Invitation to the Nordic Congress in Stockholm 17-19 September 2025 Today's and tomorrow's cemeteries

History – Demography – Individual ceremonies – Religion and culture Ethics and values

Welcome to participate in NFKK's congress, which this year will be held in Stockholm at the Clarion Sign hotel. Five minutes walk from the Arlanda Express and Stockholm Central Station.

Representatives and lecturers from the Nordic countries present similarities and differences in how we manage the funeral business. How do we deal with and relate to death? What does it mean to rationalize away the actual ending? Who decides? Individually or together with other relatives? Freedom versus rules. How can we best meet the wishes and needs of the deceased and the closest mourners, while maintaining dignity and ethics?

Stockholm's cemetery administration is showcasing Sweden's most modern and newest cemetery, Järva cemetery. But we also have the opportunity to visit the older traditional Norra begravningsplatsen from 1827.

The conference dinner will be held on Wednesday in the Blue Hall at Stockholm City Hall. On Thursday, dinner will be served at the foot of the Royal ship Vasa.

The cost for three eventful days of lectures, study visits, exhibitors and social gatherings is SEK 6,300 incl. VAT. (after 19/6 7.300 SKR)
Registration can be done, and hotel rooms can be booked at skkf.se/NFKK





Chairman Inghild Hareide Hansen and other members of the Board Nordiska förbundet för kyrkogårdar och krematorier



Wednesday, September 17

09.00-11.00	Registration and coffee, time to visit the exhibitors
11.00-11.30	Opening of the conference Olle Burell, Chairman of the Municipal Executive Board (Mayor of Stockholm) Representative of the Stockholm Cemetery Administration Knut Weibull, Chairman of SKKF Inghild Hareide Hansen, Chairman of NFKK and Cemetery Manager Bergen Ecclesiastical Joint Council
11.30-12.10	The funeral culture in Sweden Retrospect and development over time Monika Sandberg, Landscape Architect
12.10-12.30	Why is it taking so long? Why does Sweden stand out compared to the other Nordic countries when it comes to the long time from death to funeral? Dennis Jansson, vd SKKF
12.30-13.45	LUNCH
13.45-14.25	The funeral culture in the multicultural society Difference between culture and tradition, country and city, reduced influence of tradition, different religions and the more individual expressions Jan-Olof Aggedal, Diocesan Lecturer for Theological Analysis
14.25-14.45	Everyday life at the cemetery and crematorium More and more individual ceremonies and direct cremations. Changes in grave decoration and expectations of cemetery administrations Katarina Evenseth, Senior advisor Gothenburg Funeral Association
14.45-15.15	Coffee break
15.15-16.30	The Nordic countries' perspectives on today's topics Talks and reflections on today's lectures Moderator from Stockholm's cemetery administration
19.30	Conference dinner at Stockholm City Hall In the Blue Hall, where the Nobel Banquet is also held in December

each year



Thursday, September 18

9.00-10.30 New types of cemeteries and burial practices

Nordic landscape architects provide examples and inspiration Rannveig S. Holm, Norway - Anne Virum Skaarup, Denmark Monika Sandberg, Sweden - Anna Margret Sigurdardottir, Iceland

Monica Äijälä, Finland

Moderator Inghild Hareide Hansen

10.30-11.00 Coffee break

11.00-12.00 Cremation activities in the Nordic countries

Each country describes its activities, do the crematoria have a future?

Moderator Elof Westergaard

12.00-13.00 LUNCH

13.00-13.50 Grief processing

Is more knowledge needed about grief, the importance of ritual and

the environment?

Karin Holst-Mikkelsen, landscape architect Jan-Olof Aggedal, researcher and theologian Åse Skrøvset, director of Virke funeral

13.50-14.00 What is ASCE?

