

# SWEDEN

EUROPE



Travel or Possession Permitted with Moderate Restrictions



## Summary

- Travelers cannot bring any cannabis into or out of Sweden, even for medical use. Foreign prescriptions are not recognized, and import/export is prohibited without official permit.
- Medical cannabis use in Sweden is extremely limited, only a few pharmaceutical products are available via prescription for specific conditions.
- Consumption or possession of raw or non-prescribed cannabis is illegal, including small amounts. Sweden has no recreational or dispensary system.

## Background

Sweden classified cannabis as illegal under the Narcotic Drugs Act in 1968.

Medical cannabis was technically legalized in 2012, though under minimal circumstances. Only a few products are available, and a doctor must prescribe these.

Medicinal cannabis is allowed rarely for specific products (Sativex, Marinol, Epidiolex).

Key points about the system:

- Cannabis treatment is only allowed when conventional therapies have failed.
- The Swedish market is one of the most difficult cannabis markets in the European Union due to strict regulations.
- Currently, cannabis cultivation is allowed under special licenses, as long as the farmer or entrepreneur meets the legal requirements. The condition is to choose a variety that contains less than 0.2% THC.
- The law on CBD was tightened in 2019, before this fact the market for hemp products with cannabidiol was quite popular. One could easily purchase CBD oils, gels, cosmetics or ointments. Today, this is very difficult.
- Strict laws apply to cannabis, which is fully outlawed, and even medical cannabis. The Swedish government's stance on cannabis is clearly more reluctant than that of many other European countries



## Non-Medical Cannabis

- Consumption and possession of cannabis, even in small amounts, is a criminal offence under the 1968 Narcotics Act, no decriminalization exists.
- Penalties: Minor possession may result in a fine or imprisonment, with harsher sentences for larger quantities or trafficking.
- Cultivation, sale, distribution are prohibited and strictly enforced.

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## Traveling to Sweden with Medical Cannabis

Importing cannabis or cannabinoid products into Sweden is strictly prohibited.

Foreign prescriptions, including medical cannabis prescriptions from countries like the UK, are not accepted by Swedish customs.

Short-term travelers can obtain approval from the Swedish Medical Product Agency once their doctors send the applications on their behalf. They may evaluate the application and, if appropriate, register you for legal use.

### Steps to Take Before Departure:

1. Bring full documentation from your home-country doctor showing diagnosis, treatments tried, and reasons cannabis is recommended.
2. Have all medical records translated into English or Swedish by a certified translator. Even if approved, prescriptions are only for pharmaceutical cannabis products (no dried flower, no edibles).
3. Supply must be purchased in Sweden from a licensed pharmacy.

### Swedish Medical Product Agency Contact Information

- Address: Uppsala Science Park Dag Hammarskjölds väg 42 752 37 Uppsala, Sweden
- Phone: +46 (0)18 17 46 00
- General Email: [registrator@lakemedelsverket.se](mailto:registrator@lakemedelsverket.se)

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## Practical Tips

- Carry only non-cannabis prescription medicines in original packaging along with the physician's note.
- Do not carry or import cannabis, CBD with THC trace, tinctures, or seeds, customs enforce zero tolerance.
- If you need medical cannabis for chronic conditions, consult your embassy or consulate before travel to clarify Swedish medical rules.

*The information provided reflects the most current data available; however, as cannabis laws are continually evolving, this content should not be interpreted as legal advice.*

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