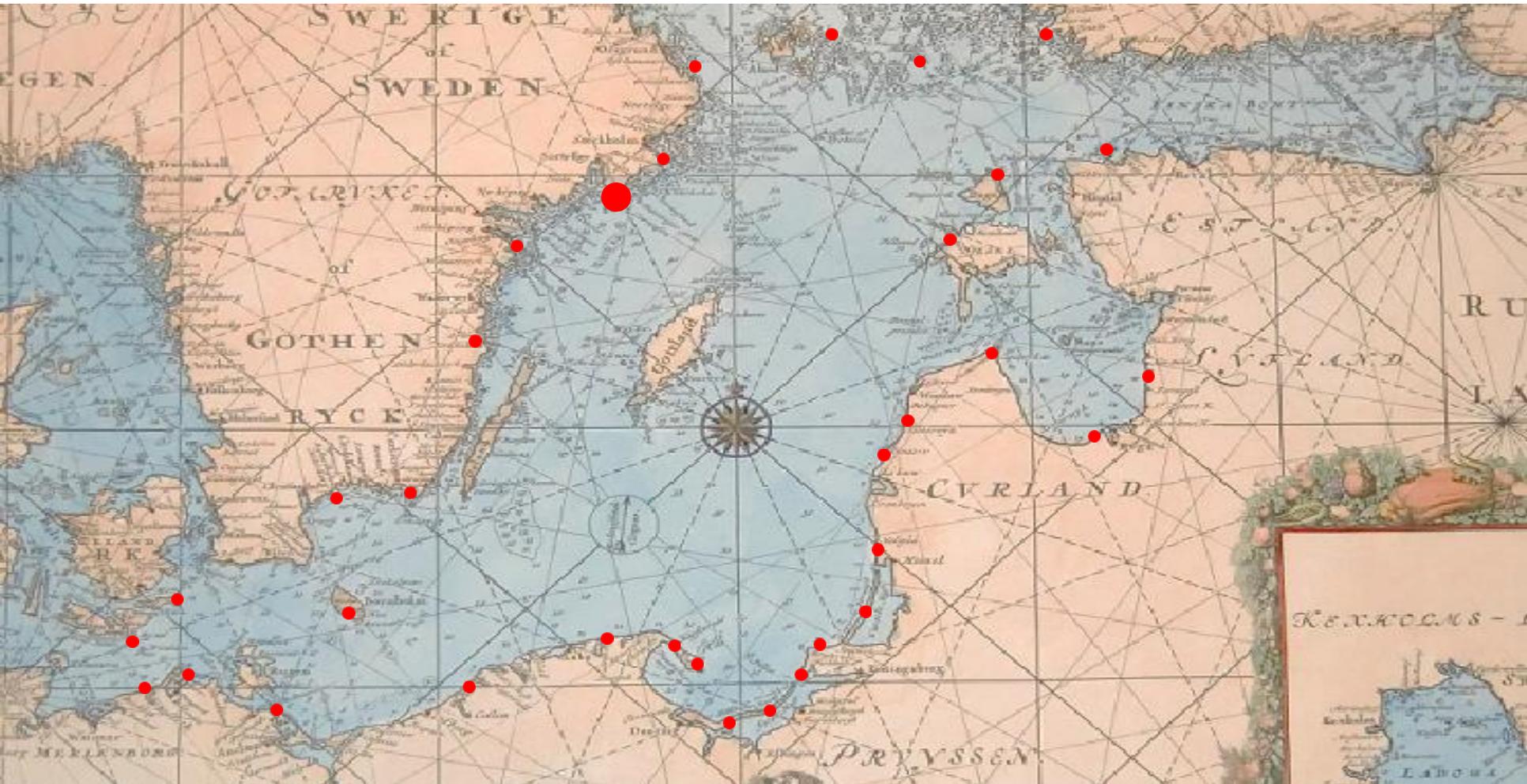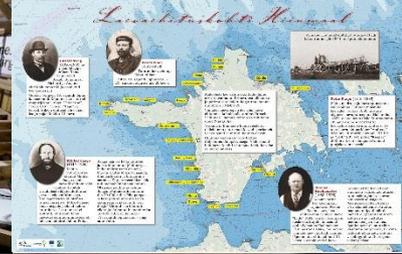# The Baltic Gates Concept

Every coastal Baltic Maritime Heritage site has links to the joint Baltic Sea history, to other countries and sites around the Baltic Sea

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Such links and relations may be through individuals (travellers, sailors, merchants), through trade activities (building, sailing, passengers and goods) or through wars (battles, refugees).

These relations tie us together. They are "windows" or "gates", to the joint Baltic Sea history. They provide a means for looking into the past as well as the future together.

The gates are opportunities to visitors for joint understanding of our common culture as well as to operators to cooperate in development, marketing and for new businesses.

And it all starts with the visible artefacts of the site, be it a rock carving, a wreck, a lighthouse, a building, a replica, a pot, …

The Baltic Gates – the aims

To promote

- Visibility for the joint Baltic Maritime Heritage (BMH)
- Knowledge and awareness of the Baltic Sea community
- New business opportunities for local operators

To provide

- <u>Visitors</u> to the local site with a basis for increasing the all Baltic Sea awareness,

- <u>Operators</u> at local destination with a tool and a platform
  , for information and marketing based on an All Baltic context
  , for business communication and dialogue between connected
    coastal BMH sites

- <u>BMH research community</u> with a platform to explore the heritage further

Properties of the system

1. Basically an Internet based displayed system

2. Screens at each site
   - at a level corresponding to site ambitions, from display
   through a simple Internet connection to interactive screens

3. A communication and dialogue procedure for exchange of
   information between site operators

4. A central hub for operating the BGS, collecting and making
   information available and displayed in the system

5. Internet sites: balticgates.com, balticgates.eu (registered)
   balticgates.*country* (remains to be registered)

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Construction

1. Mapping the local BMH

Map local artifacts and identify links/gates to other countries/sites
Utilize earlier projects as SeaSide, Enjoy South Baltic, Atlas, Baltic Museums etc.
Map available information, primarily narratives, pictures and videos.

2. Building the Web-site

Specification of system performance. Web-site and interface design
Organize data/information for use in an Internet adequate form
Content providing

3. Those doing the work

Mapping, design and construction in cooperation between
local operators and BMH institutions (universities/museums)

4. Operation and development

Central hub Sweden/Nynäshamn
10-15 pioneers starting, hundreds to join