



Denmark

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Best Places to Eat

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- » Mielcke & Hurtigkarl, Copenhagen (p335)
- » Nordisk Spisehus, Århus (p343)

Best Places to Be Inspired

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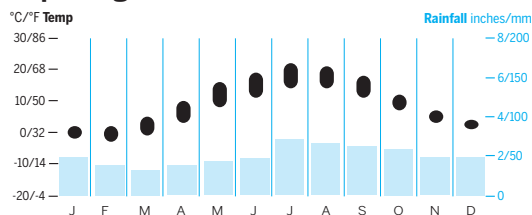
Why Go?

Denmark is the bridge between Scandinavia and northern Europe. To the rest of Scandinavia, the Danes are fun-loving, frivolous party animals, with relatively liberal, progressive attitudes. Their culture, food, architecture and appetite for conspicuous consumption owe as much, if not more, to their German neighbours to the south than to their former colonies – Sweden, Norway and Iceland – to the north.

Denmark's capital, Copenhagen, is one of the most charming and accessible cities in northern Europe, with top-notch museums, shops, bars, nightlife and, in particular, restaurants. Elsewhere, though there are other cities of interest such as Odense and Århus. Denmark's chief appeal lies in its gently idyllic countryside, coastline and historic sights such as Neolithic burial chambers; the bodies of well-preserved Iron Age people exhumed from their slumber in peat bogs; and atmospheric Viking ruins and treasures.

When to Go

Copenhagen



Jun & Jul Long days, buzzing beachside towns, Copenhagen Jazz and A-list rock fest Roskilde.

Sep & Oct Fewer crowds, golden landscapes and cosy nights by crackling open fires.

Dec Twinkling Christmas lights, ice-skating rinks and gallons of warming *gløgg* (mulled wine).

Connections

Denmark's modern, efficient transport network is well connected to the region and the rest of the world. Located in Copenhagen, its main airport, Kastrup, offers excellent long- and short-haul connections, while regional airports Billund and Århus in Jutland offer numerous European short-haul options. Good road and rail connections link Sweden and Germany to Denmark. Plentiful ferries link Denmark with all major Baltic destinations and also with Atlantic coast destinations in Norway, Faroe, Iceland and the UK.

ITINERARIES

One Week

You could comfortably spend three days in Copenhagen exploring the museums and galleries, bar hopping and shopping. A trip north along the coast to the magnificent modern-art museum, Louisiana, and then further north still to Helsingborg Slot, before returning south would be a great way to spend two days. If the weather is on your side, spend an extra day exploring north Zealand's historic fishing villages and sandy beaches. Otherwise, delve into Danish history in Roskilde.

Two Weeks

After time in Copenhagen, a quick catamaran ride will take you to the Baltic island of Bornholm, reputedly the sunniest slice of Denmark and famed for cycling, beaches and tasty smokehouses. Alternatively, head west, stopping off on the island of Funen to see Hans Christian Andersen's birthplace in Odense. Continue west to the Jutland Peninsula for the bustling city of Århus and magnificent Skagen, where the Baltic and North seas clash.

Essential Food & Drink

- » **Smørrebrød** Rye bread topped with anything from beef tartare to egg and prawns (shrimp); the open sandwich is Denmark's most famous culinary export
- » **Sild** Smoked, cured, pickled or fried, herring is a local staple and best washed down with generous serves of akvavit (schnapps)
- » **Kanelsnegle** A calorific delight, 'cinnamon snails' are sweet, buttery scrolls, sometimes laced with chocolate
- » **Akvavit** Denmark's best-loved spirit is caraway-spiced akvavit from Aalborg, drunk straight down as a shot, followed by a chaser of *øl* (beer)
- » **Lashings of beer** Carlsberg may dominate, but Denmark's expanding battalion of microbreweries includes Ølfabriken, Bröckhouse and Grauballe

AT A GLANCE

- » **Currency** Danish krone (Dkr)
- » **Language** Danish
- » **Money** ATMs readily available
- » **Visas** Not required for citizens of EU, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand

Fast Facts

- » **Area** 43,094 sq km
- » **Capital** Copenhagen
- » **Country code** 45
- » **Emergency** 112

Exchange Rates

Australia	A\$1	Dkr5.40
Canada	C\$1	Dkr5.40
Euro Zone	€1	Dkr7.46
Japan	¥100	Dkr6.75
New Zealand	NZ\$1	Dkr3.85
UK	UK£1	Dkr8.60
USA	US\$1	Dkr5.33

Set Your Budget

- » **Budget hotel room** Dkr500
- » **Two-course evening meal** Dkr350
- » **Museum entrance** free to Dkr75
- » **Beer** (glass) Dkr45

Resources

- » **Visit Denmark** (www.visitdenmark.com) Comprehensive tourist information
- » **Visit Copenhagen** (www.visitcopenhagen.com) Info on Copenhagen
- » **AOK** (www.aok.dk) What's hot in the Danish capital