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Sweden

Official Name: Kingdom of Sweden

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Embassy Messages

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Quick Facts

- **PASSPORT VALIDITY:**
Six months recommended
- **VACCINATIONS:**
None
- **BLANK PASSPORT PAGES:**
Two pages required for entry stamp
- **CURRENCY RESTRICTIONS FOR ENTRY:**
10,000 Euros (or equivalent)
- **TOURIST VISA REQUIRED:**
Not required for stays under 90 days
- **CURRENCY RESTRICTIONS FOR EXIT:**
10,000 Euros (or equivalent)

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Embassies and Consulates

[U.S. Embassy Stockholm](#)

**Dag Hammarskjölds Väg 31,
SE-115 89 Stockholm, Sweden****Telephone:** +(46) (8) 783-5300**Emergency After-Hours Telephone:** +(46) (8) 783-5300**Fax:** +(46) (8) 783-5480stkacinfo@state.gov

Destination Description

See the Department of State's [Fact Sheet on Sweden](#) for information on U.S.-Sweden relations.

Entry, Exit & Visa Requirements

Visit the [Embassy of Sweden](#) website for the most current visa information.

Sweden is a party to the Schengen Agreement. This means that U.S. citizens may enter Sweden for up to 90 days for tourist or business purposes without a visa. Your passport should be valid for at least three months beyond the period of stay. You need sufficient funds and a return airline ticket. For additional details about travel into and within Schengen countries, please see our [Schengen fact sheet](#).

The U.S. Department of State is unaware of any HIV/AIDS entry restrictions for visitors to or foreign residents of Sweden.

Information about [dual nationality](#) or the [prevention of international child abduction](#) can be found on our website. For further information about customs regulations, please read our [Customs Information page](#).

Safety and Security

Sweden has been subject to terrorist incidents in the past, and the potential for a terrorist incident remains. Like other countries in the Schengen area, Sweden's open borders with its Western European neighbors could permit terrorist groups to enter and exit the country with anonymity. You should remain vigilant and exercise caution.

Crime: Sweden has a low crime rate, though violent crime does occur.

- **Most crimes involve the theft of personal property from vehicles, residences, and public areas.** Pickpocketing and purse-snatching continue to be problematic as well. Many U.S. citizens fall victim to these highly skilled thieves, especially at the main train stations in Stockholm and Gothenburg, and while riding the bus or train to and from airports.
- **Pickpockets and purse-snatchers often work in pairs or groups so one can distract the victim while the other grabs the items;** often, they operate in or near major tourist attractions such as Stockholm's Old Town, and places frequented by tourists.
- Hotel breakfast rooms and lobbies attract thieves who blend in with guests..
- Do not leave your valuables in parked vehicles. Do not buy counterfeit and pirated goods, even if they are widely available. Not only are the bootlegs illegal to bring back into the United States, if you purchase them, you may also be breaking local law.

See the [Department of State](#) and the [FBI](#) _pages for information on scams.

Victims of Crime:

Report crimes to the local police at 112 and contact the U.S. Embassy at + (46) (8) 785-5300.

Remember that local authorities are responsible for investigating and prosecuting the crime.

See our webpage on [help for U.S. victims of crime overseas](#).

We can:

- help you find appropriate medical care
- assist you in reporting a crime to the police
- contact relatives or friends with your written consent
- explain the local criminal justice process in general terms
- provide a list of local attorneys
- provide our information on [victim's compensation programs in the U.S.](#)
- provide information on Sweden's [Crime Victim Compensation and Support Authority](#)
- provide an emergency loan for repatriation to the United States and/or limited medical
- support in cases of destitution
- help you find accommodation and arrange flights home
- replace a stolen or lost passport

Domestic Violence: U.S. citizen victims of domestic violence may contact the Embassy for assistance.

For further information:

- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security

messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.

- Call us in Washington at 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).
- See the [State Department's travel website](#) for [Worldwide Caution](#), Travel Warnings, and Travel Alerts.
- Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) .
- See [traveling safely abroad](#) for useful travel tips.

Local Laws & Special Circumstances

Criminal Penalties: You are subject to local laws. If you violate local laws, even unknowingly, you may be expelled, arrested, or imprisoned.

Furthermore, some laws are also prosecutable in the U.S., regardless of local law. For examples, see our website on [crimes against minors abroad](#) and the [Department of Justice](#) website.

Arrest Notification: If you are arrested or detained, ask police or prison officials to notify the U.S. Embassy immediately. See our [webpage](#) for further information.

There is no bail system in Sweden, and U.S. citizens who are arrested may be held in custody until the trial is complete.

Faith-Based Travelers: See the [Department of State's International Religious Freedom Report](#).

LGBTI Travelers: There are no legal restrictions on same-sex sexual relations or the organization of LGBTI events in Sweden.

