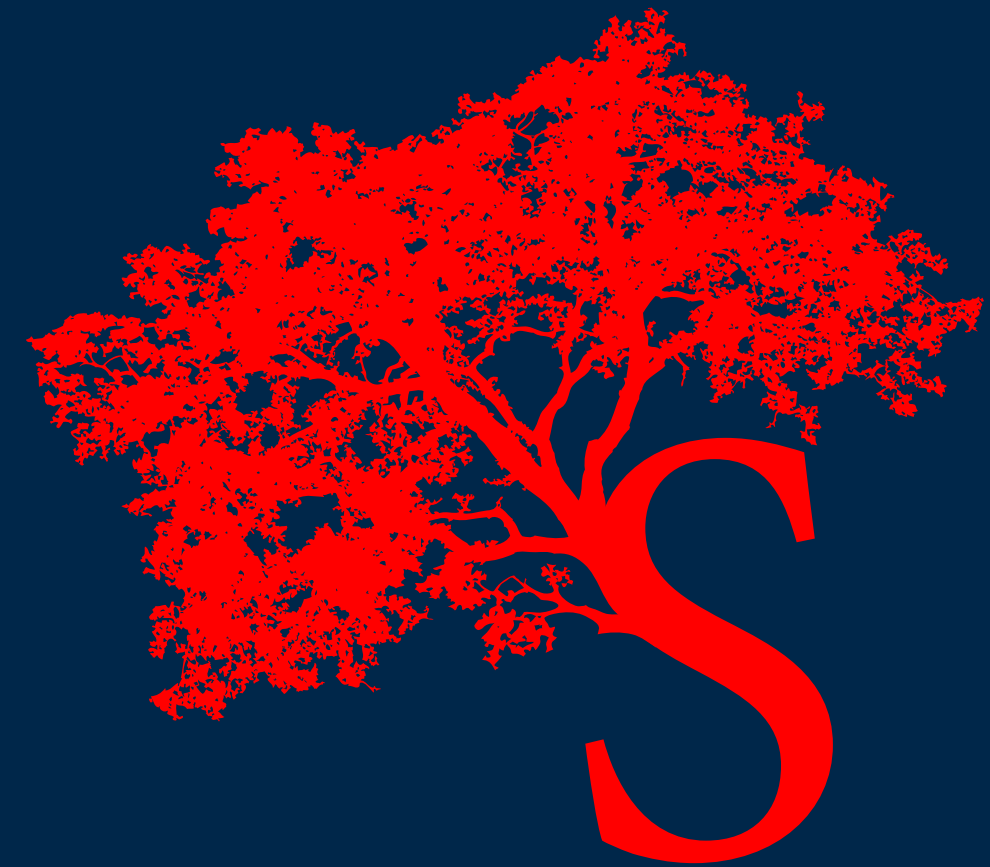




 SKARGAARDEN

*Original leisure furniture from Scandinavia*





THERE ARE MOMENTS THAT  
DETERMINE HOW YOU LIVE  
THE REST OF YOUR LIFE  
THIS IS ONE OF THEM







## WE MAKE FURNITURE FOR THE TIME WHEN ALL OBLIGATIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN CARE OF

Time is short and therefore precious. It's a question of supply and demand. The most valuable time of all is the time you carve out for yourself, when you can treat yourself to being entirely unproductive and settle down with a book or see friends. Since our furniture is created for these moments, so it can remain free from today's demands of efficiency, productivity or utility.

You might think that its purpose is unimportant or superficial, but nothing could be further from the truth.

It's these stress-free moments that balance the rest of our lives: a role of epic proportions and of crucial importance.

This is why our furniture is made without compromise. We allow only beauty and quality to determine how we select and treat our materials. Crafting our furniture takes the time it takes. We make furniture for those who find life too fleeting for compromises, for those who never settle for second best. It's not about showing off. It's about enjoying life.





## NO EFFICIENCY IN SIGHT

The frame of one chair in our Häringe series is made from stainless steel, to which we attach slats of oak. Each screw is inserted by hand, and this alone takes time. The choice of oak is both logical and natural. Here in Scandinavia, we've built ships from oak for hundreds of years. Oak did the work of steel before steel existed; it was watertight and resistant to rot. Back then, oak took ships safely through the salty storms of the Atlantic. Now it ensures that our furniture survives rainy Swedish summers.

