



Tidaholm Tourist Guide

The four “Must See and Do’s” when visiting Tidaholm

- ▶ Tidaholms Museum
- ▶ Fisket (Fishing)
- ▶ Dimbo Gravfält – Dimbo Burial Ground
- ▶ Barnens Hus (The Children’s House)

Municipality Facts 01

Population
12 500

Area
521 km²

Regional Center
Tidaholm

County
Västra Götaland

More Information 02

Internet
www.tidaholm.se
www.vastsverige.com/tidaholm

Newspapers
Västgöta-Bladet
www.vastgotabladet.se

Tidaholms Tourist Bureau
Spring, Fall and Winter,
Mon-Thu 9-16, Fri 9-15
Summer,
Mon-Fri 9-17, Sat 10-13, Sun 12-15

Resecentrum - Travel Center.
Västra Drottningvägen 2, Tidaholm
+46 502-60 62 08
www.vastsverige.com/tidaholm

Notes 03

Emergency 112
Police 114 14
Country Code +46
Area Code 502



Turbine House Island, Tidaholm. Photo Copyright: Tidaholms Kommun

Welcome to Tidaholm, along the vibrant rippling waters of the Tidan River

In Tidaholm, everything is within walking distance and you will find friendly and reliable service wherever you go. No other small town can be more admired by its inhabitants than Tidaholm. Everyone takes to the streets for special events such as the Duck Race, Cruising and the Christmas Market. Tidaholm’s very own national day is Crayfish Day when children line the banks of the Tidan River and

fish for crayfish. The young or the “young at heart” dance outdoors and or stroll through the streets for hours just chatting with friends and acquaintances along the way, perhaps even finishing the evening with a last dance during the early morning hours.

Visit Tidaholm – the town that greets everyone with a smile.



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See and Do

History

Tidaholms History

The Tidaholm Estate was granted iron-working rights in 1799, which transformed the old Holmagården Smith, on Vulcan Island, into a small ironworks factory. Henrik von Essen took over the modest operations of the estate in the 1850's. The ironworking industry started to decline, which led von Essen to turn the old bar iron forge into the Vulcan Match Factory in 1868. In the beginning, the Vulcan Match Factory experienced difficult times and the worst setback was a terrible fire, which took the lives of 46 young women and children. Because of the difficult times, von Essen also founded a Carpentry Factory called Tidaholm Works. However, it was the Vulcan Match Factory that built up the community and at the turn of the century, Vulcan became the worlds largest match factory. Tidaholm also produced the Tor 1 vehicle in 1903. After more than 30 years, the operations were moved to Scania Vabis in Södertälje in 1934.



Enjoy indoor swimming at Forshallen. Photo: Shutterstock.com

Swimming

Bruksdammens bad (Lake)

In Ekedalen, you can find the small swimming lake – Bruksdammens bad - which offers a changing house, a sandy beach and even a dock for your enjoyment.

Located on road 26 towards Ekedalen (follow the signs) approximately 10km northwest of Tidaholm.

Lilla Havsjön (Lake)

Lilla Havsjön is Tidaholm's own favourite place for swimming and bathing. Located near Hökensås, the lake features a wonderful sandy beach, as well as, a grassy area to relax and enjoy. The public docks can be used for fishing and swimming. Here you can find a Jumping Tower and a swimming pool especially for the smaller children.

From Tidaholm, take road 26 towards Hökensås (approximately 21 km). Once you have passed Daretorp, follow the road signs to Brandstorp. From road 195 continue towards Hökensås Semesterby, then after approximately 8 km, turn right towards Lilla Havsjön. Located approximately 1 km from Hökensås Semesterby.

Forshallen (Indoor Swimming Hall)

Tidaholm's Indoor Swimming Hall features four different pools to cater to everyone's desires.

