

The congregations on Åland belongs to the Borgå bishopric.

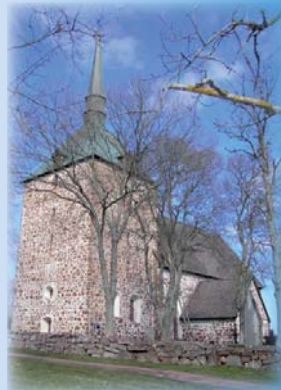


Photo: Sonja Berglund

Jan Karlsgården



Archive:
Ålands Turistförbund

Close by Kastelholm Castle lies the open-air museum of Jan Karlsgården. The buildings at Jan Karlsgården are typical of farms on Åland from the end of the 19th century. A typical farm would include a dwelling house, secondary dwelling house, parbodar, loft-house, härbre, stable, barn, sheds, byre and smoke-sauna. At Jan Karlsgården you can also see traditional windmills, which were so typical of the older farms. On Midsummer's Eve the visitor can see the traditional Midsummer celebrations and the fine Midsummer Pole being raised.



Archive:
Ålands Turistförbund

Vita Björn (White Bear)

There have been prisoners at Kastelholm since the foundation of the castle. At first the prisoners were held within the castle itself. During the 1600s a small pen was built outside the castle and in the year 1784 the crown jail was built. The crown jail of Vita Björn has seen the prison services of three different countries. It was built as a Swedish prison. When Finland and Åland in 1809 became a part of the Russian Empire Vita Björn functioned as a Russian prison until Finland's independence in 1917. Vita Björn was in use as a Finnish prison until 1975.

Amongst others, the last person to be sentenced to death on Åland, the servant Gustava Johansdotter, was held in Vita Björn prior to her execution on 13th March 1822.

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Prästö Chalets & Camping

Sundsvägen 1758, Prästö
22530 Sund

Tel/fax 44045
GSM 040-7489629
Homepage:
www.goaland.net

Enjoy the proximity to Åland's nature, culture and history, plus proximity to several of Åland's largest attractions.

We offer:

- 20 chalets
- 40 spaces for tents
- Little kitchen
- Modern facilities + sauna
- Café
- Restaurant with grill
- 150 m to the beach
- C. 300 m to the fortress of Bomarsund
- Fine walking paths in the vicinity
- C. 400 m to the bicycle ferry

2

Golf Restaurant

Lunch – à la Carte - Café
Open 9.00 – 21.00

The kitchen is open
11.00 – 20.00

Tel. 43828

3

Östergårds B & B

Ole Blomqvist
Tel. 43927
(0)40-7654 335

Accommodation in a rural environment
Email: ostergard@aland.net
Homepage:
<http://home.aland.net/m02400>

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Pengel's Chalets

Mångstekta , 22530 Sund
Tel. 45980 , (0)50 5611959
3 chalets with room for 14 people in a pleasant rural environment
Email: chrinupe@aland.net
Homepage:
<http://home.aland.net/chrinupe>
www.goaland.net/pengelsstugor

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Attractions in Sund:

www.museum.aland.fi

For more info:
+358 (0)18 25426



Bomarsund museum
and fortress ruins

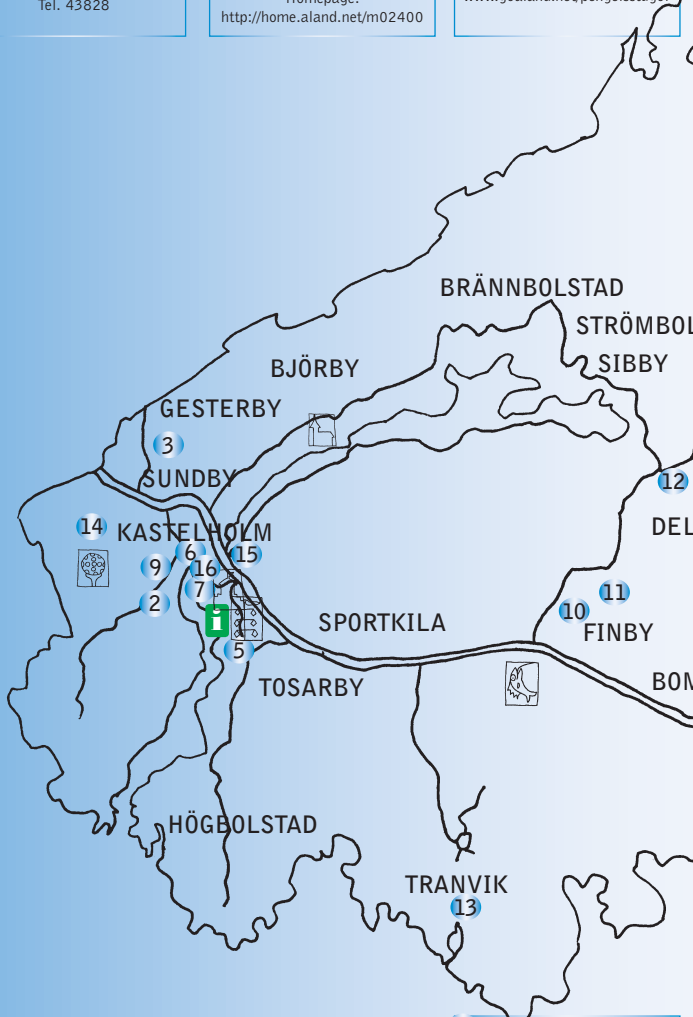


Kastelholms castle



Jan Karlsgården
open air museum and
prison museum
Vita Björn

Muscibyrån



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Kastelholm's Decoration Services

