



MINI CANAL CRUISE, 2 DAYS

Motala – Söderköping 2026

Day 1

11.30	Dep. Motala	Our cruise begins in Motala. It was Baltzar von Platen who drew up the plans for Motala, known as the “Capital of the Göta Canal”. In 1822 an engineering works, Motala Verkstad, was established here to serve the canal, and is today considered to be the cradle of Swedish industry. The Göta Canal Company, responsible for operating and maintaining the canal, has its head office here. Motala also has a number of interesting museums, including the renowned Motala Motor Museum. We pass Baltzar von Platen’s grave along the canal.
13.00 - 13.45	Borensult	The lock staircase at Borensult is the second longest in the canal. It consists of five connected locks and has a total rise of 15.3 metres. Construction of the locks took three years and was completed in 1825. If you are lucky, you might hear a nightingale singing here!
13.45 - 14.45	Lake Boren	Our ship slowly crosses Lake Boren, which is 73 metres above sea level. The lake connects Borensult and Borensberg.
14.45 - 14.55	Borensberg	The idyllic village of Borensberg is home to a hand-operated lock with a level change of 0.2 metres. Shortly after the lock we see the well-known Göta Hotel, which was built in 1908. Just beyond the hotel there is an octagonal gazebo jutting out over a sharp bend in the canal, known as the “Helmsman’s Horror”.
14.55 - 18.25	Långkanalen (“Long Canal”)	We travel 20 kms through the astonishing Östgöta scenery without passing any locks. Along the way, we pass two aqueducts, eight bridges, Brunneby Manor and Ljung Castle.
15.15	Kungs Norrby, aqueduct	Two aqueducts have been built in the Göta Canal. The aqueduct at Kungs Norrby was built in 1993 to improve access to the national route 34, which we pass over.
18.05	Ljungsbro, aqueduct	The second aqueduct on our journey is located in Ljungsbro and was built in 1970.
18.25	Berg (Heda)	We begin our descent through the 15 locks of the Berg lock system, which takes us 40 metres down towards Lake Roxen. Here, you can stretch your legs by walking between the locks or along the canal to the Vreta Kloster Church and the ruins of the convent. Dating from around 1100, the convent of Vreta was the first nunnery in Sweden. Its importance was later superseded by the convent founded by Saint Bridget (St. Birgitta) in Vadstena. The old convent church at Vreta is one of Sweden’s most interesting, housing many medieval treasures. In the Middle Ages, it served as both a parish and a convent church, and it remains an active parish church to this day. For this reason, it is not always open to visitors.
20.00	Arr. Berg (the basin)	We dock for the night in the harbour basin, which is located between the Oscar and Carl Johan locks. You can take a walk along the canal after dinner or enjoy an evening swim in Lake Roxen below the Carl Johan lock staircase.

Day 2

06.20	Dep. Berg (the basin)	We leave the harbour basin and continue our journey. Take this opportunity to go for an early morning swim in Lake Roxen or to walk alongside the canal while the ship passes through the locks.
06.20 - 07.20	Berg (Carl Johan)	The Carl Johan lock staircase is the longest in the canal, consisting of seven connected locks. The ship is lowered by 18.8 metres from the Berg guest harbour to Lake Roxen. We board the ship again before steering out on the lake.
07.20 - 10.40	Lake Roxen	Lake Roxen, which is located 33 metres above sea level, is home to a rich variety of fish and birdlife.
08.50 - 10.20	<u>Runstorp</u>	Runstorp is a manor house dating from the period of Sweden’s greatness. The current owners, Louise and Eddie Uggla, give us a personal tour of the house, showing us the Gustavian drawing room and the fascinating library, and telling us anecdotes about its history. As Runstorp is not open to the public, this is an exclusive visit.
10.40 - 10.50	Norsholm lock	The lock in Norsholm regulates the water level of Lake Roxen. It is here that the canal crosses the main railway line between Stockholm and Malmö.
12.30 - 13.00	Lake Asplången	Asplången is a long and narrow lake, which is located 27 metres above sea level.
14.15 - 15.30	Carlsborg–Mariehov–Duvkullen	There are eight locks within a distance of around two kilometres. Take this opportunity to stretch your legs!
16.00	Arr. Söderköping	Our cruise ends in the picturesque town of Söderköping. Founded in the early 13th century, it was one of the most important harbour towns in Sweden during the Middle Ages. Kings and queens were crowned here and national meetings were held. Söderköping also has a long history as a spa and is now also renowned for its ice cream parlours.