See our [LGBTI Travel Information](#) page and section 6 of the [Department of State's Human Rights report](#) for further details.

Persons with Mobility Issues. Accessibility to public facilities and transportation in Sweden is good. The Swedish government continues to implement improvements throughout the city. The government actively implements and funds programs promoting disability access to streets, public buildings, stores, restaurants, and public transportation. For more information on accessibility in Sweden, visit the [Tourist Bureau's website](#)

Students: See our [Students Abroad](#) page and [FBI travel tips](#) .

Women Travelers: If you are a woman traveling abroad, please review our travel tips for [Women Travelers](#).

Health

Medical care in Sweden is comparable to that found in the United States.

- The Swedish medical system is state-run, so instead of visiting a local private general practitioner, you can visit a local medical center or clinic, called an "Akutmottagning" or "Vardcentral." You should be prepared to present your passport.
- The Swedish medical system does not cover people who don't live in Sweden; **nonresidents are expected to pay their own medical costs.** In case of a medical emergency, use the emergency telephone number "112" to contact the appropriate emergency service.
- You can bring medicines into the country as long as they are prescribed for your personal medical use. Prescribed medications categorized as narcotics may only be brought into the country to cover your personal use for a maximum of five days, three weeks, or three months, depending on the type, and must be accompanied by a note from your medical doctor stating why you need them. Class II and Class III narcotics may only be brought into Sweden to cover your personal use for a maximum of five days each time you enter Sweden. Medications categorized Class IV and Class V narcotics may be brought into the country to cover your personal use for three weeks; however, if you are a foreign resident and in Sweden only temporarily, you may bring enough for the duration of your stay in Sweden, up to a maximum of three months. To find out the classification of your medication contact the [Medical Products Agency](#) in Sweden.
- In addition, stringent Swedish customs regulations prohibit you from receiving drugs from abroad after having arrived in the country. **You may find local physicians reluctant to prescribe equivalent quantities or dosages.** Prescriptions are dispensed at pharmacies called "Apotek" in Swedish. Most pharmacies are open only during normal shopping hours, but major cities will have a 24-hour pharmacy.

We do not pay medical bills. Be aware that U.S. Medicare does not apply overseas.

Make sure your health insurance plan provides coverage overseas. Most care providers overseas only accept cash payments. See our webpage for more [information on insurance providers for overseas coverage](#).

We strongly recommend [supplemental insurance](#) to cover medical evacuation.

Carry prescription medication in original packaging, along with your doctor's prescription.

Be up-to-date on all [vaccinations recommended](#) by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

For further health information, go to:

- [World Health Organization](#)
- [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)

Travel & Transportation

Road Conditions and Safety: Driving is on the right in Sweden as in the United States.

- Road signs use standard international symbols and Swedish text. Many urban streets have traffic lanes reserved for public transportation only.
- Swedish roads are comparable to those in the United States, though secondary roads may be less heavily traveled. Slower vehicles are expected to move onto the shoulder to allow faster moving vehicles to pass.
- **All vehicles on the road must have their headlights turned on, no matter the time of day.** You must use snow tires between December 1 and March 31, and you should be experienced driving on ice and snow, if you are going to drive in the winter.
- **Gas stations in rural areas can be far apart.** Some gas stations are unattended and require a credit card with a chip to purchase fuel; some U.S. banks will issue this type of card upon request.
- You must use seat belts, and children under 135cm (4.45ft) in height must be seated in approved child or booster seats.

Traffic Laws: You can use a valid U.S. driver's license while visiting Sweden, but you must be at least 18 years old to drive

- The maximum speed limit is 120 kilometers per hour (approximately 75 miles per hour).
- **Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, including prescription drugs, is considered a very serious offense.** The maximum legal blood-alcohol level is .02-- much lower than in the United States. Swedish police often conduct alcohol tests on roads and highways. The rules are strictly enforced and fines can be severe, including possible jail sentences.

Public Transportation: Public transport in Sweden is the recommended method of travel.

- Passenger trains, intercity buses, and airplanes provide regular service over longer distances. Public transportation in urban centers includes buses, subways, trams, suburban trains, and taxis.
- Taxis are more expensive than in major U.S. cities. Most local residents use public transport in Stockholm, as parking can be hard to find and expensive. The bus, train, and subway systems are considered safe. Cyclists are common on many roads, especially in urban areas.

Please refer to our [Road Safety page](#) for more information. Also, we suggest that you visit the website of [Sweden's national tourist office](#) and the [SwedishTransport Administration](#).

Aviation Safety Oversight:

The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has assessed the Government of Sweden's Civil Aviation Authority as being in compliance with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) aviation safety standards for oversight of Sweden's air carrier operations. Further information may be found on the [FAA's safety assessment page](#) .

Please see [Department of State Fact Sheet for this country](#).

Assistance for U.S. Citizens

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