



THE METAPHOR FESTIVAL SOCIAL PROGRAM

Welcome to the Stockholm 2011 Metaphor Festival. This year's festival will have *two free events*: we're repeating the runic excursion from last year, as well as offering a new attraction: a guided tour of the Old Town!

Let's begin by going back a thousand years in time, to the period when the rune-masters were creating the stone monuments we will be seeing on Saturday. At that point, Stockholm didn't even exist as more than a hamlet. But the land rose (shaking off the effects of the most recent glacial ice sheets), and by 1300, the channel between Lake Mälaren and the Baltic was narrow enough to pinch off for customs and military purposes, and the Old Town had been founded...

Wednesday, Sept. 7: *The Old Town (5 pm)*

- If you are arriving early and wish to see the campus and library, Pre-Registration opens at 12, at the Department of English (House E, 8th floor). At 4:20 pm, we will guide you from the University to the *T-bana* (subway/underground) and on to the Old Town, where your guide will await you.
- If you wish to join the tour directly from your hotel, be at the central square (*Stortorget*) of the Old Town, outside the Nobel Museum, no later than 4: 50 pm.
- The actual tour, which is a free walking tour with our guide, will take about 90 minutes; comfortable walking shoes are advised, as the streets are mostly cobblestone.

Saturday, Sept. 10: *The Runic Excursion (post-reception)*

- After the (highly informal) post-Festival reception, we'll rendezvous in the parking lot, after which it's off to Täby, some 10 miles to the north. We'll work our way around Lake Vallentuna (look it up on Google Maps!), making a half-dozen stops showing the local history from roughly 950 to 1100 AD, including an English connection via the Danegeld!
- Bring comfortable walking shoes; the runes are all within 200 m of the road, but it can be wet.
- We'll provide you with English translations for all the stones, so no knowledge of (Old) Swedish is required.
- The tour is free, and will take some 2 hours, so you'll be back in time for whatever festivities you have planned for on Saturday night!