

Sweden

Cross border travel

- People
 - Depending on your citizenship, you may need a visa to enter Sweden.
 - Here is a list of countries that need a visa to enter:
<https://www.government.se/government-policy/migration-and-asylum/list-of-foreign-citizens-who-require-visa-for-entry-into-sweden/>
 - If you need a visa to enter Sweden, the procedure is according to the EU visa regulations (Schengen). A visa normally grants you the right to stay in the entire Schengen region for up to 90 days.
 - If you want to stay in Sweden for a longer time, you must apply for a residence permit. Find more information here: <https://www.migrationsverket.se/English/Private-individuals/Working-in-Sweden/Employed/Special-rules-for-certain-occupations-and-citizens-of-certain-countries/Researcher.html>
 - Note that there is a fee that must be paid to process the application!

Covid-19

You can find general information and links to relevant COVID-19 related information on the website of the Swedish government: <https://www.government.se/government-policy/the-governments-work-in-response-to-the-virus-responsible-for-covid-19/>

You can find further information regarding the temporary Swedish travel restrictions on the website of the Swedish Policy Authority: <https://polisen.se/en/the-swedish-police/the-coronavirus-and-the-swedish-police/travel-to-and-from-sweden/>

- Instrumentation (import/export)
 - Find import/export information for the European Union here:
<https://ec.europa.eu/trade/import-and-export-rules/>
 - Find information on goods subject to special rules in Sweden here:
<https://www.tullverket.se/en/private/goodssubjecttospecialrules.4.311bf4f016e69d6ea0db94.html>
 - You can find general information about importing goods to Sweden from countries outside the EU here:
<https://www.tullverket.se/eng/business/importinggoodstoswedenfromcountriesoutsidetheeu.4.7df61c5915510cfe9e75dc8.html>
 - You can apply for authorization to import scientific instruments and apparatus from outside the EU without having to pay customs duty. Find more information and application documents here:
<https://www.tullverket.se/eng/business/importinggoodstoswedenfromcountriesoutsidetheeu/scientificinstrumentsandapparatus.4.7df61c5915510cfe9e75e27.html>
- Samples (import/export)

- Export samples listed under The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) needs permission.
The Swedish Board of Agriculture is the managing authority for CITES legislation in Sweden. Find more information here:
<https://djur.jordbruksverket.se/swedishboardofagriculture/engelskasidor/trade/endangere-speciescites/citesimportandexport.4.2c4b2c401409a334931dbac.html>
- Chemicals (import/export)
 - In general, it is recommended to use a shipping/transport agency, in order to reassure compliance with the complex set of regulations.
 - Contact the Swedish Chemicals Agency here: <https://www.kemi.se/en/about-the-swedish-chemicals-agency/contact-us>

Access to specific areas

- You have a Right to Public Access ("Allemansrätten") whenever you visit Swedish nature. Find information about what is permitted here: <http://www.swedishepa.se/Enjoying-nature/The-Right-of-Public-Access/This-is-permitted/>
- Keep in mind that the Right of Public Access does not give the right to off-road driving of any kind, not even for motorhomes and caravans (<http://www.swedishepa.se/Enjoying-nature/Motor-traffic-in-nature/>).
- Remote areas
 - No permits identified
- Protected areas
 - There are strict rules and regulation in National parks, Nature Reserves and Birdlife reserves! Find an overview of protected areas here: <https://skyddadnatur.naturvardsverket.se/>
Find a list of national parks here: <https://sverigenationalparker.se/en/choose-park---list>
 - National Parks and Nature Reserves on Government land are managed by Regional County Boards.
Map of Counties can be found here: <https://www.lansstyrelsen.se/orebro/miljo-och-vatten/miljofarlig-verksamhet/sok-tillstand-for-miljofarlig-verksamhet/provning-av-miljofarlig-verksamhet.html>.
Websites of Regional Counties can be found here: <https://www.lansstyrelsen.se/> (in Swedish)
 - Nature Reserves on municipal land are managed by local municipalities.
Map of municipalities can be found here: <https://public.opendatasoft.com/explore/dataset/sverige-kommuner-municipalities-of-sweden/map/?location=5,62.98907,17.56406&basemap=jawg.streets>.
Contact information for Swedish municipalities can be found here: <https://skr.se/tjanster/englishpages/municipalitiesandregions.1088.html>.
 - Find an overview of permit and dispensation requirements for the northernmost protected areas here (use Google translate function):
<https://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norrbottn/other-languages/english/nature-and-rural-areas/protected-nature.html>

