

## CULTURE

<b>1</b>	<b>Tempelgården</b> is a farm with sculptures and art by Visingsö artist Olle Krantz. The temple was erected in 1913 by theosophist Katherine Tingley. You can now also find the pottery workshop Ceramic av Cleo here. → <a href="http://tempelgarden.se">tempelgarden.se</a>
<b>2</b>	<b>The mill building</b> dates from the 1930s and was constructed on the site of an earlier windmill.
<b>3</b>	Here in Avlösa are the remains of a <b>stone "domarring" circle burial ground</b> from the period around the birth of Christ, or the Early Iron Age. Two of the original three stone circles can still be seen by the lakeside.
<b>4</b>	<b>Kumlaby Church</b> is a mediaeval church with beautiful paintings from the 1400s and a tower that you can climb to get a great view.
<b>5</b>	In 1783, <b>the Parola Malm jetty</b> became the landing place for the first regular boat connection established between the mainland and the island.
<b>6</b>	<b>Rural life museum</b> , "loft house", cookhouse and a building formerly used to store the village stirrup pump. There is also a display on Katherine Tingley and an old classroom. Open weekends. Refreshments available. → <a href="http://visingsohembygdsforening.com">visingsohembygdsforening.com</a>
<b>7</b>	<b>Visingsö museum/Courthouse</b> dates from 1663 and presents the history of Visingsö on a daily basis in the summer. Visingsö Library, built from Visingsö oak and designed by Carl Nyrén. The Brahe School – Visingsö folk high school → <a href="http://braheskolan.se">braheskolan.se</a>
<b>8</b>	Around 800 graves are visible in the northern, central and southern <b>burial grounds</b> . Originally there were considerably more. The vast majority are graves from the Iron Age (500 BC-1050 AD).
<b>9</b>	<b>Visingsö Mission Church</b> is a well-preserved building largely unchanged since the 1910s. → <a href="http://missionskyrkangrannabygden.se">missionskyrkangrannabygden.se</a>
<b>10</b>	<b>The community centre</b> provides premises for parties, film screenings, exhibitions, courses etc. It has a fibre internet connection and a kitchen which can cater for 120 people. → <a href="http://visingsobygddegard.se">visingsobygddegard.se</a>
<b>11</b>	Near to the St Laurentii chapel there is a large <b>burial mound</b> .
<b>12</b>	<b>The chapel</b> is dedicated to Saint Laurentius, who died a martyr and who is still referred to as the patron saint of humour.
<b>13</b>	<b>Nostalgia museum with BP petrol station</b> from 1962. Here you will find 120 m <sup>2</sup> of exhibition space displaying 1950s domestic settings, engines, radios and lots more. → <a href="http://visingso.nu">visingso.nu</a>
<b>14</b>	<b>The Russian Cemetery</b> . In the years 1715-1718, around 2000 prisoners of war were held on Visingsö. Many of them were Russian, and some of them were buried here.
<b>15</b>	The two half-timbered buildings, <b>the Royal Barns</b> were erected in the 1730s to provide stabling and storage space.

<b>16</b>	<b>Brahe Church</b> is Visingsö's parish church. The church was erected in the 1600s by the Counts of Brahe as the church for the castle of Visingsborg. Open for prayer and visits during the summer. → <a href="http://svenskakyrkan.se/grannavisingso">svenskakyrkan.se/grannavisingso</a>
<b>17</b>	In the 1600s, <b>Visingsborg Castle</b> was the stately centrepiece of the Brahe countship. It was destroyed by fire in 1718.
<b>18</b>	<b>Ateljé Lovisa Strandgården</b> . Shop and gallery with paintings, prints, cards, textiles, trays etc. Books about the countship of Visingsborg and the counts of Brahe. Guided tours on the theme of Visingsborg castle and gardens can be arranged → <a href="mailto:info@visingsborg.nu">info@visingsborg.nu</a> → <a href="http://ateljelovisa.se">ateljelovisa.se</a>
<b>19</b>	Katherine Tingley was behind the first arrival of mains electricity on Visingsö in 1930. The small building was <b>the electricity sub-station</b> .
<b>20</b>	<b>The cist grave</b> is a grave from the Palaeolithic period. It was excavated in 1874 and a flint dagger and some unburned bones were found. Legend has it that the Loastenen is a sacrificial stone.
<b>21</b>	<b>Karl XV's Way</b> . It is probable that the road was constructed during his reign, in the mid-1800s.
<b>22</b>	<b>Hagahögen</b> is the biggest burial mound on the island. It is thought to have been a high status grave from the Bronze Age.
<b>23</b>	<b>Galleri Persgården</b> . Art exhibitions. → <a href="http://galleripersgarden.se">galleripersgarden.se</a>
<b>24</b>	<b>Näs Jönsagård</b> is the last farm of its type on Visingsö. Parts of it were probably built in around 1750. In private ownership.
<b>25</b>	<b>The Drying House in Näs</b> was built in the middle of the 19th century. Here, linen was dried for textiles and corn for beer. For opening hours, visit: → <a href="http://visingsohembygdsforening.com">visingsohembygdsforening.com</a>
<b>26</b>	<b>Näs castle ruin</b> is the remains of Sweden's oldest and first royal fortress. Sweden was controlled from here during the Middle Ages. In 1318 the fortress burned down and over time parts of it have fallen into Lake Vättern.

