



Luleå Archipelago



The Luleå Archipelago is unique in many ways:

Large sections are classed as Natura 2000 areas owing to the characteristic combination of land rise due to isostatic rebound, a brackish-water environment (a mixture of salt-water and freshwater), pristine nature and beaches along extensive shallow-water areas. There are 16 conservation areas within the Luleå archipelago.

To make the archipelago, with its natural and cultural heritage values, more accessible for the local population and tourists without interfering with the environment this activities will be made in the NORCE project:

To prevent the increased volume of visitors from damaging the environment, planked walkways will be built; information signs will be set up and brochures published, and information about the islands, natural and cultural history, harbours and service facilities will be posted on an archipelago website. To further improve accessibility, more cottages will be built.

To disseminate knowledge to other project partners about how we work to make the archipelago more accessible for recreation and tourism while at the same time informing the public about the unique character and cultural heritage of the archipelago. How we market and spread knowledge about the archipelago.

Tourism operators in the Luleå Archipelago will be able to benefit from relevant knowledge gained by other project partners, knowledge that can be adapted to our conditions. This will lead to further development of tourism, maintain and make use of our cultural history and increase awareness about our archipelago.

Historical facts

It is almost certain that there were fishermen and hunters in this area over one thousand years ago. Many remains bear witness to this. You can find many different sorts of remains on the islands in the Archipelago, the most common being sites of fishing villages, fishing net drying mounds and labyrinths.

Already 3,000 years ago this pattern was recorded on clay tablets and in other documents from the area around the Mediterranean Sea. The custom of laying out labyrinths most probably came to Scandinavia a few hundred years B.C.

In the beginning they were most likely used for magic and fertility rites. Somewhat and they were then used in the hope of bringing about good weather and successful fishing.

The custom of laying out labyrinths in the Norrbotten coastal areas was most probably established during the 14th century. The concentration of labyrinths in the Norrbotten archipelagos is the largest in the world.



Göran Wallin

Municipality of Luleå, Department of Recreation
S-971 85 Luleå, Sweden

Phone +46 920-43 56 11
Mobile +46 70-529 32 54
E-mail goran.wallin@fritid.lulea.se