



GEMS OF THE RÅNE & VITÅ RIVER VALLEYS

the touring routes of
**SWEDISH
LAPLAND**
YOUR ARCTIC DESTINATION



DISCOVER THE RÅNE & VITÅ RIVER VALLEYS

The Råne and Vitå River valleys span the municipalities of Luleå, Gällivare, Jokkmokk and Boden. These rich, unregulated, natural treasures stretch from the foot of the mountain Dundret in the north-west to the estuaries in the Gulf of Bothnia in the southeast.

The vast, untouched forestlands of the river valleys are home to extraordinary experiences and great variety. The fauna is rich. The bathing beaches are many – there is the sea, there are rivers, lakes and pools. Wilderness adventures and great canoeing waters are amongst the attractions, as are the fishing opportunities. In the Råne and Vitå River valleys you will also find many destinations of cultural-historical interest to visit. The area also offers grocery stores, petrol stations and eateries, frequented by locals and visitors alike.

Choose accommodation to suit your tastes – stay in a forest cabin, a cottage village, at a campsite or find conferencing opportunities at a local hotel or in a manor house environment. Skilled organisers will guide you through local activities and breathtaking experiences such as whitewater rafting, fishing and climbing.

Crayfishing is a major event and traditionally a family feast, for a few days in August. The lower part of the Råne River has one of Sweden's richest noble crayfish populations. At dusk, small fires are lit and people gather to heat a tasty treat or just socialise as they wait to empty the fishing traps. The crayfish are boiled with dill according to a secret recipe and served with delicious condiments. The crayfishing parties are highly popular and a perfect way to round off the summer season.

Winter, on the other hand, offers lots of activities on crisp, natural snow. The ice is a playground where snowmobiles and skiers enjoy the vast, white vistas together. Ice fishing attracts fishermen of all ages and there are many great fishing spots throughout the rich river valleys.

How about a trek along Malmens väg (the Ore Trail), by snowmobile, dogsled, or maybe even on skis? The trail stretches almost 200

km, from Strömsund to Dundret in Gällivare and there are rest cabins and wind shelters where you can stop to warm up.

WHERE THE RIVER RUNS

The Råne River Valley offers an untouched natural environment, rich cultural history and an unregulated forest river. The Råne River runs from Råneträsk, at the foot of the mountain Dundret in Gällivare, to the Gulf of Bothnia and the Råne archipelago – a distance of approximately 230 km. The river descends 361 metres on its journey through forests, marshes and farmland, the latter dominates large parts of the riverside landscape. Just like many other waterways, the river has previously been used for log driving. There also used to be number of sawmills on the river, harnessing the power of the rapids.

The Vitå River runs from Gällivare Municipality down to the Råne-fjärden estuary. The Vitå River and its adjacent valley creates an alluring environment, displaying all the traits of a forest river on its way down to the sea. People have used the riverside lands as farmland and haymaking grounds and its rapids to power the mills at Vitåfors and Avafors. The Avafors blast furnace produced pig iron for the Vitåfors iron mill. This river has also been used for log driving.



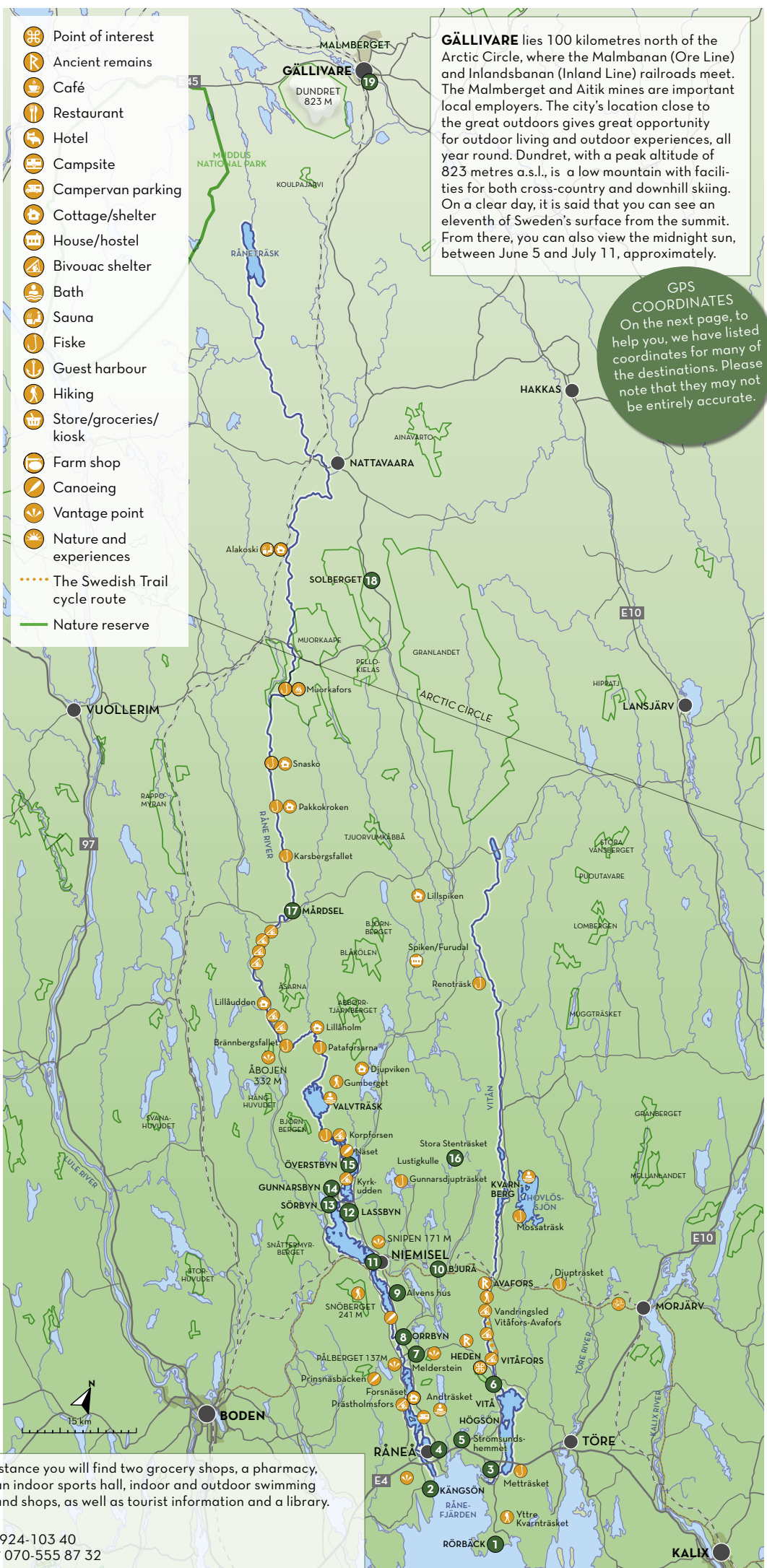
You can find more tips on activities in our themed guides to fishing, hiking, cycling and kayaking. Collect one at the tourist information office in Luleå or Boden, or download from visitlulea.se or upplevboden.nu.



