



USEFUL INFORMATION IF GOING TO **SWEDEN** AS A TOURIST IN A PLEASURE CRAFT.



Topic	Comment
Demographic data (population/no of clubs/members/boats)	10 million inhabitants; 1,000 boat clubs with 250,000 members Estimate 1,000 club harbours and 500 guest harbours. Number of pleasure boats 881,000 boats altogether. Cruising boats: 120,000 motorboats and 62,000 sailing boats.
Currency with link for exchange rates	Swedish currency is marked SEK (Swedish Kronor). You can pay with credit card almost everywhere with the exception of small shops on the islands. It is recommended to have cash. Exchange rates www.forex.se
Formalities, Customs, passport control, visa	EU residents and residents from Norway, Iceland or Switzerland on pleasure boats coming from or leaving for a port inside Schengen area may travel without border control. All passengers must have identification documents. It is not necessary to clear customs unless you carry more than allowed amounts of tobacco/alcohol, allowed in Europe. Pleasure boats coming from a port outside Schengen should contact a border crossing point and show the report <i>Leisure Boat, Entry- Exit</i> . You will find the template at https://polisen.se/om-polisen/polisens-arbete/granspolisen/resor-inom-eu-granskontroller . Please scroll down to an English language template. All passengers must have identification documents. Only yachts with paying crew have to send a report to the Swedish Coast Guard Maritime Clearance. Telephone: +46 8 57 89 76 30, Telefax: +46 611 20 190, E-mail: sweden24@coastguard.se . A pleasure boat which arrives from another EU member state and has passed international waters or an international fairway or a non-Schengen port is subject to a duty of notification. Taxable goods on board must be declared to Swedish Custom Offices. For contact information Swedish Customs National Communications Centre. Telephone: +46 (0) 8-405 05 70, Fax: +46 (0) 8-654 06 11 or E-mail: tuk@tullverket.se
Banned substances	When you travel to Sweden you may bring prescription drugs, but only if you intend to use them for a medical reason and it is for your personal use. You are also allowed to bring medicine for pets that are travelling with you, if it has been prescribed by a veterinary surgeon. Read more about banned or restricted substances and articles on www.tullverket.se
Boat's documents required	For EU boats, proof of VAT status is required. It is useful to have an international certificate for pleasure craft. According to EC resolution Nr 13 ownership has to be proven.
Insurance	No national legislation but marinas and harbours require insurance before lifting the boat.
Legislation certificate of competence	For boats bigger than 12x4 m a certificate of competence is required. No certificate required for smaller boats.
Alcohol limits – on the water and on the road	Blood alcohol concentration is limited to 0.2/ml for boats over 10 metres or boats capable of over 15 knots. For boats less than 10 metres and boats capable of less than 15 knots, the limit is 1.0/ml. Coast Guard or Police officers may do breath alcohol tests without further notice. The penalty for violation of the regulation is a fine or imprisonment, not exceeding six months, and for serious violation of the law imprisonment up to two years. The same requirements apply to visiting sailors. Limited to 0.2/ml for all cars.
Legislation re life jackets	No legislation regarding life jackets. All authority and organisations recommend strongly that all on board should wear lifejackets.
TSS, esp. new ones	All traffic separation scheme routes (TSS) are marked on charts. In Sweden the Swedish Transport Agency is responsible for TSS. www.transportstyrelsen.se/en/ Warnings and notices to mariners are published on webpage of the Swedish maritime administration. Notices to mariners. http://www.sjofartsverket.se/en/
Military exercise areas	Military protected areas are marked with noticeboards on beaches as well as in the ordinary charts.
Major construction sites	All warnings and notices to mariners are published on webpage of the Swedish maritime administration. Notices to mariners. http://www.sjofartsverket.se/en/
Windfarms/wave and tidal energy projects	All warnings and notices to mariners are published on webpage of the Swedish maritime administration. Notices to mariners. http://www.sjofartsverket.se/en/

