

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION CONCERNING EXCURSIONS PLANNED IN CONJUNCTION WITH EPAC'98

Pre Conference Adventure Tour to Northern Lapland, 20 to 21 June

Lapland, the province north of the Arctic Circle, is considered the last real wilderness in Europe with high mountains and wild rivers. Swedish Lapland presents a rare combination of peace and beauty, adventure and excitement. The light is wonderful in June and from May until August there is Midnight Sun. During two unforgettable days we will be introduced to the culture and traditions of the Saami people and to the country and wildlife of Swedish Lapland. The flight takes approximately 90 minutes.

Departure from Stockholm in the early afternoon.

Day 1

A guide and private coach will be waiting at the airport to take us to the historical village of Jukkasjärvi beautifully situated on the shores of Lake Torne.

Arrival in Jukkasjärvi and check-in in cottages, 2 persons in each cottage.

A guide and private coach will take us to Aha-mukka at the mighty Torne River.

Everybody will be handed river-rafting equipment and change into oilskins, rubber boots and life-jackets. Experienced raftsmen are now waiting to take us on a safe, yet totally exhilarating white-water rafting adventure down the Torne River. We shall pass through several rapids and stretches of calm water.

We shall board the small island of Saarikoski where the guide will prepare a delicious meal over the fire; roasted reindeer steak, potatoes and bread. We will finish our meal with a strong cup of coffee. Now it is time to try our luck at fishing. We will board the rafts once again and pass several rapids, including Paurankikoski, 6 km of rapids.

We will reach Pirthilahti and step ashore. Guided bus transfer back to the small village of Jukkasjärvi.

Behind the Jukkasjärvi church the Saami Nils Torbjörn Nutti is waiting for the guests with his tame reindeers. While we are having some warm wine toddy and some dried reindeer meat he will tell us more about the Saami culture, history and about the harsh living conditions in the mountains.

Short walk back to Jukkasjärvi local Inn where we are served some snacks on the veranda.

Late night, accommodation in the chalets.

Day 2

Buffet breakfast at the inn and check out.

Starting with a visit to the Saami homestead Museum and the Saami church, we will be treated to a deepened knowledge about Saami culture. This is the oldest wooden church in Lapland from 1608. Its modern altarpiece is made by the Swedish Artist Bror Hjorth.

Lunch will be served in an 18th century setting at the homestead museum after which we will have some time at leisure before departure to Kiruna Airport. Transfer back to Kiruna. Departure in the early afternoon arriving an hour later in Stockholm.

End of tour.

Price: SEK 6,100 per person in double room

SEK 6,500 per person in single room

Price includes: Transfer to Arlanda Airport, airfare Stockholm-Kiruna-Stockholm, full-time guide service during the entire programme, full board with Saami Specialities and all fees and taxes. All ground transports in modern tourist coach.

Minimum 20 persons. Reservation for price alterations beyond our control.

Old Town Walk, Tuesday 23 June, 10h00 to 13h00

The Island *Gamla Stan* (The Old Town) is the original heart of the ancient City of Stockholm and is consequently the city's oldest and most historical area. A walk through the narrow, cobbled streets, breathing in the historical atmosphere and spirit of this particularly fascinating part of Stockholm, will give us a clear notion of what life must have been like there centuries ago. Included in the tour is a visit to the Royal Palace.

Price: SEK 195 per person (including all fees and taxes).

Mariefred/Gripsholm Castle, Wednesday 24 June, 10h00 to 16h00

We will travel by bus to the picturesque town of Mariefred on the shores of Lake Mälaren. In Mariefred we will have a guided tour of the Castle. The rich inventory of the Castle gains special significance since old records tell us so much about its origins, just as the famous State Portrait Collection is also closely linked with Swedish political and cultural history. Lunch will be served at the charming Gripsholm Inn, with a history dating back 400 years. We will take a short walk along Mariefred's narrow cobbled streets, before the bus takes us back to Stockholm.

Price: SEK 595 per person (including all fees and taxes).

Art Tour, Thursday 25 June, 10h00 to 13h30

This tour takes us to two special museums in Stockholm. *Millesgården* (The Garden of Milles) on Lidingö, the beautiful residential island immediately outside Stockholm city, was the home of the famous sculptor Carl Milles (1875-1955). The artist's most important and inspiring works are displayed here. His art collection is unique to Sweden and contains works from ancient Rome and Greece and from European Medieval and Renaissance art. These are also on display at Millesgården.

Across the water, on the island of *Djurgården*, lies *Waldemarsudde*, the former home of Prince Eugen, known as the "Painter Prince". Here we can see another fine art collection, with the majority of works from the nineteenth century, including over a hundred paintings by Prince Eugen himself.

Price: SEK 320 per person (including all fees and taxes).

Drottningholm Castle, Friday 26 June , 14h00 to 17h00

We will go by bus to the Palace of Drottningholm, situated just outside Stockholm. The palace was built in the 17th century on the model of Versailles and enjoys a beautiful lake side view. The spectacular interiors date from the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries and are a delightful combination of the 18th century rococo and chinoiserie styles. The Palace with its magnificent park is today the residence of the Royal Family. We will also visit the 200-year old *Court Theatre* which, including the original stage machinery, is still used for performances during the summer season.

After our visit we will board the steamers which regularly sail between the palace and Stockholm. The tour ends in front of the City Hall.

Price: SEK 395 per person (including all fees and taxes).

Post Conference Baltic Cruise to Helsinki, Finland, 26 to 28 June

Imagine the magic of a Nordic summer night spent on board a luxurious Silja Line cruiser liner! The archipelago between Stockholm and Helsinki is scattered with thousands of islands and skerries forming the most amazing tableau which is unequalled in any other part of the globe. Unique to the cruiser liner itself is the 460-foot long and five-deck high Promenade with shops and restaurants. Naturally, every other type of ritzy entertainment imaginable is also provided - a starry night-club, dazzling disco, cosy pubs and a casino for the adventurous! A floating shopping and entertainment bonanza!

Day 1: Departure from Stockholm

Transfer at 4.30 p.m. from your hotel to the terminal. The Silja Line cruise liner departs at 6 p.m. to Helsinki, the capital of Finland. Dine, wine, dance and stroll the deck while the ship takes you through the incredibly beautiful archipelago with thousands of islands and skerries.

Day 2: Helsinki

After arrival and breakfast a sightseeing tour by bus departs from the harbour. The rest of the day is at your disposal to discover the city. Finland was once a Grand Duchy under Russia and the city offers you an exciting mixture of Scandinavian and Eastern influences. Your cabin is at your disposal during the day.

Departure at 6 p.m. for return to Stockholm.

Day 3: Arrival in Stockholm

The cruise terminates with breakfast before arrival in Stockholm at 9 a.m. Transfer to your hotel.

Price: SEK 3,100 per person in double room

SEK 4,100 per person in single room

Price includes: Cruise Stockholm - Helsinki - Stockholm, 2 nights in 1st class cabin on board the cruise ship, 3 hour sightseeing tour in Helsinki, all ground transports in modern tourist coach, full board with Scandinavian specialities and all fees and taxes.

Minimum 20 persons. Reservation for price changes beyond our control.