

Kiruna
Luleå
SAS City Portrait



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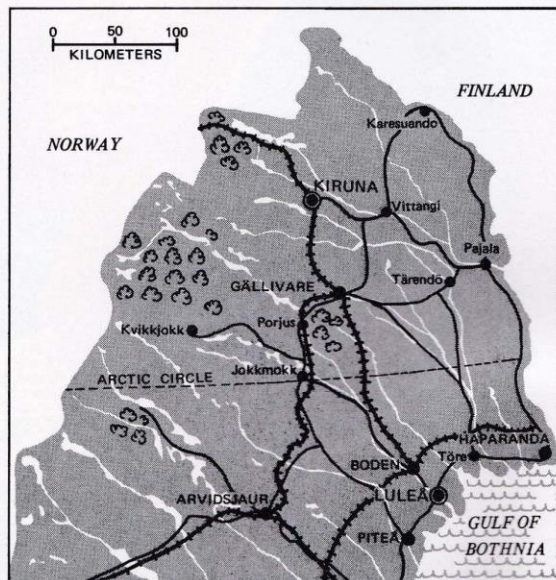
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This is the 3rd edition of Kiruna, Luleå City Portrait printed in 35,000 copies – with information based on facts available in October 1979. Main changes from 2nd edition: One hotel and one restaurant deleted in Kiruna section.



Front cover: Lapp girl in national dress.

Introduction

Kiruna and Luleå are the major towns of northern Sweden, located in an area of the country variously referred to as: the Top of Europe, the World's Most Civilized Wilderness, Lapland and, by the Swedes themselves, Nordkalotten (Hat of the North).

But, no matter what you call this northernmost corner of Sweden, there is no denying that it is a unique region of mountains and lakes, Lapps and reindeer, fish-rich rivers, wild life, glaciers, bathing beaches . . . and, in summer, the Midnight Sun.

There are also six of Sweden's national parks in this region, including Sarek, the largest area of unspoiled virgin country in the whole of Europe and the mountainous Abisko with its rich and varied vegetation. And millions of acres of woodland.

Yet these exotic vacation attractions are not the reasons for the existence of these towns at such northerly latitudes – no, Kiruna was built because of the rich iron ore in the ground below it which has helped Sweden to become an economically-strong nation, while 350-year-old Luleå is a market town with a thriving steel industry.

Your arrival

There are daily SAS flights from Stockholm to Luleå and Kiruna. As you arrive by domestic flight, there is no custom control at either airport. Please ensure, soon after arrival, that your return reservation is in order. Contact the SAS offices at the airports or call the town offices – in Luleå (tel. (0920) 108 00) and Kiruna (tel. (0980) 140 81).

Climate and clothing

Spring and summer in northern Sweden can be extremely warm – and it is not unusual for temperatures to reach 89°F (32°C). It can also be chilly and rainy – so a warm pullover for the evening and a light raincoat could be useful items to pack. In mid-summer there are also mosquitoes but you can buy a repellent cream locally which prevents their becoming a nuisance. Fall is a fascinating time, usually warm, with the trees changing into unbelievable rustic colors.

Winter is cold – very cold with temperatures dropping to –13°F (–25°C) and a warm overcoat and fur hat are necessary as well as good winter boots. But it is a dry cold and as long as you are properly dressed you will certainly not suffer any discomfort.

Temperatures are:

Luleå

	Daily max.		Daily min.	
	F	C	F	C
January	32	0	-11	-24
February	36	2	-8	-22
March	41	5	-2	-19
April	46	8	14	-10
May	59	15	30	-1
June	73	23	39	4
July	81	27	46	8
August	72	22	43	6
September	63	17	34	1
October	48	9	19	-7
November	39	4	5	-15
December	34	1	-4	-20

Kiruna

	Daily max.		Daily min.	
	F	C	F	C
January	28	-2	-8	-22
February	32	0	-11	-24
March	34	1	-4	-20
April	41	5	9	-13
May	52	11	23	-5
June	68	20	36	2
July	72	22	43	6
August	66	19	37	3
September	54	12	30	-1
October	45	7	18	-8
November	32	0	5	-15
December	30	-1	-11	-24

Dry-cleaning and laundry facilities are excellent. Ask your hotel hall porter to advise you.

Restaurants and cuisine

Eating out at the Top of Europe can be a culinary experience. Not only are there many regional dishes worth trying, but the restaurants themselves are often memorable.

You can start your gourmet meal with "löjrom", the orange-colored roe of the Bleak fish . . . a real Swedish delicacy served with sour cream and onions. Many visitors swear they return again and again in order to sample this dish which is unique to Sweden – it is eaten with toast or the Lappish flat-bread.

For the main course, we suggest a reindeer steak, or barbecued reindeer meat, and a dessert of waffles with fresh cream and cloudberry ripened by the Midnight Sun. If you prefer fish for the main dish as well, ask for the salmon-trout . . . boiled or grilled.

Naturally, other "southern" Swedish specialties are also on the menu, including the "smorgåsbord" – that table-long spread of hot and cold dishes to which you can return as many times as you wish.

For a cheap, substantial and very tasty meal, order Swedish pea soup . . . usually strengthened with boiled ham . . . to which it is a pleasant custom to drink Swedish punch.

And talking of drinks, all brands of international liquors are available in northern Sweden but they tend to be rather expensive.



