

# A unique environment for development

The multiple benefits of the meatpacking district (Slakthusområdet) that create great potential for development include the many buildings of historical and cultural value as well as the diverse activities being carried out in the area. It has many other qualities besides, which are less immediately obvious at first glance, concrete or measurable. Altogether, six different qualities have been identified, which can all be developed.

## Historical depth

The meatpacking district has a 100-year history of food production behind it. A diverse mix of characteristic and culturally historical buildings and environments are to be found here. This area has managed to provide high-quality food products for Stockholm for over a century, while enabling the development of retail and industry in the city with the fine raw materials, skilled craftsmen and solid entrepreneurship available.

## Genuine and functional

The meatpacking district is adapted to food production. The practical work going on here has defined the design of the environment, and every addition made to the site has clearly contemporary features. Many of the different buildings and environments here exemplify a significant cultural and historical heritage that is now due to be developed and preserved for the future. Housing, work-places, retail, services and new parks and squares will all help to shape the new meatpacking district.

## Rustic and rough

All around the meatpacking district there are buildings with fine details in steel, wood, concrete and brick. There is an architectural language in use here that binds the area together: the windows, the shapes of the rooftops, the projecting loading bay rooves, the lighting fixtures, and the materials. The rustic and rough character of the place, a feeling created by the coherent industrial surface underfoot and the lack of pavements and greenery, help to create its character.



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## Alive

The activities and operations run here are extremely diverse. Many of them are clearly linked to food and gastronomy, but there are also others that are connected to other professions. The meatpacking district is a mixed and permissive environment: a quality worth preserving and developing.

## Diversity

Big and small, high and low, different proportions are all mixed together in the meatpacking district. The Ericsson Globe and Tele2 Arena – two of the biggest buildings in modern Stockholm – provide a stark contrast to the meatpacking district, both in terms of their capacity and their function. Within this area the public spaces and the buildings are just as varied. When it comes to the housing blocks and materials used, with the mixture of old and new, the contrasts are sharp and the transitions marked. The mix of businesses and people (some work here while others are just visitors) is among the area's greatest strengths.

## Clearly defined: distinct local character

The meatpacking district's present qualities are partly about the composition of the environment, with its structure and variety taken into account; and partly about interesting buildings, the colourful mix at street level, environments that are full of character, and the craftsmanship behind the finer details. Many of these qualities could not possibly feature in a new build today owing to fact that the costs involved would be far too high. During the 1900s, the area developed in many varied ways, and that is only possible over a longer period of time.

