

Lund

Skane County · Sweden

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



Overview

Lund is one of Sweden's oldest cities, founded around the year 990 as a Viking-era trading settlement. Its compact medieval core has narrow cobbled streets, low timber houses, and a huge Romanesque cathedral that has anchored the skyline for nearly 900 years. Today the city runs on its university, founded in 1666 — more than 40,000 students share the streets with roughly 98,000 residents, giving Lund a young, informal energy that bigger Swedish cities lack.

It suits a traveler who wants a slower, walkable counterpoint to nearby Malmö or Copenhagen: almost everything worth seeing sits within a 20-minute walk, and a day or two is enough to see the highlights. Alongside the old town, two major modern research facilities, MAX IV and the European Spallation Source, give Lund a genuine reputation in science as well as history.

When to visit

Summer (June to August) is Lund's best season: warm days, long daylight, and outdoor cafés on every square. Spring and autumn are cooler but pleasant for walking; winters are cold, damp, and dark, with only a few hours of daylight around midwinter.

Time a visit for **Kulturnatten** (Culture Night) each September, when museums, churches, and university buildings across the city open late and free.

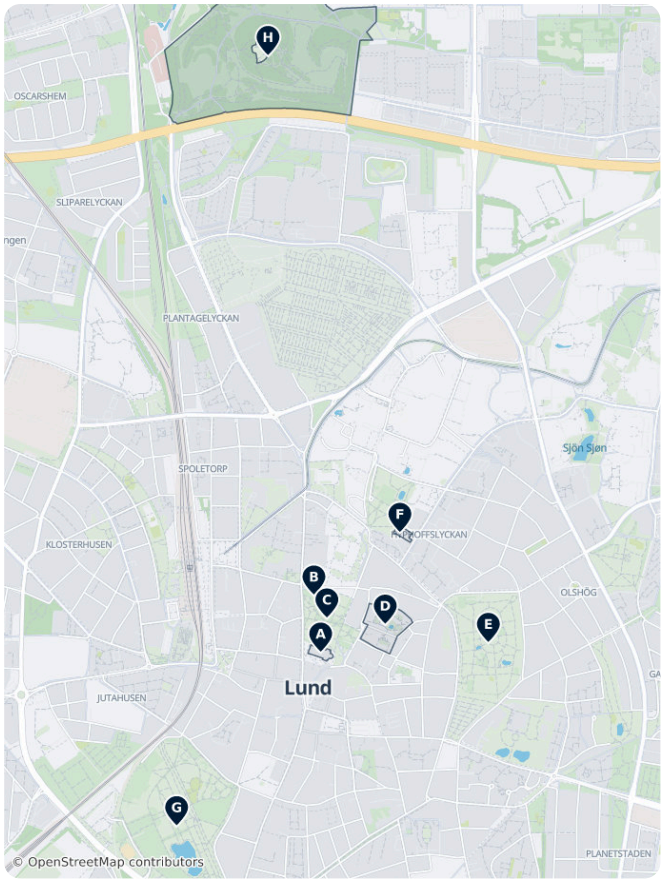
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Poor Poor for sightseeing	2° / 7° Feels like -4°	0° / -7°	13 rainy days · Dry air
February	Poor Poor for sightseeing	3° / 7° Feels like -4°	-1° / -7°	Dry air
March	Poor Poor for sightseeing	5° / 9° Feels like -1°	0° / -4°	Dry air
April	Fair Fair for cycling	9° / 14° Feels like 4°	3° / -1°	Dry air
May	Good Good for cycling	14° / 19° Feels like 10°	8° / 4°	Dry air
June	Good Good for cycling	18° / 22° Feels like 15°	12° / 9°	Dry air
July	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 25°	15° / 12°	13 rainy days
August	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 25°	15° / 12°	14 rainy days
September	Great Great for cycling	17° / 21° Feels like 14°	12° / 8°	Dry air
October	Fair Fair for cycling	12° / 16° Feels like 7°	8° / 4°	14 rainy days · Dry air
November	Poor Poor for sightseeing	7° / 12° Feels like 2°	5° / -1°	14 rainy days · Dry air
December	Poor Poor for sightseeing	4° / 8° Feels like -2°	1° / -5°	14 rainy days · Dry air

Best months: July, August

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Round midsummer, Lund gets nearly 18 hours of daylight; pack warm layers if visiting in winter.

