

# Nya Årstafältet

The hottest architecture competition in all Stockholm

INVITATION





# **Stockholm needs your help!**

Stockholm shows. Stockholm is the hub of the Baltic Sea region and the capital of Scandinavia. And Stockholm grows. At least 15,000 new homes will be needed in the next few years. New neighbourhoods called for. One of them may be sited at Årstafältet, in the south of Stockholm. And this is where you come in.

## **Announcing: an architectural competition for Nya Årstafältet**

Arranged by the City of Stockholm Development Administration and the City Planning Administration, the purpose of the competition is to canvass proposals for a sustainable, living neighbourhood having clear connections with neighbouring housing districts and business campuses. Here is your big chance of creating something quite new—an exciting neighbourhood combining mixed development—workplaces, schools, non-housing and services—with large green parkland areas; making history a jumping-off point into the future; enabling people, environment and architecture to become intertwined in a creative, life-giving and challenging relationship.

**We want you to help us in creating Nya Årstafältet.**



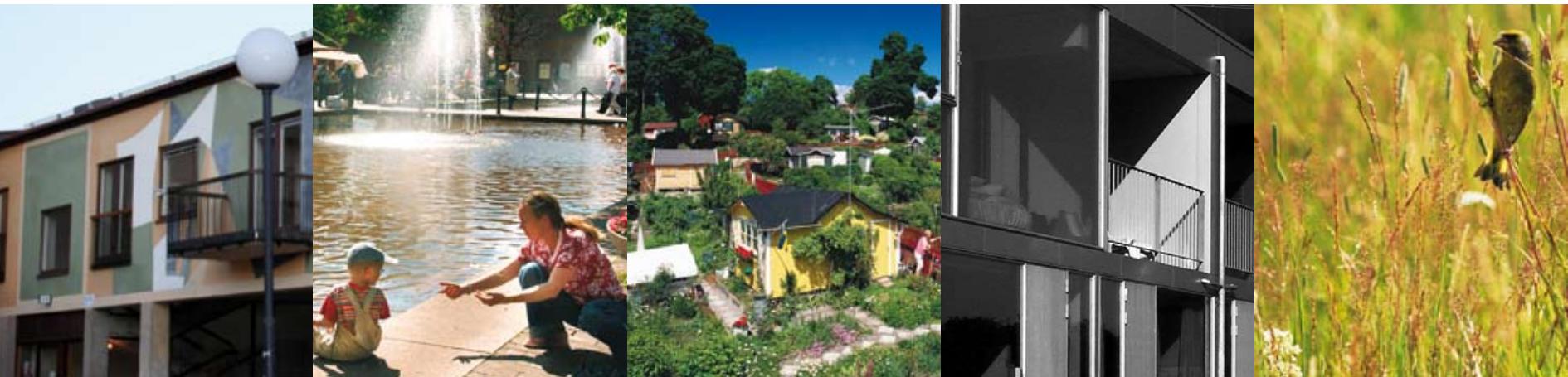
# A vision of Nya Årstadfältet



Who can come up with the most exciting proposals for a sustainable new neighbourhood—a public space combining old and new, townscape and parkscape, housing and leisure—and open the way to a sustainable society? The Nya Årstadfältet competition takes as its starting point the following questions:

## **Urban mix and interesting juxtapositions of old and new**

- How can the existing housing and non-housing areas be integrated with the new neighbourhood? What will the interface between old and new be made to look like?
- How can landmark buildings, parks or other attractions help to create meeting points, where are they to be positioned and how are they to link up with the rest of the settlement?
- How can housing supply be given such a variety of scale, expression, density and tenure that different people will be encouraged to move here?



## **Urban coherence and sustainable development**

- How can residents be encouraged to rely heavily on public transport, walking or cycling? How are settlement and public space to be designed for maximum public transport use?
- In what way can Nya Årstafältet be interlinked with surrounding neighbourhoods? Where is the best strategic location for the new interlinks, where will they impact most on urban living?
- How can the neighbouring housing and non-housing areas be downscaled? How do you create a properly integrated street, pedestrian and cycle network on and round the site, facilitating contacts between the neighbourhoods and helping to avoid unnecessary travel distances?
- How do you design an ecologically, economically and socially sustainable neighbourhood?

