Consider the following
For the benefit of everyone and for the consideration of sensitive wild-
life there are certain rules, including:

- You are not permitted to dig up
plants, pick oysters, remove or
rearrange stones.

- Your dog must be on a lead.

- You may not light a fire other
than at the designated areas.

- You may not cycle or operate
motor vehicles other than on
roads.

- You may only camp two days
in a row at the same place.

- On Sydkoster camping is not
allowed, nor between the hours
of 10.00 and 18.00 on Tenhol-
mana, Burholmen, Bockhol-
men and Store Bros between
the 1st July and 15th August.

Regulations can be found on the infor-
mation signs in the national park. Ad
jacent to the park there are areas which
are nature reserves, including Nord- and
Sydkoster. Other regulations may apply
to visitors in these areas, see the signs in
the respective reserves.

Kosterhavet National Park was established in 2009 and is the first national park
in Sweden which protects marine wildlife. The majority of the almost 39,000 ha
of the park is water, less than 900 ha is land. It is one of the largest national parks
in Sweden, and stretches from the Norwegian border in the north and south to the
waters outside of Grebbestad. All of the land and water is owned by the State. The
aim of the national park is to conserve the distinctive and species rich marine
and archipelago area as well as adjacent land in an essentially unchanged condition.
Kosterhavet National Park is managed on behalf of the County Administrative
Board by the Kosterhavet delegation.

Additional information:
The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency tel +46 (0)8 698 10 00
www.naturvardsverket.se
www.kosterhavet.se

The aim of the national parks in Sweden is to conserve large areas in their natural condi-
tion with valuable habitats, flora and fauna etc. They should be made accessible for the
public without the loss of their original character.

Within zone A motorised vehicles
must not be driven faster than 5
knock between the 15th May and
31st August.

Within zone B motorised vehicles
must not be driven other than to
and from mooring sites.
Kosterhavet National Park
– the most species rich sea in Sweden

Kosterhavet is the first marine national park in Sweden. Under the surface you meet woodlands of seaweed and meadows of swaying eel grass. Crabs and lobsters crawl about on the sea bed, and shoals of mackerel shoot like arrows through the salty water. Hidden in the dark depths are lamp shells, tall sea pens and Lophelia pertusa the cold water coral.

Kosterhavet is the most species-rich marine environment in Sweden with over 6000 different marine animals and sea- weed. All of the underwater species from the west coast are found here, as well as a large number of species which have their main or only known distribution just here.

Many of the rare and unique species are associated with the deep trench in the Koster Fjord. It runs through the national park from north to south and has a maximum depth of 247 m. The trench continues all the way out to the North Atlantic continental shelf, from where oceanic water with a high salt content and low temperature comes into the Atlantic so close to the shore. Genetic studies have shown that the only living coral reef in Kosterhavet, which lies in Säcken, originates from one of the Norwegian reefs. Together both parks create a protected marine environment of almost 800 square kilometres.

Places to visit – some tips
There is always something to do at Kosterhavet; swimming in the summer, the stillness of the spring and autumn and the roaring storms of the winter. Here are a few gems:

- Resö harbour – living fishing village
- Rossi harbour – historical shellfish centre
- Kokholmens – hiking and bird watching
- Tjärnö – marine research station and aquarium
- Saltö – coastal pine woodland and rocky beaches
- Långvik on Sydkoster – excellent snorkling waters
- Brevik on Sydkoster – coastal meadows and heathlands
- Ursholmen – seals, geology and wide horizons

With your own boat
There are huge opportunities to discover the rich wildlife and archipelago of the national park if you have your own boat. Remember to keep your speed down for the consideration of both other people and wildlife – waves, exhaust fumes and engine noise increase the faster you drive.
Respect the seal and bird protection areas.

• You may moor or lay anchor in the same place for a maximum of two days in a row.
• You may not drag up or moor boats or lay anchor closer than 50 metres from sandy beaches. Canoes and kayaks can be dragged up onto the beaches if they do not block the swimming areas.

How to get to Kosterhavet
Kosterhavet National Park lies in northern Bohuslän and can be reached from several of the coastal towns. Take the train along the Bohusbana or follow the E6 motorway north towards the Norwegian border. Koster boatsleave from Strömstad throughout the year, which on their way to the Koster Islands pass through the national park. From the islands of Resö, Rossi and Tjärnö there are lovely views over Kosterhavet and you can also find information there.