

Expatriate Guide

The Guide to Living, Working and Studying in the Göteborg Region



This Guide is available online at:

www.businessregiongoteborg.com

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We would like to welcome all the Expats to the Göteborg Region. We offer our assistance in settling in here.

Please feel free to contact us for any of your queries.

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Business Region Göteborg is a non-profit company which works and strives for augmented growth and employment in the Göteborg Region. Our course of action is through business developments and investments as well as assisting with the process of new establishments. We aim at fostering and sustaining a diversified business climate in this specific region which consists of 13 municipalities.

The information presented in this handbook is useful for expatriates, entrepreneurs, and students or anyone relocating or moving to Sweden, however, there is a predominant focus on the Göteborg Region.

For information regarding housing, schools, services, etc. in a particular town in the Göteborg Region, please contact directly the responsible municipality, as per the details listed below:

Municipality

Ale	Jerry Brattåsen	Tel +46 303 330277
Email:	jerry.brattasen@ale.se	www.ale.se
Alingsås	Lennart Anderberg	Tel +46 322 616900
Email:	lennart.anderberg@alingsas.se	www.alingsas.se
Härryda	Helene Evensen	Tel +46 31 7246306
Email:	helene.evensen@harryda.se	www.harryda.se
Kungsbacka	Michael Fransson	Tel +46 300 834068
Email:	michael.fransson@kungsbacka.se	www.kungsbacka.se
Kungälv	Anette Svahn	Tel +46 303 239106
Email:	anette.svahn@kungalv.se	www.kungalv.se
Lerum	Hans Parck	Tel +46 302 521616
Email:	hans.parck@lerum.se	www.lerum.se
Lilla Edet	Kjell Hermansson	Tel +46 520 659540
Email:	kjell.hermansson@lillaedet.se	www.lillaedet.se
Mölnadal	Lars Ekberg	Tel +46 31 3151311
Email:	lars.ekberg@molndal.se	www.molndal.se
Partille	Nina Orback Schults	Tel +46 31 7921108
Email:	nina.orback@partille.se	www.partille.se
Stenungsund	Anette Oscarsson	Tel +46 303 68301
Email:	anette.oscarsson@stenungsund.se	www.stenungsund.se
Tjörn	Berndt Grönlund	Tel +46 304 601490
Email:	berndt.gronlund@wallhamn.se	www.tjorn.se
Öckerö	Bo Michelson	Tel +46 31 976363
Email:	bo.michelson@ockero.se	www.ockero.se
Göteborg	Petra Sedelius	Tel +46 31 612422
Email:	petra.sedelius@businessregion.se	
	www.businessregiongoteborg.com	
	Roger Strömberg	Tel +46 31 612412
Email:	roger.stromberg@businessregion.se	

DISCLAIMER

The information that follows is based on Business Region Göteborg's interpretation, and it is therefore recommended that you contact the appropriate authorities, as listed in the text, if you have further questions or concerns. The company and contact names referenced in this homepage have been solely used to provide you with examples and should not be interpreted as partisanship. It is; therefore, advised that you search for a complete list of company contacts either through links to other homepages, as listed in the text, or in the yellow pages. All facts quoted, in the text that follows, are subject to change due to market conditions.

The Göteborg Region

Göteborg is Sweden's second largest city, with approximately **481,000** inhabitants living within the city centre and **872,155** inhabitants living in the Göteborg Region.

Göteborg is not only a historical city but is also an international city. The city's international climate has existed since it's founding. The first City Board consisted of five Dutchmen, three Swedes, two Germans and two Scotsmen and the city had, at this time, three official languages.

Even today, the city's international feeling can still be attributed to the influence of people from abroad. English is widely spoken and television programs can be viewed in Swedish, English, German, French, etc. You will quickly feel at home in Göteborg. It is a city embracing a high quality lifestyle, a rich cultural life, a clean environment, as well as having beautiful coastlines and scenery. Göteborg is a pleasant place for people to work, live and relish. Welcome to the Göteborg Region!



Photo: Göteborg City

Check-List Permits & Visas

Check-List

Prior to Moving

- Inform the appropriate authorities, in your home country, that you are moving abroad.
- Gather official documentation about your civil status, work certificates, school and medical records. etc.
- Renew your passport, if it will expire within six months, otherwise being granted residence and work permits can be difficult,
- Apply for residence and/or work permits, as applicable, depending on your employment status.
- Apply for a visa to enter Sweden, if applicable, reference can be made to www.sweden.gov.se for a list of countries requiring a visa to enter Sweden.
- Arrange a comprehensive health plan, in your home country, if you will reside in Sweden for a period of less than 12 months,
- EU citizens should bring the European Health Insurance Card (or E111 form) issued to you in your home country. This form will cover health benefits until you are registered in the Swedish social security system.
- Apply for A E101 form if you will remain in your home country's Social Security System (EU-Citizens)
- Complete a Tv 740 42 form for customs relief on personal belongings that will be imported to Sweden from a non-EU/EFTA country,
- Make an inventory listing of all household items that will be moved to Sweden,
- Arrange housing,
- Research daycare centres, schools, or universities for your children, if applicable.
- Make sure that your driver's license is valid for the period you will reside in Sweden.

After Moving

- Report to the local tax office (Skattemyndigheten - www.skatteverket.se.) in your town to apply for civil registration and a Swedish personal ID number (personnummer), if intending to reside in Sweden for at least 1 year,
- Report to the local social insurance office (Försäkringskassan - www.fk.se) to register for social insurance benefits, if you will reside in Sweden for at least 1 year and do not intend to remain with the social security system of your home country,
- Enrol children in daycare centres, schools or university, if applicable,
- Resolve housing and utility subscription issues that may remain,
- Open a bank account,
- Install a telephone and internet
- Resolve issues regarding special taxation for expatriates, pension funds, trade unions, etc.,
- Enrol in a Swedish course
- Apply for a Swedish ID-Card (bank or post office).
- Register at the Migrationsverket (Board of migration) for right of residence; use MIGR 141011 within 3 months of your arrival (EU-citizens).
- If you are a non-EU citizen and will reside in Sweden for a limited time, apply for an exemption at Länsstyrelsen (the country administrative board) to be able to use your foreign driver's license in Sweden.

Residence permit EU/EEA Citizens

As of April 2006 EU/EEA citizens and their family members no longer need residence permits for staying in Sweden for more than 3 months. EU/EEA citizens shall instead register their right of residence and family members who are not EU/EEA residents shall apply for a residence cards. A person who has a right of residence must register with the Migration Board no later than three months after entering the country. If you are a citizen of Switzerland you must apply for a residence permit. Nordic citizens can live in Sweden without having to register or have a work permit.

What happens on entering the country?

