

Sights in Porjus



The "Old Man of Porjus" and Porjus homestead

Porjus built two new homesteads in 1833 by Olof Eriksson Rim and Nils Andersson. The "Porjus Old Man" Abraham Erik Olsson Eriksson - built his homestead in 1879 together with his wife Anna Kaisa Nilsson together with their five daughters. Their homestead was beautiful with views over the Lule River. On Christmas Day 1909 Erik Olsson sold their land rights for 20,000 kroner to Vattenfall.

Porjus

In 1797 during his travels along the Lule River S G Hermelin gave the area the name Porjus (Barjas) which means 'Sail' in Sami
Porjus has circa 400 inhabitants and is located above Arctic Circle in Lapland



Erik Olsson Rim and Anna Kaisa

Porjus Station House and Inlandsbanan

In 1910 parliament decided that a working railroad track was to be built between Gällivare and Porjus. It was a hard and tiring work as the navies built a railway over bogs and through forests. It was later also linked with the Inland Railway, which today runs from Kristinehamn to Gällivare. In 1912 was built the first Station House in Porjus and in 1972 it was moved to its current location.



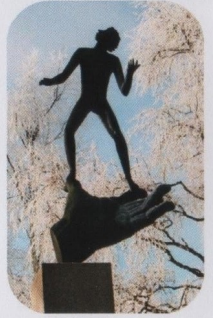
Porjus "The Flying village"

In 1920 Vattenfall began the 'world's first' regular flight between Porjus and Suorva carrying freight, mail and medical supplies. Porjus became the "Flying village" with many flying companies.



God's hand and Carl Milles

Carl Milles, one of Sweden's most famous sculptors, wanted to pay tribute to the landscape, the railway worker's and the mountains with the sculpture of God's hand. 1960 saw the inauguration of the sculpture in Porjus



God's hand

The Bell Tower

1921 saw the inauguration by Bishop Olof Bergqvist of the belfry that was built by the Vattenfall workers. The bell was rung at the weekends to signal the end of the working week, writes Pastor Bengtsson.

Defence location

During World War II it was important to defend Porjus from enemy attacks. So there were defence locations built up around Porjus. Multi-repository sites for defending Porjus power station from attack. The English had plans to blow up the Porjus power station prevent the Swedish iron ore exports to Germany.

Skojardalen

Skojardalen grew during the construction of Porjus Power Station. Wooden houses that stood side by side which meant a considerable fire risk. Amidst the houses there were stables owned by a horse trader and thus became the name of the area "Skojardalen".

The Church

This building has been a canteen, epidemic infirmary and housing. In 1925 began the rebuilding work to result in the Porjus Church. It was consecrated in 1928 by Bishop Olof Bergqvist. Around the church is a very beautiful stone wall, built by the last stone masons in Porjus

Rallerdarlen and Kraftbyggjarland

Rallerdarlen is an area with buildings preserved from the earliest time in Porjus. Kraftbyggjarland demonstrates to both children and adults how hydroelectricity is produced.



The monument "Kraft"

"Kraft" by Bo Holmlund

Artist, Bo Holmlund, used a 400-ton boulder from Harsprånget for his sculpture. He calls his work "Force". The monument shows the human capacity to use the natural power of water but also the ability to build a community along the Lule River.

Laponia Gateway

The Porjus community centre opened in 2006. The building is owned by associations, companies and individuals.

The architect was inspired by the Skierfe cliff silhouette at Aktse both in its building profile and colour. The centre is equipped with the most modern technology for viewing movies, slide shows and Laponia exhibitions.



Laponia Gateway

48-man barrack

The 48-man barrack was moved to Porjus 1912. It housed 48 people who had their homes and drying room in the house. Porjus arkiv-komitté have started a work to show how people lived in this period.



The Old Power Station "The temple in the Wilderness"

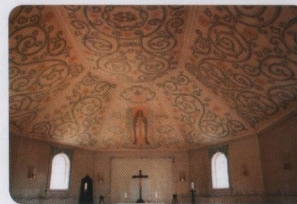
Porjus most famous building is undoubtedly the old power station building. Brick built with the signature of Erik Josefsson. The "Temple in the Wilderness" was built with the 'King's door' and a 'Golden Crown' and is an indication of the hydropower's economic force.



