

#### **Farmhouses**

Flax growing, among other things, created a wealthier class of farmers in the region. It was these farmers who began to build the impressive Decorated Farmhouses of Hälsingland. There was competition among the villages to have the most splendorous and highly adorned farmstead buildings. The interiors featured beautiful folk art and intricate woodwork and carvings created by skilled local artists and craftsmen.

Today, many of these Farmhouses of Hälsingland are well preserved and open to the public. Contained within them is the history of Hälsingland from the 18th century onwards. www.halsingegardar.se



The Hälsingland Farm Trail is a tourist trail that meanders through and passes the villages and districts that are home to the biggest Hälsingland Farmhouses, the most magnificent porches, and most extravagantly painted interiors. The trail, which takes you through a cultural landscape that is a thousand years old, stretches from the banks of the Voxna River to the vast forests of the north, home to the farms' summer pastures.

The flax scutcheries, mills, and sawmills of the watercourses that flow from the wooded high country down through villages to the river bear witness to the agriculture that made the Hälsingland farmers rich. The route, which is 28 km long and runs between Alfta and Edsbyn, links the three open farms Ol-Anders, Löka, and Mårtes. www.storahalsingegardarsvag.se

#### **Ol-Anders**

Runemovägen 6, Alfta, +46(0)271 140 10 Farm with Tourist Office, Emigrant Museum and Visitor Center

Opening times: June - August: Mon-Fri 10 am-5 pm, Sat-Sun 11 am-3 pm. September - May: Tues-Thurs 10 am-12 pm and 1 pm-3 pm.

Gundbogatan 24, Alfta, +46(0)271 556 49 or +46(0)271 107 30 Farm with local Heritage Museum, and Alfta's Heritage Center Open during the summer season and by appointment.

Hembygdsgatan 9, Edsbyn, +46(0)271 205 81 or +46(0)271 216 67 Ovanåker's Heritage Center. Open during the summer season and by appointment.

#### World Heritage

The decision to add the Decorated Farmhouses of Hälsingland to the World Heritage List was taken in the summer of 2012.

The easiest way to get information about the farmhouses is at one of our four Visitor Centers. There are Visitor Centers at Erik-Anders in Söderhamn, Ol-Anders in Alfta, Träslottet in Arbrå and Stenegård in Järvsö. All the Visitor Centers have exhibitions and sell souvenirs





#### Churches

There are a number of churches and chapels worth visiting in the area, particularly in Edsbyn, which is renowned for its diversity of Christian denominations. The first minister of Ovanåker's church was Nicolaus Magni, grandfather of the famous Anders Celsius, the inventor of the inventor of the Celsius temperature scale. A monument in his honor

> Edsbyn & Alfta **Tourist Information**

+46(0)271 200 22

tourism@ovanaker.se www.ovanaker.se

## Museums - Exhibitions

### **Edsbyns Museum**

Edsbyns Museum depicts local history, featuring a turn-of-the-century shop and about thirty preserved works of art by one of Sweden's foremost naivists, Johan Erik Olsson, better known as "Lim-Johan."

www.hembygd.se/ovanaker Långgatan 31 A, Edsbyn +46(0)271 216 67 Open: Sunday-Friday, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.



#### **Emigrant Museum**

In 1846, about 1 200 followers of pastor Erik Jansson from Alfta and other parts of Hälsingland emigrated to North America, where they founded the colony of Bishop Hill in Illinois.

Opening times: June - August: Mon-Fri 10 am-5 pm Sat-Sun 11 am-3 pm.

September - May: Tues-Thurs 10 am-12 pm and 1 pm-3 pm.

Ol-Anders in Alfta Runemovägen 6, Alfta +46(0)271 200 22



## HÄLSINGLAND



# Welcome to **EDSBYN & ALFTA**

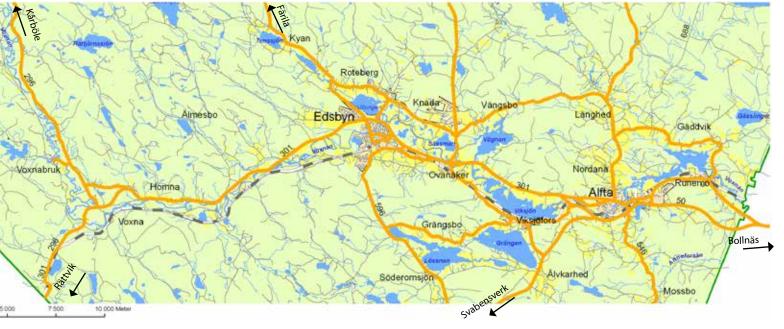
Experience authentic Swedish culture and beautiful Swedish nature at its best.

See the architecture of our Hälsingegårdar with their beautiful front porches and murals.

Enjoy the peace and tranquility of almost untouched nature and wilderness.









#### See and Experience

The wilderness here is neither desolate nor monotonous.

Over 350 lakes and 450 km of flowing streams and rivers yield wonderful outdoor opportunities.

