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# Even a half-day in Stockholm will be worth it

If you are cruising by Stockholm and only have about 6 hours to explore the city, do not worry. Stockholm is a metropolitan city of some 2,3 million inhabitants, yet nothing is ever far away. You'll find world-class venues, cultural sites, shops, restaurants, cafés and bars within a short distance. Not to mention water, forests and unspoiled nature.

## Island of Södermalm

Södermalm, known as "Söder" amongst locals, is one of the city's hottest neighborhoods. The vibe is relaxed yet trendy, and the neighborhood offers a myriad of fashion, vintage and design stores mixed with an abundance of places to eat and drink. Make a stop at **Monteliusvägen**: a 500-meter long walking path with a magnificent view of Lake Mälaren, **City Hall**, and **Riddarholmen**. Walk downhill through the old neighborhood and make your way either to the metro station **Slussen** or why not walk over the bridge **Centralbron** to **Gamla Stan**.

## Gamla Stan

The Old Town with its quaint medieval architecture and its narrow intertwining streets is replete with cozy cafes, shops, restaurants, galleries and museums. Strut by foot through the cobblestone grounds of the compact island and explore the many narrow and winding streets. There are ten museums in the Old Town alone so you will get to cover a lot in very little time. Here you can find **The Royal Palace**, the **Stockholm Cathedral**, the iconic town square **Stortorget**. Make your way down to **Skeppsbrokajen** and catch the ferry over to the island of Djurgården.

## The Royal Djurgården

The island of Djurgården is has been proclaimed as royal land since the fifteenth century. Djurgården is also home to several of Stockholm's top attractions and restaurants. This calm and beautiful oasis has it all: nature, history, architecture, art and culinary wonders. It's the home of the most visited museum in Scandinavia: The **Vasa Museum**. Next door you also have the **Nordic Museum**, **ABBA the Museum**, Viking museum **Vikingaliv** and **Junibacken** the fairy tale world of Astrid Lindgren.

## Shopping

The essence of Swedish fashion is simple, wearable looks that are both trendy and reasonably priced. The fact that fashion is one of the most popular forms of contemporary cultural expression is obvious in Stockholm's prime shopping district: **Stockholm City area**. Here you have **Drottninggatan** and the larger department stores and malls: **Åhlens**, **Nordiska Kompaniet**, **Gallerian** and **MOOD Stockholm**. Stockholm City is easy to reach regardless where you are in town.

## Swedish Fika

Going for a fika at a fik is a very Swedish thing. Fika basically means to meet up for a coffee and a snack, and a fik is slang for a café, bakery or pastry shop. Sweden enjoys a highly developed culture when it comes to baked goods, and everywhere in Stockholm you'll find cafés and cake shops brimming with atmosphere, character and quality, whether traditional or innovative. [visitstockholm.com/guides/go-for-a-fika](http://visitstockholm.com/guides/go-for-a-fika)

## Getting around

Stockholm is best seen on foot and nothing is ever far away. Another option is **renting a bike**: there are bike paths and bike lanes all over and you can easily get around between the islands and out on Djurgården. [visitstockholm.com/guides/on-two-wheels](http://visitstockholm.com/guides/on-two-wheels)

**Stockholm Public Transport**, SL, includes buses, underground trains, commuter trains, trams and certain ferry lines in Greater Stockholm. [sl.se/en](http://sl.se/en) **Hop-on, Hop-off** by boat or bus is a convenient option when moving between attractions and still allows its passengers to see much of the city.

## Prefer organized sightseeing?

Here are a few suggestions on tours out of the ordinary: [visitstockholm.com/guided-tours-with-a-twist](http://visitstockholm.com/guided-tours-with-a-twist)