

Wining and dining

Bars & restaurants

GÖKEN Small and friendly bar and restaurant.

Address: Pontonjärsgatan 28

SIDE TRACK Bar at Södermalm with fantastic food and a nice atmosphere.

Address: Wollmar Yxkullsgatan 7

TORGET Bar in the Old Town.

Different themes each evening.
Address: Mälartorget 13, Old Town

ROXY Gay owned restaurant and bar. Bar DJs Fridays and Saturdays.

Address: Nytorget 6

LEJONBAREN Gayish bar and bistro at Victory Hotel.

Address: Lilla Nygatan 5

Café

CHOKLADKOPPEN Beautiful small café in the heart of Old Town, with outdoor seating summertime. Here you find flyers and tickets to gay and lesbian events and parties.

Address: Stortorget 18, Old Town

MÄLARPAVILJONGEN Outdoor café, bar and restaurant at the Riddarfjärden shore.

Address: Norr Mälarstrand 62

COPACABANA Meeting point for the queer community.

Address: Hornstulls strand 3

Night clubs

PATRICIA The legendary Gay Sunday Nights on old steamer Patricia. Stunning view from the sun deck.

Sundays 18–03.
Address: Stadsgårdskajen 152

CLUB PIGALLE Gay club, disco, bar and restaurant. Wednesdays-Sundays

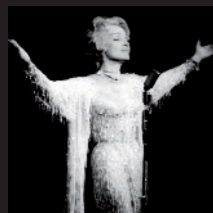
Address: Järntorgsgatan 5, Old Town

LINO CLUB STHLM Four bars, three dance floors and a big outdoor terrace.

Saturdays 21–04.
Address: Södra Riddarholmsk 19

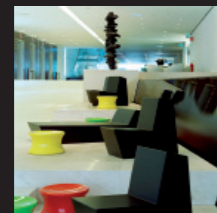
For updated information on clubs & party scene, please see: www.qx.se/english

Gay-friendly hotels



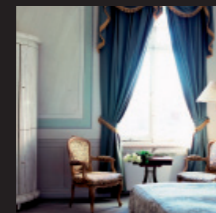
Berns Hotel

Näckströmsgatan 8
+46 (0)8 566 322 00
www.berns.se



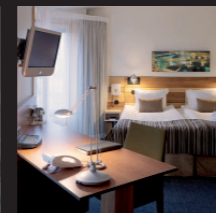
Clarion Hotel Stockholm

Ringvägen 98
+46 (0)8 462 10 00
www.clarionstockholm.com



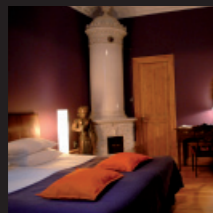
Grand Hôtel

S. Blasieholmshamnen 8
+46 (0)8 679 35 00
www.grandhotel.se



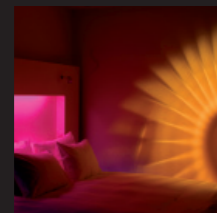
Hilton Stockholm Slussen

Guldgränd 8
+46 (0)8 517 353 00
www.stockholm-slussen.hilton.com



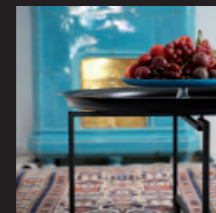
Hotel Hellsten

Luntmakargatan 68
+46 (0)8 661 86 00
www.hellsten.se



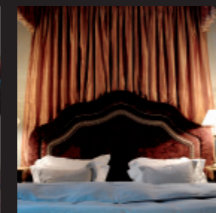
Nordic Light Hotel

Vasaplan 7
+46 (0)8 505 630 00
www.nordiclighthouse.se



Hotel Stureplan

Birger Jarlsgatan 24
+46 (8) 440 66 00
www.hotelstureplan.se



Victory Hotel

Lilla Nygatan 5
+46 (0)8 506 400 00
www.victoryhotel.se



PHOTO: ALEXANDRE DOUMEN

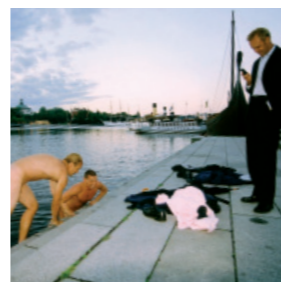


PHOTO: RICHARD EVAN



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Stockholm – the Capital of Scandinavia

There are many reasons why Stockholm is the natural Capital of Scandinavia. One is that Stockholm is positioned at the heart of the region, and enjoys the benefits of a world-class transport infrastructure. Another is that Stockholm is the largest city in the largest country in Scandinavia. It is also where you find the most multinational companies, the largest stock market and, not least, the most visitors. People come to Stockholm for the food, the design and the music. Stockholm also offers a unique range of galleries and museums, and every year the eyes of the world are on Stockholm when the Nobel Prizes are awarded. Welcome to Stockholm – The Capital of Scandinavia.

