## Excursion to Birka – Sweden's first city

**Birka** is regarded as Sweden's first city. The Viking City of Birka is situated on the island of Björkö in Lake Mälaren, Birka was one of the most important trading centers for Vikings. On the island you can go strolling in the cultural landscape, join a guided tour of the archaeological fields and visit the Birka Museum. You can also visit the reconstructed Viking village with its typical forges and weaving cabins.

**Boat sightseeing trips** in Stockholm are very popular, as the city is surrounded by lake Mälaren and the ocean (Saltsjön, which is connected to the archipelago & Östersjön). There are many bridges in central Stockholm, here's <u>some inspiration</u> to the boat trip we will have.

## **Program**

| 11.00 | Lunch sandwiches & drinks are handed out                              |
|-------|---|
| 11.10 | Departure from Stockholm University, Svante Arrhenius väg 16A, by bus |
| 12.00 | Boat trip from Rastaholm (map) to Björkö (map) with M/S Tranan        |
| 12.45 | Arrival at Birka - activities in groups:                              |
|       |   |

- Guided tour at Birka (45-60 min, about 1.5 km walk)
- Visit the museum
- Look at the Viking city & boats
- Try out using a replica viking bow and arrow!
- Boat trip to Stockholm snacks will be served, and drinks will be sold!
- 17.00 Arrival at Klara Mälarstrand (<u>map</u>) possible to exit, the boat trip continues around Södermalm and via the <u>Hammarby locks</u> to Nybroviken.
- 18.00 Arrival at Strandvägen (map) final destination

Please sign up which activities you want to join at Birka, to minimize the waiting time.

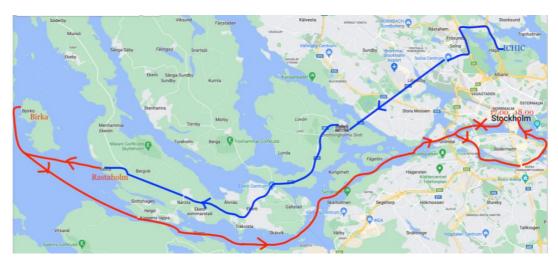
## **Practical details**

You can leave belongings on M/S Tranan\_during the visit at Birka.

You can purchase food and drinks at Birka if you want.

If you need to leave the excursion early, you can rent a <u>taxiboat</u> for the return trip Björkö – Rastaholm, and then take a taxi to the central station or airport.

Remember comfortable shoes & sun screen!



Bus ride in blue, boat ride in red