On entering Sweden citizens of EU/EEA countries and their family members must have a valid passport or an identity card stating their citizenship. Relatives who require a visa to enter Sweden must apply for a visa at a Swedish embassy or consulate before entering the country. A list of citizens who require a visa can be found at www.utrikes.regeringen.se. You and your family members are entitled to begin working immediately. You can also read more at www.migrationsverket.se (Swedish Migration Board).

What documents are required?

To register (EU-citizens) you must fill in a form (form #140011) with a request for registration of your right of residence. You must enclose certified copies of a valid passport or identity card stating your citizenship. You must also enclose a certificate of employment from the employer stating the period of employment and the form of employment. The employment certificate must be written and signed by your employer. You must preferably use the form "Certificate of employment for citizens from the EU/EEA".

How to register

Send to Migrationsverket, Streteredsvägen 90, 428 80 Kålleröd:

- A copy of your passport/ID
- An employment certificate
- Documents relating to your civil status (marriage license etc)
- Birth certificates of the children
- Application form 14011 (to be found at www.migrationsverket.se)

The Board of Migration will send a confirmation of your registration to the address you have stated in your application.

Family members who are EU/EEA citizens

If you are an EU/EEA citizen and are a member of the family of a person who has a right of residence in Sweden you also have a right of residence. The following family members are included:

- Husband, wife, registered partner or cohabite.
- Children under the age of 21 years

Residence and work permits NON-EU/EEA Citizens

You must have a work permit in order to work in Sweden. Once you have been granted a permit, it must be entered into your passport before your arrival.

If the offer of work is for more than three months you will also require a Swedish residence permit.

A specialist employed by an international concern and traveling to and from Sweden in that capacity in order to work for temporary periods does not require a work permit. This applies if total duration of stay in Sweden is less than 12 months.

If you will be in Sweden for less than three months, you will not require a residence permit.

You may, however, require an entry visa. You can read more about visas at

www.migrationsverket.se.

You have to pay an application fee. If your application is denied, the fee will not be refunded.

When applying for a residence and work permit for Sweden you need the following:

- You must have a written offer of employment in Sweden, made out on a special form, which your employer can obtain via the National Labor Market Board's web site www.ams.se. Your employer must send it to you so that you can enclose it with your application.
- Passport, valid for the whole work period in Sweden
- Application form for work permit, which should be requested by you from the Swedish Embassy/Consulate in your home country
- 2 Photographs (color), passport size, recently taken

The first time you apply for a work permit, you do so at a Swedish embassy or consulate in your country of origin or residence.

You can also apply via the Migration Board's web site. You can find a list of addresses to the Swedish Embassies and consulates at www.sweden.gov.se/sb/d/ they can also provide application forms for residence/work permits for you and your family.

The Swedish Migration Board decides whether or not you are to be granted a work permit, after consultation with the county labour board. The embassy or consulate sends your application to the Migration Board.

The work permit must be entered in your passport before your arrival in Sweden. You cannot travel to Sweden and wait for a decision here.

You will be notified by the embassy or consulate-general where you submitted your application (or which you stated when you applied via the Internet). The procedure for approval normally takes 6 to 8 weeks.

Family members

Your family, i.e. spouse/cohabitant and children under 18, can obtain residence permits for the same period as you. If you have a work/residence permit valid for at least six months, your spouse/cohabitant can also obtain one for the same period.

Extensions of permits

If you want to renew your permit, send an application to the Migration Board – Migrationsverket, Tillståndsenheten, SE 601 70 Norrköping, Sweden. Alternatively, you can apply at any of the Migration Board offices in Sweden. You can also apply via the Migration Board's web site www.migrationsverket.se.

When you enter Sweden

Please visit the local tax office, see information below, to obtain your personal identity number (civic registration number) Please note that you will need your personal identity number before you can clear your household goods through customs.

Cross-border workers

If you are an EU/EEA citizen and work in Sweden but live in another EU/EEA country to which you return at least once a week, you do not need to register in Sweden.

Students

If you are planning to study at university or college in Sweden for longer than three months, you require a residence permit. The permit must be entered in your passport before your arrival in Sweden. Special rules apply for citizens of EU/EEA countries and for people with the long-term residence status in another EU country. Please visit www.migrationsverket.se for further information.

CIVIL REGISTRATION – PERSONAL ID NUMBERS

If you intend to stay in Sweden for more than one year you have to visit the local tax authority (Skattemyndigheten) as soon as possible to apply for civil registration and to receive your personal ID- numbers (personnummer). You will have to fill in a form "Notification immigration into Sweden" (you will find the form at the tax office) and make sure to bring:

- Passport
- Residence Permit / Visa if applicable
- Documents relating to your civil status / marriage certificate
- Birth certificates for children under 18 years of age

The office in Göteborg is located close to the "fish church" at address Hvitfeldtsplatsen 9. All members of the family have to be there in person to register. Note that you have to have a home address before registration. The tax office will within a week send you the personal ID numbers, (a number formed from your date of birth and 4 additional numbers). Try to learn the numbers by heart! If you are an EU-citizen you can register before you get confirmation of your right of residence from the Board of Migration.

You will also, automatically, receive a "personbevis för ID handling" a form that you have to take to the bank or post office when you apply for a Swedish ID-card.

For more information you can visit the homepage www.skatteverket.se (click international for information in English) or Tel 0771-567 567.

IDENTITY CARD A Swedish identity card is strongly recommended. You can apply for an identity card at your bank or at the post office after having received your civil registration number (personnummer). You need the following:

1. Civil registration certificate (personbevis för ID-kort), to be ordered from the local tax authorities, ask for the certificate when you visit the tax authorities for registration.
2. One photograph (the same size as for passport)

A Swedish resident must come with you as a witness to prove your identity.

IMPORTATION

PERSONAL PROPERTY If you are a EU-citizen you do not have to declare your belongings with the Swedish Customs, which is needed when you come from a non-EU country. Then certain conditions must be fulfilled for customs relief, before you enter Sweden, which grants you an exemption from paying a duty or a Value Added Tax (VAT), on you belongings. If you lived outside the EU for a continuous period of at least one year prior to moving to Sweden, you may apply for customs relief on your personal property such as household effects, bicycles, motorcycles, private motor vehicles and trailers, pets etc. For information please visit www.tullverket.se

VEHICLES For information concerning registration and inspection requirements, please visit the homepage of Vägverket (Sweden's National Road Administration) located at address www.vv.se or Tel +46 771 119 119 or email vagverket@vv.se Additional information can be found at homepage www.bilprovningen.se or Tel +46 8 759 21 00 (Sweden's Motor Vehicle Inspection Co). Both of the above web pages have English versions.

TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL Customs relieves on alcohol and tobacco products are generally not approved. Alcohol may be imported by paying a duty; provided that you are at least 20 years of age and that the beverages are intended for private consumption. Tobacco products may also be imported with a duty charge, provided that you are at least 18 years of age. For further information, please visit www.tullverket.se (has an English version) or Tel +46 771 520 520 or +46 8 405 0000 or email info@tullverket.se.

PETS The rules on bringing dogs and cats to Sweden from abroad were simplified in 2004, when so-called pet passports were introduced. However, there are still many things to consider before you decide to bring your animal to Sweden. For information visit the homepage www.sjv.se or Tel +46 36 155000 or email at jordbruksverket@sjv.se (has an English version) or fax +46 36 190546.



Photo: Göteborg's Harbor

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICAL INSURANCE

SWEDISH SOCIAL SECURITY As soon as you have been registered (civil registration) in Sweden, Swedish social security will apply, covering benefits like pension, medical care and health insurance. The tax office will send the information to the Social Insurance office (Försäkringskassan) and they will send you a form to fill in so that you and your family will be registered. The procedure is sometimes slow and it might be wise to contact your local "Försäkringskassa" as soon as you have received your ID-numbers.

You will find the "Försäkringskassa" listed in the Yellow Pages, pink section or you can visit their homepage at www.fk.se (you will find this page translated into 7 different languages!) or Tel 0771-114 114.

MEDICAL CARE

In case of illness or medical consultation you can turn to your local medical center (vårdcentral), to the doctors recommended by your company or to other private doctors (listed in the yellow phonebook, blue pages). If special treatment is needed you will be referred to a specialist by the doctor at your local "vårdcentral".

LOCAL PUBLIC MEDICAL CENTERS (VÅRDcentralER)

There are local medical centers, "vårdcentraler", all over Göteborg. They are listed in the phonebook; Yellow Pages, in the blue section under " Västra Götalandsregionen – Hälsa och sjukvård",
"Om du blir sjuk" (If you get sick)
"Primärvård/Vårdcentraler" (Local Medical Centers,
Mother/Child centers, Midwife Centers)
Sjukhus (Hospitals)

The "vårdcentraler" are also listed (according to which area of Göteborg, SDN, you live in) at home page <http://primarvardengoteborg.vgregion.se/>, click on the SDN to which you belong, for example "Askim" and you will find all the contact details.
At times it is difficult to book a time at the local medical centers and it might be quicker to visit one of the walk-in clinics listed below.

MOTHER & CHILD CENTERS (MÖDRAVÅRD/BARNAVÅRDSCENTRAL)

Contact your local Mödravårdscentral if you are pregnant or if you need consultation concerning birth control. If you have a child under school age contact you local Barnavårdscentral so that you can join the vaccination program and have your child checked. You will find the Centers listed in the Yellow pages, blue part. You can also visit the homepage mentioned above. Normally such centers are located next to the local medical centre.

MEDICAL CONSULTATION

At " Sjukvårdsupplysningen" qualified nurses will give you medical advice and information and direct you to the right clinic..

Tel 7031500

MEDICAL CONSULTATION FOR CHILDREN

Qualified nurses can give advice if your child is sick. This service is opened from 4pm- 8am. Contact your Local medical center daytime.

Tel 3434000

HOSPITALS (SJUKHUS) www.sahlgrenska.se

SAHLGRENSKA SJUKHUSET (Adults)

Guldhedsgatan 19 (city west)

Tel 3421000

ÖSTRA SJUKHUSET (Children & Adults)

Smörslottsgatan 1 (city east, use E20 towards Stockholm)

Tel 3434000

MÖLNDAL SJUKHUS (Adults)

Göteborgsvägen 31 (Möln dal)

Tel 3431000

WALK-IN CLINICS (JOURCENTRALER)

There are local medical centers with extended opening hours. The patient's fee varies between 120 -480 SEK. Sometimes you have to book an appointment in advance. They are listed in the phonebook (Pink Pages) blue part under "Primärvårdens jourcentraler".

CITY AKUTEN

Drottninggatan 45, Open weekdays 10am - 7pm

Tel 101010

CAPIO AXESS AKUTEN

Södra Allégatan 6, Open 24 hours, all days.

Tel 7250000

HAGAKLINIKEN

Norra Allégatan 7, open weekdays 9-21, sat 10-17

Tel 7018999

AKUTKLINIKEN

Ranängsgatan 8-10, open weekdays 9-21, weekends 10-17

Tel 153154

BACKA LÄKARHUS

Herkulesgatan 1K, Open Mon-Fri 8.00-21.00

Tel 744 23 30

PRIVATE HEALTH CARE

There are private doctors to choose from as well. They are listed in the Yellow Pages under "Läkare". Some of them are however not attached to the system, so please make sure to ask for the fee when you call them.

DOKTORN KAN KOMMA

Hagens Stationsväg 31

Mon-Fri 8.00-20.00, Sat-Sun 12.00-18.00

www.doktorkankomma.se (in English!) Private doctor who makes home visits.

Tel 29 00 05

PHARMACY (APOTEK)

Pharmacies are open Monday to Friday 9am – 6pm, Saturdays 9am-2pm (may vary). They are listed in the telephone book, Pink Pages under "Apotek". There are two pharmacies that have extended opening hours:

APOTEKET VASEN

Opened 8am – 10pm, all days

Götgatan 12 (Ö Nordstan, in the mall, Gbg center)

Tel 0771 450450

APOTEKET ÖSTRA SJUKHUSET (at the hospital Östra Sjukhuset)

Opened weekdays 8-22, weekends 11-22

DENTAL CARE (TANDVÅRD)

Children under 19 years of age have free dental care at the Folktandvården (National Dental Service). For adults the insurance covers only a part of the costs of treatment.

Dentists are listed in the telephone book under "Folktandvård, yellow pages, blue section.

EMERGENCY DENTAL CLINICS (AKUT TANDVÅRD)

AKUTTANDVÅRDEN

Open Mon-Fri 8am-8pm, Sat and Sun 8am-4pm.

Stampgatan 2 (close to the Scandic Crown Hotel; Gbg center)

Please call ahead to book a time.

Tel 807800

TANDAKUTEN

Open Mon-Fri 8am-5pm, Sat and Sun 8am-4pm

Engelbrektsgatan 34C (city center, close to the Avenue)

Please call ahead to book a time.

Tel 165449

EMERGENCY

In case of emergency, dial **112**, a general number for all of Sweden. The operator will help you at all times with matters concerning:

Ambulance, Rescue and fire brigade, Police, Doctor, Poison, Dentist, Priest

Housing

Sweden has a generally good standard of housing with homes being nicely furnished and well quipped with modern appliances. Please note that all apartment/houses will be let/sold including equipment like dishwasher, washing machine, dryer and wardrobes.

