

Welcome to Luleå Beach Cabins!



Hello friend! ☺

So glad you chose my place! My name is Carl and I am your host. I have been doing Airbnb for a few years and I really like having people from all over the world come to my lake-side cabin to enjoy Luleå and Swedish Lapland. Your stay is important to me and I want you to have the best vacation possible. I am a “superhost” and I aim for top rating on all accounts. If there is any way I can help you – let me know. Ok. Let’s begin!

The Basics

Address: Björsvägen 1, LULEÅ.
My number: +46 739 56 67 34

Getting here



Bus number 223 from **Luleå Bus station** takes only 10 minutes. Find your bus here: <https://ltnbd.se/en/plan-trip/>. A bus ticket costs 26 kr, credit card payment = OK. You want to go **from LULEÅ BUSSTATION** to **HÄLLBACKEN BJÖRSBYV.** (no traffic Sundays). Read more about transportation in the *Getting around* document.



Taxi: I recommend my friend Mr Ogbonna who runs Abia Taxi, a registered taxi company. Mr Ogbonna is an African gentleman, very friendly and professional and knows exactly where you are going Tel: +46 72 201 47 96. Just say ”Beach Cabins”.



If you travel by car, just park as close to the house as you want. See picture and map on page 3.

About the cabin



The cabin is equipped with an electronic lock. The code will be sent to you via Airbnb prior to your arrival.

To UNLOCK house, press: * *six digit code* * (Make sure to start and finish with star-sign: *)

To LOCK house (from outside), press * (the lock will signal locked and make sound.)

The door is a tiny bit hard to close, make sure to give it a small but firm push so you hear it click shut, then you can lock it.



I provide clean towels, you will find them on your bed.



Luleå Beach Cabins
PeaceOnEarth4Ever



I provide bike rental at a guest-friendly price.
100 kr/day – week 500 kr



I also provide fishing rod rental at a guest-friendly price: 100 kr/day for a rod. Lures provided, pay for the ones you lose (30 kr each).



The house is also equipped with a BBQ. If you plan to use it just get some coal and lighter fluid at the store and you're ready to grill! (And please just make sure the bbq looks nice after you have used it 😊)



The sauna is the small red house down by the water. It is a basic standard country side Swedish sauna. Operational when the snow melts away, but if you want to use it in winter that's fine. I do not clear paths, so as long as you are ok with walking 20 m through the snow you are free to use it.



Kitchen is equipped with:

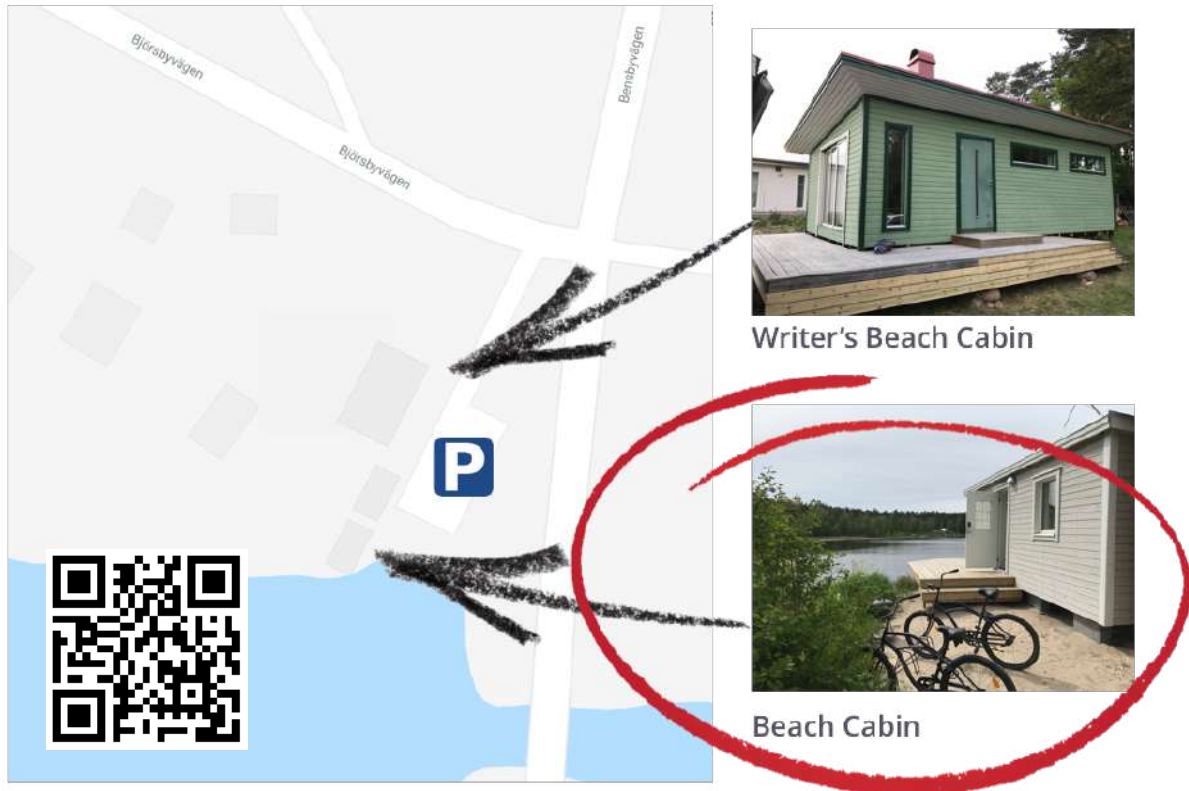
- Stove and oven, pots, pans.
- Fridge with freezer compartment.
- Plates, silverware, glasses, mugs, kitchen knives etc.
- Water heater and coffee machine with filters.

