Nordic New England: Textiles on Tour!

Wednesday, September 20th through Saturday, September 23rd

It’s time to hit the road with the American Swedish Historical Museum as we explore Scandinavian textiles this fall! On this once-in-a-lifetime travel opportunity, we will explore New England and visit world-renowned Scandinavian textile artists at their studios while getting private tours of textile collections.

Trip itinerary

Wednesday, September 20th
- Depart Philadelphia
- Travel to Helena Hernmarck’s Studio in Ridgefield, Connecticut
- Visit the Browngrotta Arts Gallery
- Stay at Hotel Zero Degrees in Norwalk, Connecticut

Thursday, September 21st
- Travel to Sturbridge, Massachusetts
- Private Tour of the Textile Collection at Yarn Sewing Workshop and time to explore Old Sturbridge Village
- Shop at Yankee Candle Flagship Store in Deerfield, Massachusetts
- Spend the evening at the Big E! New England’s Great State Fair.
- Return to Homewood Suites in Hadley, Massachusetts.

Friday, September 22nd
- Explore Historic Deerfield
- Visit Vävstuga Weaving School and hear a joint presentation by founder Becky Ashenden and Swedish weaving expert Monica Hallén.
- Shop at Yankee Candle Flagship Store in Deerfield, Massachusetts
- Spend the evening at the Big E! New England’s Great State Fair.
- Return to Homewood Suites in Hadley, Massachusetts.

Saturday, September 23rd
- Travel Back to Philadelphia
Highlights of the trip include:

Exclusive tour of Old Sturbridge Village’s textile collection with hands-on yarn sewing workshop.

Old Sturbridge Village celebrates the people who lived in rural New England in the formative, first decades of our new nation. The Village provides an authentic, first-hand look at the often challenging and rapidly changing textures and rhythms of New England life in what were transformative years - 1790 to 1840.

Lecture with Becky Ashenden and Monica Hallén at Vävstuga Weaving School

Founder Becky Ashenden got her inspiration for the creation of Vävstuga from the many weaving schools throughout Sweden. Today the depth and breadth of Becky’s work at Vävstuga is the culmination of decades of teaching. Swedish weaving expert Monica Hallén will also be visiting the school and giving a joint presentation. Monica Hallén has unparalleled expertise in the history and weaving of rag rugs. She is a designer, weaver, and embroiderer and is the co-author of a number of very popular books on rag rugs. She teaches at Sätergläntan, the internationally known institute for craft and handwork in Dalarna, Sweden.

A private tour of Helena Hernmarck’s Studio

Helena Hernmarck was born in Stockholm, a Swedish-born artist, and handweaver recognized for revolutionizing tapestry as a medium suited to modern architectural environments. Hernmarck’s signature is her ability to harness light and color as conduits for spectacular illusions in handwoven textiles. The gloss of photo paper, the graininess of xerox copies, and even creases in a weathered page have served as sources of technical inspiration in the continuous evolution of her technique.

Exclusive tour of Historic Deerfield

Historic Deerfield is a quintessential New England village surrounded by working farms and rolling cornfields along the Deerfield River. Located in western Massachusetts, Historic Deerfield’s museum houses range from the 1730s to the 1840s. Inside you will find one of the best public collections of art and antiques in America while you explore the lifestyle of early New England in a working village of endless beauty.

In addition to these in-depth textile experiences, the itinerary also includes a visit to the Yankee Candle flagship store in Deerfield Massachusetts, and the Big E festival! For those unfamiliar with this must-see New England event, the Big E, formerly known as the Eastern States Exposition, is New England’s Great State Fair and is the largest agricultural event on the eastern seaboard featuring a farmer’s market, demonstrations, exhibitions, food, entertainment, and butter sculptures!

ASHM will help you relax by taking care of all the details for this getaway. The trip includes luxurious minibus transportation, accommodations, two breakfasts, four lunches, two dinners, and admission to all events and museums.

This trip has limited availability and a short registration deadline so book your spot early. Registration is $1750 with a $450 single supplement. To register please call or go online to www.americanswedish.org by August 30th. If you have any questions please contact Lauren Burnham at 215-389-1776 x106