



MINI CANAL CRUISE, 2 DAYS

Söderköping – Motala 2026

Day 1

11.30	Dep. Söderköping	Our cruise begins 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.
12.30 - 14.00	Duvkullen–Mariehov–Carlsborg	There are eight locks within a distance of around two kilometres. Take this opportunity to stretch your legs!
15.15 - 15.45	Lake Asplången	Asplången is a long and narrow lake, which is located 27 metres above sea level
17.15 - 17.45	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.
17.45 - 21.15	Lake Roxen	Lake Roxen, which is located 33 metres above sea level, is home to a rich variety of fish and birdlife.
18.00 - 19.30	<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
21.15 - 22.15	Berg (Carl Johan)	The Carl Johan lock staircase is the longest in the canal, consisting of seven connected locks. It raises the ship 18.8 metres from Lake Roxen to the Berg guest harbour.
22.15	Arr. Berg (the basin)	We dock for the night in the harbour basin, which is located between the Carl Johan and Oscar 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

07.25	Dep. Berg (the basin)	We leave the harbour basin and continue our ascent through the Berg lock system. 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 Its importance was later superseded by the convent founded by Saint Bridget (St. Birgitta) in Vadstena.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.
09.00	Berg (Heda)	The ship has passed through all 15 locks of the Berg lock system. It is now time to board for departure.
09.00 - 12.30	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, Ljung Castle and Brunneby Manor
09.20	Ljungsbro, aqueduct	Two aqueducts have been built in the Göta Canal. The aqueduct in Ljungsbro was built in 1970.
12.10	Kungs Norrby, aqueduct	The second aqueduct on our journey is located at Kungs Norrby. It was built in 1993 to improve access to the national route 34, which we pass over.
12.30 - 12.40	Borensberg	The idyllic village of Borensberg is home to a hand-operated lock with a level change of 0.2 metres. Shortly before the lock we pass an octagonal gazebo jutting out over the canal in a sharp bend, known as the "Helmsman's Horror". After that we see the well-known Göta Hotel, which was built in 1908.
12.40 - 13.45	Lake Boren	Our ship slowly crosses Lake Boren, which is 73 metres above sea level. The lake connects Borensberg and Borenhult.
13.45 - 14.30	Borenhult	The lock staircase at Borenhult 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!
16.00	Arr. Motala	Our cruise ends 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.