Top sights



A Lund Cathedral has anchored Lund's skyline since the 12th century. Look for the astronomical clock inside, which still performs a short chiming display at set hours.

B Lund University Main Building is the ceremonial heart of Lund University, one of Scandinavia's oldest, founded in 1666. Its columned facade and rooftop sphinxes make it one of the city's most photographed buildings.

Between the cathedral and the university, C Lundagård is a leafy park that has served as a student meeting point for centuries, especially lively around exam results and graduation season.

D Kulturen is an open-air museum of historic buildings gathered from across the region — the world's second-oldest open-air museum after Skansen in Stockholm.

Owned and run by the university, E Botaniska trädgården is free to enter and holds around 7,000 plant species, with greenhouses recreating nine different climate zones.

F Skissernas museum is an unusual museum built entirely around artists' sketches and studies for public artworks, with pieces by Henry Moore, Diego Rivera, and Henri Matisse among the collection.

For a break from sightseeing, G Stadsparken is a century-old city park with sculptures and a small maze, good for a picnic.

H Sankt Hans backar is a hilltop park built on a former dump, now the city's largest green space, with views out over northern Lund.

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What to experience

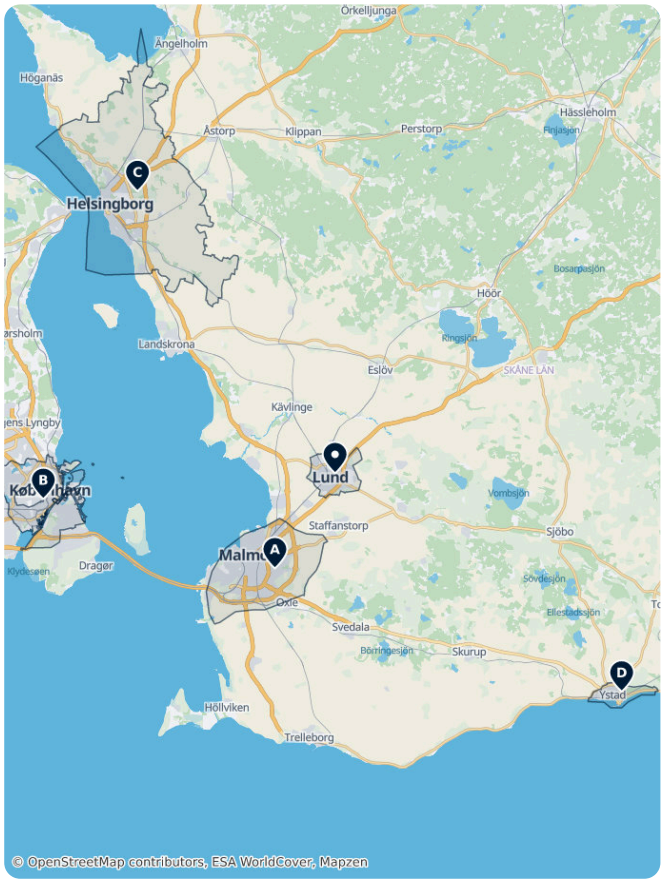
Lund's student life shapes a lot of what's worth doing beyond sightseeing.

