World Class Industrial heritage.

The world's longest ropeway facilities in Mensträsk & Örträs



Norsjö Municipality has on the initiative of the World's Longest Ropeway Association through Leader Skellefteå Älvdal, completed the project "New Future of the World longest ropeway".

The aim of the project was to produce this sales prospectus and the project has also included a safety inspection of the plant.

The project has been funded by the European Agricultural Fund for rural development. The go-ahead from the Swedish Agriculture Agency was granted in January 2018 and the project will end on 31 March 2019.









Text: Lars Westerlund, Westerlunds Reportagebyrå AB

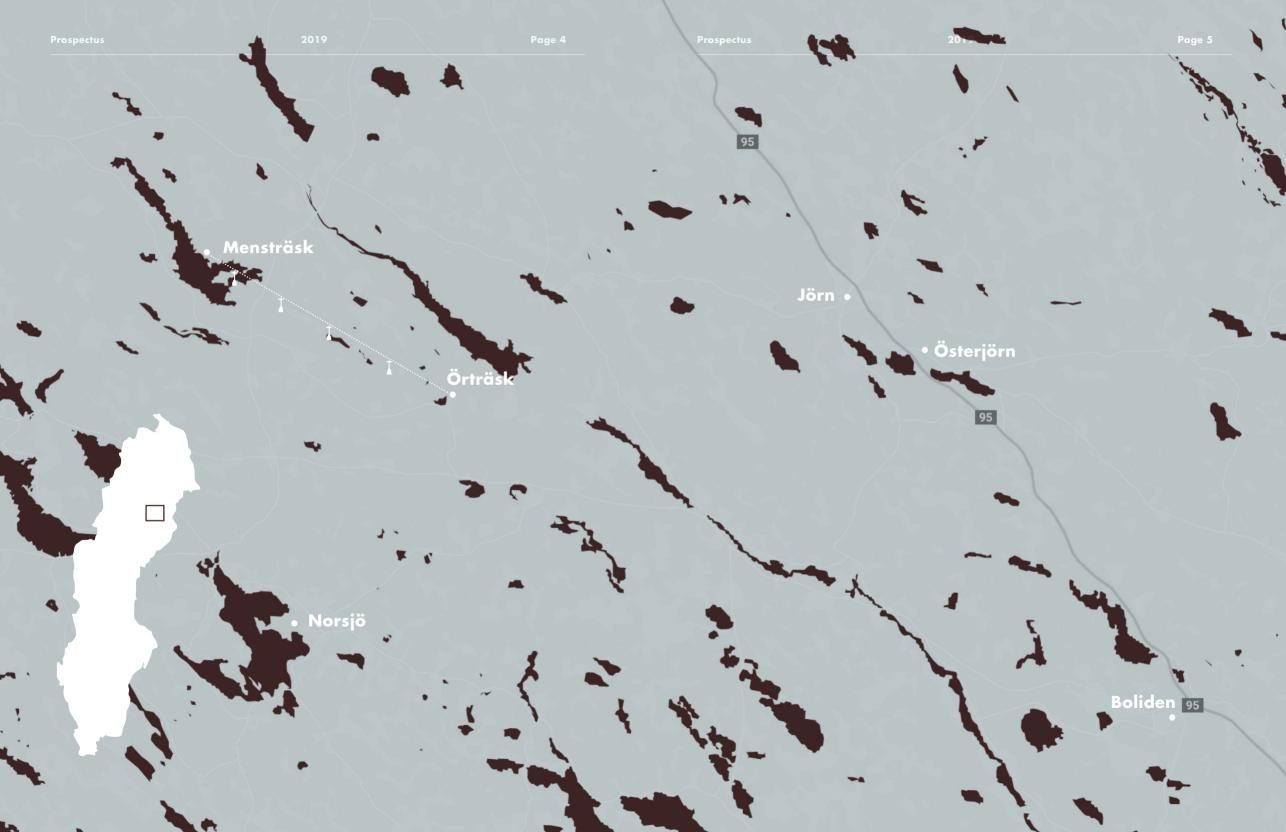
Photo: Världens Längsta Linbaneförening, Linab i Norsjö AB, Roger Albertsson, Boliden,

Nordströms Linbanor, Jesper Stenmark och Fotograf Ricke.

