



THE BALTIC SEA DOZENS OF BOATING AND SAILING DESTINATIONS

Sailing and boating is part of the culture of the Baltic Sea, and it is so diverse! This map is an opportunity to discover glimpses of boating and sailing destinations. Whether you are looking for sailing in the archipelago, discovering hundreds of Estonian islands like Hiiumaa and Saaremaa, or visiting the Art Nouveau district in Riga – all of it is here.

The map presents a network of small ports, starting from Liepaja in the West of Latvia, and goes along the Gulf of Riga, West Estonia and its islands, Gulf of Finland, South of Bothnia Sea, Stockholm Archipelago, and Gotland. All the small ports provide the necessary services to sailors and are ready to welcome visitors.



WEST COAST OF LATVIA

The West coast of Latvia covers the region from the border with Lithuania till the Kolka Cape, and this seashore stretches west for about 133 NM. Once it was a heavily guarded western border of the former Soviet Union. To this day, western Latvia, also named Kurzeme, boasts pristine nature, and its cities offer vibrant cultural experiences, local and European cuisine, and guided tours to explore the surroundings. There are three small ports for yachts and boats to stopover – Liepāja, Pāvilosta and Ventspils. All of them are located in estuaries of rivers and with a distance of a day's sailing in between them. The coast while sailing!

Karosta - a former military territory in Liepāja, an inspiring old town and the widest waterfall in Europe in Kuldīga, charming villages and fish smoking in Pāvilosta, a medieval castle in Ventspils.

www.eastbaltic.eu, www.liepaja.travel, www.visitventspils.com, www.kurzeme.lv

GULF OF RIGA

AND

The Gulf of Riga is a bay of the Baltic Sea between Latvia and Estonia. The gulf is separated from the Baltic Proper by the West Estonian Archipelago, but navigation is possible through several straits. The coastline of the Gulf of Riga stretches from Kolka Cape to the Latvia-Estonia border, with a total length of 126 NM.

Eight yacht marinas along the coast and the tiny Estonian island Ruhnu in the middle of the bay make sailing and boating routes easy to adapt to weather conditions and points of interest – small fishing villages and towns or the vibrant capital city Rīga. There are six spots to stay with your boat or yacht in Riga.

Orchid trail and wild horses in Lake Engure Nature Park, Art Nouveau architecture and vivid cultural offers in the capital of Latvia - Rīga, Jazz Festival in Saulkrasti, SPA resort Jūrmala.

(i) www.eastbaltic.eu, www.visittalsi.com, www.visittukums.lv, liveriga.com, www.saulkrasti.lv, www.limbazi.lv

WEST COAST OF ESTONIA

For boaters, Estonia has 2,222 islands, 2160 NM of coastline and more than 50 marinas to offer. The next marina is never more than 30 nm away. Perfect for relaxed day trips. Even in the middle of the sailing season, there is no risk not to get a free berth when sailing in Estonian waters. In the West coast of Estonia, you will find about 30 yacht ports. Enjoy pure nature and a diversified landscape – beautiful white sandy beaches, cliffs, and islands. Estonia's summer capital Pärnu is the most popular sailing destination in West Estonia. Slightly up north, you will find the resort town Haapsalu; from here, you can make a brief crossing over to Saaremaa and Hiiumaa islands that are famous for their pure nature and many lighthouses.

Kuressaare castle, Tahkuna lighthouse, Haapsalu.

(1) www.easbaltic.eu, visitsaaremaa.ee, visitparnu.com

GULF OF FINLAND / NORTH COAST OF ESTONIA

The North coast of Estonia has a coastline of almost 650 NM and over 20 harbours for sailors and boaters. Coastline in the north stretches till the border with Russia at Narva port. Here you will be able to enjoy the longest summer days, and the sun always sets in the sea. It is possible to get from one marina to the next in a day, always being on the route and exploring what the Baltic Sea has to offer. A good option for a short trip is a few hours sailing around Tallinn Bay, allowing you to make little stops along the way and to combine your trip with a visit to the Maritime Museum at the Seaplane Harbour. Popular day trip destinations nearby Tallinn include the islands of Aegna, Naissaar, and Prangli. To the east of Tallinn, you will find some cosy marinas with restaurants and the Hara harbour, famous for its military history.









GULF OF FINLAND / SOUTH COAST OF FINLAND

The Gulf of Finland starts from the Archipelago Sea in the west and stretches to the eastern border with Russia. Enjoy an unforgettable summer outing in this lovely part of Finland's coastal archipelago with its larger wooded islands, small rocky islets, and open seascapes. There are more than ten big, very good marinas east of Helsinki, but there are also a few "rough diamonds" that certainly are worth a visit, e.g., Haapasaari in Kotka and Kaunissaari in Pyhtää, if you want some insight into how life along the coastline was a little while back. Here you can get a slightly more authentic feeling in the ports, and even during the high season, you always will find a place to moor your boat.

Gulf of Finland National Park, old fishing villages (Haapasaari, Tammio, Kaunissaari), Hamina, Kotka, Pyhtää, Loviisa, Porvoo.

