







# A long history

- Already in 1645 Wången became known for housing riding hunters
- In 1903 the centre for the Swedish coldblooded horse was established at Wången
- In 1996 Wången became the national centre of education and development for the Swedish harness racing business
- In 2005 the Icelandic horse came to Wången





Foto: Thomas Blomqvist

# Wången AB

- One of three equine centres in Sweden, the others are Flyinge AB and Ridskolan Strömsholm.
- Approx 60 employees and 200 students per year (on various educations)
- Turnover approx 50 million SEK annually
- During 1996–2022 150 million SEK have been invested in Wångens facilities
- In close cooperation with Svensk Travsport and Svenska Islandshästförbundet



Foto: Thomas Blomqvist

# Education

## Secondary school

- Three year programme:  
Harness racing- lad drivers  
Icelandic horse – grooms

## University (tertiary level)

- Bachelor in Equine Science in cooperation with SLU- Swedish Agricultural University
  - Harness racing
  - Icelandic horse, Instructor level

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Foto: Thomas Blomqvist

# Education

Higher vocational education (post-secondary, non-tertiary) in close cooperation with the industry

- Farrier, 3 years (Advanced Higher Vocational Education Diploma)
- Draught Horse Handler, 1 year, part-time (Higher Vocational Education Diploma)

Adult education ("Folkhögskola", post-secondary)

Shorter or longer courses to prepare for the horse business, e g

- Groom, 20 weeks  
Harness racing or Icelandic horse
- Professional trainer (harness racing)

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Blodprov tas på Staro Gretzky (unghästprojektet) efter ett snabbjobb.



Staro Glory Days (unghästprojektet) klarar kvalloppet trots startgalopp.

## Research and development

- Research on athletic and working horses (harness racing horses, Icelandic horses and draught horses)
- Research focus on exercise physiology, nutrition, interaction horse-human and on hoofs
- Other projects: Laterality in Icelandic horses – with assistant prof Eyjolfur Isolfsson (Wången & SLU), Trotter rein tension – Dr Elke Hartmann (SLU, Wången, Chalmers & Svensk travsport)
- Industry projects, wider research with a high number of horses involved
- Student projects





Foto: Mats Lind

# Restaurant, student housing and conference facilities

- Student housing 88 beds
- Hotel with 44 beds
- Restaurant
- Conference facilities



Foto: Alida Säflund



# Facilities for education, competitions and races

- Approx 100 horses, owned by Wången AB or private
- 120 boxes
- 1000 m racing track
- Outdoor driving tracks
- Riding grounds
- Driving and riding hall (30\*60 m)
- Oval track
- Flying pace track
- Veterinarian and farrier facilities
- Active stable





Elevpraktik på norra Island



Elevpraktik Grosbois, Frankrike

## International projects and cooperation

- Scholarships for work-based learning in France, on Iceland and in other countries for students and learners through Erasmus+
- Exchanges and cooperation focusing on education, work-based learning and good practice
- Graduates from Wången now work in e.g. Australia, Canada, USA, in France and on Iceland.



# Events

## NATIONAL

- Swedish championship for the Icelandic horse
- WR- competitions
- Training camps - a week of riding or driving, training, horse care and management (harness racing or Icelandic horse)
- Wången Cup – for apprentices in harness racing (60 races throughout the country)
- Järvsöfaks UngdomsCup – coldblooded harness racing ( 6 races throughout the country + one final race for the winners)