Anders Andersson
Tel. 43818
Fax 43838
GSM 0457-3135882

5 **Kastelholm's Guest House & Chalets**

 Tosarby, 22520 Kastelholm
 Tel. 43841. Fax. 43741
 Pleasant accommodation with breakfast. 2 km to the golf course
 Homepage:
www.goaland.net/kastelholmsgasthem

6 **Alandia Escargots Ab**

 22520 Kastelholm
 Tel. / Fax (0)18 – 43964
 Snail fram situated close to Kastelholm Castle.

7 **Åland's Photographic Museum**
 22520 Kastelholm
 Tel. / Fax (0)18 – 43964
 Mobilephone [0]457 0595967
 Homepage:
www.goaland.net/fotografiskamuseum

8 **Putte's Camping**
 Open May – August
 Camping area, chalets and kiosk
 Bomarsund's TAXI
 Bomarsund, 22530 Sund
 Tel. 44016 / 44040
 Fax 44047
 Homepage:
www.goaland.net/puttescamping



Kastelholm Castle



The Fortress of Bomarsund



Bathing beach, Bomarsund



Burial Grounds, Prästö



Golf Course in Kastelholm



Fishing permit




Sund's Church



Jan Karlsgården Open-Air Museum, Kastelholm



Prästö Radio Station

9 **Åland's Golf Club**

 Tel. 018-41500
 Fax 018-19034
 Email:
info@golfclub.aland.fi
 Homepage:
www.agk.aland.fi
 One of Scandinavia's most popular golf courses, which, since it opened in 1983, has expanded to 36 holes. The Castle Course lies beside a bay of the sea, with views over to the castle, and on the King's Course it is necessary to strike the ball between high pines.
 Season from May to October.
 Restaurant, well-stocked golf shop, instructors, dressing rooms with sauna. All charter operators and travel agents on Åland offer good value golfing packages.

10 **Ljunggren's Country Store**
 Finby, 22530 Sund
 Tel. 45813
 Open Mon.–Fri. 9.00 – 18.00
 Sat. 9.00 – 14.00

14 **Fastersby Gård**
 Working farm with animals and activities
 Tel./Fax.
 43946 (0)457 053 70 51
 Email:
fastersby@aland.net
www.GoAland.net/fastersbygard

13 **Nybond's Ceramic**
 Tranvik, 22530 Sund
 Tel. 45930
 GSM (0)40 5879556
 Email: nybonds@aland.net
 Homepage:
www.Visitaland.com/nybondspensionat
 Study centre and accommodation, B & B, full-board, courses

12 **Sund's Bus & Taxi**
 Delvik, 22530 Sund
 Tel. (0)457-3134100

11 **Norrgård's Chalets**
 Finby, 22530 Sund
 Chalets with 35 bed spaces, breakfast available
 Tel. 45934
 Fax 31761
 GSM (0)457-3424404
 Email: norrwards@aland.net
 Homepage:
<http://home.aland.net/norrwards>

Russian Days in Bomarsund

A 19th century market is arranged in Bomarsund every year in August. The market is held under the ruined walls of the Russian fortress, which means that the sense of history is everywhere. The organisers emphasise the need to create an authentic environment, so stall holders, functionaries and entertainers are clothed in period dress. Within the market high quality hand-craft products, spices, preserves, conserves and baking are sold. Other refreshments are also on sale. It is even possible to take a ride in a horse-drawn wagon. To avoid polluting the environment, every visitor upon payment of the entrance fee is given a special-edition tin mug, which can be used as a drinking vessel. During the market there is a programme of entertainment on two separate stages, one dedicated to performances for children and the other for adults. The programme includes singing and music, story-telling, theatre and dress parades. There are also organised walks within the historical environment. We invite those who visit the market in Bomarsund to a day filled with a variety of experiences.



Photo:
Augusto Mendes



Photo:
Günter Pengel



Photo:
Seppo Sarkkinen

Exhibition in the former Radio Station on Prästö.

In the Radio Station on Prästö, locally known as Stants'n, visitors have the chance to discover how life was during the Russian period in Bomarsund. There is a miniature model showing all of the houses built at Bomarsund around the Main Fort. A short film tells the story of how the fortifications were built and the final hours of Bomarsund, when the fortress was bombarded. In our exhibition there is also a display of uniforms that were worn during the Crimean War. Russian, British and French uniforms are on display. Not only military clothes are exhibited, also clothing that would have been worn by civilians, including fine crinoline dresses and everyday dress. The building also houses an art exhibition. The exhibition is open every day from June until the end of August, with the exception of the Midsummer weekend. You are welcome to visit our exhibition and witness a part of Åland's history.



