



Itinerary

Stockholm – Mariehamn – Kökar – Söderarm – Finnhamn – Gillinge – Utö – Landsort – Nynäshamn. The journey goes south from Mariehamn. First out will be Kökar which is Åland's southernmost islands, then to Stockholm's northern archipelago with several stops before we reach the archipelago's southernmost island Landsort. The trip ends in Nynäshamn. The route may change slightly and the visit to one of the islands may be cancelled or replaced with another island in case the weather is not favourable.

Price

Price indication 2 030€ or 20 900 SEK
 Registration fee 300€ or 3 100 SEK

Group size: 10–18 guests

Season: May and June

More info, booking and contact:

Fågelguidning AB,
 gb@fagelguidning.se, www.fagelguidning.se. On the website you will also find the bird species expected on the trip in Swedish.

PHOTO: ELIN STENROS



Facts: The Albanus is a ship built in Mariehamn, Åland, after a model from 1904 with the same name. She was launched on July 24, 1988, and has been designed to sail in the shallow waters of the archipelago. The rig is easy to handle by a small crew, and fellow sailors can easily participate in sail handling. She is also exceptionally beautiful to look at!

The Baltic Wings project has developed the central Baltic area as a nature and birdwatching destination through infrastructure investments, capacity building in co-operation with local entrepreneurs as well as other stakeholders, marketing and information. Read more at www.balticwings.org.

COVER: ARCTIC TERN / PHOTO: PATRIK OLOFSSON/BIRDLIFE SVENIGE



Eco birdwatching Stockholm archipelago and Kökar – island hopping on a sailing ship





Bird watching tower on the island of Gillinge.

The tour in summary

The wind flutters in the sails as we steer our sailing ship into a magical island world. For 7 days the galeas Albanus will be our home on a journey that starts from Mariehamn, Åland, via many scenic islands in Åland and the Stockholm archipelago with closure in Nynäshamn. Our route is laid so we meet the migratory birds, and the islands we visit are strategically chosen for resting birds. Some of the islands have impressively high bird and lookout towers, as well as meadows, woods, wetlands, and salt-spattered cliffs. At our last stop, Landsort, we get to learn about how to ring birds and why. It is always interesting to study the birds so closely. Some nights the ship will take us to the next island under a starry sky, sometimes with exciting bird sounds out in the dark – a magical and unique experience. Throughout the trip you will be amazed at the spectacular sunrise and sunset over the sea. And the many hours of daylight in the Baltic.

We visit interesting bird areas

We are in the middle of the bird migration, some birds are already in place and offer us beautiful singing and interesting courtship and many Arctic birds pass us

on their way to northern latitudes. We have selected good birding sites where we can maximise the chances to see a lot of birds, but the entire archipelago – both Stockholm's and Åland's – is like one big birding site! Most islands we visit have bird towers or platforms. On some islands we have local bird guides to pass on the latest news on the bird front. Keep in mind that the weather can affect our possibilities to see some of the birds, but hopefully we will get to see over 140 species.

Some of the birds we hope to see

Barnacle Goose, Brant Goose, Whooper Swan, Eider, Velvet Scoter, Long-tailed Duck, Red-throated Loon, Black-throated Loon, White-tailed Eagle, Oystercatcher, Grey Plover, Curlew, Bar-tailed Godwit, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Caspian Tern, Arctic Tern, Parasitic Jaeger, Murre, Razorbill, Black Guillemot, Eagle-Owl, Barred Warbler, Thrush Nightingale, Rock Pipit.

Lodging and transport

Travel from Stockholm by cruise ship to Mariehamn, where we board the sailing the Albanus which will be our accommodation and means of transport for seven days. The ship has four crew members, a chef and a tour guide/bird guide. There are 24 berths, of which 18 are for participants. Everyone sleeps in the same space,



Ruddy Turnstone.



Pied Avocet.

lower or upper bunk. On the ship there are toilets but shower and sauna are used in some of the ports we visit. We will have breakfast on board, lunch and dinner either on board or in port. On the islands we move on foot, by bike or possibly by smaller bus. The trip ends in Nynäshamn where you can take the commuter train, bus or taxi into Stockholm.

Included

Cruise ship to Mariehamn from Stockholm, 7 days full board on the galeas Albanus, tour leader and bird guide on the whole tour (Swedish and English speaking), miscellaneous fees, guided tour at Landsort's ringing station, bird checklist. The trip price does not include: Port fees for sauna stubs and showers, travel from Nynäshamn to Stockholm city, alcoholic beverages.

Do you want to bring someone who is not as interested in birds as you? This trip will surely be an adventure for anyone who enjoys being out in beautiful and peaceful nature.