

"HIGHLIGHTS OF SWEDEN AND NORWAY" ITINERARY

AUGUST 17 - SEPTEMBER 4, 2012

B = Breakfast **L** = Lunch **D** = Dinner...meals provided in cost of tour

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take...but by the moments that take our breath away"!

Often times a vacation is not just about the destination -- it's what you make of the destination once you're there.

Fri, August 17 Depart USA**

Sat, August 18 Arrive in Stockholm. After claiming our luggage and getting Swedish
D kronor, we will drive into Stockholm, where we will stay three nights at Hotel Birger Jarl. After checking in and having time to "refresh", we'll go into Gamla Stan (Old Town), where we can enjoy walking the old narrow streets, rich in history. You'll find Swedish handicraft and souvenirs in the many quaint shops. We'll have dinner together at Michelangelo's in Gamla Stan. The restaurant is housed in a building from 1629.

Sun, August 19 The next two mornings we will tour Stockholm with Håkan Franden, our
B, D tour guide, visiting such sights as the Stadshuset (City Hall)...the Wasa Museum...Tre Kronor Museum...Royal Palace (Apartments, The Armoury, and the Treasury)...Storkyrkan and Gamla Stan... Medeltidsmuseet (Medieval times)...as time allows. Free time for shopping, or independent sightseeing in the afternoons. Dinner at the top of Kaknästornet (Kaknäs Tower)

If Håkan Franden doesn't include this in his tours, try to see...The "Changing of the Royal Guard". This takes place everyday at 12:15 in the courtyard of the Royal Palace...accompanied by a Military Band. It's a very popular attraction in the summer months.

Other places very worthwhile to visit:

Skansen and Drottningholm Palace and Theater

Coffee/Lunch suggestions:

Sundbergs Konditori in Gamla Stan (on the ancient square of Järntorget)... "oldest coffee shop" in Stockholm est. 1785 in a building from the 15th century... wonderful pastries/tortes/smörgås/paj...a special place to have coffee or lunch.

Another fun "treat" is to have a "waffle ice cream cone" at one of the 2 shops along Västerlånggatan in Gamla Stan...3 scoops topped with hjortron and visped grädde (cloudberries and whipped cream) is our personal favorite...it can be "lunch"! ☺

Vette-Katten at Kungsgatan 55 is also a special place for coffee, pastries, and smörgås.

Mon, August 20 Another morning of touring Stockholm with Håkan Franden...see Friday.
B, D Afternoon free. Dinner at _____.

Tues, August 21 After breakfast, we will drive to Sundborn...touring Carl Larsson-gården
B, L, D (Carl Larsson's home). After our guided tour, we will have a wonderful lunch at Hyttstugan (next to Carl Larsson-gården)...and then some "free-time" to visit the "gift shop" to buy prints, etc. The small red stuga that says "keramik"... "Karlsbyhedens Krukmakeri"...has beautiful pottery made in Sundborn and should not be missed! There are several other gift shops in the area. You should also try to walk up to the Sundborn Kyrka and to the church cemetery, where the Larsson gravesites are located. As time allows, we may spend some time in Falun...visiting the Dalarnas

Museum...maybe Svedensgård, Carl Linne's brollop (wedding) stuga. Stay at Tällbergsgården in Tällberg for 3 nights. Dinner at the hotel. After dinner we can sit and have coffee in one of the hotel's beautiful sitting areas or outside...enjoy the beautiful sunset over Lake Siljan... maybe take a walk down to the lake.

"Being in Dalarna and not seeing Tällberg, is like being at a wedding and not seeing the bride!" author unknown

