

IEEE Region 8 Meeting March 2017 – Stockholm, Sweden



Stockholm summer night



Stockholm winter & Christmas



Stockholm daytime

Henrik Trygg/mediabank.visitstockholm.com



Stockholm nightlife

1 - Travelling advisory

Meeting venue

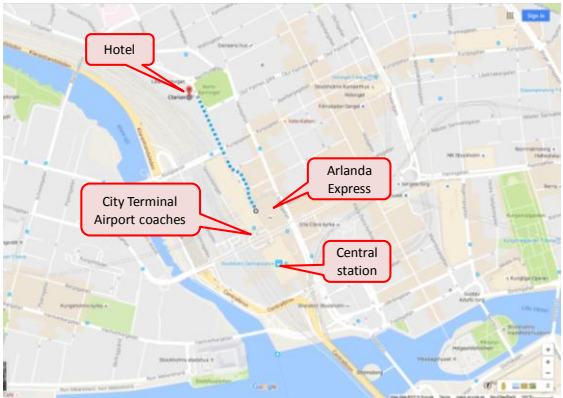
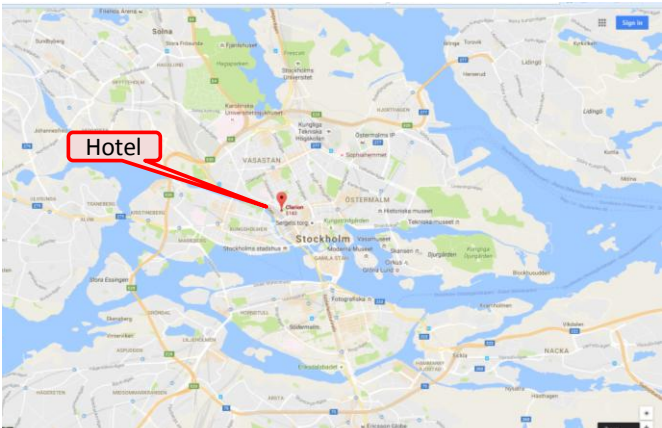
Hotel Clarion Sign

Link = clarion-hotel-sign

Östra Järnväggsgatan 35; 10126 Stockholm; Sweden

Tel: +46 (0) 8 676 98 00 Fax: +46 (0)8 676 98 99 E-mail cl.sign@choice.se

Modern Scandinavian design by architect Gert Wingårdh, built in granite and glass that reflects the street life and green park outside. Classic furniture designed by Arne Jacobsen in the lobby. Spa on the 8th floor, with a fantastic view. The hotel can accommodate up to 1,220 conference guests, and organize conferences and other events for up to 700 people. The hotel is located in the very center of Stockholm, close to shopping, theaters, restaurants and clubs. **Walking distance ~ 5 minutes (400 m)** to the main station with airport high-speed train, commuter trains and subways, as well as the airport coach City Terminal. Please find map here google.map [Clarion sign](http://Clarion_sign)



Airports – how to get to Stockholm

Stockholm can be reached directly by several major international airlines, or via European gateway cities. Stockholm has 4 related airports; Arlanda, Bromma, Skavsta and Västerås

- **Stockholm-Arlanda – main airport** – www.arlanda.se – is the key hub for flights between Sweden and destinations in Europe as well as the rest of the world. Usually the most relevant airport for IEEE travelers. Located 40 km north of the Stockholm city, but only 20 minutes by high-speed train.
- **Stockholm-Bromma Airport**– www.brommaairport.se – is a small city-airport offering mainly domestic flights and some international flights. It is conveniently close to central Stockholm, e.g. 20 minutes by airport coach and busses.
- **Stockholm-Skavsta Airport** – www.skavsta.se – Is located 100 km South West of central Stockholm. The airport is a hub for Ryanair and other low cost airlines and offers direct flights to several destinations in Europe. About 80 minutes by bus to central Stockholm.
- **Stockholm-Västerås Airport** – www.vst.nu – is located 100 km North West of central Stockholm. The airport is primarily served by the low-fare airline Ryanair.