Tipping

As in the rest of Sweden, in Kiruna or Luleå there is usually a service charge of 15 % added to all restaurant bills. More and more it is becoming a custom among Swedes not to tip extra if such a charge is added. However, if you feel the waiter or waitress warrants a little incentive, 10–15 % would be considered quite adequate.

In the restaurant's cloakroom you will generally be charged a fixed fee – if not, 1.50 kr. is sufficient. Taxi drivers expect a minimum of 10 % of the metered fare.

Shopping and souvenir hunting

Though you are probably searching for the exquisite Lappish articles, do not ignore the fine handicrafts produced by other local artists which include textiles, carvings and silverware.

Products worth looking for: reindeer-hide shoes, fur hats, birch bark items, baskets made from roots of birch tree, Lapp dolls, woven blankets, reindeer horn jewelry and ornaments, pewterware, hand-knitted ties and hats. For a "way out" gift and a permanent reminder of your vacation – you can even buy a traditional Lapp costume . . . though a Lapp hat with bright red pompon is easier to pack.

The sauna

No-one leaves the Top of Europe without participating, at least once, in the almost ritual "sauna" ceremony. They have been taking saunas in this part of the world for some 2,000 years, so follow the advice of the Swedes . . . there are all types of saunas, the luxury ones in hotels and the simpler variety in log cabin and lakeside retreat. Contrary to what many people think, public saunas are not mixed! Here is what you do: leave your clothes and your worries in the dressing room. Have a shower before you go into the sauna where the temperature is usually between 80–100 degrees Centigrade and a humidity of about 2 ounces per pound of air. When you first enter, your skin will start to warm up . . . after four minutes it will be 40 degrees (104 F) and your heart will be beating faster. In the sauna the blood circulation increases. Here is a simple test to check if you have the right temperature: blow on your arm, if the spot feels hot it is too dry in the sauna and you need more humidity.

When you leave the sauna – take a warm shower, gradually changing the temperature to as cold as you can take it. If you are in good physical condition (no heart complaints!) you can plunge into a lake or river or in the snow. Rest, drink a soft drink and eat something salty – then take another sauna!

The Arctic Circle

The Arctic Circle, or Polar Circle as it is also called, is located 68 miles (110 km) north of Luleå and 92 miles (148 km) south of Kiruna – therefore you are almost certain to cross it when visiting this area of the country. When driving from Luleå to Kiruna make sure you call by fascinating Jokkmokk Museum to obtain a Polar Circle certificate . . . as well as admiring the fabulous collection of antique Lappish articles.

When you arrive at the Arctic Circle – marked at the side of the road by huge signs – remember to jump over this imaginary line; it's comparable to being ducked at the Equator!

Public holidays and special events

January 1	New Year's Day.
January 6	Epiphany.
March/April	Good Friday, Easter Monday.
April 30	Walpurgis Night. (The arrival of Spring is celebrated with bonfires and dancing.)
May 1	International Labor Day.
May	Ascension Day.
May/June	Whitsun.
June	Midsummer's Eve and Day. (A week-end of celebrations in typical Swedish style with dancing in national costumes around flower-bedecked "May" poles.)
November	All Saints' Day.
December 13	St. Lucia Festival. (A unique Swedish occasion when many communities choose a "Queen of Light", who, wearing a crown of lighted candles, leads an evening procession.)
December 24	Christmas Eve.
December 25	Christmas Day.
December 26	Boxing Day.



Kiruna

Kiruna is probably the most unusual town in the world . . .

Its location, 92 miles (148 km) north of the Arctic Circle, makes it unique. For two months during the summer, this is the town of the Midnight Sun, the sun shining night and day – and during the winter there is a period of total darkness when street lamps are lit continuously and the Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis) can be seen.

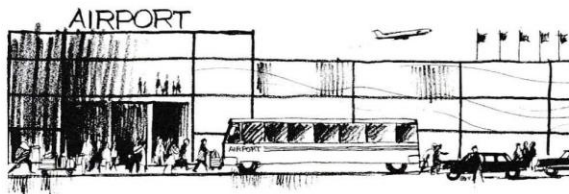
Though it has only 32,000 inhabitants, Kiruna covers 20,000 square kilometers (4 inhabitants per sq. mile) with Kebnekaise, Sweden's highest mountain, glaciers, rivers and brown bears, within its boundaries. It can thus safely claim – which it does – of being one of the largest towns in area in the world.

Yet, at the turn of the century, there were less than 300 people living in the community! What transformed this hamlet into one of Sweden's most important towns? The answer – iron ore. Rich veins of iron ore discovered below the town started to be mined in earnest in the early 1900s. Today Kiruna has the biggest underground mine in the world – so big, in fact, that a bus can drive to the mine face, there are 312 miles of roads, 60 miles of electric railway lines and 5 restaurants for the 4,500 employees. Every day 25–30 trains carry iron ore from Kiruna to the Norwegian port of Narvik.

But Kiruna is not only a mining town, it is also a center for scientific research. Scientists from all over the world visit the Kiruna Geophysical Institute to study the Northern Lights and other phenomena – and also to Esrange where there is a rocket range for the study of noctilucent clouds and the Aurora Borealis. There is also a scientific station for glacial research near the Kebnekaise Mountain and a research establishment for natural sciences at Abisko.

Three languages are spoken in the town – Finnish, Lapp and, of course, Swedish. In fact, 10% of the population are Lapps, with some 700 of them still earning most of their income from reindeer.