- The diving pool is 3 meters deep and offers a regulated diving board.
- A heated shallow pool is especially for the very young and offers comfortable poolside chairs for the parents.
- Then next pool features a fun slide and is perfect for the little older children.
- Last but not least, a large swimming pool, which is 25m in length, is often split into two parts. The deeper section is especially for swimming and the shallower section is a designated play area.

The Swimming Hall has offers newly equipped solariums for all to enjoy.

You will also find a well-stocked cafeteria to relax with a cup of coffee or sooth the hunger pains after a long swim.

Forsgatan 7, Tidaholm

+46 502-60 62 12

Otterstorpasjön (Lake)

The newly equipped Otterstorpasjön offers delightful swimming, a play area along the beach and long docks for your enjoyment.

Located between Valstad and Vättak, approximately 15 km southwest of Tidaholm.



Cool off in Bruksdammen. Photo: Shutterstock.com



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Discover Tidaholm by canoe. Photo: Shutterstock.com



Nothing compares to fresh baked cinnamon buns.
Photo: Shutterstock.com



Hungry? Grab a hotdog. Photo: Shutterstock.com

Family Activities

Canoe Hire

The tourist bureau in Tidaholm has five canoes for hire and also extra equipment such as lifejackets or even a canoe trailer, if needed. Enjoy paddling down the Tidan River and the natural beauty of the countryside. Located near the Atollen Animal Park and the Tidan River.

The Children's House

The Children's House offers a variety of rooms and features different activities in each.

The Playroom is exactly what it sounds like - filled with lots of toys, such as dolls, animals, pictures, dollhouses, huts and much more. The children can let their fantasies take them away.

The Paint Room expands creativity and has paints in every imaginable color, so the children can create their masterpieces or choose to paint one of the many different wooden figurines.

The Dino Room has a super quick slide, secret compartments and a large aquarium for their amusement.

Solve puzzles, play games, paint, draw, or just cuddle up in the sofa and read a good book. All this can be found in the Play Den.

In Pippi's Shop and Café, children can play shopkeeper or a shopper. Homemade buns and bake goods are also served in the café. You can find everything here!

Crawl into the cave or play in the Knight's tent, the kids can even find and sit in the Knight's Throne.

The Car Room has a large variety of toys to choose from - drive a bus, drag race, load up the truck, fill up the car and then after all the excitement, enjoy a hotdog at the kiosk.

The Costume and Pillow Room. Romp with the pillows, have a pillow fight or just cuddle up with a comfy pillow and a good book. The children will find one of the most

popular themes here – costumes! Dress up as a dragon, be Winnie the Pooh, or one of the many other characters. There is also a theatre and a stage for the children's entertainment.

N. Kungsvägen 29, Tidaholm

+46 502-60 61 43

www.tidaholm.se/turism/barnens.html



Play with colors. Photo: Shutterstock.com



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See and Do



Waiting for the fish to bite. Photo: Shutterstock.com

Fishing

A Fisherman's Paradise

Hökensås is well known as one of the best fishing areas in Sweden and features over 50 lakes and ponds. This area was developed during the Ice Age and water covers approximately 15% of the area.

The vast majority of lakes offer recreational fishing in all different forms. Trolling, Bank fishing, or even wade out a bit for better luck. The lakes are divided up into different fishing methods. Many like to fish from shore, where you can relax, unwind and just wait for the fish to bite. The lakes are divided up by fishing methods, trolling, fly fishing and angling.

The majority just like to enjoy a little tranquillity

and enjoy nature. On Lake Vätterns west side, and on the outer edges of Hökensås, the area offers beautiful scenery and is a wonderful area to experience peace and tranquillity. With a little luck, you may even see one of the many moose in the area, as well as, a lynx, deer, fox or the popular hare. The area also has many rare birds and ducks such as the Black-Throated Diver, Chaffinch, Willow Warbler, Tree Pipit, and Willow-Tit.

Hökensås Sport fishing
Håkängen, Tidaholm
+46 502-230 00

City Fishing

Since the Tidån River flows directly through the city of Tidaholm, there are many different places to fish – even in the middle of town!



