

Five days of top class orienteering in Sweden.



Helen, Freya and I finally arrived in Uppsala, Sweden, two years late, due to Covid. Sandra had travelled there separately – taking in the Stockholm City Race on the way.

The areas were amazing, very technical orienteering in fab forests, but no climb!

The whole event was run very smoothly; buses every day to the assembly areas, clear signage and despite there being over 18,000 competitors it never really felt overcrowded. There were, however, long walks to the starts. On most days

my walk to the start was longer than my course! But it turned out okay because there wasn't much climb and we got to walk through pleasant cool forest.

I was doing W60S. I have set myself the goal of finishing each day, and I did okay on the first four days, still languishing in the bottom quarter, but I'd got round without too many major errors. The last day was a chasing start. My start was one of the last times and I made a complete mess of getting to my first control. It completely freaked me out feeling I was in the forest all alone and I decided to call it a day. I was disappointed not to finish all five days.



This is my Day 1 course, successfully completed!

I would thoroughly recommend a trip to the O Ringen. It's a real spectacle, and it's great to see so many friends and families enjoying the sport together. They even have a creche for the little ones; you don't see many of these in the UK these days, and I didn't see one small person escape!

I definitely have unfinished business with the O Ringen and will be back to make sure I finish all five days.

Debbie

Sandra and Freya on the run in....

