

COPENHAGEN

ENCOUNTER

CRISTIAN BONETTO
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Copenhagen Encounter

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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Colour-Coding & Maps

Colour-coding is used for symbols on maps and in the text that they relate to (eg all eating venues on the maps and in the text are given a green fork symbol). Each neighbourhood also gets its own colour, and this is used down the edge of the page and throughout that neighbourhood section.

Shaded yellow areas on the maps denote 'areas of interest' – for their historical significance, their attractive architecture or their great bars and restaurants. We encourage you to head to these areas and just start exploring!

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CRISTIAN BONETTO

A weakness for svelte design, adventurous chefs and cycle-toned bodies first drew Cristian Bonetto to Copenhagen. Years later, the Australian-born travel writer and playwright remains gob-smacked at being able to swim in inner-city canals without getting a rash or being labelled clinically insane. He is equally captivated by the city's progressive green policies and high quota of perfect cheekbones. Indeed, Copenhagen's cutting-edge cuisine, fashion and contemporary-art scene continue to inspire this one-time soap scribe, whose musings on travel, trends and popular culture have appeared in Australian, British and Italian publications. When he isn't hunting down the next big thing in the Danish capital, you're likely to find Cristian scouring Sweden, Italy and New York for decent espresso, cheap chic and the perfect shot to post on Facebook. Cristian has contributed to more than 10 Lonely Planet titles to date, including *Sweden*, *Rome Encounter*, *Naples & the Amalfi Coast* and *Discover Italy*.



THE PHOTOGRAPHER

Raised in the Scottish Highlands, Jonathan Smith graduated from St Andrews University in 1994 with an MA in German. Unsure of what to do with his life, he took a flight to Vilnius and spent the next four years travelling around the former USSR. Having tried everything from language teaching to translating Lithuanian cookery books into English, Jon resolved to seek his fortune as a freelance travel photographer. Since then Jon's byline has appeared in more than 50 Lonely Planet titles.

Cover photograph Bike riding through Copenhagen, Panoramic Images/Getty Images. **Internal photographs** p24, p28, p30, p105, p115, p153 Christian Alsing/Wonderful Copenhagen (WoCo); p17 Susan Anderson/Getty Images; p151, p157 Morten Bjarnhof/(WoCo); p106 The Coffee Collective; p68 Marco Cristofori/Alamy; p23 Ireneusz Cyranek/(WoCo); p88 Thomas Evaldsen; p48 Rainer Hosch; p97 Ditte Isager; p137 Gunter Lenz/Nordicphotos/Alamy; p14 Niels Poulsen Mus/Alamy; p123 Kenneth Nguyen; p130 Jon Nordstrom/Granola Food Company; p22 SMK Photo; p162 Magnus Ragnvid/(WoCo); p26, p76, p155 Cees Van Roeden/(WoCo); p47 Radisson SAS Royal/(WoCo); p149 The Square/(WoCo); p44 Tivoli/(WoCo); p20 Louise Wilson/Getty Images; p61 Alastair Wiper/Henrik Vibskov; p27, p29, p57, p75, p148 (WoCo). All other photographs by Lonely Planet Images and by Jonathan Smith except p65, p140 Anders Blomqvist; p36 Christer Fredriksson; p70, p83, p85, p136, p150 Martin Llado; p160 Martin Moos.



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THIS IS COPENHAGEN

You'd be mistaken in thinking the Danish capital had been designed specifically for the short-break traveller. It's a compact, comprehensive city, but it still manages to cram a millennium of history and culture within its historic heart.

Copenhagen is the most cosmopolitan and accessible of all the Scandinavian capitals. This urban oasis of calm, culture and conviviality is packed with some excellent museums, art galleries and unique monuments, as well as plenty of enchanting, historic streets and other beguiling areas that are perfect for a stroll and a gawp. The same attributes that are said to give its inhabitants one of the highest standards of living in the world – its cleanliness, efficiency, safety and a superb infrastructure – work very much in the visitor's favour as well.

The city is remarkably compact and user-friendly. You can walk across it in a morning, or scoot about on the excellent metro and buses in minutes. Or you can just as easily spend an hour browsing in areas such as Ravnsborggade or Elmegade, or an afternoon getting to know the locals – fluent in English, of course – in a cosy cafe.

Where Copenhagen really excels is in its marriage of old and new. Gabled 17th-century town houses, cobbled squares, canals and green copper spires may define the aesthetic of this royal city but radical architecture, new trends and technology and, of course, that famously discerning design sense are equally in evidence. Copenhagen has largely resisted the tyranny of the chain store so its independent shops – interior design and fashion are major strengths – are a big part of its appeal.

And if you are looking for a fairy-tale experience, nobody does it better than the Danes. Hans Christian Andersen lived in Copenhagen for most of his life, and the architecture and atmosphere that inspired him is waiting to charm, excite and delight you, too.

Top left Cafe culture on Sankt Hans Torv, Nørrebro (p18) **Top right** Antique shopping in Nørrebro (p105) **Bottom** The lion statue at Det Kongelige Bibliotek (p75) looks up at the modern Black Diamond extension, Slotsholmen