Layout: WDO

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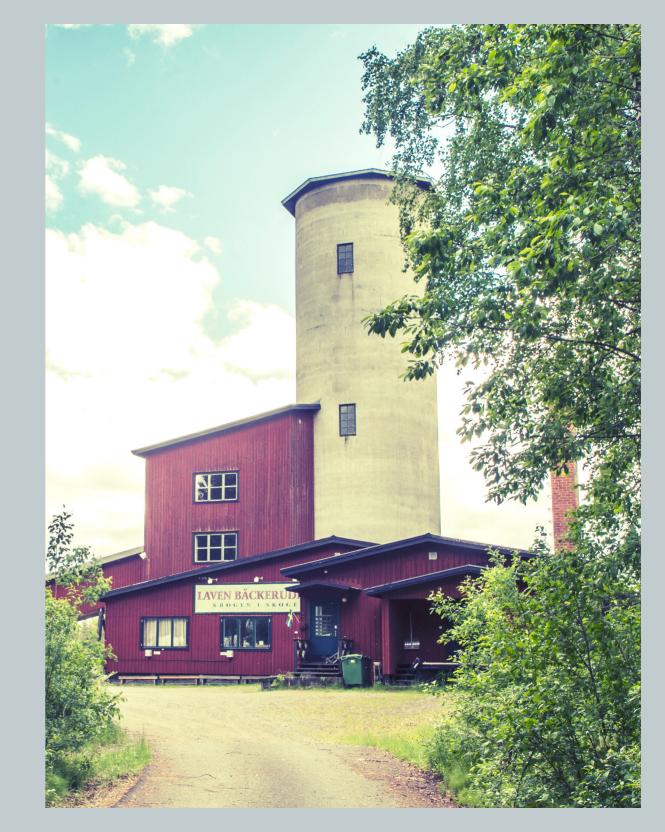
Here is the world's longest ropeway, Tavern in the woods and the Giant Ghoati

The world's longest ropeway, previously used for tourist traffic, is located on a 13.6 kilometer stretch between the villages Mensträsk and Örträsk, both of which are in the municipality of Norsjö, Västerbotten County, Sweden.

The municipality of Norsjö has more than 4,000 inhabitants, half of which live in central Norsjö. Mensträsk is about 25 kilometres from Norsjö; about 20 minutes by car. The nearest towns, Skellefteå and Lycksele, are about 90 kilometres away; about an hour by car.

The nearest airports are in Skellefteå and in Lycksele and one is also available in Arvidsjaur which is 70 kilometres from Mensträsk. The nearest railway station is in Jörn, 36 kilometres from Mensträsk. In addition, there is a train station in Bastuträsk 43 kilometers from Mensträsk.

www.norsjo.se



Time for change on the ropeway!

After running The World Tourist Attraction, the Worlds longest ropeway for 28 years it is now tim for a change of ownership.

We have, together with The World's longest ropeway association, with "blood, sweat and tears" built this facility to honor those who built the ropeway and to give our villages a chance to survive.

It is a delight to see the ropeway posts, silent memorials that looks like sculptures, straight-backed and stylish in the landscape. We are proud, or even boastful that we have been part of this "over land" trip. An astounding development of tourism in the region.

We usually describe ourselves as a warm and beautiful winter coat, where

Marie-Louise has been the button, holding everything together and Bosse, the one who likes to be seen and heard - preferably everywhere.

Now we retire to a well-deserved pension to give fresh blood the opportunity to pick up where we leave off. We hope that the buyer of the plant desires to carry on the tradition but with their own vision as a guiding star. We have driven the establishment our way and realize that there are huge opportunities to develop it into something a lot bigger and cooler. There is always a risk that as locals we become blind to possibilities.

The passenger traffic on the cable car has been one of great international success with hundreds of thousands of visitors. It probably requires a large investment to cope with the imposed security requirements in order to continue with it, but a cost calculation would provide answers.

