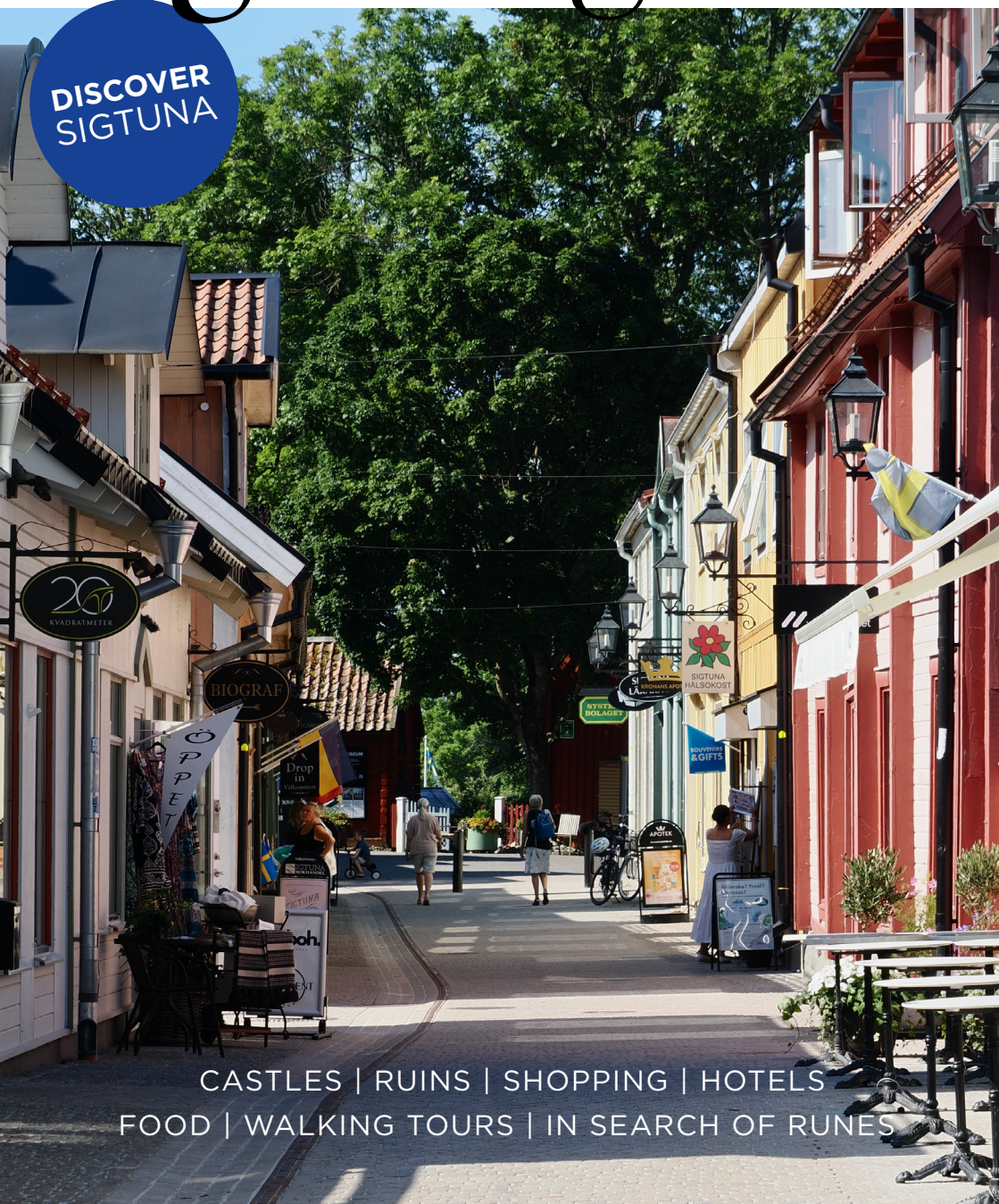


ARLANDA • MÄRSTA • ROSERSBERG • SIGTUNA STAD

# sigtunaguide

DISCOVER  
SIGTUNA



CASTLES | RUINS | SHOPPING | HOTELS  
FOOD | WALKING TOURS | IN SEARCH OF RUNES

# COME FOR A VISIT!

YOU WILL FIND us less than an hour from Stockholm or Uppsala. Sigtuna is easily accessible with the SL card, by car, boat, or why not by plane to Sigtuna's own Stockholm-Arlanda Airport.

