



Vasa Culture Fest

Saturday July 18, 2026

Chicago Marriott Naperville

1801 North Naper Blvd.
Naperville, Illinois



The Vasa Order of America invites you to attend a fun filled day of Scandinavian and Nordic hands on experiences, culminating in an optional casual evening meal of Nordic and American foods and The Swedes – a Swedish ABBA tribute band. Begin the day with a continental breakfast and welcome, choose from several interactive sessions that interest you throughout the day, with lunch and afternoon Fika included, as well as the opportunity to meet and mingle with others interested in Nordic and Scandinavian culture. Kids attend for free and will take part in a variety of fun activities as well. All Vasa members are encouraged to attend, and all children under 14 are free! Stay for an evening meal of both Nordic and American culinary delights and live band The Swedes. Stay over and enjoy morning frukost before departing.

Overnight accommodations at a reduced rate at the Chicago Marriott Naperville are available for Friday and/or Saturday for those that wish to stay at hotel before or after Culture Fest. Room rates pre-tax per night are \$159/king and \$169/2 queen beds. Reservations should be made using this link <https://app.marriott.com/reslink?id=1772720585483&key=GRP&app=resvlink> which connects you directly with the Marriott booking site where the dates may be adjusted to reflect only Friday and/or Saturday, as desired, as well as room choice once you click the arrow at the bottom right corner.

DAY EVENTS

- 9:00am – 10:00am Continental Breakfast, welcome
- 10:00am – 10:50am Session 1: choose between Immigrant Music, Cooking, Vikings, Vasa Youth Clubs, Learning Swedish
- 11:00am – 11:50pm Session 2: choose between Swedish Choral music, Knitting, Runestones, Archives, Nordic Noir
- 12:00pm – 1:30pm Lunch and Vendor walkway
- 1:40pm – 2:30pm Session 3: choose between Folk Dancing, Paper Heart crafts, Genealogy, New Sweden, Folkdräkt (folk costumes)
- 2:30pm – 3:00pm Fika
- 3:00pm – 3:50pm Session 4: choose between Punsch making, Rosemaling, Swedish Royal Family, Vasa Recruiting, possible additional sections of most popular sessions
- 4:00pm – 5:00pm Vendor walkway

Kid's program for the day follows same format with a variety of engaging activities for kids to enjoy.

EVENING EVENTS

- 5:00pm Social hour and Surströmming challenge!
- 6:00pm – 10:00pm Buffet dinner with Swedish Meatballs, Swedish hotdogs, Chicago style hotdogs, various salads and side, cheesecake with Nordic toppings

The Swedes

a live ABBA tribute band of Native Swedes will play a variety of ABBA hits and contemporary hits by other Nordic Artists

Register online, *preferred*, at <https://www.vasaorderdistrict8.org/2026>

Registration deadline for both Culture Fest and the hotel is June 22, 2026

See additional registration form for pricing and selection of sessions.