

## **Finding housing on your own**

Stockholm has one of Europe's most difficult housing situations, a problem which especially affects students. Many young people in Stockholm therefore rely on second hand renting for accommodation. Renting second hand can be a great way to get in to the city, but it can also be a challenge to find something affordable, safe and lasting. Unfortunately there are people who try to make a profit from the situation by creating false housing ads. Here is a guide on how to spot a false housing ad:

### **1. Where is the apartment or room located?**

For someone who is new in Stockholm it can be hard to know where it is likely that someone would lease their apartment. The general rule is that very few apartments are leased below 5000 SEK/month in the inner city. Unlike some other cities around the world, the inner city in Stockholm is where it's the most expensive to live. You can check who is actually staying at the address you've been given by typing the name of the person who's leasing, or the address at **personer.eniro.se**

### **2. Who is leasing the apartment?**

Be cautious with people who claim to be abroad and therefore want to lease their apartment. Some of the scammers send a photocopy of their passport or ID to prove that they exist, but these copies are usually stolen IDs. That's why it's important to never send a photocopy of your own ID, since that too could be used to scam other people in the future.

### **3. What are they asking for?**

If someone asks you to send them a big deposit to keep the apartment for you, then it is most likely a fraud. Never send money to anyone before you have seen the actual apartment. If you plan on becoming a lodger and stay in an apartment with someone, make sure they are honest and won't expect you to interact with them in any way you're not comfortable with. Always meet the person you're going to stay with before moving in with them.

### **4. How are you supposed to pay?**

If the landlord asks you to pay via an anonymous transfer such as Western Union, Paypal, MoneyGram, or in cash you should be cautious. If someone has a firsthand contract on an apartment in Sweden, they should also most likely have a Swedish bank account connected to their identity.

### **5. How can you reach them?** It is generally a bad sign if the person uses a free email service such as Hotmail or Gmail, but many young and honest people use those services as well. If the person claims to be a student, ask for their student-email instead. Also ask for the person's phone number, and see that it's a real Swedish phone number at **personer.eniro.se**

## **General information about student accommodation in Sweden**

A good start can be made by visiting the web site "Study in Sweden", <http://www.studyinsweden.se/Living-in-Sweden/accommodation/>. There you will find information about student accommodation in Sweden and in Stockholm and you can search for different accommodation alternatives.

## Useful websites

1. <http://www.sus.su.se/en/housing-tips>

The website of the student union has a page for ads from the public. It is updated all the time so keep an eye on it regularly.

2. [www.akademiskkvart.se](http://www.akademiskkvart.se)

A website that was launched in August 2011 and will replace the student unions webpage for the public's ads and offers. It's a joint effort from the university's and student unions in Stockholm and the city of Stockholm to try and help both Swedish and international students in their search for housing.

3. [http://www.campusroslagen.se/studentbostader\\_en/student\\_housing](http://www.campusroslagen.se/studentbostader_en/student_housing)

Campus Roslagen in Norrtälje (50 minute bus ride from Stockholm University) rent out apartments directly to students. There is no waiting list.

4. <http://www.bostaddirekt.com/>

A real estate company that helps you find a place that matches your need. If you are going to Sweden that early, you can get an agent to go around with you. They will charge you a fee and will help you with searching the private market.

5. <http://www.hyralya.se>

Extremely useful site for finding a short term stay (2-6 months) but they also have many long term ones that lasts 12-24 months. It's a sublet site where owners can post by themselves. You need to pay 20USD (or ~10GBP if you are from UK) to see the owner contact info, but it's worth it, especially for people who need accommodation right now.

6. <http://www.ssb.se>

The largest student accommodation landlord in Stockholm. You should register on their housing queue list as soon as possible since there is a waiting time for around 200-300 days. They do have last minute deal which is first come-first serve basis. You will need to refresh this every few hours to get those deals.

7. <https://bostad.stockholm.se/Lista/boendetyper/studentboende>

Also need to wait 200-300 days, but they have deals that are based on how long you want to rent (first come first serve) that you may be lucky enough to get so register NOW. You need to sit down and refresh all the time for the fast-move-in option.

8. <http://www.kistastudentbostader.se>

Same as SSSB, but it only applies to KISTA region (commute with subway/tube) so it has less people competing for housing.

9. [www.andrahand.se](http://www.andrahand.se)

A website in Swedish with advertisements for rooms and apartments, only in Swedish.

10. [www.andrahandsguiden.com](http://www.andrahandsguiden.com)

A website in Swedish with advertisements for rooms and apartments, only in Swedish.

11. [www.lappis.org](http://www.lappis.org)

Here students living at Lappis put up ads for renting out their rooms.

A suggestion is to find a room that has relatively good communications to the university, instead of just looking at rooms near the university or the city center. You can go to [www.sl.se](http://www.sl.se). Choose “another language” and you’ll find a Journey Planner in which you can type the address of the room and the University. You’ll then find out how long the journey will be.