## NATURE

<b>26</b>	<b>Sandudden</b> ; attractive sandy beaches.
<b>28</b>	In the autumn, <b>Erstad Kärr</b> nature reserve is an important resting place for migrating birds, and an Eldorado for ornithologists. → <a href="http://lansstyrelsen.se/jonkoping">lansstyrelsen.se/jonkoping</a>
<b>29</b>	<b>The carp ponds</b> date back to the 1600s and belonged to Visingsborg Castle. The fish formed part of the diet of the Brahe family court.
<b>30</b>	<b>The Royal Oak</b> was planted in 1839 and is an impressive example of the island's famous oak forest.
<b>31</b>	<b>Stora Silvergranen</b> is a silver fir tree more than 39 m high, with a trunk so wide that it takes three adults to encircle it with their arms. Silver firs were introduced to the island.
<b>32</b>	<b>The oak forest</b> . In the 1800s, the state decided that oaks should be planted to provide timber for the Navy. 300,000 oaks were planted on Visingsö. National Property Board of Sweden → <a href="http://svf.se">svf.se</a>

<b>33</b>	Between 1836 and 1864, silk was produced on the island from silkworms, which ate the leaves of <b>mulberry trees</b> . 1,500 trees were planted.
<b>34</b>	<b>The Sverkerseken oak tree</b> was planted in memory of Karl Sverkersson who was murdered on this site in 1167.
<b>35</b>	<b>Näsbo Stallar</b> . 600 million years ago, the geological development took place that created the layers of rock now known as the Visingsö formation.
<b>36</b>	Legend says that Gilbert began to dig a tunnel right across the island, known as <b>Gilbert's Cave</b> .

## ACTIVITIES

<b>36</b>	9 hole links type <b>golf course</b> . → <a href="http://visingsogk.se">visingsogk.se</a>
<b>37</b>	<b>BrahevalLEN</b> . Football pitches, beach volleyball, barbecue area, outdoor gym. → <a href="http://visingsoais.se">visingsoais.se</a>
<b>38</b>	<b>Kumlaby Baths</b> , heated outdoor swimming pool. → <a href="http://jonkoping.se">jonkoping.se</a> , search for "Kumlabybadet"
<b>39</b>	Starting point for 2.2 km <b>illuminated running track</b> . Barbecue area.
<b>40</b>	<b>Paddle a kayak</b> . Here you can hire a kayak, join in on a kayak trip or take part in courses, events etc. → <a href="http://kajakpaddla.nu">kajakpaddla.nu</a>
<b>41</b>	<b>Visingsö Jousting Festival</b> takes place here every year in August. → <a href="http://visingsotormerspel.se">visingsotormerspel.se</a>
<b>42</b>	Here you can find <b>the start of three circular walks</b> : the red Central trail, 3.8 km; the yellow South trail, 6.4 km; and the green North trail, 7.2 km.
<b>43</b>	Take a trip on the island's popular horse-drawn wagon, <b>Remmalagen</b> . It starts from the harbour and you can choose from different routes. → <a href="http://visingsoremmalag.se">visingsoremmalag.se</a>
<b>44</b>	<b>Visingsö Cykeluthyrning</b> . Hire your bicycle from us. Sturdy bicycles and accessories. Tel +46 (0)70 772 76 67. → <a href="http://visingsocykeluthyrning.se">visingsocykeluthyrning.se</a> → Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/visingsocykeluthyrning">@visingsocykeluthyrning</a>
<b>45</b>	Take a trip on the island's popular horse-drawn wagon, <b>Remmalagen</b> . It starts from the harbour and you can choose from different routes. → <a href="http://visingsoremmalag.se">visingsoremmalag.se</a>
<b>46</b>	Take a trip with the Visingsö train! → <a href="http://leklandetvisingso.se">leklandetvisingso.se</a>
<b>47</b>	<b>Leklandets cykeluthyrning</b> . Bicycles, tandems, cargo bikes, family bicycles and golf carts. Tel +46 (0)721 73 50 00. → <a href="http://leklandetvisingso.se">leklandetvisingso.se</a>
<b>48</b>	<b>Leklandet/Eklunden Folk Park</b> . Bouncy castles and crazy golf with a Visingsö theme! Electric cars, quad bikes, carousel, events, kiosk and coffee. Tel +46 (0)721-73 50 00. → <a href="http://leklandetvisingso.se">leklandetvisingso.se</a>
<b>49</b>	<b>Service station</b> . Inflate your bicycle tires. We also have a range of simple tools together with a vending machine for drinks and sweets. → <a href="http://leklandetvisingso.se">leklandetvisingso.se</a>

