

Stockholm blues fest

Feeling Inspired Sweden
Movements Stockholm
Enjoy
Walking Bottleneck Joe Water
Creativity Sauna
Nature Queen Josephine Retreat
Camping Fun Active Adventure
Open-minded Bastu Participation
Forest Atmosphere Joyss Fika Safe-space Sharing Relax
Dance Food
The blues trail Improvisation Contact
Nick & Ilaria
Tasters Community
Roots Welcome
Party Earth

Tvetagården general info

Tvetagården is a family run hostel a short bus ride from Södertälje just south of Stockholm. It is located next to a lake and forest. For the weekend we have hired the entire hostel, along with two other buildings for dancing, meals and sauna.

Meals during the day are included and will be prepared by our kitchen team. During the evening social events there will be a cafe where you can enjoy fika.

Homepage for Tvetagården:
<http://tvetagarden.nu/>

What to bring

- ♥ Sheets and towels. The hostel does have some you can rent, though they cost 200 sek. (via cash only)
- ♥ Your water bottle to keep you hydrated. We are trying to reduce unnecessary environmental waste and will not have plastic cups at the event.
- ♥ Changes of clothes!
- ♥ Dance shoes (or socks!) Furthermore, there might be outdoor classes if the weather allows it, so comfortable shoes might be a good idea!
- ♥ Snacks - we will have fika, but the nearest shop is 5 km away
- ♥ Swim gear
- ♥ Mosquito repellent... They have awoken!
- ♥ Instruments if you want to jam
- ♥ Want to be DJ in the cafe? Bring your device and a downloaded list! There will be no wifi in the main stage and cafe.
- ♥ Swedish cash for ordering pizza on Sunday or travelling back to the after-party
- ♥ and if camping... don't forget your tent!
- ♥ A community spirit and willingness to help! We need everyone to do some small tasks during the weekend to keep things running smoothly.

Schedule

Registrations will be open from 1pm on Thursday.

This long weekend at Tvetagården also offers the opportunity to enjoy the surrounding nature, lake, and (of course) sauna. Bring your swim gear, instruments if you want to jam, and inspiration for your own workshop or skills-share.

The event at Tvetagården closes at 5pm Sunday. But there will be an After-party in town at the studio of the Swedish Swing Society at Odengatan 89.

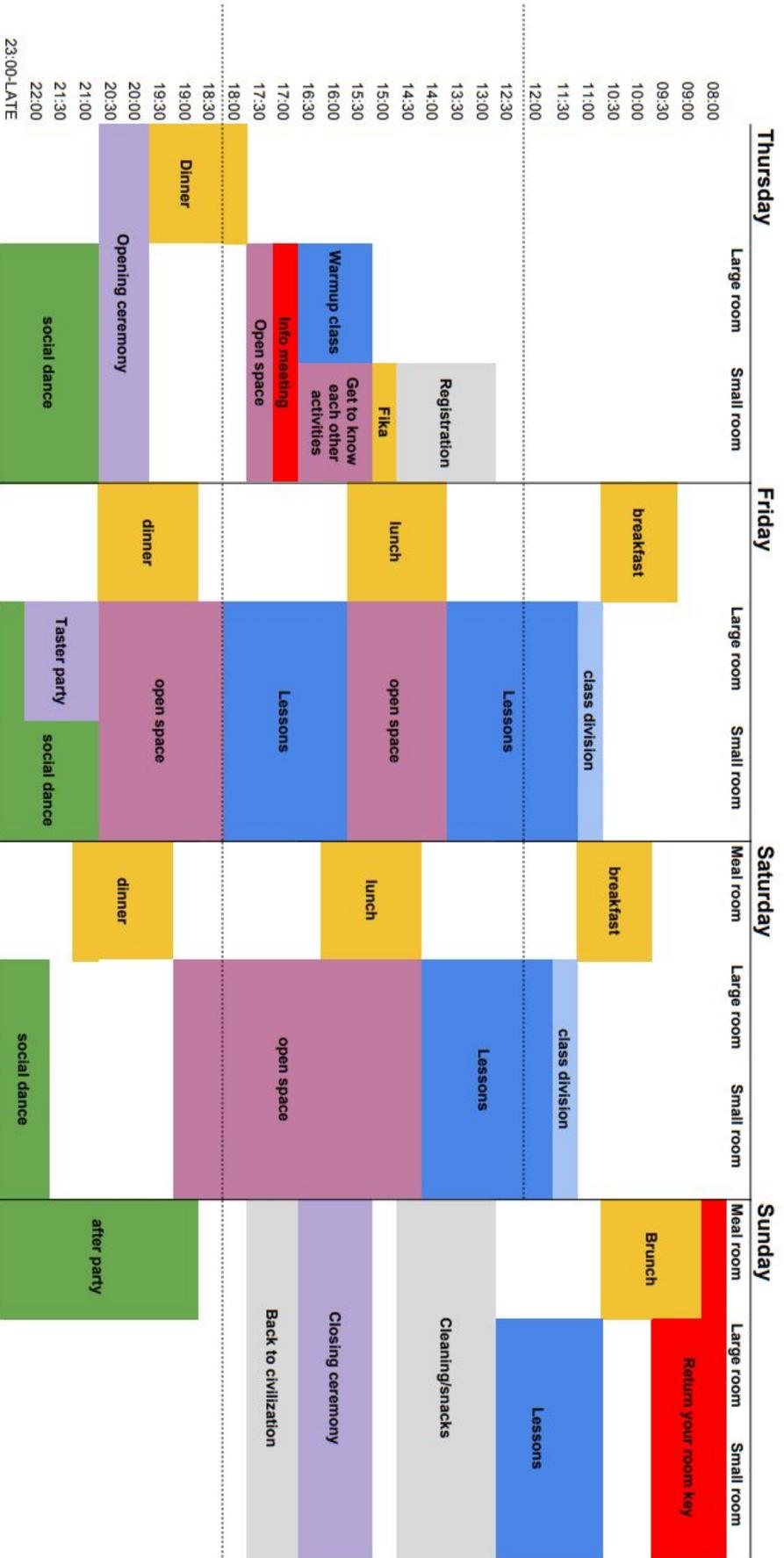
A rough schedule to give you a picture of the marvellous delights we will be creating together during the weekend can be found on the next page. The full and more detailed schedule will be available at the event.

