



# A WORLD CHAMPION AT HOME – ELINA ÖHMAN ON HOW ÄLVSBYN SHAPED A SNOCROSS STAR

From the local snowmobile tracks to the world's biggest arenas – Elina Öhman is proof that great dreams can begin in a small town. She is a multiple champion in snocross, with both national and international titles, yet Älvsbyn has always remained her anchor.

"Älvsbyn has always been my safe haven," says Elina. "I've traveled a lot, but it's always comforting to come home and unwind."

In the heart of Norrbotten's scenic landscape, Älvsbyn boasts a strong motorsport culture. The town has long been a center for snocross – both as a training ground and a competition venue.

"There's something special about winning a Swedish Championship on home ground, surrounded by family and friends. It's been crucial to my development."

Elina highlights Älvsbyn's training opportunities as exceptional – the combination of nature, climate, and community makes it an ideal place for winter sports. Long winters, reliable snow, and well-maintained tracks create perfect conditions for training at an elite level.

Now that she has a family of her own, Elina values the town's safety and sense of closeness even more.

"You know most people here – it builds a strong sense of community and security. The preschools are small, and the staff are engaged. It's a wonderful environment for children."

That a world-class athlete chooses to live and train in Älvsbyn says a lot about the municipality's strengths – especially for those chasing

athletic dreams.

"Älvsbyn gives young people the chance to succeed. I went to high school here, and it was such a supportive environment – you're seen both as a student and as an athlete. The resources and engagement are all here."

Her message to anyone considering moving to Älvsbyn is clear:

"Everything you need is here – for both sports and life. The nature, the community spirit, and the easy connections to the rest of the world. But the best thing is still coming home."

# Welcome to Älvsbyn

#### TOGETHER WE CREATE SPACE FOR LIFE

**HERE, IN THE SCENIC HEART** of Norrbotten, proximity means everything. Proximity to work, school, and a safe upbringing. To mountains, forests, rivers, and to each other.

In Älvsbyn, we build the future together – with a vibrant community life, strong sense of belonging, and big opportunities in a close-knit setting. It's easy to live here, easy to feel at home, and easy to make a difference.

We believe in what happens when people connect – when we help one another. When children laugh in the yard, when ideas take root, and when life is allowed to unfold – for real.

Together, we are future-driven Älvsbyn.



Watch the film that captures
everything that makes Älvsbyn unique
– the opportunities for housing,
entrepreneurship, and quality of life
in a place that keeps growing.









#### **LIVE CLOSE – LIVE LARGE**

**IN ÄLVSBYN, EVERYTHING IS NEARBY** – work, nature, and community. Here, freedom and safety go hand in hand. Children can roam freely, neighbors greet each other, and people look out for one another.

It's easy to get here – the train stops right in the village, and the world is still close by. Everything you need for a good life is here: schools, activities, associations, and jobs.

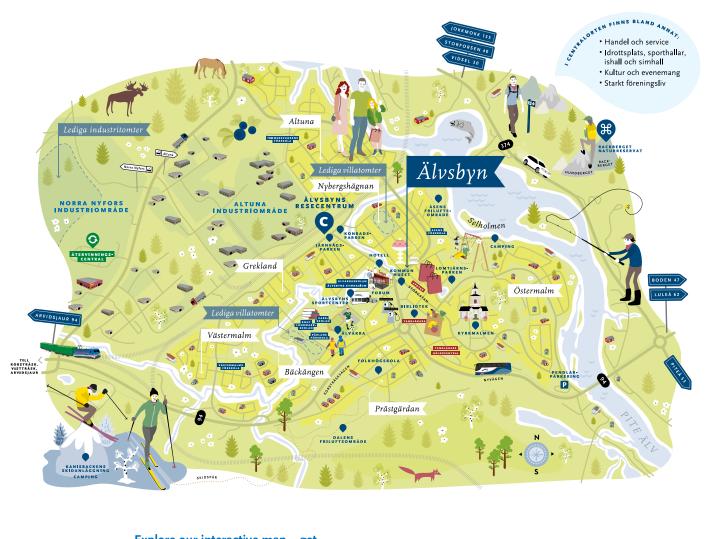
Housing is affordable, plots are attractive, and quality of life is abundant.

