



An NHL first will occur when the Pittsburgh Penguins and Nashville Predators square off for two games during the **2025 NHL Global Series Sweden presented by Fastenal** at Avicii Arena in Stockholm, with active Swedish scoring leaders **Erik Karlsson** and **Filip Forsberg** and Olympic-bound captains **Sidney Crosby** and **Roman Josi** among the stars across the two rosters.

This year's two-game set begins Friday, Nov. 14 (2 p.m. ET) and concludes Sunday, Nov. 16 (9 a.m. ET). It will bring the total count to 48 NHL regular-season games contested outside North America, played in six countries – and nine total cities – across two continents.

Resources:

- * [#NHLStats Pack: 2025 Global Series](#)
- * [Interactive Information Guide](#)
- * [Games Outside North America](#)
- * [Standings for Games Played Outside North America](#)

THREE NEED-TO-KNOW #NHLSTATS

* The Pittsburgh and Nashville rosters feature the two highest-scoring active European defensemen in terms of goals (**Erik Karlsson** and **Roman Josi**), the highest-scoring active Swedish goal scorer (**Filip Forsberg**) and the top point producer overall among active players (**Sidney Crosby**).

* Four players between the two rosters were part of the League's first venture into *continental Europe* for regular-season games during the [2008 Premiere Series](#) (**Sidney Crosby**, **Evgeni Malkin**, **Kris Letang** and **Steven Stamkos**).

* This will mark the first time that NHL teams compete head-to-head in multiple regular-season events overseas – the Predators-Penguins met 25 years ago in Saitama, Japan to open the 2000-01 regular season with *GAME One Japan 2000* (the League's last regular-season venture to Asia).



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TOP SCORERS SET FOR SERIES IN SWEDEN

The 2025 NHL Global Series Sweden presented by Fastenal features two clubs with the two highest-scoring active European defensemen in terms of goals in **Erik Karlsson** and **Roman Josi**, the top goal scorer among active Swedish players in **Filip Forsberg** and the highest scoring active player overall in **Sidney Crosby**.

* Karlsson is the active leader in [goals](#), [assists](#) and [points](#) among European blueliners and, along with Josi, ranks among the top seven all-time for career goals, assists and points among NHL defensemen born outside North America. Swedish blueliners occupy at least the top two spots on two of those all-time lists.

FASTENAL GLOBAL SERIES™ SWEDEN • 2025

ALL-TIME NHL LEADERS DEFENSEMEN BORN OUTSIDE NORTH AMERICA

GOALS

	NICKLAS LIDSTROM	264
	SERGEI GONCHAR	220
	ZDENO CHARA	209
	ERIK KARLSSON	201
	ROMAN JOSI	191
	VICTOR HEDMAN	171
	SANDIS OZOLINSH	167

ASSISTS

	NICKLAS LIDSTROM	878
	ERIK KARLSSON	681
	BORJE SALMING	637
	VICTOR HEDMAN	635
	SERGEI ZUBOV	619
	SERGEI GONCHAR	591
	ROMAN JOSI	538

POINTS

	NICKLAS LIDSTROM	1,142
	ERIK KARLSSON	882
	SERGEI GONCHAR	811
	VICTOR HEDMAN	806
	BORJE SALMING	787
	SERGEI ZUBOV	771
	ROMAN JOSI	729

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* Overall, three of the top 30 highest scoring blueliners of all time – in all three categories ([goals](#), [assists](#) and [points](#)) – are with the Penguins or Predators (Karlsson, Josi and **Kris Letang**).

* Karlsson is the highest-scoring active Swedish player, in terms of [points](#) (and [assists](#)), while **Filip Forsberg** is the active leader in [goals](#) for Swedish players.

* Another active NHL leader will take center stage in Stockholm as **Sidney Crosby** – the top producer for career [assists](#) and [points](#) – will get his second taste of overseas NHL action.

