

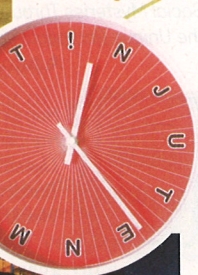


Great Escapes // Stockholm and Other Design Destinations

From cutting-edge architecture and cobblestone streets to sophisticated housewares and simple, homemade crafts—Stockholm's comfortable contrasts are sure to delight anyone's appetite for design. By Shawn Gilliam

In the country that gave the world cheap-retailer chic such as IKEA and H&M, smart style plays significantly into Stockholm's urban landscape and way of life. Starting in the heart of the city, check out the 1974 **Kulturhuset** (Culture House) and **Stadsteatern** (City Theater). Along with the adjacent two-level **Sergels Torg** public square, with its towering glass obelisk by sculptor Edvin Öhrström, the complex has become a symbol of Swedish modernism. Don't miss the huge **DesignTarget** shop on the lower level, where you can find housewares, jewelry, toys and other wares—many at reasonable prices—from both established and up-and-coming Swedish designers.

Stockholm's oldest and best-known design shops sit a few blocks away on the waterfront and sightseeing-boat street Strandvägen. **Svenskt Tenn**, an institution for 85 years, occupies a warren of rooms displaying everything from porcelain to handbags to pillows in printed textiles by designer Josef Frank, who produced some 160 patterns from 1909 to 1950.



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Find high-design gems—including graphic clocks—at DesignTarget.

FOR PHOTO CREDITS SEE PAGE 68. SCOUTING: CHRISTINE ALBERTSSON



Celebrations for the June 19 royal wedding of Crown Princess Victoria to Daniel Westling kick off June 6 with the two-week Love Stockholm 2010 festival of Swedish music, art, design, food and history.

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- 11 Classic Samsas chair at Malmstenbutiken
- 12 Grill restaurant
- 13 Room with Josef Frank décor, Hotel Birger Jarl

A number of Frank's exuberant florals have been reissued and are enjoying renewed popularity. Next door, find **Malmstenbutiken**, the showroom for highly coveted modern furniture (most designs date from the 1940s and '50s) by Carl Malmsten. Over the years, the shop, still run by the Malmsten family, has added housewares, lighting, textiles and books to its inventory. Many lines are purchased directly from Swedish artists and are exclusive to the shop. Check out the basement, where stone walls and low vaulted ceilings provide a beautiful backdrop for furniture vignettes.

If Swedish crystal is calling, plan a stop at the flagship boutique for **Orrefors Kosta Boda**. Hundreds of exquisite pieces running the gamut from classic to

contemporary grace the illuminated shelves; prices start at \$30 for votive candle holders and go up to \$4,300 for a Bertil Vallien glass sculpture. Find a broader selection of housewares on the lower level of Stockholm's largest department store, **Nordiska Kompaniet**, also known as NK.

Stockholm-born **Efva Attling**, who made her first piece of jewelry at age 11 before finding fame with Ford Models in New York and as a singer in Europe, has returned to jewelry. She sells it out of a shop in the lovely Birger Jarlspassagen arcade; the pieces, most rendered in silver, include abstract pendants and simple, chunky rings. Swedish designers Christina Soderstrom and Yvonne Clamf also display their jewelry at the Stockholm branch of their New York-based studio **Yvone Christa**.

Inspired by antique jewelry and shapes in nature, their work has appeared in *Glamour*, *Lucky* and *Vogue* magazines. Exceptional design also reigns supreme at



The world's largest IKEA sits just outside Stockholm and is worth a visit—if only to say you've been to the world's largest. Built in 1965, its four-story circular showroom was inspired by New York's Guggenheim Museum.



Millesgården, the former home and studio of world-renowned sculptor Carl Milles on the island of Lidingo, features a magnificent terraced sculpture park overlooking the water.

nearly every museum and civic building in town. The waterfront **Nationalmuseum**, a Venetian and Florentine Renaissance-style landmark, showcases Scandinavia's largest collection of porcelain and furniture spanning the 15th century to modern times. Crossing the long bridge from the Nationalmuseum to the "museum island" Skeppsholmen, you'll find the 161,000-square-foot **Moderna Museet** (Museum of Modern Art) by Spanish architect Rafael Moneo. Its low-slung structure looks small but is deceptive; it houses one of the largest collections of 20th-century works in Europe, and many of the galleries are underground. The adjoining **Arkitekturmuseet** (Museum of Architecture) includes a collection of models from around the world, including several from Stockholm.

Where to Stay: Benny Andersson of ABBA fame has transformed a 1937 cinema into the **The Rival Hotel** as part of a recent redevelopment wave that is bringing a fashionable, almost beatnik air to Södermalm island south of the city center. The plush rooms boast smart Swedish style, as do the café, bakery and refurbished theater. For a Swedish design fix closer to the center, check out **Hotel Birger Jarl** in the Östermalm district. Here, a host of prominent Swedish designers are responsible for the myriad room styles.

Where to Eat: Formerly a furniture showroom, the informal **Grill** restaurant features distinctive rooms in a single space—an idea developed with Swedish furniture manufacturer Foga. Dishes are prepared using one of five grilling methods.