But before we get as far as inserting the screws, the frame of the chair must be carefully welded. This is followed by hours of painstaking planing and polishing until the seams and joints vanish to become one with the mate-

rial. Each oak slat is oiled and cleaned several times with a carefully developed oil – yet another time-consuming operation. Prior to this, we dry the oak, under far more demanding conditions than are considered necessary, to be sure that it can cope with its future stresses. This entails up to four more weeks of additional drying.

As you might expect, it would not be difficult for a consultant to identify possible streamlining and rationalization methods in our production process, if we were to allow them. Everything we do takes time.

But if you're going to do something permanent, something that will be around for generations to come, this is how it needs to be done.





## FROM THE INSIDE

Our Falsterbo and Häringe series is designed by the duo of Joacim Wahlström and Carl Jägnefält. We already knew that they were extremely talented when they joined us. They were also understanding and tolerant with us when we disagreed and had comments to make during the process. Looking back, we appreciate their patience for our occasionally rather extreme demands.

Egil Jansson, who designed our Vidinge hanging chair, arrived one day with a scale model of a beautiful and intricate design that he wanted to show us. We were fascinated by it, saw that it would work in full scale, and gladly included it in our catalogue.

The next step was to find a furniture maker. We realized quite quickly that we would have things made in the Tibro area, some three hundred kilometres west of Stockholm. Here we found carpenters with traditions of craftsmanship stretching back for generations, who took our sketches very

seriously and who helped us to perfect every detail of our designs. They understood the values we saw in our uncompromising approach and appreciated our view on the value of craftsmanship.

When we talked to glass artists about how to make a square lamp, we heard about a glassblower who could help us. A man who also worked for more than ten years on a single stained-glass window for a church. And even though stained-glass windows have no connection with what we do, we liked what it says about this person. Ten years for one window. This is someone who is unlikely to compromise.

The tree-shaped engraving in our logo is the result of sixty hours of precision work with a tiny drill. The lamp is standing on the floor beside me as I write this, shining as a reminder of what our uncompromising approach means in practice.



*Someone is outside, someone else is inside. They breathe the same air and sit in the same chair. One of life's wonderful curiosities.*











## A SUMMER THAT CAN ONLY HAPPEN HERE

We are Scandinavian, and this affects both us and the furniture we make. We want to be outdoors, but our summers are fleeting. June, July and August need to infuse us with sufficient energy so that we can cope with the other nine months of the year. Unfortunately, usually at least one of these three months fails in its task. Often two. Sometimes almost three.

During these three brief months, we concentrate more. There is more daylight in June, more dew in July and more moonlight in August. Plants work in shifts to keep up. Rose Bay Willow Herb relieve Lupins and Sticky

Catchfly take over from Forget-Me-Nots. The Siberian tundra lies due east, where mammoth roamed not so long ago, but we don't care about this because we have managed to crush the darkness of the year so hard, that we have produced some beautiful little summer diamonds. And we cannot waste these on poor quality furniture.

Furniture must also be tough enough to withstand the cusps of summer in spring and autumn, with the climate as it is in the archipelago, where rain, sun and storms take turns as best they can.





So what's this summer all about? If you are not the slightest bit poetic, you can take the meteorologist's line and say that it's summer "when the daily average temperature stabilises above 10 degrees."

Well, okay.

If you are less scientifically minded, you have considerably more options. Early summer, for example, can be used to describe any day when you have had enough of the self-important spring, which lingers after winter, and grates with its budding and dripping. One year it's at the end of April, the next year it's sometime after May.

Midsummer is at the summer solstice, when large swathes of Scandinavia have no night.

Highsummer tends to be in July. This might seem a bit silly perhaps, but those who want to, can include the first

half August as well and make it synonymous with dogdays, a time when yoghurt goes sour if you leave it out.

And then comes late summer; say the second half of August. Crayfish, fermented herring and a full moon so large it seems to be at arm's length. Indian Summer is a gorgeous name for a summer that has freed itself from the calendar's rigidity and that remains well into September – and yes, sometimes even until October.

The common denominator to all this? Quite possibly the word "outdoors". Balconies, gardens, parks, wilderness. Wherever you can place a chair, sit down and imagine how it must feel to describe summer as something to do with average daily temperatures.

Because what does average matter when you live one moment at a time?





# WHEN SUN AND MOON SHARE THE SKY

The year’s brightest night is no night at all. Across large areas of Scandinavia it is bright around the clock. It is not surprising that so many myths surround midsummer: pagan rituals about sex, life and death. Slaves sacrificed for the harvest, seed cast over the earth. Slaughter and desire.

