

LADONIA



Ladonia was founded in June 1996. The place is a nature reserve in the south of Sweden with an area of one square kilometer. The Swedish artist Lars Vilks started to build a construction, "Nimis", on this spot in 1980. It became massive, and in 1982 it also became a matter for the Country Administration Board, the police and the courts. It was built as a work of art with no permission. The trials (since 1982 approximately one trial every year) brought the work a lot of publicity. The artist was quite successful, and the authorities were not able to have the pieces removed as he sold them, first to Joseph Beuys and, after Beuys's death, to Christo. In the nineties, two other pieces were erected in concrete: Arx and Omfalos. As the area was more or less permanently occupied, the artist decided to announce a new country. Thus Ladonia became an area that couldn't be controlled by Swedish authorities. Vilks acted as Chancellor of Ladonia until 1997, when the number of registered citizens exceeded one thousand. At this point, elections were held on the Internet. Ladonia became a remony, a republican monarchy with a president, Fernando Rodrigues from Brazil, and a queen, Ywonne I Jarl. The regents were a part of the cabinet together with a number of ministers. Vilks became (and still is) the state secretary.

- > The name of the nation comes from the dragon Ladon of Greek mythology.
- > The currency is Örtug, 1 Örtug is 10 SEK or 1.3 US dollars. Existing banknotes are 1, 100 and 500 000 000 000 Örtug.
- > The National Anthem is the sound of a stone thrown into water.
- > The flag is green with a green cross in the same color.

- > The National Day is the 2nd of June and is always celebrated with a parade of elephants.
- > The National Dish is peregrine falcon after a prescription by the Minister of Brain.
- > The newspaper, Ladonia Herald, is published on the Internet every month.
- > The capital of Ladonia is called Wotan City.

Citizens are either ordinary citizens or, for a small fee, they can become nobles. The certificate of nationality is either a green passcard or an electronic document for the citizens, whereas the nobles receive letters of nobility.

The Ladonian language has two words: waaaaaaaall for everyday use, and the more solemn jþ.

In Ladonia, there is always a great celebration party going on called the Feast of Thuban, celebrating the new polar star Thuban. The banquet started on 28th January 1998 at 8:15, and will end after 46 604 years when Thuban has moved to its position.

An important project in motion is the moving of Gizeh pyramids from Egypt to Ladonia. The three objects will be placed upside down in order to save space. The first stone was moved from the top of Mykerinos' pyramid in 1999.

In 1998, Ladonia was officially visited by the Danish Minister of Culture, Elsebeth Gerner Nielsen, which was considered an offence by the Swedish government. On this occasion, Ladonia opened the discussion of joining NATO.

Since Sweden does not recognise the independence of Ladonia, a constant war has been raging between the two countries since 1996. Sweden has been using legal measures and law enforcement to war against Ladonia. In 2001, the police removed Omfalos – a 1.60 meter (5'3") high sculpture made of concrete – in an undercover operation using a crane boat. Ladonia was fighting a defensive war until the 5th of July 2003, when the country was strong enough to start an offensive campaign. Because it is certain that the USA has weapons of mass destruction in its possession, and may not be trusted, Ladonia declared war against it too. The war is fought with rather unusual methods:

- > Our 227 citizens living in Norway will advance to the Swedish border and each one will throw a spear into Sweden.
- > The landmine "Diana" is ecofriendly, consisting of a balloon filled with salt and hidden in the ground. It can also be used as a war ratle.
- > Doing the Helicopter; Ladonians swinging their jackets over their heads.
- > Changing a few of the 500 billion örtug banknotes into Swedish money.
- > The very big cuckoo clock used as a battle machine with steel birds repeatedly attacking the Swedish army (best at 12 o'clock).
- > The flying and diving cow, trained and introduced by Andrea, our minister of animals from Italy.
- > Connecting high-tension line with the telephone network.

Ladonia will fight a modern war, a war of attention and media interest.

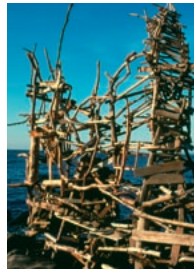
New citizens arrive to Ladonia every day through its homepage. The number of applications from Pakistan started to increase in the beginning of 2002, when thousands of applications were being sent. It was soon obvious that the Pakistanis thought of Ladonia as a way of finding jobs and housing in Europe. The incident was mentioned in a Swedish newspaper and from there it suddenly went all over the world: BBC, CNN, etc. From this moment on Ladonia has been widely known. The influence of media made the Pakistani misunderstandings diminish, but applications for citizenship and ministries from more than 100 countries followed. The population increased from 5 000 to 10 000 within a couple of months.

Ladonia has two major inputs: the physical constructions on a marvellous piece of land, and all the people involved in making creative contributions to the country through internet. Much of the best work is done by the members of the cabinet, the ministers, the queen and the president. These people are mainly not artists, but their creative ability is often impressive. The list below is a presentation of the most important and active ministers.