- Watch Lund Cathedral's astronomical clock strike the hour — a small procession of carved figures performs to a chiming melody at set times.
- Rent a bike and ride out along the flat farmland paths east of the city — cycling is how most locals, especially students, get around.
- If the timing lines up, join Lundakarnevalen, the student-run carnival held roughly every four years, when the streets fill with parades, floats, and open-air parties.
- Drop into one of the university's student "nations" on a pub night — most welcome visitors and offer a cheap, informal taste of Lund's famous student culture.

Day trips

A short trip out of Lund's compact center opens up the rest of Skåne — and Denmark is closer than it looks.

- A Malmö — about 12 minutes by train. Sweden's third-largest city has a livelier restaurant and nightlife scene, the Turning Torso skyscraper, and the sandy Ribersborg beach.
- B Copenhagen — about 50 minutes by direct train across the Öresund Bridge. A full day covers Nyhavn, Tivoli Gardens, and the old town.
- C Helsingborg — about 30 minutes by train. A harbor town with a hilltop keep and ferries across the sound to Helsingør's Kronborg Castle in Denmark.
- D Ystad and the Österlen coast — a little over an hour by train, about an hour by car. Half-timbered streets, seaside art galleries, and the Iron Age stone-ship monument at Ales stenar make this a good full-day trip.



Where to explore

Skåne's other main towns are all within easy reach of Lund by train.

Malmö is the regional hub, a short hop away with more nightlife and dining options. Helsingborg sits on the narrowest point of the Öresund strait, facing Denmark. To the south, Ystad is the gateway to the rural Österlen coast.

Getting there

- **By air**: Copenhagen Airport (CPH), just across the Öresund strait in Denmark, is the main international gateway — direct Öresundståg trains reach Lund in about 35 minutes, with no transfer needed. Malmö Airport (MMX) is smaller, mostly serving domestic and a few regional European routes, about 35 minutes from Lund by airport coach or taxi.
- **By train**: Lund Central sits on the main line between Stockholm/Gothenburg and Malmö/Copenhagen, with frequent X2000 and Öresundståg services. Malmö is about 12 minutes away, Copenhagen about 50 minutes. Book via SJ or Skånetrafiken.
- **By bus**: Long-distance coaches stop at Lund, mainly linking to Malmö, Gothenburg, and Stockholm — a cheaper but slower alternative to the train.

Getting around

- **Public transit**: City and regional buses are run by Skånetrafiken; buy tickets through the Skånetrafiken app before boarding, since drivers do not sell tickets or take cash.
- **On foot / cycling**: Lund's center is flat and compact, and most sights are within a 20-minute walk. Cycling is extremely common, especially among students — rental bikes are available, and dedicated bike lanes cover most streets.
- **Taxi**: Metered taxis and ride-hailing apps operate but are rarely needed within the compact center.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The historic center is flat, compact, and easy to explore on foot — most sights are within a 20-minute walk of each other.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

Cycling is how most residents and students get around; the city is flat with extensive dedicated bike lanes.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: No — Lund's center is compact, flat, and easy on foot or bike; a car adds parking hassle without saving time. Rent one only to explore rural Skåne or the Österlen coast independently.
- **Parking**: Paid parking covers most of the center (metered zones and a few multi-story garages); pay via a parking app or a machine. Free street parking is easier to find outside the ring road.
- **Restrictions**: Some cobbled streets in the old town near the cathedral are pedestrian-only or closed to through traffic.

Food & drink

Lund's food scene centers on fika — the daily coffee-and-pastry break — and the university's many student cafés keep prices lower than in nearby Malmö or Copenhagen.

For a sit-down meal, look around Mårtenstorget, the city's produce and food-hall square, or the streets just south of Lund Cathedral for a cluster of small restaurants and bakeries. Skåne is known for its cinnamon buns and dark rye bread — worth trying at any traditional konditori (bakery-café) in town.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Open Sandwich · Smörgås
Single-slice bread topped with a range of ingredients — cheese, egg, shrimp, or cured meat — a common Swedish lunch.

