

“SWEDEN IN DECEMBER” ITINERARY

December 3 – December 15, 2014

**B, D**, meals provided in cost of tour

(Times stated are on the 24-hour clock)

*“Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take... but by the moments that take our breath away”*

*Snow-clad pines, lakes frozen by the winter chill, and crisp, crystal clear skies...*

*this is the Swedish winter scene that awaits you... we hope ☺*

Wed, December 3      Depart USA on Scandinavian Airlines (SAS).  
**D on flight**

Thurs, December 4      Arrive at Arlanda airport at 7:40am. After claiming our luggage, we'll leave  
**B on flight, D**      for Tällberg, Dalarna where we will stay at Tällbergsgården for 7 nights. Here we will enjoy the “heart of Sweden”. Time to relax...walk around Tällberg...maybe have a waffle with cloudberry at Klockargården...etc. Dinner at the hotel. Opportunity to take an old-fashioned horse-drawn sleigh-ride one of the nights...if there's snow! (on our own). Also, we hope to attend a Christmas concert or two in the area.

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

*During our days in Tällberg we'll explore the Lake Siljan area visiting places such as, (and as time allows)...Nils Olsson in Nusnäs for dala horses...Leksands Hemslojd and Sätergläntans Folkhögskola (folk school)—both have beautiful Swedish handicraft...Käck och Hedby's blacksmith for beautiful forged iron candleholders, etc...Anders Zorn's home in Mora. We'll take time to relax with the ambience of burning candles and enjoy a cup of coffee around the fireplace at Tällbergsgården.*

Fri, December 5      Today is the start of our Advents weekend at Tällbergsgården.  
**B, D**      In the afternoon we are invited for coffee and homemade bread in the cozy lounge by the fireplace. This evening we will enjoy a 3-course dinner. Enjoy the “mysigt” (cozy) feeling of Christmas amid Swedish decorations, Christmas trees and glowing candles. We may even have an early visit from Lucia!

Sat. December 6      Today Tällbergsgården has it's own Julmarknad. In the afternoon  
**B, D**      we will enjoy Swedish glögg and pepparkakor, before our Christmas-inspired 7-course dinner.

Sun. December 7      After breakfast, we will attend a Sunday worship service at one of  
**B, D**      the beautiful Lake Siljan churches...either Leksand Kyrka or Rättvik Kyrka. Possibly visit Falu Gruva (copper mine) in the afternoon for their traditional Julmarknad. Dinner at the hotel.

Mon. December 8      Lake Siljan area...today and tomorrow we'll have time to visit more places  
**B, D**      in the area (see Thurs) and relax and enjoy the beauty of Tällberg and Tällbergsgården. Dinner at the hotel.

