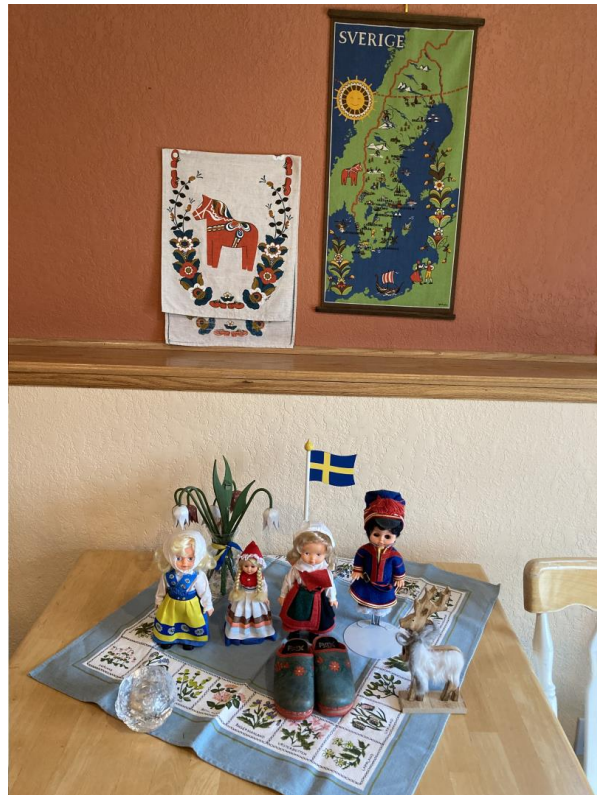


# General display

General Sweden



Midsommar



Santa Lucia



Christmas - Jul



# Display items – general Sweden



1. **Dala horse and Kurbits:** The style is widely found in the regions of Dalarna and southern Norrland, and today kurbits can refer to the painting of furniture, tapestry, Dala horses, or Swedish folk painting as a general concept. On the Dala horse, a gourd is used to indicate the saddle
2. Map of Sweden (Sverige). Population 10.5 million, with 87% living in urban areas covering only 1.5% of land area. Nature in Sweden is dominated by forests and many lakes. Sweden is a highly developed country ranked seventh in the [Human Development Index](#). It is a constitutional monarchy and a Parliamentary democracy,
3. Swedish Folk dresses. From left to right: Swedish National, and then Provinces Uppland, Södermanland, Lappland
4. A tablecloth showing flowers representing different provinces (landskap) in Sweden.
5. Crystal candle holder from Kosta Boda. Kosta Boda and Orrefors glassworks are the most popular manufacturer of Swedish Crystal glassware and artworks. Both companies originated and with headquarter in Province of Småland.
6. Swedish Clogs, very common in Sweden to wear clogs made from wood and leather.
7. There is an estimated population of **250 000** semidomesticated reindeer in winter herd; approximately 70% is female reindeer.
8. The flower representing the province (Landskap) of Uppland is Kungsängslilja, a wild lily growing in area in Uppland close to Uppsala called Kungsängen
9. The Swedish Flag. The flag has been used since 1521 and it became very popular during the reign of Gustav I Vasa. The flag in its present form was adopted 1906.

# Display items Midsommar



1. Swedish Midsommarstång, Maypole with dancers. Celebrating Midsommar, is a very ancient practice, dating back to pre-Christian times. It has its roots in Pagan rituals to welcome summer and the season of fertility. In Sweden, midsummer festivals have been around for at least 500 years. Even in agrarian times, people in Sweden welcomed summertime by decorating their houses and farm tools with foliage and raising tall May poles to dance around. It is celebrated Friday and Saturday closest to Summer Solstice
2. Swedish coffee cup, small compared to US cups. Swedish coffee is a strong a flavorful coffee made from Arabica beans, similar to espresso.
3. Wooden serving tray, wood used for utensils and trays common in Sweden
4. Gräddtårta, Wipped Cream cake with Strawberries a favorite at Midsommar celebration.

# Display items Santa Lucia



1. **The story of St. Lucia Day.** Early on the morning of December 13, a young woman appears, dressed in white and **wearing a crown of blazing candles**. She is attended by a group of young boys and girls, and brings light into the dark winter at homes, hospitals, schools, and offices, serving steaming coffee with ginger biscuits and saffron bread. The young woman is portraying **St. Lucia** and this is Luciadagen, Santa Lucia Day, a particularly Swedish festival that has spread throughout Scandinavia.  
**Story** has it that Lucia was born in Sicily to a wealthy family in the year 284, a time when Christians were persecuted by the Roman Empire. She was a young girl engaged to a wealthy man, but instead of marrying she gave her dowry to the poor and devoted her life to Christ. Her fiancé turned her in to the police, she was accused of witchcraft, and was killed on December 13, 304. Her captivating story helped her to become a saint in the Catholic church. Her name, Lucia, was derived from the Latin word lux, meaning light - **a light that brings hope in the midst of darkness.**
2. A tradition in Swedish homes, the children bring coffee and Lucia buns and gingerbread cookies to their parent early Lucia day morning, dressed as Lucia and her attendants (tärnor) and Star boys.
3. Saint Lucia
4. Lucia crown

# Display items Swedish Christmas



# SWEDEN



SWEDISH MEATBALLS



SMÖRGÅSTÅRTA



KROPPKAKOR



SWEDISH PANCAKES



RÄKSMÖRGÅS



PICKLED HERRING



DAILY FIKA – KAFFE & BULLE

## Swedish FOOD



CARDAMON BREAD



SEMLOR



LUCIA BUN

Sweden is Famous for many inventions, and even more Famous people, many of which Linde Lodge have featured in monthly meeting programs, presented by members or invited speakers over the years. Anyone interested is always welcome to attend. Every Meeting involves “FIKA”, often with some bakery, sandwiches, or light snacks. FIKA is a Swedish term for having coffee (even if you drink water, tea, or soda) with a friend or friends, and something good to go with it.



