

# Welcome to Sigtuna – the first town in Sweden!

The town of Sigtuna dates back to the 970s when it was founded by Eric the Victorious, making it the oldest town in Sweden still in existence today. The first Swedish coins were struck here around 995. The street network, church ruins, and abbey all date back to medieval times. The town is also home to a beautiful 18th-century town hall, low wooden buildings from the 19th century, and leafy gardens from the turn of the 20th century.

### THINGS TO SEE

# 1. Drakegården House

The beautiful Drakegården House, dating back to the 18th century, has served as both a tavern and a private residence. The lovely garden is open to the public.

# 2. Sigtuna Town Hall

The little town hall in Stora Torget is Sweden's smallest. Built in the mid-18th century, it housed a council chamber and a prison. In the chamber, decisions were made on big and small matters. Today, it is part of the Sigtuna Museum and a popular wedding venue.

### 3. Örtagården Herb Garden

The little Örtagården—or herb garden—was established in memory of the brothers who worked at the Dominican Convent in Sigtuna during the Middle Ages, honoring their knowledge of cultivation and medicinal plants.

# 4. St. Mary's Church

St. Mary's Church is the oldest brick building in the Mälaren Valley. It was constructed by Dominican brothers in the 13th century and served as an abbey until the Reformation in the 1530s. Today, it functions as a parish church and is open to visitors daily.

### 5. St. Olof Church Ruins

The ruins of St. Olof Church are one of three preserved medieval church ruins in Sigtuna. Remains of walls beneath the church suggest that an even older church once stood here. It is believed that the church was built around the turn of the 12th century.

### 6. St. Lars Church Ruins

Ruins from the mediaeval church for the Sigtuna town parish. Like other stone churches in the area, it was in use up until the reformation, and then left to decay.

# 7. Belfry

The wooden belfry from 1608 was completely destroyed by a fire in 2016. It has since been rebuilt based on old drawings and plans.

### 8. St. Pers Church Ruins

Ruins of a mediaeval church built around the year 1100, most likely by the king.

# 9. Sigtuna Museum (i)



Sigtuna Museum is located in the center of town, likely on the site of the first royal estate. The museum features a unique collection of archaeological treasures from the late Viking Age and the early medieval period. The **Sigtuna Tourist Office** is also situated at the museum, where you can find information and purchase souvenirs.

# 10. Sigtuna Culture House – Plåt Pelle's House

This beautiful culture house was designed by Evert Milles in 1917. Art and handicraft exhibitions are put on display here.

### 11. Lundström Family Home

In this middle-class family home, time has stood still since the turn of the 20th century. This is where the Lundström family lived and ran their "godtköpshandel"—a shop where you could buy everything from fabrics to groceries. The home is part of the Sigtuna Museum.

### 12. Tant Brun's Coffee House

This traditional café is close to world famous. It is situated in the oldest wooden house in Sigtuna. Here you can find newly baked bread and a wide variety of sandwiches and pastries. Tant Bruns Kaffestuga is one of the oldest cafés in Sweden and offers a unique historic setting, with a cosy garden.

# 13. The Sigtuna Foundation

The Sigtuna Foundation was established by Manfred Björkquist around 1910 and has long served as a cultural and spiritual meeting place with a diverse program. It hosts talks by authors, lectures, musical performances, and much more. Additionally, the Sigtuna Foundation houses a library with a substantial press archive.

# Rune stones

Our runic inscriptions are the oldest in the Swedish language and no other town boasts as many as Sigtuna. You can find ten complete stones and around twenty fragments. The rune stones were erected in the 11th century in memory of relatives.





FOR MORE INFORMATION destinationsigtuna.se/en/

#### Stora Gatan Street

Stora Gatan is the oldest preserved street in Sweden. The original street lies hidden beneath thick layers of debris, some of which are as deep as three meters below the current surface. Stora Gatan served as the backbone of the medieval settlement's town plan—a plan whose traces we can still see today. Here, you'll find unique shopping options as well as many restaurants and cafés.

• • • • • Walkway

# **NEARBY**

# Viby Village

Just a few kilometers outside of Sigtuna lies the old crofter village of Viby. Viby is an unchanged klungby, meaning the houses are spread out in a disorganized manner. The village looks almost the same as it did two hundred years ago when it was inhabited by tenant crofters under the Wenngarn royal estate. Today, Viby is a nationally listed site.

# Wenngarn Castle

Wenngarn Castle has a long and storied history. The current building was designed by Magnus Gabriel De la Gardie in the 17th century and retains many features from that era, including a unique chapel that is one of the best-preserved castle chapels from the time of the Swedish Empire.