



## A STROLL THROUGH

# Ystad

Ystad has a long and exciting history. There are many beautiful buildings here, ranging from the 13<sup>th</sup> century until today. With this map as a guide, you can discover the city on your own.



**1 Charlotte Berlin (1841–1916)** donated her home to a museum that reflects an intact bourgeois home from the 19<sup>th</sup> century and also its original owner.



**2 Ystad Theatre** in its original condition from 1894, with room for 500 people and with a unique stage design and one of Sweden's two preserved original side scenes.



**3 Kemnerska Manor**, a half-timbered house whose oldest parts are from the beginning of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It is called the Charles XII House, because it was believed that the king lived here during his visits to the city, which turned out not to be true, but the commemorative plaque was allowed to remain.



**4 Birgitta House** with stairwells and adornment was erected around 1500. Adapted to the older stretch of the street by Vassaån. This was where the king actually lived when he visited Ystad around 1700.



**5 The Brahe House** with adornments and original paintings from about 1500 was part of an aristocrat's farm belonging to the Brahe family. The design of the gable is very similar to the gable of Klosterkyrkan church, which can be seen from Sladdergatan.



**6 The Ängla House** was built in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century and is one of Ystad's most richly ornamented half-timbered houses. The name comes from the angel-like wooden figures under the eaves.



# YSTAD'S HISTORY

## 12<sup>th</sup> century

Ystad's first inhabitants were fishermen who settled here in the early 12<sup>th</sup> century. Herring fishing was the largest industry and remained so for several centuries.

## 13<sup>th</sup> century

St. Mary's Church was built in 1200 and Ystad, or "Viistahta", was mentioned for the first time in written texts in 1244. The abbey was founded in 1267.



Lucas Görlén

## 14<sup>th</sup> century

The Hanseatic era characterised Ystad, which belonged to the Swedish kingdom during certain periods. Margrethe I, Queen of Denmark, Norway and Sweden, visited the town in 1387 and stayed in the abbey.



## 15<sup>th</sup> century

The Pilgränd House was built in 1480 and today it is Scandinavia's oldest preserved half-timbered house. Stortorget square has four wells and a town hall with a beer hall in the basement.



## 16<sup>th</sup> century

The Reformation reached Ystad in 1532 and the Franciscan monks were expelled from the abbey. Ystad received a letter of privilege in 1599 and became a harbour for the export of oxen.



## 17<sup>th</sup> century

The oldest known map of Ystad was drawn around 1650. Ystad became a Swedish town in 1658 and in 1692 the post ships began to sail to Stralsund.

Ystad's long theatre tradition began here.

## 18<sup>th</sup> century

Charles XII visits and stays in the city on several occasions. The Tower Guard watches over the city from the tower of St. Mary's Church and Ystad's military history also began at around this time.



## 19<sup>th</sup> century

Napoleon's Baltic blockade in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century provided a major boost for trade through smuggling. The Norra promenaden was inaugurated in 1829 and the Grevebanan railway from Ystad to Malmö began to operate in 1874. In the 1890s, Ystad became a garrison town.



## 20<sup>th</sup> century

The medieval town hall basement was rediscovered and in 1936 the world exhibition "Fritiden" [leisure] took place. Ferry traffic to Bornholm and Poland began to operate from the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. In 1991, Henning Mankell wrote his first book about the Ystad police officer, Kurt Wallander.



Lina Iksé

## 21<sup>st</sup> century

Ystad Studios was inaugurated in 2004 and 44 Wallander films have been filmed in Ystad since then. Ystad Studios Visitor Center was inaugurated in 2018.



## Read more!

Tips for more reading about Ystad's exciting history:

- "Handbok över gamla Ystad" [Handbook of Old Ystad]. Can be purchased at the Ystad Visitor Centre and at the abbey.
- The Ystad Sculpture Park's app and website about public art in Ystad.



## Ystad Visitor Center

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