

In the heart of Skåne is Höörs Gästgifwaregård.

The inn started to take form as long ago as the 13th century. A decision was made in the Ordinance of Alsnö that travellers had to pay for food and overnight accommodation, in order to put an end to farmers suffering uninvited guests. New regulations were added, such as laws about horse-drawn carriages, overnight stays and a maximum of 20 km between each inn. This applied to the whole country.

In Skåne there were around 80 inns. We can now find about 20 that are still in use, nurturing the cultural heritage with their genuine Skåne food, rooms for overnight accommodation and events that traditionally often relate to food, such as the Skåne buffet, a genuine Skåne Christmas buffet, a goose dinner, an eel banquet and perhaps a Skåne pyramid cake on special occasions.



The 17th century

The farm was first inhabited in 1658 by Påvel Horn. But there is no information to confirm that it was run as an inn at that time. We do not find it in the ordinance until the next century. As far as we know there were 17 houses in the village and one of them was Number 12, known as Hemmanet Höör 1/2 mantal outside the

parish under Näs. This is where Påvel lived. He married twice and had four children. One of the sons was called Nils. Nils only had one child, a son, who was also named Nils, generally known as Nils d.y. (the younger). We can find this Nils in the mantal records at No. 12 from 1697. By now he has become a sheriff. Let's move into the next century to see how things have gone for him.



The 18th century

Crown sheriff Nils Horn married Kierstina Jönsdotter, and they had five children when Nils died in 1714. He had the entire village's weekly earnings stolen by Rolf Bjerling and his band of robbers with the notorious Gunilla Täckare.

In 1709 their home, No 12, was designated as a place for horse-drawn carriages. When Nils dies, Kierstina acquires the right to run an inn. She was known as "the widow of god-fearing Nils Horn". In only her second year as an innkeeper she receives a celebrated visitor in the form of Charles XII of Sweden, the XII, the warrior king.

Kierstina remarries with Bengt Persson and they have a son, who is also named Nils. As a teenager he assumes the name Hornell and studies in Lund to become a priest, but something goes wrong, very wrong.

In the mid-18th century both spouses die at the inn. A number of different innkeepers

flourish, but the one who lasts longest is called Dahl. In 1798 Jöns Åberg takes over. A man who benefits and develops the inn in every way.

As a guest, for example, you could enjoy this:

Herring and posset served with all breakfasts, and porridge and milk in the evenings.

- Mon: Hot cabbage soup and dripping
- Tue: Soup and salted meat
- Wed: Hot soup, herring and potatoes
- Thur: Pea soup and smoked lamb
- Fri: Hot pea soup and lung sausage
- Sat: Posset, potatoes and herring
- Sun: Cabbage soup and pork



The 19th century

Jöns Åberg took over as innkeeper in the final years of the 18th century. He was

an enterprising man who ran the inn until his death in 1826. His son then took over, but leased the inn to others including the Scot David Pearson.

Jöns Åberg the younger took over in 1842. He was another man with entrepreneurial flair. The inn was extended, expanded and flourished. At the end of 1850 Jöns sold the inn to his son-in-law Sven Ohlsson for 20,000 riksdaler. In 1868 Alexander Ericsson took over together with his wife and a young lady called Matilda. They ran the inn to its full potential. The young lady stood by the entrance and cut sugar for coffee laced with snaps and fine dinners. They were wealthy innkeepers who donated money to care for the poor. Alexander and his brother helped the whole of Höör to flourish.

The inn also served as a courtroom following the murder of Sissela Svensdotter, generally known as “Drunken Sissela”, in 1878.



The 20th century

The century began with Hedda, the sister of Alexander Ericsson, leasing the inn, before the inn was taken over shortly thereafter in 1902 by the trader Johan Johansson.

1919 was a major year, when Höör’s vet Edvin Olsson acquired the whole

property and created a limited company. He sold shares and leased the inn to an employee by the name of Ida Sjögren, known as "Ida at the Inn". Ida was officially thanked for her services one day in December 1943 by the gentlemen's club at the inn. The next tenant after her was the Bo Claesson family from Halmstad, who ran the inn until 1968. They were followed by the Sparrhult family, who were the first to buy the inn, which they ran for four years before handing over to Horst Schönberg, who stayed into the 2000s.

Text extracts freely edited from the document "Höörs

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Hotel in the heart of Skåne"] by Pia Karlsson.