As courtesy, I provide basic cooking stuff:

- Salt, pepper and oil
- Some tea bags and coffee (to get you through that first morning :)

That's the basics, see you in Luleå!

Location of house ...and parking



If you arrive by car set your GPS to



Björsvägen 1

<- A gravel driveway will lead you down to the cabin. Park so that other cars can pass. 😊

30 meters from the Beach Cabin is the Writer's Beach Cabin. This is another cabin that I rent out on Airbnb. Don't worry you won't disturb each other. All cabins are facing the lake. Maybe you will see other guests go to the sauna or going in and out of the water to swim (or out on the lake to ski!). I've had over 900 bookings and all happy guests, so rest assured that you will enjoy your stay.

Check-out Routine



We do all the housework ourselves. Laundry and proper cleaning take a lot of time. I like to keep cleaning fees at a reasonable level for guests, so please just follow these instructions. Thanks! 😊

1. Do the dishes



2. Wipe counter, table & inside refrigerator.

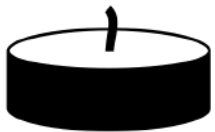
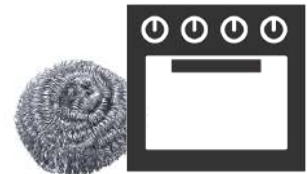


3. Clean stove top with steel wool -> SVINTO

(look for box in cupboard under sink, don't miss edges of burners, thx :)



**If you used the oven:
Leave it clean!**



4. Replace burnt out tealights



5. Take the recycling out + put new bags into bins in house.



Recycling - why

Sorting trash is a part of the agreement we made when booking.



As I am writing this, wildfires in France have turned the Mediterranean coast into crispy bits. In a series of UN reports, thousands of scientists and government reviewers agreed that **limiting global temperature rise to no more than 1.5°C** would help us avoid the worst climate impacts and maintain a livable climate. This is real.

Recycling - where



Up by the road by the mailboxes/second driveway to houses you will find the bins set up against the wall of the red small garage closest to the road. Recycling bins marked plastic/glass... etc. What you cannot recycle leave in bins marked "burnable household waste". When done right there is almost nothing left to throw in the last bin except for diapers, old clothes etc.



Please, don't throw it all in the same bin because you don't feel like sorting your trash. The company picking up the recycling is a private company. They don't empty the bins when not correctly sorted. *Then my wife and I must dig through the guests' trash and sort it by hand... We would just rather smell the flowers of our garden :) We don't mean to be pushy about this, we are so happy you are here! We just don't want to make a dollar by cheating nature.*



Recycling- how

In your house you have 3 different bins: *bio waste*, *recycling* and *burnable household waste*. When they fill up, just make the short trip up to the red garage by the road and empty.



Grey/green depending on your house

Bio-waste – use green bio-bag.

Empty in bio-waste bin.

Rinse/make sure bin is clean

before leaving + put new bags in thx! 😊



Recycling bin– sort and empty in bins by the road.
Rinse/make sure bin is clean before leaving.

The Garden



You are welcome to walk down into the garden, but please stay in **my garden** :)

Beyond the red sauna is my neighbor's garden, so please *don't go there* (all that is crossed off in red).

He is a very nice old man, but he does not like people in his garden, on his bridge... or footsteps in the untouched snow :) And try not to throw trash in his garbage can (the one right outside his house, the crossed over house). My bins are up by the road by the mailboxes. I have a lot of guests over and it all works fine. It's very important for me that my neighbors are not bothered. I'm sure you understand :)

You are welcome to use my garden to fish, swim, sauna and sit around in the grass.

We all share the view, please don't bring furniture down. Use your terrace for lounging! :)

The Garden Sauna

The garden sauna is the small red house down by the water. It is a basic country side Swedish sauna. It has a concrete floor – it's not a spa - it's a **REAL** Swedish sauna! 😊 Operational when the snow melts away, but if you want to use it in winter that's fine. I do not clear paths, so as long as you are ok with walking 20 m through the snow you are free to use it.



1. Go to sauna (small red house closest to the water)

2. On wall mounted display, press ON

3. Set temperature with + and - buttons (anywhere between 80-90 C° is good)



4. In sauna there is a steel bucket. In summer: take water out of the lake. In winter: bring the bucket back with you to your house.

5. Make sure sauna door is shut tight (so it heats rapidly)

7. Wait 30 mins (the display will show the temp in sauna), in cold weather it can take longer.

9. Do sauna!



10. When done, **TURN OFF** on panel, drain left-over water in the garden, then **leave steel bucket and spoon upside down** (so it does not freeze in winter / and in summer so algae don't grow in bucket :)

If you see some other guests using the sauna and you want to use it after them – just ask them to leave it on for you. No booking list – we keep it simple and talk to each other 😊 like back in 1990!!

Northern lights



Northern lights can be seen from October – March. First you need to be able to navigate the Aurora app to check for activity.