Photo: Graeme Richardson

- RÖRBÄCKS CAMPING & HAVSBAD**
 Caravan park, cottages and rooms for rent, a café and a kiosk.
 Wind sheltered harbour.
- KÄNGSÖN**
 - KÄNGSÖNS CAMPING & HAVSBAD**
 Basic caravan park. A summer café, a guest harbour and a bathing beach. Padel, mini golf and frisbee golf courses.
 - CANOE ADVENTURE NORTH**
 Kayaks, canoes, outdoor living equipment and accessories for sale. Sauna raft for events. canoeadventure.nu
- SKOMAKARHUSET LODGE**
 Fully equipped lodge. Sauna and outdoor jacuzzi available to book.
 +46(0)70-560 91 97
skomakarhuset.se
- BRETEGÅRDEN**
 Horse farm. Hereford cattle.
 +46(0)70-312 92 73
- STRÖMSUNDSHEMMET**
 Cottages for rent, caravan park, summer café and restaurant.
 +46(0)76-813 30 81
stromsundshemmet.se
- VITÅ, VITÅFORS**
 Hiking trails, bathing beach, machinery museum and ancient remains.
- ORRBYN**
 - HERMANSGÅRDEN**
 Cattle farm, with meat for sale.
 +46(0)70-575 93 02

 Open cottage at Sundbergholmen, wind shelter at Skravelholmen and caravan park by the village community centre.
- MELDERSTEIN HERRGÅRD**
 Accommodation, café, restaurant and chapel. Open in summer.
 +46(0)924-510 37 melderstein.se
- ÄLVENS HUS**
 Banquet hall, sauna, bakehouse and hostel. +46(0)73-026 28 71
- BJURÅ SUMMER CAFÉ & CRAFTS**
 Summer café and crafts for sale. +46(0)70-553 04 72, kottarna.com
- NIEMISEL**
 - NIEMISELS LIVS**
 Pick-up point for pharmacy and Systembolaget deliveries. Fishing licence information. +46(0)924-200 23, niemiselslivs.se
 - DAWS THAI FOOD & GRILL**
 +46(0)70-307 62 02
 - RANCH 465**
 Western riding in Norrbotten's forests, midnight sun and northern lights.
 +46(0)70-542 64 51, ranch465.com
 - GRANBACKA GÅRD**
 Farm shop. +46(0)73-063 14 13
 - Bathing beaches Sandviken and Kärrhuset, open cabins at Lillstrycken and Långforsen, wind shelter and fishing spots.





Arctic Retreat.

12. LASSBYN

• AURORA SAFARI CAMP



Exclusive camping in Sami huts. Wilderness activities, photo safari, gourmet food and a sauna raft. +46(0)70-655 79 66 aurorasafaricamp.com

• CREACTIVE ADVENTURE



Outdoor activities and expeditions on land and water. +46(0)70-207 37 51 creative-adventure.se

- The rapids Lassby-forsen with wind shelters, fishing and the Lustigkulle rest cabin.

13. SÖRBYN

• SÖRBYN LODGE



Hotel, cottages, activities and a restaurant serving local delicacies. +46(0)924-220 36. sorbyn.se

• PEWTER OF SWEDEN



Classic pewter bracelets. Shop and courses. +46(0)70-644 03 13 pewterofsweden.com

14. GUNNARSBYN

• FORSBERGS G:A HANDELSBOD



A historical 1930's country shop. +46(0)70-272 00 99

• BLOMBERGS HOSTEL



+46(0)70-655 79 66, raneriver.se

• GUNNARSBY LANTHANDEL



A country shop with everything you might need. +46(0)924-210 10 gunnarssbylanthandel.se

• VÄRLDSBUTIKEN



One of Sweden's 40 World Shops, for fair trade. +46(0)924-527 70 svenskakyrkan.se/boden

15. ÖVERSTBYN

• ARCTIC RETREAT



Accommodation on a beautiful cape, in high-standard log cabins. +46(0)70-544 71 47 arcticretreat.se

• NESTORS CAFÉ & DIVERSEHANDEL



Summer café and flea market in an old country shop in the village centre. +46(0)70-243 35 27 nestorscafe.se

16. STORA STENTRÄSKET



Campsite and cottages by fishing waters rich in arctic char and rainbow trout. Hiking trails, fire pits. +46(0)70-776 73 36 storastentrasket.se

17. THE OUTPOST



Modern wilderness lodge housed in the old Mårdsel village post office. Rent a room or rooms, or the entire building. Self-catering or full board. +46(0)70-655 79 66 theoutpostsweden.com

18. VILDMARKSBYN SOLBERGET

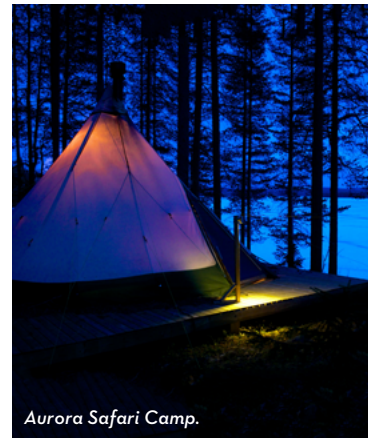


Enjoy outdoor experiences and adventure, far away from everyday life. +46(0)70-293 58 87, solberget.com