HOW SWEDE IT IS TO BE BACK IN STOCKHOLM

* Swedish players make up 10% of the NHL this season (min. 1 GP through Oct. 23). Seven of the past eight campaigns have finished with Sweden accounting for at least a 10% share of NHL players, including an all-time high of 11% in 2019-20. The five Swedish players across the two rosters (including Injured Reserve):



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* **Erik Karlsson** (PIT; Landsbro, Sweden): Seeking his second Olympic appearance, Karlsson led all Swedish players in scoring – and tied American forward **Phil Kessel** for the overall tournament scoring lead – the last time NHL players participated at the Olympic Winter Games. In 2014, Karlsson had 4-4—8 in six games to secure Best Defenseman honors and secure a silver medal. Karlsson also topped NHL defensemen in points during the 2013-14 campaign, part of a stretch in which he and now teammate **Kris Letang** led NHL blueliners in points for five straight seasons (Karlsson: 2011-12 & 2013-14 to 2015-16; Letang: tied in 2012-13).

* **Filip Forsberg** (NSH; Ostervala, Sweden): Vying for a roster spot at Olympic Winter Games Milano Cortina 2026, Forsberg is the active leader in goals among Swedish players, just ahead of Rangers forward **Mika Zibanejad**. That places Forsberg seventh on the [all-time list among Swedish nationals](#). He is one of eight active players who is a [franchise goals leader](#), along with current Predators teammates **Steven Stamkos** ([TBL](#)) and **Jonathan Marchessault** ([VGK](#)), as well as **Alex Ovechkin** ([WSH](#)), **Mark Scheifele** ([WPG](#)), **Aleksander Barkov** ([FLA](#)), **Jared McCann** ([SEA](#)) and **Clayton Keller** ([UTA](#)).



GLOBAL SERIES SWEDEN-2025 FASTENAL

MOST NHL GOALS SWEDISH NATIONALS

MATS SUNDIN	564
DANIEL ALFREDSSON	444
MARKUS NASLUND	395
TOMAS SANDSTROM	394
DANIEL SEDIN	393
HENRIK ZETTERBERG	337
► FILIP FORSBERG*	325
MIKA ZIBANEJAD*	319

*ACTIVE #NHLSTATS



* **Rickard Rakell** (PIT; Sundbyberg, Sweden): A six-time 20-goal scorer, Rakell is coming off a career-high 35-goal campaign in 2024-25. Rakell ranks among the highest-scoring active Swedish players (top 6 in [goals](#), top 15 in [assists](#) & [points](#)) as he vies for a spot with Team Sweden at the upcoming Olympic Winter Games (after being added to the roster for the 4 Nations Face-Off last February). Rakell is [sidelined but on the trip](#) to his home country.

* **Adam Wilsby** (NSH; Stockholm, Sweden): Still a rookie after logging 1-4—5 in 23 games during the 2024-25 campaign, Wilsby is set to skate in his hometown ([he grew up in a suburb just north of Stockholm](#)). Seventy-two European players have played an NHL game in their home country, including 42 who have tallied a point (skaters and goaltenders).

* **Filip Hallander** (PIT; Sundsvall, Sweden): A second-round pick by Pittsburgh in the 2018 NHL Draft, Hallander was traded twice before making his NHL debut – dealt to the Maple Leafs and then reacquired by the Penguins less than a year later. After playing three NHL games over two seasons, Hallander returned to Sweden for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 campaigns and was named SHL Forward of the Year last season after finishing second in league scoring (26-27—53 in 51 GP, tops among Swedish players in the SHL). Hallander scored his first NHL goal Oct. 16 (7 GP) but will miss the Global Series [after being diagnosed with a blood clot](#).



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* Sweden has had the highest share of NHL players among non-North America countries for 17 consecutive seasons (2009-10 to 2025-26). That stretch includes 11 straight seasons at 9% or higher (2015-16 to 2025-26) and 15 consecutive campaigns at 7% or higher (2011-12 to 2025-26). The last non-North American country to have more NHL players than Sweden in one campaign was Czechia, which had 57 to Sweden's 54 in 2008-09 (which also happened to be the first campaign to feature NHL games in *continental Europe*, played in Prague and Stockholm).

