

Historical Tour (Luxury)

FACTS AND INFORMATION

Tour Dates:	3-14 August, 2009
Duration:	12 days, 11 nights
Arrival:	Stockholm
Departure:	Stockholm
Price pp:	SEK 34 000 (Incl. Tax)
Group size:	Max 20 people
Additional:	Copenhagen or Lapland

A HISTORICAL EXPERIENCE

Few places in Northern Europe have such a strong historical heritage as the south-eastern parts of Sweden. In AD 980, Swedish king Eric the Victorious was pointing out where he wanted his new city to be erected, making Sigtuna the first Christian city in the country. In Uppsala eighteenth-century scientist Carl von Linné created his world-famous botanical system. And with its town wall, church ruins and small-scale architecture from the Middle Ages and onwards, the whole Hanseatic town of Visby is on the World Heritage list. In summer the whole town totally explodes of a medieval atmosphere. When traveling our Historical Tour you will not only visit Sweden's historical treasures, furthermore you will stay in hotels that dates back to the 12th century and have authentic Viking-meals as the days goes by. Welcome to join our magnificent Historical Tour!

DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1-4

Twelve hundred years ago, the Swedish king established a new trading port at one of the inlets from the Baltic Sea. This place was called Birka, and became Sweden's first real town. Birka is today a popular site for excursions, where the archaeologists' continuing excavations provide insight into the daily life of the former Viking town. Together with Hovgården, Birka is one of Sweden's fourteen world heritages. At Birka, you will be greeted by a Viking Chief who will guide you through the historic island and who will also invite you to join him for a drink of mead or try out Viking handicraft. The evening ends traditionally with a Viking Buffet, fire artists and medieval music.

Discover the places in and around Uppsala where the famous Swedish scientist Carl Linnaeus lived and worked his entire adult life. We will stay in Sweden's oldest town: the picturesque Sigtuna. Sigtuna was founded approx. 980 A.D and has many old church ruins, picturesque quarters and lovely garden cafés and restaurant. Sigtuna lies at the shores of Lake Mälaren, and people visiting Sigtuna can enjoy fresh buns, newly grinded coffee, art galleries or shopping in beautiful boutiques. When in Sigtuna you will also have the possibility of walking the "Stora Gatan", the oldest street of Sweden. In AD 980, Swedish king Eric the Victorious stood here, pointing as to where he wanted his new city to be erected, making Sigtuna the first Christian city in the country. Today, a thousand years later, this street still remains intact – in its very same stretch. The area also encompasses many old rune stones and historical Viking monuments as the Viking Bridge named Jarlabankes bro or the viking Parliament, Arkils Tingplats.

Day 5-8

There are a few hotels in the world in Medieval buildings, very few of them with historically inspired interiors, and extremely few – matching the first two statements – in a UNESCO World Heritage. The Medieval Hotel of Visby is one of a kind, as far as we know, and you will have the possibility to stay here. 1100-talet In the end of the 12th century the city of Visby became one of the German Trade cities and was therefore of great importance for trading in that time. The island of Gotland is also unique with its diverse landscape. With its spiny limestone coasts, flowering beachside meadows and a medieval town centre, Gotland will amaze you. You will have the chance to try the domestic beers of the Brewery of Wisby and enjoy the atmosphere at the medieval pub Clematis. You will also attend two guided tours, exploring the cultural and historical treasures of this dreamlike island. Bike the small roads of the stony southern coast and enjoy a traditional Swedish barbecue as the sun sets in the landscape of the spiny limestone coast.

Day 9-12

Stockholm is a must when visiting Sweden. The capital is not only one of the world's most beautiful, but is also full of historical highlights. By visiting the royal palaces you will be guided through Swedish art, architecture and interior design spanning four centuries. Wander through the parks and gardens and allow our knowledgeable guides make your visit into an extra special experience. The palaces are a large part of our common Royal culture heritage in Sweden and provides us with a unique opportunity to study a milieu that holds a central part in Swedish history. In Stockholm you also find the stunning building of the City Hall, which venues the annual Nobel Prize festivities. You will also have time for a short stop at the Vasa Museum, hosting the remains of the sunken ship Vasa, which fatally capsized in 1628 just after its maiden voyage. And the fascinating districts of the Old Town, with its narrow alleys and architecture that stretches all way back to the 13th century, will help you find out for yourself that Stockholm is as outstanding as it is described in brochures and texts all over the world.

INCLUDED

- 11 nights at luxury hotels, Double Occupancy
- 11 Breakfasts
- 4 Three-course-meals
- 1 Medieval meal
- 6 Lunches
- 1 First class Touring coach
- Private historical guiding of the Royal castles
- Private historical guiding of the Vasa museum
- Archipelago Tour of Stockholm
- Historical City Sightseeing Tour of Stockholm
- Museum of scientist Carl von Linné
- Pick-Up and Drop-Off at the Airports
- Boat mainland-Gotland and back
- Luggage Storage
- A guide that will follow your group during the whole trip
- A sightseeing day to the spiny limestone coast on the north of Gotland, having a traditional Swedish Barbecue the sunset
- A medieval sightseeing across the island
- Private guiding and a sample of the domestic brewery of Wisby
- Sightseeing with boat/bus in Stockholm
- The Stockholm Card – Free Entrance to more than 75 museums, attractions and entertainments
- Private Guiding of the Vasa Museum
- Private Guiding of the Royal Palace