Daily Lunch Special · Dagens lunch
A set weekday lunch including a hot main dish, salad bar, bread, and coffee for around 120–160 SEK — the best value hot meal.

DINNER

Meatballs · Köttbullar
Small pork-and-beef meatballs served with cream sauce, mashed potato, and lingonberry jam — Sweden's most iconic dish.

Cured Salmon · Gravlax
Salmon cured with salt, sugar, and dill, sliced thin and served with mustard sauce on rye bread or as a starter.

Pickled Herring · Sill
Marinated herring in preparations ranging from mustard to matjes, a staple of Swedish festive tables and smörgåsbord.

Potato Gratin with Sprats · Janssons frestelse
A baked gratin of potato, onion, cream, and pickled sprats — a classic Swedish comfort dish, especially at Christmas.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Cinnamon Bun · Kanelbulle
Soft, spiced bun flavoured with cinnamon and cardamom, the centrepiece of Swedish fika culture.

DRINKS

Aquavit · Akvavit
Scandinavian spirit distilled from grain or potato and flavoured with caraway or dill, traditionally drunk at celebrations.

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Safety & health

Lund is very safe for travelers, with low rates of violent crime. The main risks are pickpocketing in crowds during big events like Kulturnatten, and bike theft — always lock your bike, even for short stops.

History

Lund was founded around the year 990, making it one of Sweden's oldest towns — though for most of its history it belonged to Denmark, not Sweden. Danish kings built Lund Cathedral as the seat of the archbishop for all of Scandinavia; its high altar was consecrated in 1145.

Skåne only became Swedish territory in 1658, after the Treaty of Roskilde ended a war between the two countries. To help integrate the region, the crown founded Lund University in 1666. Lund University Main Building itself is newer, completed in 1882, but it has been the university's symbolic center ever since.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Sweden at a glance:

CURRENCY
SEK kr

EMERGENCY
112

ELECTRICITY



Type C / Type F
230 V · 50 Hz

LANGUAGES
Swedish

TAP WATER
Safe to drink

Lund Essentials

Lund, Sweden's oldest academic center, is defined by its 12th-century Romanesque cathedral and the prestigious Lund University. This selection highlights the city's medieval heritage through the Kungshuset and the world's second-oldest open-air museum, Kulturen. Visitors can explore the 19th-century University Main Building and the Museum of Sketches, which houses a unique collection of public art drafts. Green spaces like the central Lundagård park and the expansive Botanical Garden offer a tranquil contrast to the historic stone architecture of the city's academic heart.





Ⓐ Lund Cathedral

Lund Cathedral is a cathedral of the Lutheran Church of Sweden in Lund, Scania, Sweden.

Lund (55.70406, 13.19368)

lundsdomkyrka.se



Ⓑ Kulturen

Kulturen is an open air museum in Lund in Lund, Sweden. Occupying two blocks in central Lund, Kulturen is Sweden's and the world's second...

Tegnérsplatsen, 225 94 Lund, Sweden (55.70494, 13.19728)

Tu–Su 10:00–16:00, 10:00–20:00

kulturen.com, +46 46 35 04 00



C Botaniska trädgården

Botaniska trädgården is a botanical garden in central Lund, Sweden, open to the public daily without charge.

Lund, Sweden (55.70436, 13.20302)



D Lundagård

Lundagård is a park located in Lund, Sweden. It is situated between the Lund University Main Building in the North, and Lund Cathedral in...

(Unnamed Road), Lund, Sweden (55.70513, 13.19402)



E Lund University Main Building

The main building of the Lund University was designed by architect Helgo Zettervall and inaugurated by King Oscar II in 1882.

Paradisgatan, 222 22 Lund, Sweden (55.70585, 13.19330)



F The Museum of Sketches

The Museum of Sketches for Public Art is an art museum at Lund University in Sweden, dedicated to the collection and display of sketches...