Stockholm Visitors Board

Stockholm Visitors Board
Stockholm Gay Network
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info@svb.stockholm.se
www.stockholmtown.com/gay

COVER PHOTO: RICHARD EVAN



Stockholm!

Stockholm
The Capital of Scandinavia



Stockholm – great for gays!

It's the capital of the country that gave us the classic gay-icon band ABBA. It's the Capital of Scandinavia and 2008 the **Gay Capital of Europe**, when it hosts Europride for the second time in just ten years. What is it that makes Stockholm a perfect paradise for gay, lesbians and transgendered people in search



PHOTO: RICHARD EVAN



PHOTO: MARTIN OLSSON



PHOTO: FRIEN KESTENEN

of a destination that seems to have been created just for them? What is it that makes the Swedish capital one of those exceptional cities that beckons back visitors, gay and straight, time and time again, with the promise of fresh, exciting experiences for every trip?

Gay life in Stockholm is like the city itself: easily accessible, hugely fun, highly varied and warm and welcoming in a laid-back, typically Scandinavian type of way. It is never brash, ghettoised or in-your-face, as some of Europe's other capital cities can be. Stockholm can be gay, gay-friendly, or simply friendly, depending on what you are looking for in a holiday destination. But it is never, ever, dull or predictable.

go in this city!). Whatever time of the year you visit Stockholm, you'll see the locals enjoying themselves to the full, and you'll quickly find yourself joining in.

Go 'out' on the scene

Stockholm has no gay enclave as such, but gay and gay-friendly establishments are scattered throughout this city, and rainbow flags fly high in most of Stockholm's central districts. But the greatest concentration of gay bars and clubs is to be found in two areas: the Södermalm district and in Gamla Stan, Stockholm's Old Town, where the original medieval town lives on in the cobblestone streets and the stunning buildings. Södermalm is where you'll find, for example, the

gay club Side Track, as well as the sm/leather clubs lash (for women) and SLM (for men) – if that's your taste... In the Old Town, Torget is a firm favourite among gay bars, with different themes each evening.

For dancing queens, a unique event is the Sunday tea party on the old steamship Patricia, from whose upper deck you can admire the lights of Stockholm while taking a rest from the dance-floor.

The Patricia has been known to host the occasional foam party, adding to the excitement of finding yourself pressed hard up against the locals! The more male-dominated Lino club, is located just west of the Old Town, with four bars, three dance-floors and a big outdoor terrace.

But remember that, whatever your taste in gay 'recreation', it couldn't be made any easier for you to get the information you need. The indispensable qx gaymap, covering all the clubs, restaurants, and bars, is available from their website (www.qx.se), along with the regularly updated qx guide to events of interest to gay men and lesbians.

The Stockholm Pride Festival runs through the first

week in August, and features lectures, debates, and art exhibitions as well as the Pride Park with lots of entertainment. It culminates in the annual Stockholm Pride parade with about 50,000 participants and more than 500,000 spectators who gather to watch the procession of Viking Bears, Stockholm Queer Volleyball, gay Christians, gay socialists... you name it, they're there. www.stockholmpride.org

Out sightseeing

This friendly city starts with a massive advantage: its breathtakingly beautiful setting. Stockholm is built on 14 islands, set in a sparkling sea so unpolluted that you can even swim in it (and many people do!). And, if the sea is never far away, the same is true for nature in all its splendour and ever-changing variety. Whether you are exploring the Old Town or the stylish modern architecture of Stockholm's business district, beautifully-designed parks and

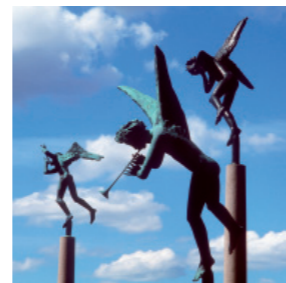


PHOTO: MILLESGÅRDEN



PHOTO: ANNSÖFTHERICHTON

gardens are a constant reminder of nature's responses to the changing seasons. Whatever the season, you'll want to enjoy the sights, both indoor and outdoor.

foremost sculptor, and his most stunning works. But, if outdoor 'romance' is uppermost on your mind, gay men should head for the island of Långholmen or