Download app:
My Aurora Forecast & Alerts

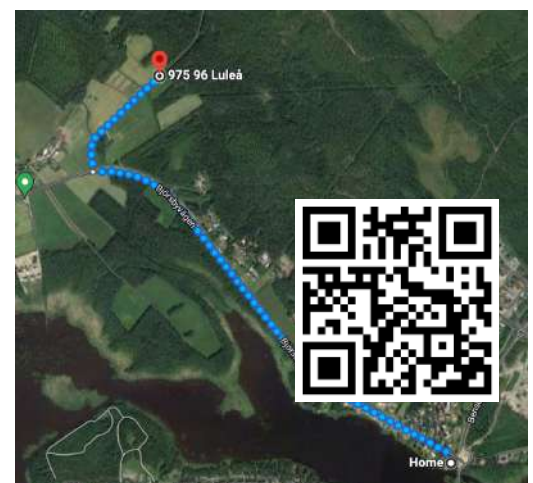
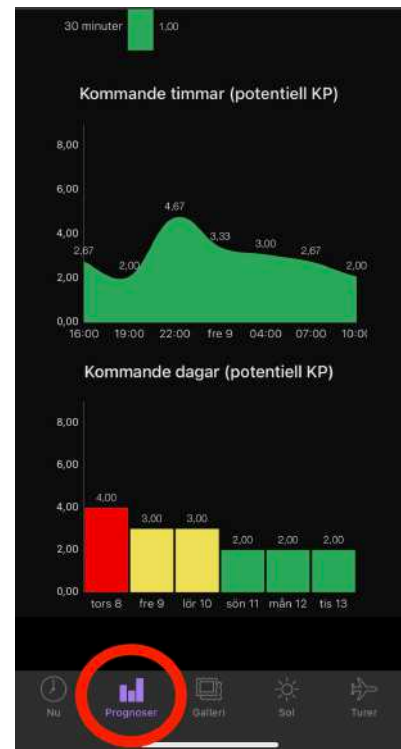
You want to go to the second screen.

The top of the screen will show cloud coverage.

Scroll down and you will find forecast for coming hours and days (you can scroll in the graphs to show hours and probability) **minimum KP 3** ▶

Three locations to watch northern lights:

1. **Go outside your house and look “behind” your house**, that’s north! If the lights are strong you can see them right there.
2. **Go up on the road and then cross the bridge**. On the other side on the right is a beach (covered in snow in winter). From there you have a good view of the sky behind the house. If ice is strong you can venture out!
3. **Take a walk to a nearby field - map** ▶ Look north over the forest and keep your fingers crossed! Here you get away from streetlights a bit. Happy hunting!



Getting around

County bus 223

Getting to and from the cabin by county bus 223

County bus number 223 stops close to the house. Take the bus from **LULEÅ BUSSTATION** and ask the driver to stop at SINKSUNDET. As I get a lot of international guests the drivers often very kindly will drop you off right by the house. If not, the official bus stop is called **HÄLLBACKEN BJÖRSBYV**. < Use this bus stop when searching for transportation!



You will find the time table for the bus here: <https://ltnbd.se/en/plan-trip/>

(English)



PRO TIP: When arriving at the bus station from airport or train, you are right on main street. Only 100 meters from the bus is a supermarket (Coop). Do your shopping here and you won't have to stop on the way home. Also, right next to Coop is **Systembolaget** (Off license store, there is an alcohol monopoly so **if you fancy a glass of wine or beer in the evening you have to get it here. Supermaket will ONLY carry light beer**).



The buses run approximately once per hour until 11:00 pm. No traffic Sunday. You can only pay with credit card.

Getting around

To and from the cabin with local bus

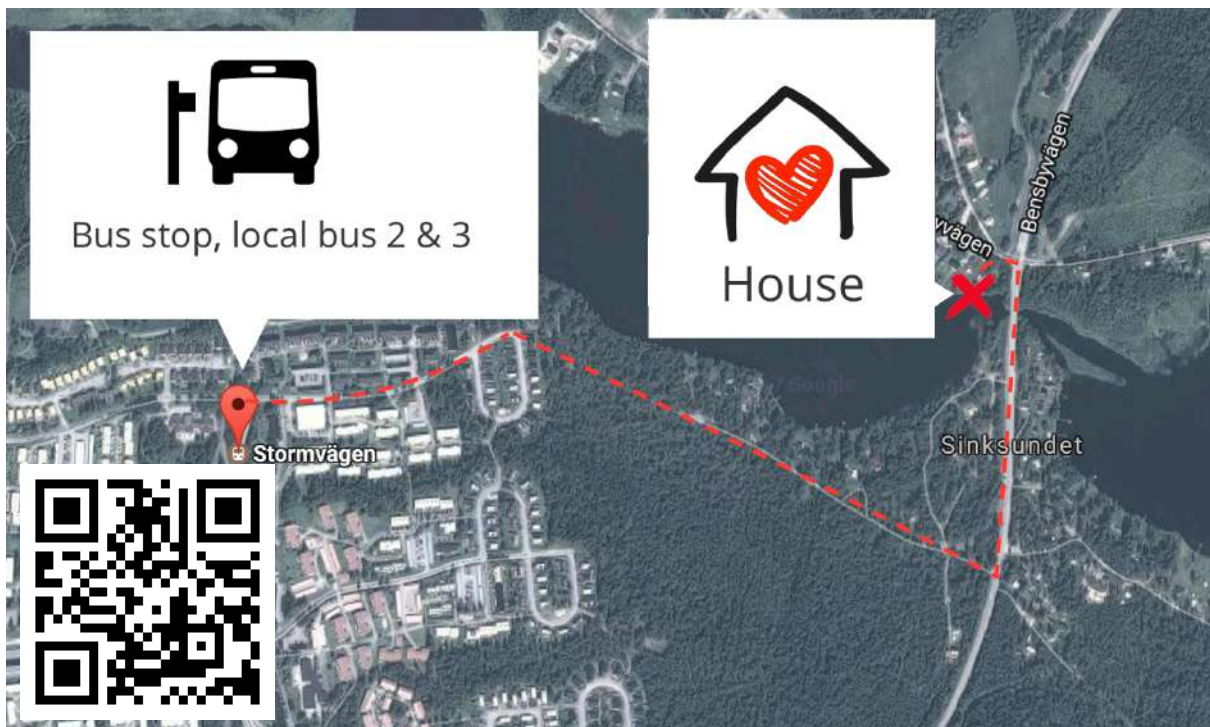
Getting to and from the cabin with local bus 2 or 3

The county bus 223 does not run on Sundays, in this case you have the option of taking the local buses 2 or 3.

