





OUT OF THE BOX IN STOCKHOLM

In a city known for clean lines, Stockholm's Södermalm district ("Söder" to locals) is surprisingly nonconformist. A slum in the 18th century, the neighborhood is now home to a mix of clothing and furniture shops; Thai, Greek, and Turkish restaurants; historic falu red cottages; and one famous fictional character, Mikael Blomkvist, the journalist in Stieg Larsson's best seller *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*. Linger at a cafe along the main square, Medborgarplatsen, and take in the scene.



Bunk Behind Bars

Linked by a bridge to Södermalm,
Långholmen used to house some of
Sweden's most notorious criminals. The
island's 19th-century prison was converted
into the Långholmen Hotel in 1989. Visit
the museum to learn about such former residents as journalist and novelist Jan Guillou,
convicted of espionage in the 1970s. And
sit under apple trees in the garden to dine
on salmon tartare with whitefish roe.
From \$206, Långholmsmuren 20, 46/(0) 8-720-85-00,
langholmen.com

Shake It

Hear Swedish indie pop favorites Vapnet and First Aid Kit (below) at the twin music venues Debaser Medis and Debaser Slussen. Check Debaser Slussen's calendar for DJ Gustav Sundh's dance parties, where he spins house music and electro beats.

Debaser Medis, Medborgarplatsen 8, 46/(0) 8-694-79-00; Debaser Slussen, Karl Johans Torg 1, 46/(0) 8-30-56-20, debaser.se



Sips and Snacks

To take a break, or to fika, is an integral part of Swedish culture, and many locals escape to cafés at least once a day. The word fika was once slang for kaffī (coffee). But fika is more than a cup of joe. The ritual often involves pastries, or fikabröd, such as kanelbullar (cinnamon rolls) and mazarin (marzipan tarts). Café String serves thin pancakes topped with lingon-berries and ice cream—a classic Swedish meal, not dessert.

Nytorgsgatan 38, 46/(0) 8-714-85-14, cafestring.com

TIMELESS FASHION

Södermalm has the highest concentration of vintage stores in the city. Stop by any of these three shops for a one-of-a-kind find.

Tjallamalla carries retro clothing as well as items from emerging Swedish designers.

Bondegatan 46, 46/(0) 8-640-78-47, tjallamalla.com

Sivletto is known for its selection of 1940s pencil skirts and atomic-age home decor.