(i) www.visitkotkahamina.fi, www.nationalparks.fi, www.visitporvoo.fi

ARCHIPELAGO SEA

The Archipelago Sea is a mosaic of sea and land. There are over 10,000 islands and islets, and around 100 of them are inhabited. Most islands are partly rocky, rising tens of meters above the sea level. The mean depth of the Archipelago Sea is about 19 m. There are tens of idyllic guest harbours in the archipelago, many of which are also easily accessible via bridges and ferries. There you will also find natural harbours that are naturally shaped for shelter and anchorage, but most do not have any guest harbour facilities. These are the real pearls in the archipelago.

The Archipelago Sea is one of the most species-rich areas in the whole of Finland. There is plenty to experience, both the unique nature and the culture of the archipelago.

Airisto, Seili, Nauvo, Korppoo (Korpoström and Verkan), Taalintehdas, Kasnäs, Örö, Turku, Naantali, Iniö.

(1) visitarchipelago.com

The Åland Islands consist of 6,700 islands altogether, and offer unique archipelago culture, maritime heritage, and natural beauty. Åland is an autonomous Swedish-speaking and demilitarized region in Finland, with its own flag, stamps, license plates, local government, and top domain ".ax".

Large parts of the Åland Archipelago are still unspoiled, and the guest harbours still feel completely authentic. The largest yacht port – Mariehamn – offers vibrant nightlife, restaurants, shopping opportunities, and excellent services for boaters; in many yacht ports, you can rent bicycles to explore the surroundings. The Åland Archipelago is a popular destination for sailors and

The Aland Archipelago is a popular destination for sailors an boaters, so consider the heavy marine traffic during high season.

Mariehamn, Kökar, Kastelholm, Lappo.

ÅLAND ARCHIPELAGO

SOUTHERN SEA OF BOTHNIA / EAST

The Sea of Bothnia is the southern part of the Gulf of Bothnia. The coast does not see the same kind of crowding as the Archipelago Sea during peak sailing season in July. If you want to experience a bit more solitude, head northwards into the Sea of Bothnia! Along the coastline of the Sea of Bothnia, you will mainly find marinas in the small and often very pretty towns along the coast. They combine the charm of small towns with a good selection of services and interesting places to visit. If you prefer being in nature, note that a big part of the sailing region of the Southern Sea of Bothnia, East, is also part of the Bothnian Sea National Park.

Rauma (Syväraumanlahti, Kylmäpihlaja), Katanpää, Peterzens, Lootholma.





SOUTHERN SEA OF BOTHNIA / WEST

The Southern Sea of Bothnia, West, also named Jungfrukusten or the Maiden Coast, stretches about 200 kilometres from its southernmost point Öregrund up north to Höga Kusten or the High Coast. There are more than 4,500 islands, plenty of beautiful sandy beaches, and genuine, idyllic fishing hamlets. The coastline of the area is versatile – from open bays to smaller archipelagos. There are many natural harbours and anchorages in the region.

Along Jungfrukusten is a well-developed service for boaters: about 20 guest harbours and 60 guest piers to dock; several small ports have a slipway, crane, and other yacht lifting equipment.

🦵 Gävle, Söderhamn, Hudiksvall, Nordanstig.

ig(ig) www.scandinavianxperience.com

STOCKHOLM ARCHIPELAGO

Stockholm Archipelago offers endless possibilities to the adventurous sailor looking to explore this gem of a cruising ground. Nearly 30,000 islands dot the seascape, extending seaward from the historic harbours and waterways of Stockholm city. Stockholm Archipelago delivers a variety of experiences to the cruising sailor, set within one of the most unique environments on the planet. Today, vacationers and Stockholmers inhabit 170 islands in the

Today, vacationers and Stockholmers inhabit 170 islands in the Stockholm Archipelago, mostly seasonally – with summer homes on the islands. The islands offer an escape from the city to an untouched peacefulness that only nature can provide. Clean water, unspoiled landscapes, and fresh air is abound in the archipelago, making these cruising grounds so enjoyable.

City of Stockholm, Sandhamn, Vaxholm, Möja, Utö.

(i) www.stockholmarchipelago.se

NORTHERN BALTIC SEA / WEST

This sailing destination is located between Gotland and Swedish mainland and stretches from the Stockholm Archipelago in the north to Öland in the south. There are many islands and islets along the coast, and these picturesque, rocky archipelagos just off the coast of the mainland offer a variety of alternatives for planning your journey. Vibrant ports or secluded bays, open seas or forested seashores: diverse landscapes are guaranteed, and the next idyllic anchorage is never far away. In the villages and towns both on islands and on the mainland, you can discover traditional lifestyles and find restaurants with delicious food.

St. Anna Archipelago, Norrköping, Trosa, Göta kanal.



GOTLAND

Gotland is the biggest island in Sweden, a marvellous region that combines raw nature and wilderness with lively cities.

Visby is the capital city of the county; it serves as a port and can host a very large number of boats. Guided cruises will provide the chance to fish in the shallow waters of the Baltic Sea or observe birds in their natural environment.

The crown jewel of Gotland is the Viking village of Tofta. This ancient village dates back to the 10th century, and here you will get a chance to experience the Viking way of life. Restaurants in the area offer extraordinary traditional dishes, as well as modern European food. Gotland's position is strategic: a popular destination and a common waypoint on journeys to Finland, Estonia, or Latvia.

Lummelunda cave, Hanseatic town of Visby, Langhammars on the island Fårö.

