Swedish Essentials for Total Beginners

Lesson 9. Months of the Year and Seasons

There are twelve months and in Sweden, we usually talk about 4 seasons: winter, spring, summer, autumn/fall

en årstid - a season

vinter – winter vår – spring sommar – summer höst – autumn

The year starts in January. We write months without capital letters. The names of the months in Swedish are very much like the names of the months in English.

januari

februari

mars

april

maj

juni

juli

augusti

september

oktober

november

december

In January – i januari In February – i februari

Det är kallt i februari. - It is cold in February. Det är varmt i juli. - It is warm in July.

When it comes to connecting months and seasons, it can be a little bit different for different regions. Sweden is a long country so there can be different seasons at the same time. For example, when it is spring in Southern Sweden, it can be still cold and winter in Northern Sweden.

The Swedish weather forecast service (SMHI), for example, has its own rules about what should be considered the beginning of spring, summer, and winter. Usually, it is connected to temperatures.

Besides "vinter", "vår", "sommar" and "höst" people can say "sensommar" (late summer) or "senhöst" (late autumn/fall), "tidig vår" (early spring), vårvinter ("spring-winter", the time between winter and spring, usually in March, "den femte årstiden"), etc.