



Discover

# VÄSTERÅS



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# Phenomenal hotels

For a unique experience – stay three metres underwater or in a sinking house in Lake Mälaren.

With his vision and creative hotels, artist Mikael Genberg has really put Västerås on the map. Hotel Utter Inn attracts visitors from around the world who want to stay below the surface, as this is a submerged hotel in Västeråsfjärden, just off Västerås harbour. As well as Utter Inn,

a stroll along Lake Mälaren will also give you a glimpse of Ooops Hotel, "the sinking house", which is anchored at Färjkajen. Another of Mikael's works in Västerås is Hotel Hackspett. A tree house hotel located at the top of a mighty oak in Vasaparken.



## Castles

There is something magical about castles and there are four to explore around Västerås. They are all very different, and each has a story to tell!

### VÄSTERÅS CASTLE

Västerås Castle is situated in central Västerås. The castle received its current appearance in the mid-16th century when it was altered and rebuilt by King Gustav Vasa. Prince Erik XIV, the successor to the throne, was given his own rooms here but little did he know that the castle would become his prison.

### TIDÖ CASTLE

One of the best-preserved castles from Sweden's Age of Greatness. Home to the MC Collection and the Bicycle Museum.

### STRÖMSHOLMS PALACE

A royal palace in a stunning location on the Strömsholm canal known for its well-preserved royal interiors and a large art collection.

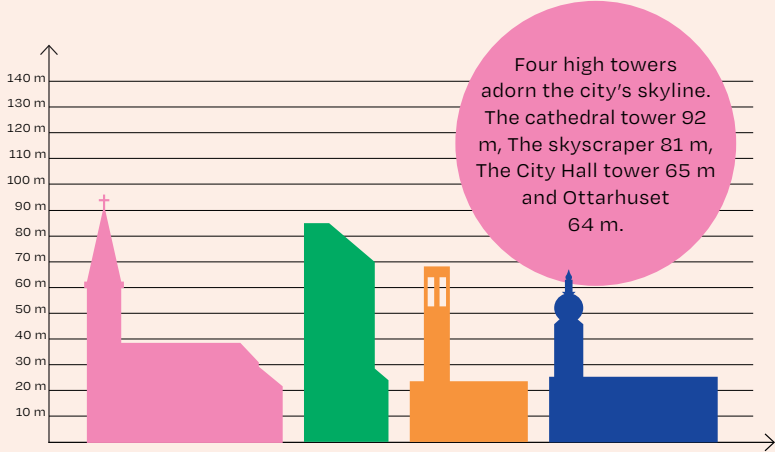
### ENGÖ CASTLE

Engsö Castle outside Västerås is well worth a visit. Besides being a beautiful building in picturesque surroundings, rumour has it that it is haunted!

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# Facts about Västerås

# This is Västerås!



**NOBEL LAUREATE**  
The Swedish poet Tomas Tranströmer lived in Västerås for 35 years and was awarded the Nobel Prize in literature in 2011. Every second year the Tranströmer Prize is awarded by the City of Västerås.

TOP REASONS FOR VISITING:

**Meetings, family and friends, events and shopping.**

**160 000**  
inhabitants

STATISTICS FROM 2024



At Västerås Aviation Museum, you can become a pilot for a day in one of the airport's four flight simulators.

**6**

restaurants  
1 café and 1 hotel in Västerås are included in the national restaurant guide White Guide 2020.



Västerås Cathedral has stars in the Michelin Guide.



### ERIKSLUND SHOPPING CENTER

80 shops in 80 000 square metres. Has been named shopping center of the Year on several occasions.

Anundshög from 500-700 AD is Sweden's largest burial mound – 9 metres high and 64 metres in diameter.



There are more than 380 km of walking and cycle paths here.

**ROCKLUNDA** measures 100 000 m<sup>2</sup>, making it Sweden's biggest interlinked sports complex with more visitors than Globen. There are arenas here for riding, football, bandy, ice hockey, handball, floor ball, running, skiing, trade fairs, exhibitions, concerts and conferences.

