

Cruising Association Baltic Section Rally 2016

The 2016 Baltic Section Rally will take the form of a cruise along the Swedish coast from Ystad to Kalmar via Karlskrona. We shall also call in at some other harbours along the way, so that the longest leg of the cruise will be no more than 33 miles.

The cruise is scheduled to begin at Ystad on Sunday 12 June, and the official end will be in Kalmar on Wednesday 22 June, in time for the Swedish Midsummer holiday the following weekend. However, there is a possibility that if the weather is poor, we might be delayed.

The outline of the cruise is shown below:



The guest harbour at Ystad can be seen at the bottom of the page, and it has plenty of finger pontoons, as well as alongside mooring.

Below is a view of the main square of Ystad. it is an ancient Hanseatic city, with well preserved buildings. There is also a good shopping area and supermarket.



Ystad Gästhamn

From Ystad, we sail round to Simrishamn, a distance of around 28 miles. The harbour entrance is straightforward, and the marina has both finger pontoons and alongside berthing.

The photograph shows the old church in Simrishamn, and to the left you can just make out the System Bolaget sign. The supermarket is just behind this.



Our next port of call will be the small island of Hanö. The harbour is not very large, and if we tie alongside, we may have to raft up, depending on numbers.



From there, we travel to Karlskrona – the entry into the archipelago and round to the guest harbour needs some careful pilotage.

Note – the layout of the pontoons in the yacht harbour has changed, and most charts and pilot books have not yet been updated. The current layout can be seen below:



From Karlskrona, it is not far to the collection of rocks at Utklippan – see below.





Above: the small harbour at Utklippan. We will be spending only one night there.

From Utklippan to Kalmar is around 56 miles, so the intention is to break this leg by stopping for a night in the small harbour at Kristianopel. This has the claim to fame is that it was once on the border between Denmark and Sweden – hence the small church flies both the Swedish and Danish flags.



Kalmar castle



The aim is to be in Kalmar by Wednesday June 22. There is a national holiday which begins on Friday – Midsummer's Day. Most shops will be closed from Friday to Monday, and the harbour likely to be full at the weekend. There should be plenty going on.

This is the official end of the rally, but boats heading up to Stockholm or elsewhere may wish to carry on in company.

CNH October 2015