The midsummer pole, thrust into the bosom of Mother Earth. Animals and flowers that could speak that night. Young girls placing seven sorts of flowers under their pillows, dreaming of their future lover. You reap what you sow. As you pollinate the wild and placate her, you are rewarded.

Nowadays, the sacrifices have faded into the past. And fertility rights are performed in guest cottages and camping sites. Mysticism is reduced to a minimum and the trinity that presides over everything consists of aquavit, herring and joyous songs.

But it is enough to leave the party in the small hours to be transported back to the past. Where the sound of the party fades, giving way to the sounds of nature: this is where time stands still.

The night that never ends. The mirror-still lake inviting you to bathe as the sun and moon share the sky.









## THE ARCHIPELAGO: WHERE SPARE TIME IS SPENT BEST

People have always sought out the seaside as a place to relax. Some time around 1870 it became popular to build holiday homes in the Stockholm archipelago. No wonder, since the city stank, like only a city can stink when clean water is scarce, and while dung, rubbish and untreated sewage ferment in the sun.

Wealthy factory owners and traders built huge wooden properties, with promenades, cocktail verandas and space for both entertainment and servants. And they swam. Just for fun.

The rugged fishermen shook their windswept heads at their whimsical behaviour. August Strindberg sat in his cabin writing. Anders Zorn painted and flirted with the same motif. And Gustaf Fröding bathed in the nude.

Two wars later, ordinary people came out to the archipelago and built small, basic summer cottages. More followed, renting properties, becoming summer visitors.

Today, the archipelago is synonymous with free time. It is exclusive and expensive. And utterly fantastic.



## WE ARE THE LEGACY OF A TRADITION THAT FEELS ENTIRELY MODERN

Prior to the Industrial Revolution, every product had a story to it. Every object that was made was the result of an idea combined with a great deal of time.

Problem-solving and ingenuity, artistry and purpose. It's how cases and bridal chests were made. It's how baskets and wool gloves were produced. Not to mention furniture, wooden horses, dresses, whisks, boots, axes, fences and ropes.

Everything.

No, there's no romantic glow over this. People have had it hellishly hard over the years. Hunger and hard labour. They would happily have bought mass-produced,

soulless products that cost nothing. But today we have met our basic needs. We have everything we could possibly need and can begin to seek out objects that have their own story again. Suddenly, in just a hundred years or so, the carefully constructed has become luxury.

Skargaarden's furniture is made with total attention to every detail. The materials are simple and straightforward, exactly in keeping with traditional techniques used prior to the Industrial Revolution. Leather, iron, oak and textiles. The design is anchored in a Scandinavian tradition of simplicity, at the expense of ostentation and ornamentation.





*Häringe*



## HÄRINGE

Häringe Castle nestles by Landfjärden Bay. It had stood there for 272 years when Torsten Kreuger purchased it in 1929. Torsten was a man with little understanding of historically listed buildings and a keen interest for new fashions.

He quickly installed a fridge in the kitchen, a skittle alley in one of the wings and Sweden's first outdoor swimming pool in the castle gardens.

Over time, the castle became a jet-set haunt where one could see both Josephine Baker and Greta Garbo. Decadent? Perhaps a bit. Fashionable? To some extent.

If you were to design a piece of furniture according to the same principles, you could base it on solid traditions with precise, balanced lines. To the classic, original design you might add a wasteful playfulness and a very relaxed way of relating to luxury.

This was what we did when we developed the range of dining furniture we call Häringe. Greta Garbo would have been the perfect accessory. But it works with any mysterious beauty in dark sunglasses.





*Jean-Paul Sartre argued that anxiety is not just a veil separating us from an event; on the contrary, anxiety is an integral part of an event. Perhaps he should have tried eating breakfast on a jetty from time to time.*











*Häringe on the veranda. In the main picture on the right are the lounge chairs and coffee table in the foreground, with dining chairs in the background. In the small image below is the sun-bed, relaxing in the summer glow.*







*Häringe lounge chairs with solid iron legs and frames, and with seat, back and arm supports made from strong oak. Leather cushions from Svenljunga.*





*Occasionally, life is so simple that you have to be careful not to over-think and overcomplicate things. Water? 23°. No algae blooms in sight.*





*The Häringe sun-bed offers decadent luxury. White leather. On the jetty. For lying about and doing nothing.*