- Birdlife reserves have access bans to the public during part of the year, and a special permit is required for entering during such times.
- Restricted areas
 - No permits identified

Fieldwork and sample collection

- You may need zero, one or more research permits when conducting research in Sweden.
- Whether you need to obtain permits depends on the area you want to go to and the type of research you conduct. The most general permits are described below!
- There is no central coordination of research applications in Sweden, so scientists need to identify all relevant permits themselves and obtain these from relevant authorities.
- Note that it may take some time to process an application!
- Permit to conduct research (observations, handling and sampling within all disciplines, incl. collection of genetic resources)
 - Depending on your research aims and activities, you may need permits to conduct the following types of research in Sweden:
 - Observations: No permit necessary.
 - Sample collection: All sample removal need permission from the landowner. For areas dedicated to research, you need permission from the manager of the specific area.
 - Trapping, netting and otherwise collecting animals: you may need a permit from the Swedish Board of Agriculture (email: jordbruksverket@jordbruksverket.se)
 - Protected species. You need an exemption to take measurements or samples that can affect protected species or their habitats. Find information here: <https://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norrboten/djur/hotade-arter/dispens-for-fridlysta-arter.html> (use google translate function).
The permitting body in the north of Sweden is the environmental protection department of the regional county board of Norrbotten (email: norrboten@lansstyrelsen.se).
 - Collection of genetic material do not require a permit, but there may be specific rules for protected species.

At protected cultural sites: permission from the Swedish National Heritage Board may be needed (email: registrator@raa.se)
 - Experiments on live animals need an ethical approval by the Swedish Board of Agriculture (email: jordbruksverket@jordbruksverket.se)
 - All studies of humans require permission from the Ethics Approval Board (Etikprövningsmyndigheten) (email: registrator@etikprovning.se)

Field Instrumentation

- Area allotment for instrumentation

- Setting up instruments in the field, requires permission from the landowner.
- On governmental land you need permission from the county administrative board (<https://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norrbotten/om-oss/kontakta-oss.html#0>).
- For sites dedicated to research you need permission from the manager of the specific area.
- Drone use
 - The Swedish Transport Agency is the authority responsible for the regulations regarding drones in Sweden. You can find general information here: <https://transportstyrelsen.se/en/aviation/Aircraft/drones--unmanned-aircraft/>
 - Restricted areas (including e.g. nature reserves) are indicated on this drone chart: <https://daim.lfv.se/echarts/dronechart/#>
 - Information on application for permits can be found here: <https://transportstyrelsen.se/en/aviation/Aircraft/drones--unmanned-aircraft/apply-for-a-permit-to-fly-unmanned-aircraft---drones/>

Safety related permits

- Weapon
 - You can only bring a firearm to Sweden for the purpose of hunting and competition shooting and you need a permit for this: <https://polisen.se/en/laws-and-regulations/firearms/temporary-import/>
- Radio permits
 - Emergency transmitters on 406 MHz and 121,5 MHz are exempted from licensing. Therefore an individual radio license for such transmitter is no longer required, but there is still a requirement to register the beacon. The point of contact for beacon matters (coding, registration and type approval) for PLBs is the Swedish Maritime Administration (<https://www.sjofartsverket.se/en/Quick-links/Contact-Us/>, email: sjofartsverket@sjofartsverket.se)

Regional/local level permits (if clicked, permit information folds out)

- On land where a Sami village has the reindeer grazing rights, the local Sami village can veto research activities. This is especially sensitive for calving grounds and summer grazing lands, i.e. in the mountain areas.
- In the Abisko area, the Regional county board of Norrbotten will contact the Sami village before giving any approval (email: norrbotten@lansstyrelsen.se).
- This process may be simplified if you contact the Sami village directly, well beforehand. In the Abisko area, there are three Sami villages (Laevas, Gabna, and Talma) all with their own respective lands.

Additional information of relevance

- The Swedish Polar Research Secretariat is a government agency that promotes and coordinates Swedish Polar research – <https://polar.se/en/>
- In general, you can ask the different organizations and agencies questions in English, but most permitting is to be done in Swedish. This means that you may need a Swedish partner to help out.
- Note that the permitting processes can take quite a long time!