It's a 20 min walk from the cabin along the water to the bus stop **STORMVÄGEN**.

Check buses here: <http://www.llt.lulea.se/en/plan-your-trip/> (English)

To get to the bus stop just walk across the bridge and follow the bike path through the forest. Getting there by foot will take about 15-20 mins depending on your speed 😊



Scan the QR code
to open route in
Google Maps!

Getting around

Closest supermarket by bike or foot

Getting to the supermarket by bike/on foot

The closest supermarket is about 7 min bike ride away. It's called **Konsum Björkskatan**. It's great if you want to have an excuse to have a walk or a bike ride, get some snacks or stock up on food. Next door to the supermarket is also a pizzeria if you don't feel like cooking.

OPEN EVERY DAY 8 am – 10 PM



Scan the QR code
to open route in
Google Maps!

To get there just hop on the bike or get there on foot. Walking at an easy pace will be 30 minutes, but it's a very nice walk through the forest and along the water. (same way as getting to local bus).

If you're traveling to or from the cabin it's of course possible to buy food in town and then just take the bus all the way home to the cabin.

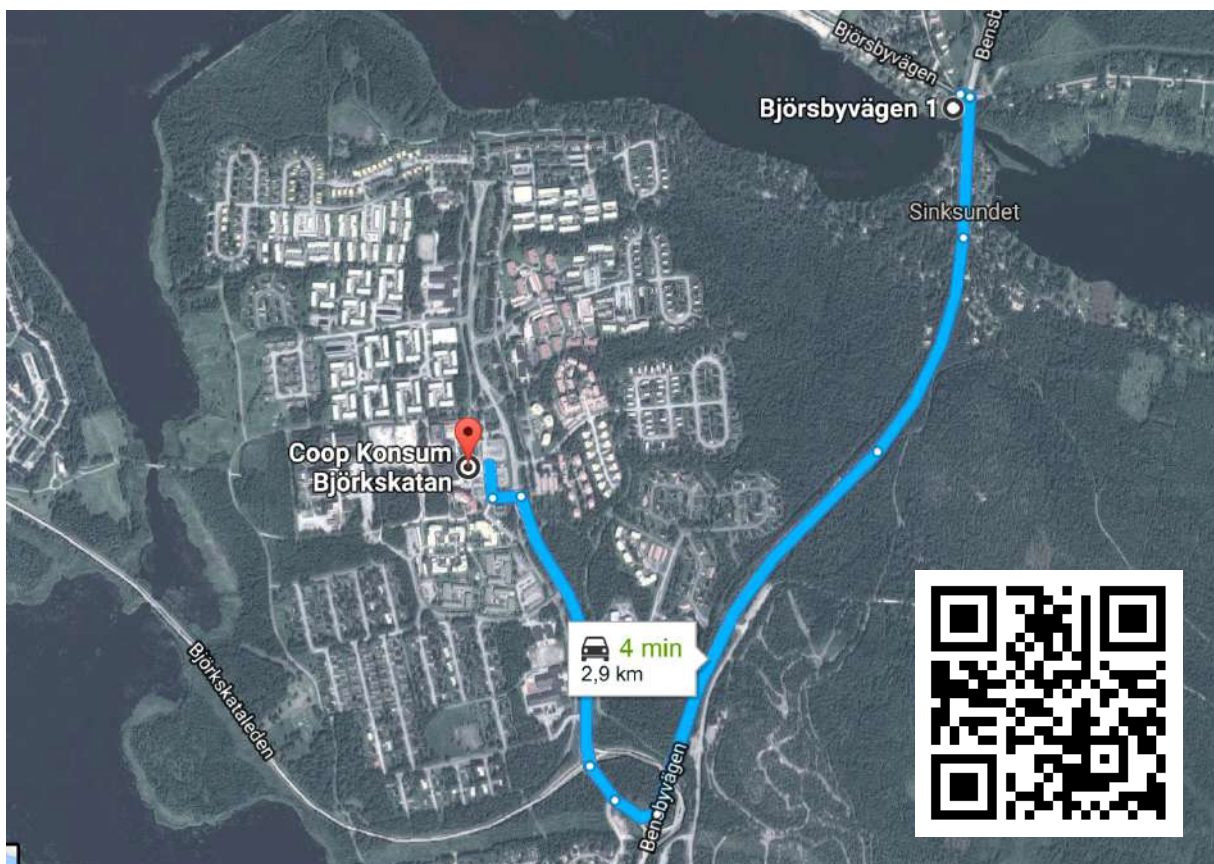
Getting around

Closest supermarket by car

Getting to the supermarket by car

If you happen to have a car you just follow the road leading to town. After the hill you take the first right towards **BJÖRKS KATAN**, then first exit in the round about towards the mini-center and you're there.

