

# Self-Guided Cycling Sweden's Southwest Coast

Trip Code: SGHG

Version:



CYCLE



SELF-GUIDED

MODERATE



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Cycle through small fishing villages on Sweden's picturesque southwest coast with breath-taking views of the islands
- Get into the Swedish way of life as you immerse yourself in nature and enjoy the amazing local

seafood

- Admire the famous salt-glazed ceramics in Hoganas
- Visit Sweden's most famous beach, Tylosand, on your way to the old medieval town of Falkenberg
- Enjoy 'fika' culture and explore Gothenburg - 'Sweden's second city'

## AT A GLANCE

- Self-Guided
- 6 days cycling and sightseeing
- Luggage transfer
- Bike hire included
- E-bike upgrade available
- Saturday departures
- Join at Helsingborg / End in Gothenburg

## ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

[VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE](#)

# Introduction

Sweden's southwest coast is a patchwork of long sandy beaches and rugged granite outcrops punctuated by traditional fishermen's huts. The deep green forests inland form a peaceful natural curtain between you and the rest of the world.

This is a place where nature is at the forefront of Swedish life and *fika* is a serious business. This one week self-guided cycling holiday will immerse you in this idyllic culture, using the Kattegat cycle way as your route through this landscape from the much fought-over town of Helsingborg to Sweden's second city, Gothenburg. Your route will take you to the sun, sea, and sand of Tylosand beach to the beautiful harbour town of Traslovslage (a seafood lover's dream), and to the tranquil lake at Fjaras Bracka. As you pedal closer to Gothenburg the great city's sister archipelago fills your view of the North Sea. Your week ends with an exploration of Gothenburg's myriad attractions.

You'll be staying in a selection of 3-star and 4-star accommodations along your route on a bed and breakfast basis, and cycling an average of around 70km a day. There will be plenty of opportunities to stop off along the way - perhaps to enjoy the abundance of fresh seafood, a swim in the sea, or maybe even to try your hand at foraging like the locals. And don't forget the all-important *fika* stops!

## Is this holiday for you?

This holiday is perfect for those looking for a new and exciting long-distance cycle route before the crowds arrive, with plenty of opportunities to get off the beaten track and live the classic Swedish culture enjoying the local seafood, foraging, and being immersed in nature. If you are a seafood lover this is certainly the trip for you with fresh seafood on every menu. Cycling an average of 60km a day on

mostly flat paths you will have plenty of time to enjoy the colourful coastal huts and bustling medieval towns, and maybe enjoy a favourite Swedish tradition - the sauna. Staying in comfortable 3-star and 4-star hotels on a bed and breakfast basis and with your hire bike included, you have the freedom to explore at your own pace.

# Itinerary

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Version:

## Holiday Information

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### What's Included

- All accommodation as described
- Meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Self-guided information pack containing your route notes
- Sweden guide book
- Luggage transfers
- 27 gear bike hire
- Bike accessories hire (pannier, handlebar bag, milometer, bike lock, pump, repair kit, inner tube)
- Welcome briefing
- Navigation App and GPX tracks available

## What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Bike helmet
- Travel to Helsingborg
- Travel from Gothenburg
- Local transfers
- Visas (if applicable)
- Some meals as described in the Meal Plan
- Personal equipment
- Any additional activities/excursions indicated as optional

## Your Self-Guided Pack & Route Notes

Each self-guided holiday comes with comprehensive route notes and a map or pocket guidebook of the area you are exploring. The route notes contain information about the places you will visit and the local transport you might need, along with the detailed route notes for your daily walks or cycle rides. We even include some tips for the best places to stop for lunch.

You can expect to receive your Self-Guided Pack containing your route notes, a map or guidebook, and all your relevant documents, no later than 3 weeks before your holiday start-date. We will send your documents using a signed-for courier so that you can track your package and know that it is safely on its way to you. For bookings of more than 4 people we will send an additional Self-Guided Pack. If you do not need this additional pack please inform our Sales Team. Your pack will be sent to the lead booker, so please remind them to pack it before setting off.

Should your self-guided trip be part of a longer adventure requiring you to leave home more than three weeks before your holiday start-date, please inform our Sales Team so that we can make alternative delivery arrangements.

## Self-Guided Families

Our Self-Guided Holidays are perfect for your next family holiday and are suitable for children of all ages.

Our partner hotels and accommodations are able to provide cots for young children, and some offer family rooms. We can also arrange hire of children's bikes and tag along bikes for most of our self-guided cycling trips and with trips such as Lake Constance and the Danube offering routes on designated cycle paths you can rest assured in keeping your family safe.

