

= Malmö Arena =

Malmö Arena is a multi @-@ use indoor arena in Malmö , Sweden , and the home of SHL ice hockey club Malmö Redhawks . It is the largest arena in the SHL , and the second @-@ largest indoor arena in Sweden . Apart from hosting Redhawks hockey matches , the arena is often the venue for team handball , floorball , concerts , and other events . It has also hosted indoor athletics . Owned and operated by Parkfast AB , the arena was designed by Mats Matson of MM Matsson Konsult AB , Hannu Helkiö of Pöyry Architects , and Gert Wingårdh of Wingårdh arkitektkontor . Naming rights for the venue are owned by Malmö Stad , in a ten @-@ year contract , agreed in 2007 . Malmö Arena hosted the Eurovision Song Contest 2013 between 14 and 18 May 2013 .

With a capacity of 13 @,@ 000 for sports and 15 @,@ 500 for concerts , Malmö Arena is the second @-@ largest indoor arena in Sweden , only trailing the Ericsson Globe , located in Stockholm . The attendance record for concerts at Malmö Arena is 11 @,@ 300 , set by a Lady Gaga concert on 19 November 2010 . The venue attendance record for ice hockey was set on 12 November 2008 , when Malmö Redhawks hosted Leksands IF in front of 13 @,@ 247 people . Ground was broken on 10 January 2007 , and the arena was inaugurated on 6 November 2008 . The final construction cost for the arena was 750 million SEK . The arena is located about 80 m (260 ft) from Hyllie railway station , from where there are rail and bus connections to Malmö Central Station , Copenhagen Airport , and Copenhagen Central Station .

= = History = =

Though it is Sweden 's third most populous city , Malmö often missed the possibility to host larger concert and music events because it lacked a suitable indoor arena . When the City Tunnel project was initiated by Malmö Stad in the late 1990s , the city began to plan a new district in Hyllievång . This led to the decision to build Hyllie station in 2001 , as a part of the tunnel project , to boost the development of the new district . The ice hockey club Malmö Redhawks , which was the proposed main tenant of the new arena , was initially uncertain of the new project and wanted to renovate its present home , the Malmö Isstadion , instead of moving to an entirely new arena . However , the Redhawks were convinced when Percy Nilsson of Parkfast AB contributed seven million kronor to help the club 's financial situation .

The decision to build an arena in the area was first presented by Nilsson in May 1997 , and developed further over the following decade . The permit to start building Malmö Arena was granted in September 2006 , and the first sod was turned on 10 January 2007 by Nilsson , hockey players Pekka Lindmark , Juha Riihijärvi , and Carl Söderberg , and two politicians from Malmö Stad . The main contractors for the building of the arena were Parkfast AB , with the collaboration of the structural engineer Byggt teknik i Skåne . The arena was designed by Mats Matson of MM Matsson Konsult AB , Hannu Helkiö of Pöyry Architects , and Gert Wingårdh of Wingårdh arkitektkontor . The final construction cost for the arena was 750 million kronor ? 100 million kronor over budget because of additions to the initial plan . The arena was entirely financed by Percy Nilsson of Parkfast AB . Malmö Arena was inaugurated on 6 November 2008 with a large concert featuring a variety of artists , among them Robyn , Helen Sjöholm , Sanne Salomonsen , and Jill Johnson .

The name of the arena was discussed during 2007 , with Malmö Arena or Hyllie Arena discussed as potential options . The naming rights were eventually sold to Malmö Stad for 10 years in a deal worth 50 million kronor . Nilsson wished for the arena to have " Malmö " in its name because the city 's new association football stadium , Swedbank Stadion , did not .

= = = Sports = = =

Malmö Arena has hosted the home matches of the ice hockey club Malmö Redhawks since 2008 , replacing their former home , the Malmö Isstadion . The team play their matches in the SHL , the first tier of Swedish ice hockey . Malmö Redhawks play 26 matches per season at the arena (excluding play @-@ offs) , making them the arena 's most regular tenant . Malmö Arena was the

main venue for the 2014 World Junior Ice Hockey Championships .

In addition to ice hockey , Malmö Arena hosted 22 matches of the 2011 World Men 's Handball Championships , including the bronze medal match , and the final , between France and Denmark , which was won by France . Malmö Arena hosted the playoff finals of the men 's and women 's Swedish national team handball championship in 2010 and 2012 . Malmö Arena was also scheduled to host the 2013 finals , but they were moved elsewhere when the arena was chosen as the host for the 2013 Eurovision Song Contest , which is scheduled to take place five days after the handball finals . In floorball , the arena served as the final venue for the 2010 ? 11 and 2011 ? 12 Swedish Super League finals .