Workshops and skill-share

Are you interested in holding your own skills-share or workshop? We can give you the time and space to do so. You don't have to make your mind up now, just let us know when you arrive.

The After-party

We will journey back to civilization for one final party on Sunday evening at the studio of the Swedish Swing Society which is located centrally at Odengatan 89 in Stockholm. You can reach the studio easily via metro (T for "Tunnelbana"), commuter train (Pendeltåg) or bus at the station "Odenplan". We will have also some of the organizers going together with you as guides.



Teachers

Nick & Ilaria Nick and Ilaria are a cool London based blues dance duo. They love the way that blues celebrates human nature and is able to bring people together by giving them a medium to express their true selves. Ilaria is a caring teacher who encourages personal expression by not only explaining fundamental techniques to her students, but also providing the tools to let people connect to different partners and forms of blues music.

Nick is a science teacher by day and dance teacher by night. He loves finding out exactly how things work which means he is perfectly poised to break down techniques and moves in a simple and logical manner. During the last 5 years, Nick and Ilaria greatly contributed to the London blues scene, teaching and performing with the Down & Outs Troupe. They are well known as regulars on the European blues circuit, bringing energy to the social floors, winning competitions and performing.

They have also taught at over 20 international festivals all over Europe, from St. Petersburg to Valencia. More recently Nick and Ilaria have begun to experience the American blues dance floors, expanding their knowledge of the blues as a musical representation of the African American culture.

Jean-Charles Joys is a Blues, Jazz, Contemporary, Swing and Hip Hop professional dancer. He took acting classes at the school of art “la Comète” in Paris.

As a swing dancer, he won 1st place at the Solo jazz Contest at Paris Jazz Roots Festival 2015, and the 1st place in the Solo Charleston contest at ILHC 2015. Touring and teaching all over the world he is one of the most surprising and versatile solo dancers from the worldwide swing scene.

In his classes he emphasizes improving his students movements by teaching them how to better understand their own bodies. To work with your own body movements will help you grow as a dancer, because it fosters your coordination, balance and expression which in turn helps you improve your musicality and capacity for improvisation, to never lose the pleasure of learning – skills absolutely crucial for partner dancing.

Live artists

Bottleneck John plays ol'timey blues, hokum & spirituals with the roots deep, deep down in the 1920/30's Mississippi delta. Music that's intense, sometimes raw but also laidback and emotional.