Association of Significant Cemeteries of Europe
Sara Carlquist, Landscape Engineer, Deputy Head of
Department Cemetery Administration in Stockholm

Wenche Eriksson, Quality Manager Cemetery Agency Oslo Municipality

14.00-14.30 Coffee break

14.30-15.30 Death rituals of the future

Individualization or community

Dean Jonas Eek

Professor of Sociology of Religion Ida Marie Høeg

Moderator Elof Westergaard

15.30-16.00 Leg stretcher with fruit

16.00-17.00 Presentation of the cemeteries

and information about the study visits

Järva Begravningsplats and Norra begravningsplatsen Representative of the Stockholm cemetery administration

19.00 Dinner at the Royal Ship Vasa



Friday, September 19

08.30 Buses to the study visit depart from Clarion Sign hotel

09.00-12.30 Study visit

to the new multicultural Järva Begravningsplats and to the old and traditional Norra begravningsplatsen

12.30-14.00 LUNCH

including tour of Syrian Orthodox St. Mary Church in Tensta

14.00 The buses go back to the Clarion Sign hotel

The return journey takes 40 - 45 minutes

VISIT A WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Take the opportunity to visit the World Heritage Site Skogskyrkogården

Travel from T-centralen for 15 minutes with the metro's Green line 18 towards Farsta Get off at the stop *Skogskyrkogården*. Walk 5 minutes to the cemetery.

It is possible to "blip" the metro cost with a credit card



On Tuesday 16 September, a guided tour is offered in Swedish and one in English Gathering at the main entrance at 6.30 pm. Advance registration is required The tour takes about 1.5 hours and is included in the conference fee

Good to know

The conference takes place at the Clarion Sign hotel at Östra Järnvägsgatan 35 in Stockholm.

A couple of minutes' walk from Stockholm Central Station and the Arlanda Express.

Conference fee

The conference fee until June 19th is 6,300 SKR per person. After that, the cost is 7,500 SKR. The fee entitles you to participation in the conference, lunches, morning and afternoon coffee, dinner with entertainment and study visits with bus transport.

Registration for the conference is made on SKKF's website, skkf.se/NKFF

The notification is binding but can be transferred to another person.

The last day to register for the regular cost is June 19.

After that, it is possible to register at a cost of 7,500 SEK.

Accommodation

SKKF has blocked hotel rooms at Clarion Sign hotel that *are booked directly to the hotel.* A booking link to Clarion Sign is available on skkf.se/NKFF

The last day to book accommodation at the agreed price is 19 June, after which rooms can be booked subject to availability at the daily rate.

Rooms can be cancelled up to 48 hours before arrival. Cancellations is made directly to the hotel.

Guided tour of the Skogskyrkogården Cemetery World Heritage Site

On 16 September at 6.30 p.m., a guided tour of the Skogskyrkogården Cemetery World Heritage Site will be offered. The tour takes about 1.5 hours and is included in the conference fee. The easiest way to get to the Skogskyrkogården is by metro from T-centralen to the Skogskyrkogården stop, from there it is a 5-minute walk to the cemetery where the guides are waiting before the gates. There will be one guided tour in Swedish and one in English. They resign at the same time.

Conference dinners

Wednesday 17 May – Stockholm City Hall – Optional clothing

Thursday 18 May – Vasamuseet – Preferably comfortable shoes and warmer clothes due to sometimes uneven surfaces and the fact that, for the sake of the wreck, it is always 18 degrees in the premises.

Visit Galärvarvskyrkogården

In conjunction with dinner at the Vasa Museum, we suggest a visit to Cemetery at Galärvarvet located right next to the museum. At 6:00 PM on Thursday, a guide from the Stockholm Cemetery Administration will be on site.

Study visit Friday 19 September

Buses depart at 8.30 from Clarion hotel Sign to Norra begravningsplatsen and to Järva begravningsplats. The conference end with lunch at, and a tour of, the Syriskortodoxa Church S:t Maria in Tensta. The buses go back to the Clarion Sign hotel at 14.00. The journey takes about 45 minutes.

For questions, please contact:

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