Catch of the day. Photo: Shutterstock.com



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See and Do



Visit Museum of Lithographic Art and enjoy 3D hologram, Russian art and oil paintings. Photo: Shutterstock.com

Museum

Sport History Museum

Rich in sporting history, the museum offers a glimpse from the past, the present and the future. Here you will find a variety of antique equipment, historical photos, trophy collections and artefacts from Tidaholm's past.

In addition, a model of the city of Tidaholm is on exhibition where you can see exactly how Tidaholm looked in 1945.

The museum is operated by the Tidaholm Sport History Association, established in 1989, and specializes in collection and preserving historical artefacts such as pictures, trophies, awards, equipment and documentation throughout the sporting movement in Tidaholm and the surrounding areas. The association continuously strives to provide continuous education and create new activities.

+46 502 60 63 38

www.tidaholm.se/turism/idrmus.html

Tidaholms Museum

See the historical changes that took place in Tidaholms history throughout the Industrial era. From the world famous Vulcan Match Factory, to production of farm machinery, horse drawn ploughs and even car seats for the Swedish automotive industry. Today, you will find companies such as, Swedish Match (match factory), Marbodol and Tidaholms Institution. Enjoy the past as well as the present.

The museum is located in the old match factory and can be found where the mechanical workshop once manufactured and repaired old machinery. You can even find the original trademark in the video room and in the genuine smithy. The smithy is still in its original state and untouched over the years. It is located in the middle of the museum.

Tidaholms Museum is located on Vulcan Island, along the river in the central of Tidaholm.

+46 502-60 61 95

www.tidaholm.se/kultur/tidmus.html



Historical sport photograph. Photo: Shutterstock.com

Museum of Lithographic Art

The Lithographic Academy is Sweden's only Museum and Art Hall specializing in Lithographic Art. Since 1997, the academy offers a varied program featuring both historical and contemporary art exhibitions.

Apart from the Lithographic Art displays, the museum also produces a series of touring exhibitions.

Museum of Lithographic Art is located next to Helidens Folk High School. From the city center, go east on von Essens street approximately 1 km.

+46 502-178 27, +46 502-143 34

www.lithonet.org



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Graceful sunlight through the Beech Wood trees. Photo: Shutterstock.com



Enjoy Tidaholms nature. Photo: Shutterstock.com

Nature

Lammevadskärret (Marsh/Fen)

In Dimbobygden, the underground springs and high content of lime, has create the perfect conditions for orchids. One of the marshes is irrigated with a high content of lime and is called Lammevadskärret.

One of the first flowers of spring is the Coltsfoot (*Tussilago farfara*), and then it doesn't take long before the bird's-eye Primrose sprout up and blossom. In the beginning of June, you can already see the Fly orchid, a unique orchid because the flowers' appearance resembles a fly.

The week before Midsummer, the marsh comes alive and in full bloom with many different varieties of the orchid family, such as the Heath Spotted-orchid, the white Early Marsh-orchid and even the Pugsley's Marsh Orchid.

Due to the lime deposits, many rare and unusual plants flourish in the area, such as the Brown Bog-rush and even the beautiful

blue Butterwort. The Butterwort partially lives on insects which can become trapped by the sticky substance on their peddles.

The first två weeks in July, blooms one of the most beautiful flowers called the Marsh Helleborine. Then sprouts the Grass of Parnassus, also known as Bog-stars.

The marsh is very sensitive to changes in the environment. Therefore, visitors are requested to stay on the footpaths. *Lammevad Fen is located on road 26 towards Dimbo (follow the signs), approximately 10 km west from the center of Tidaholm. The reserve is approximately 700 meters southwest of Dimbo Church along the road to Folkabo.*

Ekedalens Nature Reserve

The road between Tidaholm – Ekedalen – Varv, is a journey through a deciduous forest unique for the area. The forest is filled with Beech wood trees that are most common in Southern Sweden.

