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– FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE –

*Celebrating Swedish Traditions &
Holiday Shopping*
Lucia & Christmas Market at ASHM
December 2nd & 3rd 10:00 am- 4:00 pm



Philadelphia, PA- Bundle up in your winter clothes and visit the American Swedish Historical Museum (ASHM) to experience the special atmosphere of a *Julmarknad*, or Swedish Christmas Market! The outdoor Christmas Market features a large selection of Scandinavian food, gifts, and holiday decorations. The Swedish Christmas Café will be selling holiday foods and sweets for your refreshment, and there will also be live holiday music performed by the folk duo Last Chance. Along with the market, ASHM's galleries are open to visitors.



During the market, shoppers can experience *the Lucia children's program at 11:30 am and 2:00 pm*. Light, warmth, and Christmas songs have been hallmarks of the Lucia celebration at ASHM since 1939. December 13th is St. Lucia Day in Sweden, a holiday marked by Lucia celebrations all over the country from private homes to entire towns. The modern tradition of having public Lucia processions in Swedish cities started in 1927 when a newspaper in Stockholm elected an official Lucia for that year. ASHM's Lucia performances during our market include Swedish songs and dances performed by children dressed as Christmas *tomtar* (gnomes), *pepparkakor* (gingerbread cookies), folk dancers, star boys, and Lucia with her attendants. Don't miss out on this unique holiday experience!

Saturday Admission is \$5 for non-member adults (12 and up) and free for members and children under 12.
Sunday Admission is free for all visitors
You can pre-purchase tickets online or at the gate.



Get tickets here: <https://www.americanswedish.org/events/lucia-christmas-market-2>

The American Swedish Historical Museum is located in scenic FDR Park at 1900 Pattison Avenue in South Philadelphia near the Sports Complex. Free parking is available in the Novacare Lot across Pattison Avenue from the Museum. For those taking public transportation, the Broad Street Subway's NRG/Pattison Avenue stop is within walking distance or SEPTA's Route 17 (Naval Base) can bring you right to the Museum.