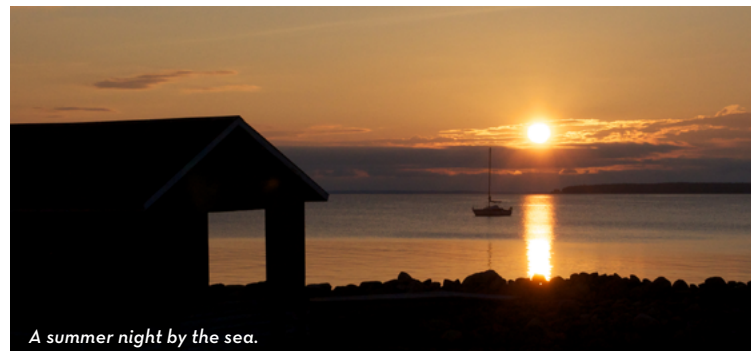
19. MIDNIGHT SUN ADVENTURES



Kayak rental and courses. +46(0)70-577 12 77



Aurora Safari Camp.



A summer night by the sea.

HISTORY

MELDERSTEINS HERRGÅRD Construction of the Melderstein Mill Manor began in 1741, with the goal of processing iron ore from MalMBERGET. It was founded by Jonas Meldercreutz, Abraham Steinholtz and Carl-Johan Thingwall. The name Melderstein was an amalgamation of the names of the two principal owners, Melder (creutz) and Stein (holtz). The mill was active until 1892 and since then, Melderstein Manor has served as a seat farm, a boarding school and a recreation retreat run by the Mission Covenant Church, amongst other things. Today, Melderstein Manor is owned by the Thingwall family. In its beautiful surroundings you will find pleasant walking areas with numerous reminders of the mill era at Melderstein. There are many remains - a blast furnace ruin, ore piles, ore roasting pits, the foundations of a forge and a coal house, remains of a dam and a canal, a shipyard, and the site of a Sami hut.

THE IRON MILL ERA IN NORRBOTTEN spanned almost three centuries and is an exciting piece of cultural history, with Melderstein Manor at the very heart of it all. When Melderstein could not provide sufficient capacity, the Strömsund Mill Manor and its blast furnace was constructed outside Råneå. Ore was transported to Strömsund on reindeer-drawn sleds, ackjor. The blast furnace produced pig iron which was then transported up the Råne River to Melderstein. The mining in Gällivare and the blast furnace in Strömsund were the two extremities of this operation.

MALMENS VÄG (THE ORE TRAIL) Malmens väg is a skiing and snowmobiling trail, following the route along which ore was transported from Gällivare/MalMBERGET to Strömsund on the coast outside Råneå, using reindeer and horses respectively, from 1774 to 1882. The trail has a total length of about 200 km and alongside it you will find a number of rest cabins with indoor fireplaces and outdoor campfire sites. The trail also connects the systems of trails with rest cabins, fishing lakes, vantage points, wind shelters etc. that were built and are run by local associations in Råneå, Niemisel, Gunnarsbyn, Nattavaara, Jokkmokk and Gällivare.



Melderstein Manor - part of the iron mill era in Norrbotten County.

BATHING LOCATIONS

ANDTRÄSKET BÖLE Great bathing lake with a sauna, an outhouse and a grilling site.

HOVLÖSSJÖN Child-friendly, pleasantly shallow bathing beach with a nice sandy beach, a grilling site, changing rooms and an outhouse.

KÄRRHUSET NIEMISEL Riverside bathing beach, with a wind shelter and a campfire site.

NORDANBORG KÄNGSÖN Sea bath at Kängsön in the Råneå archipelago.

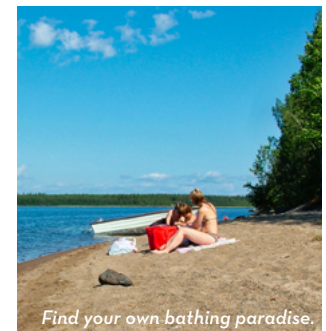
RÖRBÄCK CAMPING OCH HAVSBAD is located about nine kilometres off route E4. Child friendly sandy beaches, great camping opportunities for caravans and tents. A kiosk, a mini golf course, kayak rental, grilling sites and a sauna.

SANDVIKEN NIEMISEL An area with holiday houses and a bathing beach by Degerslet, a lake spanning about 10 kilometres, part of the main basin of the Råne River.

STORÅBRON VITÅFORS A bathing site by the Vitå River. Offers a grilling site, changing rooms and a wood-fired sauna.

SÖRBYN Scenic bathing beach on Lake Vitträsket. A kiosk/café is open during summer. There are jetties, a playground and a diving platform, grassy spaces and a sandy beach.

VALVTRÄSK A nice bathing beach with jetties, changing rooms and a campfire site.



Find your own bathing paradise.

OUTDOOR POOL

RÅNEPOOLEN is a free swimming pool in central Råneå. Here you will find a 25 metre pool with a waterslide, a small children's pool and a café offering light meals, ice cream and coffee. Open daily during the summer holidays. Skolvägen 18, +46(0)924-575 57.

EVENTS

LOOK OUT for nice events. You can find flea markets, auctions, group activities, competitions, summer cafés, food and craft markets etc. visitlulea.se, bodeninswedishlapland.se, kottarna.com

KÄNGSÖN - RÅNEÅ - BÖLE



Photo: Helena Holm

In Råneå, both sea and forestland are close by. Kängsö harbour and Råneå's church cottages are picturesque environments. The Råne River is considered one of Sweden's best fishing waters for pike, trout, grayling, perch and noble crayfish.

KÄNGSÖN

Scenic fishing and small boat harbour with characteristic boat sheds, a guest harbour, a jetty and life vests to borrow. On a nearby cape with a view of the entire harbour you will find a club house which hosts a summer café and flea markets and on the other side of the cape you can park your caravan for a few nights or go for a swim in the sea. By the harbour you will find an outdoor equipment shop, offering a rental service for those who would like to see the archipelago by canoe, Canadian canoe, or aboard a sauna raft.