### **Contacting your embassy and looking at notice boards**

A few more tips when looking for housing: contact your embassy in Stockholm to see if they have any contacts or information to offer, or if you can place an ad with them. Also check if the embassy knows of any organizations that might be able to help you. Check the notice boards at the University for ads on subletting of apartments and rooms. The International Office has their own notice board in the B-house, 4th floor, in Södra Huset. Also check the notice boards in for example Lappis, near the square and the ICA store.

### **Ads in newspapers**

You can also check the newspapers for available accommodation. The biggest newspapers are Dagens Nyheter ([www.dn.se](http://www.dn.se)) and Svenska Dagbladet ([www.svd.se](http://www.svd.se)). They usually have some ads regarding accommodation at their internet sites as well as their Sunday issues. A pricy alternative is to put in an add yourself, but it might be worth it. A cheaper alternative is to put in ads in more local newspapers. You can try with getting help from a Swedish student, maybe your mentor, and look at the site [www.mitti.se](http://www.mitti.se), which is in Swedish, and then decide which local paper you would like to put an ad in.

### **Second hand/subletting agencies**

There are a number of second hand letting agencies in Stockholm (i.e. Bostad Direkt). Most of them have in common that they charge a fee for access to their registers of available flats and most of these flats have high rents and are for short term rental only. Remember to be careful with making any money transfers before you are sure you have the room and can trust the landlord. Also remember that finding private accommodation in Stockholm may be tedious and hard work but most students find somewhere to live after a while. Try to get help from a Swedish student that can help you understand the Swedish sites on internet. It may also cost you some extra money for staying at a hostel/hotel until you find accommodation.

### Short-term accommodation

If you need accommodation for a short period of time you can either stay at a hostel or if you prefer to stay in a private home you can try "couch surfing": <https://www.couchsurfing.org/group.html?gid=17093>

## Hostels

### **Crafoord Place (Vasastan)**

Hälsobrunnsgatan 10, Vasastan, 113 61 Stockholm

Phone (international calls): + 46 (0)8 33 71 33

Phone (within Sweden): 08 33 71 33

This hostel is 10 minutes' walk from Stockholm Central Station, as well as the shopping and entertainment around the Drottninggatan/Hötorget area. It offers free WiFi and free on-site, private parking.

The basic rooms at Crafoord Place all have views over the city and water, as well as a wardrobe with a mirror. Bathroom facilities are shared. Free tea/coffee, along with a hotplate, microwave and fridge are provided in the guest kitchen. Other communal facilities at Crafoord Place include BBQ equipment and a guest computer. A laundromat is within 400 metres and a supermarket is found within 300 metres, while a variety of restaurants and cafés can also be found in the area.

### **City Backpackers Hostel (Norrmalm)**

Upplandsgatan 2a, 111 23 Stockholm, Sweden

Phone (international calls): + 46 (0)8 20 69 20

Phone (within Sweden): 08 20 69 20

This hostel is in a 19th-century building, just over a quarter mile from Stockholm Central Train Station and a 5-minute walk from the Drottninggatan shopping street. Wi-Fi internet, an evening sauna and pasta are free. Ice skates can be borrowed for free during the winter. All rooms at the City Backpackers Hostel have air conditioning and heating. Most have bunk beds. Duvets and pillows are included but guests need to bring their own bed sheets or rent them on site. The City Backpackers' café serves breakfast in the morning. Snacks and drinks are available in the front desk throughout the day. For self-caterers, there is a full kitchen with microwaves and refrigerators. The lounge has Mac and computer computers with free internet access, TV with cable channels and Swedish movie nights.

### **STF Fridhemsplan Hotel & Hostel (Kungsholmen)**

St Eriksgatan 20, Kungsholmen, 112 39 Stockholm

Phone (international calls): + 46 (0)8 653 88 00

Phone (within Sweden): 08 653 88 00

In the Kungsholmen district in central Stockholm, Fridhemsplan Hotel & Hostel offers free Wi-Fi and guest rooms with private or shared facilities. Fridhemsplan Metro Station is 199 m away. All guest rooms at Hotel & Hostel Fridhemsplan include a cable TV and a work desk. Bed sheets are included in all room rates. Guests have access to a communal kitchen where meals can be prepared. The lobby lounge is a nice place to unwind after a day outdoors. Several shops and restaurants are just outside. Central Stockholm is a 5-minute metro ride away.

### **Stockholm Hostel** (Kungsholmen)

Alströmergatan 15, Kungsholmen, 112 47 Stockholm

Phone (international calls): + 46 (0)70 156 55 25

Phone (within Sweden): 070 156 55 25

The modern Stockholm Hostel is located in the Kungsholmen district in central Stockholm, just a short walk from Fridhemsplan Metro Station. It offers free Wi-Fi and rooms with flat-screen TVs and private bathrooms. Stockholm Hostel's air conditioned, soundproofed guest rooms are all equipped with satellite TV. All bathrooms have a shower. Guests can prepare their own meals in Hostel Stockholm's 2 large communal kitchens. The TV lounge is an ideal place to relax and meet other guests. The surrounding area has a wide variety of shops, bars and restaurants. Stockholm Central Train Station is just a 5-minute metro ride away.