**6<sup>th</sup> place**

The five most popular tourist attractions in Västerås are:

**Västerås Cathedral**

**Kokpunkten action waterpark**

**Skultuna Brassworks**

**Vallby Open Air Museum**

**Karlsgatan 2**

**650 000**

overnight visits are made annually at hotels, youth hostels, campsites and cabins in Västerås. SCB 2023.

### 10 KILOMETRE SKI TRACK

The 10-km ski track which is prepared on Lake Mälaren when the ice is thick enough is one of many cross-country ski tracks in Västerås.



The world's first H&M store was opened in Västerås by Erling Persson in 1947, then under the name "Hennes". Now the world's largest clothing chain.

Västerås is Sweden's seventh largest municipality and 5th largest urban area.

**#1**

Västerås is home to the largest boat harbour in Scandinavia.

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Vikings in Västerås

# The Viking age

Frösåkers Brygga is a genuine attraction for the entire family that takes you back in time.

This little piece of paradise is set in the middle of Frösåker's beautiful countryside and gives you the opportunity to try out some historic activities like sailing and rowing longboats, play tournament games and learn more about the Viking Age. You can also enjoy refreshments and spend the night in a Viking ship, a boathouse or your own boat in the guest harbour. Frösåkers brygga is home to Sweden's largest floating boat museum with over 20 Viking ships, 2 cogs and a number of traditional boats. An educational Viking adventure for people of all ages is waiting for you at Frösåkers brygga!



DAILY GUIDED TOURS of Anundshög during the summer months.

## ANUNDSHÖG – A FORGOTTEN TIME!

Anundshög is a real treasure for everyone, regardless of how interested in history you are. Anundshög is Sweden's largest burial mound and is said to be the resting place of King Bröt-Anund although the grave has never been excavated. Alongside the burial mound there are five stone ships from the first millennium AD as well as other graves and a stately rune stone. Anundshög and the surrounding area of Badelunda are full of prehistoric finds and are believed to have been an important centre of power.



# Sweden's first action waterpark

**Västerås' 100-year-old steam power station, on the shores of Lake Mälaren, is now home to the state-of-the-art eight-storey action waterpark Kokpunkten.**

Unlike traditional waterparks, Kokpunkten offers a more action-packed experience for the entire

family. It uses digital projection techniques to provide the visitor with a thrilling visual and physical experience. There's also a modern spa with a beer and wine bar. An experience for the entire family in Västerås – the city where everything is possible!



## One of Sweden's most visited museums

If you like red wooden houses and rural idylls then you really must visit Vallby Open Air Museum, which is home to about 40 historical buildings and a living exhibition in the form of animals and plants from



the county of Västmanland. The area also has a restaurant and café. During the summer the museum comes alive to give you an idea of what life would have been like in a bygone age. So don't be surprised if you come across maids, farmhands and schoolmistresses as you walk around.

## Secrets and history

**Västerås Cathedral is the third largest cathedral in Sweden.**

The cathedral is situated in the centre of Västerås and is well worth a visit. Västerås Cathedral is renowned for its 6 well-preserved altar screens from the 15th and 16th centuries, Sweden's richest collection of epitaphs from its period as a great power and King Erik XIV's marble sarcophagus. Behind the cathedral you'll find Västerås' oldest district "Kyrkbacken" with its charming narrow streets and old houses.



## Mälaren promenade

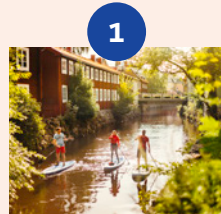
A popular 4 km pedestrian and cycle path runs along the waterfront from Lögstrand to Öster Mälstrand. Follow the clear signs to get from the station to the Steam Hotel, Posiparken playground, Kokpunkten action waterpark or the skatepark. For a longer walk, you can carry on through Framnäs and the footbridge at Tegeludden, all the way out to Björnö.