How to get to and from Stockholm airports

We recommend you use public transport to and from Stockholm airports. There is a high-speed train and airport coaches taking you directly to the Stockholm city & City Terminalen for a low fare. During rush hours or bad weather conditions, the high-speed train is the quickest transport alternative. Only a 5 min walk (400 m) from the Arlanda Express stop, a few more minutes from the City Terminal. If needed, there are taxis available at the City Terminalen and the Central station

To & from Stockholm Arlanda Airport

- [The Arlanda express](#) train takes you from Arlanda Airport to the city center. The platform is easily accessible, underneath the arrival terminals. Departure every 15 minutes, most of the day. Travel time about 20 minutes. This is usually the most convenient and timely alternative. One-trip fare about 30 EUR, bought at the ticket machine. Discounts 40 – 60% if 2 – 4 buy joint tickets. Buying tickets via web could get you a discount up to 45%.
- [Flygbussarna Airport Coaches - Arlanda](#) departs every 10-15 minutes, between Arlanda Airport and the City Terminal, located next to the Central Station. Travel time to Arlanda 35-45 minutes. One-trip fare about 15 EUR, bought at the ticket machine. Buying tickets via web could get you a discount of about 10%.

To & from Stockholm Bromma Airport, Stockholm Skavsta Airport and Västerås Airport

[Flygbussarna Airport Coaches](#) operates all airports, with departures usually timed with arrivals and departures at the airports.

- From Bromma; travel time 20 minutes; one-trip fare about 10 EUR
- From Skavsta; travel time 90 minutes; one-trip fare about 20 EUR
- From Västerås; travel time 80 minutes; one-trip fare about 20 EUR

Taxi – Stockholm Arlanda & Stockholm Bromma

We recommend you use public transport to and from Stockholm airports.

- Taxi services are available at Stockholm Arlanda Airport and Bromma Airport. Credit cards accepted. Depending on time of day, the travel time from Arlanda Airport is about 40 - 60 minutes, and from Bromma Airport about 15 – 30 minutes.
- Please note: Taxi fares in Sweden are not regulated, hence prices could vary significantly between taxi operators. It is recommended you use the services of well-known firms like Taxi Stockholm www.taxistockholm.se/; Taxi 020 www.taxi020.se/ and Taxi Kurir www.taxikurir.se/ For trips between Stockholm city and the Arlanda Airport, major taxi firms have fixed prices in the range of SEK 550 – 700. Always ask the driver beforehand.

Preparations, Visa, currency etc

Language

The official language in Sweden is Swedish. However, most people speak English, and particularly in the Stockholm area.

Emergency number = 112 in Europe, including Sweden

Passport & Visa

Any person of foreign nationality who enters Sweden to stay there for a period not exceeding 90 days must have the document (passport, travel or identity document) required for entry into Swedish territory. Sweden is part of the Schengen area. A list of foreign citizens who require Visa for entry into Sweden is available [here](#).

The Swedish Government offers a website with frequently asked questions and information concerning the Visa process, which can be found [here](#).

Currency

The monetary unit in Sweden is the krona, SEK (plural “kronor”) and equals 100 öre. Bank notes are printed in values of 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 and 1,000 kronor, coins 1, 2, 5 and 10 kronor.

Please note: Older versions of the 20, 50 and 1,000-krona banknotes are not valid, [more info here](#)

Credit cards

Major credit cards – albeit some restriction may apply to American Express – are widely accepted throughout Sweden at banks, hotels, stores, restaurants, taxis, car rental companies, and for air, ship and rail tickets.

Please note: In order to pay or withdraw cash with your credit card it requires that you have a card with chip and PIN (Personal Identification Number). The older magnetic-stripe cards won't work. You can get cash with your Visa, MasterCard, Maestro, or Cirrus card at any “Bankomat” or “Uttagsautomat” ATM.

Money Exchange

Traveler's cheques should be exchanged at exchange offices, as few businesses will accept them. [FOREX](#) exchange offices and [X-Change](#) Exchange shops are centrally located in Stockholm, at airports, major ferry terminals and railway stations.

Please note: Regular banks do not handle cash or bank notes in Sweden; Sweden is turning into a cash-free society. Exchange rates Nov 2016: 1 EUR \approx 10 SEK; 1 USD \approx 9 SEK; 1 GBP \approx 11 SEK

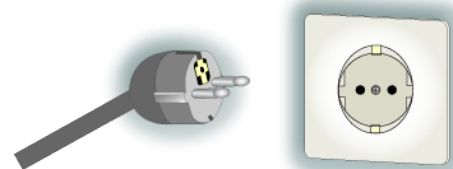
Electrical appliances

The standard voltage in Sweden is 230 Volts AC and 50 cycles. The power sockets used are of type F.