A journey with songs of legends such as Robert Johnson, Leadbelly, Son House, Charley Patton, Bukka White, Blind Willie Johnson, as well as his own material in this traditional genre. Simply blues like it sounded long ago, one voice and acoustic instruments, a foot pounding out the beat on the floor replaces the drums.

BJ has played all over Europe at clubs and festivals from Norwegian Lofoten in the north down to Tropea in southern Italy. Also tours in the United States and the classic King Biscuit Blues Festival in Helena, Arkansas!

Queen Josephine & the Blues Trail is a Malmö-based blues band formed in 1997. The band mostly tours southern Sweden, but has also entertained audiences in Gothenburg and Stockholm. With their line-up of vocalist, piano/harmonica, guitar, bass and drums, they play blues music with roots in Chicago, as well as other songs that strike a chord with them. They take inspiration from Sonny Boy Williamson (II), Little Walter, Freddie King and a number of other artists.

They have passed along the following message to us:

We had the pleasure of performing at your anniversary party in Nalen, Stockholm last September. It was such a great night! Before that, we have been to Stockholm at your request a couple of times. It is so inspiring to see your devotion and your skills on the dance floor. We look forward to seeing you again!

There is **no dress-code for the parties**, so come as you feel best!

Chores

Just as last year, during this camp everyone will have to pitch in a bit to make it work - both during the event, and in the end clean up. To make this as fair and easy as we possibly can, we have made groups as listed below. When you arrive at the camp you will be expected to sign up for one of these at registration, but you might want to look at the group descriptions now, and think about what responsibility you would prefer. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us - we'll answer as best we can, and will do our best to make everything work.

Kitchen vigilante sidekick / Köksuperkompis – Group A

During these few days, the kitchen will be a core hub for the health and happiness of our retreat. This is where the food will be made, served, and eaten. We have our brilliant food team, but they still need your support! To make it flow, we will need a kitchen helper group. This is the biggest and most important of all our groups! Show up in time, give a smile to the team, and help us make it flow!

Sauna soakers / Bastubadarna – Group B

As we have a Sauna, obviously we need to take care of it as well! As one of the Sauna soakers, you are expected to make sure the Sauna is clean, safe and nice. Everyone who uses the Sauna is expected to make sure it is clean after they leave it, your job is to make sure people follow this rule, maybe do an extra freshening clean-up, and also make sure all the facilities at the same floor – the changing rooms, the showers, the toilets – are clean. All members of the group will have one night where they are responsible to make sure that the Sauna is turned off and cleaned up. Perfect for Sauna lovers!

Cool in the Café – Group C

Coffee, tea, cookies, snacks, soda or anything else inherent to a fika, someone needs to make sure everything is there. As part of the café-team, you make sure the café is nice and that everything works out during the evenings! There will be a separate roster for you to fill in, but this is a team effort – make sure everything works out! Especially good group for those who likes to take a break from the dancing for a while, and might as well do something during the break!

Dance floor ablers – Group D

Yet another core duty: making sure the dancing floors actually are danceable. This group is responsible for making sure the floors are nice before the classes start every day, and before the party starts every night. To make this as easy as possible, this group is split into three teams, which are each responsible for one evening and one morning. This means that your team will have to decide to either stay up until the end of the party, or wake up early. If you don't mind having to work a bit in uncomfortable times of the day and not having to bother with working otherwise, this is the group for you!

Entrance troupe – Group E

We will enter and exit the buildings a lot during this weekend. Your work will be to make sure the entrances look ok, and not too much dirt enters the buildings – especially the Bäckstugan, where the dancing is, and Kamratstugan, where we eat. This will generally mean to keep an eye on the entrances, and make an easy, quick, bit of clean up from time to time.

After-Party - Group X

If you want to dance without any extra tasks the whole weekend but are ready to help out at the end when everyone is tired, this is a task for you. We need people on the cafe, to help setting-up the dance floor and to close it afterwards.

How to reach Tvetagården

By public transport (SL) from Stockholm central

Take SL Commuter train towards **Södertälje**. Jump off at **Södertälje centrum** (the stop after Södertälje hamn). Take the bus **784, 785, 789** for about 10 minutes. They go towards Norrvrå, Mörkö or Vackstanäs. Jump off at **Tvetaberg**. Walk 300 meters in the same direction as the bus goes and turn right. Walk 150 meters to reach Tvetagården.

