

## Enjoy Sweden

*After last year's successful trip to my native country Sweden, I have decided to meet more friends' requests to explore some of Sweden's best and most beautiful parts. A bouquet of Nordic delights to be enjoyed during some bright, summer days.*

**Enjoy Sweden** is a 12 days cross country tour escorted by Ulla Strandberg, starting on the west coast and Gothenburg, taking you to wilderness and beauty in arctic Lapland before ending up in Stockholm.



**Time:** 1st group 19-30 July, 2009  
2nd group 10- 21 August, 2009  
Small groups - Maximum 14 participants each group

**Gothenburg** is Sweden's second city and located on the west coast, facing the North Sea and Atlantic. Gothenburg was founded in 1621 by King Gustav II Adolf, however laid out by city planners and canal experts from the Netherlands and Germany who left a heritage of Amsterdam-style canals around the city centre. Being the busiest harbor in Sweden, Gothenburg hosted the once mighty Swedish East India Company. Together with its vast archipelago, the Gothenburg region is a popular area for all kind of tourism.



**Lapland** is the far north county of Sweden, home to the Sami minority and their exotic culture and traditions – symbolized by - amongst others, by the reindeer. Of special interest is artistic decorated chapel in Juokasjaarvi. Lapland's main settlement is **Kiruna**, featuring world's largest underground mine (iron ore) and Europe's only civil Space Center. But, not at least, Kiruna is the final outpost to the arctic wilderness and adventure.



Sweden capital **Stockholm** is built across 14 islands and is often called "Venice of the North". With more foreign visitors than any other city in Scandinavia it is also considered to be the Capital of Scandinavia. Stockholm is situated at the point where fresh water lake "Malaren" meet the Baltic Sea. With water covering one third of the city's area, plenty of bridges, marinas and locks gives Stockholm its special character. People even catch salmon in busy downtown.



## Itinerary

DAY 1 – SUNDAY 19 JULY / MONDAY 10 AUGUST

Arrival to **Gothenburg**. Transfer to Hotel Liseberg Heden.  
(D)

DAY 2 - MONDAY 20 JULY / TUESDAY 11 AUGUST

A one hour sightseeing tour by boat, accompanied by extensive information about Gothenburg's past and present, takes you under 20 bridges and part of the harbor.

At Design Museum "Röhska Museet" we meet and probably recognize the design and craftsmanship that has been spread around the world.

(B, D)

DAY 3 - TUESDAY 21 JULY / WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST

Strolling the Botanic Garden to experience summer flowers at its glance - including The Rose Garden.

Manifesting Gothenburg's position as Sweden's dominant Fish Harbor, the fish auction hall's design resembles the gothic cathedral. A must see and experience!

(B, D)

DAY 4 - WEDNESDAY 22 JULY / THURSDAY 13 AUGUST

Full day boat trip thru part of the archipelago takes us to scenic island Marstrand - home to historic fortress, fishermen dwellings and beautiful sailing yachts.

When back in town again, enjoy the mild summer evening on your own at one the many recommended outdoor restaurants and bars.

(B)

DAY 5 - THURSDAY 23 JULY / FRIDAY 14 AUGUST

After breakfast and check out, transfer to Gothenburg Airport to board Scandinavian Airlines flight (1h) bound for Kiruna in **Lapland**. Transfer to Hotel Arctic Eden.

Afternoon guided walking tour including **Kiruna** wooden "Cathedral", and visit to Atelier Nord, well equipped shop for local art & craft. This is the place where you find the special Sami knives.

Late evening Midnight Tour to experience the arctic bright light night. Coffee & Sandwich is enjoyed, gathered around the open fire.

(B, D)

DAY 6 - FRIDAY 24 JULY / SATURDAY 15 AUGUST

Visit to Esrange Space center – where rocket launches, drone testing and balloon releases for ozone research are just some of the exciting activities taking place. See Europe's only civil space station and find out more about the exciting space activities in Kiruna.

Balance of the day at your own disposal.

Evening's Dinner menu is an assortment of local specialties - including rein meat.

(B, D)

DAY 7 - SATURDAY 25 JULY / SUNDAY 16 AUGUST

Pick up by bus taking us to the mine district in the outskirts of Kiruna. Guided tour in world's largest underground mine - 570m below ground level. Be surprised about underground agriculture: Japanese Shiitake mushrooms!

Afternoon tour to spectacular Juukasjaarvi chapel - decorated/painted by famous Swedish artist Bror Hjort - and visit to the Ice Hotel Art Center.

(B)

DAY 8 - SUNDAY 26 JULY / MONDAY 17 AUGUST

Half day tour to Abisko National Park, a place of many delights, including a birch-clad valley, flowery alpine meadows and dazzling river rapids. The park is surrounded on three sides by lofty mountains and, to the north by Scandinavia's largest alpine lake, Tornetrask.

Transfer to Kiruna Airport for the approx. one and a half hour flight to Stockholm. Late arrival and check in at Rica Hotel Old Town.

(B, L)

DAY 9 - MONDAY 27 JULY / TUESDAY 18 AUGUST

First day in **Stockholm**. Short boat trip to "Skansen" - zoo & open air museum - to spot wild animals, and to explore old houses assembled from different parts of the country. We walk up to "Rosendahl" biological gardens for herbs, fruits, vegetables and flowers. Under the apple trees, we find the perfect location for a tasty and healthy lunch. In the afternoon, visiting the Wasa ship museum. The "Wasa" is worlds century ship, and one of the foremost tourist sites in the world! Balance of the day at your own disposal.