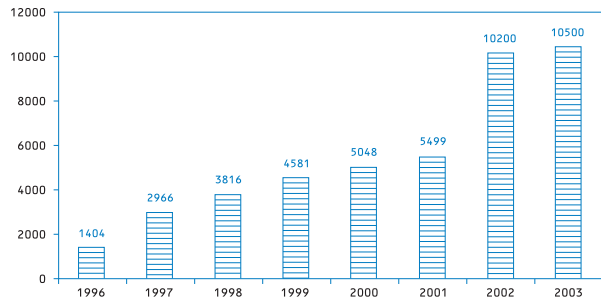
Kicki Hankell (Sweden) Vice President, Minister of Guardian Angels [Adrian Suarez \(Argentina\) Minister of Unnumbered Things \(Ambassador of Argentina\) Unnumbered things should be regulated, and classified \(without numbering\).](#) Alexander Kozirev (Alien in Latvija) Minister of Alien Citizens [Anders Löwdin \(Sweden\) Minister of Internet](#) Dr. Andras Palotas (Hungary) Minister of Intelligence [Betsy Thaggard \(Texas\) Minister of Poke Sallet and Fulsome Absurdity](#) BJ Mitchell (USA) Minister of Extraterrestrial Oceans [C-J Charpentier \(Sweden\) Minister of Harley-Davidson Motorcles](#) Carlos Andrés (Spain) Minister of the Dark Side, Ambassador of Spain [Carolina Cecilia Rovner \(Argentina\) Minister of Rock-Paper-Scissor Game](#) Cihan Ergül (Turkey) Minister of Offence [Edna Montes \(Mexico\) Minister of Psciology](#) Elis Holm (Sweden) Minister of Fireworks [Emanuel Bock \(Toomas Mathiesen\) \(Sweden\) Minister of Health](#) Fredrik Larsson (Sweden) Eternal Minister of Art and Jump [Gunnar Jarl \(Sweden\) Minister of Unschooling](#) Hunter Tammaro (USA) Minister of Duct Tape and High Voltage [Jaidie Choi \(S. Korea\) Minister of East Asian Affairs](#) James Hartman (USA) Minister of Future Science [James Morris \(England\) Minister of Vampire Affairs](#) Jeremy Owen Turner (Canada) Minister of Avatar Affairs [Lord Jörgen Frithiof \(Sweden\) Minister of Offense](#) Krister Thelin (Sweden) Minister of Justice [Lars Vipsjö \(Sweden\) Minister of Hunting and Game Preservation](#) Lee Bacall (USA) Minister of Postal Services [Leif Eriksson \(Sweden\) Minister of Pictures](#) Len Rodman (USA) Minister of Existentialism [Lester Jochum \(USA\) Ministry of Native Americans Tribes in Arizona](#) Lisa Johnson (USA) Minister of Mythological Beasts [Countess Madeleine \(USA\) Eternal Minister of Tennis and Figure Skating](#) Margareta Granvik (Sweden) Minister of Jazz [Marie Tilander \(Sweden\) Minister of Good Wine Drinking](#) Mikael Hansen (Denmark) Minister of the Ecology of Highways [Mike Arman \(USA\) Minister of Finance \(Official Pilot\)](#) Miloslav Surgos (Slovakia) Minister of Coincidence and Destiny [Nada Pavlak \(Australia\) Minister of All Things that Virtually Don't Exist \(ATTVDE\)](#) Pablo Linares (Argentina) MINISTRY OF UNDERWATER RELATIONS THOUGH NOT THOSE COVERED BY THE MINISTRY OF SUBAQUATIC TERRITORIES. [Pascale Camus-Walter \(France\) Minister of Lost Time](#) Per Cod (Norway) Minister of Yellow Snow, Ambassador of Bergen [Lord Peter Kimay \(Sweden\) Minister of Subaquatic Territories](#) Peter Lundgren (Sweden) Minister of Evolution and Slow Change (Former Minister of Constant Revolution) [Phil Halfhill \(USA\) Minister of Positive Ideas for The Nations of the World](#) Count Riccard (Sweden) Minister of Herpetology (President of Ladonian Football Unions) [Richard Ahlquist \(Sweden\) Minister of Defence](#) Robin Raygor (USA) Minister of Written Hope [Rui de Sousa \(Portugal\) Minister of Future Hope](#) Satish Shama (India) Minister of Indian Interests and Java [Lord SigWhig \(Sweden\) Minister of Idleness](#) Svenborg Mellström (Sweden) Minister of Mail [Thomas Diestel \(Sweden\) Minister of Accomodation and Tourism](#) Tiit Mathiesen (Sweden) Minister of Brain [Tim Neale \(England\) Minister of Zen](#) Count Torby (Sweden) Minister of History [Walter Ehresman \(USA\) Minister of Dubious Anthems](#) Vera Porad Falk (Sweden) State Graphic, Minister of Extraordinary Affairs or Extraordinary Minister [Wenche Blomberg, Widow Countess \(Norway\) Minister of Madness and euforic travel](#) Ximena Mariela Florido Soria (Bolivia) Minister of Cookies with Chocolate Sparks and Ambassador in La Paz



Wotan's Tower in Wotan City, the capital of Ladonia



Detail of Wotan's Tower



Population Growth Ladonia



A view of the sea through the stone book Arx



Nimis, part of Wotan City, the capital of Ladonia



The stone book Arx in the winter



State Secretary Vilks makes the Ladonian greeting at the national day on 2nd of June

Founded: 1996
Government type: Remony [Republican monarchy]
Head of state: President Fernando Rodrigues and Queen Ywonne I Jarl
Territory: Kullaberg [Southern Sweden]
Area: 1 square km
Geographical coordinates: [approx.] 56° S : 13° E
Population: 10.515 [10. 7. 2003]
Population growth: no data
Net migration ratio: no data
Sex ratio: no data
Ethnic groups [%]: no data
Languages: Ladonian / and officially accepted: English, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, German, Spanish, French
Currency: Örtug
Anthem: a stone thrown into water
International organizations participation: none
International disputes: War with Sweden [inofficially 1996-2003] The war against Sweden and the United States of America was proclaimed on the 5th of July 2003. On the 8th of July this war also included San Marino.



The stone book Arx in the summer