## **Public spaces with clear identity**

- How can parks, piazzas and streets be designed so as to give the place an identity of its own and create a sense of community?
- How can a park of world class be created? How can it be made an attraction to visitors from all over Greater Stockholm? What functions are lacking at present?
- In what way can water and biotope design contribute to the genius loci, biodiversity and sustainable resource management?

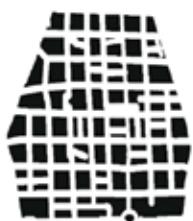
# Årstafältet today



## Size and location

- Årstafältet is no more than 5 km from the very heart of Stockholm and is the biggest greenfield site in the southern district (Söderort).
- The construction of the South Link clearway, the Årstaberg commuter train station and Tvärbanan (a Light Rail Line in the southern suburbs of Stockholm) has vastly improved the prospects for new housing development on Årstafältet.
- The new Årstafältet neighbourhood will join the semi-central string of new housing developments which are springing up adjacent to Tvärbanan, interconnected with Årstadal, Liljeholmen, Gullmarsplan and Hammarby Sjöstad.
- Tvärbanan has created new connections between semi-central districts of Stockholm, making under-exploited land an attractive location for new housing development.

Årstafältet is roughly the same size as the walled medieval centre of Carcassonne in France. That town was based on the classical Roman neighbourhood module of 50 hectares.





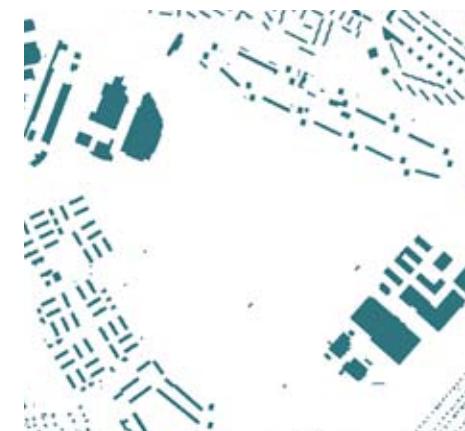
**Årstafältet.** Measuring about 50 hectares, the site is surrounded by roads and settlement.



**Infrastructure.** There are several main traffic arteries near Årstafältet, but at present few roads actually entering the site.



**Vegetation.** Årstafältet's vegetation mainly comprises large expanses of grassland with single trees. To the south a wooded slope separates the site from Östberga.



**Settlement.** The areas surrounding Årstafältet present a mixture of development including, for example, tower blocks, lamellar blocks and detached houses.



## **On historic ground**

- Årstafältet today has scenic and historic qualities which are in need of reinforcement and development.
- The site exemplifies the historic agrarian landscape of the Stockholm region and is traversed by the Göta Landsväg (today a footpath), which has followed the same route ever since the Iron Age.
- In the low-lying parts of the site, the Göta Landsväg crosses the Valla Stream on a reconstructed stone arched bridge.
- A path lined with willow trees in the northeast corner is Årstafältet's most conspicuous landscape element.

