

This is Skansen

In the center of the island Djurgården in Stockholm city you will find Skansen, a place that brings experiences of Swedish nature and culture to life – now, then, and in the future.

Skansen, founded in 1891, is the world's oldest open-air museum and one of Sweden's most popular tourist destinations, both among Swedes and foreign visitors. In the park you'll find a collection of historic buildings, plants, and animals with origins from all over Sweden, from north to south, that showcase the way Swedes have lived and worked throughout history.

In the 30-hectare park you can spend a full day just walking around, exploring the environment while overlooking a unique and beautiful view of Stockholm. Skansen is open every day, all year round.



The world's oldest open-air museum

The museum is showcasing 400 years of Swedish culture and history. Here you'll get to step inside houses and farmsteads while educators and actors guides you through how the Swedes lived. You will learn more about their culture and how it differed in all parts of the country, from the north to the south.

The main purpose of the open-air museum is to inspire and spread knowledge about Swedish cultural history by preserving and bringing Swedish culture and nature to life.

The Wild Life park

Skansen is the world's only open-air museum with wild animals. In the wildlife park you can see Nordic wildlife and domestic animals. Here you'll get to see, meet and learn more about Nordic species like the elk, reindeers and native breeds.

At our Baltic Sea Science Center, you get to go below the surface and encounter the creatures that inhabit it, as well as experience the interactive exhibitions on the Baltic Sea and the environment. The science center is also working with the persevering of the environment and life in the Baltic Sea.

The wildlife park's mission is to educate, conserve, and research the animals at Skansen. We are a non-profit foundation and the wildlife park's main purpose is to spread knowledge about Nordic animals, nature, and sustainability to our guests.



Skansen traditions throughout the year

Skansen is the national arena for Swedish traditions. All the Swedish festive occasions and traditions are celebrated in the park throughout the year. In addition to our daily activities, we have several recurrent and popular events that attract visitors from all corners of the world.

Dance and music are also a natural part of Skansen – here you can enjoy concerts, rock out at the famous TV show “Allsång på Skansen”, or watch Swedish folk dance performances.

Our most popular events throughout the year:

- **One of the best Christmas markets in the world**

At Skansen, you can experience a historical Christmas with modern elements; dance around the tree, enjoy Christmas music, see how Christmases were celebrated in historic Sweden, and visit our popular Christmas market. At the market, which repeatedly is elected one of the best Christmas markets in the world, you'll find around 70 market stalls filled with delicacies for the Christmas table, marzipan, Christmas bread, and locally produced crafts made of textiles, wood, ceramics, and wool.



- **Lucia**

The Lucia celebration is one of the highlights of winter and a long-standing tradition. Every year Lucia is celebrated at Skansen during three days in December. Here you can experience the magical celebration at a classic Lucia concert in our historic church, listen to the children's Lucia choir or enjoy the big Lucia procession at our main stage, the Solliden stage. The first Lucia procession at Skansen was held as early as 1893. But the story of Lucia began in Sicily in the 280s. Since then, the saint has encountered old pagan traditions and Swedish customs, giving rise to new traditions.



- **Autumn market**

The autumn market shows what a market looked like around the time Skansen was founded. Step into a bustling crowd and travel back to the time around the turn of the century 1900, a time when countryside markets were among the most important celebrations in people's lives. There is history, role-playing, food, and a market with jams, vegetables, and crafts.

- **Midsummer celebration**

Midsummer has been celebrated at Skansen since the 1890s and is, together with Christmas, perhaps the most important Swedish holiday. In Sweden, Midsummer's Eve falls on a Friday between 19-25 June every year. For many people, Midsummer is associated with maypoles, dancing, music, socializing, and strawberry cake. But also with the warm, bright summer night and its mystery. At Skansen, Midsummer is celebrated every year with traditions from all over the country and folklore activities.

- **Sing along "Allsång" at Skansen**

In the sea of people in front of the Solliden stage, you can enjoy summer, entertainment, and singing. The sing-along tradition began in 1935 and has since become a beloved televised tradition. Here, famous artists and guests sing popular songs and classics together with the audience.



- **Walpurgis**

Walpurgis is celebrated every year on 30 April to sing in the spring and clear away the winter by gathering around the big fire, popularly known as the May bonfire. Walpurgis is a tradition that came to Sweden from Germany in the Middle Ages and has been celebrated at Skansen since 1892. During Walpurgis, we celebrate with a programme that runs from afternoon to late evening, with the atmospheric bonfire burning with the Stockholm skyline as its backdrop.



- **Craft days**

Every autumn we arrange Craft Days to highlight the tradition of craftsmanship and its hand-ed-down knowledge as part of a traditional and enduring intangible cultural heritage. Here you can meet professional craftsmen, learn about building conservation, and try out different craft activities.

- **Garden days**

During three weekends in May, Skansen and Skogaholm's 18th-century mansion will be transformed into a place of inspiration and knowledge for the upcoming gardening season. Visit the garden market where you can buy everything from plants and seeds to ceramics and garden furniture. There is also the opportunity to meet exhibitors, cultivation experts, and organizations that share knowledge and tips on plants and gardening.





Press assets

Official press assets can be found [here](#).

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