### **Archipelago Hostel Old Town** (Gamla Stan)

Stora Nygatan 38, Gamla Stan, 11127 Stockholm

Phone (international calls): + 46 (0)8 22 99 40

Phone (within Sweden): 08 22 99 40

Set in a 17th-century building in the centre of Stockholm's old town, Gamla Stan, Archipelago Hostel Old Town is 300 metres from the Royal Palace. Gamla Stan Metro Station is a 2-minute walk away. The bright, simply furnished rooms at Archipelago Hostel Old Town have large windows overlooking charming, cobblestone streets. Bathroom facilities are shared. The Nobel Museum is a 3-minute walk from Archipelago Hostel Old Town. Ferry connections to the islands of Djurgården and Skeppsholmen are just 300 metres away.

### **Old Town Lodge** (Gamla Stan)

Baggensgatan 25, Gamla Stan, 11131 Stockholm

Phone (international calls): + 46 (0)8 20 44 55

Phone (within Sweden): 08 20 44 55

This hostel is located in Stockholm's Old Town, only 250 m from the Royal Palace. It offers a fully equipped communal kitchenette, individually decorated rooms and free Wi-Fi internet access. Housed in a building dating back to the 1600s, the Old Town Lodge offers guest rooms with shared bathroom facilities. Some have a work desk and a sitting area. A guest computer with free internet access and free hot drinks are available in the lobby at Old Town Lodge. Other facilities include massage treatments and daily newspapers. Gamla Stan Metro Station is only a 5 minute walk away.

### **Urban Hostel Gamla Stan** (Gamla Stan)

Nygränd 5, Gamla Stan, 111 30 Stockholm

Phone (international calls): + 46 (0)8 121 404 44

Phone (within Sweden): 08 121 404 44

Urban Hostel Gamla Stan is located right in the heart of Stockholm's Old Town and features a 24-hour front desk. Free WiFi access is available. Most rooms include a flat-screen TV with cable channels and a desk. Some rooms have private bathrooms and others have shared facilities. Bed linen and towels are included in your stay. The hostel is 3.6 km from Ericsson Globe, 1.1 km from Stockholm Central Station and 1.2 km from the shopping quarters around Stureplan Square.

### **Mosebacke Hostel** (Södermalm)

Högbergsgatan 26, Södermalm, 116 20 Stockholm

Phone (international calls): + 46 (0)8 641 64 60

Phone (within Sweden): 08 641 64 60

Just a 15-minute walk from Stockholm's Old Town, this affordable hostel is on Mosebacke Hill in vibrant Södermalm. It features free Wi-Fi and a fully-equipped communal kitchen with free pasta, tea and coffee. The modern, air-conditioned rooms at Mosebacke Hostel have a TV and either shared or private bathroom facilities. All rooms are without windows but are brightly decorated and have hardwood floors. Guests can relax and play cards and other games in the hostel's lobby. Laundry facilities are also available. Slussen Metro Station is just around the corner.

### **Skanstulls Hostel** (Södermalm)

Ringvägen 135, Södermalm, 11661 Stockholm

Phone (international calls): + 46 (0)8 643 02 04

Phone (within Sweden): 08 643 02 04

This modern hostel is in vibrant Södermalm, 153 m from Skanstull Metro Station. It provides a guest kitchen, free Wi-Fi and free internet computers. Stockholm Central Station is 4 metro stops away. All rooms at Skanstulls Hostel feature bright, unique décor and either private or shared bathrooms. Free pasta, tea/coffee and spices are available in the kitchen. Other facilities include a dining area, a small library, a luggage room and laundry.

### **STF Zinkensdamm Hostel** (Södermalm)

Zinkens Väg 20, Södermalm, 117 41 Stockholm

Phone (international calls): + 46 (0)8 616 81 10

Phone (within Sweden): 08 616 81 10

This Stockholm hostel is in a quiet area by Tantolunden Park, in the vibrant district of Södermalm. It offers a restaurant, 2 communal kitchens and a free public internet computer. Guest rooms at Zinkensdamm Hostel have either a private bathroom or shared facilities. Rooms with bathrooms have cable TV. Zinkensdamm Hostel's traditional Swedish breakfast buffet includes freshly baked bread. The in-house restaurant, Zinkadus Bar & Café, serves light dishes during the day and in the evening a dinner menu of Swedish specialties. Cold drinks and sandwiches are available at all times in the kiosk next to the reception. The nearby park has a mini golf course, plenty of open areas and a small sand beach. Shops, bars and restaurants are just around the corner. Hornstull Metro Station is about a 5 minute walk away.