An intriguing town. Most of its citizens enjoy the highest wages in Sweden and the social welfare facilities are probably the most modern in the world . . . yet you can still see the colorfully-dressed Lapps in their traditional costumes attending a wedding or anniversary party. The modern lines of the Town Hall sharply contrast with the unspoiled countryside surrounding Kiruna,



an area of virgin lands, fish-rich streams and magnificent highland scenery.

Kiruna is the center of what the Swedes call "The World's Most Civilized Wilderness" . . . an area of Scandinavia where you can one day step into the 21st century and the next fish in a lake which has never seen an angler, or discover a landscape unchanged for thousands of years . . .

Hotels

All year round it is advisable to reserve your accommodation in advance. The 112-room Ferrum Hotel is of international first class standard – but the other hotels, though Swedishly-clean and well run, are of a somewhat more modest category.

Hotel Ferrum (C6)
1 Köpmangatan.
Tel. (0980) 186 00.

Hotel Kebne (B6)
4 Mangigatan.
Tel. (0980) 105 02.

Järnvägshotellet (B5)
near Railway Station.
Tel. (0980) 120 50.

Kiruna Samegård (A5)
14 Brytaregatan.
Tel. (0980) 170 29.

Restaurants

Hotel Ferrum (C6)
1 Köpmangatan.
Hotel Dining Room, Dance Restaurant, Cafeteria *Ferriten* (self-service), *Mommas Kro* (pub-style).

Drop In (E6)
26 Mangigatan.

Arran (D5)
Kupolen.

And for lunches during the day:

Domus Restaurant (D6)
Corner Mangigatan and Foreningsgatan.

Greta Bar (L6)
Industrial area.

There is also a cafeteria at the airport.

Sights and excursions

SIGHTS

During the summer, a number of interesting sightseeing tours are arranged for visitors to Kiruna – including a Midnight Sun coach tour to Kiirunavaara during the period June 14 to July 18.

Kiirunavaara Underground Mine. The primary reason for the existence of Kiruna, the world's largest underground mine,

offers fascinating sightseeing. Since 1957 the shares in the LKAB mining company have been held by the Swedish government (96%) and Gränges AB. During the summer, tours are arranged to LKAB's special tourist mine. For the rest of the year, it is not so easy to view the mine – but it is still possible to arrange for visits for groups by telephoning the Information Department, LKAB, tel. (0980) 120 00 (well in advance, of course).

It is not a hot and dusty tour of these modern mines . . . in fact your bus will take you almost to the entrance of the special mine where LKAB personnel demonstrate how they extract the iron ore using the latest equipment. Special trucks designed for the Kiruna mines and built in Kiruna are now exported all over the world.

Statistically the figures are most impressive – the mine produces more than 20 million tons of ore per year. Employs nearly 9,000 people. Sells the ore mainly to West Germany, Belgium, Luxembourg and Great Britain, and exports it from its own harbor facilities in Narvik, Norway, and Luleå.

The iron ore veins at Kiirunavaara are the richest . . . and biggest . . . to be found anywhere in the world.

Times or visits to the mine vary slightly but during the period June 8 to August 20 generally they are at 10.45 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Saturday, and 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Sunday. But check with the LKAB as previously mentioned. Please note children under 10 are not admitted to the mine.

Kiruna Church (F6). It was in 1912 that the young mining village of Kiruna was given its first church – a gift from LKAB mining company to the Jukkasjärvi community. Designed by architect Gustav Wickman in the form of a Lapp tent, the church not only has a unique shape but it is beautifully decorated and stands in the center of the town. Famous Swedish artist Prince Eugen was responsible for the altar mural, the symbolic statues around the church are the work of artist Christian Eriksson and the ornamental ironwork at the entrance was created by Ossian Elgström. Writer Albert Engström also contributed to the church by composing an inscription for one of the bells in the bell-tower.

Kiruna Town Hall (D8). Voted in 1964 as Sweden's most beautiful official building, the Town Hall was also awarded the Shalin Prize by the Swedish Architects' Association. The "see-through" tower is constructed from cast-iron. Many Swedish artists contributed to the decoration of the building – note

(cont'd on page 13)






Code numbers in the Kiruna section of this booklet refer to the above map.

Thus (C6) is located where lines drawn from "C" and "6" cross each other.

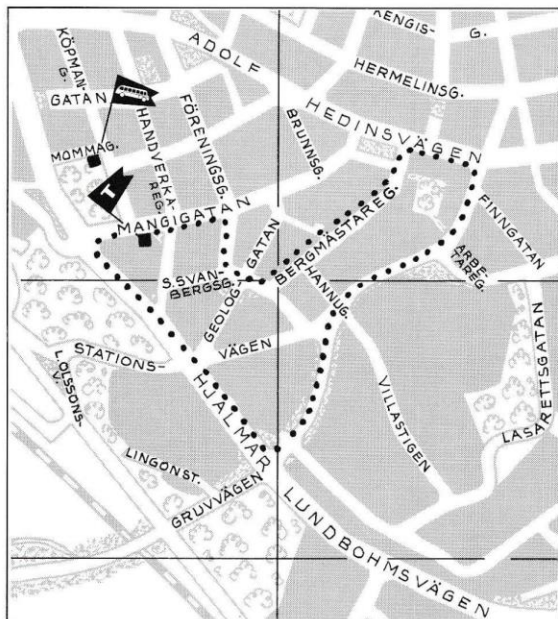
Interesting sights in Kiruna

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (F6) Kiruna Church. | (A10) LKAB District Office. |
| (D8) Kiruna Town Hall. | (C6) Sculpture "Talking Signs". |
| (A5) Kiruna Samegård. | |

Useful addresses

-  **SAS Ticket Office:** Kiruna Airport (off map), tel. (0980) 140 81. Open hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
-  **Tourist Information Office (RESO):** 12 Magnigatan (C6), tel. (0980) 186 60. Open hours: August–May: Mondays–Fridays 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays closed. June–July: Mondays–Saturdays 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sundays 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.
-  **Air Terminal:** Hotel Ferrum (C6).

