



LUND
UNIVERSITY

International Conference on Invertebrate Vision

*Bäckaskog Castle, Sweden
August 1 - August 8, 2008*

FINAL CIRCULAR

Dear Friends,

This is the last conference circular prior to the conference, which is now less than one month away. Please read this carefully because it contains important information that may be useful before and during the conference.

We look forward very much to having you all with us, and wish you a safe and pleasant journey!

Our warmest regards,

Eric Warrant

Dan-Eric Nilsson

Anna Gislén

FINAL INFORMATION

Telephones, internet and how to be contacted while at the conference

The mobile telephone net in Sweden is GSM-based as in all of Europe, which means that delegates from Europe, Australia, South East Asia and South Africa will be able to use their own mobile phones. For American and Japanese delegates without GSM-compatible phones, and for those without mobile phones, a regular phone will be provided at the castle. The rooms do not have their own phone.

Wireless broadband internet will be available for use on your own laptop computer throughout the conference.

If there is an emergency at home, and you need to be contacted by family or friends while attending the conference, the following telephone numbers may be used:

Bäckaskog Castle: + 46 – 44 – 530 20 (telephone)
 + 46 – 44 – 532 20 (fax)
 info@backaskogslott.se (e-mail)

Eric Warrant: + 46 – 704 – 96 4927 (mobile phone)
Anna Gislén: + 46 – 705 – 48 0235 (mobile phone)

Arrival by car

If you plan to arrive by car, Bäckaskog Castle is about 5 - 10 km north-east of the village of Fjälkinge, which in turn lies about 15 - 20 km east of Kristianstad along the E22, a major road that meanders along the Swedish east coast. As you drive along the E22 eastwards from Kristianstad (towards Kalmar) watch out for a service station displaying a tall sign with the text "Route 66" on your left-hand side. When you see this service station, take the exit off the main road to the right. This will bring you up to an overpass that you should turn left onto in order to cross over (i.e. above) the main road in the direction of the service station. Drive ahead until you see a round-about and drive through this in the direction of Fjälkinge. Within a kilometre you will enter Fjälkinge and soon afterwards leave it again. Keep driving along the same road until you see lakes both on the left and right sides. You should now see Bäckaskog Castle to your left (flapping Swedish flags are also a give away).



Transport from Kristianstad railway station

We will run a regular bus and minibus service from Kristianstad railway station to Bäckaskog Castle during the afternoon of Friday August 1. The buses will depart Kristianstad approximately every hour from noon until 7 pm. If you arrive at other hours you will have to take a taxi to Bäckaskog castle.

The buses and bus-stop will be clearly marked with signs indicating the conference, and in addition the staff of the railway station will be warned of your arrival and of our procedures, just in case you get lost. The reception dinner will start at 7 pm.

Accompanying persons program

The staff of Bäckaskog have put together a nice program of activities for those not attending the lectures. Bus trips will take place on most days of the conference, and will include visits to medieval villages and sightseeing in the surrounding countryside. Apart from a trip to the famous Orrefors glass works in Småland, all activities will be on a “wait-and-see” basis, depending on the number of people interested and the weather at the time. All trips will cost somewhere between 150 and 250 kronor per person, except for the Orrefors trip, which will cost at least 275 kronor and at most 550 kronor, depending on the number joining in.

Alcoholic beverages

As most of you probably know, Sweden has strict regulations concerning the sale and distribution of alcohol. It can only be sold at special government stores (known as the Systembolaget), and at prices many foreigners find shocking. According to Swedish law, because Bäckaskog Castle is a licensed establishment, any alcoholic beverages consumed within the public areas of the castle itself must be purchased from their bar. However, this does not apply to alcoholic beverages discretely consumed in the gardens or in one's own room (i.e. it does not apply to duty-free alcoholic beverages you may bring with you). We will provide a good deal of wine free at each meal, but every subsequent bottle (or glass of beer) must be purchased from the bar. Bäckaskog's prices are quite reasonable by Swedish standards, but expect to pay 45 kr for a 400 – 500 ml beer, and at least 200 kr for a bottle of wine.