

October 2011



Celebrate Little Christmas on the Åland Islands!

The traditional Little Christmas is celebrated on Saturday, the day before the first Advent. Many people decorate small Christmas trees under which children can find small gifts. Some families have Little Christmas socks filled with presents hanging by an open fireplace. The local travel operators offer tailor-made weekend packages for November and December, including accommodation in a hotel or in a winter cottage.

Christmas buffets on Åland

Restaurants serve their delicious Christmas buffets in November and December. Guests can enjoy the best traditional Christmas delicacies combined with new exciting tastes.

Visit a traditional Christmas Market on Torget, the town square of Mariehamn, on 5-6 December at 9.00-15.00 o'clock

Enjoy the delightful and warm atmosphere of a Christmas Market and inhale the traditional and modern aromas of Christmas. Here you can find everything you need for Christmas – and much more!

Little Christmas Market at Jan Karlsgården on 26 November at 10.00-15.00

The Little Christmas Market at Jan Karlsgården open-air museum in Sund is the oldest market event on Åland and attracts visitors and market sellers from far and near. There are sales of local handicrafts, home-baked bread, jams, juices, candles and a lot more. You can leave your wishing list to Santa Claus in the main house of the old farmyard.

There is a bus connection to the market from Mariehamn's Bussplan at 9:30. Return at 11:30 from Jan Karlsgården to Mariehamn.

Christmas Buffet Weekends at HavsVidden from 25 November

Hotel HavsVidden lies on the northernmost coast of Åland and offers a fantastic view over the northern Baltic Sea. Here you can enjoy a traditional Christmas dinner buffet and relax by an open fireplace.

Christmas atmosphere on Silverskär island from 18 November until 6 December

On Silverskär you can enjoy a complete Christmas buffet experience. At arrival by boat to Silverskär the guests are welcomed with hot mulled wine and traditional gingerbread biscuits in the old archipelago homestead of Mellangårds. The dinner buffet offers pickled fish delicacies and a selection of the most delicious Christmas dishes from the Åland Islands and Finland. Charming, cosy and relaxing – here you can forget your musts!

Christmas in the Maritime Quarter 17 & 18 December

The local crafts and artisan association arranges the annual Christmas Market amidst the red boat sheds in the Maritime Quarter of Mariehamn's Eastern Harbour, next to SALT, the artisans' co-operative.

Visit www.visitaland.com for more information about Åland and Christmas activities.