* Through Nov. 10, there have been 8,737 total players in NHL history, including 430 Swedish nationals (387 skaters & 43 goaltenders) who have appeared in an NHL game (regular season or playoffs).



* These will be the 18th and 19th NHL regular-season games played in Sweden, the most of any country outside North America; 18 of those will have been played in Stockholm, topping the list for non-North American cities.

* The last NHL games in Sweden were two years ago, when four teams competed in four straight days of action in Stockholm from Nov. 16-19, 2023 (detailed [here](#)). Legendary Penguins goaltender **Marc-Andre Fleury** skated in the last NHL game in Sweden, a 4-3 defeat with the Wild against the Maple Leafs – when Swedish forward **William Nylander** [netted the overtime winner in front of family and friends](#).

* Swedish players have combined for 41 points across the 17 games played in the country to date (15-26—41), including 5-6—11 across the four games two years ago.

OVERSEAS EXPERIENCE

PENGUINS AND PREDATORS

* Fifteen players across the two rosters have played in an NHL regular-season game outside North America. Career stats for each are available in the [Information Guide](#) (page 5).

* Eight Penguins players have played in an NHL regular-season game outside North America: **Erik Karlsson** (4 GP), **Connor Clifton** (2 GP), **Sidney Crosby** (2 GP), **Connor Dewar** (2 GP), **Mathew Dumba** (2 GP), **Kris**



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Letang (2 GP), **Evgeni Malkin** (2 GP) and **Kevin Hayes** (1 GP).

* Seven Predators players have played in an NHL regular-season game outside North America: **Steven Stamkos** (4 GP), **Nick Blankenburg** (2 GP), **Filip Forsberg** (2 GP), **Erik Haula** (2 GP), **Roman Josi** (2 GP), **Cole Smith** (2 GP) and **Juuse Saros** (1 GP).

* Four players were part of the League's first venture *into continental Europe* for regular-season games during the [2008 Premiere Series](#): **Sidney Crosby**, **Evgeni Malkin** and **Kris Letang** helped the Penguins earn a split with the Senators in Stockholm, while **Steven Stamkos** skated the first two games of his NHL career with the Lightning in Prague, Czechia. Crosby and Malkin had one point apiece in each of those contests – the first two NHL regular-season games played in Sweden. Current Penguins assistant general manager **Jason Spezza** squared off against the Penguins in those contests, collecting 1–2—3 with the Senators.

* **Erik Karlsson** (0-4—4 in 4 GP w/ OTT & SJS) can become the sixth player to skate for three different NHL teams outside North America. He is one of six defensemen with at least four career points in such contests and can tie the NHL benchmark for games played outside North America (6).



CROSBY, SPEZZA HAVE HISTORY OVERSEAS

Sidney Crosby and current Penguins assistant GM Jason Spezza squared off during the 2008 Premiere Series in Sweden and won a gold medal together at the 2015 World Championship in Czechia.

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PENGUINS, PREDATORS MEET AGAIN

25 YEARS AFTER FIRST OVERSEAS MATCHUP

* The Penguins and Predators are the first set of teams to meet in multiple regular-season events overseas, with each team claiming a 3-1 win during *GAME ONE Japan 2000* – the fifth and sixth NHL regular-season games played outside North America. At that time, the NHL had never played regular-season games in Europe.

* These will be the fifth and sixth regular-season games outside North America for both clubs (NSH: 3-1-0; PIT: 2-2-0), which will tie [five other clubs for the most](#). In addition to their head-to-head in Japan 25 years ago, Pittsburgh has played previously in Stockholm, Sweden (2 GP in 2008 Premiere Series vs. OTT) while Nashville skated in Prague, Czechia (2 GP in 2022 Global Series vs. SJS).



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* Nashville (3-1-0) and Pittsburgh (2-2-0) can both join Ottawa (5-0-1) and Florida (4-2-0) as the only clubs with at least four wins in NHL regular-season games played outside North America.

