

Eriksdalslunden's Gardening Allotment Association

A green oasis between Ringvägen and Årstaviken





The area extends from the Clarion Hotel to the slope of Vickergatan down toward Årstaviken. The gardens are arranged on a southern slope giving a good microclimate for all types of cultivation. Among the botanical sights in the area are Davidia (handkerchief tree), Morus (mulberry), Bamboo, and Magnolia. Peaches are also successfully grown here.

You can reach the area from the Skanstull subway station, the commuter train station Södra Station, or with the bus.



The name “Eriksdal” was first mentioned in a letter to building planners in 1861 when factory owner Erik Silfwerling requested permission for additional buildings to complement the 200-year-old brickwork, Grindsbruk. A part of the brickwork’s area was subsequently used for the City of Stockholm’s waterworks. This is now Eriksdalsbadet.

The area where Folksam is now located was the city's gardens up until the 1930's, where public access was allowed on Sundays. In the greenhouses, one could see palm trees and banana plants, among other things.



At the turn of the century in Stockholm lived a nurse named Anna Lindhagen, who was also a driving spirit. She witnessed depression through her work among the city's poor, and came to the conclusion that being outdoors in the fresh air would strengthen this part of the population. During a visit to Copenhagen, she had seen how the garden allotment community worked. She decided to try to arrange something similar in Stockholm. She was assisted by a fellow enthusiast, bank cashier Anna Åbergsson.

The first areas built were Barnängen (1905) and Eriksdalslunden (1906). The number of interested was so large that the allotments were given out by lottery. This took place at the so-called Tobacco Barn, located near the Eriksdal school's sports field. A large number of fruit trees were also distributed. The barn eventually burned down.



In Eriksdalslunden, people have grown vegetables, flowers, and fruit since the association was founded in 1906. The garden allotments are an oasis for all of the city's inhabitants, as much for those inside the fence as outside.



Visitors and guests from many other countries marvel and admire the city's positive attitude toward having something such as this inside the city. People take a stroll, jog, bike or walk their dogs in the area, while enjoying the vegetation. It is very calming and important area for the city's population, where one can de-stress from the high tempo of the day. We hope that our politicians will let this all-important and health-giving oasis continue to survive.

The city of Stockholm leases out the land to the association, who in turn grants lots to its members. Those with lots pay a yearly rent to the association for common concerns such as garbage collection, water, toilets and administration.

The cottages can be as large as 14m², with up to a 6m² porch and a 3m² storage building. The board reviews all construction matters before going to the City Museum and City Planning Office for approval.

Today the association has 142 lots, divided into 6 additions: Ängshagen, Silfwerlings hage, Strandhagen, Linhagen, Tobakshagen and Tullhagen (see map). Our goal is to, if possible, protect the area's original character of the allotments, but unfortunately the older cottages are often in very bad condition.



The association and the city have an agreement on the maintenance of the allotments and buildings. Each person manages the fence around their allotment as well as scraping and painting, and changing



out things that are broken (provided by the association). Each makes sure that the walkway outside is shoveled and raked, trees are trimmed back so that neighbors are not in the shadows, and that some form of cultivation is ongoing, etc.

The ground around our gardens are cared for by the association, together with the city, through a general agreement. We do spring-cleaning, nature conservation through the thinning of undergrowth, clearing meadow areas and planting. We provide our bird and bat friends with nesting-boxes. Fallen trees may remain for insects and butterflies. This is to promote the biological diversity in the area and safeguard the wildlife.



Naturally, we also want to promote good cooperation between all those with allotments and the association, which is why we gather our members in August for a summer party with good food and music where all can exchange experiences, cultivating tips and more.

Would you like to have an allotment? Register your interest on our website or write to us. The registration fee is currently 150 SEK and can be paid to bankgiro 622-7177. When you have paid your fee, you are registered in our queue. Your time in the queue counts from the date the payment is registered in our account.

The yearly fee is then 100 SEK. The registration fee counts for the first year. Payment is taken per calendar year. All cottages are sold through the association and prior option applies. This means

that trained appraisers set the price based on a valuation done with the City of Stockholm and the FSSK (our head organization for the Stockholm area) approved price list. There is a turnover of around 1 to 3 cottages per year and the queue is now around 650.



Eriksdalslundens Kolonimuseum

In what is probably Stockholm's smallest museum, we have information about the following:

- A look back through history of the southern Södermalm area.
- Pioneers Anna Lindhagen and Anna Åbergsson.
- Eriksdalslundens allotment association from its beginning in 1906 through today.
- The history of the cultivation of tobacco on Södermalm.
- Additional exhibits with a connection to allotment life.

The exhibition is for everyone and is open on weekends during the summer period.

The Allotment Museum is in Tobakshagen between lots 83 and 85. See map.



Eriksdalslundens koloniträdgårdsförening

SÖDERSJUKHUSET +

GÖTGATAN
RINGVÄGEN
SKANSTULL
GULLMARSPLAN

