Welcome to Stockholm and to Swedish hospitality!
(In order to make use of the many hyperlinks in the text below, you are advised to read it on-screen.)

Travel to Stockholm

Stockholm has a number of airports with international flight connections, Arlanda (ARN), Bromma (BMA) and Skavsta (NYO). Check with your travel agent, or use www.amadeus.net to find out which connection best fits your needs. Depending on your departure place, it might also be advantageous to travel to Stockholm by train (Swedish Railways www.sj.se), by bus, or by ferry across the Baltic. Please, check with your travel agent.

Passport and Visas

Sweden forms part of the Schengen Area. If you are a passport holder of a country listed below, you need to apply for a “Schengen Visa” at the consulate in charge of delivering such visas in your country of residence. Please apply early, obtaining a visa may take several weeks. The following European nationalities require a visa to enter Sweden: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Israel, Moldova, Montenegro, Russian Federation, Serbia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine.

Accommodation, Food and Meeting Venue

The Meeting will take place at the Radisson SAS Royal Park Hotel in the municipality of Solna (Frösundaviks allé 15, phone +46 (0)8 624 55 00, fax +46 (0)8 85 85 66). The hotel is located in Stockholm’s unique National Urban Park, near the 18th century Haga Royal Park and overlooking the bay of Brunnsviken, just 5 km from Stockholm’s city centre and 35 km from Arlanda airport. Find out more here.

Provisional bookings have been made by the organisers for the “Ramsar” meeting participants. The hotel has 193 guest rooms. During the Ramsar Meeting, set lunches and dinners are served in the hotel. Please indicate in your Registration Form, if you have specific dietary requirements. The following prices (including taxes) were arranged for the Ramsar Meeting on arrival Saturday afternoon, May 3 and departure Wednesday after lunch, May 7.

- Single room, all meals included: 7280 SEK
- Twin room/person, all meals included: 4870 SEK

Car parking outside the hotel is free (limited space) and costs 120 SEK/day in the hotel garage. Access to the spa and fitness centre costs 90 SEK.

Please settle your individual hotel bill. The Royal Park Hotel accepts current credit cards.
Currency and Money

The Swedish currency is the crown (kronor) SEK. One Euro is worth about 9.4 SEK. Up-to-date exchange rates are available here. You can buy SEK at exchange desks in the airport, railway station, port and at automatic teller machines (with a credit card) and at exchange offices downtown.

Local Transport to the Hotel

From Arlanda Airport: take the airport coach (flygbussarna) direction Cityterminalen in the centre of Stockholm and get out after about 30 minutes at the second stop Frösunda, approximately 500 m from the hotel. The return fare costs 179 SEK. Tickets can be bought at Arlanda Airport information desks, on board the bus or on-line here. The bus departs every 15 minutes, here is the time table. The organizers will arrange for a free-of-charge shuttle bus between Frösunda and the Radisson SAS Royal Park Hotel. Please indicate in your registration form, if you want to be picked up at Frösunda bus stop.

Taxi from Arlanda Airport to the Radisson SAS Royal Park Hotel takes less than 30 minutes. Prices are fixed, and range from 375 SEK to 495 SEK, depending on the company you use. Taxi 020 offers a fixed price of 375 SEK.

From Bromma and Skavsta Airports: contact Ankie.Malmfors@naturvardsverket.se for further instructions.

From Stockholm city centre (T-centralen railway/metro station): take the Metro green line to Odenplan, where you change to Bus 70 towards Frösundavik. The terminal stop of bus line 70 is in front of the Radisson SAS Royal Park Hotel.

Electricity and Internet Access

Electric current in Sweden is 220 volts AC in 50 cycles. Plugs have two round holes, as in most European countries. Free high-speed wireless Internet access is available throughout the Royal Park Hotel, if you bring your own laptop. Please be advised that the meeting rooms have no electricity plugs to connect individual laptops.

Stockholm - its Weather, Climate and Clothing

The Baltic Sea water is still cold in early May and participants are advised to bring a wind-proof coat and sturdy footwear for the excursion. The average temperature in early May is about 8-12°C, but with great fluctuations. There are dry and rainy periods. More about Stockholm’s attractions, including current weather conditions can be found here.

Excursion

A full day excursion by boat through parts of the Stockholm archipelago is offered to all participants by the Swedish organizers on Tuesday 6 May. Details about the excursion will be provided during the Meeting.

Meeting Documents

Meeting documents will be made available on the Ramsar Convention website here. Please check this place before travelling to Sweden and download the documents you want to have with you. Unfortunately, there will be no possibility to distribute paper copies at the conference venue.
Posters and Exhibitions

Please confirm your intention to exhibit a poster on the attached Registration Form in order that the necessary support panel can be prepared. You are requested to install your poster during Saturday 3 May 2007 before the opening of the Meeting, and to take it down on Wednesday 7 May after the closing of the Meeting.

Insurance

Please make sure that you have adequate individual health, accident and travel risk insurance cover, this will not be covered by the organisers.

Further Questions and Help

Should you need additional information or advice, please contact either Ms Ankie Malmfors (Ankie.Malmfors@naturvardsverket.se, +46 8 698 11 08) at the Swedish Environment Protection Agency or Ms Monica Zavagli at the Ramsar Secretariat (Europe@ramsar.org, office telephone +41 22 999 01 78, mobile telephone +41 79 290 26 25)

REGISTRATION

1) Please fill in the attached Registration Form and e-mail it to Europe@ramsar.org by 1 April 2008 the latest.

2) Please book your hotel room directly with the Radisson SAS Royal Park Hotel (mentioning the “Ramsar Meeting”) at reservation.royalpark@radissonsas.com also until 1 April 2008 the latest. Thanks.

Ramsar Sponsored Delegates

Thanks to generous voluntary contributions from the Swedish International Development Agency, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety and the Star Alliance Biosphere Connections, the Ramsar Secretariat is in a position to cover the travel and accommodation costs of a limited number of participants representing the following eligible countries (figuring in the OEDC-DAC List of ODA recipients): Moldova, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Croatia, Turkey.

If you request such financial support, please fill in the Registration Form and send it to Ms Monica Zavagli (Europe@ramsar.org) by 1 March 2008 the latest.