Renting an Apartment In Sweden, two types of rental contracts available, both of which normally include heating and water costs in the rent.

'First hand contract' (förstahandskontrakt) where you rent directly from the building's owner A 'first hand contract' is often quite difficult to obtain in central Göteborg unless you are willing to pay a very high rent. First hand contracts are always unfurnished.

Göteborg's Housing Association (BoPlats Göteborg) can assist you in finding a 'first hand' rental. You can visit www.boplatsgbg.se or Tel +46 31-10 02 50.

'Second hand contract' (andrahandskontrakt) where you sublet from the individual who rents directly from the owner. Normally these contracts are limited in time and can be rented furnished or unfurnished.

You can find apartments up for rent by using a relocation company (listed on next page) or read the adverts in the local newspaper Göteborgs-Posten under headline "Bostäder uthyres".

To find a temporary furnished accommodation you can contact the following companies, some of them also offering sublets:

Apartment AB	www.apartmentab.se	Tel +46 31 870105
IT Bostad AB	www.itbostad.se	Tel +46 31 7117372
Företagsbostäder	www.foretagsbostader.se	Tel +46 31 170025
Design Apartments	www.designapartments.se	Tel +46 31 802240
SGS Veckobostäder	www.sgsveckobostader.com	Tel +46 31 7081330
Bostruktur	www.bostruktur.se	Tel +46 31 7480480

Buying an Apartment You can buy an apartment whereby you pay an inset fee and then a lower monthly rent than those who rent an apartment. This lower monthly rent is paid to the housing association for such things as reparations and maintenance. Companies selling apartments are listed at Göteborg's Housing Association www.boplatsgbg.se, or Tel +46 31 10 0250, email: info@boplats.se. Similar information is also available in Swedish at www.hemnet.se where all available objects for sale are listed.

Renting a House The real estate agents focus primarily on assisting clients with buying and selling transactions only. It is possible to rent a house from a Swedish family, for example, that will work abroad for a short period of time or from a family who want to sell their house but will rent it out during the interim while waiting for the market price to go up. You can find houses up for rent by using a relocation company or read the adverts in the local newspaper Göteborgs-Posten under headline "Bostäder uthyres". For additional assistance with respect to relocation or housing questions or concerns, you can contact the following:

Relocation companies

DFS Relocation AB	www.dfsrelocation.se	Tel +46 31 7112780
Human Entrance AB	www.humanentrance.com	Tel +46 31 181740
Nordic Relocation Group AB	www.nrgab.se	Tel +46 31 335440
Ulla Mattsson Consulting AB	www.umconsulting.se	Tel +46 31 944250
Key Relocation Center AB	www.keyrelocation.se	Tel +46 31 405966
Cito Moveo AB	www.citomoveo.com	Tel +46 31 7232160
Newcomer's Relocation AB	www.newcomers.se	Tel +46 31 930329
WIN	www.handelskammaren.net/win	Tel +46 31 835900
Probis AB	www.probis.se	Tel: +46 31 3384999

For a complete list of relocation companies please visit the homepage of the **European Relocation Association** www.eura-relocation.com

Buying a House for a listing of Real Estate agents, please visit www.boplatsgbg.se or www.hemnet.se.



Photo courtesy of DFS Relocation

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Practical Issues Practical Information

Electricity and Energy

Sweden has over 100 providers of electricity. You are not able to choose your net provider but free to choose among over 100 providers of electricity. The net providers can also provide the electricity if you wish. A listing of the major net providers in the Göteborg area:

Göteborg Energi

www.goteborgenergi.se

Fortum

www.fortum.se

Mölnadal Energi

www.molndalenergi.se

Tel +46 31 626000 Fax +46 31 152501

Email kundservice@goteborgenergi.se

Tel 020 460000 Fax +46 8 6718696

Email kundservice@fortum.com

Tel +46 31 866500 Fax +46 31 866505

Email info@molndalenergi.se

More information on the electricity market can be found at www.elradgivningsbyran.se
For a list of energy companies in the Göteborg Region, please refer to Göteborg's yellow telephone book (Gula sidorna), in the yellow section, under the heading "Elförsäljning" or 'Energiförsäljning'. The electrical voltage in Sweden is 230 volts / 50 Hz.

TV Channels and Cable Television The Swedish Broadcasting Corporation is state-owned being financed through license fees. You will need to report to "Radiotjänst", for more information please visit www.radiotjanst.se (also in English) If you live in the city most Landlords offer a cable TV service providing channels like CNN International, BBC World and British SKY NEWS through providers like:

Com Hem

www.comhem.se

Tel +46 771 550000

Telia

www.telia.se

Tel +46 31 802550

Kabelvision (a part of Tele 2)

www.editorial.tele2.se

Tel +46 200 225500

If you live outside the cityarea o in a detached house you will need a satellite dish or a digital box. Contact www.viasat.se, www.canaldigital.se or www.boxer.se or visit a TV-store.

Telephone Installation To install a phone in your home, you must contact one of the 40 companies that offer telephone services. They are listed at www.telepriskollen.se where you also can compare prices. The most common providers (where Telia is the largest) are listed below under Internet subscriptions.

Internet Subscription To subscribe for Internet contact one of the following:

Telia	www.telia.se	Tel +46 31 90200
Bredbandsbolaget	www.bredbandsbolaget.se	Tel +46 8 506 98300
Rix Telecom	www.rixtelecom.se	Tel +46 200 580580
Tele2	www.tele2.se	Tel +46 8 56264000
Glocalnet	www.glocalnet.se	Tel +46 775 757575
Com Hem	www.comhem.se	Tel +46 771 550000

Telephoning In the telephone book, Yellow Pages (purple section), there is information in English on how the Swedish telephone system works. The telephone directory consists of two books. If you have difficulties finding what you are looking for you can call Telia's general information, phone **118 118**, for specific phone numbers. There is a charge per minute for this service. You can also visit www.eniro.se or www.hitta.se

Mobile phones Europe has a GSM 900/1800 system, meaning that the North American cellular phones will not work in Sweden unless the telephone is a 'triple-band' model. The best way to get information on different options is to visit one of the Telephone stores in the major shopping areas.

1. You can buy a mobile phone outright and then buy a 'money card' or 'pay-as-you-go card' similar to a prepaid phone card to reload your phone when necessary or,
2. You can pay a minimal price for the phone and then are committed to a telephone plan and monthly bill, for the next 12 to 48 months. Some of the larger mobile service providers are:

Telia	www.telia.se	Tel +46 31 90 200,
Comviq/Tele2	www.tele2.se	Tel +46 200 222040
Telenor	www.telenor.se	Tel 020 222222

Daily Newspapers in the Göteborg Region

www.thelocal.se (online only, Sweden's news in English)

Göteborgs-Posten (written in Swedish)

Dagens Industri (has a small section in English)

International newspapers can be purchased throughout Göteborg.