Indoors, you can choose from any of the 74 museums in the Stockholm area, from the unmissable **Vasa Museum**, which houses a perfectly-preserved warship that sank in Stockholm harbour on its maiden voyage in 1628. The **Stockholm City Museum** organises gay-themed guided tours in the museum, and also in the city itself, focusing on Stockholm's gay heritage. The **Woodland Cemetery** is on UNESCO's World Heritage list. Drama queens could make a pilgrimage to the strangely romantic and oddly mesmerizing Woodland Cemetery, where Greta Garbo is buried. Try the Swedish Versailles, **Drottningholm Palace**, home of the royal family. Or take a tour of the incredible **Hallwylska Palatset**, built in 1898 for the Count and Countess von Hallwyl who collected everything from toothbrushes to Steinway pianos.

Make time for **Millesgården**, the former villa and sculpture garden of Carl Milles, Sweden's

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Frescati next to Stockholm University where in summer you'll find droves of stunning Swedes, sunbathing and swimming in all their glory.

Remember that a boat tour is as essential for visitors to this city as it is for visitors to Venice. The Strömma Canal Company (Strömma Kanalbolaget) runs **various boat tours of the city**, departing from quays near the Royal Dramatic Theatre, the Grand Hôtel and City Hall.

Out dining

Creative menus in of hip locations are on offer in the many gay-friendly restaurants all around the city.

Out shopping

For all its lovingly-preserved traditions, Stockholm is clearly a 21st century city that has made quite a name for itself in recent years, as one of the world's leading centres of design, fashion and music. You will inevitably want to take some typical Swedish goods



PHOTO: MARTON

back home with you. Two of Stockholm's leading shopping paradises are **The Galleria**, Stockholm's first shopping mall offers more than 80 different

stores; and **NK**, a former department store now accommodates many exclusive shops selling exclusive brands.

Stay in style

Stockholm specializes in chic and gay-friendly hotels.

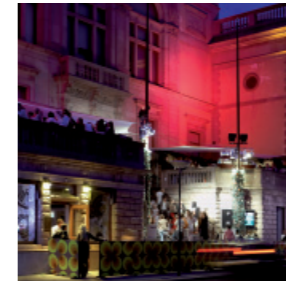


PHOTO: MIKAEL SÖDERG

For minimalist Swedish style at its very best, try the centrally-located **Nordic Light Hotel**, well known for its highly acclaimed weekend 'Love Packages'. At the Nordic Sea Hotel, its sister hotel located right next door, you'll find Stockholm's coolest bar, the Icebar, where the temperature is always -5°C (23°F), and all of the furnishings, including the glasses, are made of 100% clear ice...

Situated close to the Old Town, the **Berns Hotel** is a chic art-deco boutique property that calls itself the 'Designer Hotel for people tired of designer hotels'. The Berns' previous guests have included Marlene Dietrich and Diana Ross.

Or, if heritage and tradition are your thing, try the superbly elegant **Grand Hôtel**, right across from the Royal Palace. The Grand offers exquisite Romantic Weekend breaks that include Champagne and fresh strawberries

in your room.

But if modernity is your preferred style, look no further than the excellent **Clarion Hotel**. Rightly describing itself as 'Stockholm's art hotel no 1', the Clarion offers much more than just a place to stay. Their



PHOTO: GIGI HODAK

fascinating collection of contemporary Nordic art can be seen in all rooms and in the hotel's public areas.

The **Victory Hotel**, in the middle of the Old Town, is compact, charming and friendly – and a must for anyone with an interest in antiques and 19th century memorabilia, which feature as decorations all over the hotel. It also hosts the very gay-friendly bar, the **Leijonbaren**. **Hilton Stockholm Slussen** is just 2 minutes' walk from the Old Town, on Södermalm Island. It's a modern, purpose-built property situated just across the water from the heart of Stockholm city, and most of the rooms have excellent views of Lake Malaren and the Old Town.

For those who like to dream of the splendours of a bygone age, there is the brand-new **Hotel Stureplan**, a small, intimate hotel in an elegant 19th century

building whose interior design is inspired by traditional Swedish craftsmanship.

Last, but definitely not least, is a veritable gem of a hotel, the **Hotel Hellsten**. Cosy and uniquely charming, the Hotel Hellsten is a quiet temple of



PHOTO: PHILIP LAUREL/JOHN

impeccably good taste, from the individually decorated and furnished bedrooms to the exquisite conservatory that is used as the breakfast room.

Don't miss Stockholm!

GO!

www.stockholmtown.com/gay