We are convinced that even without the passenger ropeway, as an industrial heritage it can be a very big attraction. In addition, there are unique facilities both in Mensträsk and Örträsk, which can be used for events of various kinds. The imagination is the limit.

It will be exciting to show the facility to you or to tell you how we work and about the visions we have had which someone else can now further develop or find brand new ones just waiting to be realized.



"We are proud, even boastful that we got to be a part of this over land trip."

1. De Charieroure Eko

Bosse Biström Linab i Norsjö AB

Marie-Louise Eklund Linab i Norsjö AB

A record construction during the midst of a fiery war.



In Kristineberg Boliden Company had started a new mine in 1940. Now they had to find the best solution to carry the ore to Boliden, from where it could be transported by rail to the smelter at Rönnskär. The solution was a 96-kilometer-long ropeway built at record speed.

When the mine in Kristineberg was opened the ore was transported by truck first to Boliden for processing until World War II put a stop to road traffic. The lack of fuel and rubber made it very difficult.

Closure to the outside world placed high demands on domestic production of metals. The transport between Kristineberg and Boliden simply had to be solved. There were two suggestions. One was to build a railroad from Bastuträsk, via Norsjö, to Kristineberg. The second was the construction of a ropeway between Boliden and Kristineberg.







Floating among the tree peaks.

On July 10, 1989, two years after the closure of the world's longest ropeway, a 13.6-kilometer-long rail link between Mensträsk and Örträsk opened, which was included in the Guinness Records book as "The World's Longest Passenger Line for Personnel Traffic".

The preserved section of the ropeway went between the former operating stations in Mensträsk and Örträsk. The tours ran 28 cable cars moving over treetops at a rate of eleven kilometers per hour, which meant a journey time of around two hours. During the trip, travelers could bring along a picnic basket and enjoy a magnificent meal.

As of the year 2000, the plant has been run and owned by the family company "Linab i Norsjö AB". Over the years, hundreds of thousands of visitors have been riding the ropeway and German

tourists especially have been interested in the attraction.

In 2016, when the popular American Express Essentials web site presented the coolest ropeways in the world, the World's Largest Line between Mensträsk and Örträsk came third in Europe and ranked 18 in the world.

The same year Linab chose to stop tourist traffic, and now it's time for the next era of this industrial heritage to be known worldwide.



"Over the years, hundreds of thousands of visitors have been riding the ropeway and German tourists especially have been interested in the attraction."





The ravages of time.

In the summer of 2018, the consultant company DEKRA conducted an inspection of the ropeway's concrete piles. It showed that extensive repairs will be required for the track to be re-approved for passenger traffic.

Specialists from DEKRA have examined 13 of 73 lane posts by inspection on site "from top to toe" on the ropeway between Mensträsk and Örträsk. The lane poles investigated must all be refurbished for passenger traffic to be able to continue. The assessment is that all 73 posts must be handled in different ways. On parts of the route, repair work is especially expensive because the posts are in the lake or marshland.

According to DEKRA, the damage has arisen because the concrete was not adapted to the environment it was in and caused shortcomings in the embodiment. All reinforcement in the posts is smooth, which places higher demands on end hooks than a reinforcement with combs. This is the cause of the strong vertical cracks found in the posts. The concrete was nor adapted to the cold environment and the posts therefore have major frost damage where the concrete lost its cohesion.



To gain knowledge about the possibility of starting passenger traffic will be the next step for one new owner to make a cost estimate of how much a renovation would cost. If you choose not to do this, the ropeway is after all, a great industrial heritage which attracts many interested.



"Necessary repairs currently have no cost estimate but the costs is expected to be very high."

Tavern in the woods.