Sigtuna Tourist Information is located at Sigtuna Museum, Stora Gatan 55. They can help you plan your visit and there is also a souvenir shop.



Photo: Nathalie Constantin

## DESTINATION SIGTUNA



### SIGTUNAGUIDE

PUBLISHER: Destination Sigtuna AB | E-mail: [info@destinationsigtuna.se](mailto:info@destinationsigtuna.se)

COVER PHOTO: Nathalie Constantin

DO YOU WANT MORE INFORMATION? [WWW.DESTINATIONSIGTUNA.SE/EN](http://WWW.DESTINATIONSIGTUNA.SE/EN)





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## WELCOME TO SIGTUNA — WHERE SWEDEN BEGINS

Sigtuna is Sweden's first town, and no other place on Earth is as rich in runestones. Here, you will also find Sweden's largest airport, a major event arena, and many modern hotels and conference facilities. The town has a fascinating history, with people from all over the world meeting here for over a thousand years. Sweden's first coin was minted here, and the country's first saint hails from Sigtuna. You can also visit the country's oldest brick church and stroll along a thousand-year-old pedestrian street.

Welcome to us!

<p>970 Sigtuna town is founded.</p> <p>995 First coin is made.</p>	<p>about 1001 <i>Ingegerd</i>, first female saint, was born.</p> 	<p>1100s First stone churches are built.</p>	<p>1200s First bricks produced in Mälär valley.</p> <p>Stockholm becomes the political centre.</p>	<p>1311 Sigtuna's official seal is created.</p> 	<p>1400s Albertus Pictor decorates Odensala Church with biblical paintings.</p>	<p>1500s The Reformation. The convent is torn down.</p>	<p>1600s Skånelaholm, Skokloster, Rosersberg and Wenngarn castles are built.</p> <p>1697 Husby school opens.</p>	<p>1700s Steninge Palace and Sigtuna Town Hall are built.</p> 	<p>1866 The main northern railway line opens.</p>	<p>1917 The Sigtuna Foundation is established.</p> <p>1962 Arlanda Airport opens.</p> 	<p>2021 The meeting and event venue Scandinavian XPO in Arlandastad is inaugurated.</p>
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# SIGTUNA - WHERE SWEDEN BEGINS



St. Peter's Church Ruin

Photo: Nathalie Constantin

**SIGTUNA HOLDS** a millennium of memories. Around 970 AD, King Erik the Victorious declared a town to be built to form a new kingdom, ruled by one God and one King. Christianity was new to the Nordic people, who now had to leave the Norse gods behind. Sigtuna became Sweden's first town.

Erik traded land plots for loyalty. Traders and landowners became his allies. Their plots in Sigtuna were gifts that increased in value as Sigtuna developed into a trading hub with international flair.

The town's original street plan is largely preserved to this day. When walking on Stora Gatan, you literally walk 3 meters on top of the original main street.

### COSMOPOLITAN

Around 1000 AD, Sigtuna had 1 000 inhabitants. Discoveries show trade with Byzantium, Russia, Poland, Ukraine, and the Middle East. Some guilds were represented on a permanent basis. They all shared knowledge and craftsmanship as well as cultures and languages with each other.

### FIRST COIN

Olof Skötkonung, son and heir to King Erik, ordered Sweden's first coins to be minted here. He brought silver and coin masters from England. The first Swedish coins have King Olof on one side and a cross on the other. The Latin letters "OLOF REX SVEVORUM" (OLOF KING OF THE SWEDES) frame the picture.

During 995-1030 AD, over 2 million coins were minted here.

### FIRST FEMALE SAINT

Olof's daughter, Ingegerd, became a powerful woman. She married the emperor Jaroslav. During their reign, Kiev's Sophia Cathedral was built. She was an advisor and peacekeeper in what is now Ukraine and Russia. She later became an Orthodox saint, St. Anna. The Ingegerd Trail, named after the Sigtuna princess, is a 110-kilometre-long, easy-to-walk route that runs from Storkyrkan in Stockholm, via St. Mary's Church in Sigtuna, to Uppsala Cathedral.