Banking There are four major banks in Sweden,

SE-banken	www.seb.se	Tel +46 31 621000
Nordea Banken	www.nordea.se	Tel +46 771 224488
Swedbank	www.swedbank.se	Tel +46 771 221122
Svenska Handelsbanken	www.handelsbanken.se	Tel +46 31 7748230

Banking hours are 10 am to 3 pm, Monday to Friday, some have extended opening hours.

Post Offices Instead of regular post offices the Posten's letter and package service has been moved to selected food stores, convenience stores and petrol stations.

For more information Tel 020 232221 (from abroad +46 8 232221) or email kundtjanst.privat@posten.se. You can also read more at www.posten.se.

Public Transportation You can commute in the Göteborg Region via tram, train, bus or boat. You can also contact 'Tidpunkten' directly at 0771 414300 or visit www.vasttrafik.se www.goteborgs.trafikinformation.nu www.trafik.nu, www.resplus.se The above provide information regarding hourly train, bus departures and traffic delays, etc.

Landvetter - Göteborg's International Airport

Landvetter Airport is located 25 kilometers from Göteborg's city centre and is easily accessible via bus, taxi or rental car. For information contact the airport's central number at Tel +46 31 941000 or view www.lfv.se. Information is also displayed on text TV.

Göteborg City Airport In addition to Landvetter there is another international Göteborg City Airport, in Säve, also near to the city centre. The City Airport is popular among low-cost airlines such as Ryanair. For information contact the airport at +46 31 92 6060 or view www.goteborgcityairport.se. Information is also displayed on text TV.

The Port of Göteborg is the largest port in the Nordic sea region. Nearly three million passengers pass through the Port annually, mostly via ferries to Frederikshavn, or Kiel. Visit www.stenaline.com for time tables and prices.

Driving Licenses

To operate a car, truck or motorcycle in Sweden, you must be at least 18 years of age and hold a driver's license valid in your home country or country of residence. If you are a non-EU citizen and will reside in Sweden for more than 1 year (but for a limited period of time) you can apply for 1-4 years exemption from having to get a Swedish License. This is done at the County Administrative Board (Länsstyrelsen) Tel +46 31 605000 or email lansstyrelsen@o.lst.se or visit <http://www.o.lst.se/o/> for more information.

For more information on how to obtain a Swedish driver's license, please contact the Department of Highways www.vv.se (Vägverket, in Swedish) Göteborg office Tel +46 31 63 5333. For a list of driving schools, please reference the yellow pages in the telephone book, under the category 'Trafikskolor'. or contact the County Administrative Board (Länsstyrelsen, in Swedish) at Tel: +46 31 605000.

Registering a New Car

After purchasing a car, you must report to the Registry of Motor Vehicles. If you buy a car from a dealer, the dealer will usually help you with the registration. Once the car is registered, you will receive a registration certificate, verifying that you are the owner. Everyone who owns a registered vehicle must pay a motor vehicle tax. Once you have paid this tax, you will receive a tax number that you must display on your license plate.

Car Insurance

All motor vehicles, including mopeds, must be insured by third party liability insurance. For a list of insurance companies, please reference the yellow pages in the Göteborg's yellow telephone book, under the category, 'Försäkring'.

Inspections

Motor vehicles that are more than three years old must be inspected, ensuring that the vehicle meets both safety standards as well as environmental standards. The inspections are carried out by the Swedish Motor Vehicle Inspection Co.(Bilprovningen, in Swedish). Tel +46 771 600800, or visit www.bilprovningen.se.

Speed Limits

There are speed limits on all Swedish roads. The speed limit in a town/city area is generally 50 km per hour. The speed limits on larger roads and highways are 70 km, 90, or 110 km per hour.

Drinking and Driving

Sweden has very strict legislation regarding drinking and driving, with the permitted blood alcohol concentration being much lower than that which is lawful in other countries. A police officer can ask you to take a breathalyzer test without reason to suspect that you are driving under the influence.

Dimmed Head Lights and Seatbelts

The Swedish Law states that all cars must have their lights on, even during the day. The Law also requires that everyone traveling in a car must wear a seatbelt and that children, under the height of 135 cm, are securely buckled in a child's car seat.

Pedestrian Crossings

Drivers are required to stop at pedestrian crossings, giving pedestrians the right-of-way.

Parking

There are several parking garages (marked with a "P") in central Göteborg, offering over 3 500 parking places in the city. Such parking garages include:

P-Hus Nordstan www.nordstan.se Tel +46 31 7008685

P-Hus City www.kompassen.se Tel +46 31 139005

P- Hus Aveny and Kungsgaraget www.europark.se Tel +46 31 186555.

To apply for a residential parking permit, you must be civilly registered (folkbokförd, in Swedish) in the town in which you live, and have a license plate number. To apply for such a permit, please contact the Local Traffic Authorities (Trafiknämnden, in Swedish) at telephone +46 31 613665 or fax: +31 7116815 or visit www.trafikkontoret.goteborg.se/.

Idle Engines

In most cities, drivers are not permitted to leave engines idling for more than a few minutes.

Interpreters

When speaking with Swedish authorities such as a police officer, a lawyer and other municipal departments, you are entitled to request the services of an interpreter. When scheduling a visit to such an office, you should state that an interpreter is required. It is then the authority's responsibility to engage and pay for an interpreter.

Support Systems

There are various support programs offered in the Göteborg Region that can assist you and your family in adapting to your new life in Sweden.

The West Sweden Chamber of Commerce and Industry offers a support program, called WIN, to facilitate successful assignments for international employees and their families. For further information WIN, please visit www.handelskammaren.net
Tel +46 31 835903, email hanne.westvik@handelskammaren.net.

Right Management Consultants offers a support program for spouses. Please visit www.right.com or call Tel +46 31 708 6793, email cecilia.kaber@right.com

Business & Taxes

Swedish Work Ethic and Culture Cooperation, consensus and teamwork are key dimensions in the Swedish workplace. The dress code is informal and variable. So a Swedish businessman may not always be as easily recognized as in Japan or the US. The work hours are flexible. Five weeks vacation is common in Sweden, with many Swedes taking a one-week vacation during the winter months and saving the other 4 weeks for the summer.

Salaries and Trade Unions Swedish salaries are influenced by the country's industry wide unions, which are a part of a central organization. The largest and most notable of these central organizations include: LO, the Swedish Trade Union Confederation, which represents blue-collar workers, TCO, the Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees, which represents white-collar workers, and SACO, the Swedish Confederation of Professional Associations, which represents graduate level, white-collar workers. These central organizations have historically established the guidelines for wage contracts instead of the bargaining process being completed at the company level. These centralized guidelines, together with a remarkably high, unionized workforce (approximately 85% of Sweden's blue-collar workers and 75 % of Sweden's white-collar workers), have resulted in very few strikes, lockouts, wildcats, etc.

