



KIDS & CULTURE >>

The government pays families of high school students about \$187 a month to attend school. College tuition is free, although other expenses can be very high.



HELLO! >>

Although not the country's official language, almost 90 percent of the population speak English fluently. This is due to all the foreign movies and TV shown here.



BRING THIS >>

A boat? Well, you can't bring a boat. However, a water vessel, such as a ferry, is a good way to get around the 14 islands that comprise this country's capital.



LOOK FOR THIS >>

Scattered throughout this country is the world's largest model of the solar system. The entire collection of sculptures can be seen by traveling the length of the country.



WHAT'S FOR LUNCH? >>

Lingonberry jam is the most popular condiment here, accompanying everything from meatballs to porridge and pancakes. But this jam is not usually eaten on bread.



CHECK IN > DAY ONE

PLAY >

Long ago, Swedish fathers carved wooden toys for their children. Many of those toys were horses, since the horse was a critical part of life. Today, horses aren't necessary for transportation or work, but a little red wooden horse, known as a Dala horse, has become a symbol of Sweden.

ACTIVITY >

Draw and cut the shape of a horse from red construction paper. Find pictures online to paint your horse with the traditional floral *kurbit* pattern. According to tradition, the *kurbit* symbolizes Jonah's vine. Read the story in Jonah 4 about the compassion we should have for those who do not know God.

LAYOVER > DAY TWO

LANGUAGE >

Can you be polite without saying "please"? The word *please* doesn't exist in the Swedish language. If you want to ask for something politely, you need to say it differently: "Could I have that, thanks?" or "Would you kindly remove your feet from the table?"



As a family, try being more creative with your polite requests. Can you go a whole day thinking of other ways to say "please"?



PRAY >

Looking at the way Swedes celebrate births, weddings and Christmas, you might think that this is a land of believers. But few Swedes take God seriously. Pray that He will soften the hearts of Swedish people to His love and truth.