

Swedish Geography - Landskaps and Läns

Sweden historically was divided into 27 Provinces called **Landskaps**. They may or may not have the same name or cover the same area as the modern counties (län). The Landskaps and Läns are:

Skåne	Blekinge	Gästrikland
Norrbottn	Halland	Hälsingland
Småland	Dalsland	Härjedalen
Medelpad	Värmland	Medelpad
Öland	Västmanland	Jämtland
Gotland	Närke	Ångermanland
Västerbotten	Södermanland	Lappland
Västergötland	Uppland	
Östergötland	Dalarna	

Provinces of Sweden **Swedish Län** (counties) prior to 1998, each county (län) in Sweden was designated with an abbreviation. You will often find them in published Swedish ancestral reports or trees (antavlor):

A, B, AB	Stockholms län	P	Älvsborgs län (Västra Götaland)
C	Uppsala län	R	Skaraborgs län (Västra Götaland)
D	Södermanlands län	S	Värmlands Län
E	Östergötlands län	T	Örebro län
F	Jönköpings län	U	Västmanlands län
G	Kronobergslän	W	Kopparbergs län (Dalarnas län)
H	Kalmar Län	X	Gävleborgs län
I	Gotlands län	Y	Västernorrlands län
K	Blekinge län	Z	Jämtlands län
L	Kristianstads län (Skåne)	AC	Västerbottens län
M	Malmöhus län (Skåne)	BD	Norrbottens län
N	Hallands län		
O	Göteborg och Bohus (Västra Götaland)		

Swedish Genealogy Research addendum

Småland has been divided into Kalmar (which also includes the island of Öland), Kronoberg and Jönköping läns. Dalsland, Bohuslän and Västergötland have been combined into Västra Götalands län, called Skaraborgs län in some databases. Malmöhus and Kristianstad läns were separate for a time, but are now combined as Skåne. (They are also still treated separately in many databases, esp. the LDS website. This is also true for Dalarnas län, which is called Kopparberg in the databases.) Lappland has been split and absorbed into Norrland and Västerbottens läns. Medelpad and Ångermanland have become Västernorrlands län. Hälsingland and Gästrikland combined and have become Gävleborgs län. Närke became Örebro's län which also took part of Västmanland. Stockholm became a län by itself in between Uppsala län (formerly Uppland) and Södermanland. Härjedalen became a part of Jämtland. Even Värmlands borders were tweaked.

Church parishes (församling(ar)-socken/socknar) are the divisions within the läns by which church records are categorized. Counties (län) also have governmental subdistricts called kommuner. Church and state separated in 2000.

The Provinces of Sweden



Swedish Län (counties)