Baron Reinhold von Essen planted the

Beech wood trees during the middle or later part of the 1870's. Folklore claims these special trees actually came from Germany (Holstein) and replanted here. The northern part of the reserve is mainly filled with Larch trees, whereas, the southern part has a remarkable variety of trees such as the Poplar, Sycamore, and Beech wood, in all sorts of shapes and sizes. This area is also filled with many different rare plants such as, the Whitebeam, Field Maple and a variety of rare Ash Trees.

Ödegårdsstigen is a 3 km hiking trail through the forest.

Ekedalens Nature Reserve area is approximately 8,5 acres and is located approximately 8 km west of Tidaholms Center.

Västra Vätterleden (Hiking Trail)

The western hiking trail ties together Bergsleden with Småland. The trail is approximately 150 km long, from Granvik, in the north, to Mullsjö in the south and is divided into 8 sections.

The trail starts from Tiveden, in the north, passes Göta Canal then continues through the forest parallel with the water and offers some fantastic views.

The southern section goes to Hökensås with its prominent ridges, lingon fields and many small lakes.

Starting points: Granvik, Udenäs, Forsvik, Mölltorp, Hjo, Hökensås Semesterby, Fagervik, Mullsjö. Tidaholms Tourist Bureau can provide maps for each stage or division.



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Tidaholm is offering great views. Photo: Shutterstock.com



Photo: Shutterstock.com

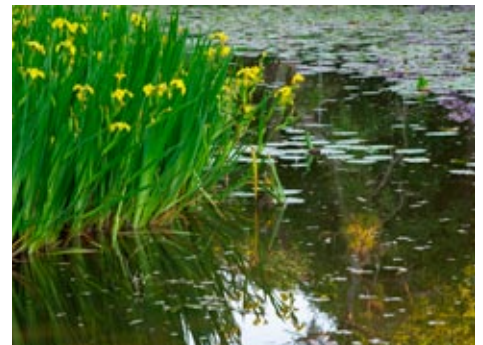


Photo: Shutterstock.com

Worth Seeing

Dimbo Burial Field

The Dimbo Burial Field is Västra Götalands largest and has over 300 historical graves from the early Iron Age. Many generations are buried here and some dated back to the Viking Age, 800-1050.

The majority (approximately 240) of the graves are made with piles of earth, which was common practice for that time. The other graves have various shapes and the flat graves are made of earth and stone. There is also a trail, which was used during the Middle Ages all the way until the 1600's.

Take road 48 towards Dimbo (follow the signs), approximately 10 km west from the center of Tidaholm (north of road 193).

Grimmestorps Herrgård (Country Estate)

On the outskirts of Hökensås, you will find Grimmestorps Country Estate located in the beautiful countryside, between Tidaholm and Mullsjö. The estate dates back to the Middle Ages and has a quite diverse history. The central section on the buildings first

floor was built in 1632 and is the oldest and most protected part of the estate. An upper floor was added sometime during the middle of the 1700's. The additions to the estate were finally finished around 1820, and its appearance is the same today. But, after many years of decay, the estate has been newly renovated and furnished.

The Kitchen Wing (exactly like the name) dates back to the middle of the 1700's. There still stands a large stove complex, which was used up until the end of the 1800's. Today, it is a Café and weaving cottage, where you can still see the different types of fabrics used during the Middle Ages.

Located in the old storeroom, you will find the Country Store which features their own studio displaying clothing common in the Middle Ages. You can purchase some of the items, as well as various handicrafts.

Take road 26 eastwards following the signs for Härja, approximately 3 km, continue onwards for about 4 km. The estate is located on the lefthand side.

+46 502-210 30
www.grimmestorp.com

Kungslena kyrka (Church)

King Erik XI built the church back in the 1200's in memory of his father's conquest in the Battle of Lena, in 1208. He was nicknamed the "Lisp and Lame" because he is said to have been partially lame from birth.