- Wed, August 22
B, L, D After breakfast we will drive to Nusnäs...visiting Nils Olsson to see how the Dalahäst (horse) is made and to purchase some for yourself. You can have names/years painted on them to make a "special remembrance". We will visit Karl Tovåsens fäbod...summer farm...where we will make "kollbulle" (a special 'pancake' with pork) over an open fire.
- Possibly spend the rest of the afternoon in Mora, visiting Anders Zorn's Gammelgård and Textile Museum and Zorngårdenas time allows. Dinner at the hotel.
- Sometime while we are in Tällberg, walk to Klockargården's courtyard to see "handcraft artisans".
- Thurs, August 23
B, D Dalarna—Sightseeing...Sätergläntan Handcraft Folkhögskola ("college" of folk art/traditions)...Leksand's Hemslöjd...Käck & Hedby's (blacksmith), etc...as time allows. Back in Tällberg...tour of Holens Hembygdsgård, and afternoon coffee and waffles with hjortron (cloudberries) and whipped cream (on our own). Dinner at the hotel.
- Fri, August 24
B, D Drive to Røros, Norway. Stay at Vertshuset Røros for two nights. Dinner at the hotel.
- Sat, August 25
B, D Today, we'll have a walking tour of Røros. Famous for it's wooden buildings, and now protected as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, we'll explore this "best preserved historic mining town in Norway" with its miners' homes and slag heaps. After coffee/lunch at Kaffestuggu (on our own) we'll tour Olavsgruva Mine. Dinner at the hotel.
- Sun, August 26
B, D Leaving Røros, we'll drive to Dombås where we'll begin our "loop drive" of one of the most scenic areas of Norway. We will visit the Lom Stavekirke. Stay at Hotell Fosshiem in Lom or Grotli Hoyfjellshotel. Dinner at the hotel.
- Mon, August 27
B, D Today we will continue our scenic drive...seeing such sights as Geirangerfjord...taking the hairpin turns on the Trollstigen road...and enjoying breathtaking vistas as we complete our "loop drive" and continue on to Harpefoss. Stay at Sygard Grytting... one of Norway's oldest wooden hotels. The farm and hotel is today owned and run by Hilde and Stig Grytting...16th generation spanning 700 years. The hotel buildings (log houses) were built between 1650 and 1860. Around **1300 AD**, Sygard Grytting provided lodgings in the now 700 year old "Herberge" (the only medieval hostel preserved and still in use in Norway) for medieval pilgrims on their way to the St Olaf Cathedral in Trondheim. Dinner at the hotel at 19:00.
- Tues, August 28
On our way to Oslo, we will spend time in Lillehammer visiting

B, D Maihaugen, an open-air museum, and possibly the Ski Jump from the 1994 Norway Olympics...as time allows. Stay at Hotel Bondeheimen in Oslo for 2 nights. Dinner at hotel.

Wed, August 29 Today we will go out to the peninsula of Bygdøy and tour several of the
B, D museums...Fram, Norsk Folkemuseum, Vikingskiphus (Viking ships), and Kon-Tiki...are a few choices. Dinner at the hotel.

Thurs, August 30 Leave for Aspa Bruk, south of Askersund. On our way, we may stop in
B, D Rya (Lindesberg) for coffee at the 200+ year old home of Hjördis and Roland Sigge, friends of Ted and Diane. Stay at Aspa Herrgård on the tip of Lake Vättern. Dinner at the hotel.

Fri, August 31 Leave for the Glass District area in Småland. We will stop at a new glass
B, D factory, Klafrestrom on our way to Gemla, where we will stay at Villa Gransholm for 2 nights. Dinner at the hotel.

Sat, September 1 Glass factories all day. In the evening we will have a traditional "hyttsill"
B, D dinner at one of the glass factories.

Sun, September 2 Leave for Klefstad Gård, Lingham, Östergötland, in the countryside near
B, D Linköping. We will stay in a B&B run by Märtha and Birger Jonsson. Dinner at their restaurant "Klefstad".

Mon, September 3 Today we leave for the Stockholm area. We will have dinner and a
B, D party...a very special 'Swedish evening'...at the home of Marita and Lasse Hagglund in Märsta, friends of Diane and Ted. Stay at Bålsta Gästgivaregård or ?

Tues, September 4 Before going to Arlanda Airport (depending on our flight times), we'll stop
B in Sigtuna, the oldest existing town in Sweden. We'll have time to roam the historical streets of wooden buildings, and for coffee and "treats" at Tant Brun's...a coffee shop in the oldest remaining house from the 1600's (on our own).

Tour cost includes—Land travel in Sweden and Norway—most or all sightseeing entrances in Sweden, including the Stockholm Card for 2 days—most or all sightseeing entrances in Norway, including the Oslo Card for 1 day—all lodging accommodations as planned—and meals as indicated.

Tour cost does NOT include—Transatlantic air flight—tips—personal expenditures—lunch/coffee times not indicated—some beverages at meals (you will be informed at each meal).

Price is based on a minimum tour of 10 persons and exchange rate at time of pricing.