Bridges	Vertical clearances for fixed bridges are shown on the charts. Opening times vary and must be checked for each opening bridge. Cable ferries are still in operation.
Fishing equipment	Sweden follows EU regulation and in Swedish territorial waters the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management www.havochvatten.se is the body for regulation of fishing and equipment. Search for "Märkning och utmärkning av fiskeredskap" and you will find all information in Swedish about marking of fishing equipment. Information you may translate to any language by Google translator.
Habitats and other protected areas	Nature protection areas are marked on sea charts as well as with notice boards on the beaches. Time for access is shown both on charts and noticeboards.
Flag traditions/ application of flag rules	March 1 to October 31, the national flag should be hoisted at sunrise - not earlier than 0800 - rest of the year at 0900. The flag should be lowered at sunset, at the latest 2100. When sailing in Swedish waters visitors are expected to fly a courtesy flag under starboard spreader. On a motorboat it should be on a pole. Pennant can be flown around the clock, but not simultaneously with the flag.
Weather forecast	http://www.smhi.se . There are a lot of weather Apps available without any cost also from SMHI the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute.
Harbours including approx number of natural harbours	Sweden has about 500 classified guest harbours. www.gasthamnsguiden.se Many boat clubs have a club harbour on a nearby island. Additionally there are thousands of natural harbours for more than 5 boats and several thousands for 1-4 boats.
Mooring booking facilities	Not a common service in Swedish harbours. In Sweden yachtsmen can book a spot in 37 of the most popular guest harbours out of approx 500 guest harbours. To book use www.dockspot.se . Service is in English, German and Swedish.
Swinging mooring buoys for pleasure yachts	SXK operate more than 200 blue buoys for pleasure boats up to 8 ton marked with SXK to be used by members only.
Anchoring and free access ashore	The Swedish right of public access gives freedom to explore and enjoy nature. The ground rules are do not disturb or destroy. Information is available in Swedish, English and German at SXK. In a natural harbour, do not get too close to other anchored boats if there is plenty of space. You can stay in the same place for a day or two without asking the landowner for permission. Some places are seal or bird preservation areas and going ashore and being in the area is prohibited during some periods. Preservation areas are marked on sea charts.
Good harbour manners	In Swedish harbours a quiet environment is expected after 2200. As a guest you can use any available mooring/berth place in the harbour unless red/green signs are used.
Safety in harbours	The safety in guest harbours is managed by the harbour master. Everyone on board should be careful with all the fire hazards on board. It is also appropriate that each boat has a fire extinguisher and a smoke alarm installed. Guest harbours are normally equipped with rescue ladders and lifebuoys/life rings.
Rescue services	In Sweden all marine rescue services are coordinated from JRCC Joint Rescue Coordination Centre in Gothenburg. In case of alarm call 112 or radio VHF channel 16 "Sweden Rescue".
Pyrotechnics - legislation re carrying - if flareguns (Very pistols) permitted - if so is licence required? - procedure for disposal	No legal requirements - therefore not compulsory but recommended. For offshore races, the race rules require flares (SOLAS LSA Code Chapter III Visual Signals) To carry or bring flareguns to Sweden you need a Swedish licence www.polisen.se Old flareguns must be returned to a shop selling flareguns or to the police. It is forbidden to fire old flareguns.
Staying during the winter	Most marinas provide winter storage. Use www.eniro.se or Google and search for marina.
Antifouling regulations	It is allowed for visiting boats to have other antifouling than Swedish regulation. Regulation is in accordance with EU biocide directive.
Fuel availability	In marine fuel stations 95/98 petrol and diesel without additive is available. Road- and biodiesel includes additives.
Gas and electricity systems available – necessity for adapters	LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) available in bottles 2, 5 and 10 kg with screw on valves. Electric contacts used in Swedish harbours are the blue  or the ordinary  Adapters for several purposes may be ordered from any Swedish marine webshop.

Pump out stations for sewage and oily water	Sweden formally follows the HELCOM recommendation, but is based on individual and free development of holding tank and sewage pumps ashore. A new regulation is in force from 1st April 2015 which regulates that all boats with a toilet must have a holding tank and must be pumped ashore or in tanks or outside 12NM if used.
Pump out stations – type(s) of nozzle used in the country	Most Swedish ports use a conical nozzle which fits most deck pump out fittings (deck pump out fittings on Swedish boats must be in accordance with ISO 8099:2000)
Public transport	Bus and train service covers the most of the country. In larger cities there may also be metro/subway, tram, commuter train and ferry lines.
Major source of charts/pilot books in the country with link	Every marine shop such as www.hjertmans.se has charts but Navionics and others offer online charts over Swedish waters. www.nautiskamagasinet.se have a lot of pilot books.
Shopping hours	The opening hours vary depending on where you are. In the larger cities most shops are open to 2000 or later but in the archipelago most shops are open to 1800.
Important phone numbers, home pages and useful links	Swedish Customs National Communications Centre. Telephone: +46 (0) 8–405 05 70, Fax: +46 (0) 8–654 06 11 or E-mail: tuk@tullverket.se Swedish Coast Guard Maritime Clearance. Telephone: +46 8 57 89 76 30, Telefax: +46 611 20 190, E-mail: sweden24@coastguard.se . Tourist information: www.visitsweden.se
Tick borne diseases	In Sweden ticks are spreading in all coastal areas except in the north. In some areas ticks carry two types of disease, Lyme disease and TBE (Tick Borne Encephalitis). TBE vaccine is available. Lyme disease must be cured with antibiotics.
Legislation re visiting with pets aboard	If you travel with dog or cat from another EU country - the animal must be ID-marked, must have a valid vaccination against rabies, must have an EU-passport for pets, must be reported to customs when passing the border.
Practical advice	Check weather report daily and remember to keep in touch with your relatives and inform them where you are going. Open fire: Check if there is a fire ban. Bring your own barbecue set or locate any of the barbecue places available, and put the fire out properly afterwards. Rubbish bins are found in several places along the coast, including in many natural harbors. Avoid throwing rubbish including paper and plastic, this brings only problems with rats. Waste separation in the archipelago is nowadays common. Carry a small amount of cash in local currency.

This document does not claim to include all known information on the subjects covered but the compilers and the Baltic Sea Cruising Network (BSCN) believe that the information contained represents a useful aid to those visiting the country by pleasure craft. Visitors should make prudent use of the information available on the websites quoted. No responsibility for loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from action as a result of the material in this publication is accepted by the compilers or the Baltic Sea Cruising Network.

BSCN/Useful Information/SWE-PB website www.sxx.se

First version 2008. Updated January 2019.



Svenska Kryssarklubben