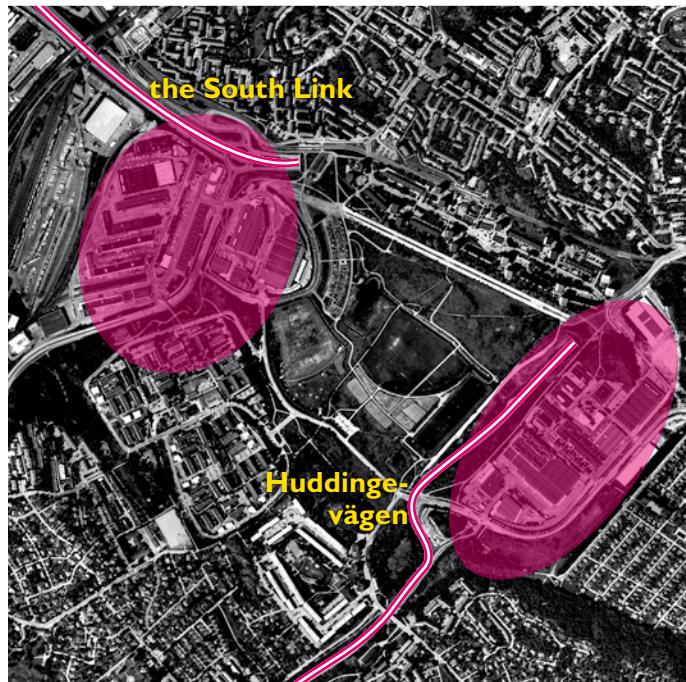
## **Surrounding areas**

- The areas surrounding Årstafältet were built up at different times and are highly variegated, with several attractive districts among them.
- Årsta, developed in the early 1950s, was planned as one of Stockholm's first neighbourhood areas. Many more were to follow.
- Valla Gärde, the part of Årsta directly adjoining the site, is a typical 1960s development.
- Östberga too was developed in the 50s and 60s, with a combination of low-rise lamellar blocks and more large-scale Million Homes Programme apartment buildings.
- To the east and west, Årstafältet borders on the Årsta Park business campus and the Årsta Partihall wholesale food market, both of them non-housing areas.



## Possibilities

- The inner city of Stockholm is to all intents and purposes fully built up, and the inner suburbs are next in line for development.
- Årstafältet has a big potential for developing into a new nodal point for the southern Stockholm suburbs. Public transport is near at hand, there are the makings of a large, attractive park, an exciting mix of housing areas, and scope for creating a better environment for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Årsta Torg and Östberga Centrum are commercial centres, and there are big shopping gallerias at Globen and Lilje-holmstorget.
- The construction of additional homes on Årstafältet can revitalise the neighbouring neighbourhoods and enhance the viability of small shops, cafés and cultural amenities.
- The site has a big potential for becoming an integral part of the south Stockholm suburbs and for being perceived as an extension of Södermalm.



## Limitations

- Årstafältet is within close reach of the inner city but, due to the surrounding barriers, is not at present perceived as linked with the inner city or the adjoining housing areas.
- Huddingevägen, the South Link and several non-housing areas directly adjoin Årstafältet, impeding access to it.
- Årstafältet incurs acoustic disturbance from the nearby traffic arteries.
- Public transport connections in the southern parts of Årstafältet are greatly inferior to those in the northern parts.



# The architectural competition

## Two stages

Programming work will be preceded by a competition. Between three and seven practices will be selected, in an open procurement process, to take part in the competition. The competition brief will in the first instance require urban planning and landscape planning competence, but competence in traffic planning, environmental aspects and heritage management is also relevant.

## Timetable

- Deadline for indication of interest 23-05-2008
- Announcement of the competitors' names 01-07-2008
- Start date for competition 11-08-2008
- Inaugural meeting 27-08-2008
- Submission of entries 07-11-2008

## How to qualify

If you want to take part, now is the time for your next move – ordering detailed tendering documents in digital format via OPIC, by e-mailing [request@opic.com](mailto:request@opic.com) and specifying "Projekttävling Nya Årstaflötet".

Tendering document copying costs will be borne by the tenderer. The tendering documents will not be obtainable through the City Development Administration.

Competition participants will be selected in such a way that the client can obtain as broad and varied a consideration of the competition assignment as possible.

**[www.stockholm.se/nyaarstafaltet](http://www.stockholm.se/nyaarstafaltet)**



A COOPERATION BETWEEN  
THE CITY DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION  
THE CITY PLANNING ADMINISTRATION

[www.stockholm.se/nyaarstafaltet](http://www.stockholm.se/nyaarstafaltet)