



ANDREW HARPER'S

# SCANDINAVIA & BALTIC STATES

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## NEW SWEDISH CUISINE

While Mathias Dahlgren remains Stockholm's culinary star, a younger generation of chefs is now emerging. The best place to experience their work is at recently opened **Gastrologik**, in the city's Ostermalm district. This is the creation of Anton Bjuhr, a baker, and Jacob Holmström, formerly executive chef at the two Michelin-starred Dahlgren restaurants in Stockholm. The daily tasting menu is a suite of surprises. What is consistent, however, is the use of local seasonal produce, and this is seen in dishes such as oysters with fermented cucumber, and braised oxtail with beer gelée and dried beetroot. Odd as these may sound, they're delicious, which is why reservations are required well in advance.

For all recommended **Stockholm restaurants**, see Page 16.

## At Home in Central Stockholm

OCCUPYING A FINE 1910 ART nouveau brick mansion in Stockholm's tranquil Lärkstaden district, **ETT HEM** (see listing, Page 15), "a home" in Swedish, is a superb 12-room hideaway

and the city's most charming boutique hotel. Owner Jeannette Mix bought the building six years ago and worked with talented architect Anders Landström and London-based interior designer Ilse Crawford to create this flawless urban sanctuary.

The hotel sits behind a brick wall, surrounded by a small garden. We were warmly greeted on a rainy afternoon, shown around the property and invited to make ourselves at home in a glass conservatory off the kitchen. This proved so pleasant, thanks to a cushy sofa, art books, magazines and newspapers, that we decided to forego the museum visits we had planned. The chef served us coffee, homemade cookies and mineral water, and told us we were welcome to rummage around in the open kitchen for snacks and drinks whenever we liked.

Our room came with a herringbone oak parquet floor; a crystal chandelier; a brown leather sofa with a soft, ash-gray sheepskin throw; and fresh flowers in a bronze ceramic pot set on a table painted celadon to match the walls. An old-fashioned sleigh bathtub occupied a sunny alcove by a bow window, and a woodburning ceramic stove warmed a corner of the room. The small bath held a white marble-framed Victorian-style vanity, a roomy white marble stall shower and stacks of fluffy white towels. We marveled at the attention to detail: hefty handmade oak coat hangers in the wardrobe; bedside reading lamps on easy-to-reach dimmer switches; an in-room iPad in a handmade case; and a ruinously well-stocked minibar housed in a brass-clad étagère.

The hotel's fitness area includes a sauna and a large, well-equipped gym. In fine weather, guests may read on chaises in the walled garden. The smart young staff is professional and personable without being invasive. Most hoteliers aspire to make their guests feel at home, but Ett Hem truly lives up to its name. **AH**



cover » Soldiers at Amalienborg Palace in Copenhagen, Denmark above » Guest room at **ETT HEM** in Stockholm, Sweden opposite page » Broccoli salad at *Gastrologik*, Stockholm, Sweden

## Stockholm

Built on 14 major islands, Stockholm is an exceptionally attractive city at the juncture of Lake Mälaren and the Baltic Sea. The city's Old Town is a maze of narrow medieval streets and baroque palaces, while elsewhere, the architecture ranges from the 18th-century Royal Palace to the Rafael Moneo-designed Museum of Modern Art. Djurgården, the "Royal Game Park," is a leafy oasis. Stureplan and Kungsgatan are Stockholm's main entertainment districts — home to many of its dozens of theaters and performance venues — and Södermalm Island, south of the city center, is a hotbed of fashion. Stockholm's restaurants have been leaders in the global "fresh and local" food revolution.



» ETT HEM

**ETT HEM** 🌿🌿 : Exceptionally congenial 12-room hideaway in a 1910 art nouveau mansion set within a brick-walled garden in the city's quiet Lärkstaden district. Rooms, decorated with marvelous attention to detail, include features such as herringbone oak parquet floors, crystal chandeliers, leather sofas, woodburning ceramic stoves and baths with roomy white marble stall showers. A glass conservatory off the open kitchen offers a homey spot to read and relax. Lunch and dinner available. Restaurants and shops nearby. Also, fitness area with sauna and large, well-equipped gym; terrace with chaises for relaxing in fine weather. *Deluxe Room, from \$700; Junior Suite, from \$930. Sköldungagatan 2, 114 27 Stockholm. Tel. 8-20-05-90. etthemstockholm.se*

ALSO RECOMMENDED : *For more information, visit [AndrewHarper.com](http://AndrewHarper.com)*

**GRAND HOTEL** : Landmark hotel at the edge of the harbor. The 300 individually decorated rooms and suites are both traditional and contemporary in style. Dining options include *Veranda* for superb smorgasbord, plus two-star *Matsalen* for "natural cuisine." Lavish spa. *Premium Room, from \$775; Deluxe Room with View, from \$1,015. Södra Blasieholmshamnen 8, 103 27 Stockholm. Tel. 8-679-35-00. grandhotel.se* 🏠

**LYDMAR HOTEL** : Stylish 46-room hotel in a five-story 1829-vintage structure on Stockholm's harborside promenade. Individually decorated accommodations are attractively furnished in modern Swedish design. Lodgings include king beds and spacious tiled baths with tub/showers. Inviting restaurant; no spa or fitness facility. *Medium Room, from \$560; Large Room, from \$885. Södra Blasieholmshamnen 2, 103 24 Stockholm. Tel. 8-22-31-60. lydmar.com* 🏠