

# Annual Conference & Meeting 2017

## Network of Museums in the Baltic

### Mariehamn, Åland September 18th – 20th

The annual autumn conference within the Network of Museums in the Baltic consists of three days: a meeting day, a conference day and an excursion day. Contributions to the conference are given by member-museums as part of the exchange of experiences and competences within the network forming the basis for discussions on actual topics.

## Monday September 18<sup>th</sup>

13.00 Lunch (optional)

### 14.30 Meeting at Ålands Museum

Storagatan 1, 22100 Mariehamn, Åland, Finland. [info@museum.ax](mailto:info@museum.ax)

<http://www.alandsmuseum.ax/en>

### Agenda

- Résumé from the partner museums
- Previous meetings (Board-meeting Tallinn April 2017, Network meeting Vilnius September 2016) – comments and corrections
- New members – welcome & presentation
- The web-site and other communication tools
- Planning for the coming year
- Museum in charge for the coordination in three years - presentation
- Discussion of the next network-meeting; place, time and topic

### 17.00 Guided tour in Mariehamn

Evening free for own activities. Suggestions will be made for common dinner at restaurant.



Tuesday September 19<sup>th</sup>

## Museums as year-round experience; challenges and possibilities

Attracting visitors to Nordic Museums in the cold season is challenging. Still this season offers unique possibilities experiencing new dimensions such as more space and peace, darkness and coldness. These qualities could be developed into programs and events that seem exotic and exclusive to foreign visitors during a season when travelling and accommodation is at its cheapest. Also winter-weekends means good opportunities offering special activities for families and other local visitors.

Though there are some obstacles to overcome. Open air museums face certain difficulties due to lack of warm locations. The infrastructure in low-season is another problem, since many service-points in smaller communities close down from autumn until spring. Looking outside the box, actively cooperating with partners in other sectors of society could mean more active museums wintertime. This in its turn creating new dynamic in the nearby society as well as contributing to social, economic and cultural development.

At the conference contributions concerning these issues are welcome. Please share your good practices, learnt lessons, plans and visions! Papers/ contributions are to be submitted when registering to the conference via the registration link <https://goo.gl/forms/qstsNAmpZK6KSRvI3> no later than September 4th

To prepare for the conference and start to share, we'll use the already existing Web-exhibition "Four seasons in the Baltic" <http://balticmuseums.ning.com/page/web-exhibition> to tell about each museum during all seasons. Please, feel free to add stories and pictures. Need technical support/administrative log-in? Contact network-coordinator Ulrika Mebus [ulrika.mebus@gotlandsmuseum.se](mailto:ulrika.mebus@gotlandsmuseum.se)

9.00 Conference at Ålands Museum

12.00 Lunch

14.00 Conference continues

We will have breaks for coffee, of course!

17.00 Guided tour of the Åland Museum of Cultural History and the Åland Islands Art Museum

18.00 Dinner at Indigo <http://www.indigo.ax/english>



Wednesday September 20<sup>th</sup>

## Excursion to Kastelholm Castle and the open-air museum of Jan Karlsgården

9.00 -13.45

Lunch at Smakbyn, Kastelholm

Drop off in the harbour to be able to catch the ferry in the afternoon.

**Kastelholm Castle** is a well-preserved castle ruin. The castle has a long and varied history. Construction on what was originally a fortress, the only medieval fortress on Åland, began in the late 1300s. At the time of the castle's construction, Åland was an independent administrative district with Kastelholm as its centre. The Swedish royal family of Vasa showed great interest in the castle. Both Gustav Vasa and Duke John spent time here. Moreover, for a few months Erik XIV was imprisoned here along with his wife Karin Månsdotter.

Kastelholm continued to be Åland's administrative centre up until 1634. During this time the castle was rebuilt and extended many times. Following a fire in 1619, the very last royal governor on Åland, Stellan Otto Mörner, attempted to rebuild the castle as a more representative building. In 1745 yet another fire almost completely destroyed the castle which was then left to slowly fall into ruin. Since the late 1800s the castle has undergone several extensive restoration projects, the most recent taking place in the 1990s. Today the castle is a museum.

<http://www.kastelholm.ax/en/historia>

**Jan Karlsgården open air museum** is full of Åland traditions and gives you an idea of how an Åland farm might have been during 1800 Century. Activities are also organized here both summer and winter.

<http://www.kastelholm.ax/en/2012/12/jan-karlsgardens-friluftsmuseum/>



## Practicalities

The conference is free of charge. Each participant books and pays her/his travel and accommodation.

### Registration to the meeting

Register at <https://goo.gl/forms/qstsNAmpZK6KSRvI3>

### Travelling

Åland is accessible by ferry or by plane.

Nextjet [www.nextjet.com](http://www.nextjet.com) and Finnair [www.finnair.com](http://www.finnair.com) are flying to Mariehamn

Viking Line [www.vikingline.com](http://www.vikingline.com) and Tallink Silja [www.tallink.com](http://www.tallink.com) are sailing to Mariehamn from Tallinn (Tallink), Helsinki, Turku and Stockholm

### Accommodation

For best hotel offers in all price-categories please visit

[www.booking.com](http://www.booking.com) or [www.hotels.com](http://www.hotels.com)

As always, you'll find more information at the web-page

[www.baltmus.net](http://www.baltmus.net)

## See you in Mariehamn soon!



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Gotlands Museum

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