

Stockholm by the water

Stockholm is built on 14 islands which means water is always nearby. Sunny walks on snow-covered ice in winter and summer swims in the heart of the city make Stockholm unique among the world's capitals. There are plenty of ways to experience the city from the water: take a guided sightseeing tour try the regular ferries or wander along the many quays and canals.

Boat tours

Boat sightseeing

Stockholm is built on 14 beautiful islands connected by 57 bridges. Journeying from place to place on a sightseeing boat is a unique experience. stromma.se, red sightseeing.com

Drottningholm and Birka

Take the boat from Stadshuskajen to Drottningholm on Lovön and Birka on the island of Björkö. The tours last one and two hours, respectively, and will take you through the natural beauty of Mälaren. stromma.se

Stockholm Archipelago tours

Want to explore the unique archipelago, but don't have much time? There are plenty of regular boat tours and excursions departing from central Stockholm, both long and short, that allows you to experience a piece of that true archipelago feeling. You can also combine a boat sightseeing with a meal on a dining cruise. stromma.se and waxholmsbolaget.se/visitor/

Fjäderholmarna

Just 25 minutes from the city, visit the archipelago's closest islands by boat from Nybroplan. Explore restaurants, cafés, shops and handicrafts like glassblowing. Enjoy the sunset before taking the boat back home. This is also home to one of Mackmyra's oldest whisky warehouses. fjaderholmarna.se

Ocean Bus

Ocean Bus is a unique sightseeing tour, where you get the chance to experience Stockholm onboard an amphibious bus, that runs on land as well as on water. The tour passes by many of the city's most well-known attractions and is guided in English. Samma länk. oceanbus.se

Hop-on Hop-off boats

The fact that Stockholm is built on islands, makes a sightseeing tour by boat somewhat of a given. Stay aboard for the whole tour or hop on and off as you please. stromma.se, red sightseeing.com

Stockholm winter tour

A sightseeing tour by boat in a wintery Stockholm, along the city's quays, out to and around the islands of Fjäderholmarna. There are skin rugs and fleece blankets to keep you warm on upper deck, if you feel like sitting outside. Glögg, traditional hot mulled wine is served in the cafeteria, and for lunch you can enjoy a bowl of soup or maybe a glass of arrack to get warm as Stockholm passes by outside. stromma.se

Activities

Swimming

Sandy and rocky beaches are right in the middle of town. Popular swimming areas include **Långholmsbadet**, **Smedsuddsbadet**, **Rålambshovsbadet** and **Tantolunden**. visitstockholm.com

Paddle

Rent a kayak, paddle among all the city's islands and walk ashore when you feel like it. Have a coffee break, or even take a swim before paddling onward. Stand Up Paddle boarding (SUP) has emerged as the fastest growing water sport in the world today. SUP is something everyone can learn and that can be used in all kinds of water, lakes, rivers and even the open sea. stockholmarchipelago.se/en/activities/paddling/, stockholmadventures.com

Fishing

The clean waters of downtown Stockholm are teeming with premium quality salmon and sea trout. As you pass by the Swedish Riksdag (the parliament) and the Royal Palace, you are very likely to see anglers standing in rows along the quays with fishing rods outstretched. Try your luck on your own or join a guided fishing tour in the region. visitstockholm.com/see-do/activities/go-fish/

Ice skating

Want to go ice skating in Stockholm? In the wintertime you have the opportunity to experience the natural ices in and around Stockholm. Be safe and go with an experienced guide. thegreentrails.com, iceguide.se

Feel free to roam

The freedom to roam is the principle, protected by the law, that gives all people the right to roam free in nature. Sleep on mountaintops, by the lakes, in quiet forests or beautiful meadows. Take a kayak out for a spin or experience the wildlife firsthand. Pick berries and mushrooms and flowers from the ground – all completely free of charge. The only thing you have to pay is respect to the nature and the animals living there. Learn more about the freedom to roam and the responsibilities that follows. visitsweden.com/about-the-right-of-public-access/

Walks by the water

Royal Djurgården

The island of Djurgården is a calm oasis that has been royal land since the fifteenth century. Stroll around the Djurgårdsbrunn canal or Blockhusudden. Djurgården is also home to several of the city's top attractions and restaurants.

Strandvägen

The exclusive Strandvägen Boulevard offers an unbeatable walking path with stunning waterfront views, beautiful architecture and seaside restaurants. Strandvägen is one of the most posh addresses in the city.

Kungsholmen and Hornsbergs Strand

You can stroll around the entire island of Kungsholmen along the water. The walk along the tree-lined quay on Norrmälärstrand offers unparalleled views of Södermalm and the boats sailing on the lake.

The new residential area of Hornsberg has plenty of nice, green grassy areas and a wooden dock by the water with ladders to make swimming easy. The numerous restaurants nearby make spontaneous pic-nics easy as pie.

Hammarby Sjöstad

The quays of Hammarby Sjöstad are a great escape from the bustling city. Cozy tree-lined walkways along the water and the spectacular modern architecture are a perfect match.

Skeppsholmen and Kastellholmen

When crossing the bridge to Skeppsholmen Island, you will leave the lively city behind and enter a calm oasis. The quays are lined with houseboats and large ships.

Brunnsviken

The park areas around Brunnsviken are part of the National Park. This is a popular spot for picnics, swimming and recreation of many forms. Here you will find a beautiful hilly environment, a botanical garden, cafes, castles and several historical and interesting buildings. There is also "The health trail", a 12 km long walking path perfect for running, jogging or walking.

Restaurants and bars by the water

Mälarpaviljongen

An idyllic summer spot beneath a rainbow flag serving modern Swedish dishes. Open in summer. Norr Mälärstrand 64, malarpaviljongen.se

Oaxen krog & slip

Slip serves well-prepared bistro dishes, while Krog offers fine dining. Both restaurants focus on seasonal, locally produced Swedish flavors. Beckholmsvägen 26, oaxen.com

Sjöcaféet

Lunch, traditional Swedish cuisine and pizza at one of Stockholm's best locations: right by Djurgårdsbron. Also has a pleasant bar. Galärvarvsvägen 2, sjocafeet.se

Fotografiska restaurant

An award-winning restaurant under the management of the well-known restaurateur Paul Svensson. Incredible views. Stadsgårdshamnen 22, fotografiska.eu

Ångbåtsbryggan

Museum, restaurant and bar in one, with a beautiful location and a marine vibe. Strandvägen Kajplats 18, angbatsbryggan.com

Loopen

Restaurant Loopen opened at the jetty in 1975. The restaurant is inspired by two contrasting yet equally magical sea-loving regions, Scandinavia and the Caribbean. The environments, the food and the drinks are a harmonious concoction of both places. loopen.se

Spritmuseum

Spritmuseum is not only an impressive and entertaining museum, it also holds an art gallery, a testing room, a meeting room, a bar, a shop and a highly reputable restaurant. The spacious dining room is housed in one of the Royal Swedish Navy's last remaining galleys from the 18th century. The restaurant's menu focuses on modern cuisine and highlights seasonal vegetables. spritmuseum.se

Piren

Piren restaurant is situated in the new neighborhood of Hornsberg. The view by the water is exquisite and so is the affordable and rustic food. Daydream or night-dream while overlooking Mälaren and indulge in some of the best seafood you have ever had. piren-bar.se

Göteborg

This restaurant brings Gothenburg-esque vibes to Stockholm. Just as if you were in Gothenburg, you can get here either by boat or tram. The atmosphere is cool and laidback, perfect to pop a couple of beers by the pier in the summer or to enjoy a nicely cooked piece of fish in the fall. restaurangoteborg.se/