The Swedish Tax Structure The Swedish tax system is regarded as being a structure that embraces efficiency, clarity and accessibility, especially for foreign investors and business people. This automated system provides the Swedish Tax Agency with the capability of producing a completed tax return proposal for you, which you can accept or revise according to additional deductions. The Swedish Tax Agency (Skatteverket, in Swedish) has overall responsibility for the Swedish tax system, with tax specialists available to help you with such issues as double-taxation treaties.

Corporate Tax and Dividends Sweden has a corporate tax rate of 28%; one of the lowest corporate tax rates in Europe. Companies are granted the right to make pre-tax allocations so that certain reserves or assets are taxed only when utilized. This flexibility can lower the Swedish corporate tax rate to approximately 26%. The profits of a foreign-owned company with a branch office or subsidiary in Sweden, may be remitted abroad, without being subject to any other tax than the standard corporate income tax.

Personal Income Tax Sweden's personal income tax is a municipal tax that ranges from 29 to 35% depending upon your income category and the municipality in which you reside. Those with an annual gross income of SEK 316,700* or more, pay an additional 20% state tax, on the income exceeding the SEK 316,700* threshold. Those with an annual gross income of SEK 476,700* or more, pay a 5% state tax, in addition to the 20% state tax and their applicable municipal income tax, on the income exceeding the SEK 476,700* threshold. Income from capital such as interest, dividends, capital gains, etc. is taxed at a rate of 30%. Personal wealth (ex. stocks, real estate, cars, boats, etc.) with a value above 1.5 million SEK for single people and 3 million SEK for married or common law couples, is taxed at a rate of 1.5%. The government recently announced their intention to abolish the wealth tax as from 1 January 2007.

Value Added Tax (VAT) The Swedish Value Added Tax (VAT) is harmonized with the VAT directives of the European Commission. The Swedish VAT, known as 'Moms,' varies according to the type of goods and services purchased. The Moms is 25% for clothes and household appliances, 12% for food and hotel charges, and 6% for personal transportation, books, magazines, daily journals, newspapers, and entrance fees to sports and cultural events, etc. Certain services are exempt from VAT.

Special Taxation for Expats On January 1, 2001, the Swedish Parliament enacted a new law, granting tax relief to expatriates (experts, executives, scientists, researchers, etc.) working in Sweden for a limited period of time. This legislation entitles an expatriate to a 25% reduction on taxable income during the first three years of employment in Sweden, granted that the total employment term in Sweden does not exceed five years. In other words, only 75 % of an Expat's income will be taxed during the first three years of employment in Sweden.

Perks such as housing allowances, living costs, and stock options are also applicable for such tax relief. Relocation costs such as moving to and from Sweden, school entrance fees for children, etc. are also exempt from tax. All other forms of taxation are the same for the expatriate as they are for a Swedish citizen meaning, for example, that the extra cost of maintaining two homes – one in the home country and one in Sweden – is tax deductible for the expatriates just as it is for a Swedish citizen.

To apply for such tax relief, the following must be demonstrated:

- a.) You are a specialist, scientist or expert with competencies that are not available or are difficult to recruit in Sweden, or that you are a senior executive or a part of a company's management, holding a key position in the company or operation.
- b.) You are employed by a Swedish company or a foreign company with a permanent establishment in Sweden.
- c.) You have not been a resident in Sweden during a 5-year period prior to your assignment in Sweden.
- d.) Your stay in Sweden is not expected to exceed more than 5 years.

Application forms and more information regarding special tax relief for Expats can be located at the Swedish Tax Agency; www.skatteverket.se

Special tax relief for Expats, must be sought within three months of the start of employment in Sweden. Employers must report all tax exemptions for expatriates when filing their income tax return.

For expertise regarding international tax issues, you may wish to contact PricewaterhouseCoopers' Human Resource Services. They can also assist you

with other issues such as international assignment management, administration, migration and payroll services. For more information, please contact Anders Assarson
Tel +46 31 793 14 23, fax: +46 31 793 14 02, email:
anders.assarson@se.pwc.com

You can find other suppliers in the phonebook under "skate-,finanskonsulter.

Establishing a Business, Patents and Registrations

The Swedish Patent and Registration Office (PRV.se)
can assist you with such issues as:

- Starting up a Business
- Registering a New Business
- Applying for a Patent
- Registering a Trademark
- Providing Competitor Information

The Swedish Companies Registration Office

(Bolagsverket, in Swedish)

Detailed information regarding different business structures. Please visit the following website: www.bolagsverket.se

Tel +46 60 18 40 40, fax +46 60 12 98 40.

The Swedish Association of Ethnic Entrepreneurs

(Internationella Företagarföreningen i Sverige)

and Centre for New Entrepreneurs (Nyföretagarcentrum) can also assist you in starting up or expanding a business in Sweden, please visit www.ifs.a.se/vast

Tel +46 31 779 9506, fax +46 31 779 9511

The Centre for New Entrepreneurs

They can assist those thinking about starting a business.

And can provide you with a comprehensive picture of what it is like to be an entrepreneur and start a new business as well as giving you inspiration.

For information visit www.gbgnfc.se

Tel: +46 31 779 9500, fax: +46 31 779 9511, email: info@gbgnfc.se.

Invest in Sweden Agency can provide you with information regarding the costs of establishing a business in Sweden. For more detailed information regarding establishment costs please visit www.isa.se

To register a new business, you will need to contact the **Companies Registration Office** Tel +46 60 184040 or visit www.bolagsverket.se

For information on patents or Trademarks please visit www.prv.se
Or contact **the Swedish Patent and Registration Office**
at Tel +46 8 782 2600, fax: +46 8 666 0286.

Advisors

Business Region Göteborg can also assist you in meeting the right contacts, networks and/or professional advisors that suit your particular business needs.
Please feel free to contact either:



Roger Strömberg
Business Relocation Manager
Tel +46 31 61 24 12

E-mail roger.stromberg@businessregion.se

Petra Sedelius

Investment Manager

Tel +46 31 61 24 22

E-mail petra.sedelius@@businessregion.se

Education

Daycares, Schools, Universities and Swedish Courses

Schools In Sweden, schooling is mandatory for children between 7 and 16 years of age. Preschool, for children of 6 years of age, is offered but is not compulsory. The school year begins in mid August and ends in early June.