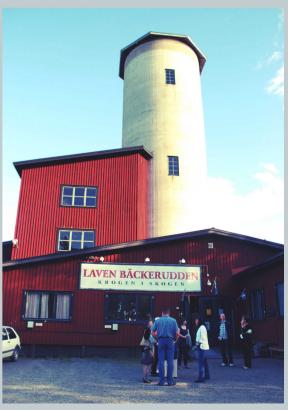
In Mensträsk there is a tavern in the woods. Today it acts as a restaurant serving good food, pub and dance hall. There is a fully equipped modern kitchen and seating for 350 people including a maximum of 200 dining guests and a conference facility that seats 50 people.

The head frame served the Mensträsk mine which was closed in 1949 because the ore body was below the Mensträsk lake and water began to leak into the mine. In addition, the ore retained such a low metal content that mining was not profitable.

In this renovated architecturally different mine building of 1500 square meters, located in an enchanting setting on Bäckerudden next to the lake, over the years lots of conferences, parties and weddings have been held. Most famous are jam evenings, where local musicians have taken the stage.



"The tavern in the forest is a unique facility where the guests in historical environment can experience with tranquility fantasic views over the Mensträsk lake."



Five cottages with many beds.

1. Cottage Markan

In the 1940s this cabin was moved from the abandoned mine in Laver in Norrhotten, to become a canteen on Bäckerudden. "Markan" served as a dining room for the people who worked in the Mensträsk mine. Today the cottage is remodeled and accommodates 10 guests with beds distributed in 4 bedrooms, large nice living room with sofa bed and TV, kitchen and WC. The kitchen is equipped with household utensils, stove with oven, refrigerator, coffee maker and microwave. In the basement there is a relaxation area with WC, showers and a wood burning sauna.





2. Cottage Fogden 6 beds

This cabin was also moved from the abandoned mine in Laver and worked from the beginning as the mine foreman's residence. The cottage has 6 beds in 1 bedroom as well as an alcove, large family room with TV, kitchen and WC with shower. The well-stocked kitchen is equipped with kitchen utensils, cookware oven, refrigerator, coffee maker as well as microwave oven.

3. Cottage Spelhuset 4 beds

This cabin worked during the "old" ropeways time as a driving license, i.e. all the equipment required to drive the ropeway was found here. Today it is a nice little cabin with 4 beds spread in 1-bedroom, small family room / kitchen and large WC with shower. The mini kitchen is equipped with kitchen utensils, hotplates and fridge.



4. Cottage Jörnsstugan 8 beds

A nice garden cabin with 8 beds in 3 bedrooms, large living room/kitchen and WC with shower. The mini kitchen is equipped with kitchen utensils, hotplates, fridge, coffee maker and microwave. The cottage offers a great view of the Mensträsk lake.

5. Cottage Örträskstugan 4 beds

A cottage located just 10 meters from Mensträsk lake, 4 beds in living room / bedroom and WC with shower. The mini kitchen is equipped with kitchen utensils, hotplates and fridge. From the beginning, this cabin served as a reception for guests who took the ropeway from Örträsk. The cottage was moved in the mid 1990's to Mensträsk where it was rebuilt



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Giant ghoatismith the wilderness.

In the village Örträsk a ghoati was built according to the village's history as an ancient Sami camp. The ghoati, built in the early 1990s, is ten meters high, 13 meters in diameter and holds about 70 people. A perfect setting for a wok wilderness dinner where guests sit on the reindeer'. skins around the big fireplace.

Both Malå and Maskaure Sámi villages are forest Sámi, which means that the reindeer is in the woodland throughout the year. Both Sámi villages had a small settlement in Örträsk, where they could stay overnight. Outside the village there are still reindeer fences. In that they collect the reindeer, partly for the labeling of the newborn calves of the year, but also later in the autumn to choose the reindeers which would go to slaughter.

In Örträsk they have built a copy of the head frame and the house where the ore was sorted; that was originally built in the 1920s. Café Skrädhuset is on the upper floor, furnished as a 1940s environment and has a simpler kitchen. On the ground floor there are toilets and showers.

In the copy of the head frame, in the building next door, there is a cinema where the history of the ropeway is told.

The chairs in the cinema come from the Saga Cinema in Adak where they were used in the 1940s.

