

Sweden 2025 Smofcon Questionnaire

Questionnaire

General

Name of Convention?
SMOFcon 42

What dates will your convention run?
Probably the first weekend in December 2025, 5-7 December.

What is your proposed convention host city?
Stockholm

Is your convention site in a city center location or a suburb? If a suburb, what are the transport options into the city center? How far is the site from the city center?
The site is in Sickla, an inner Stockholm suburb. Several busses and a tram line provide good connectivity to the city center. The bus from Slussen, a major city center hub, takes about 6 minutes. Both the busses and the tram run frequently.

What are your main facilities? How far are your hotels from your main venue?
The convention venue is Dieselverkstaden <https://www.nacka.se/valfard-samhallsservice/kulturhusetdieselverkstaden/om-dieselverkstaden/>

The main hotel is a 2 minutes walk from the venue.

Who is your convention chair?
Carolina Gómez Lagerlöf

Who is on your committee?
Tomas Cronholm, Britt-Louise Viklund, Shana Worthen, Ann Olsson Rousset, Marika, Nina Grensjö, Saga Bolund, Timothy Johansson

What experience do they have in general?
Some of the committee have been organizing conventions for more than 20 years, others have been conrunners for about 5 years. The committee has experience of running Eurocons, Swecons and Worldcons.

What experience do they have in running (insert appropriate convention here, i.e. Worldcons/NASFiCs/Smofcons)?
Shana Worthen and Carolina Gómez Lagerlöf have experience of being DH or AH from Loncon 3, Worldcon 75, Chicon 8, Glasgow 2024 and other worldcons.

If applicable, have you agreed to participate in Pass-Along-Funds? Would you be willing to increase the percentage from 50% to 70%?

What is the sponsoring organization?

Not applicable.

Is the sponsoring organization a 501(c)(3) or otherwise a non-profit? If not a 501(c)(3) but a non-profit, please explain.

Not applicable.

Is the sponsoring organization tax-exempt for local taxes, especially sales tax?

Not applicable.

What is your website and/or Facebook group?

We do not have a website yet.

Who should people contact for additional information or questions (email preferred)?

Carolina Gómez Lagerlöf cgomez66@hotmail.com

Travel

What is the typical current airfare to your closest airport from world cities such as London, Boston, Los Angeles, Tokyo, Melbourne, etc.?

It is still two years to 2025 so the airfare will change. Here are some example for a round trip:

Stockholm to London: 200 Euros

Stockholm to Boston: 500 Euros

Stockholm to Los Angeles: 800 Euros

Do international flights, as well as domestic, fly into your local airport?

Yes, Arlanda is the closest airport. It is an international airport.

Which airlines? If not, where is the closest international airport?

Here are a list of airlines that flies to/from Arlanda

<https://www.swedavia.se/arlanda/flygbolag/>

Are direct flights from the cities above flown into your local airport?

There are multiple daily direct flights between London and Arlanda. Here are the other cities which currently have direct flights to/from Arlanda:

<https://www.swedavia.com/arlanda/destinations2/>

London, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Reykjavik, and New York City are some of the major hubs where travellers may need to change otherwise.

How far is your convention site from the nearest airport/train station and what is the likely cost of getting to the hotels by both public transport, shared ride service (Lyft/Uber/etc.), and taxi from that airport/train station?

Bus from Arlanda to the central bus station: 100 SEK
Arlanda Express to the central train station: 320 SEK
Bus or metro from Central station: 50 SEK
Taxi from Arlanda to hotel: 600 SEK

What is the visa situation for citizens of foreign countries to attend your convention?
What countries are eligible for ESTAs (Electronic Travel Authorizations which are generally a formality)? What countries would require visas? How long does it normally take to get a visa, and what does it cost?

If you are in the EU there is no need for visa.

Travelers from the following countries need visa to be able to get into Sweden:

<https://www.regeringen.se/regeringens-politik/migration-och-asyll/lander-och-territorier-vars-medborgare-behover-visum-for-inresa-i-sverige/>

Here is information about visa requirements:

<https://www.swedenabroad.se/en/about-sweden-non-swedish-citizens/>

Facilities

What hotel(s) are being used for the convention?