## EAT, SHOP AND STAY

The information below applies to the summer season. For information on the winter season, please contact the relevant facility.

<b>50</b>	<b>Solrosen Butik &amp; Fik.</b> Home-made cakes and ice-cream. Sales of local products. → <i>Instagram: Solrosen Visingsö</i>	<b>57</b>	<b>Coop Nära.</b> Open every day 7:00-22:00. Agent for Systembolaget, PostNord, Svenska spel & Apoteket. Petrol station. → <i>coop.se/visingsö</i>	<b>65</b>	<b>Wisingsborgs Trädgårdscafé.</b> Garden with café and farm shop. A peaceful oasis dating back to the 1600s. → <i>wisingsborgstradgard.se</i> → <i>Instagram: @wisingsborgstradgard</i>
<b>51</b>	<b>STORTMODE.se</b> Clothes in sizes 42-56. ADIA, Carmakoma, Emmy, maT, no Secret and Zizzi etc. Online shop. → <i>stortmode.se</i>	<b>58</b>		<b>66</b>	<b>Glasshuset.</b> Ice-cream buffet, light lunches, hamburgers, hot dogs, coffee etc. → <i>glasshusetvisingso.se</i>
<b>52</b>	<b>Tempelgården.</b> Stay in old, small, cosy cottages collected by Visingsö artist Olle Krantz from different parts of Visingsö and erected at Tempelgården farm. Beautiful calm environment with views. Basic café. → <i>tempelgarden.se</i>	<b>59</b>	<b>Talay Thai.</b> Genuine Thai food served with lots of love. Outdoor serving area. Fully licensed. Tel +46 (0)76-0837239. → <i>talaythai.se</i>	<b>67</b>	<b>Visingsö Ställplats.</b> Attractive pitches in oak woodland on Visingsö with views over the harbour and Lake Vättern. Electricity at each pitch, emptying point, water and toilets. Book a pitch on: → <i>visingsostallplats.se</i>
<b>53</b>	<b>Restaurang Framnäs.</b> Breakfast, lunch, coffee, dinner, catering, pub and bar. Open all year. → <i>wisingso.se</i>	<b>60</b>	<b>Visingsöstugorna.</b> Holiday cottages. Tel +46 (0)390-406 88. → <i>visingso.nu</i>	<b>68</b>	<b>Restaurang Solbacken.</b> Organic restaurant, à la carte, pizza and café. Outdoor eating area with views over Lake Vättern. Food for everyone! Fully licensed, including our own beer. → <i>restaurang-solbacken.se</i>
<b>54</b>	<b>Wisingsö Hotell &amp; Konferens.</b> Hotel and B&B, cycle hire, sales of ice-cream, sweets and Visingsö souvenirs. Open all year. Tel +46 (0)390-566 00. → <i>wisingso.se</i>	<b>61</b>	<b>Gyllene Knorren Hostel.</b> Accommodation in rural surroundings with evening sunshine. Tel +46 (0)36-29 91 211. → <i>gyllene-knorren.se</i>	<b>69</b>	<b>Fiskboden/Bengtsgårdens gårdsbutik.</b> Organic-certified ingredients from Bengtsgården, Visingsö. Smoked fish, picnic baskets etc. to eat on the premises or take away. Fully licensed. → <i>bengtsgarden.se</i>
<b>55</b>	<b>Visingsö Vandrarhem.</b> Hostel accommodation and B&B. Can be booked all year round. Tel +46 (0)390-401 91. → <i>visingsovandrarhem.se</i>	<b>62</b>	<b>Svensgårdens Gårdsbutik &amp; Bonnakafé/Visingsö konfektyrer.</b> Home baked curd cake and pie, licensed premises. Chocolate with historical Visingsö motif. Tel +46 (0)703-10 40 90. → <i>svensgarden.se/visingokonfektyrer.se</i>	<b>70</b>	<b>Persgården.</b> Organic-certified farm shop, muesli factory & café with beautiful views. Wide range of organic products and own honey. → <i>Instagram: persgardensekologiska</i> → <i>persgardensekologiska.se</i>
<b>56</b>	<b>STEN.</b> Shop in old workshop with home decoration, plants, clothes etc. Opening hours and inspiration at: → <i>Instagram: Stenvisingsö</i>	<b>63</b>	<b>Visingsö Pensionat.</b> Serving snacks, hot meals, prawn sandwiches and cake. Pleasant large garden with play area. Fully licensed. Rooms to hire. Tel +46 (0)390-40169 → <i>visingsopensionat.se</i>	<b>71</b>	<b>Visingsö Alpaca &amp; Gårdsbutik.</b> Alpaca Safari and Trekking. The farm shop sells alpaca wool and various craft products.
		<b>64</b>	<b>Pernillas Smycken &amp; Inredning.</b> Hand-made silver jewellery, presents and candles etc. → <i>pernilla-bengtsson.se</i>		