Distance from city center to airport: 5½ miles (9 km).



One hour's walk

Start at the Tourist Information Office opposite Hotel Ferrum. Walk down to Hjalmar Lundbohmsvägen. In the corner to your right in the small park area is the famous sculpture "Talking Signs". In front of you is the park Järnvägsparken, overlooking Lake Luossajärvi. Turn left along Hjalmar Lundbohmsvägen and you will soon pass the Town Hall on your right. Continue to the next road to the left, Gruvvägen, which connects the mining area with the town center. In a few minutes you will have Kiruna Church to your right. Continue along Gruvvägen and take the next street to your left. You are now on Adolf Hedinsvägen. The swimming hall is to your left and the sports hall to your right. Kiruna has swimmers and handball players of championship standards. Turn left again and walk along Bergmästargatan to Föreningsgatan and the main Post Office. Here you will also find Carl Wennberg's souvenir shop. Turn right and presently you will see Centralskolan, Kiruna's most modern school. You are now at Magnigatan and down to your left you will see the Tourist Information Office from where you started.

(cont'd from page 9)

the maindoor-handle in the shape of a Lappish witchdoctor's drum and the "Sun drum" tapestry.

There are guided visits in the period June 8 to August 20, Monday to Friday at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturdays, and Sundays at 2 p.m. only. Visits at other times may be arranged by contacting the Town Hall guide tel. (0980) 186 60.

Kiruna Samegård (Kiruna Lapp Center), 14 Brytaregatan (A5). The Lapps (or Samer as they call themselves) gave up their nomadic way of life many years ago and most of them now live in villages and apartments like the rest of the Swedes. But they have not lost their special character – and some Lapps still follow the annual movement of their reindeer herds, in the mountains in spring and summer for calving and down to the forest and coastal grazing grounds in late autumn and winter. They also maintain many of their colorful traditions – still producing their exquisite handicraft, wearing their Lapp costumes, though mostly on special occasions, and keeping old customs in connection with the branding and slaughter of the reindeer.

For more information about the Lapps and their culture, visit the Kiruna Samegård between June 30 and August 20 (11 a.m. to 8 p.m.) to see an exhibition of art and handicrafts – plus a film.

EXCURSIONS

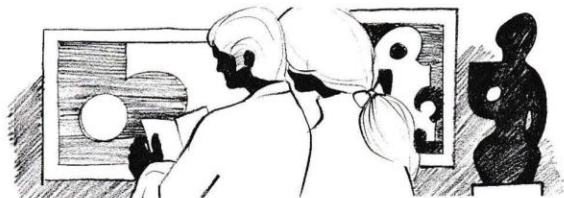
Kiirunavaara. From the top of Kiirunavaara, when the weather is fine, there is a fantastic panoramic view of the mountain ranges to the west – a favorite viewing spot to watch the Midnight Sun "kiss" the horizon and rise again without setting.

There is a daily tour from June 14 to July 18, departure Kiruna Travel Bureau at 11.40 p.m. and returning at 12.40 a.m. Tickets must be reserved before 8 p.m. – but be sure to book early for the number of seats is limited.

Jukkasjärvi. About 11 miles (18 km) from the city center, Jukkasjärvi was originally a market place for doing business with the Lapps. In olden days the town was inhabited by fishermen, hunters and handicraft workers. Today the open-air museum and the church are main reasons for visitors and Kiruna citizens to visit the village.

The church was originally built in 1607 as a small chapel, being extended in the 1700s – but perhaps it will be the more recent altar mural painted in 1958 by Professor Bror Hjorth which will remain in your memory. The unusual and colorful mural illustrates the history of the community in a unique way.

Open from June 1 to August 31, the open-air museum (hembygdsgård) is a collection of old wooden buildings from the early days of Jukkasjärvi. There is an excellent ethnographical collection with an interesting Lapp section showing costumes, musical instruments and sledges. There is also a section tracing the history of the people living in the nearby Tornedal valley. Guides speaking several languages are available. Hot dishes and coffee are served in the small restaurant. The



museum is open from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. but the collection can be seen only from noon to 6 p.m.

If you're lucky enough to be visiting Kiruna at Midsummer time be sure to take part in the celebrations at the open-air museum which include a Lapp Fair, old-time dancing and a Midnight Grill.

At the beginning of August, there is also a traditional market at Jukkasjärvi where artwork and handicraft are sold at an auction – followed by a dance. Ask the Tourist Information Office for more details.

Nikkaluokta. An interesting day's outing from Kiruna is a visit to the Lapp town of Nikkaluokta – the gateway to Kebnekaise, Sweden's highest mountain. If you have time, overnight in one of the newly-built four-bedded wooden lodges (contact Nikkaluokta Tourist Office, tel. (0980) 550 15) – and the next day enjoy a trip in a boat steered by a Lapp. You can also ramble along trails to Kebnekaise or the Vistas valley. Daily sight-seeing coach June 21 to August 10. Departure 9.15 a.m. bus station.

