



## A CENTRE FOR EVENTS & SPORTS

*Filipstad has a long tradition of hosting a variety of events that take place throughout the different seasons. Sports competitions, exhibitions and markets have made the municipality of Filipstad known to participants and visitors from Sweden and abroad.*

### A living heritage

Like many places in Sweden, Filipstad arranges various events connected with the history, people, business and enterprise, and local conditions of the surrounding area. What is special about this area is our industrial history within mining and iron processing. The iron industry played a very important role in shaping the local community. The many challenges faced have nurtured entrepreneurship and creativity for generations. The present generation in Filipstad have very strong feelings for their community and its history.

Clubs and societies, the public, the council and businesses work together year after year to ensure that events taking place here are a success!

### From cattle market in the mineral kingdom...


In the olden days, animals such as oxen, horses and chickens were sold on our markets. Today, reindeer sausage, honey, art and power tools share the space every autumn at Oxhälja, one of Sweden's biggest outdoor markets.

Our national day festivities are also reported to be the biggest in the country! The day is celebrated with a lively carnival, where people dance in the streets, a skiing heat on streets laid with artificial snow and an Awards ceremony. Another highlight of the summer is the Filibjur-festival. This includes the popular Sweden-America days, when the memory of the world famous industrial inventor, John Ericsson, is honoured with an impressive armoured boat battle. The Filibjur week also includes interesting excursions to mines and museums, a number of sports competitions on dry land and the Ferlindoppet swimming race on lake Daglösen.

### ...to public sports at national level

Filipstad has developed many sporting talents over the years. The sports culture is well established and seen as a priority, with an emphasis on youth. The municipality has invested heavily for many years in various sports facilities. Here you will find one of Värmland's best tennis courts, an indoor ice-hockey rink, an artificially frozen ice bandy pitch and a recently completed skiing stadium, with well developed track systems and lanes of various difficulty for both slalom and cross country skiers. At Damshöjden you can also go for a ride on a dog sledge.

**Filipstad's municipality and local businesses in close co-operation.**



Kalhyttan's Skiing Stadium is also well suited for summer activities such as pole walking, terrain running, mountain-biking and orienteering. Both elite sportsmen and happy amateurs can enjoy leisure activities in Filipstad. Practice long-distance skating and apply to take part in Johnny Nilsson's Marathon skating race, go swimming, horse riding, play golf, exercise karate or why not try out a tough paintball competition?

For centuries, Filipstad has successfully arranged various sports competitions at national level, primarily within skiing and motor sports.

### Gems and unique discoveries

Europe's largest mineral collection exhibition is arranged here, since a few centuries back, at the beginning of August every year. The exhibition is an event well worth seeing, and attracts experts and enthusiasts from all over the world, who are fascinated by the variety and beauty of the stones and, in some cases, their magic.

Several hundred minerals can be viewed from exhibitors from Germany, Poland, Russia, Åland, Norway and Sweden, who show their latest creations and discoveries. Even though there are 3,000 different minerals known in the world, new ones are occasionally discovered!

Bergsskolan in Filipstad keeps a unique collection of all the world's minerals, which is frequently shown to the public.

### Walking in the tracks of the Ice Age

The Filipstad area offers you many opportunities for recreation and adventure. There are many lakes and rivers suited for boat or canoe trips. In some of the fast-moving rapids you can even find your own outdoor jacuzzi. At your own risk and with plenty of common sense of course!

Filipstad's municipality invests heavily in healthcare. A successful project is 'the Health Path', set up after an Irish model, in a joint effort between Filipstad's municipality, local businesses, the county council, the social insurance office and the Heart-Lung fund. The health path is a pleasant walking trail in varied environment, filled with information and sightseeing opportunities, where participants achieve points per kilometre completed. The initiative inspires young and elderly people, fit or unfit, to exercise regularly.

Breathing capacity can also be improved upon during 'Headagen', which takes place on Brattforsheden at the beginning of October. A knowledgeable guide will take you on a quiz walk where you will learn more about the ice age and historical ways of life. Have a break half way with coffee or barbeque, test your muscles in a wooden gym or use the opportunity to study some of the moor's rare flora and fauna.

There's something for everyone in Filipstad, in summer or winter, slow pace or high adventure, team sports or individual training, or in a club devoted to fishing, accordion playing, ceramics or photography... Whether you are young or old, you can combine your everyday life with fun and meaningful leisure activities in Filipstad.



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