As a parent we trust that you know your own child's capabilities, so please read the itinerary details to ensure the distances covered each day are suitable for your family. If this is a first time walking holiday for your family, a centre based trip is a fantastic option as it allows you to easily opt out of a days walking if a day of building sand castles, swimming in the pool or visiting museums is calling instead.

Please discuss this further with our sales team who will be happy to assist in picking the best trip for your family.

## Joining Arrangements & Transfers

This trip starts at your hotel in Helsingborg. All of our self-guided holidays are sold on a Land Only basis, allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method which best suits you. The nearest airport with good connections from the UK for this trip is Copenhagen, which is well-served with many departures from UK regional airports.

If you are flying into Copenhagen Airport you can take the frequent rail service direct from the airport to Helsingborg Central Station. The journey takes around 1 - 2 hours depending on the time of day, and tickets can be purchased at the ticket machines in the airport - just follow the signs for the trains. Alternatively you can buy tickets online at [www.oresundstag.se](http://www.oresundstag.se).

Your trip ends in Gothenburg. The easiest way to return to Copenhagen Airport is by train, with the journey taking around 3.5 hours and costing approximately SEK 650 per person. For the latest pricing and timetable information please visit [www.oresundstag.se](http://www.oresundstag.se).

If you have arranged your return flight out of Gothenburg Landvetter Airport, you can take a bus from the Gothenburg city centre to the airport - the journey takes around 35 minutes, with departures every 20 minutes, and costs around SEK 130 per person.

## Meal Plan

This trip is on a bed and breakfast basis.

There are no lunches or evening meals provided by your accommodations on this trip, but these can be picked up in the many villages and towns you will be passing through/staying at along the way.

## Food & Water

Water from the taps is perfectly drinkable on this holiday - please use this to fill your personal bottles for your daily activities. We do not encourage the purchase of single-use plastic bottles.

No dish screams Sweden more than Swedish meatballs, a staple on any menu and usually served with creamy mash potato and a generous helping of lingonberry jam. However, there is much more to Swedish cuisine than meatballs. The country has been striving to rebrand itself as a food destination over recent years with high quality restaurants, bistros, and cafes popping up throughout the country. Moreover, with the right to roam written into Sweden's constitution, foraging is not just encouraged - in fact dishes featuring foraged ingredients appear in many restaurants, illustrating the Swedish love and respect for nature. Along the coast it will come as no surprise that seafood is the star on most menus, with fresh oysters, crayfish, and lobsters a-plenty. Meanwhile in Gothenburg the 'whole and half special' is a popular streetfood. Created in the 1940's in the Vagmastareplatsen square on the river island of Hisingen when two local footballers ordered the dish, it consists of a hotdog topped with mash potato. It isn't a dish for everyone, but it is certainly worth a try.

A food culture which is much more to everyone's liking is the Swedish *fika* culture, roughly translated as 'coffee and cake break'. Fika is a serious business to Swedes, with business colleagues taking a break twice a day to enjoy a coffee and a sweet treat together. If you really want to travel like a local you need to ensure you allow time for fika breaks during your rides!

## Accommodation

On this trip you will stay in hand-picked 3-star and 4-star hotels, all of which have been chosen for their warm hospitality, excellent facilities, and superb locations. Each hotel has well-appointed rooms with Wifi, and offers a fantastic continental breakfast to keep you fuelled ahead of your bike rides. Your accommodation for this trip is on a bed and breakfast basis, staying in double or twin rooms.

We can arrange additional nights' accommodation at the start or end of your itinerary if you would like to extend your time in this beautiful area - please speak to one of our Sales Team for further information.

During high season you may be booked into an alternative accommodation of a similar standard in the area.

## **Bike Hire**

Touring bikes come with 27 gears, and all bikes come equipped with a pannier and handlebar bag for your daily essentials, plus a milometer, bike lock, pump, repair kit, and spare inner tube. The bikes provided for this trip are unisex frames, and are one size fits all.

We strongly recommend you bring your own helmet for this trip for your safety and the best comfort.

We also recommend packing a gel seat for extra comfort or a pair of padded cycling shorts as, whilst the cycling is leisurely and there are plenty of opportunities to stop and explore, it is always nice to have some padding for a more comfortable ride.

E-bikes are also available at a supplement of £295. We are also able to arrange tandem bikes, children's bikes, trailers, and child seats. Please ask our Sales Team for details

## **Upgrade to an E-bike**

If you are looking for a bit of extra support whilst in the saddle, you can upgrade to an e-bike to make your ride even more leisurely.

Equipped with a battery and motor, these electric bikes give you a helping hand whilst you are pedalling, making it easier to climb hills, and travel further with less effort and more comfort.

E-bikes are available on this holiday at an additional supplement of £265. Just request this upgrade option from our Sales Team at the time of booking.