Björkliden. Outdoor enthusiasts will find Björkliden a rewarding goal – in summer and winter. The village lies in an area of outstanding natural beauty, with carpets of mountain flowers in the spring and summer and a white wonderland in the winter. At Björkliden there is the Hotel Fjället (tel. (0980) 410 50) – open February 14 to May 27 and June 7 to September 18 – as well as 50 self-catering cabins for hire.

Abisko. The gateway to the mountains. From Abisko there are a number of marked trails for one-day rambles and for the veteran hikers there is the famous King's Trail (Kungleden). Abisko National Park is aglow with mountain flowers and a paradise for the ornithologist. Train from Kiruna to Abisko "tourist station". Lunch included in package price.

If you wish to overnight, the Abisko Tourist Station offers 200 beds with hot and cold water in all rooms, plus pool and sauna in the cellar.

Riksgränsen. There is still snow here at the beginning of July – so it is possible to ski by day in a bikini and at midnight by the light of the Midnight Sun.

Or perhaps you'll prefer to rent a canoe and paddle along the Vassijaur, or go climbing among the peaks of Sjutopp.

The Laplandia Sporthotell at Riksgränsen is well-known throughout Scandinavia. It offers 220 beds, hot and cold water in all rooms, good restaurant, bar and sauna.

Narvik. There are one-day return train trips to Narvik every day during the summer – with coach sightseeing in the Norwegian port. The return trip takes 12 hours including sight-seeing and lunch in Narvik. This journey along the world's most northern railway for tourists gives you an opportunity to view some of Scandinavia's most dramatic scenery. The railway also follows the 44 miles' length of Lake Torne-Träsk and on the Norwegian side slices through inaccessible country, the mountainsides dropping almost vertically to the blue fjords below. Departure from Kiruna (June 9 to July 7) at 7 a.m., arrival at Narvik 10.43 a.m. Departure from Narvik 3.30 p.m., arrival at Kiruna 7.03 p.m.

Entertainment and night life

All year round the Hotel Ferrum is a meeting place for the young and young-at-heart with dancing six times per week in one of the restaurants.

During the summer, Tuesday is a fun evening with performances starting at 7 p.m. in Folkets Park – where, in addition to a band, singing group or performer, there are also dancing, bingo, competitions etc.

Naturally, during the summer you will want to experience the eery sensation of seeing the sun shine at Midnight (see "Sights" Kiirunavaara) – while in the winter you may be fortunate to see the equally-strange Northern Lights.

Shopping

Kiruna's shops are open Mondays–Fridays from 9.30 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Saturdays 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Here is a selection:

Department stores

Domus (D6)
Corner Magnigatan and
Föreningsgatan.

Tempo (D6)
4 Föreningsgatan.

Handicrafts and souvenirs

Kiruna Sameslöjd (C6)
Mommagatan.

Carl Wennberg (E5)
2 Bergmästargatan.

Jewelry

Westerlund Guld & Ur (D5)
10 Föreningsgatan.

Glass and ceramics

City Glas & Porslin (D5)
Kupolen.

Business hours

Banks are open Monday to Friday from 9.30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday closed. The Länssparkbanken at 19A Föreningsgatan is open from 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The **Post Office** at 1 Föreningsgatan (tel. (0980) 100 55) is open from Monday to Friday (9 a.m. to 6 p.m.). Saturday or day before a holiday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Transportation

For a taxi telephone (0980) 120 20. If you wish to rent a car, Hertz (tel. (0980) 155 55) and Kiruna Biluthyrning (tel. (0980) 129 22) can help you.

There are frequent bus services to all the nearby villages and towns, the bus terminal (tel. (0980) 141 40) being located near Hjalmar Lundbohmsvägen.

Sports

Swimming. Should you be staying in Kiruna with day-excursions already arranged, in the summer you'll appreciate the chance to visit the local swimming baths. This is an indoor pool at 10 Bergmästaregatan, open all year round, Monday to Thursday 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Canoeing. Kiruna Canoe Center is located at the Open-Air Museum (Hembygdsgården) at Jukkasjärvi (tel. (0980) 210 37). Here you can rent the Canadian-type "Indian" canoes with paddles and life-jackets.

Hiking. Hiking – or backpacking – is the most popular pastime in the summer at the Top of Europe. There are many scenic walks. The Swedish Touring Club (STF) has cabins and Lapp-type huts located along the famous King's Trail (Kungsleden), which stretches from Abisko to Nikkaluokta, and other hiking routes. Remember to choose your equipment carefully if you're planning such a vacation. Good boots, extra clothes, food, foot powder for weary feet, rainproof clothing . . . you cannot just decide to go walking in the Swedish valleys and mountains . . . it must be a well-planned arrangement.

Fishing. Tourists can buy fishing permits under exactly the same conditions as Kiruna inhabitants, for all lakes are leased by the Kiruna Association for the Promotion of Hunting and Fishing. You obtain your permit from SJ Travel Agent, Reso Travel Agent, Länsparbanken and at the Post Office in Kiruna for the waters along the mountain hiking routes. The true angler will want to visit a Swedish fishing camp – check with the Reso Travel Agency (0980/186 60) about the camp at Lake Rastoljaure which can only be reached by seaplane. This is the country's northernmost fishing lake, 65 miles north of Kiruna . . . a paradise for anglers. Here you can rent a wooden Lapp hut and cook your own meals over a gas stove. There are rowboats and even an oven for smoking the fish. Fish waiting to be hooked include Arctic Char, Lake Trout and Grayling.