RÅNEÅ

is a beautiful community, located a few kilometers upstream from the mouth of the Råne River in the Gulf of Bothnia. In the village, the river branches into two, and two beautiful rapids are found in a central, accessible location, for visitors to behold. Here, you will find shops and services, as well as churches attracting people from all over the world. The Råneå area offers wilderness living just a stone's throw from the city – just a short distance from the entire Luleå region lies a unique, wild, rocky archipelago, running waters for different types of paddling, and beautiful mountains to climb in both summer and winter.

BÖLE

The small locality of Böle is located 4 km from Råneå. Most of its houses are situated on the northern side of the Råne River. Farming has played and continues to play an important part in the village, which has also been home to a prominent tiled stove factory. Close to the village lies Andträsket, a great bathing lake where there is also game fish, a sauna, an outhouse and a grilling site. In the village of Böle you will find a berth with a cabin, an outhouse and a grilling site.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

THE RÅNEÅ CHURCH COTTAGES

Located opposite the church, near the Citizens' Office, and part of the local cultural heritage. There were once 250 cottages here, as well as stables and outhouses, dating back to the establishment of the parish of Råneå in 1654, when people living in the surrounding villages were obligated to visit the church. The farmers-built church cottages to enable them to stay overnight when visiting church services, local meetings and market days. They became an important way for people to meet and the tradition lived on for generations, until the 1930's-40's. After 1950, when cars became more common and chapels were built even in the smaller villages, the church cottages were no longer needed. Most were removed but 10 cottages still remain. These

are owned by the Råneå parish, associations and private individuals and used, amongst other occasions, during the Råneå summer market and outdoor church services.

STRÖMSUNDSHEMMET

A beautiful place in a typical Swedish Lapland environment, along route E4 just north of Råneå. Courses, summer camps, weddings, family gatherings, birthday parties, christenings and other events are held here. The buildings, consisting of old church cottages, Norrbotten farmhouses and bakehouses were all built in the area. Strömsundshemmet is found in an idyllic location by a small lake, close to the coast. You can rent cottages for overnight accommodation, there is a campsite, a bathing beach, a chapel, a sauna and an eatery.



Photo: Maria Paulsson

RÖRBÄCK - JÄMTÖN



Photo: Gunvor Ekström

The stretch of the Vitå River running through Luleå Municipality is 50 kilometres long. The last leg of its journey to the sea runs through the wide but shallow Vitåfjärden, on to the Jämtöälven rapids, towards the Rånefjärden estuary.

JÄMTÖN

Jämtön was once an island but is now, because of land uplift, connected to the mainland. Here you will find great hunting and fishing opportunities. Metträsket is a scenic lake where rainbow trout have been introduced. If you enjoy snowmobiling, there is a trail spanning approximately 80 km and several cabins along the way open to the public. The village of Jämtöavan has a pleasant fishing harbour with a couple of old bathhouses and a view of Rånefjärden to the west. This little village was once home to four boat yards.

RÖRBÄCK

Between 1930 and 1950 there was a sawmill at Krakaören. The logs were driven along the Råne River and towed by tugboat from the river mouth. On the beaches, you can still see the remains of the waste wood quays. The Rörbäck campsite and sea bath is located about nine kilometres from Jämtön and is a scenic campsite with a child friendly beach and great bathing options. The harbour is deep and has a quay where visiting boats can moor temporarily.



Photo: Gunvor Ekström

PLACES TO VISIT:

THE JÄMTÖAVAN ORCHID DISTRICT

At Yttre Kvarträsket, a light 4 km hike, 9 km from Route E4, turn left onto a forest road, Kronkilsvägen, where an info sign tells you more about the trail. After about 200 m you will see a sign for "naturstig" (nature trail) to the left. Follow the trail up to a mast where the trail markings begin, in the form of white-tipped poles. Follow the trail for just over one kilometre, to Yttre Kvarträsket and the orchid district. Here you will find eleven different species of orchids, flowering at different times between May and August. Kvarträskkojan is a rest cabin with a grilling site outside.

RÖRBÄCKS CAMPING & HAVSBAD

Nature camping offering 84 caravan spots with electricity, 3 cabins and rooms to rent, an amenities building, showers, toilets, as well as a sauna and outdoor hot tub. Also a café and a kiosk, a mini golf course, beach volleyball and petanque courts, campfire sites, a Sami grilling hut and kayak rental. There is a boat harbour with full sailing depth up to a quay, sheltered from wind.
+46(0)72-740 68 08
facebook.com/pg/rorbäckshavsbadcamping

PRÄSTHOLM - ORRBYN - NIEMISEL



Pike fishing - one of many local adventures.

Along route 760 from Råneå, on the north side of the river, lies a beautiful band of villages in close succession and between them lies farmland, meadows and pastures, with the softly running river in the background. Here you will find a number of beautiful destinations, with great fishing spots and several cottages and cabins available for overnight stays. There are scenic locations on the south side of the river too, the mountains Snöberget and Pålberget amongst others.

PRÄSTHOLM

An old farming area, with buildings spread out approximately 4 km along the Råne River. Maps and address registers refer to Södra (South) and Norra (North) Prästhalm, however, it is a single village. The village was once home to marble and limestone quarries, producing top-grade limestone for iron mills and farming.

ORRBYN

Upstream of the Råne River, 50 km north of central Luleå, lies Orrbyn, with a lovely natural environment, forests and riverlands. Here you will find Hasaforsen where there was once a small furnace and forge, built to process the bog iron mined in the area. A farm and sawmill were located by the river.

NIEMISEL

A scenic village by the Råne River, about 50 km northeast of Luleå, dating back to the 16th century. The village, whose buildings are very spread out, is situated on both sides of the Råne River, but has its centre by Kvarnån, where roads from Råneå, Boden, Morjärv and Gunnarsbyn meet. Just north of the village lies the mountain Snipen, famed for its climbing rock. Southwest of the village lies the mountain, Snöberget, 240 metres tall, with vast shingle fields and untouched old-growth forest, recently designated a nature reserve.

