

Time Out Stockholm, review: <https://www.timeout.com/stockholm/hotels/hotel-rival>

# Hotel Rival

Hotels, Boutique hotels

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Photograph: Courtesy Booking.comHotel Rival

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## Time Out says

Located in the bohemian hipster neighbourhood of Södermalm, Stockholm's first boutique hotel is an essential stop for any ABBA lover

Owned by former ABBA band member Benny Andersson, Hotel Rival is filled with subtle tributes to the world-famous Swedish pop group. All 99 rooms are equipped with a state-of-the-art entertainment system, 32" plasma screen and access to a library of DVD movies and music by—who else?—ABBA.

Plush red velvet sofas, movie and theatrical motifs and tastefully designed lighting give the property a vibe of something between cabaret fun and old school funk. Guests sleep on fine Egyptian linens and choose from a menu of pillows; a self-serve tea and coffee station with access to computers and printers comes in handy throughout the day.

You don't have to be a guest to enjoy the hotel's three bars, which often feature live music, a historic cinema circa 1937 that hosts concerts and events, and a bustling café filled with Persian rugs. Sunday's brunch buffet is one of the most popular in the city and deservedly so—though small by North American standards, you'll taste the love in every bite.

## Neighbourhood

Within Södermalm, Mariatorget is a quiet residential neighbourhood filled with coffee shops, art galleries and bars. It's home to one of Stockholm's best viewpoints,

Monteliusvägen, from where you can see panoramic views of the city hall and old town

### **Nearby**

- 1. Kvarnen:** For fans of Stieg Larsson's Millennium trilogy books, in which this 100-year-old bar is featured.
- 2. Fotografiska:** For enthusiasts of award-winning, contemporary photography.
- 3. Johan & Nyström:** For a caffeine hit at what critics have called one of the world's best coffee shops.

### **Time Out tip**

Ask for a room with a view over the scenic Mariatorget square.

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