Luleå

Though Luleå is a 350-year-old town with a history which includes attacks from Cossacks and the moving of the center some six miles (10 km) to encourage trade . . . up to 30 years ago it was a small, unimportant township 68 miles (110 km) from the Arctic Circle.

The majority of the larger towns in northern Sweden are relatively young but Luleå was mentioned in a testament back in 1339. In 1621 it obtained a town charter but the houses which were built around the medieval church in The Old Town lacked the character of a real town for they were occupied only at weekends.

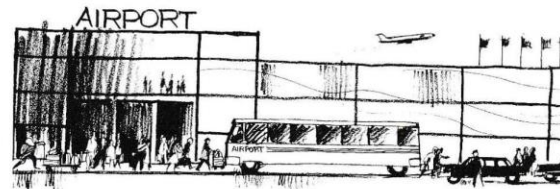
During the week, the owners lived on their farms in the surrounding countryside. Obviously being six miles from the coast, Luleå Church Town was in an inconvenient location for the shipping business. Therefore in 1649 it was decided to move Luleå to its present location . . . though it took a royal decree before the citizens finally moved to the coastal township.

Some 100 years ago there were still less than five thousand people in Luleå and in 1940, there were only 14,000 when the NJA Steelworks arrived in the town. Almost overnight new life was breathed into the community and in the next 10 years the population doubled, today's inhabitants numbering 68,000.

Hotels

Luleå is a busy town all year round and it is always advisable to book your hotel room in advance. Despite the northerly latitude of the town, you will be pleasantly surprised by the high standard of accommodation in the leading hotels. Ask your Travel Agent to make a reservation for you.

If you're visiting Luleå on vacation you may well be on a camping tour. Luleå's camp site is located in the center of the town with places for 250 tents. There are also 50 camping huts





and a youth hostel with 80 beds. A kitchen, washroom, shop and other facilities are also to be found at the three-star camping site. (Tel. (0920) 9300, ext. 264).

The larger hotels are:

SAS Globetrotter Hotel (E7)
17 Storgatan.
Tel. (0920) 940 00.

Eso Motorhotel (B1)
Haparandavägen.
Tel. (0920) 283 60.

Savoy (G7)
59 Storgatan.
Tel. (0920) 202 20.

Stadshotellet (E7)
15 Storgatan.
Tel. (0920) 104 10.

Other hotels:

Ahrnells Hotel (G8)
5 Kungsgatan.
Tel. (0920) 122 73.

Centralhotellet (E8)
6 Rådhusorget.
Tel. (0920) 102 80.

Hotel Aveny (G7)
10 Hermelinsgatan.
Tel. (0920) 218 20.

Park Hotel (G8)
10 Kungsgatan.
Tel. (0920) 111 49.

The telephone number in brackets is the area code which should be used when dialling from outside the Luleå area.

Restaurants

Amphion,
SAS Globetrotter (E7)
17 Storgatan.

Savoy Hotel (G7)
59 Storgatan.

Stadshotellet (E7)
15 Storgatan.

Stekhuset (E7)
35 Storgatan.

Eso Motorhotel (B1)
Haparandavägen.

Amiralen (F7)
Shoppingcenter.

Blå Porten (E7)
27 Storgatan.

Domusrestaurangen (F7)
38 Storgatan.

Gröna Lyktan (G7)
48 Storgatan.

There are also a number of snack-bars where one can enjoy an inexpensive meal:

Ringbaren (F7)
47 Storgatan.

Wasabaren (G7)
61 Storgatan.

Pizzeria Vagabondo (D8)
7 Köpmangatan.

Pontus (F7)
Shoppingcenter.

Sights and excursions

SIGHTS

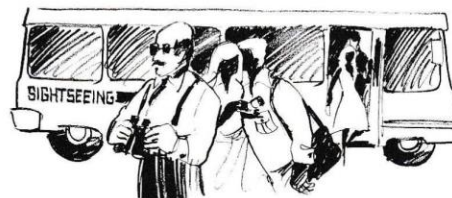
Norrbottnens Museum (D8), Storgatan. Peacefully located in an old park, the museum is famous for its extensive Lapp collection which is certainly worth seeing. There are also collections covering the area's archaeological finds and a section on folklore. There is a permanent gallery of northern Swedish art. Open Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday noon to 4 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Export Harbor (off map). Luleå has Sweden's biggest export harbor – the iron ore port having a yearly capacity of 140 million tons with a quay 1,369 ft. (415 m) long and 105 ft. (32 m) wide. Two 50,000 tons ships can be serviced at the same time. The channel is some 8 miles (17 km) long and 39 ft. (11 m) deep. There is also an oil harbor with a capacity of one million tons per year capable of accommodating ships of up to 50,000 tons. The NJA company also has its own 1,650 ft. (500 m) long quay. There are daily tours of the harbor. Call the LKAB company's Luleå office (tel. (0920) 101 90) or the Tourist Office (tel. (0920) 930 00).

Steelworks (off map). Norrbottens Järnverk AB is Sweden's biggest manufacturer of steel with a yearly production of more than one million tons of iron and steel – and 5,200 employees. Ship-building materials are responsible for more than half of NJA's sales and 42% of the total production is for export. Exclusive products which NJA has introduced on to the world markets include Laminja, Plannja and Isolamin.

Handicraft House (Hemslöjdshuset) (off map). Norrbotten's handicraft industry has a reputation dating back hundreds of years, particularly the textile, woodwork and other hand-made articles – the Lapp items being world famous. The Handicraft Association has arranged a most impressive exhibition presenting Norrbotten's traditional cottage industries. The Handicraft House is open every day from 9 a.m. (You can purchase items on display – see "Shopping" section).

