

Places to go – places to see in and around Gothenburg

Gothenburg essentials: Archipelago and Restaurants

Gothenburg is Sweden's next biggest city after Stockholm with around one million living within the area. Gothenburg has still a small town, friendly feeling. The people do not walk fast being particularly busy and it's easy to get contact.

Gothenburg is famous for two things: One: it's the centre of the very beautiful west coast with a **wonderful archipelago** in a salty sea. Two: With the good supply of fresh seafood Göteborg has developed to be the **leading restaurant town in Sweden**. This guide will focus on these two 'events'.



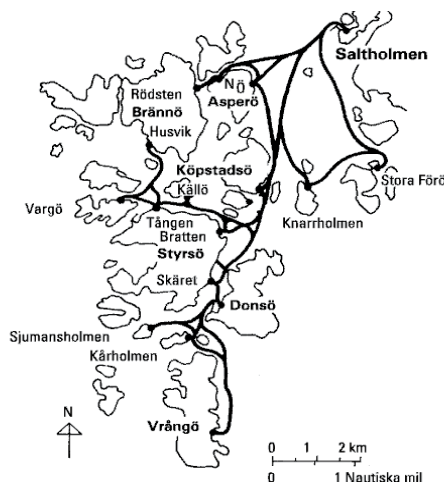
There are a lot of activities in Gothenburg which is best described in the site <http://www.goteborg.com/>. This document focuses upon the highlights according to my private opinion.

How to reach the archipelago:

Generally it's possible to reach the archipelago by going by public bus, trams and boat. Just buy a ticket when going onboard.

The best dedicated boat trips are carried out but Börjessons <http://www.borjessons.com/> who does several evening cruises including dining and day excursions and also Paddan below. Very good site also with nice pictures from the area.

- Tours without leaving the town
Take the tour Paddan (Frog) on channels and river inside city (1 h) <http://www.borjessons.com/>
- Take the boat Älvsnabben over the river, see left. The end station Klippan has the restaurant "Sjömagasinet" described below.
- Going by roller skates/bike on 'Säröbanan' to Billdal
Rent roller skates/bike and go a 20 mile (30 km) roundtrip on an old paved railway track to a café next to the sea and very spectacular surrounding and several beaches. Starting at the park Slottskogen the first 5 km is through town on a bicycle track before reaching the sea. Ask the locals for details. Bus connection back for a 15 km only tour.
- Going for a swim/excursion
Go to the southern archipelago by tram Nr 11 to Saltholmen and a boat for picturesque islands, swimming and cafes. There are several island with different service level. Note that some of the islands are still restricted to foreigners due to military installations.



- Daily excursions.
Take the bus (302 or 312) 40 minutes, to the little coastal town of Marstrand. Highly recommended for visiting the great fortress, nice restaurants and a spectacular surrounding including wonderful swimming. It's possible to go by boat on a day cruise as well.

Painting right by Howard Brookes



- In bad conditions
Go to Universeum, Science park with huge fish tanks and rainforests next to the Scandinavias biggest theme park Liseberg. <http://www.universeum.se/index.asp?LangID=2>

Shop till you drop:

- Naa, not really in Gothenburg. It's a small town with a standard selection. If you need some to do some last minute shopping, go to NK.

Favourite restaurants

- Fiskekrogen (Lilla. Torget 1, Phone 031-10 10 05, www.fiskekrogen.com). Topp fish restaurant in centre of town with cosy environment for rainy days or evenings. Lunch and dinner.
- Sjömagasinet (Klippans Kulturresevat, 031-775 59 20, <http://www.sjomagasinet.se/lang.asp?lang=eng>) Number one nordic fish restaurant visited by George W himself a couple of years ago. Little bit outside of town with a excellent view over the harbour. If you are into a romantic dinner for two, ask for 'lotsutsikten', one table only, hurry for reservation. Lunch and dinner.
- Swea hof (Västra. Hamngatan 3, Tel. 031-720 40 40, <http://www.restaurangguiden.com/sweahof.htm>) Very nice restaurant especially at lunch and quite evenings. Has a very quite, relaxing bar. Situated within hotel Elite plaza, highly recommended by both Bruce Springsteen and Brent Kinetz.
- Thörnströms kök (Teknologgatan. 3, 031-16 20 66, www.thornstromskok.com)
Flashy elegant restaurant with French cuisine and wine cellar for a demanding audience. Usually closed during July, check out the opening hours!
- Hos Pelle (Djupedalsgatan. 2, 031-12 10 31, <http://www.hospelle.se/>) very nice restaurant a bit outside of mainstream Gothenburg. Has a fixed menu and wines for the evening. Very high value. Evenings only.
- Soho (Östra. Larmgatan. 16, 031-13 33 26 <http://www.sohogothenburg.se/>). Laid back café, tea bar, wine bar, restaurant, breakfast place (or whatever) in the very centre of Gothenburg. Inside and outside (summertime) with friendly service and god atmosphere. Very high value.