

Decision of the World Heritage Committee

High Coast Year 2000 Criterion (i): *“The High Coast is one of the places in the world that is experiencing isostatic uplift as a result of deglaciation. Isostatic rebound is well-illustrated and the distinctiveness of the site is the extent of the total isostatic uplift which, at 294 m, exceeds others. The property is the "type area" for research on isostasy, the phenomenon having been first recognized and studied there.”*

Kvakren Archipelago Year 2006 Criterion (viii): *“The Kvarken Archipelago with its 5,600 islands and surrounding sea is of exceptional geological value for two main reasons. First, it is an area of rapid glacio-isostatic uplift with rates that are among the highest in the world. The uplift is ongoing and is associated with major changes in the water bodies in post glacial times. The Kvarken, along with the existing High Coast, its Swedish equivalent on the west coast of the Gulf of Bothnia, are key areas for the understanding of the processes of crustal response to the melting of the continental ice sheet. Second, the Kvarken area possesses a distinctive array of glacial depositional landforms, such as De Geer moraines, which add to the variety of glacial landscapes features in the region and reinforce the previous validity of the High Coast inscription.”*