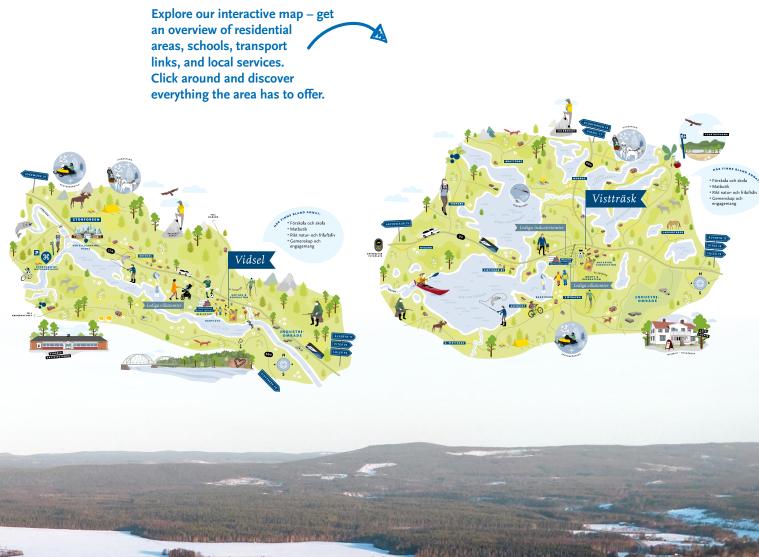
Here, both people and dreams grow - together.

LANDLORDS IN ÄLVSBYN MUNICIPALITY AVAILABLE PLOTS FOR YOUR DREAM HOME

AVAILABLE COMMERCIAL PLOTS









### ARCTIC FALLS – WORLD-CLASS TESTING IN THE HEART OF ÄLVSBYN

Rooted in the harsh beauty of northern winters, Arctic Falls has grown from a pioneering idea in 1985 into a world-leading company in vehicle and tire testing. It all started with a collaboration between founder Ove Berggren and Saab – and today, the company runs eight highly specialized test facilities, three of which are indoors.

From its base in Älvsbyn, Arctic Falls offers full-scale testing services for global vehicle and tire manufacturers – powering both the local economy and the global shift toward sustainable mobility. With year-round operations and indoor test halls that simulate winter even in summer, Arctic Falls plays a key role in developing the transport solutions of the future.

"We help our clients develop their products faster – all year round. That's why we've invested in indoor halls and summer tracks to complement our traditional winter sites," says CEO Jonas Jalar.

#### ÄLVSBYN – A PLACE FOR GROWTH AND CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE

That Arctic Falls grew here is no coincidence. The region's stable cold winters and proximity to infrastructure make Älvsbyn a natural hub for automotive testing. But it's not just the climate – it's also the people.

"We have an excellent relationship with the municipality. When we expand, decisions need to be made quickly – and here, we get swift handling and genuine support," Jonas adds.

Älvsbyn has a strong business culture, with well-known names like Polarbröd and Älvsbyhus leading the way. Collaboration and innovation are part of the DNA, and local networks play a vital role in success – both between companies and with the municipality.

#### THE FUTURE IS SUSTAINABLE – AND ARCTIC FALLS IS ALREADY THERE

Älvsbyn's 2030 Vision – "Future-Rich Älvsbyn," where business, innovation, and sustainability go hand in hand – is a vision Arctic Falls shares deeply.

"We want to be an active player in the green transition. Our operations run on renewable energy, and we continuously evolve with our clients' needs – with focus on climate and responsibility."

With its roots in Älvsbyn and its eyes on the future, Arctic Falls continues to grow – proving that local engagement can lead to global impact.

"When we expand, decisions need to be made quickly – and here, we get swift handling and strong support."







"In Älvsbyn, running a business is easy.

We have strong communication with the municipality and great collaboration with other companies – together, we move forward"