A canoe excursion is an excellent way to experience the untamed nature of this beautiful region. Swimming is permitted almost everywhere.

#### Nature - Hiking

Hälsingland has a magnificent and varied landscape with impressive forests, high mountains, and many lakes and watercourses. It offers great opportunities for outdoor relaxation and recreation.

Trekking along the region's trails is a popular activity. Trail guides with information on overnighting and rest stops are available for purchase at the Tourist Bureau.

#### **Fishing**

There are many fine places to fish where you can find, among others, salmon, trout, char, grayling, pike-perch, perch, pike, and bream. Rainbow trout is stocked in some of the "put-and-take" ponds in the mountains and forest areas.

#### Winter

Gårdtjärnsberget is an alpine family resort with four ski runs of varying degrees of difficulty and two ski lifts, not to mention several groomed cross-country ski trails and plenty of great winter fishing.

Alfta and Edsbyn also feature two public facilities with indoor pools. Edsbyn is also famous for its bandy team, which has produced several of the sport's superstars and has won the Swedish championship several times.





#### Canoeing

Hire a canoe and paddle in a beautiful environment.

Canoe rental. Open May-September.

Voxnabruks Kanot och Camping +46(0)271 411 50 www.kanotcamping.se

#### **Horse-Drawn Cart Trips in Alfta**

Gather together some friends and take a delightful ride in a horse-drawn cart around the beautiful farmhouses in Långhed, Alfta. We also offer a horse-drawn cart tour concentrated in the wilderness. In wintertime we have horse-drawn sleigh rides. Open year round for booking

Häst & Vagn in Långhed, Diana Sandell +46(0)271 133 73 +46(0)730 47 78 44

www.hästturerihälsingland.se

Photo: Håkan Vargas S



#### Bear Watching in Finnskogsriket

If you want to see a wild bear in your lifetime, come with us to The Bears' Mountain. Here you'll have the opportunity to observe the daily life of the brown bear. You can study them at close quarters, in peace and quiet.

The experience begins with a 45-minute walk from Vargas Vildmarkslodge to the hide, which is very comfortable. A two-course meal with wild ingredients is included, together with accommodation and breakfast in bed provided in the cozy hide.

This excursion is "quality marked" with the Swedish Eco-tourism Society's "Best of Nature" award.

Svensk Rovdjursturism - Vargas Vildmarkslodge Stora Öjungen, Annefors +46(0)278 340 96 or +46(0)70 317 75 29 www.swedenwildlife.se

#### Bear Safari in Edsbyn

Welcome to a bear safari in Edsbyn. You can observe, study, and photograph bears from our hide in the magnificent forest.

Nordic OutWild Events Filip Hedberg +46(0)73 843 85 56 www.nordicoutwild.com

### Accommodation

Hotels and Boarding Houses, Camping Cabins and Cottages

#### Alfta Gästgiveri

Hotel and a fully licensed restaurant. +46(0)271 120 10, Gästisbacken 5, ALFTA, www.alftagastgiveri.se

#### Hotell Edsbyn

Hotel and a fully licensed restaurant. +46(0)271 212 40, Långgatan 1, EDSBYN, www.hotelledsbyn.se

#### Skålsiögården

Beds and a fully licensed restaurant. +46(0)271 520 40, SKÅLSJÖN, www.skalsjogarden.se

#### STF Vandrarhem

Bed & Breakfast +46(0)271 344 62 or +46(0)70 688 04 34 Hogatan 15, EDSBYN, www.merasverige.nu

#### Pannkakshuset - Bockahästen

Bed & Breakfast +46(0)70 228 20 69, SVABENSVERK

#### Svabensverks Herrgård

Bed & Breakfast +46(0)70 515 22 49, SVABENSVERK

#### Alfta Bad & Camping

Bed and Camping, self-catering. +46(0)70 687 20 26 Forsparken, ALFTA

### Voxna Kanot och Camping

Bed and Camping, self-catering. +46(0)271 411 50 Voxbo 21, VOXNABRUK

# Stay at a Hälsingland Farm **HANSERS in Fyrbov. 7, Alfta**

Accomodation and self-catering +46(0)271 107 92 or +46 (0)73 582 40 43 hansersgarden@helsingenet.com

#### Stay at a Hälsingland Farm

### JAN-HANS in Norrby, Alfta

Accomodation and self-catering +46(0)271 140 65 or +46(0)70 225 31 19

# Stay at a Hälsingland Farm **PALLARS**, Älvkarhed 231, Viksjöfors

Bed and breakfast +46(0)271 175 17 or +46(0)70 666 70 72

# Live on a farmstead **Hisved's Lantgård, Norra Långhed 8, ALFTA**

Accomodation and self-catering. +46(0)271 131 78 or +46(0)70 526 89 49

### Cottages to rent in Galven, Alfta

Accomodation and self-catering. +46(0)278 480 49 or +46(0)70 214 61 76 www.halsingestuga.se