

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



Baltic Sea Cruising Network

Topic	Comment
Demographic data (population/no of clubs/members/boats)	9.5 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 all together. Cruising boats: 120,000 motorboats and 62,000 sailing boats.
Currency	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.
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.  Leisure 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 <a href="http://kustbevakningen.se">http://kustbevakningen.se</a> . All passengers must have identification documents. Only yachts with paying crew have to send a report to the Swedish Maritime Clearance. Telephone: +46 8 57 89 76 30, Telefax: +46 611 20 190, E-mail: <a href="mailto:sweden24@coastguard.se">sweden24@coastguard.se</a> .  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 Customs. Telephone: +46 980 845 50, Telefax: + 46 980 820 89. E-mail: <a href="mailto:rsbc@tullverket.se">rsbc@tullverket.se</a> .
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 been rendered credible.
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	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.
TSS, esp. new ones	All traffic separation scheme routes (TSS) are marked on charts. In Sweden the Swedish Transport Agency is responsible for TSS. <a href="http://www.transportstyrelsen.se/en/">www.transportstyrelsen.se/en/</a> Warnings and notices to mariners are published on webpage to Swedish maritime administration. Notices to mariners. <a href="http://www.sjofartsverket.se/en/">http://www.sjofartsverket.se/en/</a>
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 to Swedish maritime administration. Notices to mariners. <a href="http://www.sjofartsverket.se/en/">http://www.sjofartsverket.se/en/</a>
Windfarms	All warnings and notices to mariners are published on webpage to Swedish maritime administration. Notices to mariners. <a href="http://www.sjofartsverket.se/en/">http://www.sjofartsverket.se/en/</a>
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.
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	<a href="http://www.smhi.se">http://www.smhi.se</a> . There are a lot of weather Apps available without any cost also from SMHI the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute.
Harbours	Sweden has about 500 classified guest harbours. <a href="http://www.gasthamnsguiden.se">www.gasthamnsguiden.se</a> Many boat clubs have a club harbour on a nearby island. Additionally there are thousands of nature harbours.
Swinging mooring buoys for pleasure yachts	SXK operate 170 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 have fire extinguisher and a smoke alarm installed. Guest harbours are normally equipped with rescue ladders and lifebuoys/life rings.
Staying during the winter	Most marinas provide winter storage. Use <a href="http://www.eniro.se">www.eniro.se</a> 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 availability	LPG (Liquefied Petroleum Gas) available in bottles 2, 5 and 10 kg with screw on valves.
Pump out stations for fuel 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.
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.
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	Customs: Telephone:+46 0980-845 50, Telefax:+46 0980-820 89, E-mail: <a href="mailto:rsbc@tullverket.se">rsbc@tullverket.se</a> Swedish Maritime Clearance (Kustbevakningen). Telephone: +46 8 57 89 76 30, Telefax: +46 611 20 190, E-mail: <a href="mailto:sweden24@coastguard.se">sweden24@coastguard.se</a> . Tourist information: <a href="http://www.visitsweden.se">www.visitsweden.se</a>
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. Do not pour water on a fire, if you made it up near a cliff. Then the rock might crack. 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.

BSCN/Useful Information/SWE-PB

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