

Welcome to Gammelstadsviken Nature Reserve



Gammelstadsviken is best known for its birds. Birdwatchers come to the lake, which a long time ago was a sea bay, in May-June to watch the birds. There are trails, information boards, fireplaces, latrines and birdwatching towers. Some of the facilities are also adapted for people who use wheelchairs.

Birds from South and North

At the birdwatching tower there is information about some of the bird species you can see here. Some are unusual this far north. This applies for example to the Pochard and the Northern Shoveller. Others are typical Norrbotten birds, such as the Whooper Swan and the Hazel Grouse.

Plants in water and on land

Near the shores of the lake there are areas with a dense stands of Common Reed and Cat-tail. Out in the water you can see different water plants such as waterlilies. On the shore grows the white flower Bog Arum together with other plants that thrive near nutrient-rich lakes.

The history of the lake and Gammelstad

Luleå town was founded in 1621 where the present day village of Gammelstad lies. In those days, Gammelstadsviken was a deep bay, where ships sailed into the town. Because of rising land (which began 10,000 years ago after the inland ice cap had been pressing the land down) the sea bay was eventually closed off from the sea and instead became a lake. To get closer to the sea, in 1649 Luleå town was moved to its present site and the new harbour was built there.

The land is still rising. In this area the land is rising by about 1 cm a year.

A World Heritage Site

Quite close to the nature reserve lies the World Heritage Site Gammelstad Church Town. Here stands Gammelstad Church, which is a stone building from the 15th century. It is surrounded by red church cottages in dense rows along narrow alleys. People from rural areas stayed in the cabins when going to church and to markets. The tradition survives to this day. Near Gammelstad church village there is an open-air museum – Friluftsmuséet Hägnan.

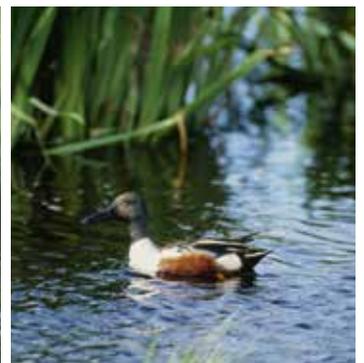


*Gammelstadsviken, with Gammelstad church in the background.
Photo: Thomas Öberg.*



The Pochard has red eyes.

Photos: Johnér/Anders Haglund



The Northern Shoveller has a broad, spoon shaped bill.



White waterlily. Photo: Thomas Öberg.

Regulations

§ In the nature reserve, it is forbidden to:

- destroy or damage nature
- light a fire, except in prepared fireplaces (see the map)
- drive a motor vehicle (even a snowmobile), except on prepared roads.
- during 1 March – 20 August let a dog or cat run loose
- be on or near the island between 1 May and 31 July.

Cultural remains are protected under the Cultural Heritage Act and must not be damaged.