KARIN AND JOHAN HÅLL, EXP NORRLAND



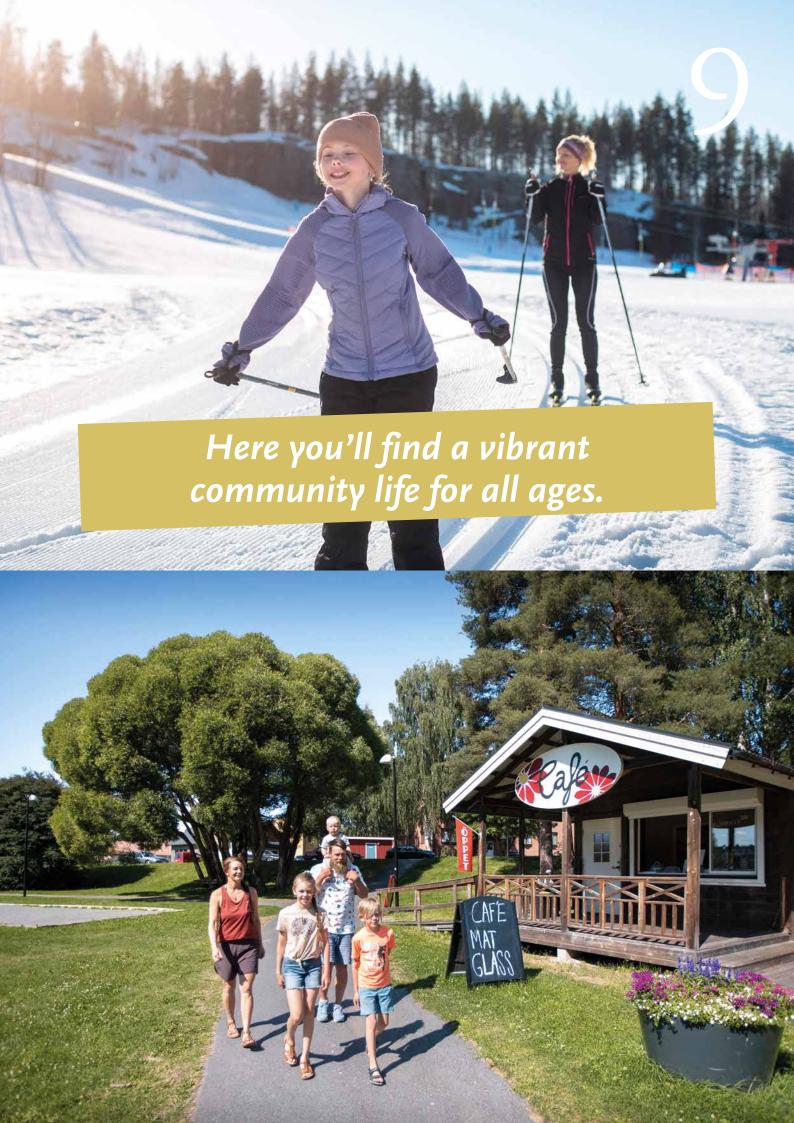
# BALANCING WORK AND LIFE – QUALITY OF LIFE

**WHAT DEFINES QUALITY OF LIFE** in Älvsbyn? For many, it's the closeness – to people, to opportunities, to a life that actually fits together. Here it's easy to balance work, family, leisure, and community. Nature is always nearby, adding to life's quality – but it's the whole package that makes Älvsbyn a place where both everyday life and dreams can thrive.

With over 100 associations, Älvsbyn offers a vibrant community for all ages. Sports, culture, and outdoor life flourish – from skiing, riding, and swimming to hockey, dance, and music. Kanisbacken ski slope lies just three kilometers from the center, and what's not available locally is just a short trip away.

Culture is alive too – through concerts, art, dance, and year-round events. Snowmobiles buzz through the winter landscape, kids play football on summer evenings, bonfires are lit, laughter echoes – we do things together.







### "HERE WE HAVE EVERYTHING WE NEED – CLOSE, SAFE, AND BEAUTIFUL"

Sixteen years ago, Hewan and Biniam moved to Älvsbyn – and soon realized it was the perfect place to build their life and raise their family.

"It's an ideal place for families with children.

Everything is close – schools, nature, jobs, and activities," says Biniam

Both work full-time – Hewan as a nurse and Biniam in elderly care, also part-time as

a translator – yet they find time for each other and their two children.

"It's easy to combine work and family life here. The children's activities are nearby, and we have time together as a family," says Hewan.

Community and safety mean a lot to them.

"Everyone knows each other and cares. We've never met anyone unkind – quite

the opposite," says Biniam.

The natural surroundings are a big part of their lifestyle – fishing, skiing, and hiking are right outside the door.

> "Clean air, no stress, short distances – you can walk or cycle to work. It's wonderful," says Hewan.

Their advice to anyone thinking about moving?

"Do it! It's calm, safe, and beautiful – a good life for both adults and children."



