**Settle and live**

*Örnsköldsvik is part of the World Heritage Site known as the High Coast (Höga Kusten). It has everything from plots of land with sea views to wonderful residential areas, apartments in the town centre and farms in the countryside. There are plenty of alternatives. Wherever you choose to settle, you can make your way to the centre of Örnsköldsvik without sitting in endless traffic jams. The drive and engagement of the people means that things happen at all levels. Companies are started up, homes are built, associations are organised and there is an ever-increasing range of opportunities for leisure and entertainment.*

**Part of the High Coast**
Örnsköldsvik is part of the World Heritage site known as the High Coast, with its rolling countryside and amazing archipelago. The town is by the sea, and you can make your way from the Inner Harbour (Inre hamnen) out into the beautiful archipelago, where you encounter islands with sheer cliffs and bathing jetties, as well as wooded islands and white sandy beaches. There is also a tangible proximity to the countryside inland, with amazing opportunities for outdoor activities both in the forest and out in the open.

**Closeness in time – closeness between people**It’s not so much about Örnsköldsvik, but rather what you become when you come here. Do you enjoy beautiful scenery and being close to forests and the sea? Do you like a sense of community? Would you be happier as a parent if collecting the kids from school took ten minutes instead of an hour? Then the choice is simple. We can’t match the extensive public transport system of the big city, but we do have good bus and train services. If you have to head out into the great wide world, the best way is to fly from Örnsköldsvik Airport. It’s just an hour to Stockholm Arlanda – or three to Croatia by direct charter.

**A choice of housing**Örnsköldsvik town centre is growing, with both rental and tenant-owner premises being built in amazing locations. Do you want to live a little out of town, but still have access to all the facilities? There are plenty of places within commuting distance. Själevad, Bjästa, Bonäset and Gullänget are good examples of places a little way from the centre of Örnsköldsvik that offer a good range of services. Do you have children? There are plenty of child-friendly areas here, and Örnsköldsvik is considered to be one of the safest places in Sweden.

**People who make sure that things happen**One of Örnsköldsvik’s great strengths is the people. There’s a creative force here that makes things happen on both a big and a small scale. That companies are started up, homes are built, associations are organised and the leisure and entertainment scene thrives.

**Activities and leisure**

*Örnsköldsvik is a real town of ice hockey and sport. But the municipality also has a varied cultural and entertainment scene. Do you want to sing in a choir? Do you love jazz? Do you want to go to the theatre? There’s everything here from the small, intimate stage to the major events arena. And we hardly need to point out that those who like the open air can make full use of the skiing trails, canoe trails, slalom slopes and the wilderness?*

**Restaurants and entertainment**In recent years Örnsköldsvik has developed as a culinary venue. New restaurants have opened and successful, experienced restaurateurs have made their way here. There are also plenty of events, amusement arcades and activities here for all the family. There is also the entertainment scene in Umeå, which is only 50 minutes away by high-speed train on the Bothnia Line, giving us an overall offering to suit most ages and tastes.

**Inspiring cultural scene**Örnsköldsvik is a municipality of song, dance and music. A solid foundation is provided by a school of culture that is a national role model, as well as two schools for songwriters and a music programme for students aged 18 or over. The town plays host to, among others, orchestras, choirs, rock groups, folk music, jazz club, ballet, jazz dancing and Swedish “Bugg”, a variant of the jitterbug. The High Coast is also known as the Artists’ Coast because of the 100 or so artists who are active here. When it comes to public decoration and local heritage sites, Örnsköldsvik is also in the very highest league thanks to a couple of unique donations and foundations.

**Outdoor activities that are out of the ordinary**Örnsköldsvik offers all you need to live a healthy, active life with scope for leisure. You’ll find outdoor activities here that are out of the ordinary, and we work hard to make our amazing countryside accessible for all. Work that saw Örnsköldsvik named as Sweden’s Outdoor Municipality of the Year in 2011, 2015 and 2016.

**Large, varied range of associations**There is a high level of engagement in the vast range of associations, and the ability to come together to achieve things is amazing. Around 700 associations form the core of our varied, vibrant outdoor, sporting and cultural scene. Associations help you to quickly get to know others with similar interests – on the slalom slopes, at sports venues, over board games, in a choir or wherever you feel most at home.

**Jobs and the local economy**

*Entrepreneurship and creativity are two key words in Örnsköldsvik. Businesses here are prioritised and important. This is evident in, for example, events and activities for entrepreneurs, and in the Business Pilot (Företagslotsen) who makes it easier to start up and run a business. New, interesting businesses are emerging, creating lots of exciting jobs.*

**Strategic location in Norrland**Örnsköldsvik is located in beautiful Norrland – midway between Umeå and Sundsvall. Around 300,000 people live within a radius of 150 km, linked together by the high-speed trains on the Bothnia Line. Together with Umeå, which is 50 minutes away by train, we make up the biggest labour market in Norrland.

**Knowledge-intensive economy**In Örnsköldsvik there is faith in the future, entrepreneurship and drive. This means that new, interesting businesses emerge and that lots of exciting jobs are created. In our knowledge-intensive economy with around 2,600 companies, you’ll find everything from world-leading industrial groups of companies and their skilled subcontractors to exciting IT, tourism and consultancy companies.

**There are jobs here**Are you looking for a challenge, a job? There’s a high level of demand here for labour in a number of different areas. Those needed include engineers, nurses, doctors and competence in the areas of technology and industrial manufacturing.

**Collaboration with tangible results**For the last 20 years, the municipality and the rest of the local economy have been working in close collaboration to develop Örnsköldsvik. This has contributed to, among other things, a more attractive town centre, a more accessible archipelago, improved housing opportunities in rural areas and improved communication options. The new development project is known as World Class Örnsköldsvik.

**Schooling and studies**

*We’re striving to achieve world-class schooling at all levels of education. One acknowledgement that this work is bearing fruit is that Örnsköldsvik was named the best municipality for schools in Västernorrland in 2016. If you’re aiming for higher education, all opportunities are available via distance studies. We can also boast some unique courses that have been created in partnership with the local economy – which means they result in jobs. We also have three high-class music courses in the municipality, which have shaped many of the country’s major musicians and hit-makers.*

**Örnsköldsvik - student town**Every year approximately 600 students come to Örnsköldsvik to study. There are courses here at university and vocational college level, with bright educational premises, engaged teachers, a learning centre for those pursuing distance studies, study and vocational guidance and a university library. The university courses have exchanges with universities all over the world, and many vocational college courses offer you an opportunity to study or practise abroad. As a student at university or on a vocational course in Örnsköldsvik, you’re guaranteed accommodation through the municipal housing company Övikshem.

**A school that wants more**Children and young people in Örnsköldsvik must have the best conditions to develop. This is why all kinds of schools, from pre-school to upper secondary school, are working to create one of Sweden’s best municipalities for schools. One way of achieving this is to give all children and students an opportunity to reach the next level of knowledge, to ensure that the schools apply research together with tried and tested experience, professional and challenging leadership, and secure school environments.