Plugs and sockets may differ from those in other parts of the world, so travelers should bring adapters or transformers for electrical appliances such as hairdryers and shavers.

Type F

Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Portugal, Spain and Eastern Europe



VAT refund

If you reside outside the European Union (EU), you are entitled to a tax refund on your purchases. In Sweden, as in most European countries, Value Added Tax is included in the sales price on the tag.

Tax Free Shopping by Global Blue is a simple system that puts cash in your hand when you leave the EU. You get refunds of up to 19% on your purchases. The minimum purchase is SEK 200.

More information: [Global Blue Sverige AB](#) ; Västmangatan 8; SE-111 24 Stockholm, Sweden;

Tel: +46 (0)8 545 28 440 Email: info.se@global-blue.com

Tipping

A service charge is automatically included in most Swedish hotel bills.

Tipping for special services provided by hotel staff is fine, but is not expected and is simply a matter of personal taste. At restaurants, a service charge is included in the bill, but a small gratuity is expected for evening meals.

Taxi drivers are usually given a few extra kronor.

Porters and cloakroom attendants often charge fixed fees. Doormen at hotels and restaurants are tipped modestly.

Climate

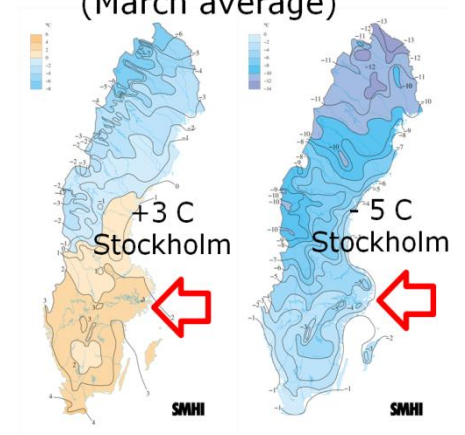
Sweden is in the northern parts of Europe, stretching from North of the Arctic Circle to the 55th latitude in the South. Despite its location, Stockholm has fairly mild temperatures throughout the year. Due to the 60th latitude, the city sees a huge seasonal variation in sunlight, with more than 18 hours of daylight in June.

As of late March, the average Stockholm daylight is 12,5 hours, with sunrise 05:35 and sunset 18:10.

The weather in March could vary significantly, like cold arctic weather systems from the north, or milder southerly weather systems. The temperature in March is usually cool, monthly average of -1 C . But this varies significantly, both between years and within the month; Individual days could range from $+10\text{ C}$ to -10 C . If windy, the wind-chill factor should be accounted for. Please check the weather forecasts, and consider coat, hat and gloves might be necessary.

<http://www.weatheronline.co.uk/Sweden.htm>

2016 mild vs 2013 cold
(March average)



2 – Stockholm & Attractions

A brief summary of Stockholm 2014 is presented by a Magician on a YouTube clip, as shown at the IEEE R8 meeting in Porto, Sep 2016: <https://youtu.be/CAkdWUjdJyA>

Getting around in Stockholm

The public transport system in the Stockholm area is generally regarded as safe, punctual and efficient. You can quickly travel between different locations in a compact and cozy Stockholm.

Stockholm Public Transport, SL, is responsible for buses, underground trains, commuter trains, trams and certain ferry lines in Greater Stockholm. <http://sl.se/en>

The underground is the easiest way to get around town. The city is divided into three zones, and zone tickets are good for several trips within 75 to 120 minutes. Tickets can be purchased at SL Centers, underground platform barriers, newsagent kiosks, via SMS or via the SL app. It's not possible to pay cash for tickets onboard buses in Stockholm.

Prepaid cards are the best alternative for those making few trips. It is also possible to buy 24 or 72 hour cards, or 7-day cards, which allow free travel all over Stockholm during the validity period.

A trip on the number 69 bus or number 7 tram that go out to Djurgården is a superb way to discover Stockholm. The tram connects you with major attractions like Skansen and the Vasa Museum.

Stockholm city is heedful of the beautiful surroundings, and this has led to many inner city buses running on eco-friendly fuels such as bio-ethanol. The Stockholm underground is also known as the world's longest art gallery as many of its stations are adorned with the works of different artists.

