



### ARTS AND CRAFTS & CAFÉ

Kronhuset, built in 1654, is one of the oldest buildings in Gothenburg. Today the brass band Göteborg Wind Orchestra uses the ground floor as concert hall. In Kronhusbodarna from the 18th-century you can visit artisans in their studios and buy their latest design products. Shop to your heart's delight for fine silver, ceramics, glass, leather products, chocolates, clothes and more. Take a load off your feet and sip a cup of hot coffee or enjoy lunch at the café.

[kronhuset.se](http://kronhuset.se)

### HIGAB

Kronhuset and Kronhusbodarna is owned and managed by Higab, a property company within the City of Gothenburg. Higab's property holdings comprise approximately 300 buildings, including market halls, museums, theatres, sports arenas, a ship and 27 listed buildings. Higab's remit includes the long-term conservation and development of properties in Gothenburg that are of cultural significance.



Kronhuset  
& Kronhusbodarna  
- Gothenburg's Historical Heart





The upper floors are well preserved since the 17th-century.

**IN 1640**, the War Collegium in Stockholm decided to build an armoury in Gothenburg – a warehouse for cannons, vehicles, uniforms and other necessary military equipment. Royal architect Simon de la Vallée is thought to have drawn up the blueprints. The six-storey-high building was constructed in two stages during the period 1642–1654. Dutch brick was used for the first storey, but when the work resumed Swedish brick was used for the rest of the building.

The ground floor of Kronhuset was intended to be used as storage for big things like carriages and cannons, and it was designed with an advanced truss system in which the joists were hung up in the roof trusses so that no pillars would be in the way. The other floors held everything from weapons and uniforms to medical supplies and grain.

#### **PROCLAMATION OF A KING IN KRONHuset**

In 1660, the newly built Kronhuset became a centre of power when King Charles X summoned to parliament in Gothenburg. The parliament convened in Kronhuset, whose ground floor served as the Hall of State. After the meeting, the king suddenly fell ill and died a few weeks later. His four-year-old son was declared the new king in Kronhuset on 1 March 1660 and given the name Charles XI.

#### **FROM STORAGE BUILDING TO CONCERT HALL**

Kronhuset has been used for many purposes over the years. From 1669 until the Götaland Artillery Regiment moved out to Kviberg in the 1890s, the ground floor served as church. In 1929, the City of Gothenburg took over the ownership of Kronhuset from the state and used it as a warehouse for the Gothenburg Museum. In the 1990s, the museum moved out of the building. Today the Göteborg Wind Orchestra rents the entire building and uses the Hall of State as a concert hall.

The exterior of Kronhuset looks the same today as it did when it was built, and the majority of the bricks are still original, making this the best-preserved 17th-century building in Gothenburg. Over the south entrance hangs a wooden emblem – an 1889 copy of an older emblem that probably hung at one of the old city gates.

Over time, the truss system on the ground floor had to be supported with panel-clad pillars. These were later replaced with concealed iron roof beams during a major renovation of Kronhuset in 1952–1957, making the room once again fully open.

The current Hall of State on the ground floor is a reconstruction of the original one. The warehouse areas on the upper floors are well preserved.

#### **KRONHUSBODARNA**

In the 17th-century several small wooden buildings – Kronhusbodarna – were built in front of Kronhuset to house wagons, forge and workshops for the military. In the great city fire 1746 Kronhuset was spared but all the wooden houses were destroyed. They were replaced with six stone buildings where also offices for the artillery and fortification were established. The west wing is designed by Peter Magnus Rewegin and the right wing by Bengt Wilhelm Carlberg.

Kronhusparken (The Kronhus Park) was established in the 1930s when the City of Gothenburg bought the property. The courtyard area got its present appearance with cobblestones and setts in the late 1960s. Kronhusbodarna were rebuilt in the 1970s to accommodate craft shops, studios and a café. The Kronhuset block became a listed building in 1968 and has been managed by Higab since 1991.



Kronhusbodarna