



Group travel The Torpö "loop" is well suited for group travel (buses may be hired) with focus on for example culture, nature and wildlife, traditional home crafts, food, etc. We provide assistance in planning of longer or shorter visits.

Information:
 Peter Sterne, Torpöns Färjeläge, 0140-420 41
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 Lena Gunnarsson, Stebbarps Gård, 0140-420 48
 Anette Ekvall, Preem Ramfall, 0140-400 92

TORPÖ SLINGAN

13. BLÅVIK
Ateljé Tita

14. S/S Boxholm II

12. Drevhuset, Helgebo
11. Naturum Sommen
10. Torpöns Färjeläge

9. Stebbarps Gård

7. Lövåsa

TORPÖN

2. Kvarnkulla trädgård

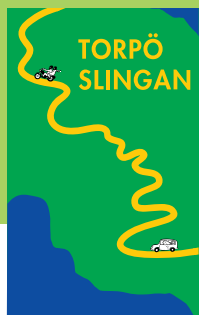
6. Solviken

5. Preem

3. Råås kvarn

4. Björn i Torpa Träslöjdare

1. Brostorps Gård



1. Brostorps Farm

Summer Café. We serve Swedish cheese cake with jam and whipped cream.

Farm shop: Cheese cakes and cheeses.

Studio "Ko-la kläder" – good supply of gems and tips for gifts.

Open: June the 4th to September the 4th Friday – Saturday
11 am to 5 pm. (Closed midsummer)

Please give us a call if you are in the neighborhood. Welcome!

Ph 0140-430 54 www.ostkaka.com

2. Kvarnkulla Garden

A small market garden with a big variety of plants and a beautiful open garden to the public.

3500 square metres of natural rock-garden with over 1000 perennials, many different peonies, clematis and bushes. Pond with many aquatic plants.

Pre-booking required for groups. Entrance 40 SEK.

Open: May the 1st to October the 1st. Thursday and Friday 10 am to 6 pm, Saturday 10 am to 2 pm.

May and June open Sunday 10 am to 2 pm.

Tel 0140-413 11, 0730-61 88 62 Welcome!

3. Råås Water Mill, Torpa

The old water mill environment is continually being developed. Apart from the mill itself there is a smithy and a smoke house. Every year old crafts are demonstrated and courses arranged.

Since 2007 the artist Emma Sjödin runs two-day **Sketching and Water colour painting** classes during May to September in this beautiful setting.

We will be pleased to guide visitor groups around the mill and its environment after booking.

Råås Water Mill: Göran Gunnarsson,
0140-400 33, 070-296 96 46 www.raaskvarn.se

Sketching and Painting classes: Emma Sjödin,
Phone: 0140-400 22 or emmaskonst@telia.com

4. "Björn at Torpa" woodworker

Makes wooden artefacts, such as boxes and signs.

Welcome to our handicraft shop and workshop.

Björn Gustafsson, Ramfall Phone 0140-402 60

E-mail: bjornitorpa@tele2.se www.ydre.net/bjornitorpa

5. GUSTAVSSONS Motorverkstad AB

Car repair shop. Import and sell US-Ford, Chevrolet/GM, Dodge/Chrysler

Preem Ramfall Petrol, large assortment of provisions, outdoor equipment, fishing permits, car wash, trailer rental, etc. Tourist information.

Open until 8 pm every day. Ph. 0140-400 92

6. Solviken Hostel on the lake Sommen

Private bathing place, boat bridge and self catering. Rooms with lake view. Meals may be booked in advance.

You are welcome to discover this marvellous place!

Open year round.

Telephone: 0140-40 100

www.solviken.nu

7. Watercolour paintings

Open: April to October.

Barbro Rolf, Löväsa Norrgård. Phone 0140-420 63

9. Stebbarp Farm

– **berry growing, farm shop, ice cream café**

Café with coffee and homemade berry ice cream.

Open: July, Wednesday through Sunday 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Open evenings to 8 p.m. Thursday and Sunday.

June and August, limited opening hours.

Phone: 0140-420 48, 070-680 73 38

www.stebbarp.se.

Welcome!

10. Torpöns Färjeläge - food and camp

Restaurant • Café • Canoes • Ice cream bar

• Camping • Boule • Summer shop • Ferry • Boat petrol

Open May the 1st to June the 16th Monday to Thursday (limited assortment) 11 am to 5 pm.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Bank Holidays 11 am to 8 pm.

June the 14th to August the 15th: All Days 11 am to 9 pm.

August the 16th to September the 19th: Monday to Thursday (limited assortment) 11 am to 5 pm.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays 11 am to 8 pm.

Weekends in September we close at 6 pm.

Phone: 0140-420 41 www.torponsfarjelage.se

11. Naturum Lake Sommen

For information about Lake Sommen and the nature around it, visit Naturum Sommen at the northern point of Torpön. Free entrance!

Open: May: Weekends and Bank holidays 10 am – 5 pm

June-aug: Daily 9 am to 7 pm

Sept to 12th: Weekends 10 am to 5 pm

Phone: 070-297 47 22

www.sommen-naturum.se

12. "Drevhuset"

Interior decoration and handicraft products

Helgebo gård, Blåvik. Anna Monéus Phone 070-349 87 41

13. Studio "Tita"

– **master goldsmith Marita Carlborg-Olsson**

Designs and produces jewellery, engagement and wedding rings, church plate and other utility goods.