Travelling by local ferries is a fantastic way to experience a city built on islands. Ferries are used by both commuters and tourists wanting to take a better look around.

There are ample ferry departures from Nybroviken and Slussen out to the leafy island of Djurgården and Hammarby Sjöstad. An SL Card includes the ferries from Slussen and you can also buy single tickets on the quay.

Things to do in Stockholm

The list of things to do in Stockholm could be made endless and there are more than a hundred attractions to choose from. A few illustrative samples of attractions are shown below.

For more information, please visit <http://www.visitstockholm.com/>

Old Town/Gamla Stan District

Link = [Gamla stan](#)

Gamla Stan is like a living, pedestrian-friendly museum, filled with sights, restaurants, cafés, bars and places to shop. The narrow, winding cobblestone streets, with their buildings in different colors, give Gamla Stan its unique character. Lately Gamla Stan has become a virtual gastro-island when a number of new and excellent restaurants have opened their doors to the public.

The Royal Palace

Link = [The Royal Palace](#)

Welcome to one of the largest palaces in Europe! The Royal Palace is the official residence of His Majesty the King of Sweden, with over 600 rooms.

The Palace is open to the public and offers no less than five museums. The Palace was largely built during the eighteenth century in the Italian Baroque style, on the spot where the “Tre Kronor” castle burned down in 1697. Visit the reception rooms with splendid interiors from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, Rikssalen (the Hall of State) with Queen Kristina’s silver throne, and Ordenssalarna (Halls of the Orders of Chivalry). You can also see Gustav III’s Museum of Antiquities, the Tre Kronor Museum and the Treasury.

The Royal Palace also contains the Armory, with royal costumes and armor, as well as coronation carriages and magnificent coaches from the Royal Stable. Make sure not to miss the parade of soldiers and the daily changing of the guard.

The Vasa Museum

Link = [The Vasa Museum](#)

The Vasa is the only preserved seventeenth-century ship in the world, and a unique art treasure. More than 95 percent of the ship is original. The 69 meter-long warship Vasa sank on its maiden voyage in the middle of Stockholm in 1628, and was salvaged 333 years later in 1961. For nearly half a century the ship has been restored to a state approaching its original glory. There are ten different exhibitions around the ship. The film about the Vasa is shown in 13 different languages.

The best views of Stockholm

Link = [Guide to the best views](#)

Thanks to being built on 14 islands and with barely any high-rise buildings, Stockholm has a unique landscape. It’s mostly church spires that pierce through the otherwise almost unobstructed skyline. Grab your camera or phone and head to one of these outlooks for breathtaking city views.

Stockholm Nightlife

Link = [Stockholm nightlife](#)

Stockholm has a vibrant club scene with something for every taste and age. You will find everything from casual bars with dance floors, to clubs of the highest international standard. Before you head out into the night, it may be wise to check the clubs' websites or social media sites for information on schedules, age restrictions and opening hours, which can vary from night to night.

Skansen Open-Air Museum

Link = [Skansen Open-Air Museum](#)

Skansen is a favorite both among Stockholmers and visitors passing through, and it's a perfect family outing. This is the oldest open-air museum in the world and also the Stockholm zoo, with animals native to Scandinavia. This is also a Sweden in miniature. 150 farms and dwellings from different parts of the country were transported here. Swedish traditions are celebrated at Skansen.

Museums with free entry

Stockholm's art and cultural scene has become even more accessible. In over a dozen museums, you pay no entry at all, and it's completely free to enjoy art, architecture, history and culture from near and far. <http://www.visitstockholm.com/en/See--do/Guides/museums-with-free-entry/>

Stockholm Archipelago

Link = [Stockholm Archipelago](#).

A world of 30 000 islands is waiting for you, just 20 minutes away from Stockholm.

Bare windswept cliffs, bays lined with soft sand, green forests and a beautiful coastline: nature in the archipelago is varied and offers a wide variety of activities. Cycle or walk along a natural trail, enjoy the pleasures of nature from a boat, explore the beaches on the islands, or just breathe in the fresh air. [Find out more on the nature of the islands!](#)

If you're the adventurous type, there is plenty to do. Explore the archipelago with a crew on a sailboat, or kayak from island to island, enjoying the tranquility of the natural surroundings. Combine a ride on a speedy RIB boat with a seal safari, and enjoy the rich maritime life of the archipelago.

[Explore the adventurous archipelago!](#)