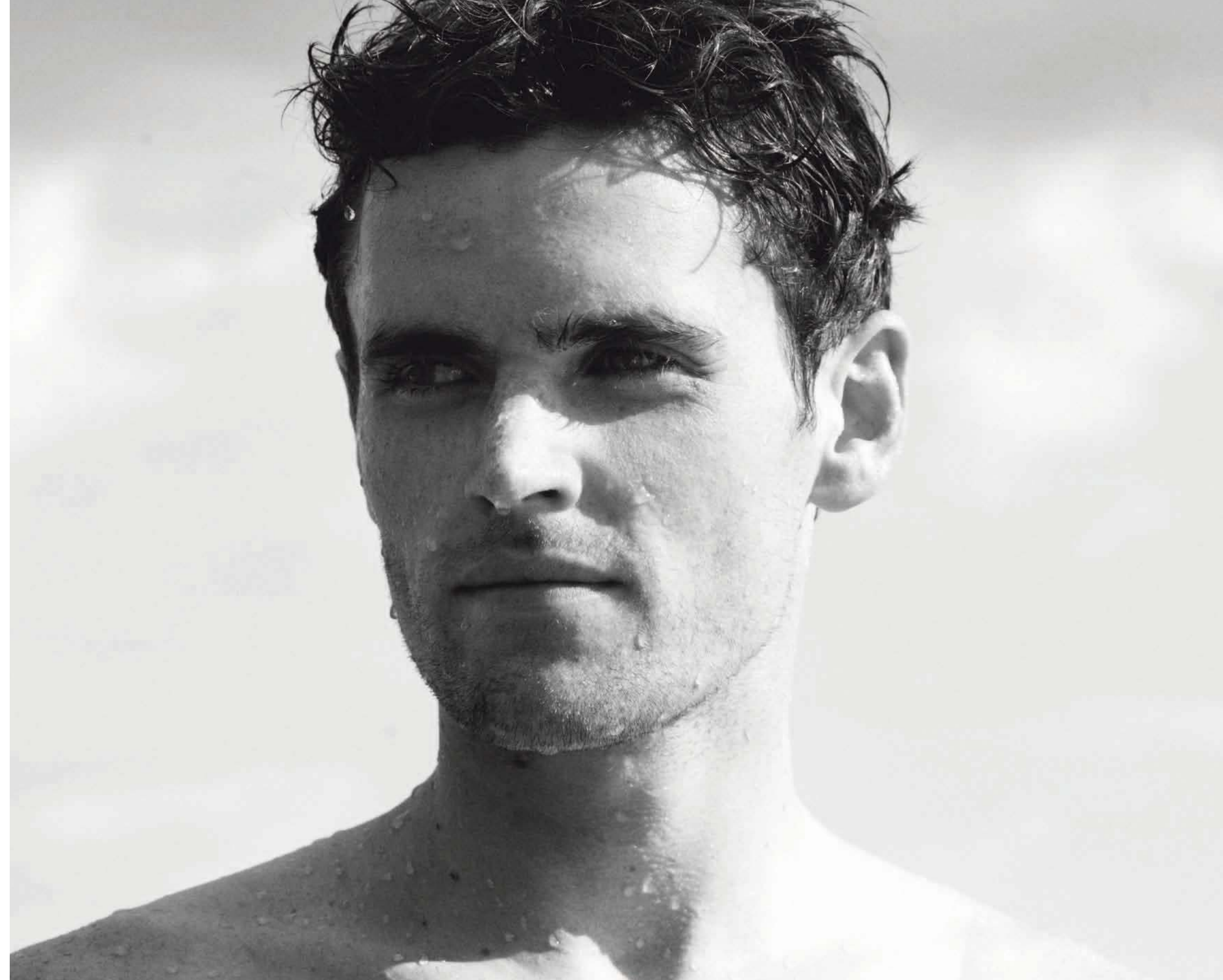


*There was a time when island life was full of privations and hardships, when the sea was a friend, enemy, colleague and adversary. Everyone fought and toiled. Some sailed out, never to return home. Life and death lived on the same island. And today? Well, it's not quite as tough these days. But of course, when a photographer takes a still photo of eight chairs and a table on a jetty, there's bound to be a bit of carrying involved. That's just the way it is.*





*Nature is the constantly unfolding story of our planet. It's 4.6 billion years old. Nevertheless, we believe that we have power over it. For example, by laying a floor of wooden planks on grass and earth. Grandiose vanity, to say the least. But also extremely pleasant when guests drop by.*





*Falsterbo*





## FALSTERBO

There is something grand in the name Falsterbo. It expands slowly, letter by letter. One need only print it to produce a logo that exudes bohemian nobility and natural privilege. Just say the word and imagine the shoreline embracing the sea, which turns to kiss the sky.