- Tues. December 9  
**B, D** Lake Siljan area. Dinner at the hotel.
- Maybe try "långfärdsskridskor", long-blade skating, a favorite Swedish winter sport for all ages....or maybe go cross-country skiing in the beautiful landscape around Lake Siljan. We can check on rentals for those interested (on our own).*
- Wed, December 10  
**B, D** Lake Siljan area. Today we drive to Sundborn for an 11:00 tour of Carl Larsson-garden (Carl Larsson's home). The gift shop has prints of Carl's famous paintings and many other Carl Larsson related items. We will also visit the workshop of Bjorn and Monika, makers of beautiful pottery...Karlsbyhedens Krukmakeri. Dinner at the hotel.
- Thurs, December 11  
**B, D** Leave for Stockholm. Stay at the Birger Jarl for 4 nights. This afternoon we'll visit one of Stockholm's famous sights...the Wasa Museum. Dinner at the top of Kaknästornet (Kaknäs Tower)...highest building (509 feet) in Stockholm, over-looking the whole city.
- During our days in Stockholm, we can enjoy the wonderful ambience of all the lights and decoration...museums...coffee in a quaint "kaffestuga" ...etc. Go into Gamla Stan (Old Town), and walk the old narrow streets, rich in history.*
- We'll also have the opportunity to visit Julmarknadar in Stockholm and the surrounding countryside...Skansen (Sat & Sun 10-18)...Stortorget in Gamla Stan (daily 11-18)... Kungstragården (daily 11-18)...and Sigtuna (Sun 11-16)...Steninge Slott (daily M-F 11-18, Sat & Sun 10-17)*
- For a fun winter Stockholm experience, go ice skating at the famous Kungstragården ice rink...50:-SEK per hour including skates.*
- We hope to have the opportunity to go to a Lucia concert at least one of the nights (on our own)*
- 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 15<sup>th</sup> century...wonderful pastries/tortes/smörgås/paj (sandwiches/quiche)...a special place to have coffee or lunch.
- Vette-Katten at Kungsgatan 55 is also a special place for coffee, pastries, and smörgås.
- Östermalms Saluhall, since 1888, and named “the world's 7<sup>th</sup> best food hall”. Located at Östermalmstorg, Saluhall is another great place for coffee, lunch, or just to see it...we love taking pictures of the beautiful displays of fruit, vegetables, meats, fish and desserts.
- Fri, December 12  
**B, D** Time to visit museums (Royal Palace, Stadshuset)...other Stockholm Julmarknadar...or to do Christmas shopping in the handicraft shops in Gamla Stan, or in Swedish stores like NK and Åhlens. Dinner at Claes på Hornet, a restaurant that dates back to 1731.
- Tonight we hope to go to the Royal Opera to see the Swedish version of the Nutcracker Ballet at 18:00 (on our own). Inspired by the Swedish author Elsa Beskow's characters from her books about Tant Brun, Grön och Grendalin (Aunts Brown, Green and Lavender), Peter and Lotta...a very special treat is in store for all of us.*

Sat. December 13  
**B** LUCIA DAGEN! We'll check on the possibility to attend a morning Lucia pageant at a Stockholm Kyrka. We'll also go to Skansen, the world's first and oldest (1891) "open air" museum, for it's Julmarknad (since 1903). At Skansen, you can "visit" the whole of Sweden in the historical buildings and surroundings...from a Skåne farmstead in the south to a Sami camp in the north. Dinner at Michelangelo's in Gamla Stan (**on our own**). The restaurant is housed in a building from 1629.

Sun, December 14  
**B, D** Today we'll drive to Sigtuna (Sweden's oldest town) for it's traditional Julmarknad. Coffee and treats (Swedish "fika") at "Tant Bruns Kaffestuga"...from the end of the 1600's, Tant Brun's is one of Sweden's oldest cafes (on our own). Enjoy walking the quaint wood-building lined streets of this historic town founded in 970AD. "Last night in Sweden" dinner and party at Marita and Lasse Haglund's home, friends of Diane and Ted, out in the countryside overlooking Lake Malaren.

Mon, December 15  
**B, food on flight** Leave Sweden from Arlanda Airport at 10:20am on SAS

**TOUR COST = \$3,398 per person in double occupancy**  
**(Tour price based on exchange rate at time of pricing)**

**Tour cost includes**—Land transportation—All lodging—Sightseeing as indicated—Meals as indicated: food on the flights—plus 11 breakfasts and 10 dinners (at the restaurants in Stockholm, the main entree is included).

**Tour cost does NOT include**—Transatlantic air flight from USA to Stockholm and Stockholm to USA, including airport taxes/fees/surcharges—Tickets to The Nutcracker or Concerts—Tips—Personal expenditures—Lunch/coffee times—Appetizer/desserts you order at the restaurants in Stockholm—Some beverages at meals (you will be informed at each meal).

If you need assistance in booking your flight, we recommend you contact Elaine at Borton Overseas 612-822-4640 1-800-843-0602 [elaine@bortonoverseas.com](mailto:elaine@bortonoverseas.com)