PLACES TO VISIT:

FORSNÄSET

A rest cabin on an island.
GPS: 65°54'22.5"N 21°11'32.6"E

GRÄDDFORSEN

Wind shelter.
GPS: 66°01'20.3"N 21°57'58.5"E

KVARNÅMYNNINGEN

Wind shelter, outhouse and grilling site.
GPS: 66°00'42.3"N 21°58'32.5"E

LILLSTRYCKEN

Campsite by the river, a cabin with three bunk beds, a sauna, a grilling site, an outhouse and a firewood storage shed.
GPS: 66°00'04.5"N 21°59'36.4"E

LÅNGFORSEN

Four bunk beds (not bookable), sauna, outhouse and grilling site.
GPS: 66°01'23.3"N 21°57'52.9"E

MELDERSTEINS HERRGÅRD

This 18th century manor is found in a beautiful, tranquil location. It was once at the heart of a mill environment but now hosts a hotel, a restaurant, conferencing facilities, a sauna area and its very own chapel. The manor is often used for weddings, parties and retreats. The beautiful surroundings have walking paths where you can see the historical origins of Melderstein Manor.
+46 (0)924-510 37
melderstein.se

PRÄSTHOLMSFORSEN

Wind shelter, grilling site, boat rental.
GPS: 65°54'19.2"N 22°11'26.2"E

RENSUNDET

Wind shelter by the neck of the river, northwest of the rest cabin at Långforsen.
GPS: 66°01'26.5"N 21°57'26.5"E

SANDVIKEN/DEGERSELET

Bathing beach with jetties, near an area with holiday homes.
GPS: 66°00'53.5"N 21°56'30.7"E

SKRAVELHOLMEN

Wind shelter and grilling site near Melderstein Manor.
GPS: 65°56'23.1"N 22°08'05.4"E

SUNDBERGSHOLMEN

Cottage with four bunk beds (not bookable) and a sauna, located on an island in the middle of the river. Parking available by the bridge leading to the island.
GPS: 65°56'45.4"N 22°06'56.0"E

STENBERGSVIKSUDDEN

Canoe/kayak rental starting July 2021. Contact Canoe Adventure North.
+46 (0)70-5425110.

TRUMSELET

Also known as Kärrhuset, located 200 m north of the Niemisel bathing beach. Here you will find a grilling site and a wind shelter.
GPS: 66°01'05.5"N 21°58'33.3"E

LASSBYN - SÖRBYN - GUNNARSBYN



Sörbyn Lodge by the scenic lake Vitträsket and the renowned Sörbyparken.

Once you have passed Niemisel along route 760 you will reach Lassbyn, Sörbyn and Gunnarsbyn, a cluster of more or less connected villages. There are several interesting destinations and sights to see in the area. You can stay in a pre-booked cottage, a cottage which can not be booked in advance, at a hotel or park your camper van or caravan in a designated location.

LASSBYN

The village lies about 35 km upstream of the Råne River, in a beautiful location on the bank of Degerselet. Before you turn off the main road and into the village proper, you will find the Lassbyforsen rapids. This little gem offers top-of-the-range activities and exciting 'glamping' accommodation.

SÖRBYN

On the shore of the scenic Vitträsket lies Sörbyn. Here you will find a bathing beach, walking trails, canoeing opportunities and great arctic char fishing, amongst many other things. You can enjoy good food at Restaurant Kalkällan, run by Sörbyn Lodge, also offering accommodation in hotel rooms and cottages with a view of the lake. The village of Sundsnäs, with an active rural history society, is also found nearby.

GUNNARSBYN

Gunnarsbyn is the central locality in the area. In 1645 there were two farmsteads here, one of which was called Gunnars, hence the name Gunnarsbyn. Here you can stop for a Swedish fika, a snack or to fill up your car and do your shopping. Local associations and the church organise various interesting activities. Here you will also find other amenities for locals and visitors alike in the form of a service point where you can find more information about the area. Kyrkudden is a cosy place close to the river, on the shore of the tranquil lake that the river forms here. At the lake you will find a launch site for boats, canoes and kayaks and also a wind shelter with a campfire site.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

THE BATHING BEACH AT LAKE VITTRÄSKET IN SÖRBYN

Summer kiosk, diving platform and changing rooms. The beach is located close to Sörbyn Turism & Konferens, which means that you can enjoy lunch at Restaurang Kalkällan.

VITTRÄSKET

Swimming and arctic char fishing. A coldspring lake, with alluringly clear water - the same water that is served at Restaurang Kalkällan.

SÖRBYN-SUNDSNÄS COUNTRY & STRAW MUSEUM

The local history centre houses a unique collection of straw artwork and historical items. +46(0)70-660 11 47 sorbyn-sundsnas.se

PLACES TO VISIT:

LASSBYFORSEN

A scenic rest stop and caravan park location. Here, you will have a view of the mighty river rapids.
GPS: 66°03'52.5"N 21°48'51.2"E

LUSTIGKULLE

Simple cabin and wind shelter beside the Lassby rapids.
GPS: 66°04'09.5"N 21°49'28.5"E

SÖRBYN LODGE

and Restaurant Kalkällan. Good food with local flavours. Fishing opportunities, and skilled guides available. Wood-fired sauna by Lake Vitträsket.
+46(0)924-220 36. sorbyn.se

VÄRLDSBUTIKEN

A well-stocked Fair Trade shop in Gunnarsbyn. People come here from near and far to shop, and to enjoy a good waffle in the parish hall.
+46(0)924-527 71

GUNNARSBYNS KYRKA

Found in a scenic location, opened in 1928.

KYRKUDDEN BÅTLÄNNING

Fire pit, wind shelter and bathing beach.
GPS: 66°05'26.7"N 21°48'44.3"E

ÖVERSTBYN - VALVTRÄSK - MÅRDSSEL



Photo: Graeme Richardson

North of Gunnarsbyn lies Överstbyn, Valvträsk and Mårdsel. The landscape changes as you follow the Råne River upstream. Once you pass Valvträsk, its character changes, from farmlands and farms to more forestland. You are nearing the Arctic Circle.

ÖVERSTBYN

A lively little village in a fantastic environment. Here you will find farms and exciting activities. The village hosts a cosy summer café inside the old country store, Nestors Café & Diversehandel. Here you can enjoy homemade Swedish fika (pastries), visit the flea market shop and meet the farm animals. The village is also home to a company offering exciting activities in the area and throughout the entire region.