It is also possible to take commuter train to **Södertälje hamn** and from there change to train towards **Gnesta**. Then jump off at **Järna** and take the bus **784** or **785** towards Södertälje centrum. Jump off at **Tvetaberg**. Walk 400 meters towards the direction the bus came from and turn right. Walk another 150 meters to reach Tvetagården. This route is different and the buses go in the opposite direction. This route will be about 15 minutes longer than the other one but works fine as well!

See sl.se, reseplanerare.resrobot.se. Search for bus stop **Tvetaberg**.

If coming from Skavsta airport, look at: flygbussarna.se, sormlandstrafiken.se, swebus.se.

By car from Stockholm

The place is called Tvetagårdens vandrarhem and the address is Tvetaberg 35, 15166 Södertälje. Drive E4/E20 towards Helsingborg, Göteborg. Take exit 143 and continue at E20. Drive towards Centrum, keep right and take exit 142. Drive about 180 meters, keep left and in the roundabout take the second exit. You should now drive at Stålhamravägen for 1 km. Take left in the roundabout and follow Tvetavägen for 3 km. Take a right to Stadanvägen and the first right again to reach the parking of Tvetagården.

Code of Conduct

Stockholm Blues retreat is a special event as we all eat, sleep, socialize and dance in the same space.

The community is a very important part of this event and we all help each other make this event enjoyable and safe for everyone. I agree to help out with the duties I sign up for. As we all eat together, I am aware that there are people with allergies and I will do my best to avoid cross contamination of food and will follow instructions of the organizers and volunteers.

I understand that people have different needs and that anyone can need time alone. I am free to seek alone time as well.

General code of conduct

I as a participant

As a participant at any blues dance event organized by Swedish Swing Society I am aware of and **agree to follow** these policies.

Respect on and off dance floor

Our events are spaces **free of discrimination**. I am aware that people of any age, race, gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion or disabilities are welcome.

Mutual respect is important both on and off the dance floor. We respect each other's personal space and understand that everyone has different boundaries. These boundaries can vary from willingness to hug on the dancefloor, to not wanting to dance in close embrace or do dips. I understand that it is important to ask for consent and respect it. I agree **not to overstep or test someone's boundaries** and understand that **doing so continuously can be seen as harassment**. The proper reaction to overstepping a boundary unintentionally is a genuine apology, but I understand that depending on the seriousness of the overstep there may be more severe consequences.

Accepting and declining a dance

I am aware that I have a voice and am **free to say NO in any situation**. I know I can't expect anyone to read my mind. I can say "No, thank you" to a dance. I can say "NO" to physical contact, etc. If I say YES to a dance I am free to dance as many dances as I and the dance partner agree to, but **one dance is standard in our blues events**, and if I want one more, I'm expected to ask for the next dance.

No one owes me a dance and I am aware that anyone can say "No, thank you" to an invitation for a dance, even if I danced with this person before. **I don't expect an explanation** why someone doesn't want to dance with me right now.

Dance safety

After joining the dance floor, I agree to **dance safely** and understand that I am not alone on the dance floor. It is both mine and my partners responsibility to make sure we dance adequately to the space and crowdedness of the dance floor to avoid injuries. I am mindful of the fact that everyone is in different physical health and therefore I will ask for **consent to do dips or lifts**.

Consequences

If anything, uncomfortable or dangerous is happening to me or anyone else at the event **I can ask the organizer team for help**.

I understand and agree that these are important aspects of creating a safer space. I will follow these rules and instructions given by SSS organizers for my own and others' safety.

I understand that if I behave inappropriately, be it against the code of conduct or Swedish law there will be a consequence. These can be in the form of a conversation with an organizer followed by written documentation of this conversation, to being asked to leave an event or being banned from events for a certain period of time. What starts with the conversation about my behaviour may escalate in a ban if I don't change my behaviour.

I understand that not every type of behaviour or problem can be addressed in this code of conduct and **I will use my best judgement to behave in a way that will not make my fellow dancers uncomfortable or put them in danger**.

We as organizers

Are responsible for creating a safe event, but we do not have eyes everywhere – nor do we want to. We will take any complaint seriously and resolve them to our best abilities. The conversations around these complaints will be held in private and will be handled confidentially within the organizing team. We will listen to your wish on how you want the problem handled. We will document the incident.