* Thirty-five players have made their NHL regular-season debut in a game played outside North America, including current Nashville forward **Steven Stamkos** ([Oct. 4, 2008](#)) and longtime Predators fan favorite **Scott Hartnell** – who did so in the [Predators-Penguins showdown](#) at *GAME ONE Japan 2000*.



TROTZ SET TO ACHIEVE NHL FIRST

Barry Trotz was behind the Predators bench during *GAME ONE Japan 2000* and is set to become the first individual in NHL history to serve at least one regular-season game outside North America as a head coach and general manager.

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FAST FACTS

A few fast facts from #NHLStats:

* Six players have scored their first NHL goal in a game played outside North America, including one for the Penguins (**Alex Goligoski** in the 2008 Premiere Series; that also happens to be the only such instance in Sweden).

* Twelve players have recorded their first NHL point in a game played outside North America, including two for the Predators (**Greg Classen** in the [GAME ONE Japan 2000](#) in Saitama and **Cole Smith** in the [2022 Global Series](#) in Prague; Classen's was against the Penguins).

* Four Penguins and Predators players were named to their respective country's preliminary roster for the Olympic Games Milano Cortina 2026: Pittsburgh's **Sidney Crosby** (Team Canada) and **Arturs Silovs** (Team Latvia) as well as Nashville's **Roman Josi** (Team Switzerland) and **Juuse Saros** (Team Finland).

* A total of 42 players recorded a point in a regular-season NHL game played *in their home country outside North America* (23 in Sweden), including six who have scored a goal in their listed hometown (3 in Sweden). A breakdown is below.



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- * Half of all NHL regular-season games played outside North America have been decided by a one-goal margin or ended in a tie (50%; 23 of 46), including all four the last time games were played in Sweden. The breakdown includes 22 contests where a team won by a one-goal margin along with one tie.
- * Eleven NHL contests played overseas have gone past regulation, including three of four during the last event in Sweden.
- * There are eight birth countries represented across the Penguins and Predators rosters: Canada, Finland, Latvia, Russia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland and the United States. **Harrison Brunicke** (PIT) is the first South African-born skater in NHL history.
- * A total of 48 different Swedish players have won the Stanley Cup (based on nationality; 45 if measuring by birth country).
- * Eight Swedish-born players have been inducted in the Hockey Hall of Fame: **Borje Salming** (1996), **Mats Sundin** (2012), **Peter Forsberg** (2014), **Nicklas Lidstrom** (2015), **Daniel Alfredsson** (2022), **Daniel Sedin** (2022), **Henrik Sedin** (2022) and **Henrik Lundqvist** (2023). The 2022 induction marked the first time multiple players from Sweden were called to the Hall in the same year.
- * Two Swedish players have captained a Stanley Cup champion: **Nicklas Lidstrom** (2008 DET) and **Gabriel Landeskog** (2022 COL).
- * A total of 21 different Swedish-born players have won an individual NHL Award, including three-time Norris Trophy winner **Erik Karlsson** (2022-23, 2014-15 & 2011-12). [Click here](#) for more on Karlsson's last Norris win.
- * **Erik Karlsson's** three Norris Trophy wins are outpaced by only four players all-time: **Bobby Orr** (8), **Nicklas Lidstrom** (7), **Doug Harvey** (7) and **Ray Bourque** (5). Lidstrom, Karlsson and **Victor Hedman** (1) have combined for 11 Norris Trophy wins, giving Sweden the second most of any country, behind Canada (49).
- * Sweden is one of two countries aside from Canada to produce at least three different Art Ross Trophy winners, in **Peter Forsberg** (2002-03), **Henrik Sedin** (2009-10) and **Daniel Sedin** (2010-11).
- * Sweden is one of four different countries to produce a Conn Smythe Trophy winner: **Nicklas Lidstrom** (2002), **Henrik Zetterberg** (2008) and **Victor Hedman** (2020). Lidstrom and Hedman are the only defensemen born outside North America to capture the honor.
- * **Mats Sundin** (564-785—1,349) is the highest-scoring Swedish player in League history, in terms of both [goals](#) and [points](#), while **Nicklas Lidstrom** (878 in 1,564 GP) tops the list for [assists](#) and [games played](#). Four players on the Penguins and Predators rosters played against both of them (**Sidney Crosby**, **Kris Letang**, **Evgeni Malkin** & **Steven Stamkos**), and another three played against only Lidstrom (**Erik Karlsson**, **Roman Josi** and **Ryan O'Reilly**).
- * **Henrik Lundqvist** (459) has the most career [wins](#) among Swedish goaltenders (the sixth most in NHL history overall), followed in second place by **Jacob Markstrom** (the active leader among Swedish netminders).
- * **Patrik Allvin** (VAN) of Sweden is one of three general managers in NHL history that was born in *continental Europe* (also **Jarmo Kekalainen** of Finland and **John Andersen** of Denmark). Allvin (2023-24) is the only European to be a finalist for the Jim Gregory General Manager of the Year Award.