Photo:
Sonja Berglund



Photo:
Sonja Berglund

At Bomarsund and Prästö can be found the remains of a great Russian fortress.

As a result of the war between Sweden and Russia 1808-1809 Åland became a part of the Russian Empire. From a Russian perspective Åland was to become a military outpost. This meant the fortification of the islands and the stationing of thousands of soldiers here.

The Bomarsund period also finished in conflict, the so-called Crimean War. In 1854 the half-finished fortress was attacked by an Anglo-French force, which was in number five times greater than the defenders. From ships and from cannon on land, the fortress was bombarded for four days. On 16th August the fortress's commander capitulated and some 2000 prisoners were transported away to captivity in Britain and France. When the Crimean War ended in 1856 the Åland Islands were demilitarised. This is still a fact today.

Gustav Vasa Days, a journey in Kastelholm Castle's renaissance history.

Gustav Vasa and the Vasa family are closely related to Kastelholm Castle's 16th century history. During the "Gustav Vasa Days" we invite you to take a journey through this interesting period.

During these days the visitor experiences Kastelholm Castle's period of greatness and the fate of the Vasa family during the 16th century. The historical market is host to a large number of theatrical pieces, with intrigue, conflict, love and royal pomp and circumstance. We see a medieval tournament, experience witch-hunting in the 1600s, and for children there is a treasure hunt in the castle. During these days you also have the possibility to buy a Gustav Vasa memorial coin, and everything culminates on the Saturday evening with the theatre piece: The Crowning of Gustav Vasa.



Photo: Tor Kudinoff



Photo: Tor Kudinoff

Kastelholm Castle

Kastelholm Castle is a popular attraction and Åland's only medieval castle. The castle is first named in 1388 and was added to considerably during the period 1300-1600. A fire laid waste large parts of the castle in 1745 and after this it began to decline. The northern wing survived and was used as a grain store until the 1930s. Today, the castle is a ruin that has been restored in various phases, where the visitor can get an idea of what the castle looked like and how it functioned during different periods. The castle has an exciting history and as a unique element in the landscape it has functioned as a defensive work, an administrative centre and as a hunting lodge. Many famous people are connected with the castle's history and its strategic position in the Baltic Sea has meant that it has been involved in many political struggles.



Photo: Åland Tourist Board



Photo: Åland Tourist Board



Facts about Sund

Population:	Just over 1000 people	
Population structure:	0-14 years old	18,6 %
	15-65 years old	63,3 %
	65 years and more	18,1 %
Industry:	Farming and forestry	21,3 %
	Building and industrial	8,8 %
	Service, sales and transport	69,9 %
	Percentage employed locally	42,5 %
Largest employer:	The Municipal Council with just over 50 employees	
Distance to Mariehamn:	about 20 km	
Bathing:	Simviken in Bomarsund	
Fishing permits:	Sold at Ljungren's shop and by local tourist operators. See also the brochure "Åland's Sport Fishing".	
Communications:	Regular bus service between Mariehamn and Sund (see Ålandstrafiken's bus timetable). Taxi (see adverts). Cycle ferry between Prästö and Långnäs in Lumparland.	
Tourist Information:	At Grindstugan in the vicinity of Jan Karlsgården. Tourist information is a cooperation between Sund's Municipal Council and the Åland Board of Antiquities.	
Emergency number:	Ring 112 in case of accidents and critical illness	
For yachtsmen:	Piers are located at Bomarsund as well as the guest harbour at Kastelholm (fees apply). There is also a pier at the old ferry terminal on Prästö.	

What's Happening in Sund:

Events

Autonomy Day Celebrations
 Midsummer Party
 Midsummer Dance
 Activity days on Wednesdays
 Market every Tuesday evening
 Gustav Vasa Days
 Bomarsund Market
 Little Xmas Market
 Ice-fischnig competition
 Golf competition
 Open Studios

Organisers

Kastelholm's Village Council
 Kastelholmnejdens byalag
 Sund's Youth Club

 Kastelholm's Village Council
 Aqualandia and others
 Sund's Municipal Council

 Northern Sund's Community Group
 Åland's Golf Club

Location

Jan Karlsgården
 Jan Karlsgården
 Klipan in Finby
 Jan Karlsgården
 Byagården in Kastelholm
 Kastelholm Castle
 Bomarsund Fortress Ruins
 Jan Karlsgården
 Kyrksundet
 The golf course at Kastelholm
 Studios in the area

Date

09th June
 Midsummer
 Midsummer
 July
 July
 Midsummer to August
 July
 August
 August
 Little Xmas
 late winter
 May-September
 May

Photo: Ålands Turistförbund

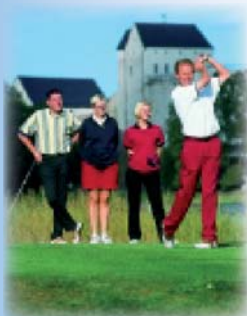


Photo: Ålands Turistförbund