VALVTRÄSK

Once you have passed Överstbyn and crossed the amazing Korpforsen rapids you will be approaching Valvträsk, a rural gem with many active local associations. The village, which is surrounded by mountains, is located by one of the calm stretches of the Råne River, Valvträsket. One of the mountains, Gumberget, offers a beautiful view and a hiking trail up to the summit. Here you will also find a nice bathing beach with jetties. Pause at the Korpforsen rest stop and walk a while downstream. Here, you can see the water running through a canyon. Where the rapids end you will find exclusive accommodation, with the river as the nearest neighbour.

MÅRDSSEL

A little village with a long history, on the border of municipalities Boden and Gällivare, described as the oldest locality in Gällivare Municipality. An area with an amazingly scenic natural environment, close to the river. Here you will find several good, accessible fishing spots. On the road to Mårdsel, near Klingersel, lie a number of beautiful rest stops along the river.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

NESTORS CAFÉ & DIVERSEHANDEL

Summer café and flea market.
+46 (0)73-066 51 76
www.nestorscafe.se

PLACES TO VISIT:

GUMBERGET

Climb the mountain via a hiking trail. At the top you will find an amazing view, as well as a campfire site and a wind shelter.
GPS: 66°10'07.5"N 21°40'18.2"E

KLINGERSEL

Here you can pause at one or more of the nine scenic, accessible rest stops found along the road between Klingersel and Mårdsel.

KORPFORSEN

Rest stop nearby. Fire pits, outhouse and waste disposal.
GPS: 66°07'08.9"N 21°45'07.9"E

LILLSPIKEN

Located by Spikälven, accessible in summer via Skaitevägen above Norriån. This cottage is open to the public and has room for a group of four.
GPS: 66°22'40.9"N 21°42'13.3"E

NÄSET I ÖVERSTBYN

A good aunch site for canoes and kayaks.
GPS: 66°06'43.7"N 21°47'26.4"E

SPIKEN FURUDAL

If you are a larger group, you may be interested in booking the wilderness farmstead, Spiken by Malmens väg (the Ore Trail). The farmstead was built in 1768 and served as an ore loading station. Here you will also find a wood-fired sauna.

+46 (0)924-213 59, raek.nu
GPS: 66°19'03.8"N 21°45'15.9"E

VALVTRÄSKET

For your summer swimming needs. Jetties and changing rooms in a scenic location.

GPS: 66°08'58.7"N 21°41'09.8"E

ALAKOSKI

at Koskivaara. Log houses, sauna.
GPS: 66°39'30.7"N 20°59'38.8"E

MUORKAFORS

Fishing, fire pit.
GPS: 66°31'09.9"N 21°07'06.7"E

SNASKO

Cabin, salmon fishing.
GPS: 66°26'46.0"N 21°10'57.1"E

PAKKOKROKEN

Cabin, salmon fishing.
GPS: 66°26'46.0"N 21°10'57.1"E

KARBERGSFALLET

Scenic waterfall, salmon fishing.
GPS: 66°22'28.9"N 21°18'08.2"E

VITÅDALEN



Photo: Marja-Leena Tallus Johansson

The Vitå river valley is rich in birds and animals. Otters, beavers, white-throated dippers, swans and geese enjoy the small forest river. Beautiful old farmlands, remains of the 19th century mills and the highest mountain in the municipality are all found in Vitådalen.

AVAFORS

By the railroad from Boden to Haparanda you will find an old blast furnace built in the late 19th century, listed for preservation and an interesting place to visit.

HÖGSÖN

Here, you will find many businesses and a community centre, Högsö Bygård, where many local associations meet.

KVARNBERG

Located by the largest lake in Luleå Municipality, Hovlössjön, also known as "Storsjön". The lake is found in a scenic environment with 27 islets, pleasant sandy beaches, and great options for bathing and other outdoor activities.

VITÅ

The village was first recorded in writing in 1409. In 1543, it was considered a 'large village' and had 10 farmsteads. Around this time, Vitåfjärden and Jämtöfjärden were part of a sea inlet where Vitå was located on a river mouth. The village is named after its location and the brightly coloured water.

VITÅFORS

Here you will find a former iron mill and a power plant.

NOT TO BE MISSED:

VITÅFORS MASKINMUSEUM

A machinery museum featuring true rarities. 12 rope shovel excavators built between the 1930's and 1960's are the gems of the collection. About 20 different machines are reminders of an era now part of Swedish cultural history. In later summer, the annual Excavator Day is held, where visitors have a chance to get to know all the rarities and buy fika. Open at other times all year round, guided tours available on request.
+46 (0)70-336 30 88
nissesmaskiner.blogspot.se

PLACES TO VISIT:

BÄVERSTIGEN

The beaver trail. A light 2 km hike. Nature trail downstream from the Storåbron bridge in Vitåfors. Two wind shelters with campfire sites. Information about beavers along the trail.
GPS: 65°57'01.2"N 22°23'56.2"E

HEDEN

Between the villages Långtjärn and Heden lies a site with ancient remains, including cooking pits and charcoal pile remains estimated to be 3,000 years old. Because the sea then reached all the way here, this area was the site of a narrow sound and a point of land providing an excellent location for trapping various animals.

NATURE TRAIL, VITÅFORS - AVAFORS

A 10 km hiking trail along the Vitå River, ranging in difficulty between intermediate and difficult. Bivouac shelters, campfire sites and information along the trail. Information signs at Vitåfors and by the Avafors blast furnace. GPS: 66°02'25.1"N 22°16'17.5"E. An exciting walk around the old foundry area, where you can see foundation remains as well as remains of roasting pits and the blast furnace. The trail is occasionally more difficult to hike because of trees felled by beavers.

THE SLADANSTIGEN TRAIL

A light 4 km hike. Nature trail beginning by the school in Vitå and leading to Lake Sladan, one of the richest bird lakes in the coastland. Bivouac shelters with campfire sites, spotting towers and information signs.