Sweden's first coin was minted in Sigtuna.

# CHECK IN TO SIGTUNA

Sigtuna has always been a natural place for meetings, and the hotels in Sigtuna are something special. You will find us just one hour from Stockholm, 15 minutes from Arlanda airport and 30 minutes from Uppsala. We are one of the nation's premier hotel and conference destinations.

Whether it's a large conference or a cosy weekend for two; you will find a wide variety of accommodation to choose from. The hotels in Sigtuna and around Arlanda are ready to take care of you and give you that little extra.



# BACK TO NATURE

Sigtuna is full of natural wonders: beautiful woodlands and old forests, sparkling lakes and beaches, babbling brooks and streams, and flowering meadows. Most are easy to access and free to enjoy.

Stroll along one of the hiking or pilgrimage trails, visit one of our 10 nature reserves, enjoy Lake Mälaren, play golf on one of the six beautiful golf courts, go cycling, birdwatching, or have a relaxing picnic.



In Sigtuna's vicinity, there are five fantastic castles to explore. Each has a lot of character and offers a unique historic atmosphere. They are all situated in beautiful landscape settings. Visiting the castles is a pleasant outing for both the history enthusiast and those looking for a fine day in the scenic countryside.

# NOBLE SIGTUNA



Steninge Castle



Wenngarn Castle

## STENINGE CASTLE

The area around Steninge has a history reaching back to prehistoric times. Here you will find the beautiful Steninge Castle from 1705 by the famous Swedish architect Nicodemus Tessin the Younger. There is a lovely baroque park, a Sphinx avenue from 1703 and a bell tower from 1690.

The castle is a private residence and is not open for tours.

## WENNGARN CASTLE

Each period, with its counts, dukes and landlords have left their marks on Wenngarn since the 12th century, when a dispute over heritage was described in Sweden's oldest preserved letter. Owners such as Swedish King Gustav Vasa and Magnus Gabriel De la Gardie have contributed to the castle's appearance today.

Wenngarn is packed with exciting historical anecdotes and contains one of Sweden's best-preserved castle chapels, dating from Sweden's Age of Greatness.

WENNGARNSSLOTT.SE



Skokloster Castle

## SKOKLOSTER CASTLE

Welcome to the 17th century, Sweden's Age of Greatness, and to one of the most evocative and astonishing milieus in Europe. Skokloster Castle is one of the most beautiful Baroque castles in the world, situated in lovely surroundings on the shore of Lake Mälaren. The castle was built between 1654 and 1676 for Count Carl Gustaf Wrangel. Here you can find magnificent collections of crafts, unique paintings and a large armoury.

+46 (0)8-402 30 60

SKOKLOSTERSSLOTT.SE/EN



Skånelaholm Manor House

## SKÅNELAHOLM MANOR HOUSE

The romantic castle is situated in an old cultural landscape at Lake Fysingen. Skånelaholm was built by Andreas Gyldenklou in 1639–1643 in the German-Dutch late Renaissance style. The estate was mentioned as early as 1276 in a Bill of Sale.

The castle contains well-preserved interiors and has a large collection of furniture, art, porcelain, books, allmoge (country) objects, and wagons. There is also a beautiful English landscape garden. Don't miss the large Sälna runestone in the northern part of the park.

+46 (0)70-664 14 75

VITTERHETSAKAD.SE



Rosersberg Palace

## ROSERSBERG PALACE

This royal palace was built by Gabriel Bengtsson Oxenstierna in the 1630s. Here, you can find some of Europe's best-preserved Empire interi-

ors. The palace features a beautiful English park, as well as a café, restaurant, and hotel. Guided tours are available in English.