Open: June 1 through August 30, Monday-Friday 11 – 18, Saturday-Sunday 11 – 16. Other times may be agreed upon

Studio and shop: Blåviksvägen 19, Blåvik (near Blåvik church)

Phone/fax. 0142-330 47

info@maritacarlborgolsson.se

www.maritacarlborgolsson.se

14. S/S Boxholm II

Take a trip on one of Sweden's last steampowered ships, built in 1904.

Market tours, narrator tours, tours with nature guide, etc.

Booking and information: Contact Tranås Turistbyrå,
Stationsplan 1, Tranås, telephone 0140-683 33.

www.boxholm2.com





Welcome to the Sommen countryside and the Torp Island trail

It is sometimes claimed that lake Sommen has as many islands as there are days in the year, but if so one must have included also all the sunken rocks at low water level. Whatever the case, Torpön (Torp Island) is the largest of all the lake's islands and in earlier days it had nearly 300 permanent inhabitants. Today there are some 70 people living there, in summer this number is multiplied.

The island of Torpön is to the south connected to the mainland via a bridge and on the north side you take the cable ferry Victoria across the 200 metres wide sound.

Welcome to the Island – share with us our island and make use of the services offered.

The lake and the beaches

Sommen is a clear water lake. The bottom is visible up to a depth of several metres and the lakes water is exploited for drinking. At its deepest point it is nearly 60 metres.

You will find wonderful swimming from rocks at, among other places, Lomsviken and at Torpöns Färjeläge, at the latter site there is also family-friendly bathing for the toddlers.

Fish and the fishing

Some 24 species of fish inhabit the lake. Apart from the common perch, roach and pike also the desirable char and salmon trout are to be found.

Several of the lake's fish are found in the aquarium in the "Naturum."

Fishing permits may be bought at the Preem petrol station or at Torpöns Färjeläge, at the latter there also are canoes for rent.

The birds and guided tours

You may well see a raven doing its aerobatics over the forest, there are colonies of cormorants, gulls and terns on smaller islands and you will often see the area's typical birds, the black-throated diver and the osprey. But keep your distance and use binoculars. We do not want disturbances in the bird reserves.

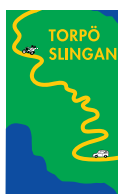
Don't be alarmed if, when walking through the woods, a capercaillie or a black grouse takes off with a lot of noise.

Each summer several guided nature tours are arranged in the reserves of the lake area, including among others Lomsviken. Details are supplied at the service centres.

Animals and insects

Elks and roe deer and various small game are found over most of the island. Sometimes wild boar swim over from the mainland, but so far they have not settled on the island.

In some of the old oaks the brown rose-chafer, a rare beetle shimmering in gold, may be found. A lot of patience is required.



The flowers and trees

The small-scale cultivation and grazing has given Torp Island its distinctive character. In the pretty meadows and pastures are to be found many plant species that today are becoming rare. And you are sure to find cat's-foot, rock-rose, mountain arnica, milkwort and many other plants.

In the wooded parts there are distinctive parts of interest which are easily accessible. The flat rock areas with old pine trees and the landslip at the Boda hill are worth a visit. On the way there you will pass a number of very old oak trees.

There is an easy path meandering through the deciduous wood at Svensbo. Here are found a great number of different trees, in springtime this is also a good place for bird-watching and botany. A large hole in the ground marks the remains of an old brickworks. Here the clay was excavated and made into bricks, which were then set to harden on Brick Island, just outside, before being shipped to Tranås for further distribution.

Sweden's largest elm tree is found close to the deciduous wood at Börshult. Try to put your arms around it if you can!

Bicycle and walking trails

The cycle route Vättern – Sommen runs across Torpön. You will see the red signs along the road. Bicycles may be rented in Malexander and map and description bought at Preem or Torpöns Färjeläge.

The walking trail takes you round the whole island and is just under 30 kilometres long. There are two shelters along the eastern side and the markings are easy to find. The trail crosses the road at several points so it is easy to park the car and walk only shorter distances.

Lomsviken

The Torpö local folklore society has here restored an old site for charcoal-making. In the old days large quantities of charcoal, from here and other sites, were shipped by barge to the ironworks at Boxholm.

The southern headland of the island is also a nature reserve with an ancient flat rock area and old pine trees. A trail takes you round the area. Right at the point is a nest of an osprey, which most years is inhabited – the birds are easily disturbed so please don't go too close.

The views

The Torpö island has many points with excellent views. The Boda hill on the west side and viewpoint at Nyhemmet-Älgudden on the north-east side are both indicated by signs by the road. The foot trail takes you past both Röäberget in the south-east and "Sunshine Hill" to the west.

Farms and crofts

There are some ten active farming and timber businesses of varying size. Thanks to substantial animal farming including milk production, beef and sheep a varying and living landscape is maintained. On the east side of the island the Boxholms Skogar AB owns the land. The company exploits about one-fourth of the islands 2200 hectares, the remaining parts are privately owned and farmed.

In the old days there were a great number of crofters' holdings on the island and most of these are marked by informative signs.

Where to stay

There are both Solviken youth hostel and Torpöns Färjeläge – food and camping, the latter also has cabins to let. There are also a few privately owned summer houses which are let by their respective owners.