

Major military exercise in Västerås in September

A major military exercise will take place in September and will have an impact on traffic and accessibility on the roads in the Västerås areas. The exercise goes under the name Aurora 17 and is the largest military exercise of its kind for more than 20 years.

All units in the Swedish Armed Forces and more than 19,000 men and women will take part. The exercise also involves a number of public authorities and other countries. The County Administrative Board in Västmanland and several parties within U-Sam (the emergency management cooperation in Västmanland County) will also take part.

When will the exercise take place?

The exercise will take place from 11 to 29 September. Traffic in Västmanland will mainly be affected from Monday 18 September to Wednesday 27 September.

How will the exercise affect local inhabitants in Västerås?

The impact on the local inhabitants will vary. There will be substantial transport of military vehicles and personnel to the necessary locations before, during and after the exercise. Vehicles and personnel will be transported by air, water, road and rail.

How will the people in Västerås be affected by the exercise?

The entire Mälardalen area will be affected by the Aurora 17 exercise. A large number of vehicles will be on the roads in Västmanland. Traffic will mainly be affected from Monday 18 September to Wednesday 27 September.

Where will the military transport be most noticeable?

The Unit in the Västerås/Sala area mainly deals with logistics services and is grouped around west Västerås (Hässlö – Irsta), north Västerås (including Hökåsen), Sala (the mining area) and Saladamm. Transport of logistics resources will mainly take place from 18 September to 22 September along the E18 highway, the old E18 road and trunk road 70, but also on the smaller network of roads that forms links with the main roads.

Transport of military units from the exercise area in Enköping to the exercise area south of Mälaren will take place over the weekend from 23 to 25 September, with large volumes of traffic travelling through Enköping. The road mainly affected will be trunk road 55 (Enköping – Strängnäs) and the stretch leading to trunk road 56 (Västerås - Eskilstuna). (Source:

<http://www.forsvarsmakten.se/sv/var-verksamhet/ovningar/aurora-17/har-ovar-vi/>)

Where will the exercise take place?

The main areas for the exercise will be in Mälardalen and Stockholm, on and around Gotland and in Gothenburg. The Swedish Armed Forces will also make use of land outside their own exercise areas and shooting ranges. Landowners and residents in these areas will receive special notification of the exercise. The exercise will be conducted in the air, on land and at sea. Units from all over Sweden will be involved.

Where can I find more information on Aurora 17?

More detailed information is provided on the County Administrative Board's website:

<http://www.lansstyrelsen.se/Vastmanland/Sv/manniska-och-samhalle/krisberedskap/Pages/forsvarsmaktsovning-aurora-17.aspx>

Detailed information, video and FAQ can be found on the website for the Swedish Armed Forces:

<http://www.forsvarsmakten.se/sv/var-verksamhet/ovningar/aurora-17/>