There are three towers on the church grounds to symbolize the meeting of the three kings on Easter Day in 1258. The church is richly decorated with paintings by Johannes Risberg (1749) and Mäster Amund (1400's).

In 2006, the church was completely renovated inside and out. During the renovation, a thermovision camera was used to search for unfounded relics. During the search, a secret room was discovered hidden under the floor of the priest's changing room. When the floorboards were removed, you could see small steps made of limestone leading down to a 1,5 x 2 m size room, which turned out to be a wine cellar. Many in the area told stories of a hidden wine cellar under the church, but it was only recently been discovered. Ragnar Sigsgjö,



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Church Historian, has estimated the wine cellar dates back to the 1600's. Currently, it is not opened to the public, but plans to be in the near future.

Kunglena is located approximately 13 km Northwest from Central Tidaholm. From Tidaholm, drive towards Skövde. Follow road 26 and the signs for Kunglena for about 11 km.

+46 502-197 70

Kyrkbyn i Hömb (Church Village)

The Kavlås Church has ruled the Church Village in Homb since the 1600's. It is a small farming community consisting of six farms along the thoroughfare and a Luffarstugan (poor man's overnight cottage) on the outskirts of the village.

Take road 48 north of Tidaholm towards Hömb (follow the signs) approximately 10 km.

Tidaholms kyrka (Church)

Tidaholm's Church was inaugurated in 1841 and replaced the old medieval church located approximately 150m on the northern beach of Tidaholm. The old church was torn down in 1840 and replaced with the new church you can see today. Since 1841, the church has been renovated many times throughout the years, giving it the appearance you find today. The steeple and the priest's dressing room was rebuilt and refurbished in 1892. Extensive inside restoration was done during the years 1935, 1971, 1990, and 2007 which increased the lighting exposure and the ceiling higher.

The Alter Painting, the Baptism Font, and the Candelabra all have been preserved from the old medieval church. The Candelabra hangs above the Baptism Font and both are dated back to the 1600's. During the restoration in 1971, the Alter Painting was restored to its original appearance.

The pulpit is dates back to 1892. Afterwards, it was completed with the symbols of the four evangelists along with the symbol for Christ in the middle using the lamb with a victory banner.

Amongst the churches newer possessions are alter tapestry, decorative alter fronts



Listen to the running water. Photo: Shutterstock.com

or antependium and a baptism candlestick made by the silversmith Karl-Åke Nyström. In the weapons house there is a large mural created by the artist Evald Gillbrand in Tidaholm. He was inspired to paint the entire parish and his work of art was finished in collaboration with the churches' 100-year jubilee in 1941.

Furthermore, the old church gave several of the old weapons to the Papegoja family in memory of John Papegoja, whom was Vice Governor of New Sweden, in the USA from 1653-54 and was married to Amgard Printz. The Papegoja family lived at the Ramstorps Estate in the former Agnetorps parish. Two of these weapons are placed on the churches southern wall and a third weapon is shown in the weapons house. On the north wall of the church is an epitaph of Commander Anders Urlander.

Tidaholms Church is located in central Tidaholm.

+46 502-197 70

www.svenskakyrkan.se/tidaholm

Turbine House

Ideally set along the environmentally protected shore of the Tidan River and the city center. Turbine House was built in 1898 and was used to power Tidaholms Bruk but now is used to house exhibitions. In addition, you will find silversmith cottages and factory workers houses all furnished as they were at the end of the 1700's, and a picturesque café where you can enjoy a cup of coffee outside, as well as inside.

During the summer, students from Hellidens Folk High School use the warehouse building to create their handicrafts. On the island, you will find a wonderful green herb garden, lovely green plants, mini-golf and evening entertainment for your enjoyment.

August & Lotta Specialty Shop offers a variety of sweets, such as old-fashioned pastry cones, baskets, toys, and an assortment of gifts.

Located in central Tidaholm. Parking available on Muselgatan and Smedjegatan.