+46 (0)8-402 61 00 | KUNGLIGASLOTTEN.SE

# sigtuna

ARLANDA • MÄRSTA  
ROSERSBERG • SIGTUNA STAD



**SIGHTS**

- 1. Skokloster Castle
- 2. Haga Church
- 3. Wengarn Castle
- 4. The Church of St. Mary
- 5. Sigstuna Museum & Tourist Information
- 6. The Book Kiosk
- 7. Sigstuna Town Hall
- 8. The Bell Hill/Klockbacken
- 9. St. Olaf's Church Ruin
- 10. St. Peter's Church Ruin
- 11. St. Lawrence's Church Ruin
- 12. Viby village
- 13. Steninge Castle
- 14. Odensala Church
- 15. Husby-Ärlinghundra Church
- 16. Norrsunda Church
- 17. Rosersberg Castle
- 18. Skänelaholm Manor House and Skänela Church
- 19. Nordan's Mound
- 20. Vidbo Church
- 21. Lunda Church
- 22. Skepptuna Church



SIGHTSEEING

**SIGTUNA**

Sigtuna is Sweden's first town, established in the 970s by **King Erik the Victorious**. It was both a political and a religious center for centuries. The town's main artery, Stora gatan, remains the same as it did 1000 years ago. In the year 995, Sweden's first coin was made here, ordered by **King Olof**, son of King Erik who founded Sigtuna. Learn more at Destination Sigtuna's website.

[DESTINATIONSIGTUNA.SE/EN](http://DESTINATIONSIGTUNA.SE/EN)

**SIGTUNA MUSEUM**

Welcome to Sigtuna Museum where you can explore stories of seal hunters, Vikings, ruins and flight towers. Here, you will also find Sigtuna's Tourist Information Office, where you can receive help to plan your visit. There is also a gift shop with souvenirs and handicrafts. Stora Gatan 55, Sigtuna +46 (0)8-591 266 70 [SIGTUNAMUSEUM.SE](http://SIGTUNAMUSEUM.SE)

**SIGTUNA TOWN HALL**

Sigtuna Town Hall is probably the smallest town hall in Sweden, perhaps even in Europe. Designed in the 1740s by Mayor Erik Kihlman, it



Photo: Nathalie Constantini

Sigtuna Town Hall

features a baroque interior and is a popular wedding venue. +46 (0)8-591 266 70 [SIGTUNAMUSEUM.SE](http://SIGTUNAMUSEUM.SE)

**GUIDED TOUR**

Book a guided tour or city walk at: [guidadvisning@sigtuna.se](mailto:guidadvisning@sigtuna.se)

**LUNDSTRÖM'S HOME AND MERCANTILE SHOP**

In the bourgeois home and shop of the Lundström family, time has stood still since the early 1900s. At the shop, you could buy everything from fabric, buttons, paper, and umbrellas to food such as pork, herring, syrup, coffee and canned goods. The home is a part of Sigtuna Museum and open for tours. Stora Gatan 39, Sigtuna +46 (0)8-591 266 70 [SIGTUNAMUSEUM.SE](http://SIGTUNAMUSEUM.SE)

**THE MAYOR'S RESIDENCE**

This functionalist villa has a well-preserved interior from Sigtuna's last mayor, Gustav Dahl. The villa is a part of Sigtuna Museum. Borgmästarvägen 2, Sigtuna +46 (0)8-591 266 70 [SIGTUNAMUSEUM.SE](http://SIGTUNAMUSEUM.SE)

**VIBY VILLAGE**

A couple of kilometres outside Sigtuna you will find the crofter's homestead, Viby. The buildings have been left untouched for over 200 years. Generations of crofters have lived here, often under harsh conditions. Viby village is preserved by the Swedish Heritage Board. VIBY BY, 193 91 SIGTUNA [SFV.SE](http://SFV.SE)

**MÄRSTA CENTRUM**

A district center with an ideal location between Arlanda, it

Stockholm and Uppsala. The center offers a delightful mix of shops. For opening hours and information, see: [MARSTACENTRUM.SE](http://MARSTACENTRUM.SE)

**THE STONE BARN**

In the center of Steninge Castle Village, close to Steninge Castle, you will find the stately stone barn, Stenladan. It was built by Oscar von Otter in 1873. Inside, you can discover home decor, culture and a restaurant in a unique, historical setting. Outside Stenladan is Lilla Steninge, a playground inspired by Steninge's history. +46 (0)8-592 595 00 [STENINGESLOTTSBY.SE](http://STENINGESLOTTSBY.SE)