The Church Town (Kyrkstaden) (off map), or Gammelstad (The Old Town), is located some 6 miles (10 km) northwest of downtown Luleå. The church – the most important religious edifice in Sweden – dates from the 14th century and is unusually richly decorated by that time's most accomplished church painters – the priceless altarpiece being made in Antwerp in 1520. Surrounding the church are 500 "kyrkstugor",
(cont'd on page 23)








Code numbers in the Luleå section of this booklet refer to the above map. Thus

(E7) is located where lines drawn from "E" and "7" cross each other.

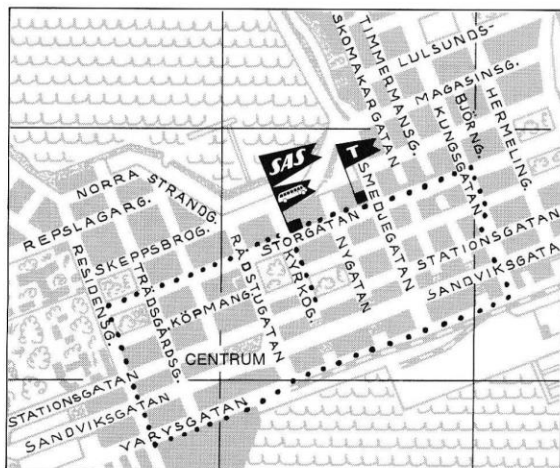
Interesting sights in Luleå

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (D8) Norrbottens Museum. | (off map) Handicraft House. |
| (10) Export Harbor. | (off map) The Church Town. |
| (off map) Steelworks. | (B6) Gultsaudden. |

Useful addresses

-  **SAS Ticket Office:**
17 Storgatan (E7), tel. (0920) 108 00.
Open hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
-  **Air Terminal:**
17 Storgatan (E7).
-  **Tourist Information Office:**
35 Storgatan (F7), tel. (0920) 930 00.
Open hours: Jun.-Aug., Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sat.-Sun.
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Remainder of year, Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Distance from city center to airport: 4 1/2 miles (7 km) south.



One hour's walk

Start at the SAS Globetrotter Hotel. Walk on the right-hand side along Storgatan towards Hermelinsparken where you will find the statue of Samuel Gustav Hermelin, one of the pioneers of the Norrbotten county in northern Sweden. At the end of the 18th century he tried to exploit the iron ore deposits in Gällivare and Kiruna and establish steelworks on the coast. In the park there is also the Norrbotten Museum, with its extensive collection of Lappish items, and the Norrbotten Theater. At the other side of Residensgatan you can see the brown building occupied by the county administration personnel. The yellow house to the right is the residence of the county governor. Walk along Residensgatan to Varvsgatan and keep on walking until you reach the South Harbor. To the left is an old yellow building housing the harbor authority offices and to the right you can see South Town Bay and the estuary of the Lule River. About 1,000 ships per year use the harbor – and here, too, is the town's biggest small-boat harbor.

From the harbor area walk along Kungsgatan to Storgatan and visit the modern Shopping Center. From here continue down Storgatan, on the right hand side, before turning left into Kyrkogatan where you will see Luleå Church, built after a fire in 1890. Outside the church stroll through Rådhuspark where there is a statue of King Gustav Adolffus who founded Luleå in 1621. From here you are only a couple of minutes from the SAS Globetrotter Hotel.

(cont'd from page 19)

small timber houses where churchgoers overnighted in the days when travel was measured in days and not hours. The wooden houses are painted in rustic red and several of them are open for viewing.

Gultzaudden (B6). In the center of the town is a recreation park called Gultzaudden – named after a famous shipbuilder who lived here in the early 19th century. This is the place to relax for there are facilities for swimming, a sand and grassy beach, playground for children and tennis courts. Every Thursday evening there is open-air entertainment in the park, much appreciated by Luleå citizens and visitors.

EXCURSIONS

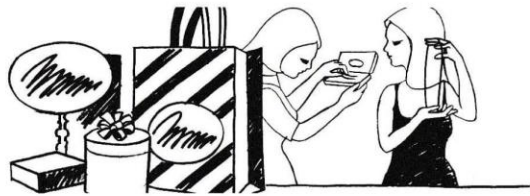
For excursion suggestions call by the Tourist Office where you can obtain details of tours by bus, car or boat. A typical round trip by bus would include Gammelstad (see page 19) and an open-air museum. Tours leave from outside the Tourist Office at 35 Storgatan (tel. (0920) 930 00). A two-hour car tour itinerary would probably include a turn round in Ormberget, passing by archipelago and coastal scenery, or might take in Hertsön and Lövsjär passing through "summer-house country" to a small fishing harbor. The list of alternatives is almost endless – ask the Tourist Office for suggestions.

There is a booking office manned by staff who are specialists in arranging tours at the Top of Europe. If you are interested in exploring the area in depth, contact Nordkalottresor at 2 Banvägen (C1), tel. 690 80, who can offer a selection of tours including a trip to North Cape, a rent-a-car tour of Lapland's vacation centers and other unique packages.

Meldersteins Bruk, Mining Company. If you have visited the NJA steelworks, it will be doubly interesting to drive out to the Meldersteins bruk at Råneå, a former mining company which used reindeer to transport huge quantities of iron ore extracted over hundreds of years. Today there are only ruins to remind one of this early epoch in the history of mining in the North – but the company's old farm has been converted into a recreation center where guests can overnight. There is also a swimming pool.