## **Baggage Allowance**

Your main luggage will be transferred between each of your hotels while you are out on your ride. We ask that you please ensure that each piece of your luggage is under 20KG and that your luggage is ready for collection each morning. You will also need a daypack to carry your daily essentials with you whilst you are riding.



# General Information

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## Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders. A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required, and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

**It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check for the latest advice before travel. For the most up to date information on entry requirements, please visit the [UK Government website](#).

## Health & Vaccinations

### Vaccinations

You should contact your doctor or travel clinic to check whether you require any specific vaccinations.

### GHIC / Medical cover

UK residents should carry a free Global Health Insurance Card (GHIC). This entitles you to state provided medical treatment when you're visiting an EU country or Switzerland. This is not a substitute for medical travel insurance which is vital when travelling overseas.

### Severe Allergies

Please inform our KE Sales and support team of any severe allergies you may have before travel. We will always do our best to help but we are unable to guarantee an allergy free environment on our KE trips. We advise that you always carry your own treatment for the allergy with you such as 'adrenaline auto-injectors' if required. We also recommend that you discuss this with your accommodation on arrival so that they can better assist you.

### Currency

The unit of currency in Sweden is the Swedish Krona.

## Preparing for your Holiday

The advantage of a self-guided cycling holiday is that you decide the pace. This trip is designed for leisure cyclists and does not require you to be in peak fitness. Having said this it is always sensible to get some additional exercise before going on an active holiday. You should be comfortable with cycling an average of 60 km a day on good cycle paths or quiet roads. We advise you to dust off your bike and head out on a few rides before your holiday.

## Climate

Sweden benefits from a mild climate, considering its longitude, thanks to the Gulf Stream which provides distinct seasons. This also means that, much like the UK, the Swedes love to talk about the weather.

The southwestern area of Sweden where this trip takes place experiences shorter, milder winter months and warm summers compared with the rest of Sweden. With temperatures ranging from 15-25 degrees centigrade, it is ideal for cycling.

## Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's '[Travel Aware](#)' campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at [travellaware.campaign.gov.uk](http://travellaware.campaign.gov.uk) and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. North Americans can also check out the U.S. Department of State website: [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for essential travel advice and tips.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

## Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

## Books

Lonely Planet Sweden

The Rough Guide to Sweden

## Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our [Travel Insurance](#) page for further information and to get a quote.

# Equipment Information

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## SelfGuided Cycling Equipment List

- Cycling shorts
- Cycle helmet
- Functional base layer
- T-shirts
- Scarf
- Hat
- Windproof jacket
- Fleece / extra layer
- Rain protection
- Rucksack (approx. 20 l)
- Small first aid kit for your rucksack
- Sunscreen
- Water bottle or hydration pack
- Camera (batteries/memory card)
- Mobile Phone (ensure your data package covers your destination)
- Handlebar mount that is compatible with your smartphone
- Power bank

- Waterproof phone cover
- Sun glasses
- Personal wash kit
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping to avoid the use of plastic bags
- Tupperware for picnics

## Cotswold Outdoor

Many of the equipment items listed above are available from [Cotswold Outdoor](#) - our '**Official Recommended Outdoor Retailer**'. When you book a holiday with KE you will receive a 12.5% discount with Cotswold Outdoor, Snow+Rock and Runners Need. The discount code can be downloaded from your MyKE account and you can use this code at the checkout, either in store or online.

## Land Only Information

Please note our 'from price' listed is based on 4 persons on twin or double occupancy, however we can quote for any number of travellers including solo travellers, contact our sales team for a quote.

This trip is available for departures on Saturdays throughout the dates listed.

All of our self-guided holidays are sold on a Land Only basis allowing you the flexibility to choose the travel method which best suits you. You may even wish to make this holiday part of a bigger adventure or pair it with one of our other holidays. We can arrange additional nights accommodation before or after your self-guided trip, ask our sales team to find out more about this.

Our sales team will be happy to provide you a quote for scheduled flights or alternatively you may wish to book your own flights with a low cost carrier from your nearest regional airport.

Please DO NOT book your flights before you have received your booking confirmation and your deposit has been taken.

We offer some transfers to your hotel from the nearest airports, please refer to the 'joining arrangements and transfers' for further details for this trip.

# Why Choose KE

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## Why KE?

This great long distance cycle route showcases everything we love about Sweden - rugged landscapes, sandy beaches, colourful coastal huts, arts and crafts, and both medieval and modern, bustling cities. Plan your visit now before the crowds arrive and journey by bike to immerse yourself in a country where nature is at the heart of everything. We have included bike hire in the cost of your trip so you can relax knowing it is all taken care of for you. E-bike upgrades are available - please contact our Sales Team for more information.

**Please Note** This document was downloaded on 21/11/2024 and the trip is subject to change