Finngatan 2, 223 62 Lund (55.70782, 13.19809)

Tu–Su 11:00–17:00, 11:00–19:00, 12:00–17:00

skissernasmuseum.se, +46 46 222 72 83



G All Saints Church, Lund

All Saints Church is a church in Lund, Sweden.

4 Allhelgona kyrkogata, Lund 22362, Sweden
(55.70960, 13.19412)

H Lunds universitetsbibliotek

Established in 1666, this research library is housed in a prominent brick building designed by Peter Boisen in 1907. It serves as a legal deposit library, preserving a copy of every book and document printed in Sweden.

12 Helgonabacken, Lund 22362, Sweden
(55.70907, 13.19735)

Mo–Fr	12:00–17:00
Sa	12:00–15:00



I Kungshuset

Kungshuset, the "King's House", is a building in Lund in Sweden, built by the Danish king Frederick II between 1578 and 1584 and originally...

(Unnamed Road), Lund, Sweden (55.70527, 13.19402)



J Stadsparken, Lund

Stadsparken is a park located in central Lund. It is located within the historic Lund city area in Lund municipality in Skåne.

Lund, Sweden (55.69860, 13.18564)

K Saluhallen

A traditional indoor food hall featuring local Scanian delicacies, specialty boutiques, and diverse eateries. It serves as a central hub for regional produce and gourmet ingredients near the Mårtenstorget market square.

(55.70170, 13.19447)

Mo–Fr	10:00–18:00
Sa	10:00–15:00

Museums & Galleries

Lund's cultural landscape features a range of institutions from archaeological repositories to contemporary art spaces. Kulturen, the world's second oldest open-air museum, spans two city blocks with historic buildings. The Museum of Sketches focuses uniquely on the creative process behind public art, while the Historical Museum houses Sweden's second largest archaeological collection, including extensive Scanian artifacts. For modern perspectives, Krognoshuset hosts exhibitions in a medieval setting, and Lunds Konsthall presents international contemporary works in a mid-century building on Mårtenstorget.





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Tu–Su 11:00–17:00, 11:00–19:00, 12:00–17:00

skissernasmuseum.se, +46 46 222 72 83

C Historical Museum

Sweden's second largest archaeological museum. Rich collection of Scanian finds, coins and sacral art.

Krafts torg 1, Lund, SE (55.70427, 13.19505)

historiskamuseet.lu.se/historiska-musee... , +46 46 2227944

D House of Art Lund

A venue for contemporary art unrestricted by genre or origin. Puts on awe-inspiring temporary exhibitions.

Mårtenstorget 3c, Lund, SE (55.70201, 13.19527)

Th–Su	13:00–17:00

krognoshuset.se, +46 46 35 52 95

E Lunds Konsthall

Contemporary art gallery located on Mårtenstorget. Designed by architect Klas Anshelm and opened in 1957, it hosts rotating exhibitions featuring both Swedish and international artists across various media.