OPEN EVERY DAY 8 am – 10 PM



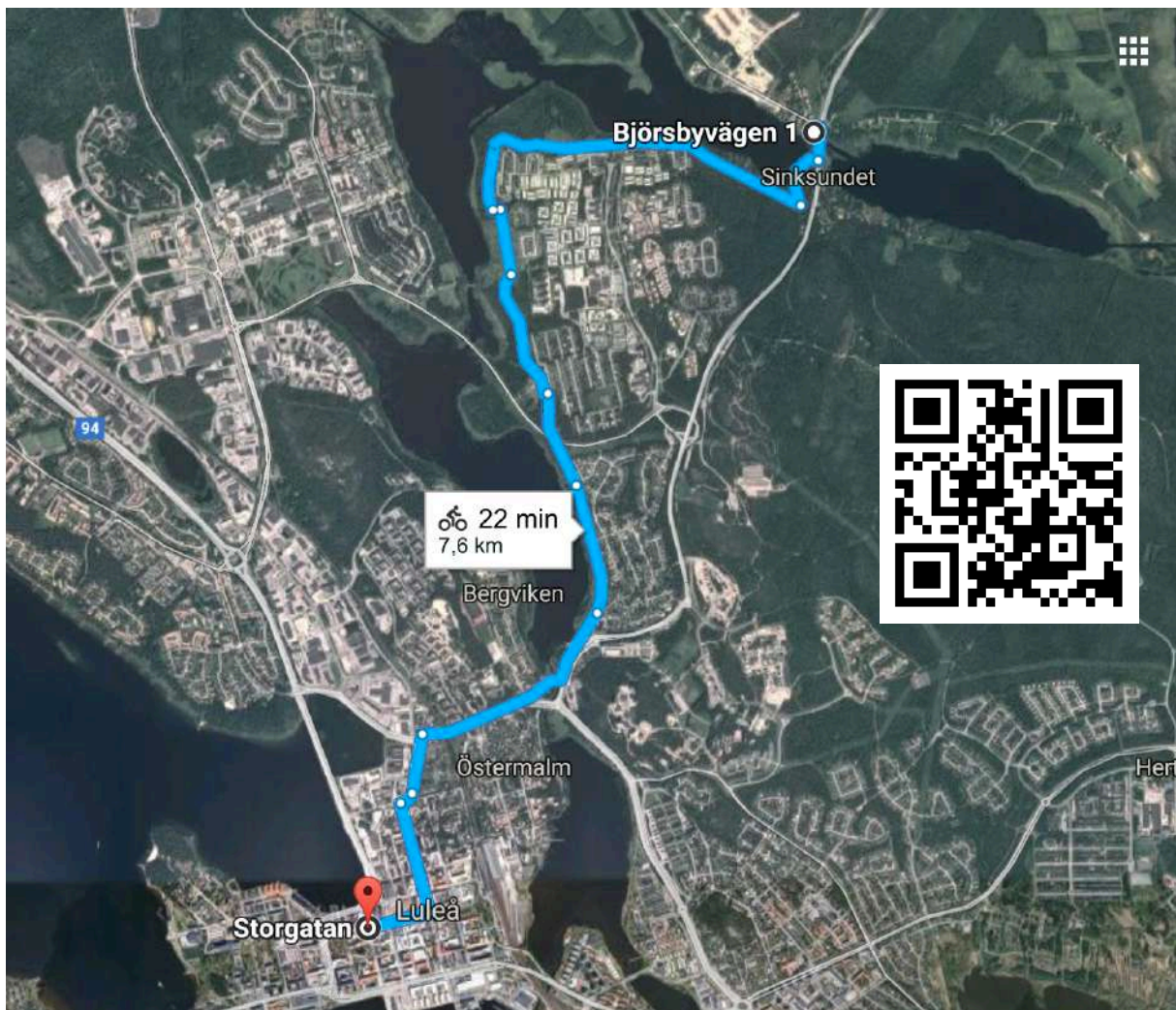
Scan the QR code
to open route in
Google Maps!

Getting around

To town on bike

Getting from the cabin to town on bike

My favorite way of getting around and exploring Luleå is on the bike. It only takes 20-30 minutes to town, it's pretty much flat all the way and you can really get the most out of your stay (+ you're saving the planet!)



Scan the QR code
to open route in
Google Maps!

Just follow the bike path through the forest as if you were going to the local bus or the supermarket. Then just keep going until you hit town!

The best part about this is that you can stay out as long as you want, you don't have to worry about missing the bus and it's a fun way to travel!

Eating and drinking!



Eating and drinking!

1. **The Bishops Arms** – a great place, traditional British pub. 34 beers on tap, 300 beers on bottle. Good food, gastro-pub style. A burger will be around 190 kr, a bit pricy but you don't go there for food. If you're a beer freak, this is your place!
<http://www.bishopsarms.com/Lulea>



2. **Allstars** – a sportsbar with “junk food deluxe”. If you're a sports fan and don't want to miss a game this is where you go. In week ends they also do night club. Dance, drink and feel like a swede!
<http://www.allstarbar.se/lulea/>

3. **Restaurant CG:s** – Fine dining with a great selection of wine and spirits. A main course will be around 280-350 kr. But if you want local flavours and international standards in cocktails and atmosphere, this is it. Do book a table, this place fills up. +46 920 200 700
<http://restaurangcg.com/>



4. **Gusto** – If you're a pizza person this is your place. Gusto specializes in napoletanian pizza. Good selection of wine and drink. Relaxed yet stylish. Very nice terrace in summer.
<http://tavernagusto.se/>

5. **O'leary's** – A combined sportsbar with bowling, arcade, pool table. If you're having a rainy day and just want to have some fun and chug down a burger, this is your place.