**CHURCHES**

Sigtuna was established as a Christian community and during the Middle Ages there were no fewer than seven stone churches. Three are still standing as ruins: St. Peter, St. Lawrence and St. Olaf, all built during the 12th century. The Church of St. Mary (Mariakyrkan) is the oldest brick building in the Mälaren Valley. It was built by Dominican friars during the 13th century and is still in use. The churches in Husby-Ärlinghundra, Norrsunda and Skånela were built in the 12th century and are three of Sweden's rare churches with a tower in the East. Odensala Church was built at the start of the 13th century. Albertus



Photo: Oskar Söderlund



Photo: Nathalie Constantini

Sigtuna harbour

Pictor decorated the walls with biblical motifs in the 15th century. Haga Church has a beautiful baptismal font and a thurible from the early 1200s. [SVENSKAKYRKAN.SE/SIGTUNA](http://SVENSKAKYRKAN.SE/SIGTUNA)

**St. OLAF'S CHURCH RUIN**

St. Olaf's church ruin is one of three remaining medieval church ruins. Archaeological excavations have found that the church remnants of today rest on an even older church. The church was probably built around the turn of the 1100s.

**St. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH RUIN**

Ruins of a medieval church in Sigtuna town parish. It was, like the other stone churches, in use until the Reformation and was then left to dilapidate.

**St. PETER'S CHURCH RUIN**

Ruins of a medieval church built around the year 1100. The church was probably built by and for the king.

**DRAKEGÅRDEN**

Dating from the 1700s, the beautiful Drakegården has served as both an inn and a private residence. The beautiful garden is open to the public.



Photo: Nathalie Constantini

Sigtuna Museum



Stenladan



Photo: Nathalie Constantini

Tant Brun's Kaffestuga



Photo: Oscar Söderlund

The Sigtuna Foundation

**THE HERBAL GARDEN**

The small herbal garden next to the Church of St. Mary's commemorates the friars who served in the Dominican convent in Sigtuna during the Middle Ages and their knowledge of cultivation and medicinal plants.

**KULTURGÅRDEN - PLÅT-PELLE'S HOUSE**

The beautiful cultural seat, Kulturgården, was designed by Evert Milles in 1917. It houses arts and crafts exhibitions.

**SIGTUNASTIFTELSEN (THE SIGTUNA FOUNDATION)**  
Sigtunastiftelsen was created by Manfred Björkquist in the 1910s. It has, for many years, been a cultural Christian meeting place favored by

many authors. The library is famous for its collection of newspaper cuttings.  
+46 (0)8 592 589 00  
[SIGTUNASTIFTELSEN.SE](http://SIGTUNASTIFTELSEN.SE)

**SIGTUNA BOOK KIOSK**  
At the end of Stora Gatan, the 1000-year-old street winding through town, you will find Sigtuna's Book Kiosk. This tiny library, converted from an old phone booth in 2014, allows you to borrow and return books during the summer.

**KLOCKBACKEN**  
Klockbacken ("the Bell Hill") is a park in central Sigtuna town and a perfect spot for nature lovers. There are several walking paths and a popular barbecue area. The clock tower, which dated back to the early 17th century, was destroyed in

a fire on 30 June 2016, but has since been restored according to old drawings.



Foto: Stockholm Food

Sigtuna Book Kiosk

# IN SEARCH OF RUNES

No other town in the world is as rich in runestones as Sigtuna. In the town itself there are between 15 to 20 stones. In the municipality you will find over 170 runestones. Most of the runestones were erected in the 11th Century in memory of deceased family members and were intended to be seen by others.



**FIND THE RUNESTONES**

1. U 323 Skänelaholm
2. U 455 Näsby, Odensala
3. U 411 Garnsviken, Norrtälje
4. U 412 Viby/Rosendal
5. U 393 Sigtuna
6. U 379 Mariakyrkan
7. U 391 Sigtuna
8. U 358 Skepptuna Church
9. U Fv 1992;157 Arlanda



Pick up a map of the runestones at Sigtuna Museum or download it from Destination Sigtuna's website.

**OUR VISITORS** are sometimes surprised when advised to look for runestones near the many early Christian churches (built of stone in the 12th and 13th centuries). "Weren't the Vikings heathens?" Not many know that the majority of all runestones are Christian. The cross on the stones indicates this. When churches were later built, runestones proved to be quite good building material.

If you find yourself at Arlanda Airport, don't miss the chance to see the runestone located in the walkway between terminals 2 and 3.





**sigtuna**  
where Sweden begins.