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MOST NHL POINTS IN BIRTH COUNTRY, EUROPEAN PLAYERS

PLAYER	POS	BIRTH CITY	BIRTH COUNTRY	HOST CITY	GP	G	A	P
Patrik Laine	L	Tampere	Finland	Helsinki, Tampere	4	5	1	6
Aleksander Barkov	C	Tampere	Finland	Helsinki, Tampere	4	1	5	6
Mikko Rantanen	R	Nousiainen	Finland	Tampere	2	3	2	5
Erik Karlsson	D	Landsbro	Sweden	Stockholm	2	0	4	4
Kristian Huselius	L	Osterhaninge	Sweden	Stockholm	2	2	1	3
Jussi Jokinen	L	Kalajoki	Finland	Helsinki	2	1	2	3
David Krejci	C	Sternberk	Czechia	Prague	2	0	3	3
Lucas Raymond	L	Gothenburg	Sweden	Stockholm	2	2	0	2
Radim Vrbata	R	Mlada Boleslav	Czechia	Prague	4	2	0	2
Esa Lindell	D	Vantaa	Finland	Tampere	2	1	1	2
Victor Olofsson	L	Ornskoldsvik	Sweden	Stockholm	2	1	1	2
Victor Hedman	D	Ornskoldsvik	Sweden	Stockholm	2	1	1	2
Johnny Oduya	D	Stockholm	Sweden	Stockholm	2	1	1	2
Niklas Kronwall	D	Stockholm	Sweden	Stockholm	2	1	1	2
Niko Mikkola	D	Kiiminki	Finland	Tampere	2	0	2	2
Mikko Koivu	C	Turku	Finland	Helsinki	2	0	2	2
Anton Stralman	D	Tibro	Sweden	Stockholm	2	0	2	2
Henrik Zetterberg	C	Njurunda	Sweden	Stockholm	2	0	2	2
Daniel Alfredsson	R	Gothenburg	Sweden	Stockholm	2	0	2	2
Ville Leino	L	Savonlinna	Finland	Helsinki	1	1	0	1
Tomas Hertl	C	Praha	Czechia	Prague	2	1	0	1
Artturi Lehkonen	L	Piikkio	Finland	Tampere	2	1	0	1
Tuomo Ruutu	L	Vantaa	Finland	Helsinki	2	1	0	1
Anton Lundell	C	Espoo	Finland	Tampere	2	1	0	1
Ville Koistinen	D	Oulu	Finland	Helsinki	2	1	0	1
Tomas Holmstrom	L	Pitea	Sweden	Stockholm	2	1	0	1
Fredrik Claesson	D	Stockholm	Sweden	Stockholm	2	1	0	1
Erik Brannstrom	D	Eksjo	Sweden	Stockholm	2	1	0	1
Patrik Berglund	C	Vasteras	Sweden	Stockholm	2	1	0	1
Jonathan Ericsson	D	Karlskrona	Sweden	Stockholm	2	1	0	1
Anton Forsberg	G	Harnosand	Sweden	Stockholm	1	0	1	1
Eetu Luostarinen	C	Siilinjärvi	Finland	Tampere	2	0	1	1
Miro Heiskanen	D	Espoo	Finland	Tampere	2	0	1	1
Antti Miettinen	R	Hameenlinna	Finland	Helsinki	2	0	1	1
Joni Pitkanen	D	Oulu	Finland	Helsinki	2	0	1	1
Gabriel Landeskog	L	Stockholm	Sweden	Stockholm	2	0	1	1
Rasmus Dahlin	D	Lidköping	Sweden	Stockholm	2	0	1	1
Jonas Brodin	D	Karlstad	Sweden	Stockholm	2	0	1	1
Joel Eriksson Ek	C	Karlstad	Sweden	Stockholm	2	0	1	1
Samuel Pahlsson	C	Ange	Sweden	Stockholm	2	0	1	1
Johan Franzen	R	Vetlanda	Sweden	Stockholm	2	0	1	1
Marcus Johansson	L	Landskrona	Sweden	Gothenburg, Stockholm	5	0	1	1



