

SWEDEN RISK ASSESSMENT



City & Country

Sweden, Various

Prepared by

Sussex Abroad Office

Before you go –

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office provides travel advice by country. It covers safety and security, local laws and customs, entry requirements, health and natural disasters along with a host of other useful information. We strongly recommend that students read the section related to their destination prior to departure and before undertaking any trip to another part of the county/region.

<http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/travel-and-living-abroad/travel-advice-by-country/>

VISA REGULATIONS

Visas are not required to enter Sweden. As a British passport holder you can stay as a visitor for up to 3 months. If you intend to stay for a longer period you should contact an office of the Migration Board. If you have a different nationality, please contact the Swedish Embassy in London to check visa regulations. Your passport should be valid for the proposed duration of your stay.***Please note that due to Brexit, these regulations are subject to change. Keep up to date with the information provided on the FCO website***

Border controls are in place in Sweden for people travelling from Denmark via the Öresund crossing and arriving on ferries from Denmark and Germany. Make sure you carry a passport or national ID card when entering Sweden. More detailed information is available from the [Swedish authorities](#)

HEALTH

If you're visiting Sweden you should get a free European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) before leaving the UK. The EHIC isn't a substitute for medical and travel insurance, but it entitles you to state provided medical treatment that may become necessary during your trip. Any treatment provided is on the same terms as Swedish nationals. The EHIC won't cover medical repatriation, ongoing medical treatment or non-urgent treatment, so you should make sure you have adequate travel insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment and repatriation.***Please note that due to Brexit, these regulations are subject to change. Keep up to date with the information provided on the FCO website***

TERRORISM

Terrorists are very likely to try to carry out attacks in Sweden. Attacks could be indiscriminate, including in places visited by foreigners.

There's a heightened threat of terrorist attack globally against UK interests and British nationals from groups or individuals motivated by the conflict in Iraq and Syria. You should be vigilant at this time.

Find out more about the [global threat from terrorism](#), how to minimise your risk and what to do in the event of a terrorist attack.

Type	Nature of the Hazard	Procedures to Minimise Risk
CRIME	Crime levels are low although there is some petty crime. Violent crime does occur; instances of gang related crime, including shootings and explosions, have been reported in Malmö and Gothenburg. Pick pocketing can be a problem in the	Keep an eye on your belongings at all times and remain vigilant to other people near you.

	major cities when tourists are targeted for passports and cash.	
WINTER TRAVEL	Sweden deals with its harsh weather very well, but delayed trains and flights are difficult to avoid during severe weather conditions. Snow and ice on the roads cause accidents daily.	Consider starting your journey earlier to avoid rushing to your destination. Be prepared for harsh conditions particularly in the north during the winter.
CLIMATE	Sweden, and in particular the north of the country, does get affected by severe cold weather during the winter months. Temperatures can be extremely low, and if you visit in winter be prepared for these harsh conditions.	Make sure you leave contact details when travelling away from home. Dress appropriately and also consider what items you should take with you to help you, should your journey be delayed because of bad weather.
	Tick-borne encephalitis is common to Sweden, especially in the summer months around coastal areas, especially the Stockholm Archipelago..	You may wish to consider being vaccinated against this. Additionally, you should wear long sleeved tops and long trousers and apply insect repellent containing DEET to exposed skin.

HEALTH	Pharmacies are usually open during normal shop opening hours. You can also get an emergency prescription at hospitals.	Ensure that you have all the medication you need and that you will not run out over the weekend.
DRUGS	Importation of illegal drugs, including khat, is heavily punished. There are heavy punishments for importing illegal drugs.	Don't get involved with drugs of any kind.

Please also note and be sensitive to the following:

ARTIC TRAVEL: Large numbers of British nationals travel successfully and safely in and around the Arctic each year. The Arctic is, however, a vast region, comprising the northerly areas of Canada, Finland, Greenland (Denmark), Iceland, Norway, Russia, Sweden and Alaska (United States). In addition to reading the specific travel advice for each of these countries, prospective visitors to the Arctic should also consider carefully the potential remoteness of certain destinations from search and rescue, evacuation and medical facilities. Independent travellers are particularly advised to develop contingency arrangements for emergency back-up.

The most popular way of visiting the Arctic is by ship. As some areas of the Arctic -specifically the more northerly and remote regions - can be uncharted and ice-covered, you should check the previous operational experience of cruise and other operators offering travel in the region. You should also consider the on-board medical facilities of cruise ships and talk to cruise operators as appropriate, particularly if you have a pre-existing medical condition.

The eight Arctic States take their international search and rescue obligations very seriously, and have recently signed a binding agreement on search and rescue co-operation in the Arctic. However, in the highest latitude regions of the Arctic, cruise ships may be operating in relative isolation from other vessels and/or inhabited areas. You should be aware that in these regions, search and rescue response will often need to be dispatched from many hundreds of miles away, and assistance to stranded vessels may take several days to arrive, particularly in bad weather. Search and rescue assets are also likely to offer only basic transport and basic medical care, and are unlikely to be capable of advanced life-support. Responsible cruise operators should happily provide additional information relevant to the circumstances of the cruise they are offering, and address any concerns you may have.

Consular assistance and support to British nationals in the Arctic will be affected by the capacity of national and local authorities. You should make sure you have adequate travel insurance and accessible funds to cover the cost of any medical treatment or potential repatriation.