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GRÄNSLAND

- infrastructure for ecotourism in a northern landscape



In Scandinavia one of our main tourism attractions is the wild and beautiful landscape. There has recently been a visible increase in the interest in nature tourism and outdoor activities. Sweden and its neighbour Norway have a lot to offer when it comes to nature experiences and the wish to spend your holidays in a sustainable way. This thesis is a proposal for how a specific area can be improved to make ecotourism more appealing and accessible to a wider range of people.

A destination situated in the southern tip of the Scandinavian Mountains, that already is accessible by sustainable ways of transport, and already a popular spot for outdoor life and nature adventures, is enhanced by a new system of infrastructure for ecotourism. This way the current infrastructure and trail network will be reinforced. Providing new ways of staying in, and enjoying nature, in a sustainable and respectful way towards the environment and the wildlife. It is also hoping to strengthen the connections across the Swedish-Norwegian border. A way for people to get a time out from their busy urban lifestyles and enjoy nature based on their own requirements.

The architectural installations are focused around the identity of the site and helping to strengthen the perception of it being one territory without visible borders. References used include the local site history, artwork and ideas from the national romanticism period and capturing a feeling of what is Nordic and how there is a link between community and nature. A low impact on the site, connecting the area, a lower comfort level and sustainable solutions have been the foundations for the design. This thesis hopes to promote a greater appreciation for the Nordic landscape and how gently placed architecture can change the way we travel and choose to spend more time in nature.

Keywords : ecotourism, nordic landscape, outdoor life, tourism infrastructure

URBAN CHALLENGES

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