Left to Right: Sweden’s first King Gustav Vasa, born 1496-1560, he became King in 1523.

Alfred Nobel, chemist & creator of dynamite, born 1833-1896.

He established the Nobel Prize.

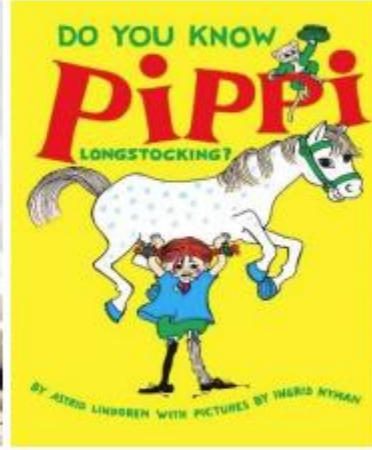
King Carl XVI Gustaf, the reigning king in Sweden since 1973. He celebrated 50 years on the Throne in 2023.



Swedish Author of the Emigrant’s series Vilhelm Moberg, born 1898-1973 is famous for the Kristina and Karl-Oskar story. Leaving Sweden during rough times for America.

These four books are:

The Emigrants, Unto a Good Land, Settlers, and The Last Letter Home. Moberg has a long list of other publicized books.



Beloved Author of Children's Books Astrid Lindgren, born 1907-2002, loved to use her fantasy to create series of books about Pippi Longstocking, Emil in Lönneberga, and many more.

A large number of her books have turned into movies, or TV series for kids, and adults to enjoy as well.



Ingvar Kamprad born 1926-2018 in Älmhult, Sweden, owner and founder of the IKEA Furniture empire until he died. IKEA is franchised owned today.

IKEA is mostly known for their flat package furniture, meaning you assemble it yourself – always a task with a struggle, but easy to transport.

IKEA is also well known for their deli area for FIKA and their Swedish frozen meatballs!







Sweden have had many Sport Idols over the years.

Left to right are a few:

Björn Borg, Tennis, born 1956 in Stockholm  
Annika Sörenstam, Golf, born 1970 in Bro outside of Stockholm

And today's most known Swede on the soccer field, Zlatan Ibrahimovic, born 1981 in Malmö.



When it comes to Swedish music, there is of course ABBA, known worldwide, and everyone can sing and dance to Dancing Queen!

There are of course many other artists.

A lot of traditional Swedish music is played on fiddles and accordions.



Tradition has it that Swedes are attending at least one "Kräftskiva" (Cray Fish Party) a year in August, when crayfish season opens, and beyond. Skål!

In the province Skåne, the Spettkaka (translate to "skewered cake") is very popular. It is being made over a hot fire on a rotating skewer with dripping a sweet egg batter, until layer after layer has dripped and baked to the size of your appetite.



The impressive Vasa Ship built 1626-1628, tragically sank on its maiden voyage in 1628, after less than a mile at sea, leaving over 100 of passengers & crew dead.

The wreck was raised in 1961, and a Vasa Museum was built in Stockholm and opened in 1990. This museum is still a number one tourist attraction.



Volvo Auto-maker is another name associated with Sweden for many years. The first model was made in 1927 at the plant in Gothenburg. The most popular model during the 50's-60 was the PV, and Volvo is still producing - and now you can get the 2024 model at a dealer near you.

In September of 1967, Swedes changed their driving pattern, from driving on the left side of the road to the right side.

A major chaos of course, the day it happened, and for weeks to come. Picture taken at 2 AM that day.

## 2023 Fika meetings



Swedish History on beer cans



Swedish architecture for urban development



Scandinavian Design



Gotland, Sweden

# Swedish American Historical Society of Wisconsin



EN English (United States)

Founded in 1975 to recognize Swedish immigration to Wisconsin and its contribution to the American society.

**Historical Projects** recognizing first Swedish settlers in Wisconsin

**Genealogy** to research the Swedish roots

**Fika meetings** to learn more about the Swedish connection

Annual **Midsommar Celebration** in Heidelberg Park

Annual **Lucia Celebration** now at Fox Point Lutheran Church

Participation in **Holiday Folk Fair International**

## 2023 Celebrations and Projects



Midsommar



Lucia 2022



The Heritage Tour



## Linde Lodge No. 492

Founded in 1927 - a Milwaukee, WI lodge  
in District Lodge Lake Michigan No. 8

You will find Districts and Local Lodges all over  
Sweden, Canada, and USA.



## Vasa Order of America

Since 1896



Our mission is to preserve our heritage as well as  
inform other nationalities about Sweden,  
its country, its people, and traditions.  
Linde lodge meet most months, either for a Meeting  
with a Program or at an Event, such as Traditional  
Celebrations of Holidays;  
Easter, Midsommar, a Picnic, a Field-trip,  
Christmas Luncheon, and Lucia.

To join our lodge or participate in events, please  
Contact: [lekstrand@wi.rr.com](mailto:lekstrand@wi.rr.com) 262-366-9152

Vasa members have the privilege to enjoy VNA -  
Vasa National Archives located in Bishop Hill, IL.,  
a registered historic landmark, an actual living,  
working part of history on the immigration of  
Swedes to America. Please come visit the Archives  
and see Bishop Hill on the Illinois prairie.