## Welcome to Visingsö!

According to the legend, Visingsö was created when the giant Vist threw out a tuft of grass into Lake Vättern for his wife to step on. Just like a thousand years ago, that tuft of grass is still teeming with life!

Visingsö is the largest island in Vättern, and is 14 km long and 3 km wide at the widest part. The narrowest point is only 600 m across, and the highest point is 33 metres above the lake. Around 70% of the island is meadowland. There are also 360 hectares of oak woodland and 152 hectares of coniferous woodland. The distance to Gränna is 6 km, to Jönköping 30 km and to Västergötland 7 km.

The many ancient cemeteries indicate that the island has been inhabited for a long time. The island belonged to the monarchy in the 1100s and 1200s. The first Swedish royal fortress, Näs, was erected on the southernmost point. Magnus Ladulås was one of the many kings who lived here.

In the 1600s, the island was the centre of the country's biggest and most powerful countships, Wisingsborg. Here the Counts of Brahe constructed an impressive castle, with its own church – Brahe Church – which has unique and beautiful decorative features.

Visingsö is part of the Östra Vätterbranterna geographical area, which was designated a biosphere area in 2012. A biosphere area is a model area for sustainable development and provides local solutions for global challenges. The word "biosphere" means everything living on earth and the environment we live in. It relates to the interplay between people and the environment. UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, selects areas of the world that demonstrate initiative in terms of sustainable development, with local collaboration being the basis.

Today you can enjoy historical remains, beautiful natural surroundings, art and a great deal more on Visingsö!

## Useful information

- If you would like more information about companies or activities, please visit their websites
- Visingsö is open all year round! But the island is at its liveliest in the summer
- There are currently no cashpoint machines on Visingsö
- Around 750 people live on Visingsö all year round. In the summer there are many more inhabitants...
- There is one food shop, open 7:00-22:00, every day of the week
- Outdoor swimming – no public sites but you can swim in several places. There is a heated pool in Kumlabý
- The Swedish Transport Administration's brown and white signs indicate particularly interesting sites and places
- The same traffic rules apply on Visingsö as on the mainland

## Leave your car in Gränna

On Visingsö you will find walking trails, bicycles for hire, horsedrawn carriages and buses!