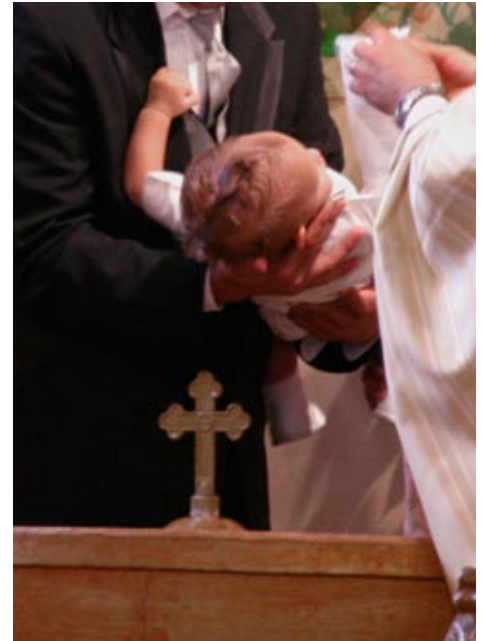


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See and Do



Spring flowers growing in a park. Photo: Shutterstock.com



Infant baptism. Photo: Shutterstock.com

Vättaks kyrkan (Church)

Vättaks Church was built in 1717 and replaced a very old medieval church on the same location. Unfortunately, nobody knows exactly how the old church looked but the old stones were removed to make place the new timber church. The new church planned for a tower in the shape of the cross and it was finally finished during the 1720's. Here you will find an alter painting that portrays Christ on the Cross and was purchased from Ettaks Church along with a beautifully sculptured pulpit by Jonas Ullberg, from Velinga in 1722.

The Baptismal Font is from the 1100's and over the font is a sculpture of an angel. The organ, which has five pitches, was created by P A Holmkvist, from Liared, in 1869 and purchased by Trävattna Church in 1895. In addition, there is an old grandfather clock from 1774. The roof has numerous paintings, which were biblically inspired by Jonas Risberg in 1755. There are two clocks hanging in the clock tower, which are still rung by hand.

Vättak is located approximately 13 km southwest of Tidaholm. From Tidaholm, travel road 26 towards Jönköping, follow the signs for Vättak for about 12 km.

+46 502-197 70

Östra Gerums Kryka (Church)

East Gerums Church is one of the most well preserved churches in the Skara dioceses. The church is from the 1100's and has retained its romantic form and semi-circled chancel. The church was built sometime between the years 1150-1175, of limestone with the windows and doorways constructed from sand. On the front-side of the church, appears to have been a tower attached to the church but had been torn down. There are a number of clocks hanging in the beautiful clock tower. Historians say Saint Sigfrid searched the area and decided the location for the church and the cemetery at the same time. Saint Sigfrids church in East Gerum was once known as the sacrifice church.

When the church was renovated in 1952-53, a grave was discovered under the chancel formed like a Cist (a small stone-built coffin-like box). The grave is dated back to around 1100-1150. It is mostly likely the church was redone in timber before the latest renovation so the grave had been covered, but it has been there the entire time.

East Gerums Church is located approximately 20 km southwest of Tidaholm. Take road 193 towards Falköping towards Gerum about 20 km.

Other

Art & Hologram

Art & Hologram in Tidaholm is one of Sweden's biggest Hologram exhibitions. Here you can have your own house in a painting or a portrait, all in 3D. Sales and exhibitions are unique 3D holograms, waterpaintings, oilpaintings and posters. Art & Hologram is a place where art and science come together. Public and Private exhibitions are available.