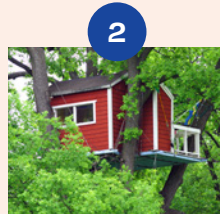


# Explore Västerås

The best way of getting to know a city is on foot. We have marked out some treasures in and around the city centre. Walk around and look at the things that you find most appealing.



**1 Svartån**  
The riverside park is one of the most important in västerås, dating back to the stone age.



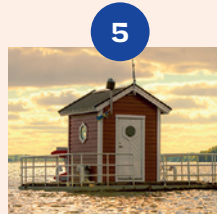
**2 Hotel Hackspett**  
Hotell hackspett is the work of artist Mikael Genberg.



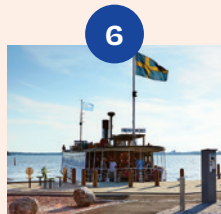
**3 Västerås City Hall**  
Sweden's largest tower of bells with 47 different ones.



**4 Västerås castle**  
The Castle dates back to the 13th century. It was here that Gustav Vasa's son Erik XIV was imprisoned.



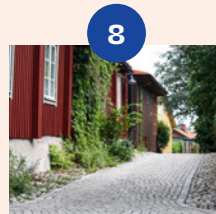
**5 Hotel Utter Inn**  
An underwater hotel in Lake Mälaren created by the artist Mikael Genberg.



**6 Elba ferry**  
The M/F Elba hop-on-hop-off ferry is classic and significant part of the Västerås experience.



**7 Djäkneberget**  
Djäkneberget is a green oasis with 500 engraved stones.



**8 Kyrkbacken**  
One of Västerås' most charming districts, with well-preserved exterior walls from the 18th century.



**9 Botanical garden**  
The Botanical Gardens is Sweden's oldest horticultural school dating back to the 18th century.



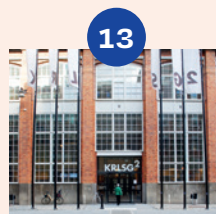
**10 Västerås cathedral**  
Awarded stars by Michelin Guide. The oldest parts are dating back to the 13th century.



**11 Björnö**  
The island of Björnö on the edge of Västerås is an hidden gem offering all sorts of outdoor activities.



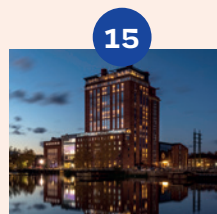
**12 Rocklunda**  
Measures 100 000 m², making it Sweden's biggest interlinked sports complex.



