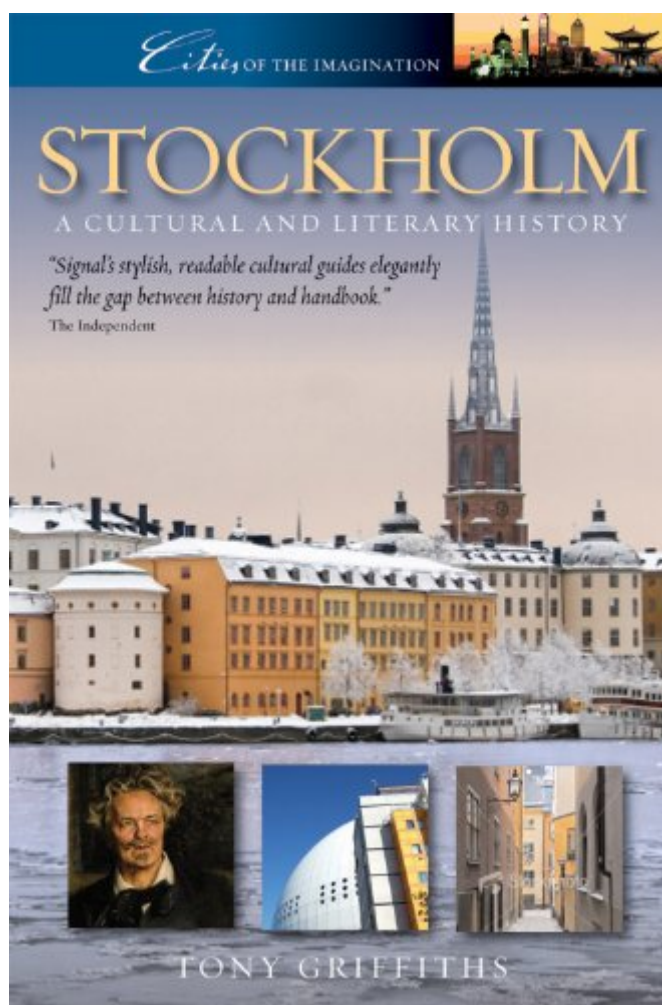


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# Stockholm: A Cultural And Literary History (Cities Of The Imagination Book 35)



## Synopsis

Situated on Lake Malaren on one of the world's most beautiful harbours, Stockholm has set the benchmark for civilized city-living since the time of the Vikings. Its medieval regal period saw the Vasa dynasty turn a small town in the shadow of Uppsala into the capital city of a dominant power in Europe and a major trading port. In the Napoleonic era Stockholm readjusted its priorities to establish itself as a centre of innovation, technical and social. While the city has suffered more than its fair share of disasters, Stockholm's cultural and commercial elite transformed it into a community which welcomed innovation and spread the fruits of its achievements far beyond its borders. From its celebrated Old Town, dating from the Middle Ages, to its Art Nouveau and modern quarters, Stockholm is a city rich in museums, theatres and landmarks. Tony Griffiths explores the Swedish capital, old and new, revealing a city of unexpected contradictions. CITY OF POWER, INTRIGUE AND MURDER: Gustav Vasa, Queen Christina and Voltaire; murder at a Masked Ball, Olaf Palme's assassination; Lindh, social democracy and armed neutrality; the rights of women and the impact of immigration CITY OF SCIENTISTS AND INVENTORS: Linnaeus and Nobel; Ericsson and new technology; Laval, Wenner-Gren and Kamprad. SENSUAL CITY: Strindberg, Greta Garbo, Ingrid and Ingmar Bergman; sculptors and painters; home of the smorgasbord; the church, lust and the alcohol monopoly.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A beautifully written book. A fundamental, endearing profile of the city in all its many shades. An in-depth study of the origins of the Swedish nation and its people, the forming of its character, and the traits that have gone into weaving their culture and achievements.

There has been a huge amount of recent interest in the capital city of Sweden, most notably the slick presentation by the City of Stockholm itself in the form of one of the most imaginative www presentations I have seen, on [...]. This advertisement for the iPad, as well as the City, figures two very twenty-first century, Swedes doing miraculous things with digital technology in the interest of puffing Stockholm as the Capital of Scandinavia. It is not. It is the capital of Sweden. Tony Griffiths in Stockholm OUP New York has shown brilliantly why this piece of aggrandizement is unpleasant, unwelcome and unnecessary, not just to Danes and Norwegians and Swedish speaking Finns, but to those outside Scandinavia who are impressed by the social democratic egalitarianism of the robustly inventive Swedes. Wikipedia has recognized the importance of the OUP New York Stockholm, and signalled out the relevance of the author's comments on the Stockholm Bloodbath, on which he is an expert. Pity the City Fathers of the Town itself do not stop the misleading puffing of a major city in Europe. Stockholm does not need it. From Ikea at Kunens Kurva to the Nobel Museum in the Old Town, there are hundreds of reasons for stopping exaggerated over-selling. So if you want to know why President Obama won an unlikely Nobel Peace prize, and why it was handed out in Oslo (if Stockholm is the capital of region) read this OUP beauty, as yet born to blush unseen.

An extremely poorly researched and even proof read book, full of mistakes and prejudices on the part of the author. Absolutely nothing for the traveller who has not yet been to Stockholm. The only use I can think of for this book is for laughs once you know the city. I actually suggested the Stockholm Public Library take it off its shelves.

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