Malmö Arena was used for athletics in February 2009 , when the arena hosted " Malmö Indoor Gala " , a newly founded indoor athletics competition , organised by Malmö Allmänna Idrottsförening (MAI) . Several international athletes were invited to compete , including pole vault Olympic champion Yelena Isinbayeva , but she turned down the invitation due to illness . Many other major athletes refused their invitations for a variety of reasons , causing the competition to attract only meagre interest from the public . No more than 7 @, @ 000 spectators attended , making the competition a financial failure . The competition was therefore not held again .

= = = Other events = = =

Malmö Arena has hosted several concerts as well as other music events such as Christmas shows and musicals . Britney Spears performed at the arena on 11 October 2011 during her Femme Fatale Tour . Rihanna was scheduled to bring her Loud Tour to Malmö Arena on 31 October 2011 , but the event was cancelled with only a few hours ' notice because of health issues . Other international artists who have performed at the arena are Bob Dylan , Cliff Richard , Tom Jones , Lady Gaga , and many others . The Lady Gaga show holds the attendance record for concerts at the arena , having drawn a crowd of 11 @, @ 300 ; the cancelled Rihanna concert would have set a new record with 11 @, @ 700 tickets sold . The semi @-@ finals of Melodifestivalen , Sweden 's national song contest , were held at the arena in 2009 , 2010 , 2011 , and 2012 . Malmö Arena also hosted Fotbollsgalan , Sweden 's award ceremony for domestic football , in 2009 and 2010 .

The arena was selected to host the 2013 Eurovision Song Contest , which took place in May that year . Malmö Arena 's main contenders for this were the Friends Arena in Stockholm and Scandinavium in Gothenburg . Sveriges Television (SVT) decided on Malmö Arena because of the good transport links around the arena , as well as SVT 's previous experiences hosting Melodifestivalen heats at the arena . SVT also expressed the desire to host the contest at a slightly smaller venue than previous years to increase the Eurovision experience .

= = Structure and facilities = =

Malmö Arena has an overall capacity of 13 @, @ 000 for sporting events ; for concerts and other events , the capacity can be as low as 500 or as high as 15 @, @ 500 , depending on where the stage is placed . The lower tier of the northern stand of the arena can be turned into terracing for sports . The arena can also be used for dancing and dining : the capacity is 5 @, @ 000 for dancing , and between 50 and 2 @, @ 000 for dining events . The arena has 72 luxury suites , which can be rented for different events . Of these , 60 have an area of between 27 m2 (290 sq ft) and 40 m2 (430 sq ft) , and 12 have an area of 70 m2 (750 sq ft) . There are also two restaurants and four bars in the arena , with a total capacity of 3 @, @ 250 , 20 kiosks , and fast food locations . There are 370 toilets in the arena .

The floor area of the inner part of the arena is 3 @, @ 200 m2 (34 @, @ 000 sq ft) at its maximum , and the maximum ceiling height is 22 @. @ 5 m (74 ft) . The total floor area of the entire arena , including corridors and interior space , is 51 @, @ 000 m2 (550 @, @ 000 sq ft) . There are a total of eight changing rooms for athletes and performers , two of which are adapted for use by the disabled . The southern part of the arena has offices on six different floors . Office space in the arena totals 7 @, @ 950 m2 (85 @, @ 600 sq ft) . Malmö Redhawks and other companies have

offices in these areas .

The arena has a stand on each of the floor area 's four sides . The northern part of the arena has two tiers for seating , while the south stand has only one tier for seating ; the upper tier is reserved for executive suites and restaurant space . The southern stand also has 53 disabled places , with the same number of spaces for their companions . There are 36 entrances to the inner part of the arena . In the northern part of the arena , there are facilities for ice hockey practice .

The shopping mall Emporia is located next to the arena .

= = Transport = =

Malmö Arena is currently served by Malmö bus lines 6 , 8 , 33 , as well as several regional bus lines , all of which stop in the vicinity of the arena . The stadium is also located close to the partially underground railway station Hyllie , which opened in December 2010 as a part of Citytunneln . The station is served by Pågatåg and Öresund Trains , and is reachable non @-@ stop from many parts of the Øresund Region . From Hyllie railway station , spectators can reach Malmö Central Station in 7 minutes , or Copenhagen Airport in 12 minutes .

Parking is available on the western , northern , and eastern sides of the arena . In total , 3 @, @ 400 parking spaces are available . These areas are operated by Malmö Stad . There is also a parking garage named " P @-@ huset Hyllie " located on the eastern side of Hyllie station . This garage is open all hours and can accommodate 1 @, @ 400 vehicles . There is also an interior parking garage in the arena with room for 200 vehicles .

It is also possible to walk or cycle to the arena from central Malmö via Kroksbäck and Kroksbäcksparken . An area reserved for the parking of up to 1 @, @ 000 bicycles is located on the eastern side of the arena . There are areas for charter buses as well as taxis beside the arena 's main and side entrances .