**13 Karlsgatan 2**  
One building, two museums. Västmanland County Museum and Västerås Art Museum.

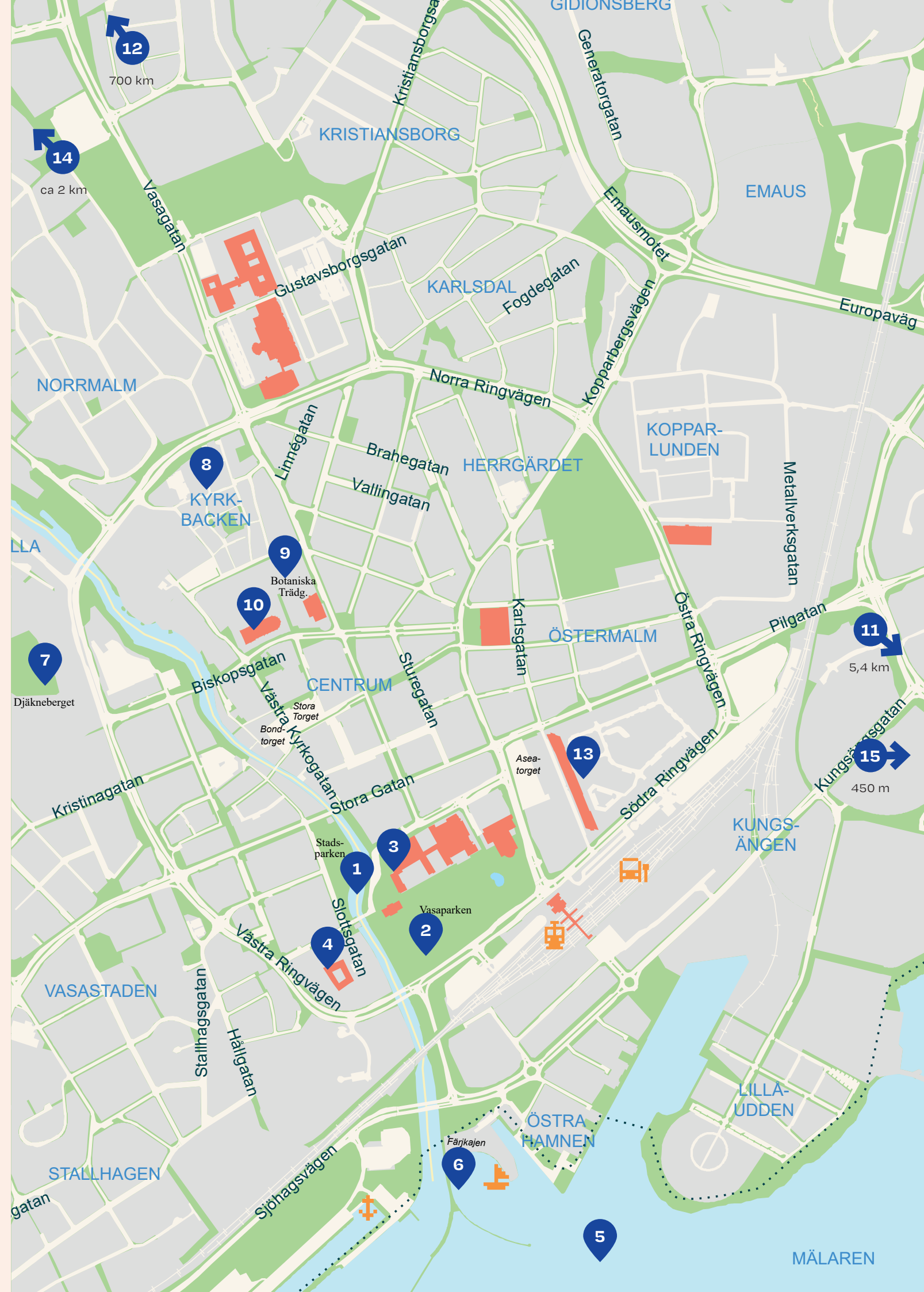


**14 Vallby Open Air Museum**  
One of Sweden's largest open air museum with houses from the county of Västmanland.



**15 Ångkraftverket**  
The steam power plant is over 100 years old. Today you can find Kokpunkten Action waterpark and The Steam Hotel.

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## LAKE MÄLAREN

Västerås is a fantastic winter city where you can ice skate, cross-country ski and walk across the frozen Lake Mälaren. All the necessary equipment can be rented. In the summer Västerås gives you the opportunity to enjoy the Swedish nature that attracts visitors from all over the world – you can swim, take a walk or just enjoy the tranquillity.

The M/F Elba hop-on-hop-off ferry is classic and an significant part of the Västerås experience. Västerås guest harbour has also become a hub of activity in the city, with RIB boat trips and Västerås Cable Park, which offers fun for both riders and spectators.



PHOTO: Avig Kazanjian, Pia Nordlander, Henrik Mill, Fridele Linda Eklund, Matilda Hildingsson, Leon Gimaldi, Peter Vahfridsson, Lasse Fredriksson, Nina Larsson, Jan Gustafsson, Per Groth, Kristoffer Hasseberg, Magnus Aronson, Linda Hepfinger, Mosphoto.com pressbilder från aktörer.

## INSTAGRAM HOTSPOTS

From Djäkneberget park you can capture the distinctive skyline of the city centre, including many famous landmarks, like the cathedral, the City Hall Tower and the high-rise Skrapan building. Scenic Apotekarbron bridge is the local site for the international "love locks" phenomenon. The perfect romantic backdrop! Visiting the sports and arena complex? And don't miss the gigantic #ROCKLUNDA sign!



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