



Green Buildings



Green Transport

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## Case Study GB 7

**Sweden → Malmö, Apartment Building for Bike Commuters**

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## CASE STUDIES

# Sweden → Malmö, Apartment Building for Bike Commuters

**Problem to resolve:** Global warming through CO2 emissions

**Means:** shallow environmental footprint, energy saving in construction and operation



**Secondary Tools:** non individual motorized mobility

### Description

“As the car-free lifestyle grows increasingly popular, a team of architects has been developing an apartment building to match it. When Cykelhuset, or “bike house,” opened in Malmö, Sweden, in December 2016, it was the country’s first residential complex with no parking spaces attached to it, says Anders Gustafsson, part of the team from architecture firm Hauschild + Siegel, which designed the building. Malmö, Gustafsson adds, “is becoming more and more bike-friendly while building codes are stuck in a car-centered ideology.” The city generally mandates that around one parking spot be attached to each apartment unit; with Cykelhuset, the Hauschild + Siegel team decided “to challenge the status quo by presenting an alternative,” Gustafsson says. “

... In addition to promoting a sustainable lifestyle, the architects designed the building to operate with a very shallow environmental footprint. Solar energy generates the building’s heat and hot water, and greenery watered by automatic irrigation systems dominates the façade, Gustafsson says. Large private planters line each balcony; a shared greenhouse collects rainwater and provides communal space for residents. Sustainable construction in Sweden, Gustafsson says, “has largely revolved around minimizing energy usage in the construction process, and the energy spent by inhabitants while inside the building.” Cykelhuset reimagines the role an apartment building can play in shifting the lifestyle of its residents and the city around it, and it all comes down to cycling. Even the building’s windows, Gustafsson says, take their inspiration from a bike: they’re round, in homage to the wheels that the architects hope will soon be carting everyone around Malmö.”



### Further reading:

Anzilotti, E. 2016. Designing an Apartment Building for Bike Commuters - Cykelhuset in Malmö, Sweden, is engineered to support a car-free lifestyle. *Citylab*. September. 2016 (Source).

<http://www.citylab.com/navigator/2016/09/designing-an-apartment-building-for-bike-commuters/498782/>

<https://www.boplatssyd.se/nyproduktion/cykelhuset-ohboy>

<http://www.copenhagenize.com/2017/02/malmos-bicycle-house-is-open-cykelhuset.html>

1. Source:  
[https://happyride.se/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/DSC\\_0578.jpg](https://happyride.se/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/DSC_0578.jpg)