

English time

This is a short guide on time in English and its differences to Swedish.



The 12-hour time format

Opposite to the 24-hour time format, the time in the USA and some other countries stops at 12:00. Instead of saying for example 13:00 or 20:00, the usage of AM or PM indicates if the time is in the morning or in the afternoon. AM is for any time until 12:00 in 24-hour time format, and PM is for any time after 12:00 in 24-hour time format.

Dates can be written differently

Living in Sweden, you might sometimes write dates in the format day/month-year (for example 5/3-2021). However, this is highly uncommon, at least in the USA. You can easily confuse people since the same date normally is written as 3/5-2021.



Weeks start on Sunday

In countries including the USA and Canada, the weeks officially start on Sunday and not on Monday, which is the fact in Sweden and other countries. This is a great thing to keep in mind. You might also notice this when looking at an American calendar.

Time difference and time zones

Even across the USA, times are different, since the country is wide. Do not forget that time zones exist! Time zones are used to indicate the time difference across the world. The USA is generally 6-8 hours behind Swedish time, but this may differ even more. Consult an online website or another source for time conversion. Make sure that it is a reliable one!

