



Paddling in Sweden's best hidden archipelago By the cliffs of Harge Uddar

Suitable canoe	Gussed expenditure of time	Distance to paddle	Difficulty level
Kayak	2,5 hours	About 12 km	Middle/difficult

There is no possibility to rent a kayak directly at the starting point. You will need to have an own kayak or be able to carry a rented boat to the starting point.

You can launch your kayak at two different places. The tour description starts at Bastedalen, where you can park your car on a gravel parking spot close to Bastedalen's harbor. You can also paddle in the opposite direction, in this case you start from Hargebaden.

1. Bastedalen's harbor has been in use until almost the end of the 1950's for different kinds of transports. Back in time it used to be a brickworks close to the harbor, where both roofing tiles and bricks were produced. There was even a store, a sail maker and a boatbuilder in the surroundings. Around Bastedalen you still can find traces of marble quarries as well as ponds, which were used as clay pits. In the bay of Bastedalen you can find several wrecks which can be seen when paddling. Some of them are even sticking up through the water.

2. The lighthouse of Bastedalen is marking the inflow of the fairway towards the archipelago.

3. Vinterviken is one of these narrow bays which are dividing the spits. It used to be used during winter times in order to get out on open water. South from Vinterviken you can see a cave, a little bit higher in the rock face, which today is used as a hiking shelter and resting-place. It can be reached by foot, when hiking in the natural reserve Harge Uddar.

4. In one of these smaller bays you can spot the rests of so-called "Lakabusar". These are small "houses" with runners which were pulled out on the lake winter time. People could sit in them and fish burbot, a lot of these "houses" even had a stove.

5. Vänneviken is one of the biggest bays along Harge udder. It is shallow and sandy. Even here you can find traces of the transport of marble which got collected in the quarries in the surroundings.



6. In Bredvik you can see one more wreck. When paddling southwards you will pass Klåvudden. It is a great place to spot migratory birds when they fly northwards once spring has come.

7. When you passed the spit called Storörsudden you are entering the bay Hargeviken. It is shallow around Storörsudden, so keep some distance to the shore. The stones are round and are called "ör". There is a restaurant close to the beach as well as a little grocery store.

It does not matter in which direction you are paddling but you need to be aware about the weather forecast. The tour is exposed to the wind which usually is blowing from southwestern direction. This means that the waters close to Harge Uddar and Klåvudden can be very troubled by high waves. The shore is mostly consisting of steep cliffs which make it difficult to come in land. This can only be done in smaller bays. If you are an experienced paddler you nevertheless enjoy the fantastic surging and rockhopping.

Remember: park on the graveled parking spot if starting from Bastedalen. Take some extra clothes with you, which you store in a waterproof bag. Your mobile phone also needs to be stored waterproof. It is always great to have some snacks and something to drink with you. Do not forget to check the weather reports before starting the tour and be ready to change your plans. Be careful regarding winds and waves.

