

AIRPORT 

REVIEW

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GDAŃSK-TRÓJMIASTO AIRPORT

XXVII Festiwal Polskich Filmów Fabularnych w Gdyni

*The 27-th Movie Festival
in Gdynia*

**NAGRODA RADY
EUROPY DLA GDYNI**

*European Counsel Rewards
City of Gdynia*

wz. ten egzemplarz - take your copy

Most of the travelers to Sweden are businessmen, however nothing stands in the way of regular tourists setting off on a trip in this direction. They can visit there cities and regions that are very interesting.

Kalmar is an unusual town at the Baltic Sea. It is a capitol of the province Blekinge. Once upon a time it was the third biggest Swedish city, but history did not treat it well. Currently there are just 60 000 dwellers living there.

Kalmar was the place where in 1397 a treaty was signed that united for almost 130 years Sweden, Denmark and Norway into one body under the same reign.

There are not too many historic sights in the town, but those present can evoke the interest of any tourist. Most of all there is a huge castle, almost 800 year old. It received its' present look in the 17th Century, in the times of the Wasa Dynasty. In the next 200 years it had an important role in the defense system of the country. On one of the walls of the main court there is a small relief depicting a traitor who in 1611, during the war with Denmark, opened the gates of the castle and let Danish soldiers inside. According to tradition, everyone visiting the castle should spit on the portrait of traitor with contempt.

Right after fulfilling this duty you can go to visit The Old Town. Its' history reaches the Middle Ages, but today the only remaining buildings come from the 18th Century. These little wooden fishermen houses rather resemble a small village than something we are used to calling "The Old Town". In 15 minutes you can see all of them.

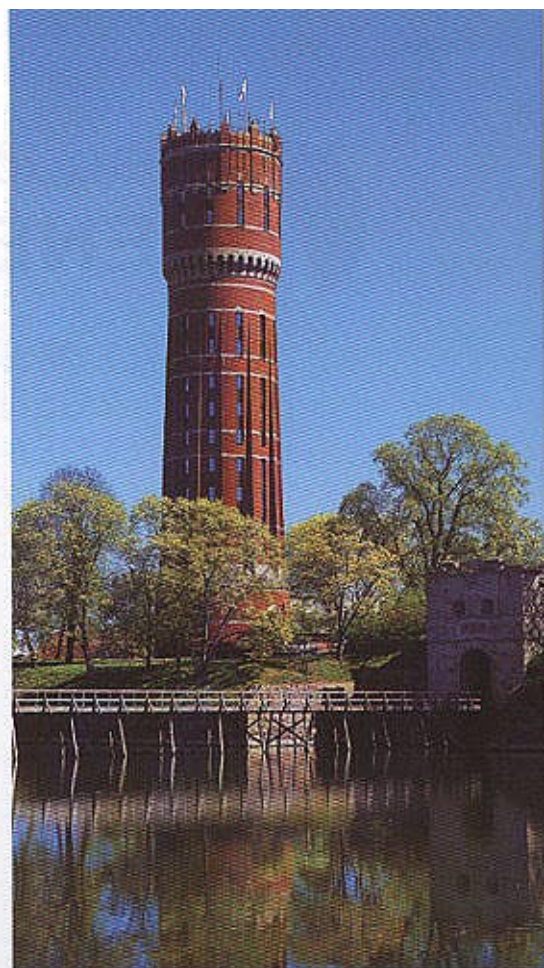
Between the castle and "The Old Town" there is an old cemetery with gravestones from the 18th and the 19th Century. You can find there a few interesting, old chapels. The central point of the cemetery is a memorial stone, laid there in 1997. The inscription commemorates 600 years of The Kalmar Union.

Worth recommending in Downtown Kalmar is The Museum of Sea, with a collection of 5000 objects related through their purpose to the sea life. There are navigational instruments, models of ships, and other artifacts created by seamen. Interestingly, there is also a tropical museum of free flying butterflies from all over the world. Another place of interest is surrounded by the modern, contemporary part of Kalmar. It is a beautiful cathedral in Italian style built in the XVII Century by Tessin the Elder. Swedish people say that this is the only cathedral in Sweden without a bishop.

For the second day of the excursion to Kalmar I propose a trip to the region of the town. One of the attractions is the so called: "Glasrikt" – the kingdom of glass, a place containing some dozens of glass manufactures that produce pretty souvenirs, mainly for tourists. In the small town of Vimmerby, 60 kilometers from Kalmar there is an amusement park for children dedicated in name of Astrid Lindgren, the famous Swedish writer, author of the Pipi Longstocking tales.

Those preferring an active way of spending time can find there golf courses, boat rentals, divers club, horse back riding, go-cart track, tennis and cricket courts, and windsurfing.

To all, but especially for Polish tourists, I recommend a trip to Oland. This is the second largest Swedish island. It is 1345 square kilometers large, in length of 140 km and only 16 km in the widest place. Just 24 000 people live on this island. You have to go over a 6 km long bridge to enter,



Old Watertower

where you will find 400 windmills, 35 antique churches and 16 old settlements in which the oldest is 1700 years old! A list of all possible attractions awaiting tourists on this island would have to contain a few hundred locations! Solldiden however must be at least mentioned here, because it was a royal summer residence and a castle in Borgholm built in the 16th Century by the king Jan the Third, the father of the Polish king Zygmunt the Third Wasa. Getlinge, another place offers to the tourist a graveyard from the Bronze Age, where you can see a burial place designed by some vertically positioned rocks shaped like a boat and a Bronze Age settlement Eckertop, continued in the Middle Ages and brilliantly reconstructed on the basis of archeological findings.

Surely a point of interest on Oland is the few kilometers long wall put across the island by Karol Gustav the 10th, and the "Tall Jan" a 42 meter high lighthouse, built in 1785, and the tallest in Sweden.

The last thing I can not leave unmentioned is "Alvaret". Unique for just this

region, it is an area encompassing 300 square meters with an unusual variety of floral forms: heathers, meadows, plants common only for steppes and dwarf trees and bushes. This landscape occurs only on the South part of the island and its' greenery contrasts beautifully with the blue of the skies and the azure of the water.

By WOJCIECH LYGAS