Upper Lilleselet



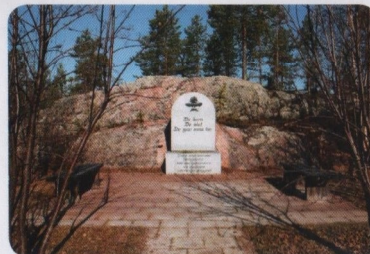
Lower Lilleselet



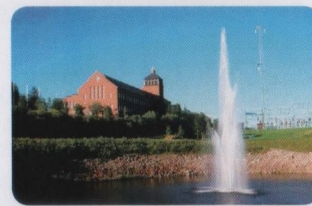
The Burial Chapel

The Memorial Stone

This monument was inaugurated in 1989 as a memorial for those who lost their lives during the building and expansion of the hydropower plant on the Lule river.



The memorial stone



Old Power Station

Inside - Olga Lanner designed the impressive lights. Vattenfall has its offices and viewing opportunities of the original power station. Porjus Archive Committee has its archives and the exhibition 'Porjus Expo'.

A Provisional Power Station provided electricity during the construction of "The Temple in the Wilderness"

Upper Lilleselet

In Upper Lilleselet there still exist's Vattenfall's residential areas; architect-designed personal residences from the 1920s and 'Porjus houses' from the 1940s.

Lower Lilleselet

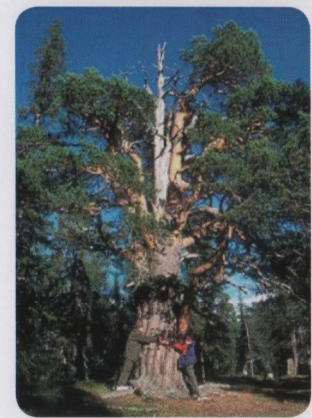
It is rare that original wooden houses remain in a community. Porjus has an area called Lower Lilleselet.

The Cemetery with the Burial Chapel

The burial chapel was consecrated on Nov. 14, 1920 with the ceiling and wall murals by Fridtjof Erichsson. Beautifully situated by the river and enclosed by the characteristic stone walls of Porjus.

Porjus Hill

There is a drive up to the top of Porjus hill. The view is magnificent. You see Sarek, the mountains, forest's and the Lule River. A forest path leads you to one of Sweden's oldest pine trees. There are also remains of a magnesium ore mine and rare mineral 'rodonit' which was also found on Porjus hill.



Porjus Pine Tree

Lancaster airplane

If you go 7 km along Álloluokta road you come to a footpath through the forest to the wreck of a British bomber, a Lancaster, called 'Easy Elsie'. This airplane participated in an attack outside Tromsø against the German battleship Tirpitz. The aircraft was damaged by flak and the crew managed to land on a marsh outside Porjus.



Jelka

Jelka area is filled with rare lichens and an untouched forest areas with Pakko streams headwaters. Two paths from Västra Strand leads into the Jelka area which is now a nature reserve.

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Harsprånget village

8 km south of Porjus is the remains of Harsprånget village. It was built in 1946 and at its peak 2,000 people lived in the 'village by the waterfall'.

Harsprånget waterfall

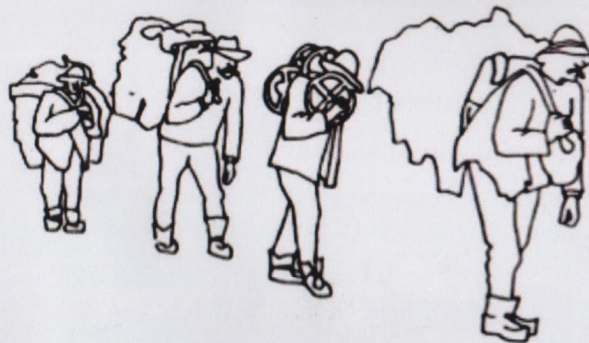
On the E45 from the parking area there is a 300 meter long footpath that takes you down to the once mighty Harsprångets waterfall.

Luspen

Luspebryggan at Stora Lule river transformed after World War II to one of the mountain aviation's "Klondyke". A village grew up at Luspen. Now a bird watching observation tower has been developed and is available to all.

Rallarstigen

In 1891 a tourist trail was laid by STF (Swedish Tourist Society). It went from Gällivare to Porjus and on to Harsprånget. Originally it was the path used by the navvies that carried supplies to build the hydro power plant in Porjus in 1910. In 1994 the 44 km path was reopened and named 'The Rallarstigen' – The Navvies Trail.



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