In this harmonious summer idyll, artist Joseph Frank drew five summer houses – the only ones he drew in Sweden. Here, southern Swedish nobility bathes in the nude. And, of course, there are also golf clubs and horse shows.

Our Falsterbo lounge series encapsulates all this in a very casual elegance, where strict lines are accompanied by generous cushions.

Ideally, they should be placed in the sparse pine forest near the sea. But it works on your veranda, too. Guaranteed.









*It is no coincidence that we have an expression  
that claims "to feel something in the seams". Do  
it with the pillows in our Falsterbo range.  
And while you're about it, do it with the oak  
frame as well.*







*Our furniture is not really suitable for people  
who brood, who formulate pretentious theo-  
ries about what summer really is. But they are  
perfect for resting on once the sun has dried the  
water from your skin.*







*Falsterbo lounge chairs are wide enough for two, as long as they are good friends. Indeed, you could probably get three on them, if at least two of them were children. Or perhaps Golden Retrievers.*







*Falsterbo sun-chairs serve as low, broad stands for a beach boule match. On the right we see an exhausted sportsman preparing for his next match in a Falsterbo 3-seat lounge sofa. After all, at the highest levels, rest is just as important as training.*





*Backgammon is about 5,000 years old.  
Our Falsterbo series is significantly more  
youthful. Still, the two are happy to reach  
across the generations, and meet.*







*August arrives with a darkness that gives us an excuse to bring out the Skargaarden candlelight and snuggle into a Falsterbo lounge chair. An experience that can be embellished with accessories such as "novel" or "blanket" for those who so wish.*





*Someone travels the world in restless pursuit of something. Himself, maybe. Or the meaning of life. But the best place in the world may well be far out on a simple wooden jetty. And then it's only reasonable to bring a Falsterbo sofa along. Although the neighbours might wonder what you're up to.*





*A conservatory can of course be supplemented with a footbath. Well, it can for those with good friends who are happy to help to move a sofa to the right place.*



Near Sollenkroka,  
one June evening.





The barbeque is glowing orange with ashy edges. It is a minor miracle, one that scientists the world over have sought to answer in vain. Anything from the grill tastes good.

Why is this?

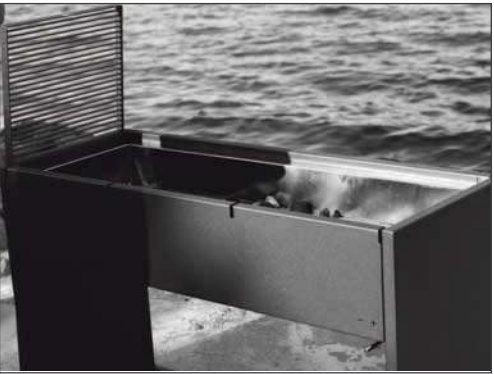
The meat is brought out of its slumbering marinade - delicious. Fish rubbed in oil and lime - delicious. Aubergines, simply sliced with salt and pepper - delicious. Asparagus, chicken legs, lobster, pineapple and peaches - all

delicious. Over and over again.

If you ask your genes who you are, they'll tell you you're a Stone Age man. Built for walking, hunting and gathering. Trained for a thousand years to grill food over fire and embers.

But unlike a caveman, you can complete the experience with salt, spices and a good bottle of Zinfandel. And sit on a lovely Håringe chair.





*Aubergine from the shop on the square, chicken from a local farmer, tomatoes from the corner shop. Young dandelion leaves from an overgrown lawn and wild oregano.*





*It was one of those nights so perfect that all the poets stopped writing and all the artists put down their brushes, because nobody would be able to do it justice. Thankfully, we had a photographer on location who refused to give up.*











*Häringe dining furniture, for all occasions, but above all a perfect sunset, great food and loads of good friends.*







*When spring was chilly and timid, the Falsterbo series of lounge furniture stood in front of the veranda's glass windows and longed to go outside. Now summer has arrived, and they can enjoy just basking in the sunshine.*







*In late summer, night arrives with a sudden thud. But in June it creeps up on you at snail's pace, always surprising. Combine this with pleasant company, and someone is certain to say "Gosh, is that the time already?"*

