(B, D)



DAY 10 - TUESDAY 28 JULY / WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST

Almost full day excursion, starting by a scenic one hour ferry tour on lake "Malaren" to Drottningholm Royal Castle and home to the present King of Sweden, Karl XVI Gustaf. Its vast gardens were inspired by the likes of Versailles, featuring a strict Baroque style plan. On the grounds also a beautiful English park, a small Chinese (!) style castle and a historic Opera house. Entire Drottningholm premises is on UNESCO's world heritage list. Part of the castle is open for visitors and our visit includes a guided tour.

(B, D)

DAY 11 - WEDNESDAY 29 JULY / THURSDAY 20 AUGUST

The Old Town, the well-preserved area where the history of Stockholm once started, requires its attention. Our professional guide takes the lead on small streets and narrow, cobble-stone lanes - guarded by eye-catching architecture representing medieval, renaissance, baroque and classicism epochs.

Afternoon on your own, for shopping, visiting art museum/galleries...

This last day on the tour, we end by taking the evening ferry to little island "Fjaderholmarna" for an exquisite farewell dinner.

(B, D)

DAY 12 - THURSDAY 30 JULY / FRIDAY 21 AUGUST

Check out from hotel and transfer to Stockholm international airport for your return flight home.

(B)

(B, L, D) = (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

**Accommodations:**

*Gothenburg:* **Hotel Liseberg Heden** \*\*\*\*, built around three beautiful patios, is located in the very center with all major attractions and sights within few minutes walking distance. Hotel features a popular organic restaurant. Our stay includes entrance to Liseberg amusement park.

*Lapland:* **Hotel Arctic Eden** \*\*\* is located in the center of Kiruna, with restaurants, shops and exhibitions within short distance.

*Stockholm:* **Rica Hotel Old Town** \*\*\* Narrow alleyways, taverns, cafes, stores and closeness to the seats of power of the Swedish Parliament, civil service headquarters and Royal Palace, make a stay in the Old Town a fantastic experience. Amazing roof terrace views. The Hotel is located in a charming 17th-century building, with Stockholm Cathedral, 'House of the Nobility' and Slussen (locks) just around the corner.

**Language:** English

**About Weather:**

*Gothenburg and Stockholm:* expect warm (20-25C/68-77F) and mostly sunny conditions. Cooler evenings/nights.

*Lapland:* In general 10-15C/50-59F - though, periods of southern temperatures are not rare.

**What is included:**

- Airport Transfers
- 4 nights at Hotel Liseberg Heden, Gothenburg, shared dbl room
- Entrance fee Liseberg amusement Park
- Entrance fee Röhska Design Museum
- Boat sightseeing w guide
- Boat trip to Island Marstrand
- Meals according to itinerary, excluding drinks
- Flight, economy class, Gothenburg – Kiruna – Stockholm
- Transfer airport – Hotel Arctic Eden and return
- 3 nights at Hotel Arctic Eden, Kiruna, shared dbl room
- Guided Kiruna Mine Tour
- Juukasjaarvi and Sami center Tour, incl local guide
- Abisko National Park Tour including lunch, incl local guide
- Guided Tour at Esrange Space Center, incl coffe & sandwich
- 4 nights stay at Rica Hotel Old Town, Stockholm, shared dbl room
- Guided city tour in Stockholm.
- Transports by boat and bus in Stockholm, according to itinerary
- Entrance fee Drottningholm
- Entrance fee Wasa Museum
- Escort/Tour Leader throughout program.
- Tax & Surcharges

**Price: US\$2,260 / Euro1,675 / Naf14,068 pro person**

(Single supplement = US\$550 / Euro408 / Naf1990)

**Not Included:**

International / Intercontinental flight ticket to Gothenburg and from Stockholm. If you need assistance to book these tickets, we will be happy to offer best possible fares. Ex KLM:

Curacao-Amsterdam-Gothenburg + Stockholm-Amsterdam-Curacao = US\$1,450 / Euro1.075 / Naf12,610

Amsterdam-Gothenburg + Stockholm-Amsterdam = US\$344 / Euro255 / Naf1620

**Payment:**

A deposit of US\$500 / Euro370 / Naf1900 is required to confirm your reservation. Full payment to be set latest May 22, 2009

(Note: as number of participants is limited, reservation is guaranteed only after required deposit - or, full payment -/ is received)

**Cancellation policy:**

- Cancellation with full re-fund (except an administration fee of US\$50 / Euro37/ Naf190) can be made up to 6 weeks prior to tour.
- Cancellation later than 6 weeks prior to tour start = no re-fund.

**Note: Don't travel without valid travel insurance!**

After having received your reservation, you will be provided more information about Payment details, what to wear, Money/Currency matters, etc.

Also, in good advance to travel date, those traveling from Curacao will be invited to a Swedish gathering.

The Enjoy Sweden Tour is organized by Ulla Strandberg, Absolute Caribbean (Curacao).

**RESERVATION & CONTACT:** [ulla@absolutecaribbean.com](mailto:ulla@absolutecaribbean.com)

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Welcome to Enjoy Sweden,

*Ulla Strandberg*