6. **Hemmagastronomi** – A small and cozy place where everything is made from scratch. Local ingredients and bread from their own bakery. Not the cheapest place, but if you want to eat food from the north of Sweden this is it. Small and intimate, nice view on the water.
<http://www.hemmagastronomi.se/>



7. **Bistro Norrland** – Located in the same house as the town theater this place offers good food and a very nice view over the harbor. If it's warm enough get a table outside and enjoy the evening light.
<http://www.bistronorrland.se/>

8. **Bryggan** – A restaurant and night club on a boat. The food is OK, but this is not why you go here. On a warm summer day this place will be packed. If you want to go out and have a night out and maybe even catch a Swedish venereal disease in the late hours, this is it! I'm kidding... it's a totally ok place, in summer around 3 am it can get pretty wild. Can't beat the view.



9. **Clarion hotel** – This is a rooftop bar where you see the harbor and pretty much all of Luleå. People come here to start off the evening with a few glasses of wine. The kitchen is good too. Come here for bubbly wine and cocktails.
<http://www.clarionsense.se/en/>

10. **Panelen Steakhouse** – Newly opened in 2020. A steakhouse which of course focuses on charbroiled meat.
<https://panelen.nu/lulea/>



11. **Bastard Burgers** – This burger joint make the town's best burgers. No ready made stuff. Good meat and you can get a beer also. Burger + fries + coke will cost you around 150 kr. This is a Sweden's fastest growing franchise founded in Luleå. Opened a restaurant in New York in 2020. Collaboration with Brooklyn Brewery NY. This is the first ever Bastard Burgers.
<http://bastardburgers.se/>

12. **Karl August** (Same house as Bishops Arms, number 1 on map) – Fine dining with traditional Swedish dishes. Very nice setting in classical town hotel building. High ceilings, local foods, great bar! Have a stroll down main street and see if you like it! Address: Storgatan 15.

Things to do and see

Church Town



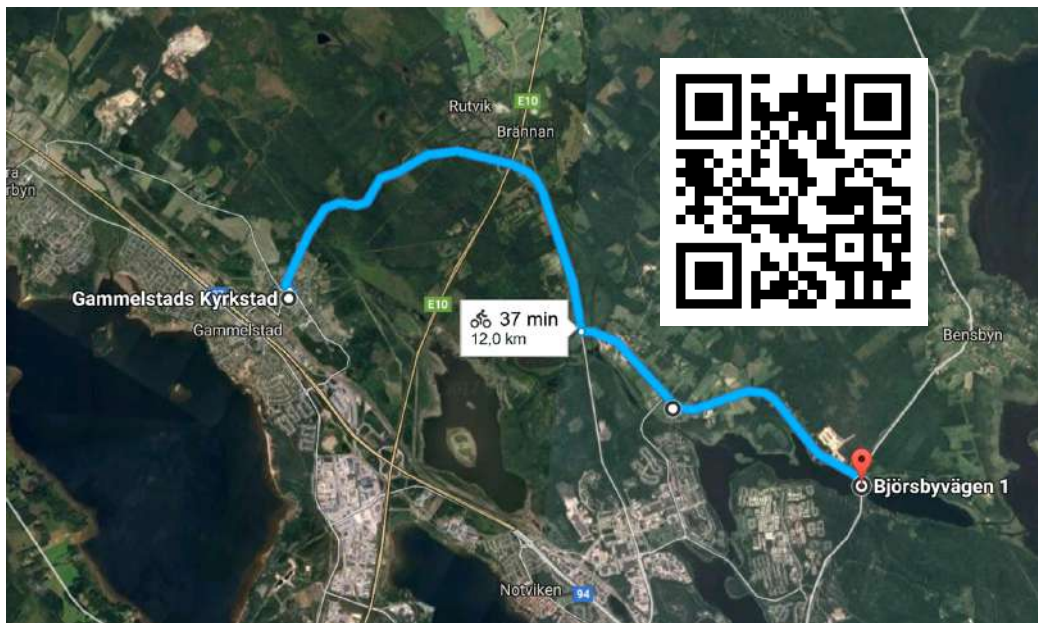
Church Town (Gammelstads Kyrkstad) is listed on UNESCO's list of World Heritage. It is a church from the middle ages with an ancient village around it. Back in those days the farmers lived so far from church that they had to have a house close to the church to sleep in before mass on Sundays. So, every family built their own little cabin around the church. And they are still there.

Visitor's center opens at 12:00

The village is very cozy and old fashioned. You will find artist selling pottery and handy crafts, cafés and also a very nice open air museum with animals and preserved antique houses.

Get there by bus from Luleå Town SMEDJEGATAN and take bus number 9.

You can also take a bike from the cabin. Head towards BJÖRSBYN then pass RUTVIK and continue towards GAMMELSTAN.



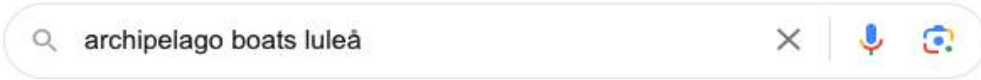
Scan the QR code to open route in Google Maps!



Things to do and see Luleå Archipelago

SUMMER Luleå has a beautiful archipelago. During summer season you can do day trips with **boats** out to a number of beautiful islands full of wildlife and peaceful beaches. Some islands have restaurants and “beach life” others are secluded and quiet. Take a hike along the ocean, bring a pick-nick and head back in the afternoon or evening.

