

SWEDEN

Stockholm, a new frontier of sustainability

by Alessandro Gandolfi



Stockholm (Sweden), an aerial view of the Royal Stockholm Seaport between the Royal National Park and Gasverket.

Stockholm (Sweden), Daniel Molina (left) and Solomon Mesfin (while talking with a colleague) in the control center at Hammarbyverket, the power plant with the world's largest heat pump installation. By extracting heat from wastewater, Hammarbyverket heats more than 100,000 apartments in the city.



The Royal Seaport neighborhood in Stockholm is expected to become one of Europe's largest innovative urban developments

The Royal Seaport neighborhood in northern Stockholm, Sweden is expected to become one of Europe's largest innovative urban developments, counting 12,000 new homes and 35,000 workplaces, covering an area of over 236 hectares (583 acres). As climate change is felt around the globe, homes are said to be responsible for about 40% of the global carbon dioxide emissions causing it. In the past few years, the European Union has begun facilitating a transition to "greener" homes in order to improve the way in which member states construct and operate their buildings. Everybody has had to chip in and do their bit. But housing crises in large cities like New York, London and Milan are prompting local authorities to look for quick solutions rather than contributing to a long-term transition. According to a 2018 United Nations report, by 2050, two out of every three people will be living in cities, adding

pressure on already strained urban systems. From a technical point of view, the knowledge needed to make new energy-efficient homes that do not contribute to climate change, while meeting the increasing demand for housing, is available to decision-makers around the world. And yet, making this transition comes with substantial economic costs and requires planning with a long-term vision. Lawmakers, city planners, and citizens are grappling with recurring questions: Where will it be feasible to build large-scale sustainable housing? Who will be able to afford to live in it? And what does "sustainable" actually mean? Stockholm is trying to find some answers.

This work is part of a project on the eco-efficiency of housing carried out in collaboration with the European Climate Foundation.



Stockholm (Sweden), a group of mothers meet up in the afternoon and get some exercise together in a park in the Stockholm Royal Seaport district.



Stockholm (Sweden), renovation work at one of two "gasverkets," which used to store gas and will soon become a hotel and concert venue in the heart of the Stockholm Royal Seaport district.



Stockholm (Sweden), a girl trains by climbing at Klätterverket, which is located in an old industrial building in the heart of the Stockholm Royal Seaport district.



Stockholm (Sweden), two senior citizens in the Norra Djurgårdsstadens bibliotek, in the Stockholm Royal Seaport district.

Stockholm (Sweden), many buildings in the Stockholm Royal Seaport district are covered with solar panels which generate clean energy for the residents.



Stockholm (Sweden), members of the Fredrikshof FIF team cheer the arrival of their team mates, during a training session in the Stockholm Royal Seaport district.





Stockholm (Sweden), a meeting in an old control room at Klätterverket, which is located in an old gasworks in the heart of the Stockholm Royal Seaport district.



Stockholm (Sweden), a young man under a sun lamp at the Tan Express Solarium, in the Stockholm Royal Seaport district.



Stockholm (Sweden), a bust of Gustaf VI Adolf, King of Sweden (1950-1973) and grandfather of the current ruler. It is kept in a room in the Kungliga slottet, Stockholm's royal palace, the official residence of the Swedish monarchy. For centuries Swedish kings hunted in what is now the Royal National City Park, a vast green area that borders the Stockholm Royal Seaport district.

Stockholm (Sweden), a girl of Somali descent eats with a friend in the Rockin Grill Djurgårdsstaden, in the heart of the Stockholm Royal Seaport district.



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Stockholm (Sweden), fencers training at the Djurgårdens IF Fäktförening, in the Stockholm Royal Seaport district.



Stockholm (Sweden), a young man waiting for a bus in the Stockholm Royal Seaport district. Here there is an emphasis, mainly on walking and cycling, but also on public transport, in order to reduce the environmental impact.



Stockholm (Sweden), pianist Linn Bertland at the Skandinaviska Musikskolan (Scandinavian Music School) in the school building in the Stockholm Royal Seaport district.



Stockholm (Sweden), an aerial view of the Royal Stockholm Seaport between the Royal National Park and Gasverket.

Stockholm (Sweden), the Stockholm Royal Seaport district uses a complex and effective recycling system.





Stockholm (Sweden), a student at the Berghs School of Communication. It is located on the site of a former gasworks in the Royal Stockholm Seaport, an industrial area that has been transformed into an urban neighborhood.



Stockholm (Sweden), Jacob Werner and his girlfriend Madeleine Ragnell, who live in a newly built apartment, chat and relax on a bench by the canal.



Stockholm (Sweden), Daniel Löfstedt (left) and Bo Berndtsson, the operation leader, walk through Hammarbyverket, the power plant with the world's largest heat pump installation. By extracting heat from wastewater, Hammarbyverket heats more than 100,000 apartments in the city.

Stockholm (Sweden), four boys playing padel in front of some houses in the Stockholm Royal Seaport.





Stockholm (Sweden), the Bamboo Asia restaurant, in the heart of the Stockholm Royal Seaport district.



Stockholm (Sweden), bike racks in the Stockholm Royal Seaport district. Here there is an emphasis, mainly on walking and cycling, but also on public transport, in order to reduce the environmental impact.



Stockholm (Sweden), subway escalators at the "Central Station": from here, the Red Line to Ropsten takes passengers to the Stockholm Royal Seaport.



Stockholm (Sweden), two friends walking near the site of a former gasworks, in the Royal Stockholm Seaport, an industrial area that has been transformed into an urban neighborhood.

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