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MOST NHL POINTS IN SWEDEN BY SWEDISH PLAYERS

SWEDISH PLAYER	POS.	GP	G	A	P
William Nylander	R	2	2	3	5
Erik Karlsson	D	2	0	4	4
Kristian Huselius	L	2	2	1	3
Johnny Oduya	D	2	1	1	2
Niklas Kronwall	D	2	1	1	2
Victor Hedman	D	2	1	1	2
Victor Olofsson	L	2	1	1	2
Anton Stralman	D	2	0	2	2
Daniel Alfredsson	R	2	0	2	2
Henrik Zetterberg	C	2	0	2	2
Lucas Raymond	L	2	2	0	1
Erik Brannstrom	D	2	1	0	1
Fredrik Claesson	D	2	1	0	1
Jonathan Ericsson	D	2	1	0	1
Patrik Berglund	C	2	1	0	1
Tomas Holmstrom	L	2	1	0	1
Anton Forsberg	G	1	0	1	1
Gabriel Landeskog	L	2	0	1	1
Joel Eriksson Ek	C	2	0	1	1
Johan Franzen	R	2	0	1	1
Jonas Brodin	D	2	0	1	1
Rasmus Dahlin	D	2	0	1	1
Samuel Pahlsson	C	2	0	1	1
Marcus Johansson	L	5	0	1	1
Adam Larsson	D	1	0	0	0
Filip Gustavsson	G	1	0	0	0
Linus Ullmark	G	1	0	0	0
Oscar Klefbom	D	1	0	0	0
Alexander Steen	L	2	0	0	0
Andreas Lilja	D	2	0	0	0
Anton Lindholm	D	2	0	0	0
Calle Jarnkrok	C	2	0	0	0
Carl Hagelin	L	2	0	0	0
Carl Soderberg	C	2	0	0	0
Douglas Murray	D	2	0	0	0
Henrik Lundqvist	G	2	0	0	0
Jacob Larsson	D	2	0	0	0
Johan Larsson	L	2	0	0	0
John Klingberg	D	2	0	0	0
Jonas Junland	D	2	0	0	0
Jonatan Berggren	R	2	0	0	0
Liam Ohgren	L	2	0	0	0
Mattias Ritola	C	2	0	0	0
Nicklas Lidstrom	D	2	0	0	0
Niclas Wallin	D	2	0	0	0
Patrik Nemeth	D	2	0	0	0
Pontus Holmberg	R	2	0	0	0
Simon Edvinsson	D	2	0	0	0
Tim Erixon	D	2	0	0	0
Timothy Liljegren	D	2	0	0	0
William Lagesson	D	2	0	0	0



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SWEDISH GOALTENDERS IN SWEDEN

SWEDISH GOALIE	DRESSED	GP	GS	W	L	O	SO	GA	SV	SA	SV%	GAA
Henrik Lundqvist	2	2	2	0	0	2	0	4	58	54	.931	1.89
Anton Forsberg	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	24	25	.960	0.92
Filip Gustavsson	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	30	31	.968	0.93
Linus Ullmark	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	31	34	.912	3.09
Eddie Lack	1	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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