Find the most updated info and timetables by using Google:



WINTER



Luleås isbana för rekreation och långfärdsskridskor

6,3 tn gilla-markeringar • 7,2 tn följare
På denna sida kan du svara på frågor utan att göra bara uppdateringar till Luleå kommunens isbana!

Luleås isbana för rekreation och långfärdsskridskor

Lagom till helgen är nu... eldstäder och toaletter på plats längs... autom pryds vindskydden i år av konst, som... Luleåbiennalen 2024. Läs mer om... på kommunens nyhetsajt Vårt Luleå: <https://vartlulea.se/arkiv/upplevelser/konstverktarplatspaisbanan.5.37e5a92918c5ebceb0e2749.html>

Just in time for the weekend, our windbreakers, fireplaces and toilets are now in place along the ice track! This year the windbreakers are decorated with art, as a prequel to the art exhibit Luleåbiennalen 2024. More about the art on the news site Vårt Luleå (only in swedish): <https://vartlulea.se/arkiv/upplevelser/konstverktarplatspaisbanan.5.37e5a92918c5ebceb0e2749.html>



Get down on the ice here or here

Luleå Bus Station

To closest islands

IN WINTER TIME the town of Luleå prepares a 4 km long walking and skating track. When the track is open depends on current ice conditions.

The town of Luleå updates their Facebook page for the public to know if it is open etc. The page also has INFO IN ENGLISH ©

If you don't have Facebook contact the office of tourism: turistcenter@lulea.se //// +46 920 45 70 00

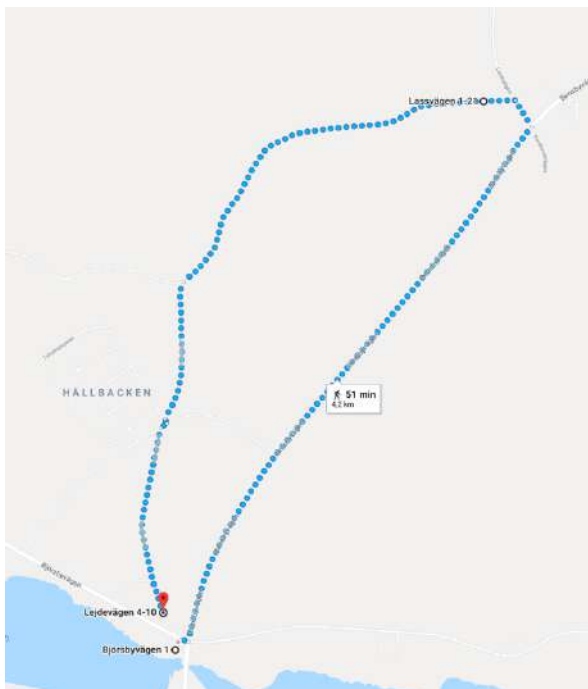


You can rent long distance strap-on skates + sticks from me. Look in “Activities” pages for more info.

Things to do and see Hikes around the cabin

You don't have to go far to be in the middle of the forest. It's right around the corner. I really love the forests around here. They are magic in the true sense of the word.

These are the paths I walk with my dogs. If you're worried about getting lost just stick to the horse-paths. Otherwise why not go crazy and walk across a few fields and see what you'll find.



Here is a 1 hour walk that starts on the bike path along the road to Bensbyn (next village) and that then comes back through the forest:

- 1 Follow bike path towards Bensbyn**
- 2 Take left at Lassvägen**
- 3 After 100 meters take left on horse path (kept clear in winter)**
- 4 Come back though forest towards the cabin**



Scan the QR code
to open route in
Google Maps!

To the forest to hike or ski



The forest is a magical place right around the corner. It's beautiful both in summer and in winter.



Scan the QR code to open starting point in **Google Maps!**

Close places to walk your dog



I have two big dogs, Bolla and Kerkas ❤️
We walk a lot around these forests. If you are bringing your dog, here are some simple places where you can walk on your dog on a leash and without.

I let my dogs run free in places where there are not so many people. Like the place below on the map. You are always responsible for your dog. It is a straight road so you will see if other people are coming. Usually there is nobody, but every once in a while, I will meet hikers and other people with dogs.

To walk on leash:

Just head north on the cleared bike path parallel
With the main road

To let you dog run free

Walk or drive straight through the round-about. Follow road 1 km.
Where road branches park on side of road.
On gravel road: release the beast 😊

The QR code below will take you to where the road branches and you can park (Not an actual parking, just a wider shoulder, if heavy snowfall gravel road gets cleared last)



Local History



Sinksundet is a part of a village from the middle ages called Björnsbyn. Historically it is first mentioned in a testament from 1339. The name “Björnsbyn” comes from an old Swedish word for “bear”, so literally the name Björnsbyn means “village of the bear” not only referring to the animal but also to a family name passed down through many generations in the area. In the middle ages the area was still very scarcely populated. Even a few hundred years later, around 1500 there were still only 3000 inhabitants in what is modern day Luleå. Due to wars and bad crops this number had dwindled in the later part of the 1600. At the time the main source of income was agriculture, hunting (fur trade) and fishing. In 1621 Luleå was given the status of township and the population started to grow. However Swedish kings also had a great interest in wars during these times so the state took a fair share of crops (and men of age for battle...) which kept the population stagnant.

All through its’ history Björnsbyn has been a place for trade. This because official trade was regulated and granted only to a few merchants accepted by the state. These merchants were called “Birkarlar” and were granted trading rights in exchange for loyalty and taxes. This made Björnsbyn a vast a quite powerful geographic location. Some older maps of northern Sweden do not mention Luleå, but do mention Björnsbyn, which is quite funny as it today is a “forgotten horse-ranch-village” that nobody outside of Luleå has ever heard of.