Located at the old square, Tidaholm

+46 70-611 32 05

arthologram@live.se

www.arthologram.nu

SOURCES

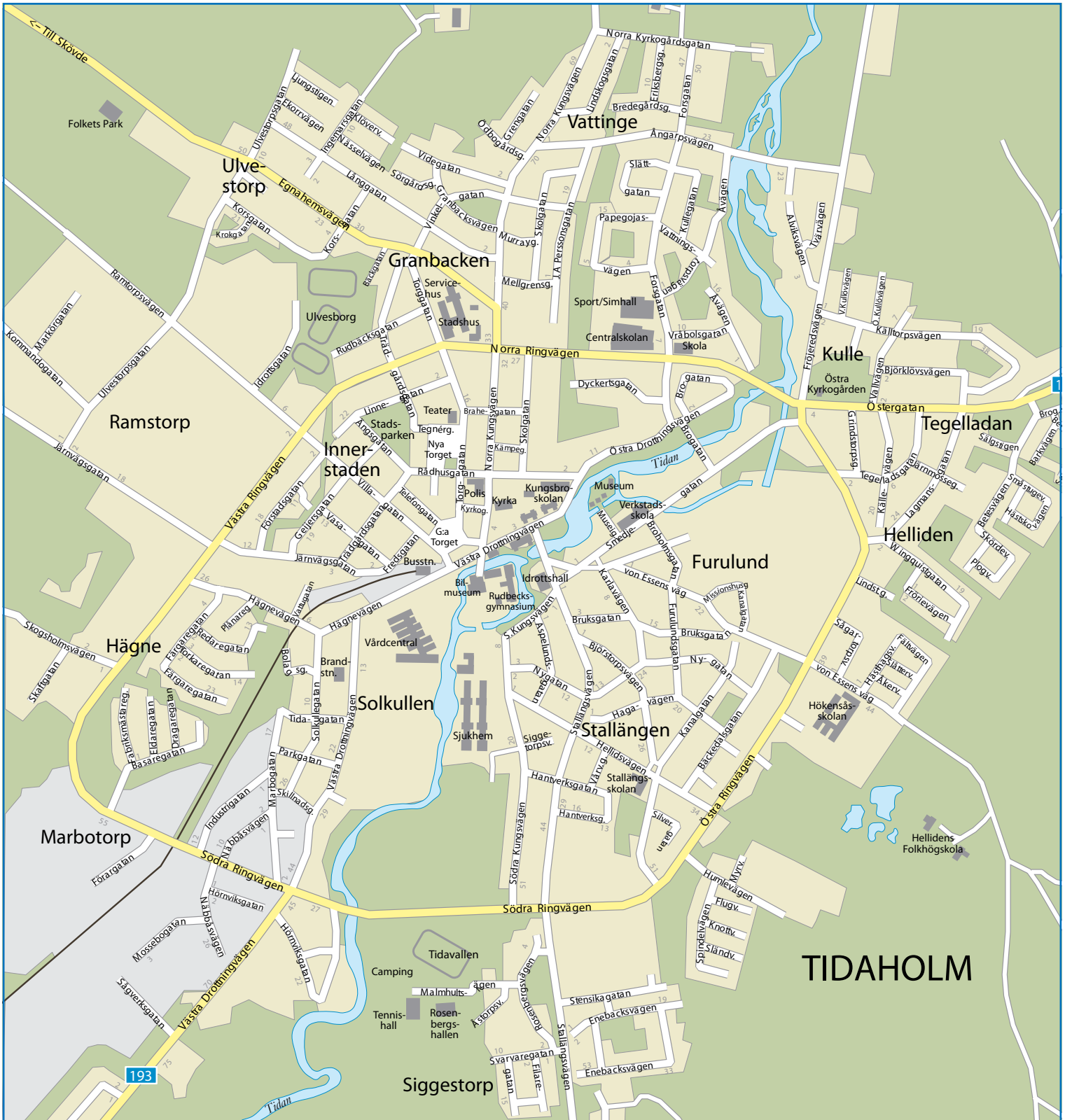
www.tidaholmstouristbyra.se

www.kommunernaskalender.com

www.eurotourism.com

www.dagspress.se

Med reservation för eventuella ändringar



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www.eurotourism.com/se

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