THE TVÄRÅKÖLEN NATURE RESERVE

From the top of the mountain Tväråkölen you will have a beautiful view of the Råne River Valley. The area surrounding the peak is dominated by basement rock, covered in old-growth, basement rock pine forest. The basement rock area is delineated by steep cliffs and bouldery slopes. Shingle fields are found in several locations here.
GPS: 65°57'17.0"N 22°11'42.2"E

MOUNTAIN PEAKS & VANTAGE POINTS

PÅLBERGET 137 M

Located near Orrbyn, about 15 km up the Råne River. A road leads almost all the way to the top, which means that the hike will not be longer than approximately 1 km, there and back. Make a turn from the Niemisel road at GPS: 65°56'19.2"N 22°07'18.3"E. A beautiful view of the Råne River and Pålträsket. There are exciting caves to explore here.



Photo: Thomas Öberg

SNIPEN 171 M

A peculiar mountain top with a breathtaking view of the river valley. A hundred year-old pine forest is recovering after a forest fire and on the mountain you can see Snipkon (the Snipen Cow), a formation in the rock. A hiking trail leads up the mountain from the car park, east of the sign reading "Välkommen till Niemisel" GPS: 66°01'53.4"N 21°56'12.4"E. At the top, you will find a campfire site. This mountain is also home to one of Sweden's best sport climbing walls, the MTV Wall, featuring about 30 named climbing paths with fixed bolts and anchors to climb. The wall is 12-25 metres high and offers paths in a range of difficulties, including one of Sweden's hardest: "The Silence of the Lambs".

SNÖBERGET 241 M

The silhouette of Snöberget towers over the landscape, 241 metres above sea level. From the car park, GPS: 66°00'01.6"N 21°58'39.9"E, a 2.3 km trail leads to the top of Snöberget. There, you will be rewarded with a view spanning tens of kilometres of the forest landscape. Snöberget is a mountain whose peak was never affected by the waves of the sea and thus remains forested, whilst the sides are bare and home to mighty shingle fields, created by ice and waves. At the top, old-growth forest surrounds you. In addition to the birds of the old forest, there are many other species, including rare fungi such as the crust fungi *Junghuhnia collabens*, *Fomitopsis rosea* and *Radulodon erikssonii*.

STORKROKBERGET 307 M

The highest mountain in Luleå Municipality, its characteristic silhouette is seen from all over the Vitå Valley. There is no accessible road to the mountain, visitors will have to expect a 2 km forest hike. GPS: 66°14'22.8"N 22°04'28.4"E.

ÅBOJEN 332 M

Near Klingersel you will find this mountain and nature reserve. The view of the river valley from the top is breathtakingly beautiful. The steep eastern slope hosts an old pine forest with plenty of old aspen trees as well. GPS: 66°10'45.8"N 21°28'37.6"E.

FISHING IN LAKES AND RIVERS

STORA STENTRÄSK

Wilderness camping by a lake with introduced fish near the village Krokträsk. Here you will find cottages for rent, grilling sites and a sauna in a pleasant natural environment.

METTRÄSKET IN JÄMTÖN

Introduced rainbow trout and arctic char. Bivouacs, campfire sites, a jetty accessible to the disabled and toilets. For fishing licence information, please visit jamtonsff.se

MITTJÄRN, NIEMISEL

A lake with introduced fish, rainbow trout, brown trout and arctic char. Jetties and footbridge trails, wind shelters and campfire sites. Fishing licences available at Niemisels livs and also from retailers in the village.

GUNNARSDJUPTRÄSK

Northwest of the village Forstråskhed lies the 500-hectare fishing lake Gunnarsdjupträsk, where whitefish, trout, perch, pike and arctic char can be found.

THE RÅNE RIVER

Here you will find fishing rich in variety - everything from pike to salmon and grayling, with spinners or flies. There are zander high up in the river and perch can be found throughout. [Fiskekort.se](http://fiskekort.se) has more information about fishing in the Råne River Valley and you can purchase your fishing licence online.



Photo: Jenny Hellman

CARAVAN PARK

BÖLE

Caravan park by the village community centre 100 SEK/day. Pay by Swish, info available at the location.

KORPFORSEN

Caravan park at Korpforsen, 50 SEK/day. Pay by Swish or PayPal, info available at the location.

LASSBYFORSEN

Caravan park by the rapids, 50 SEK/day. Pay by Swish or PayPal, info available at the location.

ORRBYN

Caravan park by the local community centre, 100 SEK/day. Pay by Swish, info available at the location.

PLEASANT CANOEING ROUTES

BÖRSTÅN

A great route for canoeing or kayaking, exits onto the Råne River at Kvarnä.

LILLSTRYCKEN

Lillstrycken is a great place to launch, from the north side of Niemisel. Signs show the way here from the main road. Another good launching spot lies beneath Hasaforsen, from the south side. After the rapids, the river runs close to the road and it is fine to temporarily park your car by the roadside ditch. From both these launch points, you will be following the river through farmland, with rapids in between calm stretches of water. Some of the rapids require quite a bit of navigational skill, several are Class 2 rapids. Hasaforsen, Bjurforsen, Prästholforsen and Sörforsen running through Råneå are the most technically demanding rapids.

Keep in mind that the Råne River is a forest river, with considerable variation in waterflow. During the spring flood, the river is not suitable for inexperienced canoeers. Thus, if you do not have considerable experience, you should wait until early June, when the flow and pressure of the river has subsided and temperatures have risen. A couple of days of summer rain can also add significant waterflow to the river.

PRINSNÄSBÄCKEN

The creek known locally as Prinsnäsbacken offers lovely spring canoeing. The best time to come here is mid-May, preferably a couple of days after the breakup of the ice on Sörträsket. Come here before June 1, as a relatively strong waterflow is required. Skilled canoeers can paddle all the way from Pålträsket out to sea. The easiest and most scenic section is that from Pålträsket to the road bank at Sörträsket. Start by the wind shelter close to the road in Pålträsk. Disembark by the road and carry your canoe past the first rapids on the right side. Walk past the hunters' cabin, take a left turn at the clear-cut area and you will find yourself at the end of the rapids, where you can keep going. There may be trees lying across the creek, as beavers frequent this area.



Canoeing on Råneälven, reaching for Sundbergsholmen.

Photo: Osklar Hederyd

VITTRÄSKET

Unique arctic char fishing at the coldspring lake Vitträsket in Sörbyn. Licences sold by the Sörbyn-Sundsås fishery association, through fiskekort.se.

