

A place with a unique history

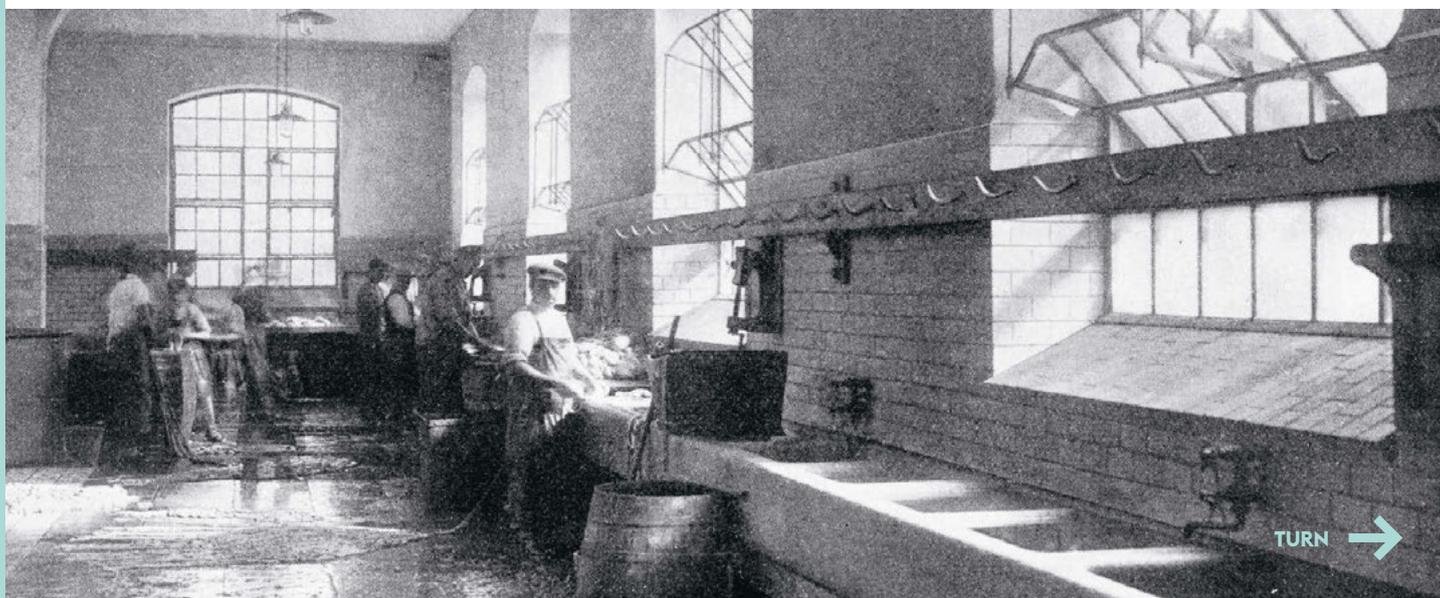
The Slakthus area in Enskede (Enskede Slakthus) or the meatpacking district (Slakthusområdet) was built between 1906 and 1912. The area was established as a prestigious project run by the state based on the drawings of Gustav Wickman. Many of the buildings were constructed in the art nouveau style. The development came about as the result of the city's earlier animal slaughtering businesses that had no regulations and a number of cholera outbreaks. The meatpacking district became the only place in Stockholm where animal slaughter and the trade of livestock were permitted. Ever since the area was established, it has been used primarily for the handling of meat.

Here, high-quality food products have been provided for Stockholm for a whole century, meanwhile enabling the development of retail and industry in the city thanks to the fine raw materials, skilled craftsmen and solid entrepreneurship available. Today there are 250 companies operating in the area, which employ a total of 3,800 staff. Since it was created for a specific purpose, the meatpacking district is a unique area featuring the kinds of businesses and buildings that are not to be found elsewhere in Stockholm. The area's history of animal slaughter and food production is still clearly apparent from the urban framework on which it is built.

Many Stockholmers have a relationship to, or understanding of, the meatpacking district without necessarily even having been there. The area has a significant history and strong identity, and in recent years, has been developed into much more than just an industrial and business zone. Today, besides food companies, there are schools, restaurants, nightclubs, artists' studios, architectural firms and more in the area.

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The meatpacking district features buildings dating from every decade since its inauguration in 1912. Together they illustrate the various development phases of an area now full of contrasts.



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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 the 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. The variety makes the area lively, full of contrasts and rich in terms of the experiences on offer. That’s the basis on which the new meatpacking district is being built.



The building formerly used for cleaning intestines now houses Stockholm’s new culture hub, Slaktkyrkan (“the meatpacking church”), a venue for a diverse art and music scene.



An illustration of the square where events will be held.