Downstairs in that building there is a ropeway museum where you can see, among other things, how the joints that tie up the carrying cables looked like, but also how in the 1940s they managed to cast the huge concrete masts to the ropeway. There is also a display showing the cross section of the mining of Örträsk during mining.

In the industrial area of Örträsk there is also an office and a workshop where the cable cars and other equipment were repaired.





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What is included in the purchase?

The world's longest ropeway

Industrial heritage The World's longest ropeway on the 13.6 km long stretch of Mensträsk-Örträsk.

In Mensträsk

- The tavern in the woods is 1,500 square meters adapted for accessibility, with seating for 350 people including a maximum of 200 dining guests and a conference facility that seats 50 people.
- In the kitchen of 50 square meters there are: 2 coolers, 1 large cold room, 2 freezers, convection oven, large cooker hob, microwave oven, ordinary stove, cooking table, coffee maker for large household and automatic dishwasher.
- Five cabins with 32 beds.
- Sauna.
- 3 wood-fired swimming pools, one for 16-18 people and two for 6-8 bathers.
- Large barbecue area of 100 square meters under roof.

- All furniture, furnishings, kitchen utensils, equipment etc. included.
- The property Åsen 1:16, on 44 hectares, and several servitudes renewed in 2005.
- Own water own well.
- Drain: 3-chamber well in three cottages, septic tanks in two cottages.
- Geothermal heating direct acting electricity in all cottages.
- Internet connection previously via Tele 2.
- Large parking and lot and good opportunities for a bus to turn around.

Costs (2016)

Electricity: 45 300 SEK.

Drain collection, sewerage etc.: 9 500 SEK.

In Örträsk

- The wilderness ghoati in Örträsk is ten meters high, and 100 square meters that can accommodate 72 people.
- Café Skrädhuset with a dining room of 55 square meters which has been adapted for accessibility and a kitchen of 20 square meters. The equipment in the kitchen: fridge, freezer, stove, microwave, high-speed dishwasher, coffee maker for large-scale households and currently a disconnected cold room.
- Small head frame with the ropeway museum of 46 square meters, a cinema of 20 square meters.
- Workshop of 230 square meters plus 130 square meters of living space.
- Shed of 500 square meters.
- Office of 40 square meters.
- All furniture, furnishings, kitchen utensils, equipment etc. included.
- The property Örträsk Vidmarken: 44, on just over 12 hectares, and several servitudes renewed in 2005.
- Municipal water and sewage.

- Summer water to the wilderness ghoati.
- Direct electricity.
- Large parking lot and good opportunities for a bus to turn around.

Costs (2016)

Electricity: 27,800 SEK, including operation of the ropeway engine.

Drain collection, water, sewerage etc.: 9,500 SEK

Internet connection previously via Tele 2. All furniture, furnishings, utensils, equipment etc. included.

Turnover for Linab i Norsjö AB: Information on Alla Bolag from 2008. https://www.allabolag.se/5562859826/bokslut



What ideas can a new owner come up with?



Hunting trips in cooperation with local hunters.



Guided fishingtours and boat outings.



Midnight sun activities and adventure course.



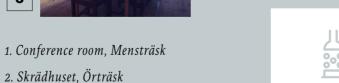
Nature camping, caravan parks.



Guided tours around mining and ropeway



Ice fishing and angling contests.



Restaurant-raft with sauna.



Virtual ropeway trip.



Accommodation and rotating café in the headframe.





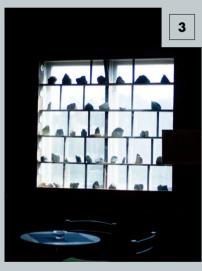




- 1. Conference room, Mensträsk
- 3. Wilderness ghoati, Örträsk
- 4. BBQ area, Mensträsk
- 5. Restaurant, Mensträsk
- 6. Conference room, Mensträsk









- 1. Fireplace, Mensträsk
- 2. Bar, Mensträsk
- 3. Window, Mensträsk
- 4. Ropeway
- 5. Cinema, Örträsk



Are you interested?

Contact us for more information or for a tour of the facilities.

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