

# Denmark

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## Best Places to Eat

- » Noma (p52)
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- » Schønnemann (p50)
- » Restaurant Kadeau (p71)
- » Nordisk Spisehus (p90)

## Best Places to Stay

- » Hotel Nimb (p48)
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- » Dragsholm Slot (p61)
- » Pension Vestergade 44 (p85)
- » Stammershalle Badehotel (p73)

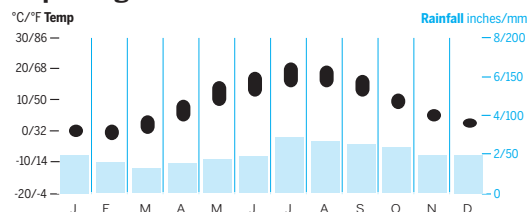
## Why Go?

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.

Packed with intriguing museums, shops, bars, nightlife and award-winning restaurants, Denmark's capital, Copenhagen, is one of the hippest, most accessible cities in northern Europe. And while Danish cities such as Odense and Århus harbour their own cultural gems, Denmark's other chief appeal lies in its picture-perfect countryside, sweeping 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 and numerous long- and short-haul connections, while Billund and Århus in Jutland (regional airports) 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 with Atlantic Coast destinations in Norway, the Faroe Islands, Iceland and the UK.

## ITINERARIES

### One Week

You could comfortably spend five days in Copenhagen exploring the museums, hunting down Danish design and taste-testing its lauded restaurants and bars. A trip north along the coast to the magnificent modern-art museum, Louisiana, and then further north still to Helsingborg Slot, before returning south via Frederiksborg Slot, would be a great way to spend the other two days. If the weather is on your side, head for the north coast of Zealand for historic fishing villages and gorgeous sandy beaches.

### 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 its cheap, tasty smoke-houses. Alternatively, head west, stopping off on the island of Funen to see Hans Christian Andersen's birthplace in Odense. Continue further west to the Jutland peninsula for the bustling city of Århus and further north to magnificent Skagen, where the Baltic and North Seas clash.

## Essential Food & Drink

- » **Smørrebrød** Rye bread topped with anything from beef tartar to egg and 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, Bræckhouse and Grauballe.

## AT A GLANCE

- » **Capital** Copenhagen
- » **Area** 43,094 sq km
- » **Population** 5.5 million
- » **Country code** 45
- » **Language** Danish
- » **Currency** krone

## Exchange Rates

Australia	A\$1	Dkr5.48
Canada	C\$1	Dkr5.28
Europe	€1	Dkr7.46
Japan	¥100	Dkr6.16
New Zealand	NZ\$1	Dkr4.03
UK	UK£1	Dkr8.38
USA	US\$1	Dkr5.03

## Set Your Budget

- » **Budget hotel room** Dkr500
- » **Two-course evening meal** Dkr300
- » **Museum entrance** free–Dkr75
- » **Beer** Dkr45
- » **Copenhagen transport pass (72 hours)** Dkr180

## Resources

- » **Visit Denmark** ([www.visitdenmark.com](http://www.visitdenmark.com)) Comprehensive tourist information
- » **Kopenhagen** ([www.kopenhagen.dk](http://www.kopenhagen.dk)) Contemporary art exhibitions in Copenhagen
- » **AOK** ([www.aok.dk](http://www.aok.dk)) Events, restaurants, bars and nightlife in Copenhagen
- » **Danish State Railways** ([www.dsb.dk](http://www.dsb.dk)) Timetables, ticket prices and a useful journey planner