THE VITÅ RIVER VALLEY

The Vitå River Valley offers great fishing in lakes such as Renoträsk, Djupträsket, Metträsket, Mossaträsk and Hovlössjön, where fish have been introduced.

PIKE FISHING at the mouth of the Råne River and in all the large, calm stretches of water between Råneå and Valvträsk, located 50 km up the river.

ZANDER AND GRAYLING FISHING There is often good zander fishing in Degersel and the large, calm stretches at Gunnarsbyn and Överstbyn. In the tributaries Rörån and Livasälven, as well as in the rest of the Råne River you can catch plenty of grayling.

SALMON FISHING Lassbyforsen, Korpforsen, Pataforsen, Mourkaforsen, Brånbergfallet, Karsbergfallet-Järnheden and Pakkokroken. Salmon fishing is only permitted if you use gill tags and report your catch. Fishing licences and gill tags are available from retailers throughout the river valley. Please be careful to release fish that do not meet the minimum measurements and familiarise yourself with fishing regulations. At fiskekort.se you can find a fishing licence brochure listing retailers.

FISHING LICENCES To find retailers for fishing licences and gill tags in the northern licence area of the Råne River and lakes with introduced fish, please visit ranealven.se. For fishing in the Råne River between Böle and Niemisel, purchase a fishing licence at the respective location.

DOG SLEDDING

In winter, dogsledding is an amazing experience!

NORTHERN SOUL JOURNEYS

Ängesträsk 308, 955 95 Niemisel, +46(0)76-847 08 23, northern soulsjournays.com

TOM'S SLEDDOGS

Prinsnäs v. 465, 955 91 Råneå, +46(0)70-352 91 25, tomsleddog.se

YELLOW SNOW HUSKY TOURS

Also summer events. Krokträsk 64, 955 95 Niemisel, +46(0)76-806 79 75, yellowsnowhuskytours.com



A delicacy and an adventure!

THE RIGHT OF PUBLIC ACCESS

DO NOT DISTURB, DO NOT DESTROY Swedish law guarantees a right of public access, meaning that we're allowed to roam the outdoors freely, pick flowers, berries and mushrooms, swim, pitch tents, go cycling, boating, make campfires and enjoy other activities which are part of outdoor life. The right of public access is a privilege and a freedom that depends upon people acting responsibly and carefully towards the natural environment. We are not allowed to harm animals, plants or the environment and we must treat landowners and people we meet with respect.

RESTRICTIONS Naturally, you may not pick protected species. Nature reserves and national parks often have special regulations, restricting the right of public access. There may also be rules governing things such as speed limits, water skiing and leash requirements for dogs. Motor vehicles may not be driven off-road, on bare ground.

BIRD PROTECTION AREAS The archipelago has bird protection areas, where disembarkation is prohibited during certain parts of the year, often from May 1 to August 1.

FISHING You are free to fish in the sea, but there are rules on how, when and what you can fish. Lakes and rivers normally require a fishing licence.

UNIQUE FLORA AND FAUNA

The flora and fauna of the river valley are unique. A total of 318 different vascular plants have been recorded, many of them very rare, along the river banks and in its waters. There is a vast number of species. Rarities include red baneberry, Siberian lettuce and the knotweed *Persicaria foliosa*. In addition to a strong fish population you will also find noble crayfish, freshwater pearl mussels, white-throated dippers as well as beavers and otters here. Several rare flowers thrive here, such as the calypso orchid, lady's-slipper orchid and the lesser butterfly-orchid.

CRAYFISHING ON THE RÅNE RIVER The noble crayfish was introduced into the Råne River in the 1950's and a strong population has been established from Råneå by the sea and further upstream. During three nights in August, a fishing licence purchased in the respective village will allow you to go crayfishing. About 50,000 crayfish are fished during these days, as locals come together to fish from the river banks and boats. The noble crayfish population in the Råne River has, thus far, been safe from the crayfish plague. It is therefore of utmost importance that the equipment used here has not been used in other waters before.



Finding ripe arctic raspberries is pure happiness.

Photo: Elin Aunes



A red-throated diver and its duckling.

Photo: Thomas Öberg

READ MORE: *The Norrbotten County Administrative Board has information about nature reserves: lansstyrelsen.se*

The website of the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency has more information about nature reserves: naturvardsverket.se

Photo: Fredrik Bröman



Photo: Graeme Richardson



TOURIST INFORMATION

BODEN TOURIST CENTER
TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE
+46(0)921-624 10
turistcenter@bodenturism.se

LULEÅ TOURIST CENTER
TOURIST INFORMATION OFFICE
Kulturens hus,
+46(0)920-45 70 00
turistcenter@lulea.se

RÅEK SERVICEPUNKTEN
CITIZENS' OFFICE, INFO POINT
+46(0)924-213 59, info@raek.nu

RÅNEÅ MEDBORGARKONTOR
CITIZENS' OFFICE, LIBRARY/
INFO POINT
Västerlångvägen 2, Råneå
+46(0)920-45 30 00
mbk-ranea@lulea.se

AMENITIES

GROCERY STORES There are two grocery stores in Råneå. In the area you will also find Niemisels livs and Gunnarsby lanthandel.

FILLING STATIONS OKQ8 in Råneå and QSTAR in Gunnarsbyn. Charging station for EVs available at the Råneå bus station.

HEALTHCARE CENTRE In Råneå.

PHARMACY in Råneå as well as pick-up points in Niemisel and Gunnarsbyn.

SYSTEMBOLAGET (Swedish state off-licence) in Råneå as well as pick-up points in Niemisel and Gunnarsbyn.

TRANSPORTATION

AIR TRAVEL: Luleå Airport. Connections by coach or car.

BUS: Länstrafiken, the County Transport Authority, serves parts of the region. For more information and timetables, please visit ltnbd.se

CAR: From Luleå: Route E4 north towards Råneå and Jämtön. From Boden: Route 356 to Niemisel, route 760 towards Gunnarsbyn or Råneå.

TRAIN: SJ trains stop in Luleå and Boden. Connections by coach or car.

Changes may occur.

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