The nearest hotel is Clarion Collection Tapetfabriken

<https://www.strawberry.se/hotell/sverige/stockholm/clarion-collection-hotel-tapetfabriken/>

How many rooms, what type, accessibility issues, etc.?

236 rooms

There are accessible rooms

What are your hotel room rates?

Currently, they are around 1200 SEK/night.

Many other hotels and hostels are available a short trip away.

Do these rates include breakfast?

The rates include both breakfast and dinner.

Do they include internet access in the room?

Yes

How firm are these rates?

It is too early to have firm rates.

What additional taxes and fees are there?

No additional taxes.

What does parking cost at your main hotel and/or convention center?

Do you have a signed (contingent) contract or letter of intent specifying the above?
No

What is the distance from the nearest door of your main hotel(s) to the closest entrance of the convention site?
60 meters, approximately.

What are the transportation options for those who prefer not to walk or who have mobility difficulties?

Where will your large events be held?
We will not have large events.

Please describe the restaurant scene near your site.
There is a shopping centre very close to the venue. There are many restaurants there. The city centre of Stockholm is 10 min away with bus.

What arrangements will be made for evening socializing and party space? Do you have a corkage waiver?
There is no corkage waiver in the venue.
We would like to arrange a visit to a Swedish Christmas Buffet.

Please describe the policies / laws regarding smoking in your hotel(s), convention center, and city.
No smoking is allowed in the venue or restaurants in Sweden.

Miscellaneous

What type of weather can we expect during your convention? What is the average temperature during that time of year?
Rain or snow. Around 0°C.

What are some of the main tourist attractions of your city?
Stockholm has many museums, and tourist attractions. From the Vasa Museum to Skansen's Christmas market, from the Nobel Lights festival to theatrical productions, Stockholm is a major world city with plenty to do.

Are you planning to have any membership discounts for certain demographic groups, such as historically marginalized groups, young adults, seniors, or military?
We intend to offer free entrance for people below 26, if they register in advance.

How do you plan to recruit staff? Will there be a discount membership rate for staff? Do you plan crash space for staff? Etc.
We will recruit staff and volunteers from the Swedish fandom and hopefully from Europe and further afield.

What is your vision for your convention?

To create an engaging convention for conrunners which gives people from different countries many and varied opportunities to get to know each other. (Also, a chance to enjoy the holiday season with our fellow international conrunners!)

How do you plan to make it happen?

Stockholm has never hosted SMOFcon before, but we have a solid and engaged fandom ready to make this happen. Between our international network of fellow convention runners, our local fandom resources, and the coziness of Stockholm's December events, all delivered in a venue we've used many times before for local conventions, we expect to be able to deliver this convention to the global SMOF community.

What is a notable aspect of your local fan culture and how do you plan to incorporate it into your convention?

We'd like to invite all of you to join us for a traditional Swedish Christmas meal, a julbord.

Do you have a code of conduct? If so, is it available online and if so, where?

Yes, it should be about the same as for the Swecons.

What do diversity and inclusion mean to you?

By making our convention very affordable - and free to those under 26 who register in advance - we hope to attract a diverse range of attendees who might otherwise be unable to afford the price or the distance to travel to attend more distant SMOFcons. Inclusion means actively incorporating a wide variety of perspectives in our programming and related activities.

How are you working towards your goals in these areas?

What would concrete achievements look like in these areas?

By keeping the price low and making sure our program team is conscious of including a wide variety of perspectives in their programming.

What are your plans, if any, regarding handling the COVID-19 pandemic?

We follow the recommendations that the hotel and the Public Health authority have.

Have you planned for a virtual component to your convention?

No. Some program items may be streamed.

If applicable, are you prepared to run a site selection process should it be required?

Yes, for future SMOFcons.

If applicable, how do you plan to facilitate the Hugo Finalists input to your convention?

Is there anything else you wish to add?

We look forward to welcoming you to Stockholm!