Public Schools The majority of schools in Sweden are publicly financed so that all children have the right to equal education without paying a tuition fee. The school system, in Sweden, consists of:

1. **Preschool Class** (förskola) for children 6 years of age. Preschool is offered to all children in Sweden.
2. **Compulsory School** (Grundskola) for children 7-16 years of age, grades 1 – 9.
3. **Secondary/ High School** (gymnasium), grades 10 to 12, is not compulsory; however, it is a prerequisite if a student wants to study at a university level.

For information regarding the Swedish school system, visit the National Agency for Education, www.skolverket.se (also in English), Tel +46 8 52733200, fax +46 8 244420.

Daycares Sweden has many well-equipped daycare centers for children with working or studying parents. Your child must be between 1 and 5 years of age and have received their personal number. For information on the Swedish childcare system, visit the National Agency for Education, www.skolverket.se or Tel +46 8 52 733200.

The waiting lists are sometimes long, especially for acceptance into the international preschools. These international daycares include:

International Preschools

Happy kids Education

www.happykids.se

Tel +46 31 7954550

The International Preschool

www.theinternationalpreschool.com

Tel +46 31423335
or 413335 / 546535

ABC All About Children Preschool www.abcallaboutchildren.com	Tel +46 31 125891
The English Day Care and Nursery School www.theenglishschool.se	Tel +46 31 690510
The French School www.franskaskolangoteborg.se/	Tel +46 31 165482

International Schools

In addition to Sweden's public school system, the Göteborg Region has several international schools which include:

Deutsche Schule/ German School www.tyskaskolan.nu	Tel +46 31 7111949
The English School www.theenglishschool.se	Tel +46 31 298024,
Hvitfeldtska Gymnasiet International Baccalaureate Program www.hvitfeldt.educ.goteborg.se	Tel +46 31 3670600
The International School of the Gothenburg Region (ISGR) www.isgr.se offers education for children from the age of 5 years old (PYPO or Kindergarten) to grade 9.	Tel +46 31 3672900
The International High School of the Gothenburg Region (IGHR) www.ighr.se Offers high school education grades 10-12	Tel +46 31 3672900
The French School	Tel +46 31 165482
The Japanese School	Tel +46 31 188001
The Swedish-Finnish School www.sverigefinskaskolan.org .	Tel +46 31 233860
The Aranäs High School (IB-program) www.aranasgymnasiet.kungsbacka.se	Tel +46 300 834492

National Boarding Schools in Sweden:

The Sigtuna School

info@sshl.se

Tel +46 8 59257100

www.sshl.se

The Grennaskolan

kansli@grennaskolan.se

Tel +46 390 56150

www.grennaskolan.se

The Lundsberg School

info@lundsbergsskola.se

Tel +46 550 740500

www.lundsbergsskola.se,

Universities

Sweden has approximately 61 universities and colleges. The Göteborg Region has 7 higher education institutions with Göteborg University and Chalmers University of Technology being the most well known.

University of Gothenburg

The University of Gothenburg has approximately 50,000 students (25,000 full-time students) and 5,000 employees. With its eight faculties, the Education and Research Board for Teacher training, and 57 departments, the University of Gothenburg is also the most wide-ranging and versatile university in Sweden, offering unique opportunities for cooperation and development.

For information visit www.gu.se/english or

Tel +46 31 7860000 or fax +46 31 7861064

School of Economics and Commercial Law

This is affiliated with Göteborg's University, and has approximately 7,000 students and 250 teachers/researchers and professors.

For information, visit www.handels.gu.se , email: info@handels.gu.se or

Tel +46 31 773 10 00, fax +46 31 773 49 70,

Chalmers University of Technology

This has approximately 10,400 students with a teaching and research staff of approximately 1,600. Chalmers has also a smaller campus located at Lindholmen.

For information visit www.chalmers.se or

Te: +46 31 7721000, fax +46 31 772 3872.

IT University of Göteborg

Chalmers University of Technology and Göteborg University, together, established the IT University of Göteborg on the Lindholmen premises.
For information, visit www.ituniv.se or
Tel +46 31 7724895, fax +46 31 7724899

Translating University Transcripts & Swedish Language Courses

Translating University Transcripts For expatriate families with university children, it should be noted that it is possible to translate current university transcripts into a grade.

The International Department of the National Agency for Higher Education

(Högskoleverket) can assist you with such translations. Contact them directly at telephone +46 8-563 085 00, fax: +46 8-563 085 50, email: hsv@hsv.se or visit www.hsv.se.
You can also visit www.studyinsweden.se for more information.

Swedish Language Courses

The following offer language courses:

There are several schools or educational centers that offer language courses, which follow:

Communicate	www.communicate.se	Tel +46 31 7691569
EF Corp Lang Training	www.ef.se	Tel +46 31 7509700
Folkuniversitetet	www.folkuniversitet.se/goteborg	Tel+46 31 106527
Medborgarskolan	www.medborgarskolan.se	Tel +46 31 7551400
Berlitz Languages	www.berlitz.se	Tel +46 31 606241
SFI	www.vux.goteborg.se	Tel +46 31 61 39 00

Introductory Swedish courses entitled 'Swedish for Immigrants' SFI are offered by the state and are free of charge.

Culture and Leisure

Göteborg region has many theatres, cinemas, museums an elegant opera house and a large concert (symphony) house. www.goteborg.com and www.gotevent.com



Göteborg's Opera House Photo: Harald Jonsson

Göteborg's Opera House	www.opera.se	Tel +46 31 108000
Göteborg's Concert House	www.gso.se	Tel +46 31 7265300
Göteborg Museum of Art	www.konstmuseum.goteborg.se	Tel +46 31 612980
The Röhsska Museum	www.designmuseum.se	Tel +46 31 613850
Göteborg City Museum	www.stadsmuseum.goteborg.se	Tel +46 31 612770
Museum of World Culture	www.varldskulturmuseet.se	Tel +46 31 632730



Photo Copyright: Fundación Cisneros -Bracelet from the people of Yanomami

The Maritime Museum

www.sjofartsmuseum.goteborg.se Tel +46 31 612900

Universeum Science Discovery Centre

www.universeum.se

Tel +46 31 3356450



Photos: Universeum

Art Galleries For a list of galleries please visit www.kulturnat.goteborg.se, and then refer to the heading titled 'Konst' (art) and then to 'Gallerier' (galleries).

Amusement Parks

Göteborg's **Liseberg** (featured below) is the largest amusement park in Scandinavia. For more information regarding Liseberg, please visit www.liseberg.se or Tel +46 31 400100



Parks & Gardens

For information on parks and gardens please visit Göteborg's Parks and Nature Administration at www.parkochnatur.goteborg.se or Tel +46 31 365 57 00.

Arenas & Stadia

Nya Ullevi, located in central Göteborg, is Scandinavia's largest outdoor arena. For information regarding Göteborg's **Nya Ullevi** and/or **Scandinavium**, please visit www.gotevent.se or contact them at Tel +46 31 615680.