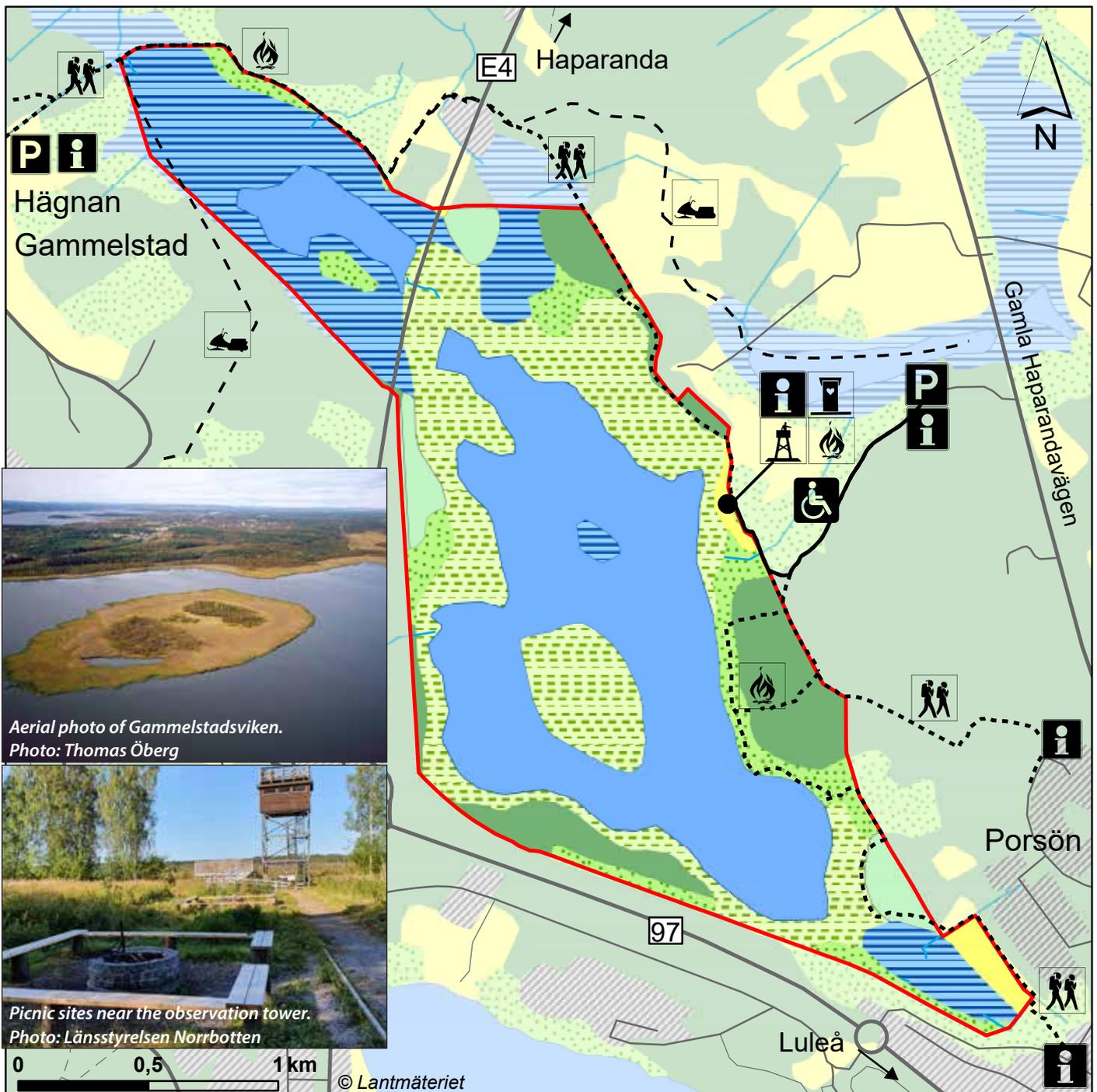
The Right of public access in Sweden

The Right of public access means that you have the right to be in nature as long as you do not disturb or destroy. Everyone has a responsibility to follow existing regulations.

Remember to extinguish the fire properly when you have finished and do not light a fire if there is a general fire ban. You can find out whether there is a fire ban on www.lulea.se.

On www.naturvardsverket.se/allemanratten there is more information in different languages.

Welcome to the great outdoors, and take care of nature!



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|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Trail | Accessibility adapted trail | Deciduous forest |
| Nature reserve | Coniferous forest | Water meadow |
| Wetland | Water | Cultivated land |

How to get here

From Luleå town centre, follow Gamla Haparandavägen past Luleå University. After 4 kilometres, turn left at the sign "Gammelstadsvikens naturreservat". From the car park there is an accessibility-adapted trail. There are also trails from "Hägnan", Vänortsvägen in the Porsön area and Notviken train station. All the approaches are signposted.

By bus you take Luleå lokaltrafik (LLT) bus route 4 to Vänortsvägen/Aurorum, route 9 to Gammelstad Kyrkbyn or route 5 to Notviken station.

More information

www.lulea.se
 Visit Luleå
 Norrbottens Naturkarta (in Swedish and English)
www.lansstyrelsen.se/norrboten/besoksmal



County Administrative Board of Norrbotten