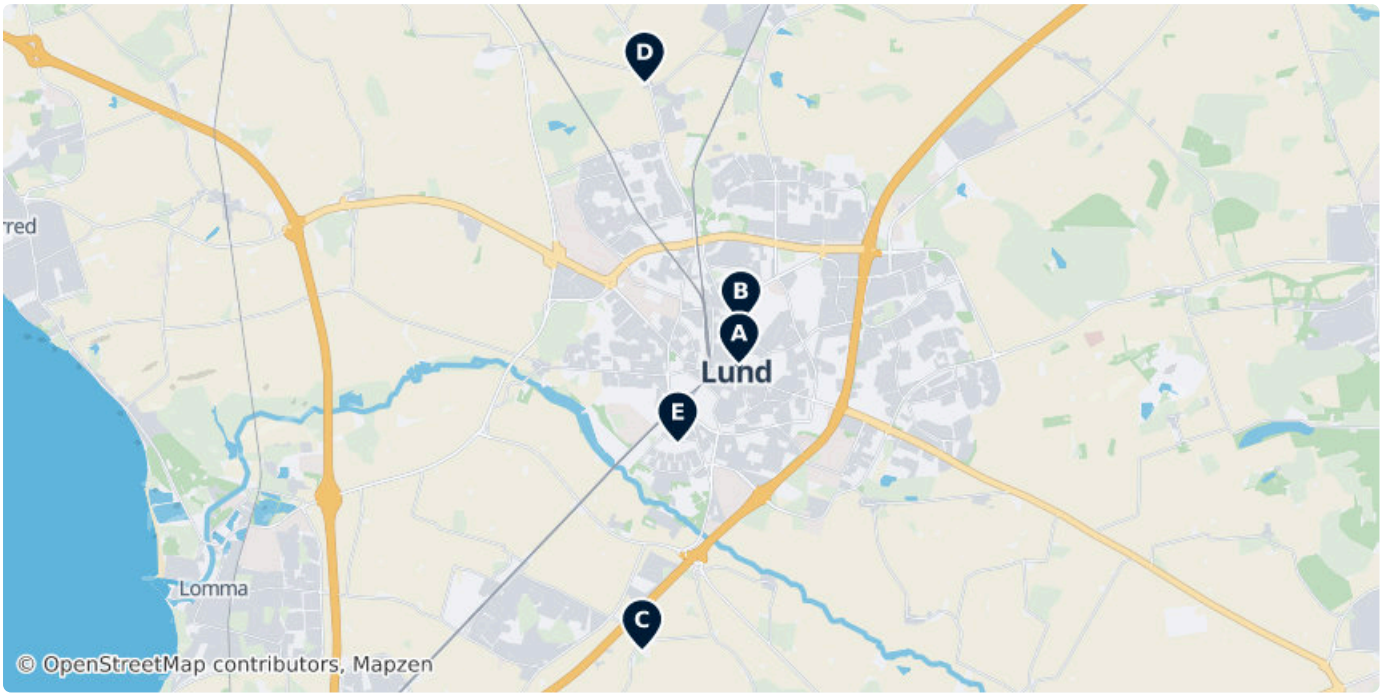
Mårtenstorget 3b, Lund, SE (55.70218, 13.19561)

Mo	Closed
Tu–We	12:00–17:00
Th	12:00–20:00
Fr–Su	12:00–17:00

lundskonsthall.se

Historic Churches & Cathedrals

Lund's religious landscape is anchored by its 12th-century Romanesque Cathedral, famous for its astronomical clock and extensive crypt. The collection spans several eras, including the medieval murals of Vallkärra and the 19th-century Neo-Gothic spires of All Saints Church. Beyond the city center, sites like Uppåkra stand near significant Iron Age settlements, while Helgeandskyrkan showcases 20th-century Brutalist design, illustrating the architectural evolution of sacred spaces in the Skåne region.





A Lund Cathedral

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Lund (55.70406, 13.19368)

lundsdomkyrka.se



B All Saints Church, Lund

All Saints Church is a church in Lund, Sweden.

4 Allhelgona kyrkogata, Lund 22362, Sweden (55.70960, 13.19412)



C Uppåkra kyrka

Built in 1864 in Neo-Classical style, this church stands adjacent to the Uppåkra archaeological site, a major Iron Age center. It replaced a medieval structure that previously occupied the grounds.

(Unnamed Road), Sweden (55.66635, 13.17102)



D Vallkärra kyrka

Dating from the late 12th century, this Romanesque building contains medieval murals and was significantly restored in the late 19th century by architect Helgo Zettervall.

(55.74102, 13.17159)

E Helgeandskyrkan

A 1968 modernist church designed by Sten Samuelson. Built in a Brutalist style with thick brick walls, it represents a significant example of 20th-century sacred architecture in Lund.

Nordanväg, Lund 22228, Sweden (55.69369, 13.17934)

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