Churches

Domkyrkan (Church of Sweden) in central Göteborg, Kyrkogatan 28, Tel 031 7316130.

Christina Church - located on Norra Hamngatan beside the City Hall, Tel 031 7316192.

Vasakyrkan (Church of Sweden) - Engelbrektsgatan in Vasakyrkoplan, Tel 031 7318670.

Hagakyrkan (Church of Sweden) -located in the Hagapark, Tel 031 7316160.

Masthuggetkyrkan (Church of Sweden) at Storebackegatan 1 Tel 031 7319230

Fiskebäcks Missionskyrkan (Free Evangelical Church of Sweden) Tel 031 291483
is located at Citrusgatan 16.or visit www.fiskebacksmfs.net.

Fisher's Creek International Christian Fellowship Tel 031 291483
located at Fiskebäcks Missionskyrka, see above. www.fisherscreek.net

St. Andrew's English is located at Hvitfeldtsplatsen 2. Tel 031 7111915
www.svenskakyrkan.se/goteborg/st.andrews, or contact the Chaplain

st.andrews.got@telia.com

Smyrnakyrkan – The church is located at Haga Kyrkogatan 2 Tel 031 179390

The Tabernacle Baptist Church - is located at Götabergsgatan 4 Tel 031 132220

The Catholic Church –located at Kristus Konungen Parkgatan 14 Tel 031 7119264

Orthodox and Oriental Churches - Please refer to the telephone directory or the online directory at www.gulasidorna.se for individual listings.

For more information regarding the **Church of Sweden** in the Göteborg Region, please contact Tel 031 731 88 00 or visit: www.svenskakyrkan.se/goteborg.

For information on **The Swedish Church** visit www.svenskakyrkan.se (also in English)

For a list of churches in Göteborg, please consult the yellow pages of the telephone directory or the online telephone directory at www.gulasidorna.se under 'kyrkor'.

Non-Christian Places of Worship

To have information on non-Christian places of worship in the Göteborg region, it is best to consult the telephone directory or www.gulasidorna.se.

Clubs and Associations

The Göteborg region has many clubs and associations, bringing foreigners together, for the purpose of support, companionship, and friendship. Such groups include the African Association, the Multinational Association, the Latin American Association, the Southern European Association, the Asian Association, etc. There are also numerous clubs including:

The International Women's Club welcomes English-speaking women and Swedish women married to a foreigner, or those returning after many years abroad. Present membership includes 160 women of all ages coming from all walks of life from 37 different countries. The objectives of the Club are to welcome and assist newcomers to Sweden; to further members' knowledge and understanding of Sweden and other cultures; and to give financial and material support to philanthropic projects, especially those of an international nature. The Club arranges charity events, social and cultural activities, such as theatre outings, concerts, tours, lectures and intercultural get-togethers. The IWC is a member of the International Open Door Organization. For further information our web address is www.iwcgothenburg.com and email: info@iwcgothenburg.com



The American Women's Club welcomes all American women and/or women with a strong tie to the United States. They meet throughout the year to celebrate American holidays, as well as for seminars, craft evenings and simply to socialize. Visit: www.awcgothenburg.com or email contactus@awcgothenburg.com.



The French Club welcomes both men and women with a connection to France. For more information, please contact Erik Svensson Tel: 031- 774 35 01, email: erik.svensson@franskakonsulatet.se

International Friends of Gothenburg is a club for both foreigners and Swedes living in the Göteborg region with a purpose of bringing people together for friendship, fun and cultural exchange. The club meets around 7 times a month for club meetings, pub evenings, restaurant visits, movie nights, book club, dinner for six and other activities. For more information about meeting people Sweden, visit www.ifg.nu, or email membership@ifg.nu



The Mirrabooka Club is a very informal club for Aussies and New Zealanders and their friends and fans. We send out a newsletter 3 or 4 times a year and arrange activities such as lunches, dinners, bowling afternoons, art exhibitions, Anzac Day ceremony (25th April), a summer BBQ with cricket match, etc. Anne Nyth and Sandra Nilsson have run it for over 30 years and we are looking for anyone with some new, fresh ideas to take over. Anyone who would like to join in our activities, or organize some new ones yourself, please contact Anne at annenyth@hotmail.com



The British Club Gothenburg was founded in 1953 and is a social club, holding six to eight events a year. Its program of activities is the responsibility of the Club Committee, which is elected each February by the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Regular annual events include a summer coach outing, a Club Christmas Lunch, and a Children's Christmas Party, Pub Nights' and other informal get-togethers. Membership is open to citizens of the UK and other Commonwealth countries and their families, and others with a strong British connection. Application for membership may be made to the Membership Secretary, at present Gisela Barnard (call 031 147101 or email gisela.barnard@telia.com).



The Canadian Club of West Sweden is a meeting place for Canadians of all ages, and those who wish they were Canadians, but have been temporarily drawn away to live in West Sweden. We have social gatherings throughout the year, with special family events for Canada Day –1st July and Christmas. Other events such as ice skating, curling, wine tasting are planned with our members' interests in mind. Email: enostedt@gmail.com.

Toastmasters have 6 clubs in Gothenburg, so you can visit a club almost any day of the week in all parts of the city. It's the best way to improve your communication skills. You are welcome to come and visit a club free of charge. Please visit www.toastmasters.se, enostedt@gmail.com or contact Elizabeth Nostedt at 031-322-1892.

Anglo Swedish Society Göteborg promotes cultural and social understanding between Sweden and English Speaking countries. They meet about 8-10 times per year and activities range from formal dinners to theatre visits and discussions about literature. Within the Society there is a *Robert Burns Club*. They merged with the *British Business Club*, which organizes Business Lunches with British Themes. Birger Ekengren, Hon. Chairman
www.angloswedish.se bek@algonet.se, phone 0739 308 339

The Professional Women's Group is intended as a casual networking / discussion group for those interested in various aspects of business. They are to meet every two months to talk through common issues regarding business and personal career development. For more information or to be added to the mailing list, please contact;
professionalwomensgroup@gmail.com



The German Congregation Center offers an open pre-school (öppen förskola, in Swedish) where mothers, German, Austrian and Swiss, can gather with their children not only to activate their children in an organized form but also to meet friends themselves. There is also the English Speaking Play Group, located in Västra Frölunda. For more information, phone: 031- 45 18 39

The Rotary Club network is well developed, in Sweden, with 10 districts and approximately 65 different groups within the western region. For more information, please visit www.rotary.se.

On-line discussion rooms about Expat experiences may be helpful in your adjustment to life in Sweden. Such examples include **Expat Expert** and the **Escape Artist**, located at www.expertexpert.com and www.escapeartist.com.