

BIRKA HISTORICAL TATTOO FEST

PROGRAM JUNE 6, 2024

THURSDAY

11:00-20:00

OPENING HOURS FOR VISITORS

11:00-21:00

OPENING HOURS FOR RESTAURANT

10:00 - WORKKSHOP - Red Dye Workshops for Beginners

(More information on page 2)

12:00 - MUSIC - Daj Ognia (outside museum)

12:30 - GUIDED TOUR in English

13:00 - MUSIC AND HISTORICAL DANCES - Javaryna (outside museum)

13:00 - WORKKSHOP - Magical Herbalism

(More information on page 3)

13:00 - WORKKSHOP - Creating the Straw Garden - Sacred Rituals
& Traditional Crafts (More information on page 3)

13:45 - GUIDED TOUR in Swedish

14:00 - WORKKSHOP - Throat singing (More information on page 4)

14:30 - HOW VIKINGS MAKE FIRE? (in Viking village)

15:00 - GUIDED TOUR in English

15:00 - WORKKSHOP - Medicinal Plant and Herbs from the North

(More information on page 4)

15:15 - MUSIC AND HISTORICAL DANCES - Daj Ognia (outside museum)

16:15 - GUIDED TOUR in Swedish

17:30 - MUSIC AND HISTORICAL DANCES - Javaryna (outside museum)

EVENING - WORKKSHOP - At the Holy Grove of Birka (More information on page 2)

ALL DAY ACTIVITIES:

Get a real tattoo (book your session before or walk in) ~ Viking "tattoos" for kids & face painting ~ Viking market (jewelry, glass beads, fur, woodwork, wood furniture, leather, wool, amber, birch boxes and bags, tablet weaving, viking clothes, blacksmith, pottery & more) ~ Visit Viking village and take part in viking life ~ Visit museum shop & Tattoo area ~ Read the runes ~ Try Archery ~ Guided tours ~ Get a unique wet plate collodion picture in Birka ~ Get the massage ~ Workshops - see separate workshop program

BIRKA HISTORICAL TATTOO FEST

WORKSHOPS JUNE 6, 2024

RED DYE WORKSHOPS FOR BEGINNERS

Thursday June 6 - 10.00-16.00 with lunch break

Bring your own wool yarn or fabric/clothing and experience the magic of plant dyeing. I offer dye vats and my own experience - you bring your own material to dye.

If you want to buy some fabric or wool yarn before, contact me and I will arrange it for you. Everyone is welcome to drop-in and discuss plant dyeing with us during the workshops.

Maximum 5 participants per workshop

SEK 200 plus costs for dyeing material depending on shade and grams of wool

Registration deadline May 1 at: fornstil@gmail.com

Instagram: [@fornstil](https://www.instagram.com/fornstil)



AT THE HOLY GROVE OF BIRKA

WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT NORSE CUSTOMS AND CAN IT STILL BE PRACTICED?

Thursday June 6 - evening

As far we understand, Birka wasn't an intolerant site to other customs. Still today we want to keep an openminded and including climate that suits the needs of our world in time.

At Thursday evening an introduction and opening of the Harg will be held, our spot at the island where to share and care inspired by old Norse beliefs.

Each day at the festival as the sun is at its highest Johan Sandmark offers his time in exchange of knowledge with you, within and among.

Experienced and well familiar in its practice Johan represent the function of this both in historical context but also as an overviewing philosophy that throughout time connect our existence to each other's and else.

Later at the day of the Sun an thankful enclosure of the Harg will be held for this time with blessings ahead.

If you have thoughts, a wish or desire in mutual contribution you're welcome to contact Johan on ig [@theswedishfiking](https://www.instagram.com/theswedishfiking)

Meeting point: Holy Grove at Birka

BIRKA HISTORICAL TATTOO FEST

WORKSHOPS JUNE 6, 2024

MAGICAL HERBALISM

Thursday June 6 - 13.00 (1-1,5 h)

We will take a walk around the beautiful island, identifying a few plants along the way as we discuss approaches to working with plants for magic and medicine. As we walk Albert will talk about approaches to magical herbalism, when and where plants should be gathered from, where these ideas come from and how we can be doing our best to be in harmony with the spirits of the lands we gather these plants from. We will conclude the walk with a short simple ceremony of thanks to the spirits of the place.

Albert has been teaching classes in magical herbalism, staves, runes and witchcraft for many years, author of two books 'Icelandic Plant Magic' and 'Icelandic Folk Magic' and has been a practicing folk magician and witch for nearly 20 years.

Maximum 15/20 participant

Fee: A donation would be wonderful if you feel happy to share. Paypal and swish are both accepted.

Albert will have a few of his magical wares and books available for purchase at the festival.

No registration needed.

CREATING THE STRAW GARDEN - SACRED RITUALS AND TRADITIONAL CRAFTS

Thursday June 6 - 13.00 (Up to 2 h)

Join us for a hands-on experience where we dive into the ancient Slavic tradition of creating a Straw Garden. This sacred ritual involves crafting a mesmerizing decorative art piece from straw, traditionally performed during significant cultural rituals, including weddings. The Straw Garden is not only a form of art but a symbolic representation of the 'axis mundi'—a concept portraying the connection between the heavens and the earth, serving as a metaphysical focal point in Slavic culture.

In this workshop, participants will learn the techniques to construct their own Straw Garden, understanding its historical significance and the role it plays in transforming chaos into order during pivotal life events. This craft represents a crystalline form, echoing the deep-rooted Slavic belief in harmony and balance within the cosmos. We invite you to immerse yourself in this enriching experience, reconnecting with ancient traditions and exploring the cultural depth of Slavic heritage through artistic expression.

Fee: Free

Drop-in if space available.

BIRKA HISTORICAL TATTOO FEST

WORKSHOPS JUNE 6, 2024

MEDICAL PLANT AND HERBS FROM THE NORTH

Thursday June 6 - 15.00 (1,5-2h)

There were no pharmacies in those days. It wasn't paracetamol and you couldn't call a doctor every time you had health problems. Knowledge of plant medicine determined whether one should live or not. Nature has everything we need, we just forgot the natural ways to preserve the health of both body and spirit. We gather outside the museum and go up to Birka's burial ground together. Lecturer for this workshop is Audra Blagniene.

SEK 200 - pay cash to the instructor

Registration by e-mail: audrablagniene@gmail.com

Registration is binding. Drop-in if space becomes available.



THROAT SINGING

Thursday June 6 - 14.00 in front of museum (2,5 h)

Workshops will be conducted by Marcin Rumiski, a professional throat and overtone singer with over 25 years of practice. The lecturer is the founder of the music bands Shannon (Irish music) and KRIVE (Old Prusian music, from the north of Poland) and have run it ever since. Marcin is a professional Musician, Composer, Producer, Multi-instrumentalist, and Voice Actor. Most importantly, he is specialized in Etno singing techniques from around the world and he welcomes all of you, warmly, to join these workshops – and eager share his knowledge with you.

Marcin is going to introduce you to the world of throat and overtone singing, showing you the basics of each of his techniques.

He will start to show how it's supposed to sound, answering all your questions, and help you practice - in the end you will be able to throat sing like a pro. Your instrument is always with you, so don't be afraid of not being prepared. This kind of singing is a form of relaxation and meditation on its own, so you will walk out from this workshop completely calm and satisfied with your own progress.



Maximum 10 participants per workshop each day

50 EURO - pay cash to the instructor

Registration by e-mail: marcin.shannon@gmail.com (title the email „MUSIC WORKSHOPS”).

Drop-in if space becomes available - sign in 14.00 outside the museum.