# CHARM FACTORY – ÄLVSBYN'S INVESTMENT IN THE FOOD OF THE FUTURE

When Polarbröd's bakery in Älvsbyn burned down in 2020, it was a great loss – but also the beginning of something new. From the ashes rose CHARM Factory, a three-year innovation project with the ambition to make Norrbotten a hub for sustainable food.

"CHARM Factory is about boosting northern Sweden's food industry and strengthening self-sufficiency in Sweden," says project leader Maja Berggren.

Launched in March 2024 with Älvsbyn Municipality as project owner, it's a bold and visionary initiative for a small municipality.

"There's really no other place in Norrbotten – and few in Sweden – doing what we're doing right now. It's exciting to see Älvsbyn at the forefront."

The project aims to strengthen the northern food industry, supporting businesses from idea to finished product.

A FOOD LAB OF THE FUTURE

At the heart of the project is a new food lab being built in Älvsbyn – a meeting place for companies, researchers, and entrepreneurs to develop tomorrow's sustainable food.

"It will be a creative space where we can experiment, develop new products, and innovate using local ingredients and resources," says Maja.

The lab will feature modern kitchen and bakery facilities, a photo studio, and a sensory lab for taste and quality testing – all designed to help products reach larger markets.

#### STRONG REGIONAL AND NATIONAL INTEREST

Älvsbyn was a natural choice for the CHARM Factory – with its food heritage, strong logistics, and innovative spirit.

"It's a fantastic opportunity for small producers to grow and be seen. We see a strong need for collaboration and support –

and interest is huge, both regionally and nationally."

The project runs until summer 2027 and is co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), Älvsbyn Municipality, Charm i Norr Economic Association, Region Norrbotten, Anna Borgeryd Memorial Fund, Polarbröd Group, and Sparbanken Nord.

"We see so much potential ahead. The opening of the lab will be great – but what really excites me is what comes after: new collaborations, new products, and a stronger position for Älvsbyn as a place where the food of the future is created."

















#### **FUTURE-DRIVEN ÄLVSBYN**

**WHAT DOES THE FUTURE LOOK LIKE?** In Älvsbyn, we see it as bright, bold, and full of possibilities. We're already in the midst of transformation – where new ideas, sustainable solutions, and local engagement drive us forward.

Through Vision Älvsbyn 2030, we're building a society where people want to live, grow, and return. We draw strength from our closeness – using it as a driving force for innovation, cooperation, and development.

We're investing in education, business, digitalization, and the environment. We're creating opportunities for young people to stay, return, or move here for the first time.

We're building a community for everyone – together.



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# ÄLVSBYN INVESTS IN CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS WITH BUSINESSES – SUPPORT AND ROOM TO GROW

Älvsbyn aims to be a municipality where entrepreneurs are heard, supported, and encouraged to grow.

Through dialogue, networking, and a business climate rooted in cooperation, the municipality works to create favorable conditions for both new and established businesses.

"Here in Älvsbyn and the surrounding area, there's plenty of creativity and drive – and we want to make sure that's supported, whether it's in business, associations, or individual initiatives. Together we are strong," says Johan Dahlqvist, Chair of the Municipal Executive

To meet the needs of local businesses, the municipality hosts events such as Business Breakfasts, offering opportunities to present, network, and discuss current topics. Another key meeting place is Älvsbyn Business Center, a hub for workshops and collaborations, often in partnership with other regional actors.

Committee.

"The breakfast meetings let us highlight local companies and inspire one another. The Business Center is a natural arena for ideas to grow – a place where entrepreneurs can meet the municipality at any stage of their journey," explains Anna Lindberg, Municipal Chief Executive.

#### PROXIMITY MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Älvsbyn's strength lies in short distances between people.

"It's easy to get in touch here. Proximity means quick decisions, fast solutions, and real collaboration," says Lindberg.

The municipality also works to link schools and local businesses, ensuring future

competence, while being part of a larger labor market – within 45 minutes you can reach other cities, making recruitment easier.

## OPTIMISM AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

With around 800 active companies, Älvsbyn is one of Sweden's most business-dense municipalities and continues to rise in national rankings.

"We have a young business community full of optimism. Entrepreneurs here rarely feel alone – and we're proud of the diversity of businesses that contribute to our growth," says Dahlqvist.

The vision is clear: Älvsbyn – a small municipality with big opportunities, where entrepreneurship thrives.





ÄLVSBYN - THE PEARL OF **NORRBOTTEN** 





Click the icon to get answers to your moving questions – the Relocation Guide is waiting for you!