Historically wealth was built in the area through the fishing industry. Since food was difficult to store and conserve the main industry in the area was fishing and *drying fish* to be exported to southern Europe as stockpile food and an important source of protein. Ocean-going ships would fish in the Gulf of Bothnia (northern Baltic Sea) and come into the old port of Luleå to unload the cargo. At the time the sea level was higher... and guess where the ships would pass in to get to the port? Via SINKSUNDET of course, right at your doorstep: where the sauna is located great ships would pass! Today the village of Björnsbyn is home to many stables but the days of furr and fish trade are gone, but you can still feel the winds of history when you walk past old over grown house foundations deep in the forest. I (Carl) go there sometimes at night with my dogs when the moon is out. The feeling at these places at night is very clear: you are a guest here, look, but do not stir what moss has buried for centuries...

My Airbnb Story

I started doing Airbnb in 2013 when I was working as a freelance journalist in the Middle East. Airbnb was brand new back then, Jerusalem had about 10 Airbnbs...☺ One day a banner showed up saying *if you put your own listing up you get 10% off*. So I did. I took a few pictures of a house I had in my yard. And up on the web it went.



The house (the beach cabin closest to the water) only had a room to sleep in. No toilet, no kitchen, just two beds. The deal was that guests slept in the cabin and came into my house to cook and use the bathroom. I just added the listing to get a discount... One day a booking came in. And that was how my whole Airbnb/house rental service began!

In the evenings my sons and I would sit down and share dinners with guests from all over the world who used our house for cooking ☺. With time the business grew, and I built a kitchen and a shower in the small house. Then I added two new houses and I kept working every day, bought the small red houses behind my lot. Installed sewage pipe and water, building building building. I had no clue what I was doing when I started but after building 2 cabins I kind of got the hang of it.

In 2017 life took a couple of bad turns. Some of my family members died and my wife got cancer (she is well now thank God!). My world got shattered and every day was a struggle trying to keep the spirits up, being there for the children, going to work and running the Airbnb business. After “coming back to life” with all the sorrow and stress, my wife and I both quit our office jobs. At the time I was working as a software developer.

During 2019 I juggled running the Airbnb business, driving taxi and working as a barman. I was getting back to life! ☺ No office, no bosses! I was working hard to make ends meet and when 2020 began I started working as a Spanish teacher at the local middle school. After that I started to work in the construction business, concrete, putting up industrial fences etc. It pays a lot less than software development, but I enjoy every work day!

In many ways Airbnb has changed my life. For an entrepreneur like me with limited resources, but who is not afraid to work: it's great! I get to meet new people all the time and I am very proud of my houses that I have built myself + I am proud to offer top-rated service. Great hospitality is a universal language. Also meeting all my guests gives me hope. The vast majority are really nice people, friendly, polite and down to earth. It makes me feel like the world is a

nice place full of nice people (not like what you see on the news!). This gives me hope.



If you want to know more about me and my work: **Check out my TED-talk** I had the honor of doing!

Search with Google to find it on YouTube: Helgegren TedX Cannes

Reviews and ratings

Guests and hosts: we are a community! Together we dance the dance that makes the world a smaller place. We are citizens of an ever-connected world. Luleå is local now. So is Bombay and New York!

To be honest I very rarely give my guests any other rating than 5 stars on all accounts. I believe that small things that happen on a trip are not made on purpose. Somebody breaks a glass, forgets to take the trash out or spills some coffee on the floor and they forget to wipe it up because they have to hurry to the bus... shit happens ☺ It's ok. It's part of travelling and life.

Of course, I am hoping this goes both ways. And just to make sure you are happy, this is why I send check-up messages asking if everything is ok. *Do you miss anything? Is anything not like you expected it to be from the listing?*

Some guests don't really read what they book. This is the toughest one to handle. Here's an example: Some of my houses are compact living homes. The listings clearly state the number of square meters, I have added scaled floor plans in the pictures... done all I can to inform. Then somebody books it without reading, checks out and leaves me a review saying "it's too small". And I think to myself "*well if you didn't want a small house why did you book it?*" ☺ Same thing goes for the road leading to town and that there are other houses around: this is also stated in all the listings and in the "do note" section.

I put in a lot of work to make my guests' stay as pleasurable as possible. Keeping the houses clean, taking care of the garden, washing, drying, making sure there is coffee, tea lights, being accessible on the phone or by message on the Airbnb app, etc... It's all in the details. Hospitality is a feeling you get when your host likes what they are doing. I do, and I care about your stay. I want you to have the best possible experience. I have travelled a lot myself. I know.



So please, when you leave me a review: make it 5 on all accounts, I really try my best. And, we all make mistakes sometimes. If the error is mine:

*Please give me a chance to make it right.
Let me know and I will do my best to fix it.
That's my idea of fair travel. Thanks! ☺*



Let's keep in touch!



I love it when people want to follow what's going on here at my end of the world. Many guests go home and wonder what fall is like when the trees turn yellow, or what winter is like when it's -34 °C and you can see the northern lights above the forest - or perhaps the arctic spring and summer with the never-ending days.

Or just see what I do with the place and what more there is to discover!



Instagram



@lulea_beach_cabins

Let me send you a x-mas card!

If you share your details with me I WILL SEND YOU A X-MAS LETTER :) along with a nice update on what is going on here at the end of the world!

Submit your info on my homepage

<http://luleabeachcabins.com/lets-keep-in-touch/>