Råneå River Valley. Some 18 miles (30 km) from Luleå, the Råneå river flows into the Gulf of Bothnia near Råneå. The valley is worth a visit, the scenery of forests, hills and coast





being typical Norrbotten landscape. Sports fishermen should take their rods for there are good chances to hook salmon, trout and grayling in the river.

Bälunge Mountain. Bälungeberget's nature reserve is located 6 miles (10 km) from the center of Luleå. Thanks to the Forestry Commission, this piece of untouched virgin countryside has been skilfully changed into a rambling area to be enjoyed by all. The botanist can discover no less than 200 different specimens, including orchids. For the ornithologist the reserve is a dream come true – among the birds to be seen being hawks, falcons and owls.

But the ordinary visitor can also enjoy the nature for the park has many special picnic places with barbecues – and mysterious grottoes and strange rock formations to explore.

Piteå, 31 miles (50 km) from Luleå. Sometimes called the "Riviera of the North". Piteå has more sunshine hours than any other town in Scandinavia during the summer. Four miles of sandy beaches (one beach for nudists), a nine-hole golf course, holiday villages and two dance-restaurants make this a worthwhile vacation destination.

Älvsbyn, 37 miles (60 km) from Luleå, located on the fast-flowing Piteå river. This is where you'll find Storforsen, Europe's highest untamed waterfall – 267 ft. (81 m) high. There is a modern vacation village on a site facing Storforsen. The town has a Forestry Museum with relics from the era of early timber-felling. Two hotels: Sparta in Älvsbyn and Renkronan, Vidsele.

Haparanda/Tornio. Sweden's most easterly town "gateway to the East" has an international atmosphere. The Swedish-Finnish border separates Haparanda from the adjoining Finnish town of Tornio – both communities being almost regarded as one township.

Customs statistics record about five million annual border crossings.

Jokkmokk. The county of Jokkmokk is the largest in Sweden, incorporating the national parks of Padjelanta, Europe's biggest, Sarek, the last wilderness, Stora Sjöfallet and Muddus – plus 2,966 lakes teeming with fish. The town itself was founded by the Lapps and it is still an important Lappish center.

Worth a visit is the Jokkmokk Museum with its fascinating collection of Lapp silver and 1,000 other items. The local tourist information center is located in the museum building.

Power Stations. An unusual but highly interesting excursion is to visit one of the electricity power stations along the Little and Great Lule Rivers. Between them, the power stations produce approximately 20 per cent of the country's electricity supply – and several can be visited by the public. During June, July and August, between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. one can visit Vietas, Harsprånget, Akkats, Porsi, Laxede and Boden power stations. Contact the tourist offices in Luleå and Jokkmokk for information.

Entertainment and night life

Entertainment in Luleå tends to center around the major hotels – SAS Globetrotter, Stadshotellet, Savoy, Amiralen and Esso Motorhotel – with a combination of cabaret and dances several times per week. Check with your hall porter for the exact times.

The Sunderby Club, 9 miles (15 km) from Luleå, also holds dances for those who want a less pretentious setting in local surroundings.

For visitors, in the summer, there are special evening arrangements which should not be missed: *Träff i sommarkväll* (meet on a summer evening) takes place at different spots in the archipelago, once a week, providing visitors with the chance to meet people from Luleå, join in a typical Swedish meal, sing together and dance barefoot on the sand. A quite unique experience. *Trivselkvällarna* are evening shows featuring professional artists and are held at the Gultaudden park. Check with the hall porter or the Tourist Office for exact times.

There are also several cinemas showing films all year round – the English and American films are shown in the original language with Swedish sub-titles

Shopping

For handicrafts of the highest quality visit **Hemslöjden** on Storgatan and **Hemslöjdshuset** at Spantgatan. There are also six different stores where you can find a wide range of goods worth buying as gifts – in addition to souvenir-type products, there are also sports articles, porcelain, glass, perfume and toilet requisites etc.: **Tempo, Kvantum, Domus, Shopping and Valand.**

Business hours

Banks are open Mondays–Fridays from 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays closed. **Shops** open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays–Fridays, on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sundays closed.

Post Office, 53 Storgatan, is open Mondays–Fridays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturdays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sundays closed.

KIRUNA

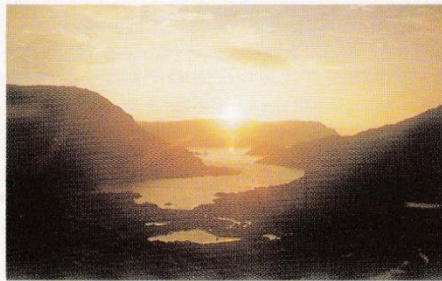
in the land of the Midnight Sun



Kiruna, the capital of Swedish Lapland, is one of the world's largest towns, in area, covering 3,000 square miles, but with a population of less than 30,000.



From Kiruna you can make unforgettable excursions into Europe's last wilderness. You can, for instance, go hiking in the mountains or fly to the lakes of Sinotsjaure or Råstojaure, with their rich fishing possibilities.



There is a certain mysticism connected with flying across the Arctic Circle to view the wonder of the Midnight Sun. Some say it recalls deeply buried pagan memories, others that it is just plain awe-inspiring. Escorted excursions from Stockholm to Kiruna are arranged from late May until late July.